

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday 9 October 1986

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

Chairperson:

Ms D.L. Gayler

Members:

The Hon. Ted Chapman
 Mr M.R. De Laine
 Mr G.M. Gunn
 Mr E.J. Meier
 The Hon. J.W. Slater
 Mr P.B. Tyler

The Committee met at 11 a.m.

The CHAIRPERSON: We will adopt a relatively informal procedure. There is no need to stand to ask or answer questions. The Committee will determine the approximate timetable for consideration of the proposed expenditures to facilitate changeover of departmental advisers. Changes to the composition of the Committee will be notified to the Committee as they occur. If the Minister undertakes to supply information at a later date, it must be in a form suitable for insertion in *Hansard* and submitted no later than Friday 31 October. I propose to allow the lead speaker for the Opposition and the Minister to make opening statements if they wish. They should be about 10 minutes long but no longer than 15 minutes. I shall take a flexible approach to giving a call for asking questions—three per member on alternating sides. A member will also be allowed to ask a brief supplementary question.

Subject to the convenience of the Committee, a member of the House who is not a member of the Committee but who desires to ask a question will be permitted to do so once a line of questioning on an item has been exhausted by the Committee. Indications in advance to the Chairperson would be appreciated. Questions are to be based on lines of expenditure as revealed in the Estimates of Payments document but references may be made to other documents, such as the Program Estimates and the Auditor-General's Report. Questions are to be directed to the Minister, not to his advisers, but the Minister may refer questions to his advisers for a response. I understand that it has been agreed that we will proceed initially with Lands until 1 p.m. followed by Woods and Forests and then Marine and Harbors.

Mr GUNN: We may have to be a little flexible as it might take us a little longer than the period to 1 p.m. to complete Lands, but I hope not too much longer.

The CHAIRPERSON: I call on the lead speaker for the Opposition to make his opening remarks.

Mr GUNN: Members of the Opposition intend to use this time in the Estimates Committee to seek information so that we can be better informed. In doing that, we will go through in some detail the various matters that are raised in the yellow book. Members of the Opposition are not engaged in a witch-hunt and we do not wish to turn the Estimates Committee into a confrontation, because we believe that exercises such as this should be informative and they should be in the interests of all members.

One of the problems faced by members is that they have difficulty obtaining information. Briefly, that is the only statement that I want to make. I have a large number of

questions on the whole operation of the Department of Lands. I am never quite sure as to where the section dealing with repatriation fits, but I understand that it deals with soldier settlers. That operation obviously is winding down, but we are very interested in the management and the future direction and role of the department, so I will leave it at that and, after the Minister has spoken, I am happy to then proceed with matters about which I am concerned.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The implementation of the recommendations of the stage 3 review of the Department of Lands is continuing and near completion. The organisation of the department has been further fine tuned, an integrated management information system has been implemented linking the planning process with the budget process, objectives for the department have been clearly defined, and the formulation of a departmental business plan also has been undertaken. These activities are compatible with the thrust of the Government Management and Employment Act in increasing efficiency, effectiveness, productivity and providing more explicit accountability for the operations of the department.

As I reported last year, a policy and planning secretariat has been established to ensure a consistent interpretation of the purpose and role of the department. One project carried out by the policy and planning secretariat is that of land resource management policy review and development. As a result of that review and other work, a legislative program was developed. The legislative program is now well advanced. The preparation of a new Crown Lands Act and a complementary new Pastoral Act is under way. These initiatives will significantly upgrade the legislative framework on which the care and management of Crown land is based. The policy of freeholding of Crown leases continued, but at a slower rate, with receipts totalling \$3.4 million in 1985-86 as compared to \$3.9 million in the previous year.

Action is continuing in the implementation of the shack site policy with major objectives of freeholding all shack sites located in acceptable areas: of removing all inappropriately located shacks from the public waterfront; and to provide replacement sites for those shacks which must be removed. The review of shack sites in coastal areas suitable for 30 to 40 year leases resulted in an additional 143 sites being reclassified as acceptable. A life tenure miscellaneous lease as provided for by amendments to the Crown Lands Act has been drafted to enable new leases to be issued following expiry of the original 10 year leases, the first of which expired on 30 June 1986. Since 1980, \$1.69 million has been collected from the sale of 467 shack sites. In 1985-86, \$401 000 was received from the sale of 82 sites.

The Department of Lands is continuing to service demand as the developer of last resort for residential and industrial blocks in country towns. Allotments are currently on sale in 11 towns, being developed in six towns, were close to development in another six towns, and development projects were being investigated in another 53 towns. In most towns some small stocks of vacant blocks exist, and possible development projects will be assessed on relative demand and the availability of resources. The real estate boom in South Australia subsided during 1985-86.

Lodgments of dealings in land (consisting mainly of transfers, mortgages and discharges) were 15.4 per cent and below similar lodgments for 1984-85. This indication of a decline in real estate activity in general was, however, not reflected in the level of lodgments of land division plans and plans of survey. A record number of plans was deposited in 1984-85 and the record was exceeded again in this area of real estate transactions during 1985-86 by 5.6 per cent. As a result of the downturn in the real estate sector, revenue

collected for the registration of real and personal property decreased by \$0.9 million from that of 1984-85.

Significant use is being made of modern technology and this reflects the public's demand for up-to-date information in relation to land transactions. The provision of survey services to the community also continues to make significant use of modern technology, with three examples being, the digital cadastral data base project, the State primary geodetic survey and the coordinated cadastre.

In 1986 South Australia became the first geodetic agency in Australia, and one of few in the world, to utilise the navstar global positioning system—a United States navy project—to locate stations of the State's primary geodetic survey. Indeed, this initiative was so successful that the division has been able to designate the State primary geodetic survey as a sunset activity, with substantial recurrent resource savings in prospect on completion of the project by 1989.

In the budget overview the most significant results were in the recurrent budget where total expenditure by the Department of Lands was \$31.7 million. This expenditure exceeded the budget estimate by \$1.1 million which arose principally due to:

- Salaries and wages increases
- Higher than expected terminal leave payments
- Establishment of the Minister of Lands' office
- Maintenance costs of departmental aircraft
- Additional resources to cope with the high levels of real estate activity.

The proposed recurrent budget for 1986-87 totals \$32.4 million. The increase of \$0.7 million is due to:

- Full year effect of salary and wages increases
- Inflation allowance for contingencies.

I now turn to the estimates of a capital nature. Members will see that total payments for 1985-86 were in line with the original budget. The budget for 1986-87 reflects the Government's policy of providing high quality industrial estates and the ongoing requirements of replacement of equipment.

I now turn to the estimates of receipts. Collections on the recurrent account were in line with the original budget, whereas capital receipts were lower than expected on the industrial development projects, because some blocks were sold on agreement resulting in cash receipts over a number of years. I am most conscious of the level of expenditure and every effort is being made to eliminate inefficient practices and procedures to ensure a maximum return for the taxpayer's dollar. One example of this is the adoption of a departmental business plan. Considerable use of modern technology is being made, and will continue to be expanded, where possible, to help to achieve greater efficiency in departmental operations. Thank you, Madam Chair, for the opportunity to briefly place before the Committee some of the more significant highlights of what has been an extremely busy and rewarding year.

Lands, \$32 411 000

Witness:

The Hon. R.K. Abbott, Minister of Lands, Minister of Marine, Minister of Forests and Minister of Repatriation.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr J. Darley, Valuer-General, Department of Lands.
Mr D. Alexander, Director of Lands.
Mr L. Kidd, Acting Director, Operations Services.

Mr J. Maher, Registrar-General.

Mr K. Toms, Acting Deputy Surveyor-General.

Mr R. Fidock, Manager, Management Accounting and Budgeting.

The CHAIRPERSON: I declare the proposed expenditure open for examination.

Mr GUNN: At page 280 of the yellow book, one of the objectives is to increase average revenue from rents and fees per lease or transactions, and another is to achieve a target maximum commercial return from the disposal of land. It is my understanding that when leases were granted rents were fixed in perpetuity. It was perhaps the most significant thing that has allowed the continued and orderly development of our farming community—that they have not been burdened with excessively high rents.

Will an attempt be made to increase those rents? If that is so, that would be a complete break with tradition and we would most vigorously, as we have done on other occasions, oppose it at every level, because it would soon result in landholders paying a second lot of council rates. I am aware that when perpetual leases were issued a few years ago rents were far in excess of those for earlier leases. Will the Minister indicate what is meant by those comments on page 280?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: There are still 22 100 perpetual leases in existence of which 21 500 are fixed rental leases and contain no provision for rental evaluation. As the administrative costs of fixed rental leases is not reckoned separately from other Crown tenures, it is difficult to isolate costs directly associated with those leases. However, diminishing money values and increasing costs are bringing us to a point where some action must be taken. A departmental review of the administration of perpetual leases and various options that could be available to the Government concerning freeholding of certain leases has been submitted for consideration of management.

Currently the resource implications are being examined before any further consideration will be made of those proposals. The policy is to allow leases that fall within the safe areas of the State to be freehold at 15 per cent of the unimproved value. Devaluation and consequent offer are made upon application from the lessee. The department has identified approximately 1 500 perpetual leases which were mainly issued after the war and which contain a purchase price set within the lease which, in terms of today's values, is very low. A project has been undertaken to advise the lessees of their rights under the lease and to encourage the freeholding of these leases. While the project has been operating for only a very short time, the initial response by the lessees has been very encouraging to date.

Mr GUNN: In view of what the Minister has said, it would appear that the Government is setting in train a course of action to encourage people to freehold perpetual leases—an action the Opposition totally supports. Has the Government considered reducing the 15 per cent unimproved figure which is far too high when one looks at some of the valuations, as it would appear to me, having made an examination of this subject with the limited information available, that it would be in the interest of the landholder and the Government if landholders did act to freehold perpetual leases. It has to be economically possible for them to do it. It would appear there is a need to reduce the 15 per cent figure and make available to these people some finance so that they can put in train the transaction. Is the Government considering that?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: This is all part of the review currently being undertaken by the department. I have not

been involved at this point in detailed discussions. Perhaps the Valuer-General could enlighten the Committee in relation to the honourable member's further question.

Mr Darley: The discussions so far have not included any consideration of the 15 per cent of unimproved value that is currently the policy for freeholding of perpetual leases. I just question whether the honourable member is concerned about the valuations that have recently been made for rating and taxing purposes, as opposed to valuations for freeholding purposes, which are based on unimproved land value.

Mr GUNN: We will get on to the subject of valuation for council purposes a little later, no doubt. I take it that the department would have foreseen that we would discuss that matter. At this stage, my question concerns the 15 per cent of unimproved value matter. That is the figure that is used when people are going to freehold. The point that I make is that, in my judgment, the figure of 15 per cent is too high. Further, the valuations themselves are probably too high, when one takes into consideration the actual willing-purchaser price, which one could obtain on the open market today. I ask the Minister again whether the Government or his departmental officers have given consideration to actually lowering the 15 per cent figure and also to making funds available or to giving people extended lines of credit so that they can actually put the transaction into effect. It is my assessment that the Government's having to continue to administer these leases is an expensive operation and that it would be far better to get people to sign an agreement to purchase, even if it took some years to do so. In the long term, that would be cheaper for all concerned.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The matter is still under discussion. It has been submitted for management consideration. At this time it has not been considered at all by the Government.

Mr GUNN: Perhaps we can leave that subject and go on to the matter of valuations. A number of concerns have been brought to my attention about how the valuations have been conducted and about the valuations themselves. I think that perhaps the best way to explain the matter at this stage would be to briefly give some information to the Committee. First, I quote from an article in the *Weekend Australian* of 15 and 16 February 1986. It states:

Concern grows over land values. Bankers are destabilising rural property values of prospective buyers against desperate vendors in a bid to lower prices.

That just indicates that the prices are going down. To highlight some of the problems that are occurring in rural areas and, in particular, on Eyre Peninsula, I shall quote from two letters—from a number that I have received. The first states:

I am writing to you as well as to several other politicians in a bid to try and get something done to alleviate the situation whereby farming communities on Eyre Peninsula can have the burden of unjust and unrealistic land valuations and rising council rates placed in their right perspective and be correctly reduced in these bad times. All landowners realise that they must pay rates, with rises in good times, but that they should get reductions in bad times, but clearly, not rises in both. The Valuer-General made a statement on 18 September, which was broadcast on 5AD news, that land values on Yorke Peninsula had fallen by 30 per cent and on Eyre Peninsula, by 40 per cent.

We want to see these valuations adopted, and councils notified, along with a 30 per cent reduction in rates. In Tumbly Bay, three years ago valuations jumped by an unprecedented 50 per cent in many areas, and in some by as much as 80 per cent. Despite the acknowledgments of the following valuations of the Valuer-General, he has seen fit to accept an obviously unjust rise again. This year, in the Lincoln District Council valuations jumped by up to 300 per cent from their level of five years ago, where I believe a 100 per cent rise would have been realistic. A rise in valuations of this magnitude has been the cause of my rate bill escalating by 28 per cent. The hard-pressed farming community's incomes

having fallen by more than 50 per cent cannot pay these huge and unjust rises.

Another person has written to me, saying:

Council rates last year [1985] on the site value of my land (\$437 000) were \$1 813. Now the site value of my land has risen to \$580 000; my rates to \$2 100.

These are just a couple of the complaints. I noted from yesterday's *News* that Dr Eastick had raised this matter. The Assistant Valuer-General denied the claim, saying that the valuations were continually monitored through the year to ensure that they reflected latest trends. He said:

Rural values have been examined in the light of the downturn of the market, but the whole State could not be valued daily.

I completely accept that decision, but it has been my experience over the past 15 months (and it is a subject in which I take considerable interest—the value of land) that there are many properties for sale in this State for which people will not get a bid if they put them under the hammer. I realise that the Minister has no direct control over the Valuer-General, but can the Minister indicate what is happening? There is widespread concern and a great deal of ill feeling in relation to what is taking place.

The other matter I want to raise with the Minister is this: there appear to be some rather unique courses of action taking place when people complain about valuations. There was an unfortunate course of action which took place in Streaky Bay—and I will give details at a later stage. Just because people rang up and made contact, there has been a decrease in the value. That is good for the persons involved, but what concerns me is that there should be a consistent policy applying to all citizens of South Australia. If one person can have his valuation reduced by complaining, that should apply to the total area—it should not be hit or miss. I realise that there have been some problems in the Port Lincoln office, and I do not want to go into those because there are personalities involved. What is taking place?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I appreciate the comments made by the honourable member, because there has been considerable publicity and quite a deal of concern about current valuations. I think the honourable member who asked the question would appreciate that the Valuer-General is responsible to the Parliament. For the benefit of the other Committee members, this is clearly stated in section 6 (1) of the Valuation of Land Act, which states:

The Governor may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, appoint a Valuer-General who shall have the general administration of this Act.

Throughout the Act specific instructions and responsibilities are assigned to the Valuer-General. He is, therefore, directly responsible to the Parliament and not to the Minister. However, I will endeavour to answer any questions on this—and the honourable member raised quite a number, particularly in relation to some of the problem areas and those on Eyre Peninsula. Some of the councils and property owners in various areas of Eyre Peninsula have experienced dissatisfaction at the new valuations as determined during 1985-86.

In the main, these dissatisfactions are directly related to two factors: the decline in real property values and the instability of the real estate market; also, relativity changes between individual property valuations. With regard to the market situation, every effort has been made when determining the new valuations to reflect prices being paid at the date of valuation. The market has been monitored throughout the year and several revisions have been carried out before the valuations were finalised and issued.

Relativity changes between valuations within council areas have resulted from changes in the market, namely, poorer classes of land declining in value at greater rates than the

better classes of country. In some instances, incorrect property information has been collected over the years and, with the application of computer assisted valuation techniques, this has resulted in certain anomalies.

The Valuer-General has addressed those anomalies and every effort has been made, by liaising with the councils concerned, to resolve the problems. The Valuer-General could add some more information with respect to some of the other points raised by the member for Eyre, and I ask him to do so.

Mr Darley: Everybody is fully aware of the market decline on the Eyre Peninsula. We know that land values during the past 12 months have declined up to 50 per cent and that, since 30 June, they have declined by a possible further 10 per cent. As the Minister said, we have reviewed the situation during the past 12 months, and in some parts of the State we have reviewed valuations up to three times before releasing them towards the end of May.

As for Streaky Bay, valuation was completed in April 1986 in one case, but we discovered that there had been a further decline towards the end of May and we reviewed the valuation. It was then transmitted to the Streaky Bay Council. Everybody is aware that the valuation process is used as a basis of distribution of the rate burden. For rating and taxing authorities to be able to undertake their task, it is necessary for them to have a valuation completed no later than 30 June.

While there have been few sales in the rural area, valuers have had to rely on last bids at auction and depressed asking prices, which have been reflected in the valuation. As for anomalies, as the Minister said, the data on rural properties have been collected over a series of years and recorded. As is the case with practically every valuation, all classes of land did not vary in price at the same rate. Less productive land varies at a markedly greater rate than more productive land. We have a system which means that, when valuations are completed, owners are able to object, complain or discuss valuations at any time. There is no time limit. Landowners avail themselves of that opportunity, speak to valuers and highlight areas of concern about classification of their properties or the valuations that have been returned. Generally speaking, that overcomes problems in the valuation process.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: Government members intend to keep questions to a minimum and to be brief to enable the Opposition to ask their questions. The first question relates to the Lands Titles Office and administration of the State land title system.

We know that a record number of plans were submitted last year, despite the decline in real estate activity. South Australia has for many years led the way with its land titles system known as the Torrens Title System. I am informed that the New South Wales Lands Titles Office is claiming that it has operating advantages with an automated system. Has such a system been considered for South Australia?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Having successfully launched an automated registration indexing and inquiry system, commonly referred to as ARIIS, the Department of Lands has considered further steps towards the total automation of the Torrens register. There would be advantages in that. The first is that a computerised title eliminates the problem of the original certificate of title being off file and allows multiple access by remote and internal users and access hours for remote users to be varied according to demand. It would simplify servicing procedures because only current title details are given. Expansion of the manual register would be halted, achieving considerable savings in valuable storage space. If many mundane tasks such as copying titles

are handled by computer, this would substantially increase the opportunity for staff to develop new skills and achieve job satisfaction. An automated register facilitates the issue of new certificates of title, following deposit of plans, thus reducing some labour intensive tasks such as title production and manual endorsing. There would be better use of staff resources through the rationalisation of processes such as noting unregistered documents, document examination and registration.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: A national highway linking Adelaide with Alice Springs and beyond, we hope, will be sealed in early 1987, as a consequence of considerably increased traffic. I am sure that the member for Eyre is interested in this as Marla is in his electorate. It is expected that Marla will become one of the major stopping places south of the Northern Territory border, a centre for Government services and an important rest and refuelling place for motorists and bus tourists. Can the Minister tell us about the development of Marla township?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: There is no allocation of money for further development of the Marla township in the budget this year but, on 22 January 1982, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works recommended construction of Marla township at an estimated cost of \$705 000. The intention was to provide a town with full engineering services to act as a subregional services centre in the far north of the State.

The town has been developed to a functioning state, but development has been slower than anticipated because some of the Government users, State and Federal, have not yet located there. Most notable is Australian National, which is still located at Chandler, and the Education Department, which has the region's school at Mintabie.

Marla is successfully filling the role for which it was created. It is providing a subregional base for seven State and Federal agencies and two additional agencies are negotiating for locations there. The most significant change in proposed use is that the school for the area has been located at Mintabie and this is largely as a result of the number of children living in the opal field region. The road between the two areas is considered most unsuitable for a school bus. At this time no further expenditure is anticipated.

Mr MEIER: I refer to a couple of incidents involving land valuation and Mr Peter Bartram in the district council of Yorketown area. The first valuation related to sections 439 and 440 of some 10 acres each in the hundred of Melville. The old valuation was \$6 500 and the new valuation was \$45 500. As a result of taking up the matter, that valuation was reduced to a site value of \$6 500 and a capital value of \$7 000. Following that, Mr Bartram asked me to raise the subject again relating to two sections, namely, 468 and 470, which had been revalued from \$13 400 to \$75 000. Again, that was reconsidered and was reduced to \$10 500. While I appreciate the answer to the question of the member for Eyre, it causes me great concern that yesterday I received another letter from a person living at Edithburgh. I intend to detail the incident in writing, but it concerns some five or six sections or allotments (some are sections and some are allotments) and that person informed me that the value was \$59 000 and it has been now revalued at \$149 000. He also is very concerned and very upset. Where will things stop?

Despite assurances that matters are constantly being looked at, how many other individuals are accepting the revaluations, perhaps from the point of view that they are told, 'Do not think that your council rates will jump by the same amount, because they are adjusted accordingly and, therefore, you do not have to worry about that too much'? That

is despite assurances that there are no time limits on an appeal, but are people appealing in droves, or are valuations simply being redone? It was mentioned on radio that apparently there was a 30 per cent re-evaluation on Yorke Peninsula. Has that occurred throughout the peninsula? My information is that it was confined to the Yorketown district council. I still have many worries and reservations about where the valuation system will end.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: In relation to many of the complaints that we have received, I can give some detail and I will ask the Valuer-General to respond to the honourable member in more detail. To date, of the 625 000 properties valued, complaints have been received for 3 034 properties; 1 057 are currently being processed; nine valuations have been increased; 843 valuations were decreased; and 773 valuations remain unaltered.

Mr Darley: There can be any number of reasons why valuations are increased or decreased following a valuation. It is difficult to give fine detail here without actual information on the properties involved, but I assure the honourable member that, in a number of cases, a lot of the valuations have been altered as a result of evidence that has been presented of parties in rural areas adjacent to townships being afforded the opportunity of actual use or notional valuations which are significantly less than current market value.

Mr MEIER: Perhaps it is not for me to reflect on the officers who do this work, but I noticed in another section in the estimates that a specific training program is outlined for officers of the department. Are there any specific training programs for land valuers which would apprise them of the various differences? In the next six months I hope it is not the case that a lot of people still come forward saying that the appropriate adjustments have not been made. In his introductory statement, the Minister mentioned that, with respect to the shack sites in the 30 to 40 year group, 143 sites have been reassessed and have become acceptable. Are any of those that have been reclassified located on Ocean Road, Point Turton where it is my understanding that some 20 shack sites fit into this 30 to 40 year category? Some people have made representations to me expressing their concern. They believe that they could be easily reassessed because of their proximity and the fact that they fit into the environment better than some others.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: There is some concern by shack owners about delays in freeholding shack sites. Survey work on the West Coast and Yorke Peninsula is almost finalised. It is expected that survey work in the Riverland and other areas will commence in November/December and, for Kangaroo Island and the South-East and management plan areas, in the new year. The total process involved in freeholding shack sites requires numerous steps (for example, field survey, plan acceptance, road closures, development works, etc.). A time frame of 12 to 24 months generally is required to complete the process. I do not have that information, but it can be provided.

Mr MEIER: The Minister said that reviews are still being undertaken. If a person or persons wish to make their views known, whom can they contact? Is there a place where they can express their views, or does it have to be in writing?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The local regional manager would be the appropriate person. Other than that, if they would like to contact the department anywhere, we could make arrangements for them to put their point of view.

Mr MEIER: Is the local regional manager the person to see at Kadina?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: In that area, yes. If it is further north on the gulf, it would be at Port Augusta.

Membership:

Mr Groom substituted for the Hon. J.W. Slater.

Mr TYLER: My question relates to the Mapping Branch. What will be the major mapping activities for 1986-87, and what specific area of the State will be photographed or mapped?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The department will continue to produce and revise aerial photography and base maps at a frequency and to a level of accuracy and detail sufficient to satisfy the majority of State mapping requirements and private sector needs, with regard to specific areas of the State to be photographed: areas to be rephotographed in colour at large scale will include Adelaide urban, suburban and outer dormitory towns and major country centres including Mount Gambier, Naracoorte, Millicent and Kadina. Medium or small scale cyclic colour rephotography will be required of the South-East and Yorke Peninsula regions and in the Lake Torrens, Nullarbor and Far North-West regions. Large scale map production will include first coverage of the country centres of Angaston, Kingston in the South-East, Naracoorte, Millicent and Jamestown at 1:2 500 scale, and Bordertown, Keith, Robe, together with Clare and Balaklava regional mapping at 1:10 000 scale. Medium scale topographic maps of settled areas in Kangaroo Island, West Coast and Mid-Northern regions of the State will be updated. Small scale maps of remote far northern areas of the State produced by national mapping organisations will be upgraded to conform with State requirements for topographic maps suitable for planning the exploration and development of natural resources.

Mr TYLER: Can the Minister indicate that new mapping activity will occur in this financial year?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: An investigation into the requirements for a computer supported data base containing a digital elevation model of the land surface of the State will be completed. It is considered that such a digital topographic data base would be an essential component of a State land information system, complementing and increasing the effective uses of other components of the systems, such as the digital cadastral data base, environmental data base, etc. Greater emphasis will be placed on the development of new map products depicting various geographically relatable data.

The enhanced resolution of recently launched remote sensing satellites such as SPOT and LANDSAT thematic mapper may provide opportunities for use of the data for selected components of medium to small scale aerial photography and/or base maps. These possibilities will be explored. Development of computer assisted mapping information and production control systems will be continued. An aerial survey information system and a mapping production information system are planned for completion in 1986-87.

Mr GUNN: I return to the valuation question. Can the Minister explain to the Committee the process which takes place where a council is dissatisfied with a valuation it has received from the Valuer-General's office, or what takes place when an individual is concerned? As I explained earlier, concerns have been expressed to me that an individual can ring the Valuer-General's office and complain and that person can have his valuation reduced and will be happy, but a person who is perhaps not quite as aware of his rights can miss out.

I explained that a council I know of on the Eyre Peninsula, a person looked at a valuation, said he was not happy about it, made a complaint to the appropriate officer and the whole valuation was overturned. The council, to my knowledge, did not object to that, but thought that it was a hit or miss way of doing things. That was at a time when they were about to have a budget meeting. It appears that,

if one individual can have a valuation overturned, there must have been poor valuing taking place, or the processes put in place are quite inadequate.

I am all for valuations being reduced, if there had been a mistake, but it appears to me that the matter ought to be put right once and for all, because that was a hit or miss way of doing things. I want explained to the Committee just what the procedures are so that there will be no misunderstanding and so that people know exactly what their rights are and what course of action they should take to make sure that they receive a fair go. It is my view that if people complain and their valuation is reduced by 30 per cent then their neighbours ought to be placed automatically in the same situation. I understand that the department has a computer program, or is about to install one; I have a few questions about that matter that I will leave at this stage.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Some councils have expressed concern about the quality of the valuations when endeavouring to set a rate which will provide a uniform increase in rates payable throughout particular areas. In all of these circumstances, the department has liaised with the relevant councils and, in the main, these issues have been resolved—perhaps not all of them, but the majority has. I ask the Valuer-General, if he would like, to amplify on that answer.

Mr Darley: The procedure in terms of an individual complaining or objecting against a valuation is simply that that person can inquire at the regional office and the valuer will check the valuation. If there is a need to reinspect he will reinspect the property. If an error is found in a valuation it will be altered. The valuer will also have regard to the extent of that error extending beyond the boundaries of a particular property and if there is need for any attention to particular properties they are subject to correction. I add that not all valuations are reduced.

As I mentioned before, in 1985-86 South Australia experienced a rather unusual change in the property market with declining rural property values. Valuations generally are programmed over a full year and the market in existence towards the end of 1985 was dramatically different from the market experienced towards the middle of 1986. In that situation, whilst in a number of council areas valuations had been completed any time from December up until April, a decision was taken to review valuations in view of the decline in the property market. Where council valuations had been completed in February, March or April we reviewed those valuations and, as a result, in particular with the district council of Streaky Bay, we found that the market had declined to the extent that there was a need to reduce valuations of the order of 30 per cent. That was achieved. The same process would apply in any area of the State and in fact did apply throughout South Australia during the latter stages of the financial year.

Mr GUNN: Could the Minister explain what sort of information will be fed into the computer as the whole system is now computerised? Will it be soil types, the productivity of one area against another or what sort of information will be fed in so that there is an even flow of information across the whole State? If this information is contained, how will individual landholders have access to the information? How will such information be collected? Every property valued is not visited by the individual valuer. How will people know that the correct information is stored in the computer in regard to the valuation?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask the Valuer-General to respond.

Mr Darley: The valuation process has not changed. The fact that we are using computers does not change the situ-

ation in terms of the valuation process, but simply speeds up the calculation process. Properties have been inspected and data gathered over the last 30 years concerning each and every property in the State. Much of this information has been provided by property owners themselves in response to landowners' returns sent out from the Valuer-General's office. The sort of information collected includes soil details, rainfall, productivity and any disability concerning any property such as sheep rock as you find on Eyre Peninsula. Valuers analyse sales of properties and identify the relative value for each class of property. Details of these analyses are then fed into the computing system so that valuations for the remaining properties within each local government area in the State can have their valuations calculated. The final answer is then checked against further sales and asking prices of properties currently on the market.

Mr TYLER: Fees associated with the transactions under the Crown Lands Act and the Pastoral Act were increased significantly from July 1986. Will the Minister indicate why such substantial increases were necessary?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The fees charges pursuant to the Crown Lands and Pastoral Acts were increased as from 14 July 1986, by regulations which appeared in the *Government Gazette* of 29 May 1986. They were last changed in August 1981, except for a small proportion under the Crown Lands Act, which was updated in October 1983. The fees had not been increased since 1981 because in that year amendments to the Crown Lands Act were prepared and it was proposed to review the fees once the amendments became operative. However, the amendments were subjected to numerous changes and delays and did not become operative until the latter half of 1985.

All fees and charges have been increased in the vicinity of 46 per cent except for those increased in October 1983, where the increase has been in the vicinity of 16 per cent. The increases are in line with movements in the consumer price index for the respective periods. Increases have been small in money terms and are generally insignificant in terms of the value of the transactions to which they relate. The additional revenue generated in a full financial year is estimated to be about \$82 000 from those fee increases.

Mr MEIER: I made a point about land values being decreased by 30 per cent on Yorke Peninsula. Has that occurred since the valuations earlier this year?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask the Valuer-General to respond.

Mr Darley: The situation on Yorke Peninsula as at 30 June, bearing in mind valuations were completed towards the end of May, was that the market decline on the lower end of Yorke Peninsula was in the order of 40 per cent and there was a lesser decline further north on the peninsula. However, all valuations were adjusted at that time in accordance with market evidence available. We are currently aware of the fact that in the vicinity of Kadina land values have declined in the order of 30 per cent.

Mr MEIER: Do I take it from that that decreases would have been implemented across Yorke Peninsula up to a maximum of 30 per cent.

Mr Darley: I do not think it can be conceded that there was an across the board 30 per cent decrease for Yorke Peninsula. It varied.

Mr MEIER: I said 'up to 30 per cent'. Was 30 per cent the maximum?

Mr Darley: I would not like to suggest that 30 per cent was the maximum, but certainly there would have been reductions through Yorke Peninsula that generally could have been of the order of up to 30 per cent.

Mr MEIER: I refer to the changing of land from miscellaneous lease to freehold, in particular concerning a Mr Phillip Nash. I have taken up the matter with the Minister earlier and received a reply that I was not happy with. Mr Nash earlier this year or last year had suggested to him that he may wish to freehold the land under miscellaneous lease over section 300 in the hundred of Minlacowie. At the time a neighbouring section had been sold for \$9 000 and Mr Nash was informed that if he got his application in soon he would probably be able to pay a similar price. He was told that it could be as high as \$9 200 to freehold his section. However, as at March of this year, when the paper work was completed, he was informed that he would be charged \$11 000 to make his block freehold.

When I took up the matter with the Minister I was informed that prices had jumped so rapidly at Hardwicke Bay from \$7 000 in January 1985 to \$9 000 in July 1985 up to \$11 000 by the end of 1985, even though the neighbour of Mr Nash apparently sold for \$9 000. I felt that Mr Nash was hard done by to the extent of \$2 000 where it did not seem appropriate that that sort of increase could occur. Whilst I will be the first to say that if a Government department can make money, 'Well done, good on it', consideration should be given to people who are buying land and endeavouring to have it freehold. I hope the Department of Lands is never seen as a ruthless department that is determined to make every cent it can and if land happened to go up in the past three weeks, then the next person buying will suffer as a result. The market generally has its highs and lows, but surely a median land value should be there. Will the Minister comment further on that instance?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I do not have any detail on that block. The Valuer-General may have some detail.

Mr Darley: The situation on Yorke Peninsula for all shack sites in the past 12 months has seen a massive escalation in land values. If we go back a couple of years, shack sites in a new subdivision at Hardwicke Bay were selling for anything from \$2 000 onwards. In the past 12 months there has been a major escalation.

The problem with that particular shack site was certainly the timing difference between application and receiving an estimate of what the freeholding value would be to the point in time when the lessee decided to freehold. At that stage the value had escalated to \$11 000. Had the person decided to freehold at the time when the value was \$9 000, he would have paid \$9 000 on that application.

Mr MEIER: I am not sure about Hardwicke Bay, but in many other places land values have gone down. Had he waited until about now, do you think that he might have got it for less than \$9 000?

Mr Darley: I would not suggest that today he would get it for less than \$9 000—I doubt he would get it for less than \$11 000. The decline in property values on Yorke Peninsula has been primarily in the rural field, not in the built-up areas.

Mr GUNN: While we are talking about land values, I point out that recently I had pointed out to me some complaints that had appeared in a local newspaper concerning the acquisition of land for the entertainment centre at Hindmarsh. Under the heading 'Huge Hindmarsh centre unveiled' reference is made to the \$60 million centre announced by the Premier. The article states:

Hindmarsh traders have criticised the South Australian Department of Lands for failing to advise them on how they will be affected by the proposed entertainment centre.

The article points out that one person had said that the department had failed to tell him when he would have to vacate his property and that a less than satisfactory value

had been placed on his land. That person is quoted as saying:

The department initially told us that they would compulsorily acquire our land on 23 July this year, but we have not heard anything from them. All we know is that they are going to buy the land and the price that they are going to pay us.

This person pointed out that the department had valued his land at \$7.50 a square foot but that the current market rate for the land was \$15 a square foot. Will the Minister advise the Committee what is taking place in relation to the land to be acquired? Have all the affected landholders been notified? Further, are negotiations entered into before property owners actually receive the notice to compulsorily acquire? It is my view that the Land Acquisition Act is very unsatisfactory. It gives land and property holders less than satisfactory protection, because once the Minister serves them with that notice of acquisition they lose all their rights, except in relation to argument about the price. Can the Minister inform the Committee on this matter?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: As Minister of Lands I have been directed by Cabinet to acquire site facilities for the development of the entertainment centre. The total site comprises 19 individual ownerships of 36 separately identifiable properties. To date, 17 properties have been purchased from the Commissioner of Highways and six properties have been acquired from private owners. The remaining 13 properties are the subject of negotiation under the Acquisition of Land Act. I have no details in relation to specific areas, but, generally speaking, the acquisition program is proceeding satisfactorily. However, there have been some contentious transactions, such as that involving the Commercial Hotel. It is anticipated that further problems may arise due to the necessity to spread the acquisition program over two financial years, due to the limited funding available in the current financial year. This problem may be alleviated to a degree by a further rearrangement of funding between acquisition and design costs. However, should owners determine that they desire acquisition or purchase to be made within the current financial year, it may be necessary to seek additional funding at that time—to an estimation of \$750 000. There is a shortfall in connection with completing the necessary acquisition in this financial year: unless changes are made we will be unable to proceed further than the allocation of finance for this financial year. I can obtain more specific details in relation to the specific instances raised by the honourable member, and I undertake to do that.

The CHAIRPERSON: I ask that that information be provided by 31 October.

Mr GUNN: I would appreciate the Minister's providing that information. Further, will the Minister advise the Committee whether, in determining the prices for these acquisitions, proper consideration has been given to disturbance and relocation costs? If a person's commercial property is acquired and if that person wants to go to an alternative site, considerable costs in addition to the purchase are involved, because of the relocation and disruption of the business. Can the Minister advise us whether this factor has been considered in determining the actual price paid for property?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I call on the Valuer-General to answer that question.

Mr Darley: In all matters of land acquisition the process is that the Valuer-General is required to determine a market value for the land and to take into account any other heads of compensation, such as disturbance, injurious affection, severance, etc., including relocation expenses, and so on. That is exactly what is happening in connection with the entertainment centre site, and any owner is entitled to take advice from an independent valuer. The Government pays

for that valuation advice. So, owners are sufficiently protected in that regard.

Mr GUNN: In relation to the administration of the Minister of Lands office, I note from the Program Estimates that the level of staff in the office will be increased by five persons. I do not object to that at all, but I am wondering what these people do. It was proposed that the 1985-86 staff level would be 1.4; the actual level was 4.3; while in 1986-87 the proposed level is five people. As I have said, I do not object to that, because I know that Ministers must be adequately staffed, although when one compares the sort of facilities provided for Ministers with those of their opposite numbers and members of Parliament generally, one realises that Ministers are fairly well looked after. Can the Minister advise what these people actually do?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I point out, first, that prior to my taking responsibility for the Lands portfolio the ministerial office was not based within the Department of Lands in the old Treasury Building. It is some years now since the Minister operated from that office. When I went there, there was a transfer of funding over to the Department of Lands. That amounted to \$115 000 in the last financial year. That contributed to the over expenditure shown for 1985-86. On the question of staffing, previously the office was part-time but it has now become a full-time office. There is the ministerial staff; we have one female typist and telephonist and one female stenographer, and one administration finance manager.

Mr De LAINE: On the subject of land valuation, until recently South Australian property owners have been subject to a five-year valuation cycle. What is the basis for that five yearly cycle, and why has it been changed recently to an annual cycle?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Section 14 (1) of the Valuation of Land Act provides that a general valuation shall be made within each council area at least once in every five years. Accordingly, in the past, it has been the practice to value approximately one fifth of the State each year. This has resulted in different levels of valuation for the various council areas throughout the State and it presented a problem in rate setting for land tax in the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

To overcome this problem an equalisation system was introduced for land tax purposes. Previously determined site values were multiplied by equalisation factors in order to reflect current market values. I think that members of the Committee will understand that this cuts both ways, when land values either increase or decrease. It is to their advantage over the previous five yearly system if land values increase, and the reverse applies if they decrease.

However, this system did not completely overcome the problem of large valuation changes occurring at the time of each general valuation as reflected by the real estate market over a five year period, nor did it address the changes in relativity in valuation between different classes of properties. Because of the changes that occur between the various types of properties over a five year period it was decided to provide annual valuations, and the first annual valuation was completed this year.

Mr De LAINE: The move from a five yearly valuation cycle to annual valuations has obviously caused a tremendous increase in workload for the department. How has that situation been handled by the department?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: As I mentioned, during 1985-86 the annual valuation of all properties in South Australia was implemented. I said earlier that there was a total of 625 000 properties. To achieve this without staff increases, computer assisted valuation techniques were developed and

utilised by the Valuation Division of the Department of Lands. These techniques provide a greater sensitivity and consistency in reflecting market changes than did the previous manual approach.

To this end, all property information collected over the last 30 years has been coded and entered on computer files. I think the Valuer-General referred to this in one of his responses a little earlier. This has certainly dispensed with the necessity of having to inspect every property every year. However, all properties are inspected where the relevant information is incomplete and where building alterations or additions have been effected or proposed.

Mr GUNN: I note on page 291 of the yellow book the reference to 'finding suitable accommodation for the department'. I wonder what the Government had in mind. It is my view that the existing accommodation is well positioned, and the old Treasury building is one of the nicest buildings in Adelaide. I would not like to see anyone shifted out of there. I would hate to think that the department would shift into one of those square boxes they are building. The Treasury building would be a very suitable building to work in, compared to one of those new offices where one cannot open a window. What further accommodation is the Government seeking for the department?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The old Treasury building may be very nice to look at from outside—and to look out from inside, for that matter—but it is not a really good building for the department to work in.

Mr GUNN: The same as this building?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Very much like this building. I am sure that the honourable member is aware that the Department of Lands has divisions—bits and pieces throughout the city and in certain suburbs. We have the matter before the Government accommodation committee which is looking at all Government department accommodation, and no decision has been taken in that respect. I know that the Director is quite anxious to add something, and I will ask him to comment further on the honourable member's question.

Mr Alexander: It is a historic building. However, the department has suffered from the scatter of its activities in Adelaide, which has led to some inefficiencies. The department is highly computerised and we have problems with computer equipment, and the Treasury building, fine as it is, is a historic relic. We feel we could offer a much more efficient and timely service to the public if we could operate from a more modern site, and we are negotiating to that effect. I would certainly wish it to be in a central area not far from where we are, for obvious reasons. There are clients who are closely located in that vicinity. So, we are rather optimistically pushing for our priority.

Mr GUNN: Moving to page 288 of the yellow book, under the same heading it states 'To prepare divisional plans relative to Monarto rural living, residential and industrial land sites'. What land does the department still own or have an interest in at Monarto and what sort of plans is it considering for the disposal or use of that land?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will take that on notice and bring back a response to the honourable member unless the Director can answer it.

Mr Alexander: We will get precise details, but there is very little left. Our activity is quite minor there now, which the fund allocation would indicate, but we will get precise details.

Mr GUNN: A question was raised in the House of Assembly a few weeks ago by the member for Adelaide concerning the future operation of the Department of Lands and other departments. It was raised with the Minister for Environ-

ment and Planning, and I ask the Minister whether he can assure the Committee and the people of this State that the Department of Lands will continue to operate as a separate entity and that its operations and its role will not in any way be interfered with by being amalgamated with, or having some of its functions taken over by, the Department of Environment and Planning or other groups which, from time to time, obviously have had their eyes on the department. The department in our view—and the Opposition has had a long history of land management—has been a far better place to make some of the decisions which are currently administered by the Department of Environment and Planning.

It would appear to me from listening to the question and reading it afterwards that it was a Dorothy Dix question, because the honourable member gave to the House a fair bit of information and the Minister appeared to be in a good position to answer the matter. I therefore raise this matter with the Minister so that he can give an assurance that this Government does not have any plans to reduce in any way the role of the Department of Lands or have it taken over by other departments, such as Planning and Environment.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I referred in my opening remarks to some of the areas in which the department is moving and to the business plan and land management resources. As for the business plan, we intend to recover the full cost of services except where explicit Government subsidies apply, to increase income by more forceful marketing of existing products and by identifying new ones, to improve productivity, to market technical expertise overseas, and to pursue more actively the possibility of external funding, especially from the Commonwealth Government, for departmental programs.

In regard to Crown land management, within the constraints of tight resources, the emphasis within the department's land operations area is away from tenure administration and toward the hands-on management of Crown lands to be retained in public ownership for future generations. To concentrate effort, parcels of Crown land identified for disposal during the extensive State wide inventory of Crown land nearing completion (the Land Resource Inventory) are now being disposed of. Similarly, efforts are being made to encourage applications to freehold these tenures, mainly perpetual leases in better country, over which we exercise no special control and from which we get a very dubious return.

The new thrust in Crown land management is being facilitated by the preparation of the Crown Lands Conservation and Management Act. Outline and instructions for this legislation are with Parliamentary Counsel and a draft is expected by the end of November. This Act will enhance modern public land administration principles of advisory networks involving the public and private sector and the need for beneficiary consultation. We intend to consult landowners and people in the far north of the State on our pastoral leases to involve them with preparation of the new legislation.

Present and future administration will call for the preparation of multi-use land management plans. The department will administer its responsibilities under these plans with more flexible tenures that enhance modern conservation principles and a multi-use approach. The department is also preparing policies on land management generally that are in keeping with the hands-on approach and that are also commercially oriented. The new legislation and the policies to implement the intent of the legislation are being

prepared in close consultation within the department's newly formed policy and planning secretariat.

The Department of Lands carries prime responsibility for coordinating development of a comprehensive land information system for the whole of South Australia. The Director of Lands is Chairman of the Interdepartmental Land Information System Steering Committee and the department's land information unit provides a coordination, advisory and consultancy role to all land related agencies in the State. The department and I want to retain that role.

Mr GUNN: I am grateful to the Minister for that answer. I can therefore take it that it is Government policy to ensure that the department's role is enhanced not diminished. I was somewhat worried that there was the beginning of an attack on the department and that its activities would be hived off to other sections of the Government which do not have the same experience and understanding.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The only discussion on that that I had when I assumed responsibility for this portfolio concerned the animal welfare unit. The Government decided that it would remain with the Department of Lands. That remains the case. There has been no decision to hive off sections of the department.

Mr GUNN: My next question concerns the administration and management of marginal land. The Minister said that the Government is considering improving the arrangements to freehold land. Will that examination include lands currently held under marginal perpetual leases? The Minister and his officers will be aware that most land is owned by people with perpetual lease and other freehold land, and that it appears that there is no reason to continue with marginal leases. People should be given the same opportunity to freehold that land as existing holders of perpetual leasehold. What is the Government's policy? I know something about this and believe that people who hold marginal leases should be given the opportunity to freehold the land.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Administratively, the department is treating marginal lands perpetual leases on the same basis as ordinary perpetual leases. That means that 'tying clauses' that dictate that these leases must be held together with nominated adjoining leases and freehold are not being insisted upon by Ministerial direction and are being deleted from the leases at every opportunity—transfer or subdivision. It also means that the covenants restricting cropping on these leases are not being policed and are likewise being deleted at every opportunity.

Leases issued under the Marginal Lands Act are still statutorily unable to be freeholded. It is proposed to rectify this situation by repealing that Act and it is generally considered that the conservation lobby objection to this Act being repealed, together with the policy of allowing freeholding in the State's marginal areas, will disappear with the passage of the revised Soil Conservation and Management Act, which is being prepared by the Department of Agriculture. This Act will apply irrespective of tenure, and should be enacted by the end of 1987.

Mr De LAINE: The Minister mentioned in his opening remarks that the digital cadastral data base appears in the estimates for 1986-87. What progress is being made on the project?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The digital cadastral data base is a computerised record of the land parcel framework of the State, at an accuracy suitable for a wide range of graphical purposes, which is being created over a four-year period. At 30 June 1986, approximately 380 000 of the estimated 800 000 land parcels of the State have been stored in digital form. It is anticipated that the initial data capture phase will be completed by July 1988. There will be an ongoing

requirement to maintain the system in an up-to-date condition and to continually enhance the quality of the data held. The project was officially opened to users on 30 June 1986. This allows early access to the limited data set, so that perceived benefits may commence at the earliest opportunity. The system is proceeding in accordance with the System Analysis Study Report approved by Cabinet on 23 January 1984. Progress is slightly ahead of schedule. Expenditure is marginally less than anticipated and, also, the staffing level is below the ceiling that was previously set. It is anticipated that the project will meet all targets by June 1988.

Mr De LAINE: First, what is the global positioning system; secondly, will phases 2 and 3 of the State primary geodetic survey be completed during 1986-87; and, thirdly, will this technology mean the completion of the State primary geodetic survey project?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The global positioning system is a constellation of 18 satellites which are being placed in orbit around the earth by the United States of America to permit users to determine with very high precision their location at any point on or above the earth's surface. These satellites transmit microwave signals which also can be used commercially for surveying purposes. The advent of global positioning system technology has had a marked impact on the surveying processes. It will enable completion of the major components of the SPGS project by next financial year. Some small amounts of outstanding work in the northern part of the State will be undertaken the following financial year.

Mr GUNN: Have the Pastoral Board inspectors inspected the Pitjantjatjara lands? A very large part of excellent pastoral country is contained in the Pitjantjatjara lands. All other pastoral lands are subject to the control and the advice of the Pastoral Board (and I do not object to that). Because pastoral activities are undertaken in those lands, it was my understanding when the Pitjantjatjara land rights legislation passed Parliament that those lands would be subject to the general oversight and control of the Pastoral Board. Have inspections taken place? If not, could action be taken to ensure that during this financial year adequate surveys by Pastoral Board inspectors are undertaken of the lands to ensure that pastoral activities are in accordance with the general policy of the board and to ensure that the areas are being properly managed and administered?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: No inspections have been carried out on the Pitjantjatjara lands because I understand that no pastoral activity takes place on those lands. Of course, if it becomes necessary, we are required to carry out those inspections, and we undertake to do that.

Mr GUNN: It is my understanding that a considerable number of cattle are grazed in Fregon and surrounding areas, and that is the reason for the question. The legislation was passed in 1981 and limited cattle grazing has taken place, not as much as there should be, because the area has great potential for pastoral activities and it could provide considerable income to the residents in that north-west corner of the State. Could the Minister take this matter up with the Pastoral Board and, if necessary, make arrangements to have those experienced officers visit the areas to see the scope of the pastoral activity and to tender any advice about future management that may be necessary. I refer to areas around Amata, Fregon and Ernabella.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I am happy to request the Pastoral Board to look at the matter and, after its inspection, I can report back.

Mr Alexander: Some pastoral inspection has taken place, but it has to be at the request of the Aboriginal owners.

The Act does not permit us to intervene in that area unless we are requested to do so. In the Maralinga area it is slightly different, because it is written into the Act that the conditions of the Pastoral Act will apply. I have had discussions with members of the Pastoral Board and it is my understanding (and I will check this statement) that we inspect that land by invitation. They have invited us there.

Mr GUNN: My understanding is that public servants have a right to enter the land. Members of the Pastoral Board would be classified public servants and, therefore, if they desired to enter those lands, they would be permitted to do so. I may have misunderstood the situation, because at the time when the Bill was debated a number of matters, about which I was very concerned, were subject to discussion. It was my understanding that the Pastoral Board had the ultimate right to enter that land. What is the situation? Because all other pastoral lands in South Australia are subject to inspection by the Pastoral Board, I believe that these lands should be inspected to ensure that the proper management processes are taking place.

Mr Alexander: As I said, we will look into that matter. Certainly the Pastoral Board would have the right to enter, but I think, as a matter of courtesy, we notify the Pitjantjatjara Council of our being there. Whenever it is necessary to enter those lands, that process is always followed.

Mr GUNN: First, have the problems relating to the allocation of land in the Mintabie precious stones prospecting area been resolved? I think that the Minister recently visited the area. Some concern was expressed about the shortage of land and also the problems relating to the determination of the exact location of the blocks of land. Secondly, what stage have the negotiations reached with the local progress association at Mintabie?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: A number of these concerns were raised with me during a recent visit to that area and they have been referred to departmental officers. They are under consideration and, when that information comes to hand, I can provide the honourable member with it.

Mr De LAINE: In relation to page 278 of the Program Estimates and the provision of residential land, what is the method used by the department to keep the cost of this type of land down to a minimum?

Mr Darley: In relation to the provision of residential land in country areas, the department uses the consultants extensively for the provision of services, subdivisions, etc. The departmental involvement in the process is fairly small in the total scheme of things.

Mr De LAINE: What is the extent of work involved in stage 1 of the construction of the Grand Junction Industrial Estate?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Recently we referred this matter to Cabinet, but no decision has been taken on it. I cannot recall the detail offhand. I shall be happy to get that information for the honourable member.

Mr MEIER: On page 290 of the Program Estimates under 'Issues and trends' there is a statement that the trend towards Government providing valuation services for local government rating rather than the private sector is continuing. Is the Minister able to tell the Committee why he believes that that trend is occurring and whether he thinks that the Department of Lands is generating sufficient confidence with local government as a result of discrepancies that occurred with land valuations earlier this year?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask the Valuer-General to answer that question.

Mr Darley: Over the past 16 years the Valuer-General has been contracted to provide valuations for rating and

taxing purposes in local government areas. I think that, at the present time, of the 126 local government authorities about 122 adopt our valuations. The reason for this is that the private sector, in the main, is not in a position to compete, and really does not want to compete, in a field that is considered to be less attractive from a profit point of view, bearing in mind the sorts of problems which arise and which were discussed here earlier today.

We have, on occasion, contracted with councils to make valuations for us, which are then adopted by Government rating and taxing authorities. The level of service being provided by Government valuers is considered to be of a higher level than anything that can be provided by the private sector.

Mr MEIER: Now that the final report on the Port Wakefield Proof and Experimental Range proposed extension has been handed down, namely, that Port Parham and Webb Beach will not disappear, is the Department of Lands involved in the purchase of land for the army to extend its proof range, I believe in a easterly direction and, if so, when will that occur?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The only Department of Lands involvement in that area is in relation to the shacks. We have a number of shack sites in that vicinity. We were very concerned about those sites when the army was talking about extending the field. I am not sure whether the extension covers any of our land in that area. I will ask the Director, if he can, to add to that answer.

Mr Alexander: As far as I know, no approach has been made by the Commonwealth to purchase that land. We would be involved in a tenure transaction and valuation process.

Mr GUNN: Can the Minister advise what is the annual cost to the department for servicing perpetual and other Crown leases that the department administers, and has work been done on breaking the cost down to a cost per lease?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask Mr Kidd to respond to this question.

Mr Kidd: Some attempts have been made to allocate costs to individual kinds of leases, but the results that have emerged from that are of somewhat doubtful validity because of the allocation processes involved. I do not think that there is any sufficiently accurate information available at this stage to offer to the honourable member in answer to his question.

Mr GUNN: Can the Minister advise us whether departmental lands officers were invited to attend a seminar organised by the District Council of Hawker on 16 July? The seminar took place, but a few days before that the Deputy Premier prevented officers of his department and other Government employees from attending, for what reason I cannot quite fathom.

The district council and others involved were disappointed and mildly annoyed at this action, because it was a genuine attempt by a concerned council and people to have a realistic discussion about this matter. Were officers of the Minister's department invited to that meeting? Did they originally accept that invitation, and, if they did not attend, what were their reasons for not attending?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: It is correct that the Minister for Environment and Planning raised this matter in Cabinet, which decided that public servants would not be involved in that particular meeting. I think it would be better to direct a question about the reasons why that happened to the Minister for Environment and Planning. I thought that he answered a question in the House of Assembly about this matter at about the time this occurred.

Mr GUNN: Obviously, Department of Lands officers have been involved in what is known as the Flinders Ranges Plan; therefore, can the Minister advise the Committee what role the department is currently playing in that particular exercise, because real concern has been expressed by local communities and councils in the area about its administration? I understand that one of his officers, who I think unfortunately was killed, was involved with one of the committees up there. Will the Minister say what role the department is playing, because I think that the local community would have more confidence in dealing with Department of Lands officers than with some of the people with whom they are presently dealing?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The Director of Lands has been closely involved with this issue and I ask him to take the question.

Mr Alexander: Our involvement is as part of an inter-departmental team. Our regional manager at Port Augusta is involved with an officer from the Department of Agriculture in a team being led by the Department of Environment and Planning. My other involvement is as Chairman of the Land Resource Management Committee, which is somewhat distantly overlooking the project. Our involvement is merely to provide some expertise by way of our regional manager in the area.

[Sitting suspended from 1 to 2 p.m.]

Membership:

The Hon. J.W. Slater substituted for Mr Groom.

Mr GUNN: The yellow book indicates that 91 kilometres of experimental solar power electric fence is administered by the Dog Fence Board. Does the Government intend to support the Dog Fence Board to extend that solar powered fence as I understand it has been successful? Secondly, has any consideration been given to altering the route of the dog fence so as to shorten it and cut down the administration of patrolling the fence?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The Dog Fence Board is responsible for the management of the 2 220 km of the State's dingo proof fence. In South Australia the fence is owned by the 28 pastoral lessees that abut it on the inside and there are three sections on the West Coast owned by the local dog fence boards. The board is concerned at the ever increasing cost of maintaining the fence in dog proof condition and is continuing extensive trials in the use of the solar powered plain wire electric fences to contain costs. The board is also investigating monitoring equipment to further improve the reliability of electric fences. There are now five sections of netting fence protected by solar powered electric fences:

1. Fowlers Bay dog fence—protected from wombat damage by 90 km of highly effective 4 wire fence now in its fourth year of operation.
2. Pureba local dog fence—91 km of 7 wire construction, providing protection from wild dogs and also exercising a high degree of control over kangaroo and emu movement, to the benefit of Far West Coast agricultural enterprises.
3. Parakylia Station North at Woomera—34 km of six wire construction has proven completely successful in protecting the existing frail netting fence, now in its third year of operation: not one penetration by wild dogs has been reported to date.
4. Moolawatana station in the Northern Flinders Ranges—following the success of the original 24 km 6 wire fence, two further 20 kms of improved design 7 wire

fence has been constructed. Sufficient material is on hand to extend the 7 wire fence by 15 km during 1987.

5. Balcanoona Plains, in the mid-Flinders Ranges—in order to extend the life of the existing netting fence and to reduce maintenance cost, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, with the assistance of the board, erected 10 km of 7 wire fence parallel to the existing fence, the resultant reduction of maintenance expenses have justified the cost of construction.

The Dog Fence Board is investigating methods of including radio monitoring systems in electric fence constructions thereby enabling fence owners to check daily the operation of their fences, thus increasing the reliability and effectiveness of such fences.

For projects completed in 1985-86, I advise that construction of 91 km of 7 wire solar powered dog control fence was completed on 20 March 1986, financed by ratepayers in the Pureba ratable area of Ceduna. With the assistance of local donations of labour machinery, cost of construction was held to \$100 000 or \$1 099 per km. The National Parks and Wildlife Service used board expertise to plan and construct a similar 7 wire electric fence on the eastern boundary of the Flinders Ranges Balcanoona reserve at a total cost of \$15 000. Construction was completed on 19 May 1986.

Mr GUNN: Can the Minister inform the Committee whether the Government has any plans to provide extra funds to the Dog Fence Board or given consideration to charging landholders who do not join the dog fence but are afforded protection by it.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The Director of Lands is Chairman of that board. I will ask him to reply.

Mr Alexander: I am officially chairman but have the right to appoint a nominee with the Minister's approval to do the day-to-day running. However, I did chair a meeting when the issues raised by the honourable member were discussed. I have initiated a fairly comprehensive investigation into the whole funding arrangements. There are difficulties as there are only two full-time equivalent staff involved, which is quite low compared to interstate boards. The board has no intention of seeking extra Government assistance. It wants to continue to stand on its own feet. The issue of the catchment area for rating purposes is a difficult one, but I have asked that an investigation be carried out. Presently it is the contiguous lessees that pay, yet they are protecting quite a depth into the sheep country. The board believes that contributions should come from a wider sphere and that is being investigated.

Mr GUNN: I refer to page 269 dealing with objectives, issues and strategies. One line refers to the department making available its technical expertise overseas and within Australia. Will the Minister advise where such expertise is used overseas or in Australia and what are the funding arrangements? I would not object to the department being involved elsewhere, but it should not be done at a cost to the taxpayers of South Australia.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask the Director to answer the question.

Mr Alexander: We completed a project in Tunisia for the World Bank last financial year through SAGRIC, the Government's international agriculturally orientated organisation. Departmental funds were not involved. We completed another project recently. When overseas recently I visited the World Bank and it was quite interested and impressed with our land information. We are exporting in some senses the Torrens Title system. With the Government's approval my intention is to try for more of these contracts involving private sector expertise heavily to get multigovernment internal projects through. They are mainly with third world

countries. It could lead to spinoffs for the State's industry here in terms of the systems we set up.

Mr MEIER: I refer to page 288 of the yellow book under the heading, '1986-87 Specific Targets/Objectives', where it refers to participation in live sheep and Port Adelaide industrial land studies. Will the Minister provide further details on what participation there is in live sheep and Port Adelaide industrial land studies?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: A committee was formed to investigate the feedlots in the Outer Harbor area. I have received a preliminary report, and that report was quite premature. We have asked the Department of Agriculture to further study this matter. I think that the honourable member is aware that the Government has made a decision to upgrade Outer Harbor No. 1 berth to try to attract back some of the lost live sheep trade. That work is already proceeding; it is slightly ahead of schedule. I cannot recall the completion date, but we are treating the matter with urgency. Because of the condition of the berth we have lost some of the live sheep trade to Portland in Victoria. Discussions with the industry involved have led to assurances that as soon as this berth is upgraded we will attract back a lot of the lost trade to South Australia. However, I have not received any final report in relation to the question of feedlots. That dealt with a lot of the reclaimed land in the Pelican Point area and, no doubt, there are some environmental issues to be taken into consideration. That is about all I can say on this matter, until the committee reports to the Government the results of the further investigations.

Mr MEIER: Will the live sheep holding areas at Port Adelaide be used as a holding point for stock owned by, say, Metro Meat and the Australian Saudi Arabian Livestock Company? Their main depots are in the Dublin area but this would be a secondary holding area while they are waiting for loading—is that right or would the area be used by other companies?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: It relates to the whole of the industry. I do not think it relates so much to the holding areas but to providing adequate and modern feedlot facilities. The honourable member might recall that there was some controversy over injury to sheep and goats in the SAMCOR paddocks during inclement weather. I know that quite a number of people in the industry are spending huge sums of money in upgrading their feedlot areas north of Adelaide, and we have to wait for the results of the further studies that are being conducted. However, it relates mainly to recommendations from the Senate Select Committee into Animal Welfare asking the industry to upgrade their feedlots. The study that the Government referred to the committee related more to the question of feedlots than to holding pens, although I do not doubt that, if the feedlots were situated in the area referred to, there would be holding pens attached to it.

Mr MEIER: A specific target for 1986-87 outlined at page 288 of the Program Estimates is that the sale of real property identified as surplus to Government requirements is to be expedited. Is the Minister able to provide information as to what Government property is considered surplus to Government requirements, as of today?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I think I will have to take that question on notice. The Director has indicated that he can comment on the matter.

Mr Alexander: I may not be able to answer the question entirely, and we will research the matter. The point is that it is up to individual Ministers to declare that land under their care and control, either Crown land or freehold land in the Minister's name, is surplus to Government requirements. That land is then passed to the Department of Lands

for disposal and the department then goes through that process. However, Cabinet has directed that the department should prepare a Government property file that will identify clearly all property which is owned by the Government and which is nearing completion in relation to requirements. So, we will be able to prepare a consolidated report on Government property. I emphasise that it is up to the individual Minister to declare property as being surplus.

Mr MEIER: As indicated, can the Minister provide the information requested by 31 October for inclusion in *Hansard*, in accordance with normal procedure?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Yes, I will do so.

Mr GUNN: I refer to page 204 of the Program Estimates, where reference is made to provision of land in country towns, a matter to which the Minister referred earlier. Can the Minister advise whether more land will be made available in places like Ceduna and other country towns where there is continuing demand for blocks of land? I have had approaches from the council which covers Ceduna about the problem and I am wondering whether the Minister can provide details of the general policy. It is like providing land for shack sites; it takes a considerable time to get the land on the market.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I provided some brief detail in my introductory remarks to the Committee today. I have some further information on this matter. As at June 1986, the following situation existed. Allotments were on sale in 11 towns; allotments were being developed in six towns; allotments were close to development in six towns; and allotments were being investigated in 53 other towns. In most towns, some small stock of vacant blocks exists and priority is given to towns where no blocks are available. In the Riverland, an area of particular need remains, because of tenure of the land surrounding the towns there. The needs of Berri, Waikerie, Barmera, Loxton, Cobdogla and Morgan have received attention during the year and land either is available or will be released this financial year. This is in relation to the department being responsible as a last resort for the development of these areas. Ceduna, on Eyre Peninsula, is under investigation. I have details in relation to all the towns involved. As the list is too long to read out at this time, I am happy to provide the list for inclusion in the *Hansard* record.

COUNTRY LAND

The department is involved in all country areas of the State and is currently active in 44 council areas. Towns involved are as at September 1986.

Land on sale	Residential	Industrial
	Berri [5]	Berri [19]
	Morgan [8]	Loxton [2]
	Kadina [4]	Thevenard [1]
	Marion Bay [105]	
	Port Hughes [65]	
	Lock [8]	
	Whyalla H/S [6]	
	Coober Pedy [33]	
	Glendambo [19]	
Under Construction	Cobdogla [11]	
	Southend [24]	
Under Investigation		
Murrayland	Berri	Loxton
	Waikerie	Strathalbyn
	Loxton West	Blanchetown
	Barmera [3]	Barmera
	Big Bend	Berri [2]
	Cadell	Milang
	Glossop	

Land on sale	Residential	Industrial
	Loveday	
	Milang Marina	
	Moorook	
	Mypolonga	
Yorke	Woolbay	Kadina
	Clinton	Jamestown
	Walleroo [2]	Maitland
	Black Point	Riverton
	Pt Julia	
	Pt Rickaby	
	Angaston	
	Ardrossan	
	Balaklava	
	Clare	
	Jamestown	
	Kadina	
	Maitland	
	Marion Bay	
	Minlaton	
	Moonta	
	Tickera	
Eyre	Lincoln Cove	Wudinna
	Coffin Bay [2]	Streaky Bay
	Ceduna	
	Cleve	
	Elliston	
	Emu Bay	
	False Bay	
	Louth Bay	
	Thevenard [2]	
	Venus Bay	
Northern	Pt Augusta West	
	H/S	
	Miranda	
	Wirrabara	
	Hawker	
	Laura	
	Quorn	
South East	Kingston [2]	Beachport
	Beachport	Millicent
	Robe	Robe
Central	Cape Jervis Motel	Parndana
	Kapunda	Victor Harbor
	Lobethal	
	Meadows	
	Nairne	
	Nuriootpa	
	Parndana	
	St Kilda	
	Tanunda	
	Tintinara	
	Victor Harbor	
	Woodside	
	Christmas Cove	
Far North	Copley	

Regency Park Stage V (16 sites) is currently being surveyed. Stage I of Grand Junction Industrial Estate is approved and construction will commence by December 1986, with blocks being available for sale in mid 1987 (approximately 39 blocks).

We are also still negotiating with Australian National in relation to some areas of country corridors, and it is hoped that those negotiations will be completed within the next few months so that more land under the railway transfer agreement can be passed back to the State for future development in country areas.

Membership:

The Hon. H. Allison substituted for the Hon. Ted Chapman.

Mr GUNN: On page 276 the Program Estimates say, 'The inclusion of a code of ethics in the regulations under the Surveyors Act has and will continue to increase the work load of the Surveyors Board'. What is the explanation of the inclusion of these paragraphs on page 276?

Mr Toms: The common occurrence now within the surveyors boards within the reciprocating system in Australia

is to include a code of ethics. This is to improve the performance of the profession. It is generally accepted throughout Australia and currently affects the expenditure of the board because it adds an additional load.

Mr GUNN: The next question concerns the general policy of the Government in relation to deregulation and getting rid of red tape. As well as the alterations to the Pastoral Act and the Crown Lands Act, has the department any plans to repeal any of the existing Acts of Parliament or get rid of existing boards or committees, and does the Government still see a need to maintain the Land Board, because it consists entirely of public servants?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: This is all under discussion at the moment in relation to the new Crown Lands Act and the new Pastoral Act. It has not been finally decided whether the Pastoral Board will be retained. It may well have a similar function—perhaps under a different name—but that is all under consideration and we anticipate that the new Act and the improvements will streamline the existing Acts and update them in accordance with our current operations within the Lands Department.

Mr Alexander: I emphasise that the proposals at the moment have to go to Cabinet but, in terms of modern administration, the idea is to get more involvement of the people who have an interest in the management of land, more in an advisory capacity, but very much to engender self regulation on the basis that, quite often, peer group pressure in those situations acts more strongly than rigid regulation. The idea is to involve the community more in decision making, which is Government policy. Community involvement is beneficial.

Mr GUNN: Page 281 deals with the determination of road closure and opening proposals. Has the department been looking at the closing of a large number of these roads which would appear on maps of council areas but which are never used? Is the department looking at closing those roads to assist in making the land available to adjoining landholders so as to simplify management procedures?

Mr Toms: The department is looking very closely at the closure of roads under the Roads (Opening and Closing) Act. Departments other than the Department of Lands are involved in this, and we are holding very deep discussions with those departments on the whole question of road opening and closing—with particular emphasis on the closure of roads.

Mr GUNN: I take it that the department is looking at a very large number of roads which were originally surveyed and have never been used, with a view to having them permanently closed to alleviate administrative problems and problems to adjoining landowners. Is that correct?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: That would be our policy. Where the local council authorities determine those road reserves as surplus to their requirements, in most cases they are being transferred or sold to the landowner. We are currently negotiating with the Department of Recreation and Sport in certain council areas to determine what facilities it requires with respect to walking tracks and that kind of facility. A number of applications for road closure have been approved; a number are awaiting the outcome of the discussions with the Department of Recreation and Sport, and other applications are being considered on their merits and according to local government applications.

Mr GUNN: I take it the Minister is referring to the Heysen Trail in relation to negotiations with the Department of Recreation and Sport. Is the Lands Department involved in actually delineating where the Heysen Trail passes through people's properties, because a number of landholders have indicated to me that they are not partic-

ularly keen about the Heysen Trail and want to know where it is? Can the Minister indicate whether his department has been involved with the Department of Recreation and Sport in determining where the Heysen Trail runs?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I was not referring specifically to the Heysen Trail. I was referring to some of our consultations with the Auburn and Saddleworth councils, where quite a number of applications for road closures have come in. I will ask Mr Toms to elaborate on the Heysen Trail.

Mr Toms: Part of the Heysen Trail was investigated by a group of departmental officers on Mount Brown and there was some re-establishment of the old road reserve there to facilitate the walk by the students on the Heysen Trail some months ago. I believe that that is all that we have been involved in with regard to the Heysen Trail but we are heavily involved in negotiations with one council on the question of closure of roads.

Mr GUNN: I want to come briefly to shack sites. Is the department looking at making available other areas of land which would be suitable for shack development on a long-term basis?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Yes, we are. I mentioned in my opening remarks that we have now allocated freehold in respect of an additional 143, I think it was, and further inspections are being conducted. Management plans were recommended for 15 shack site areas along the Murray River and coastal districts. Local Government Authorities submitted seven draft management plans to the Department. In 1985-86 two final management plans were approved for Farm Beach on Eyre Peninsula and Port Souttar/Brutus Drain on Yorke Peninsula. A proposed management plan for Sultana Point on Yorke Peninsula was unsuccessful. Management plans for four other shack sites are awaiting consideration and negotiation at the end of the year.

The draft management plan for Black Point shacks was included in the preparation of a comprehensive development plan for the area. A total of 103 shack sites were reclassified 'acceptable' as a result of suitable management plans. Shack sites classified 'acceptable' as a result of the 1983 review and subsequent actions, totalled 1 665 at the end of the year. Arrangements were in progress to offer freehold tenure to the lessees at market value.

Mr GUNN: There was a review of the classification of non acceptable shack sites in 1983. Has the Government accepted that report's recommendations and put them into effect?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: We have adopted the report and we are in the process of implementing its recommendations.

Mr MEIER: On page 271 of the Estimates under the subtitle 'Conduct of State land survey', I notice that the proposed capital expenditure for 1985-86 was \$806 000 but that actual expenditure was \$1 380 000. That seems a significant increase. The proposed figure for 1986-87 is \$1 719 000, or virtually double what was proposed one year earlier. Can the Minister explain such a large discrepancy?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: We will have to get some detail on that and provide it later.

Mr MEIER: When neighbours dispute land or section boundaries, what procedure is used? A dispute about a fence line might go back 50 years or more, or somebody might decide that they are not happy with the present boundary.

The CHAIRPERSON: Order! I cannot see how this relates to the budget estimates. Perhaps that is a question for another Parliamentary opportunity.

Mr MEIER: If you look at the general headings under Department of Lands, Madam Chairperson, you will see that the Surveyor-General—

The CHAIRPERSON: Which page?

Mr MEIER: Page 268. I would have assumed that this type of work would come under that heading. It would be an expense to the department.

The CHAIRPERSON: I am sure that that is right, but the honourable member is asking not about expenditure but rather about a procedure for neighbours. He should take that matter up at another time.

Mr GUNN: Page 92 concerns grants to the Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals. I understand that the Minister of Lands is responsible for the day to day running of legislation dealing with cruelty to animals. Has the department monitored some of the outrageous comments of the Animal Protection League and others who oppose the export of live sheep and cattle? I understand that the Government has considered providing facilities in the Port Adelaide area to assist the shipping of live sheep. It worries me that people make outrageous comments which could damage our large market for stock. Does the department keep an eye open to ensure that the comments of these people are corrected?

The CHAIRPERSON: Can the honourable member relate that question to the Estimates?

Mr GUNN: Yes.

The CHAIRPERSON: Which program?

Mr GUNN: On page 92. We have been getting on well today. I do not want to go down this track. Some of us have been here a long time and know our Standing Orders.

The CHAIRPERSON: Order!

Mr GUNN: It concerns grants to the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. The sum proposed is \$102 000 this year. In the context of what the grant should be used for, I submitted my question, which I have gone to some lengths to explain.

The CHAIRPERSON: I thank the honourable member for his question.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The amount allocated in the budget is made up mainly of the grant that the Government makes available to the RSPCA. Last year, we increased the grant by \$9 000 on the previous year. The RSPCA is always looking for more finance. The honourable member has raised a serious matter which the Government will have to consider soon in view of the introduction of the new Animal Welfare Act. We have asked RSPCA inspectors to assist with the administration of that Act. The Government has a responsibility to assist the RSPCA as much as possible.

We are being cautious. We make certain that any new measure is carefully monitored. That continues all the time. Animal welfare issues are raised by all community activity, whether it concerns the production of food, the development of new drugs or other scientific research. Animal welfare issues normally generate an emotional response from the public so, if the Government is to respond rationally and logically in the face of such debate, it must be well prepared by constant monitoring and assessment of issues. That is done by the Animal Welfare Office under direction from the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, which advises the Minister of Lands on animal welfare matters.

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act was proclaimed on 1 August this year, and the public has made clear that it expects an improvement in animal welfare as a result. I believe that the legislation is probably the best in Australia. Several issues are being addressed: the implementation of controls to minimise stress during animal experimentation, examination of pet shops and the sale of companion animals and necessary controls, the assessment of agricultural husbandry practices and more humane alternatives, methods of achieving Australia wide uniformity of animal welfare legislation, monitoring the effect of legislation and the

necessity for any amendments, and continued participation with the Commonwealth in producing codes of animal welfare practice for animal husbandry.

When the honourable member asked his question I thought that he might have been referring to Coober Pedy, which is within his electorate, where recently there has been a problem with diseased stray dogs and diseased dogs. Last week, as a result of an approach made to me by the local progress association about the problem of stray and diseased dogs, the senior project officer of the Animal Welfare Unit visited Coober Pedy. The main problem stems from the Aboriginal reserve where there are about four to six dogs for each of the 60 families. Many of these dogs have mange and other diseases that are passed onto other dogs in the town and, more importantly, to the Aboriginal children.

The hospital estimates that about 50 per cent of children treated have complaints attributable to the diseases in their dogs. Although dog control is a local government matter, the complexity of the problem at Coober Pedy is such that, if it is to be tackled, it is possibly better coordinated by the animal welfare office and any solution would appear to need an education program for the Aboriginal and the white communities in conjunction with a dog desexing and eradication program. Coordination with other departments involved could also assist to resolve the problem, and I understand that that has already started.

Mr GUNN: I note on page 94 that, in relation to repatriation advances for homes for returned service personnel, municipal and district council rates, the amount is \$1 000. What role does the department now have in repatriation, particularly in relation to the land settlement program?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The State acts as an agent for the Commonwealth department. Rents on war service leases are collected by the State on behalf of the Commonwealth and then those rents are forwarded to the Commonwealth. Annual financial statements are prepared and forwarded to the Commonwealth and these statements show the settlers' indebtedness to the State and the State's indebtedness to the Commonwealth. The scheme is winding down gradually as settlers pass on and their descendants either do not qualify as settlers or choose not to go on the land. The State is refunded by the Commonwealth for the cost of the administration of the scheme as determined in that scheme.

Mr GUNN: In his opening remarks the Minister mentioned the Pastoral Act. Is the department confident that agreement will be reached with the pastoralists and the other groups that have been having an input into the matter? May I say that some of those inputs have not been based on a great deal of understanding of the practical problems that face the pastoral industry. Over the past few years this matter has been the subject of considerable discussion and debate. Is there a timetable for these negotiations, and when is it expected that legislation will be brought before Parliament?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: As I mentioned earlier, the department has done a lot of preparatory work on the new legislation and those matters are with Parliamentary Counsel. The Government's intention is to have draft legislation in place so that we can go through the consultative process. We intend to discuss all issues with the landholders, with the pastoralists under the auspices of the United Farmers and Stockowners Association which has a great interest in the matter and, also, with the conservationists. Before the legislation is introduced in Parliament, we want to take it to those people and we anticipate that the legislation will be introduced some time early next year. It is our intention to consult with as many people and organisations as possible on this matter.

Mr GUNN: A large amount of unallocated Crown land in South Australia is under the control of the Minister and his department. Does the Government have any plans for this land, or will it be maintained as unallocated Crown lands? My concern is that it could become tied up under various other management plans and the mining industry could be prevented from having access to that land. That would be detrimental to the overall benefit and interests of the State.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: We intend to dedicate the unallocated Crown lands to certain persons. It could be either desert reserves or parks.

Mr GUNN: Under the control of the Minister of Lands?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Yes.

The CHAIRPERSON: There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the vote completed.

Works and Services—Department of Lands,
\$7 880 000—Examination declared completed.

Works and Services—Woods and Forests Department,
\$7 900 000

Chairperson:
Ms D. L. Gayler

Members:
The Hon. H. Allison
Mr M.R. De Laine
Mr G.M. Gunn
Mr E.J. Meier
The Hon. J.W. Slater
Mr P.B. Tyler

Witness:

The Hon. R.K. Abbott, Minister of Lands, Minister of Marine, Minister of Forests and Minister of Repatriation.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr P. South, Director, Woods and Forests Department.
Mr D. Mutton, Assistant Director, Woods and Forests Department.
Mr D. Curtis, Finance Executive, South Australian Timber Corporation.

The CHAIRPERSON: Does the lead speaker for the Opposition wish to make an opening statement?

Mr GUNN: We intend to follow the same course of action as we did on the previous vote. This is an exercise in seeking information in an informal fashion; we are not out to become involved in a confrontation with the Minister or his officers. My colleagues and I have a number of questions. The member for Mount Gambier will be asking the first questions on this side.

The CHAIRPERSON: Does the Minister wish to make an opening statement?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: No, not on this occasion.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: I notice that there is no provision for employee housing in this year's estimates. I wonder whether the department was not only not purchasing housing but in fact closing reserves and selling assets. If so, which ones are they?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: We are currently reviewing our housing stock. It is not our intention to purchase more

housing; the reverse is the case, we are attempting to decrease the number of departmental homes.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: Can the Minister advise the Committee what is current departmental policy regarding changeover of motor vehicles, the kilometrage involved and the number of years a vehicle is retained as a matter of general policy, and relate that to the number of vehicles to be acquired with the \$755 000 allocated for light vehicle purchase?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask Mr Mutton to give that detail.

Mr Mutton: The policy of the department in relation to replacement of motor vehicles falls in line with that laid down by the Department of Services and Supply. I understand that that policy is currently under review. We will be complying with the policy laid down by the Department of Services and Supply. The replacement of light vehicles only refers to our fleet outside the Adelaide metropolitan area. Our Adelaide based fleet comes under the Government car pool situation.

I have a full list of vehicles due for replacement during the financial year, if it is required, and can read it out. The light vehicle class is not all motor vehicles; \$531 000 of that money relates to sedans and also to four wheel drive vehicles for our forest operations and utilities for commercial operations.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: I do not require the list at this stage. I am sure the department will cooperate if a future request is made for this information by way of a question on notice. I was under the impression that the Department of Services and Supply some three or four months ago issued a firm new policy based upon a number of reports brought before the Services and Supply Board over the past two years.

I understood, also, that that was out to all departments, so perhaps the Minister will check that his department has received that latest policy. My next question relates to Scrimber, the new venture where the Woods and Forests Department has entered into a licensing arrangement with the CSIRO. I noticed in the Auditor-General's report concern was expressed that here was a project to be developed by the Woods and Forests Department with a view to manufacture and sale of a product which had considerable potential in the future, but concerns expressed by the Auditor-General is particularly in the field of expanding sales, not only in the Australian market, but with penetrating the United States market.

Can the Minister advise, in relation to Scrimber, what is the nature of the product? As I understand it, it will be competing with existing long span products, probably laminated beams, which the Woods and Forests Department, through a partly owned subsidiary, already makes and markets. Has this product been tried, tested and found to be better than products presently made by the Woods and Forests Department? To what extent can this new product be expected to compete, replace and enter overseas markets? It seemed that the Auditor-General had a degree of doubt about this matter, although I might have misinterpreted the way in which he phrased his statement, but it has caused me some concern.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The corporation has entered into a contract with CSIRO and Repco to develop a CSIRO patent product, Scrimber. The product utilises relatively immature wood, as young as 10 years, and produces structural grades which will be competitive with both sawn and engineered wood products.

The corporation has been developing the production process in an experimental plant at Dandenong in Victoria and

is currently finalising a feasibility study of a production facility, which would be located in the South-East of the State in close proximity to the State forest timber resources. Broad estimates at this stage indicate an investment in land, buildings, plant and machinery of about \$22 million for an annual production rate of 30 000 cubic metres. Given that all relevant approvals are in place by the end of December, production could commence in July 1988.

I am sure that the honourable member, as his electorate is in the South-East of South Australia, would be pleased about this development. The corporation holds an exclusive licence to manufacture and sell this product within Australia and countries around the Asean rim or to sublicense other producers in the region. In addition, 40 per cent of all royalties and fees received by the CSIRO and Repco from licensing overseas manufacturers will be paid to the corporation. Following commencement of production the corporation will pay a royalty of two per cent on sales to the CSIRO and Repco. In relation to expanding sales and competition, perhaps the Director would like to comment or give more detail than I have given.

Mr South: Scrimber is basically a reconstituted wood product, such products having been a long time coming. They will have a number of advantages if properly developed, one being that they will economically meet the competition of steel and other constructional materials by virtue of the fact that they can be reconstituted from young forests. I am sure that the honourable member would appreciate the amount tied up in forests being grown to maturity at 45 to 50 years compared with using the fibre at the pulp-log size and reconstituting it into cross sections and structural members of the size which one can barely cut out of our plantations anyway. It is generally recognised that Scrimber has enormous promise and will rank with future structural materials.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: I refer the Minister's attention to pages 294 and 295 in the yellow book where it refers to fire depleted resources as a result of Ash Wednesday fires of 1983. How much of the forest was burnt on that occasion and what re-establishment has occurred since that date? When is it envisaged that the program will be completed?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: As the honourable member would be aware, a large area of the State's forests, almost all of which were Government owned, were destroyed during the 1983 Ash Wednesday fires; in fact, 19 700 hectares of departmental forests were burnt (25 per cent of the resource). A tremendous effort has been put in to date by employees of the department to clear, prepare and re-establish the forests. The methods being used for re-establishment, which include improved land preparation, fertiliser and weedicide application, are much improved on those used when areas were first established. Indications are that the new plantations will be healthier, more vigorous and produce better quality timber. At this stage, about one-third of the burnt area has been replanted and it is anticipated the program will be completed by the end of 1992.

This year we planted almost six million radiata pine. The honourable member will appreciate that we cannot replant all burnt areas in one year otherwise it is all maturing at the one time. We are doing as much as we possibly can and the number planted this year is an all-time record.

The remaining productive areas of our forests have become extremely important to the ongoing viability of the forest products industry, both in the South-East of South Australia and the Adelaide Hills. It is therefore critical to ensure adequate protection for them. Obviously, under the conditions prevailing on Ash Wednesday 1983, suppression is extremely difficult and therefore emphasis needs to be placed

on the prevention of fires on those days. However, the department has continued to upgrade its fire-fighting fleet in line with a program initiated in 1978 following a detailed investigation of requirements. This year the program will almost be completed with an excess of \$600 000 being spent on replacement vehicles. During 1985-86, seven new fire and support units were added to the fleet at a cost of \$1.1 million. The objective is to have harder hitting and more responsive units available that also incorporate greater crew safety. The support units are water carrying vehicles to allow the fire units to remain on the fire line and not have to abandon the fire to replenish water supply. The re-establishment and protection of our forests, particularly the burnt-out areas, is progressing satisfactorily.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: The Minister is right in saying that I am vitally interested in forestry. Everyone in the State would acknowledge that the Woods and Forests Department and private enterprise are the lifeblood of the South-East. The Minister's announcement of the Scrimber project is highly exciting, but I was looking for something more from the Minister. I notice that the Director said that Scrimber, if properly developed (and I do not know whether his emphasis was mine) would mean that young wood can provide large timber sections. It is tremendous from that viewpoint instead of having to wait for huge trees around the back of Mount Burr. If we can get large sections competing with steel and laminate much earlier, then the timber industry is home and hosed.

What is the extent to which the Director is reassured that the development processes can go ahead to make this \$22 million—a substantial investment—really pay off? I ask my question in light of excessive criticism of the Auditor-General of the whole operations of SAPFOR. So far, the considerable investments are not producing sufficient to meet interest and his doubts seem to pervade that report. We are looking at another joint venture.

The Auditor-General again says that he would hope that Woods and Forests would be getting some joint venture capital. I assume that the CSIRO/Repco component was part of that, although I may be wrong. I am still looking for that reassurance that Scrimber has the long-term potential to go ahead and allay any fears that the Auditor-General may have. Coupled with that I have a worry in the back of my mind that already we have the Woods and Forests Beddison section having some problems. It was not profitable last year. It is producing a laminate. Does that mean that the success of Scrimber may be achieved at the expense of existing laminate manufacturers in the South-East? It is not necessarily a bad thing, but is the way the whole thing is tied in. I am looking for some reassurance more for the South-East than for the Auditor-General.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: In his 1986 report the Auditor-General highlighted the difficulties facing the corporation and its being totally dependent on borrowings to fund its investment program. In 1986 the corporation incurred a trading loss of \$391 000 after meeting interest commitments of \$1 967 000. During the same period the corporation income from investments was \$1 474 000.

In 1986-87 the position has potential to be more difficult, as further borrowings will be required to continue their developmental work with Scrimber and the full impact of interest costs on IPL (Holdings) borrowings will be reflected in financial reports. However, SATCO's investment in IPL has the potential, through expansion of production in New Zealand and the successful launching of laminated veneer lumber in both Australian and export markets, to provide a satisfactory return on shareholders' funds. SATCO has a

respected New Zealand public company as a partner in the international and panel lumber holdings venture.

Other SATCO investments—SATCO MGPI, Shepherdson and Mewett, and the Timber Distribution Centre in Victoria—all traded profitably during the year. It is clear that two significant SATCO investments, IPL (Holdings) and Scrimber, will need time to reach their full earning potential, and I am presently reviewing this position with the Chairman and Under Treasurer to establish a funding basis that will more accurately reflect the corporation's role in developing and consolidating the timber industry sector of the State's industrial base. One very satisfying feature of the corporation's recent initiatives is the export potential of some of these products. Concern has been expressed at the magnitude of the interest payments to be faced in coming years as a result of the large investments in the O.R. Beddison and the Scrimber project. However, in maintaining the operation of O.R. Beddison at Nangwarry, stabilisation has been achieved; the joint venture in New Zealand enhances the resource available; and the new product, laminated veneer lumber, has been launched.

The 1983 bushfires have, unfortunately, through Shepherdson and Mewett, MGPI and IPL, had their effect on profitability through storage effects on log. The fires are also affecting the financial performance of the Woods and Forests Department. The Timber Corporation has a very respected financial staff and operational management and, given reasonable market conditions, expects to greatly improve its position. The no equity base must be realised, and the Auditor-General has pointed that out on two occasions.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: This is not even a supplementary question, as it simply repeats the question which I asked before but which has not been answered by the Minister. I raised two key points: first, the extent to which the Minister is convinced that Scrimber is really a goer, as opposed to something that is in its developmental stage—that still has to be developed and then markets for it found; secondly, the related question, namely, with regard to IPL and Beddison we also have another product, laminated veneer lumber, which is competing around the world on the same markets.

In relation to the vast sum of money that needs to be spent on Scrimber, I am merely looking to see what effect that will have on existing operations of Beddison and IPL—bearing in mind that the Minister did not acknowledge this. He said that they were trading profitably, but that statement is diametrically opposed to the Auditor-General's comments. The Auditor-General said that IPL Beddison was not trading profitably in the last financial year. There is a discrepancy there. Which one is correct? Was IPL Beddison trading profitably—in which case the Auditor-General needs correcting? If we have a very substantial investment in Scrimber and competition in relation to it by two companies that are already struggling with a new product and looking for markets, what effect will that have? I simply want to know whether in relation to Scrimber it is possible for IPL and Beddison to be working on an integrated basis and for them all to succeed—because it is money really from the same taxpayer's basket.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I mentioned that other SATCO investments—SATCO MGPI, Shepherdson and Mewett and a timber distribution centre in Victoria—all traded profitably during the year. I did not say IPL. The honourable member has misunderstood. I will ask Mr South to speak on the development of the Scrimber product.

Mr South: What the Minister has said was quite right. IPL Australia, which is the Beddison end of IPL(H), since

it has disposed of its icecream stick business, which was unprofitable, has become profitable with plywood and laminated veneer lumber, which is now coming under way. I now refer to the Scrimber question. In relation to my reference to when it was properly developed, I said that because it needed someone with the right sort of resource and the right sort of knowhow to develop it. The history of it was that CSIRO invented the product and after doing so that organisation went into a partnership with Repco to develop the machinery for its manufacture. Unfortunately, in relation to the partnership, changes occurred at CSIRO: the inventor retired and the head of the division who was involved when the project first started also retired. Repco, I think, lost some enthusiasm and for three years they did not make a great deal of progress in its development.

A pilot plant which produces Scrimber was built. When SATCO took up this project, it was through an invitation by CSIRO-Repro to the timber industry, and they chose the people who they thought had the knowhow and the resource behind them to develop it and sent invitations to these people seeking interest in commercialising it. It was already being manufactured, but it had to be put on a commercial scale. We do not know how many people responded to the invitation; we believe that a number did. We were interested in it, for a number of obvious reasons. The first is that these structural materials made of reconstituted wood will be a very important part of the future. This is particularly pertinent to us because of the resource that was destroyed in 1983, and if we can shorten the rotation we can increase our output and obviously our viability. CSIRO and Repco were most interested in our submission, and we took on the project and entered into an arrangement with CSIROTECH, the commercial arm of the CSIRO. They are the rights that we have, and that is the product that we are making. We see it as being supplementary to our other building products.

The laminated beams will be at the decorative and expensive end of a large cross section of products. Laminated veneer lumber is very much in favour and is one of our export targets, being pursued with a good deal of enthusiasm, because there is not a lot of it in the world. It is an extremely light and strong material for truss manufacture and timber engineering in general. Scrimber will be around the same level of price when the commercial plant is completed, and the major components of it are just being built. However, Scrimber will be around the price of laminated veneer lumber, or a little less, but it will be for heavier structural work, as it is a very strong product. We see these all being complementary with one another, rather than competing. The world-wide interest in Scrimber at this point of time is remarkable.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: I refer to page 301 of the Program Estimates. The following broad objectives are outlined:

The department is a major owner of forest land and recognises the value of this land for tourism and outdoor recreational use.

Under Issues/Trends it says:

Demand for the use of the forest for recreational activities is slowly increasing. Recreation demand is increasing in Wirrabara Forest.

It also states:

Regulations under the Forestry Act 1950 will be introduced in 1986-87.

What would be the major use of a forest for recreational purposes? What has been the use in the past and what are the dangers? When I say 'dangers' I am talking about fires or some other problem that might arise through the use by the public at large of forest areas. I know from experience of a demand by a certain small group within the community

who wanted the use of reservoirs for recreational purposes, and there was some danger involved, of course—probably more danger in the water resource than in the forests. I would like to know what use the public might have for the forests. What has been the use in the past and what is the increasing demand?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: In recent years, public use of forest reserves, particularly in the Adelaide region, has increased, along with instances of careless use and wilful damage which have become more prevalent. In order to improve control over these activities we are planning to introduce regulations under the Forestry Act. The regulations are presently in draft form and comment is being sought from members of the community through submissions and a series of public meetings at convenient locations throughout the State.

I understand that they are now completed and the feedback I have received is that those meetings went very well and there was a lot of input by the community, including persons concerned with some of the activity which is going on in our forests. The department is concerned to see that the regulations finally presented suit the needs of the department (that is, the protection of the forest resource) and that they cater for the people within the community. The regulations will be administered by the Woods and Forests Department using present staff trained and appointed as forest wardens. Considerable useful discussion has taken place concerning the regulations, and it is anticipated that these will be in operation towards the middle of 1987. A lot of activity takes place in quite a number of our forests around the State. There are not problems in all of them, but there are problems in quite a number.

I have met a deputation led by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, concerned about trail bike riding in the Kersbrook Forest, which a lot of the residents wanted fenced off. I explained that we were in the process of initiating these regulations, and we called a special meeting in that area. People came along and put their point of view, and we appreciated the contribution they made. In addition to trail bike riding, there is hiking, horse trails, camping, fossicking, diving and swimming in some forests. So, there is a lot of activity within the forest area and we believe it will be far better controlled by the introduction of the regulations currently being proceeded with.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: One question springs to mind as a result of information given a few minutes ago by the Minister. We were talking about the CSIRO Repco innovation with Scrimber and their making of the machinery. I wonder what would happen, given a hypothetical situation, if the Woods and Forests Department developed Scrimber so that world interest became very real and the product became very attractive. Is there any protection for the Woods and Forests Department since CSIRO Repco has the licence? Is there any protection should they wish to license other organisations overseas, because that would obviously have an impact on the department's markets? Is there any protection for the Woods and Forests Department against that happening? Obviously, if the Woods and Forests Department develops, then the department should take the lion's share of the market or of the profit.

Mr South: The arrangement under which SATCO is developing Scrimber is in agreement with CSIROTECH. CSIRO Repco only built a pilot plant, not any production equipment. It just proved that the technique could work. It then went through the process of selecting someone to commercially develop it. In the course of drawing up this agreement it transpired that CSIRO Repco and SATCO have various rights, and SATCO will build the first plant. Within

the area of Australia, New Zealand and most of the Pacific rim, SATCO is in a position to license other people to use the process and build a plant. SATCO gets a licence fee for this. CSIROTECH or CSIRO Repco has the northern hemisphere and Japan. We have a crossover royalty arrangement, so in their area we get 40 per cent and they get 60 per cent; in our area we get 60 per cent and they get 40 per cent.

The most important part is developing the press, of course, because the process is basically scrim, dry, add adhesive, press; and the most important is the press. Tenders are being let for the development of this somewhat unique press. It could well be that the next plant is a hardwood plant in some other part of Australia, using regrowth hardwood. Of course, SATCO, having the rights now, has the advantages of getting royalties from those when they sell there. So, apart from the production and marketing of Scrimber, SATCO will be sitting in a position where there will be an income from almost all Scrimber sold.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: I wish to deal with two issues: one is that the Federal Government made available \$11 million for bushfire burned timber recovery, and one disturbing aspect of that recovery is that so far there has been no provision made for repayment of principal to the Federal Government. Instead, that seems to have been on a roll-over interest basis with the South Australian Financing Authority, and I say 'disturbing' because we have so far recovered—according to the Auditor-General's Report—268 000 square metres with a remaining 379 000 square metres still to be recovered. That presents some problems to me, because I assume that the good, easy recovery of that 268 000 square metres has been achieved. I wondered about the profitability and the degree of difficulty involved in recovering the 379 000 square metres remaining.

Yet again, some doubt was expressed in the Auditor-General's Report about the possibility of obtaining all of the timber. I notice that there is some doubt in the yellow book in that the Director said that the department was observing the present quality, but that there were certain trends. Were they ominous or can we expect to retrieve the great majority of the timber? The fire was devastating and the department has done a remarkable job salvaging the timber so far. It would be wonderful if we could get practically everything out.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The loan indebtedness to the Treasury increased by \$14 million during the financial year 1985-86. The department received an interest-free loan for three years from the Commonwealth Government to assist in providing funds for the salvage and re-establishment programs following the 1983 fires. As from March 1986, the department incurred interest on the loan when it was taken over by the State Treasury. The remaining \$3 million was required to fund programmed capital works, including the modernisation of Mount Burr sawmill.

Projected borrowings for 1986-87 for capital works which include re-establishment of fire-damaged forests, high temperature drying kilns, sawmilling equipment and the construction of stage 1 of the woodroom project, will amount to \$7.9 million.

At the end of the 1985-86 financial year, a total of 628 000 cubic metres of log had been extracted from water storage. The balance of log remaining is 379 000 cubic metres. This is located at Lake Bonney—South-East and Penola forest reserve (under sprinkler)—and two sites in the Adelaide area, Glenelg and Christies Beach. Apart from some small pockets in Adelaide storage areas, the log has remained sound and usable for a wide range of finished products. It

has been essential, however, for material, once sawn, to be kiln dried.

It is anticipated that the land storage sites will be cleared by the end of February 1987 and Lake Bonney will only contain small volumes by the end of the 1986-87 financial year. We hope to have the Glenelg area cleared by the end of this year. The initiative taken to store logs has enabled the industry to function both in the South-East and Adelaide Hills at levels of production similar to pre-1983 Ash Wednesday. The local economies have therefore not suffered as they would have if large volumes of timber were declared unusable. The storage program has created a high level of interest both nationally and internationally.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: Does the Director have anything to add about the quality to which he drew attention in the yellow book? Were the signs ominous?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The Director will answer that question.

Mr South: The structure of Shepherdson and Mewett's log intake changed because of fires in the Adelaide Hills. Once the logs had been put in storage, it was not operating on the same mixed size resource, which upset the operations.

As for RPLA, the peeler quality log was being extracted from the forest. When it was burnt and the wood was bundled into storage, it lost its identity, so the quality of the peeler log supplied to Beddison's declined somewhat. In the salvaging process and before it was put into the lake or cut and milled, the timber got some bluestone in it. The bluestone has preserved well and not damaged the logs, so the logs can be used as structural timber or for decorative purpose, but not for veneers, so Beddisons had some trouble with it.

The trouble with MGPI was purely its process. The larger mills got logs out of the lake, saved them and put them straight into kilns, so fungus could not survive—it could not survive in the lake and would be killed anyway by the kiln drying. MGPI had partly air dried material and it was ages before we realised that some of its products were becoming brittle because of air drying. It lost quite a lot of money in the meantime.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: Was that the only difference?

Mr South: Yes. There was a problem purely because the timber was left out. Any wogs in it could not survive in the lake or were killed by kiln drying.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: How will the problems raised by the Auditor-General be resolved? I refer to SATCO's indebtedness and that of Woods and Forests, which includes a loan of \$11 million by the Federal Government for bush-fire timber retrieval. There have been additional borrowings of \$12.3 million, which increased the total indebtedness to \$23.2 million at the end of the financial year. IPL has not met the interest on the \$11 million raised, which includes SATCO's investment of \$3.6 million, so there is no return on the principal. It has not even met interest payments. The Director has explained why Beddisons lost money and said that it would be on a more profitable base now that the popsicle sticks are no longer manufactured. What are the long-term prospects for Woods and Forests and SATCO? How will the many issues raised by the Auditor-General be addressed? They are the repayment of principal on loans, and payment of interest so the Government, which has a substantial investment, will get some return on State taxes.

The Auditor-General said that this would be several years down the track, but the new and substantial individual or joint ventures that Woods and Forests/SATCO are entering would seem to extend that even further. Can the Minister give a clear indication of what will happen?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The honourable member is right about what the Auditor-General said. He also said that the department and the corporation had expressed confidence in the long-term viability of its ventures. Also, he went on to say that a commercial operation involved with new products needs time to develop those products and to establish markets. In this situation it is usual for companies involved to have an equity base and we talked about that earlier.

Mr Mutton: At this stage the financing of the Woods and Forests Department and the corporation are somewhat independent of each other. Obviously, from the department's point of view, the Ash Wednesday fires have caused it from time to time to have some mild liquidity problems because of the size of the loss. The member for Mount Gambier is quite right in that an \$11 million interest-free loan for three years was granted by the Commonwealth for a combination of salvage and replanting of the forest areas of the State. This is a very long-term project and expenditure levels on re-establishment of fire damaged forests in South Australia will run at between \$6 million and \$7.5 million per year through to 1992. This is a very large drain on our capital reserves—not that we had all that much left after Ash Wednesday—and, therefore, from a departmental point of view, we will be in a position of having to borrow to ensure that those plantations are re-established within a reasonable time frame. Bearing that in mind, our financial position and our profit projections as a department over five years are still demonstrating a net profit, although there will be some increases in debt services, as part of the need to continue to have funds available for the re-establishment program.

Mr Curtis: As the honourable member pointed out, the issue raised by the Auditor-General relates to the capacity of the corporation to pay interest to service its debt in the short term. The Auditor-General comments that products are being produced, particularly by the IPL(H) group, which have the potential to create a profit. In relation to the total \$12 million borrowings in 1985-86, \$11 million was in fact used for the corporation's investment in the IPL(H) group of companies. After servicing its portion of the debt, the Beddison company, now trading as IPL Australia, traded profitably in 1985-86. We do not have the results for 30 June 1986 for IPL New Zealand but they are to be released shortly. That covers a six month period, because the corporation's investment was taken up in January this year.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: Was that 70 per cent?

Mr Curtis: Yes, in the case of IPL Australia the directors pointed out the potential of LVL. In the case of IPL New Zealand the potential lies in the capacity of that plant to increase its production. When the corporation took out its investment, it was producing about 12 000 cubic metres of plywood per annum and it has the log resource available to increase that to more than double that figure. Also, it has opportunities to export its product (some is coming into the Australian market) to the United States and Europe, and it is in the process of negotiating that market.

The capacity of the corporation to meet its service costs is largely dependent on the success of this IPL venture and that has been pointed out earlier today. That relates to the issue raised by the Auditor-General, but he raised it in the context also of the corporation being totally dependent on borrowings to fund its investment in the ventures, with no equity base. Really, that is the issue being addressed by the Minister and the Under Treasurer.

Mr GUNN: In relation to what appears to be a considerable shortfall in the availability of creosote posts in the

South-East. I received a letter from a person who I presume is a client of the department. In that letter he stated:

I was aghast at the waiting list on creosote posts—30 000 backlog on 4 inch to 5 inch posts and 80 000 backlog on 6 inch to 8 inch strainers. Our order was put in for 2 000 posts and 150 strainers on 2 June 1986 and I was informed that on 22 August 1986 orders would be filled. Now, on 28 August 1986 I have been advised it could be months before our order is filled. We cannot get a satisfactory answer as to why there are not any posts.

Would you please raise this matter with the Minister of Forests during your Estimates Committees? This is a low demand year owing to the rural crisis.

He says that he cannot understand why there is this shortfall.

Mr South: With the measured rounds, the run is usually on one or two specifications and, as the wood comes out of the forests, there is a range of sizes. From time to time pressure is placed on one of those sizes. Of course, the material has to be air dried, treated and then dried off. I am surprised that the problem described has arisen. I would like to peruse the letter and to see if I can help solve the problem. The market is not very good. Quite often, in a very brisk agricultural period—and of course so many forests were burnt—it is just impossible to keep up with the demand.

Mr GUNN: I will provide the officer with the information. I do not wish to name the company concerned, but in the *Advertiser* of 17 September 1986 there was a heading 'Investors may lose millions as forest scheme collapses'. The article suggests that about 1 000 South Australians may lose more than \$2 million in a pine plantation. I understand that this operation has land in the South-East of South Australia. It would be rather disturbing if well meaning people who invested in this organisation stand to lose that investment. Has this department or any other Government department investigated this operation with a view to resolving the matter and taking appropriate action to ensure that, if there are assets in South Australia, they will be used for the benefit of the investors?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Mr South will answer that question.

Mr South: Some of these forest investment schemes are good and some of them are not. We have in South Australia a trustworthy one in Sapfor, which has proved itself over a long period. However, there are many which are not so good and which the Australian Association of Consultant Foresters, who are mostly people who have retired early, or something like that, are very concerned about the reputation of them and are doing quite a lot of work on the matter.

The Western Australian one is a rather famous one. I cannot give details of it, but it is one of those where the typical symptom is that an investor pays a certain amount of money to have half a hectare or a hectare of trees allotted to him. He pays up front for the hectare of trees. We have to assess a lot of these schemes when they are sent to us. A certain amount of that money is for administration, maintenance and first, of course, for establishment costs.

The proposer of the scheme uses a little bit of the money in the first year and puts the rest of it, which he will not use for a number of years down the track, into a trust account and gets a lot of interest on it. The scheme quite often shows the administration costs of doing this; we find the price per hectare to be very high. Too big a proportion of the costs are going in administrative and management costs to the proposer and not enough of them as returns back to the investor.

In that sort of industry where they do this they think that the term is so long that someone will have forgotten what happened with the whole thing and who started it. On the other hand, it would be fair to say that some of the less

prestigious firms also take short cuts with their establishment and maintenance and as a consequence do not get the yield of wood per hectare that comes up to today's expectations.

Mr GUNN: Obviously, the department continues to monitor these operations. My reason for asking the question is that I am concerned that legitimate people will get a bad name and people such as the ones I have referred to will continue to operate. I understand that they have holdings in the South East and my concern is that they may develop those holdings and that investors will eventually get no money at all. Will the department look at these schemes and report to the Minister in relation to this particular operation in the South East?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Mr South will answer this question.

Mr South: As I read this article, and as far as I know, this company does not operate in South Australia. It is the Western Australian nut farm group. Some South Australians have invested in it. Their letterboxes are flooded with pamphlets on it. I cannot see where it is actually operating in South Australia with plantations, and to my knowledge it does not. The article says that the company was started in 1973 and faces financial collapse with more than 3 500 investors Australia-wide. Country areas in the Iron Triangle and in the South East are mentioned, but that refers to the investors and not to the physical operation of the company.

Mr De LAINE: What advantages does the Minister see for the corporation in the arrangement in relation to the New Zealand company mentioned previously?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The advantages of this arrangement to the corporation include access to a substantial New Zealand timber resource. Much of the State's large log suitable for peeling was destroyed in the February 1983 fires, 54 per cent in fact, restricting production of a high quality plywood by the local producer over the next 10 to 15 years.

To compensate, the company has installed the new line producing the recently developed product laminated veneer lumber (lvl), which is aimed at replacement of large sections of structural sizes, substantial quantities of which are presently imported from the west coast of America. Log licence arrangement in New Zealand provide for the company to more than double its production in the short term, a substantial part of which can come from pruned forest, resulting in a higher production of clear-face material used in furniture manufacture.

The first six month's trading to 30 June resulted in a trading loss. However, during this period the operation of both companies was being reviewed and production and marketing operations rationalised to improve their overall profit performance. Market conditions at the present time are not favourable to many Australian manufacturers and this could well influence results in the short term. However, the corporation is confident that the results of its plywood activities will produce worthwhile returns over the next few years.

Distribution arrangements have recently been settled to sell the company's products in USA, building on existing export contracts they have with Hong Kong, and negotiations are proceeding with the United Kingdom and West German interests. We see quite a big advantage in this joint venture. I visited New Zealand and had a look at the plywood operation at Greymouth. I would dearly like to have the forest resource in South Australia that they have in New Zealand. If we had that there would possibly not be a need to enter into this joint venture.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: I was interest in the Minister's response about the quality of timber, because there is ref-

erence either by the Auditor-General, or in the program papers to IPL/ANZ and the 70 per cent holding that the Woods and Forests Department has which allows access to high quality timber. Is that timber owned by the IPL Company, or is it on a contract basis with the New Zealand Government or private holdings over there?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask Mr South to answer that question.

Mr South: It is basically Crown wood, but in New Zealand on the South Island this factory is the only plywood factory, so in effect it goes for the peelers out of the trees. There is some private wood from private plantation owners, a little bit of New Zealand indigenous wood like Re Move, but the bulk is Crown grown. The New Zealand Forest Service has continued a pruning policy for many years, after we gave it away to a certain extent.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: There is currently a ministerial review of the Woods and Forest Act and the SATCO Act passed in 1979 with a view to amalgamation of the two bodies. Could the Minister give the Committee some idea of the rationale behind that and indicate whether this would mean the Woods and Forests/SATCO combination, should it be achieved, resulting in a new statutory authority or would SATCO simply be subsumed by the already Government owned Woods and Forests Department? What mainly are the reasons? Is this tied in with the Auditor-General's criticism of SATCO not having an equity base and being part of a move to try to achieve that by amalgamation into one large authority?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The objectives of the amalgamation question and the organisations operated under the separate Acts have a commonality of purpose. In the operation of each there is scope for profit improvement through coordination and avoiding duplication. It is seen primarily that profit improvement of the total scene will be achieved particularly in areas of management and board coordination, marketing rationalisation for the whole range of Woods and Forests and SATCO products, rationalisation of financial management and improvement and savings in information technology and management reporting. We have established a steering committee consisting of the trade union representatives to work on this whole question of amalgamating both the Acts to come under one Act of Parliament. That matter has not yet been endorsed by the Government. I am awaiting the report from the steering committee before I take the matter to Cabinet for approval or otherwise. We see those advantages in amalgamation.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: By way of supplementary question, is there any advantage in a statutory authority or Government owned concern?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: That has not been determined yet. In fact, we are not sure what the title would be.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: Is that part of the review or is it a consideration?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: At this stage I am not in favour of a statutory authority and the Government would not be either. However, that matter is still to be determined.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: Some concern has been expressed relating to the establishment of the Scrimber manufacturing company with regard to the general availability of small woods to other industries in the South-East in private enterprise. Naturally they have contracts with the Government as well as having private forests. Is there long-term continuity of small wood available to companies such as APCEL and in the long term would small wood be processed as currently at APCEL or sold to APCEL already processed?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask the Director to respond.

Mr South: As far as availability of wood for both Scrimber and APCEL is concerned, I am sure the honourable member would know that APCEL has a very long-term agreement with the department and the private forest owners, as did particle board factories in their early days. As a consequence there was an enormous surplus of small wood in the South-East for many years because the particle board factories went across to residues and APCEL did not take up its options as it went. APCEL has seriously embarrassed forest owners by not doing that. Scrimber is using a relatively small amount—probably less than 100 000 cubic metres—but APCEL has now announced an expansion that could turn what has been an embarrassing surplus into a challenging situation in the years to come to make enough available. It goes beyond their long-term agreement previously if it had taken all the options. Where we have always relied on that small wood to come from thinnings of plantations being grown to maturity, should this situation arise we are making preparations right now to have some form of incentive scheme, particularly for landholders, to short crop radiata for pulp. That would cover the gap.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: How long would the short crop be—how many years?

Mr South: About 10 years. In any case if we are forced into a situation, rather than sacrificing the APCEL expansion, we would rather get those trees in the ground and overcut for a period to catch up. We certainly intend to manage the situation of APCEL. We were successful this year in tendering for 400 000 cubic metres over five years from the Department of Conservation and Land Management in Victoria. We have that bit of extra resource and if we stay friends with them we may be able to get some more small wood from the other side of the border.

Mr GUNN: Will the Minister advise on the department's future operations and role with the Wirrabara Forest and the land at Jamestown. Does it intend to further develop there or what is the long-term future and role of the department's operation in those two areas?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will have to ask the Director to respond.

Mr South: We are not planting new land in those forest reserves, but we intend to keep the forest reserves going. We have at the moment an ongoing yield there of 16 000 cubic metres a year. We would like to see the pines of the north being used totally on an annual basis by one sawmill. We believe that would be a viable situation. We are very fond of the townships and we do not want to see their communities suffer. I do have some misgivings that we can keep two operations going out there.

Mr GUNN: Do you consider that you will have to make a choice between one of the two major towns that service the areas involved?

Mr South: I think the operator at Jamestown has really made the choice for the major operation, because he gets most of our work and, as the member would know, he operated in Wirrabara for a short time but was drawn to Jamestown, and I think that he has spent a bit of capital there. So, I think he would be looking to establish his operation in Jamestown.

Mr GUNN: In terms of the Timber Corporation, at page 392 of his report the Auditor-General states:

A reassessment of the Scrimber project by the corporation indicates that further funds will be required to develop the project. The extent of borrowings will depend on whether the corporation attracts a joint venture.

How much further funding does the department or the Government consider will be necessary?

Mr Curtis: The Government commitment to Scrimber at this stage is \$12 million. The Auditor-General is raising the

issue of further capital required. Earlier today the Minister made a comment that the project was now likely to cost \$22 million, and that is presently under discussion with the Minister. The second part of the member's question, if I understood it correctly, related to an equity partner: all I can confirm is that we have had some discussions, but at this stage they are confidential between the parties. But there is a lot of interest—I think that is worth noting.

Mr GUNN: My next question is in relation to concerns that have been expressed to me by the South Australian group of the Australian Federation of Lapidarian and Allied Crafts Association. Representatives of that group came to see me about the regulations under the Forests Act, in relation to which, I understand, there has been a public meeting. This group expressed considerable annoyance and anger about the charges that are to be imposed under the new arrangement. They indicated that if the fees, as presented to them, were correct, that would prevent some of their members from participating in their fossicking and gem searching, and other activities in which they engage.

Has the Minister considered the representations made by this group and has he reviewed the situation? At my meeting with these representatives they gave me a lengthy explanation of their concern about these regulations. I think they were mainly concerned about the Williamstown area. Have there been any second thoughts? It would appear to me that what they were saying was reasonable. I do not think that anyone would want to stop what would appear to me as law abiding citizens participating in these activities. However, I suggested to them that they had to realise that certain restrictions had to be imposed to ensure that people did not do ridiculous things in these areas. Notwithstanding, their representations to me appeared to have some basis of complaint.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The information that we have gathered from the public meetings that have been held is still being assessed. I understand that a good deal of discussion has occurred in relation to some of the proposed charges. I do not have details of those with me, and they are not finalised yet. I can make those details available to the honourable member as soon as the matters are finalised, and before the regulations are introduced. However, we are considering a certain fee for individuals and then another amount for various sized groups of people wanting to utilise forest areas for their activities. A charge will be made for a permit for horse riding in forests and that type of thing. However, I think it would be premature to say what the charges will be. We are talking of, say, about \$10 for a permit for a group of perhaps 20 or 30 people and about \$2 for an individual who wants to go into the forest reserve to do some fossicking, and that type of thing. When the exact details are known I will make them known to the honourable member.

Mr GUNN: The people who approached me were headed by Mr Patrick Murphy, authorised representative of the Gem and Mineral Club of South Australia. Could the Minister's office perhaps have some discussion with that group, as I think that would probably solve the problem. They did seem very perturbed. Some of them are pensioners and they considered that the charges would prevent them from undertaking the basically recreational activities involved. If officers of the department could discuss this matter with them it would probably solve the problem.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: One of our officers may have heard from the person that the honourable member mentioned. We are under considerable pressure from many residents who are living near certain forests and who object to noise and to the vandalism that takes place. We must

try to find measures that will allow our departmental people and the wardens to protect the forests. There have been examples of unauthorised barbecues, and, of course, fires are very dangerous in the summer months. Further, there has been a lot of fence cutting; fences are costly to repair and we have limited resources for our foresters. So, we are under pressure to try to bring in more control, and that is the idea of imposing some sort of charge. However, we thought that the consultation process by having the public meetings that were held would give those concerned the opportunity to have their say and to make some input.

Mr GUNN: I note the reference in the yellow book to discussions that were held with the Country Fire Services to plan and coordinate fire protection in the lower Flinders Ranges. Can the Minister or the departmental officers give any indication about this matter? It is true that when we had the last major fire up there, which burnt a lot of the Wirrabara forest, a considerable amount of disquiet arose amongst the local Country Fire Services personnel about inadequate consultation. I know that there was a problem with the National Parks and Wildlife Service. In relation to the three groups involved there appeared to be a fair bit of dissatisfaction on behalf of the local Country Fire Services people. They were not very happy about the local operation. I wonder whether the Minister or the Director—who probably has been involved for a longer time in these areas—could explain to us whether these matters have been overcome and whether, in future, action, such as backburning and other measures, will be taken early to avoid delays and things getting completely out of hand as was the case on the occasion referred to.

Mr Mutton: There are resources available from either the National Parks and Wildlife Service or the Woods and Forests Department in different locations, where there is land which is the responsibility of each party in the vicinity. Certainly, we have initiated discussions with the National Parks to try to get some commonality of land management processes, particularly from the point of view of fire protection. Also, there is regular communication now between the Woods and Forests Department, the Country Fire Services Board and the National Parks and Wildlife Service which, again, relates particularly to fire prevention and fire protection measures, particularly for land management purposes where all three parties have land in the area.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: I believe that the South Australian Timber Corporation has bought out one or two of the log hauliers in the South-East over the past 12 to 18 months, and I believe that some of these concerns might have been resolved in that period. I could not see anywhere in either the Auditor-General's Report or the Program Estimates where those purchases and possible resales had been entered. Can the Minister give me some idea of how they went? Had there been any profit or loss and what was the rationale behind buying them in the first place? I do not necessarily want the companies named (I know who they are).

Mr South: The logging contract business in the forests of the South-East was somewhat fragmented and it was very difficult to lift its technology; some of its technology was not conducive to good occupational health and safety practices. SATCO took purely a holding role in the case of smaller contractors whose business was barely viable and who were not in a position to purchase new machinery. SATCO Logging Services bought their equipment, held the equipment but worked it while it was holding it while we went through the stages of negotiating long-term contracts with the logging contractors group in the South-East. That company does not operate any more and, as far as its entries

in the books are concerned, I will have to ask Mr Curtis where they were entered.

Mr Curtis: Without knowing the full details I could only say that the transactions took place within the one fiscal year and the outcome is not reported here. I can perhaps advise the details at a later date. Unfortunately, I do not have them with me.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: Perhaps the details could be made available to the Committee for printing in *Hansard*.

The CHAIRPERSON: Yes—by 31 October, please.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Yes, we can make those available.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: On the surface, one of the comments made by the Auditor-General seems to be quite amazing when one sees that a \$14.7 million turnover in SATCO Melbourne returned only \$69 000 net during the past financial year. On the surface that seems like poor management but I believe that there may be other reasons why such a very low return was shown. Can the Minister explain to the Committee how SATCO Melbourne is run and organised and what would the benefits have been to the Woods and Forests Department rather than what would seem to be close to a loss as a result of last year's turnover?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: It is our Melbourne agency and our means of making timber available from that State. I will ask the Director to elaborate on this.

Mr South: The Woods and Forests Department has always had a big market in Victoria, which varies between approximately 47 per cent and 53 per cent of the department's production. For many years we had a sole agency in Gibbs Bright & Company in Melbourne. That company also owned Panelboard in the South-East, and we used to work very closely together. We were paying them something in the order of \$300 000 to \$400 000 a year in agency fees, and they had the sole agency. When they gave up their larger interest in the timber industry we drifted apart, and we finally decided it would be far better if, instead of spending that money on agency fees in Victoria, we were able to repatriate those sorts of fees to South Australia.

So, SATCO has a warehouse which works on commission from the Woods and Forests Department of around, I think, 3.84 per cent. It operates the warehouse, services the customers, and the \$69 000 is the actual profit from running that exercise in Victoria, after it has paid its staff and that sort of thing. That is the surplus after all costs.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: So, the \$14.7 million was still returned to the Woods and Forests Department and represented a cash flow direct to Woods and Forests?

Mr South: That is the revenue from the Victorian sales as distinct from the commission paid to the agency.

The Hon. H. ALLISON: The Gibbs Bright interest in Panelboard was sold when the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation took over Gibbs Bright and disposed of their Panelboard interest. Softwood Holdings took over the whole firm.

Mr South: Yes.

Mr GUNN: The Auditor-General's Report states that the Timber Corporation owns a number of companies. Does the Government, the department or the corporation intend to amalgamate or dispose of any of these operations? It appears to me to be a fairly large number. In view of the current comments of the Auditor-General, are all these operations under review and, in particular, will there be any streamlining or amalgamation of the operations? There are 10 separate companies involved.

Mr South: I am looking at the list of companies on page 392, and I will just run through them, if I may. IPL(H) Pty Limited is International Panel and Lumber (Holdings), which now operates what was O.R. Beddison Pty Limited (which

is the next one on the list). O.R. Beddison Pty Limited no longer operates. IPL(H) operates IPL New Zealand and IPL Australia as subsidiaries of IPL(H). SATCO MGPI Pty Limited is still an operating company. MGPI Trading Trust does not operate; it was only a staging phase in the formation of the companies.

Shepherdson and Mewett Pty Ltd still operates; the Trading Trust still operates. That is a sawmill operation at Williamstown in the Adelaide Hills. S & M Packaging Services was a joint venture between Shepherdson and Mewett and VisiBoard, using Shepherdson and Mewett and VisiBoard in combination for packaging purposes.

The corporation has sold out of that exercise and VisiBoard runs it itself. SATCO DBF Pty Ltd, SATCO SM Pty Ltd, SATCO Visy Pty Ltd and Ecology Management Pty Ltd were staging posts which no longer operate as companies except that Ecology Management Pty Ltd is still a company name, but the operation is contracted to the Woods and Forests Department because it concerns products such as Compine and potting mixtures which were best operated in conjunction with the Woods and Forests Murray Bridge Propagation Centre.

SATCO DBF Pty Ltd was a research exercise to make wood fuel pellets after the fire from small burnt trees. Its equipment has been put on ice because the oil price did not make pellets viable for the big Japanese market.

Mr GUNN: What further development and expansion does the department have in mind for the Wanilla plant on the Eyre Peninsula?

Mr South: Wanilla had a treatment plant, but not much material to treat. When the plant can no longer be used, we will not replace it because there is no resource. We are still encouraging the growth of eucalypts and there are some pine plantations there. We are examining it as a possible fuel wood operation. We believe that it has some recreational value and possibly some potential commercial tourism value. The management of Wanilla is under review but it is not up for disposal.

Mr GUNN: I understand that the Forestry Department policy is to have 1 per cent of its stakes under forest. Is it still involved in purchasing land for future development planting? What is the current trend? Have bushfires put back expansion programs?

Mr South: I have succeeded in removing the mythical 1 per cent from the annual report this year. It was the assessment of early foresters of the amount of the State which would support viable forest growth. We have since learnt to grow trees on areas which they did not use then. We are still expanding our estate to the extent that land is available. We have been buying about \$400 000 to \$500 000 worth of land each year which, until 1983, increased our area by 200 to 300 hectares a year. The rest was managed on a sustained yield basis. It is opportunity buying for the right sort of land.

Mr GUNN: Page 303 mentions control of vertebrate pests. I note that there is a goat eradication program. Where is that taking place and how successful is it?

Mr South: The Adelaide Hills. It is not strictly an eradication program. Rather it is herd management to keep the population down to a level at which the forest does not become a haven for animals which become pests to surrounding agricultural areas. We do the same with kangaroos.

Mr GUNN: The Department of Woods and Forests used to sell off trees to councils in country areas. Does it still provide that service? Are there any plans to expand it?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The service is being maintained, but we are not expanding it.

Mr GUNN: In regard to encouraging the private sector to become involved in forestry, does the department or some other Government agency promote private forestry development in South Australia? I know that this is a long term matter but believe that there is some potential there.

Mr Mutton: The department continues to encourage the establishment of private forests in South Australia. We have for many years given advice to landholders in the south-east and other areas where plantations are viable as part of a general farm base. That has been expanded into wood lot management for fuel wood and production forestry where appropriate.

The CHAIRPERSON: There being no further questions, I declare examination of the vote completed.

Marine and Harbors, \$25 715 000

Chairperson:
Ms D.L. Gayler

Members:
The Hon. P.B. Arnold
Mr M.R. De Laine
Mr G.M. Gunn
Mr E.J. Meier
Mr P.B. Tyler
The Hon. J.W. Slater

Witness:

The Hon. R.K. Abbott, Minister of Lands, Minister of Marine, Minister of Forests and Minister of Repatriation.

Departmental Advisers:

Mr E.J. Phipps, Director, Department of Marine and Harbors.

Mr K.L. Freeman, Director, Administration and Finance.

Captain R. Pearson, Director, Ports and Marine Operations.

Mr P. Salisbury, Director, Engineering.

Mr T. Bateman, Manager, Forward Planning.

Mr M. Travers, Finance Officer.

The CHAIRPERSON: I declare the vote open for examination.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: At page 132 of the Auditor-General's Report he refers to significant features, one of which is the net deficit on recurrent operations being \$2.3 million. Was there any reason for that overrun?

Mr Phipps: In relation to commercial functions undertaken by the department, the revenue substantially exceeds costs, but there are a number of what we call public service functions where there is not full cost recovery on those functions and that is where the contribution to the deficit comes into it.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Can the Minister give an update of his assessment of the Lincoln Cove project and the benefits of that to South Australia?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The Department of Marine and Harbors is project manager for the design and construction of the public works component of the Lincoln Cove development project, which comprises harbor and marine facilities, at an estimated cost of \$112.130 million. That was September 1986. Contractors for the harbor and associated facilities are MacMahon Construction Pty Ltd. A recent revision of costs indicates that allowing for rise and fall on MacMahon's contract and inflation of other works the final cost could be in the order of \$12 476 688. However, the

Government contribution to the capital works is limited by the tripartite agreement and the review indicates that likely maximum cost to Government is \$10 706 788.

MacMahon cleaned up the works below low water to allow flooding of the basin to occur on 2 October and that has happened. Once flooded, the headlands will be completed and the entrance channel dredged to provide sea access. A subcontractor to MacMahon has encountered difficulties in dredging the channel. MacMahon is looking at options to complete the work, the timing of which is critical. One option is to have DMH do the work on a reimbursement basis. Preparations are in hand to pave the north and south wharf areas and the sub-base for the mall is under way. Footbridge piers have been completed and the placement of rip-rap bank protection near the head-lands is continuing. DMH labour has completed three of the four timber verandahs to be erected in the community pier area. The construction of mooring facilities in the commercial basin is nearly complete. Many of the commercial fishermen who will occupy this area have already entered into agreements to occupy the berths.

In relation to the effluent from Adelaide and Wallaroo Fertilizer works, approval has been given by Cabinet for the waste from the fertilizer works to be discharged to the foreshore at Porter Bay and it has authorised the provision of \$14 000 to cover the construction of bunds across the wet-lands to contain the discharge. The local council has been instructed to proceed with this work as a matter of urgency.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: The Auditor-General refers in his report to a replacement vessel for the *MV Troubridge*. What is the final cost of that project and is there likely to be any significant overrun?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: In relation to the cost and timing, the amount identified in the Estimates of Payments on page 217 as being set aside is \$16.15 million. The vessel is expected to be completed within that amount. This came under the Department of Highways budget. This figure is for the total project cost and includes all design, project investigation, classification, society approvals, project supervision and contract construction. The contract was signed on 8 April 1986 and completion is expected in mid 1987.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Within the contract referred to, is there a rise and fall provision? Is there likely to be any significant escalation, as what often happens with major projects is that the end cost finishes up significantly different from the original contract cost?

The CHAIRPERSON: As a point of clarification, we dealt with *MV Troubridge* yesterday; is it within the Marine and Harbors budget?

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: The Minister is the contracting Minister.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The figure that I mentioned includes rise and fall.

Mr De LAINE: There has recently been considerable publicity given to the future of container traffic through Outer Harbor. As I understand, construction of the second container crane is well advanced. Will the Minister report to the Committee the likely date of commissioning, and the possible effect of proposed Australian Customs Service plans on the future viability of Outer Harbor as a container terminal?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The Government decided to proceed with the acquisition of a second container crane for the Outer Harbor container terminal and funds for this purpose are provided in the budget, amounting to \$3.65 million in 1986-87. This decision was taken now that a base

throughput has been achieved at the terminal. Also, the establishment of direct container services to Japan has further vindicated this decision.

It must be recognised, also, that container terminals require two cranes if they are to be an efficient operation for most users. Adelaide is the last mainland capital city port to take this step. The economics of the faster operation, we believe, will assist the process of attracting more business in the future. The proposed second crane, along with the existing crane, will be available for use at the number 6 berth at Outer Harbor. This will also increase the utilisation of the terminal substantially and provide a greater return in crane hire.

Johns Perry-Perry Engineering Division—was awarded a contract for the construction, erection and commissioning of the crane. The estimated completion date is January 1987. The total estimated cost is \$6.435 million, the actual expenditure, as at 30 June 1986 was \$2.785 million, and the 1986-87 budget figures is \$3.65 million.

I am confident of Outer Harbor's future as about 30 per cent of the State's container traffic is handled there. If plans for a direct fortnightly container service to Japan reach fruition, Outer Harbor container traffic will increase significantly, which is one of the reasons for ordering the second container crane. We do not want to see this put in jeopardy, which could happen if the Commonwealth has its way.

With respect to the second part of the honourable member's question, I have a report here from the South Australian Ports Liaison Advisory Committee (SAPLAC) dated 1 October 1986 which I received on 2 October and which spells out concerns about the proposals put forward by the Australian Customs Services. SAPLAC alerted me in its report to two Federal authority proposals which jointly have the potential to cause grave injury to the port of Adelaide and to the State of South Australia as a whole.

The first of these proposals is the Australian Customs Service's integrated cargo control and clearance system. Customs has responded to recent criticism of its ability to arrest entry into Australia of illicit goods, particularly drugs, by various commissions and inquiries by seeking to implement enhancements to its existing computer system which would permit electronic mail methods of reporting and screening of ships and cargoes and the clearance of those cargoes.

The South Australian Ports Liaison Advisory Committee supports the Australian Customs Service's intent to restrict further the entry of contraband into Australia. However, these enhancements will also facilitate Customs' wish that all cargo be cleared at the port of discharge as opposed to the present system of movement of cargo under bond to the port of destination with clearance at that port.

Further, an inherent part of the Customs proposal is the option to enter information and clear cargo for goods destined for any port from any authorised computer entry terminal in Australia. The second of these proposals is the Australian National and V Line intention to put the Adelaide-Melbourne operations on a more commercial footing. This is to be done by restricting services from railhead to railhead, for example, Mile End to South Bynon railhead to railhead operations and by the introduction of super freighter services.

SAPLAC believes in principle that bodies such as these should operate on a sound commercial basis. However, if the proposal is implemented these two proposals, both separately and jointly, have the potential seriously to harm the users and infrastructure of the port of Adelaide. A substantial number of major importers into South Australia are controlled from interstate and some 70 per cent of our imports are landed at ports outside South Australia. Mainly,

that 70 per cent is landed in the port of Melbourne. The effect of the Customs' proposals will be that most of the cargo intended for South Australia and landed outside South Australia will be entered outside South Australia by non-South Australian agents, completely cleared outside South Australia and delivered to South Australia as free cargo by domestic transport.

That means that once they are cleared on the wharf in Melbourne they can then be collected or delivered either by road, rail or any other means, rather than coming to South Australia. It should also be recognised that similar problems will arise with imports currently moving through Adelaide airport. The effect of the ANV Line proposals will be that some responsibility for, and the cost of, the depot to Mile End and South Dynon to terminal short hauls will be passed back to the importers and exporters, shippers and/or shipping agents. The combined effect of these sets of proposals will also be that this imported cargo as free cargo need not transit through a recognised Port Adelaide terminal or depot but may be delivered direct from the railhead.

As a result of these matters there will be a scaling down and/or closure of port and airport related service industries including customs agents, shipping officers and agents, international freight forwarders, local carriers, bond stores, providoring, stevedoring, engineering and other support groups. In addition, it is expected that port and depot operations will be substantially reduced leading to the consolidation and/or closure of the three Gillman container depots and the probable nonviability and possible closure of the Outer Harbor container terminal.

I do not accept that aspect in the SAPLAC report—that it will mean the closure of Outer Harbor No. 6 container terminal. That will not be the case, but certainly it could jeopardise our proposed negotiations, particularly with the Japanese, for the fortnightly call. We only have the monthly call at this stage. We are hopeful that in the near future we will have a fortnightly direct call. It will not have that big an effect on the Outer Harbor terminal. We will still have the 30 per cent cargo coming into Outer Harbor No. 6 terminal as is the case at the moment.

It is also possible that Adelaide could lose main port status with the major conferences. This would lead to fewer ship calls and the withdrawal of a common Pan Australian freight rate for Adelaide cargoes and subsequent oncosts. SAPLAC believes that if those proposals are implemented there will be reduced viability of the port of Adelaide and Adelaide airport, relocation of some manufacturing operations to outside South Australia, and increased difficulty in attracting new manufacturing and development projects for South Australia. SAPLAC estimates that not less than 400 jobs will eventually be lost in the port and airport related services and industries alone and that the financial loss to South Australia's economy will exceed \$30 million per annum. As far as SAPLAC is aware, neither the customs services nor the ANV Line have undertaken a cost benefit analysis in respect of the effect of the proposals on South Australia's community. In view of those comments in SAPLAC's report, it has recommended that this information be brought to the attention of the Government and that the South Australian Government advise the Federal Government accordingly. I have said publicly that I sent a telegram to both the Federal Minister for Customs and the Federal Minister for Transport opposing those proposals and the matter was discussed in Cabinet the other day.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: The Minister referred to it as a 'knee-jerk reaction'.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: That comment was made by some spokeswoman from Senator Button's office. I do not know

who she was. It certainly was not a knee-jerk reaction. I commented on the report I received by a body of expert people who dealt with this proposal in depth and reported to me. Once I received that report I immediately made those comments. I am happy to table it for the Committee.

Mr De LAINE: How long has the ACS proposal been in existence and what action has the Government taken to counter the proposal?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The question the honourable member has raised was also mentioned in the media because the Federal Minister's officers were quite amazed at my comments and indicated that discussions had been held with the State Government for something like 12 months. This whole matter originally arose out of the Costigan report. In October 1985 the Australian Customs circulated a white paper to all interested parties including the Department of Marine and Harbors. In November 1985 the South Australian Port Liaison Advisory Committee discussed the paper and in February of this year that committee called for more information.

In March 1986 the committee became concerned as the white paper did not specify how many of the proposed changes would be implemented. The committee invited two senior customs officers to the July meeting of this year to elaborate. In July, for the first time the South Australian Ports Liaison Advisory Committee was made fully aware of implications if customs proceeded with the plans. This was the first detailed briefing and customs officers were then invited to address the August meeting of the customs agents at Port Adelaide.

On 25 August this year the South Australian Ports Liaison Advisory Subcommittee undertook detailed analyses of a customs plan and a report was finalised on 1 October and presented to me as Minister on 2 October. So, effectively the Government and SAPLAC were first made aware of the consequences in July and two months later had completed a detailed study. I was presented with a copy of that study by the Customs Agents Association of South Australia. The date on the report is September 1986. For the Federal Ministers office to say that we have been discussing it for the past 12 months is not true.

Effectively, the Government and SAPLAC was first made aware of the consequences in July and I suggest that members ought to ignore all comments made by Mr J.D. Drost as his company has not handled a container for two years. Despite his allegations of not being informed, he did acknowledge that we have two representatives from the Chamber of Shipping on our SAPLAC committee. In regard to the second part of the honourable member's question as to what the Government has done about it, I have not at this stage received any response from the Federal Ministers. However, representatives comprising the Department of Marine and Harbors, the Department of State Development and the Intergovernment Relations and Advisory Services Division of the Premier's Department will meet to determine strategies and coopt experts from customs agents, importers and exporters, the shipping user group, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and any other interested party. The committee will examine the proposals and determine strategies to protect the interests of South Australia.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Supplementary to the question asked by the member for Price, does the Minister support the contention of the customs agents that up to 1 000 jobs could be lost as a result of this proposal—and certainly taking into account the concerns expressed by the Port Adelaide Chamber of Commerce? Is the figure of possibly 1 000 jobs valid?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: That is hard for me to determine. The figures that have been given to me by the Ports Liaison Advisory Committee indicate that between 300 and 400 jobs could be involved; it could also have an effect on airport operations, although, of course, I am not responsible for that area. I believe that the figure of 1 000 is too high, but certainly it could be in excess of the figures that have been provided to me by SAPLAC, namely, between 300 and 400. I can provide further information as follows: with the adoption of electronic entry of cargo information from any authorised terminal in Australia, a significant part of the work done by the Adelaide customs agents may be transferred interstate, and the loss of revenue to these Adelaide firms may be as great as \$1.5 million per year, and up to 200 jobs in the customs agency industry may follow the work interstate. With containers able to be delivered as free cargo direct from the railhead, there may be a significant loss of work for the five Port Adelaide depots. The loss of revenue to these Port Adelaide depots may be as great as \$1.1 million per year and this may threaten the viability of the depots and lead to 100 to 120 jobs being transferred interstate.

The process of clearing goods requires the payment of any assessed duty, and, given the average 17 day delay for containers to reach Adelaide from Melbourne, the inventory cost on customs duty paid to clear goods in Melbourne may be as great as \$750 000 per year. The additional cost to importers, with the increased delay and unpacking and repacking charges for those containers, subject to customs inspection in Melbourne, may be as great as \$3.7 million. The likely loss to South Australian importers, faced with replacing damaged or stolen goods, is estimated to be between \$3 million and \$5 million. All those ramifications could have some effect on employment in the depots and other service areas of the State. It is hard to put a figure on it: I would not go as high as 1 000. I can only rely on advice from the experts on the committee who anticipated between 300 and 400 jobs.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Since the Australian Customs Service is virtually autonomous in many respects of the Federal Government (as I understand it, because of the nature of the legislation involved and how the service is constituted), is the South Australian Government in any position to bring any weight to bear to protect South Australia's interests and to avoid the potential loss of anything up to 1 000 jobs in South Australia?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: As soon as we became aware of the ramifications, I jumped up and down. Comments that I immediately made were reported in the press and I took the matter to Cabinet on the following Monday. I indicated that I would even be prepared to take a delegation of some exporters, importers and shipping people, together with the trade unions (quite a number of trade unions operating at Port Adelaide are quite worried about this matter), to the Federal Ministers responsible for this matter. I indicated that I would wait until I had received a response from the Federal Ministers and it is hoped that the Government can apply some pressure to get them to alter the proposals that will affect South Australia's operations. I have just been handed a press release here from the *Daily Commercial News*—a shipping paper. It states:

Brisbane's cargo movement interests—employer and employee—have formed a united front to oppose the introduction to Australia of a port of discharge customs clearance scheme for imported goods.

So, it appears that we have Queensland on side, and it could have some effect on the Perth and Fremantle operations, although we are concerned specifically with South Australia, and we are doing our utmost to try to get the authorities

involved to show some common sense. As SAPLAC has pointed out, we do not blame them for trying to tighten controls to avoid further contraband entering our State, but we consider that, if only a spot check is made at the other ports, it could very well increase. It might not stop that at all.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Under the maritime safety program (page 325 of the yellow book), a broad objective given is:

To contribute to the safe navigation of vessels and their crews on the State's territorial seas and inland waters . . .

What is the method used by the department for the maintenance and servicing of navigation lights, around the coasts in particular?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I call on Captain Roy Pearson to respond to the honourable member's question.

Captain Pearson: We are changing over the navigation lights from AGA lights to solar panelled lights, because they require less maintenance. When we used the windmill generated lights, they were a disaster, because at certain times of the year if the wind did not get to seven knots the windmill did not turn over and so the generator did not charge the batteries. However, the solar panelled lights are quite effective.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: How important does the department consider the continuous burning and operation of those lights to be? If a light goes out, what back-up does the department have in relation to having that light in operation again as quickly as possible?

The reason I ask that is that, probably a couple of years ago now, I was travelling up St Vincent Gulf at about 1 a.m. from Kangaroo Island and I could not find the three-mile lead light into Port Vincent. When I made inquiries the next morning in Port Vincent I was told that the light had been out for a week or 10 days. It had been reported but, at that stage, nothing had been done to have it made operational again. What is the normal delay when a light such as that three-mile lead light goes out before it is normally back in operation?

Captain Pearson: We do not have a resident Harbormaster at Port Vincent so, unless one of the fishermen or local people were to advise either Adelaide or our resident Harbormaster at Wallaroo or Port Giles, I would agree there is a problem. Normally, these deficiencies are reported to us and, weather permitting, we get the light working as soon as possible.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Is it anticipated that the solar cell will be much more reliable in respect of the number of days for which it can operate without good weather before it fails?

Captain Pearson: Our experience with solar panelled lights so far has been very good. Whether they will develop a deficiency as they get older, I cannot answer at this stage.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I take it that the servicing of the lights has in the past been done by the nearest resident Harbormaster.

Captain Pearson: No. We would send a team from Adelaide. The local Harbormaster would not have the capability to go out and change cylinders by himself. At Port Vincent we would send someone round from Adelaide or send a boat over from Adelaide to service that light. The Rognes Bank light, incidentally, is not one of our lights, but a Commonwealth light. We would service it for them if they did not have their vessel in the vicinity.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: That is a better proposition—to send someone around, rather than have a contract with some local person to maintain the lights whether they be from Edithburgh, Stansbury, Port Vincent or Ardrossan.

Captain Pearson: If we are told about it, it will be attended to immediately.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I was looking at it from a cost point of view—whether, in the general servicing, it would be a better proposition for the department to have it done by contract at various points around the State rather than the department trying to maintain them from Adelaide.

Captain Pearson: We have our service centre at the dockyard which has expertise in servicing these lights, whereas the local people do not know very much about them. All they would know is how to change a cylinder—if it is an AGA light—but it may just be a burner which needs fixing, so the technician from Adelaide would have more expertise.

Mr De LAINE: How many blocks have been replaced in the West Lakes bank protection program? What is the cost to date, and the cost and number of blocks to be replaced in the 1986-87 financial year?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The blocks replaced to 30 June this year are 7 270 at a cost of \$331 000; the blocks to be replaced in this financial year are 1 500 at a cost of \$70 000, making a total to 30 June 1987 of 8 770 blocks to be replaced at a total cost of \$401 000. There are currently no dangerous blocks needing to be replaced. However, it is a continuous scheme to maintain the blocks to a safe standard. It is not possible at this stage to provide an overall cost to cover the whole project, because the total number of blocks in the whole of the West Lakes revetment is 70 000.

We have only replaced 8 770 at a cost of \$401 000, so the Committee can see that it is quite an expensive program. We have also conducted experiments with alternative means of treatment: for example, epoxy coating and spraying with cement grout to reduce the rate of decay have not proved successful at this time. The department is always looking for some alternative means of spray treatment which will reduce the decay of the total revetment.

Mr De LAINE: My question concerns sea transport planning. Following the successful commencement of the direct container shipping link with Japan last year, what is the current situation in relation to the possibility of an increase in direct shipping to Port Adelaide?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I am confident that we can increase our shipping with Japan, our largest trading partner. The Japanese are very happy with our industrial relations in South Australia and very happy with the turnaround time. There have been no delays during their calls since they started last year, and they are very happy with the times which have been created. I understand that the men down there have broken all the records.

Initially, though, when the Japanese shipping lines indicated that they would call to Outer Harbor, they indicated that that would eventually be a fortnightly service. We are saying that it is time that the fortnightly service happened. When they started, it was a monthly service. The Director and, possibly, I will visit Japan in the near future and demand that the shipping companies implement their initial proposal that it would be a fortnightly call.

We have to do our homework. We must have the information and the data which will substantiate their second call because, if one does not have the boxes, does not have the cargo, one cannot put forward a case. We believe that if we have that market we can tell our exporters and importers that there is a very useful service for them to come through the port of Adelaide, rather than 70 per cent of South Australia's cargo going through the port of Melbourne, as it does now. Back in 1969 the International Shipping Conference adopted a policy of centralising container cargo through Melbourne, and this resulted in the

major part of South Australia's container traffic being handled through the port of Melbourne. Specifically, about 60 or 70 per cent of South Australia's export containers and 80 per cent of South Australia's import containers are landed through Melbourne.

There is obviously considerable potential for increasing traffic through Port Adelaide. Our marketing strategy is to make clear to the international shipping conference that diversion of shipping to Adelaide is more profitable than centralisation of cargo at Melbourne, and that South Australian exporters and importers are united in requiring that the shipping conference service Adelaide more frequently.

Mr De LAINE: When is the *Troubridge* replacement vessel expected to be commissioned?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Mid 1987. Completion of the vessel is estimated at about 35 per cent. I visited the Eglo plant on Tuesday to examine progress. It has completed 55 per cent of the steel work, consisting of the centre portion of the hull and the engine room. That section has been removed from the workshop to the approach to the new ship lifter which is under construction, and subcontractors have started fabrication of the bow section and accommodation block. All major items of equipment have been ordered. The main engines and bow thrusters have been delivered and the generator sets and fuel systems are in transit.

Mr MEIER: The final, 1986, report of South Australian Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited into the grain port says:

The best strategy to cater for the predicted increase in ship sizes would be to upgrade two ports east of Spencer Gulf—one a deep sea port catering up to 65 000 dwt grain bulk carriers and the other a secondary port catering up to 45 000 dwt grain bulk carriers. It was found that the lowest overall annual costs with minimum disturbance to existing land transportation system and minimal operational problems would be achieved by upgrading Wallaroo to be the deep sea port and Inner Harbour to be the main secondary port... Wallaroo should be developed first, followed by Inner Harbour as the need arises by changing ship sizes.

In view of those recommendations, it is disturbing to learn that the Harbormaster at Wallaroo has been given notice that he will be transferred and that no replacement will be appointed. Likewise, the pilot boat *Yorke*, which was commissioned this year for operation out of Wallaroo, was moved to Port Lincoln some days ago. That is disturbing because Wallaroo was prepared for some years to put up with a boat which was not in the best condition on the strength of a promise that it would get one of the two new ones which were to be built. That eventually happened this year, but it now seems that it has been taken away although the waters out of Wallaroo are considered rougher than those in the Port Lincoln area. The third cause for alarm is information that a proposed survey which was to have taken place off the waters of Wallaroo has been cancelled. Has budgetary constraint caused that or is there some other reason?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: As for the deep draft grain berth, with the progressive increase in size of bulk carriers, the grain industry has made representations for the provision of a deep draft grain berth east of Spencer Gulf. Port Lincoln is the only deep draft grain berth at the present time. The grain industry's South Australian Seaport Development Committee engaged consultants to investigate the ramifications of various port sites from the industry's point of view, and the consultants have now submitted their report. A copy of the report, which favours the upgrading of Wallaroo as a deep sea port and the Inner Harbor at Port Adelaide as the main secondary port, was forwarded to the department for comment.

As a result of comments made by the department and others, the industry has invited the department and Austra-

lian National to participate with them in a technical committee to examine the assumptions on which the report is based. It is expected that this could be a lengthy procedure. The industry's Seaport Development Committee is reserving its judgment on the report, pending the findings of this technical committee.

I cannot say when the committee will report. I have not gone into the costs of developing a deep draft grain terminal at Wallaroo as compared with other sites. They are substantial if the terminal was situated at Wallaroo, I am sure that the Harbormaster would be transferred back there. In regard to the Harbormaster at Wallaroo, as I understand it the area will now be covered by the Harbormaster of Port Pirie.

Captain Pearson: The proposal to transfer the Harbormaster from Wallaroo to Adelaide occurred because of the manpower constraints that the department has to exercise. I have caused a complete analysis to be undertaken of the workload of the three pilots at Port Pirie and one at Wallaroo. Last year, on every ship except one, a Port Pirie man could have covered the job. Also, I will have three pilots in Port Adelaide who are licensed pilots for Wallaroo. They are only two hours away from that port if they are called to cover the pilotage requirements of it. We operate two other grain ports with our outer resident Harbormaster and I refer to Ardrossan and Port Giles. The pilots from Port Adelaide are taken by car to cover that situation.

I have discussed that situation with the Chamber of Shipping and with similar shipping agents. There is one shipping agent in Wallaroo who is unhappy about it, but the proposal should be given a trial. If it is found at some later stage that, because we could have done it last year, the times will clash next year, we can redress the situation and the pilots have been told that. In relation to the pilot vessel *Yorke*, we have a new boat, but the Port Lincoln boat, the *Tarooki*, is 15 years old. Recently the tailshafts and the gearbox had to be withdrawn and the gearbox was sent away for repairs. There were no ships at Wallaroo and that has been the case for the past three weeks, so I sent the *Yorke* over to cover Port Lincoln pilotage commitments. I proposed to send the *Tarooki* back to Wallaroo, because it would have only about a quarter to a fifth of the work that the Port Lincoln boat would have so, to try to prolong the working life of the *Tarooki*, I thought that I should place it at Wallaroo. The issue of weather has been raised. The Harbormaster from Wallaroo discussed this matter with me this morning and he admitted that we cannot berth ships at Wallaroo in winds exceeding 15 knots, so at this stage I do not see a problem.

Mr MEIER: Has the proposed survey of the waters of Wallaroo been cancelled?

Captain Pearson: The HMAS *Flinders* will be at Encounter Bay for a ceremony on 18 and 19 October for the re-enactment of the meeting of Flinders and Baudin in Encounter Bay in 1802, so the *Flinders* will sail from Victor Harbor on Sunday afternoon, 19 October. The vessel has to steam around to Wallaroo and then it has to be in Adelaide at daylight on Wednesday 22 October, so the amount of work done by it at Wallaroo would have been minimal. I had important soundings to be taken at MacDonnell Sound at Port Giles. We have only line soundings there, so we will now get a detailed sounding off Port Giles. That can be completed in two days and then, in the future, if Wallaroo went ahead, we could always arrange for those soundings to be done, but it was more important to take advantage of having the Flinders in the area to do the work at Port Giles.

[Sitting suspended from 5.59 to 7.30 p.m.]

Mr MEIER: I am disappointed with the answer given

regarding the three things that have happened at Wallaroo, namely, the harbormaster not being replaced, the pilot boat *Yorke* being replaced with, by the sound of it, an inferior craft, and the survey being called off. I can understand that from the information given. Can the situation regarding the harbormaster be re-examined and be reversed, because I know that there is a strong feeling among the people there that it is not in the best interests of Wallaroo?

It has been put to me that a person was asked to go to Wallaroo after receiving representations from one or two persons, myself included, but that person said he had only been in his new appointment for weeks rather than even months and would not shift to Wallaroo; in other words, it seems that the department wanted to put pressure on and the person said no. If that is true, I ask that the matter be re-evaluated and a harbormaster be appointed at Wallaroo.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I can understand the honourable member's feelings. I can imagine the thoughts about the Wallaroo harbor. I will have another look at the situation and get back to the honourable member. But in saying that I am prepared to do that, I cannot say that the decision will be reversed, because there are staffing restraints in a number of areas.

We will certainly look at whether it is possible to reverse the decision. I am not aware that the harbormaster, or somebody else, was offered the position up there and rejected it, or that the harbormaster who left Wallaroo was reluctant to leave the area. I will further consider the matter and will report back to the honourable member in due course.

Mr MEIER: Is the Minister prepared to reconsider the moving of the pilot boat the *Yorke* seeing that Wallaroo had put up with an inferior boat for some years and waited, perhaps even giving up its turn because the people were prepared to wait for the new boat, which arrived early this year. As the boat that has been at Port Lincoln has not been reliable, one would assume that the best way to fix that would be to have appropriate repairs carried out so that it can be used for its duties.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will also investigate that matter in conjunction with other matters that the honourable member has raised. I think that this decision is an administrative one. The department has taken that action in the interests of the whole of the operation of the department. Obviously, there have to be reasons for that. I will take that matter on notice and give it further consideration in relation to the other matters that the honourable member has raised.

Mr De LAINE: The sandbar at the Patawalonga channel has been an ongoing problem for the boating community. Will the Jubilee Point project in any way change this?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The problem at the sandbar at the entrance channel has been a matter of contention for many years. Several schemes have been considered, but to achieve a permanent solution would have involved considerable initial expenditure with very high annual maintenance costs. I think I have reiterated this time and time again in the past few years.

It was concluded that the only way to ensure that the channel remained clear was to introduce a mechanism whereby sand could be continuously transferred from the area immediately to the south of the breakwater to the beach north of the channel. The Jubilee Point Development Scheme, which it now appears will become a reality, encompasses the existing Patawalonga entrance channel. When I say it appears that it will become a reality, I know there was a further environmental impact study being considered by the Department of Environment and Planning and the Government.

However, provided all the concerns are answered in that e.i.s., I am sure that the Government will support the development of Jubilee Point, and as a consequence that will assist in overcoming the problem related to the Patawalonga sandbar. The scheme as indicated in the press recently shows that the breakwater system will be extended and that the configuration will be altered. That, together with the introduction of a sand bypassing system as part of the scheme, will ensure that the problem at the entrance to the channel will be alleviated. A Government working party headed by Mr Davies of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet is liaising with the developers promoting this scheme.

I point out, also, that the Department of Marine and Harbors has not presently got the dredging equipment that could get in close to the shore to dredge that particular area and it would be very costly to purchase a dredge to do so and then have no work for that dredge following the completion of other work in that area.

In view of the present position with regard to the whole Jubilee Point scheme, it would be inappropriate to undertake any action at present with regard to the removal of the sandbar. I have looked fairly closely at the model and the plans of Jubilee Point and think that it will be great for South Australia and that particular area and, hopefully, we will see it proceed and develop in the near future.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Is it a fact that yachts constructed in South Australia for charter have to be built under survey and must comply with the USL code of safety requirements yet imported vessels need not meet the same standards?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: That is a technical matter and I will ask Captain Pearson to answer that question.

Captain Pearson: All yachts that carry fare paying passengers have to be under survey to our department. This is a requirement under the Marine Act. Obviously, the boat under consideration, the *Beneteau*, has been hired out for charter. I wrote to the owner recently to establish whether he has had a guide or a skipper on the boat. If so, he is then in fault.

He has made arrangements with the department to have his vessel surveyed. He submitted some plans but, unfortunately, they were not sufficient and he has had to contact the builders of the boat *Bureau Veritas* and when the plans are resubmitted to our department we will advise the owner what must be done to get the boat under full survey.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: As I understand it from members of the boating industry, over a period of time they have been making representations to the Minister and the department on this issue. I understood that a boat for charter work has to be built under survey. If the imported boats are not built under survey and that requirement is not there, obviously our local industry is at a distinct disadvantage if it is made to conform with legislation with which the imported boats do not have to comply. I understand that according to the boating industry there is a loophole in the existing legislation and the department has been considering recommending amendments. However, as yet the Minister or Cabinet has not agreed or decided to proceed with the necessary amendments that would put everyone on the same basis. At the moment there appears to be a distinct unfair advantage to imported boats compared with locally produced boats.

Captain Pearson: The department is preparing hire and drive regulations. We have been to the Parliamentary-Counsel and the Crown Law and there is a hiccup. We are still discussing the issues. The department's aim is to have hire and drive regulations promulgated. If vessels from

overseas have not been built under survey it will be a requirement for those vessels to be converted to pass survey by our department if they are going to carry passengers.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I understand that that would be the basis of amendments to whatever legislation is involved. Perhaps the Minister could indicate what legislation it is. In a copy of a letter written by the Boating Industry Association on 8 August to the Minister it is stated:

It was very worrying to learn that there are problems that will further delay the introduction of new legislation enforcing charter boats to be built under survey. It is now over 12 months since it came to the industry's attention that some charter boats were operating in waters off the South Australian coast and that these boats had not been built under survey, nor were they carrying the required safety gear as laid down under the USL code.

Obviously, discussions have been going on between the industry and the Government for some time. I am wondering whether those amendments will put everyone on an equal footing.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask Captain Pearson to reply.

Captain Pearson: I will take up with Crown Law what is the hiccup in getting those regulations drafted as soon as possible.

Mr De LAINE: Will the Minister outline the projected expenditure for 1986-87 on recreational jetties?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Projected expenditure on recreational jetties to be upgraded to an acceptable standard at the Government's expense and then be leased to local councils with future maintenance to be shared between the Government and councils on an 80/20 basis with the Government meeting the full cost of storm damage where restoration is deemed to be justified amounts to a total of \$572 000. The individual areas and amounts are as follows: Marion Bay, \$92 000; Stenhouse Bay, \$82 000; Port Victoria, \$63 000 (under a CEP project); Hogg Bay, \$43 000; and Robe, \$34 000. Routine maintenance expenditure required amounts to \$119 000 with an allocated amount of \$79 000. The maintenance expected to be undertaken on behalf of local district councils is \$60 000, giving a total of \$572 000. The jetty at Port Germein was restored at a cost of \$447 000. That was a joint CEP/department project to upgrade that jetty. That program sets out expenditure for the current financial year.

There are 43 recreational jetties around the State's coastline and most are more than 100 years old. Many are storm battered and dilapidated. With the budget we are able to achieve it is not adequate for the amount of maintenance work required. When they are upgraded it is necessary to bring them up to a standard that withstands storms. I recall that a number of years ago much money was spent on the Port Germein jetty and 12 to 18 months later a storm came along and wiped out the whole jetty completely. It is a lot of money to spend on recreational jetties, but they are regarded as being very important by local communities in areas such as Port Germein and over in the Port Lincoln and Coffin Bay areas. If we can continue our maintenance program we will see the retention of most of the jetties throughout the State with the help of local council assistance wherever that is possible.

Mr GUNN: Could the Minister or his officers advise whether the department has been involved in any investigations or discussions with overseas companies about the possibility of developing a port at Sceale Bay? The Minister will probably be aware that a committee at Streaky Bay has been making representations in relation to a port at Sceale Bay basically to be used to ship out gypsum from the deposits there if they are successful in attracting a company to develop those extensive deposits. If so, the port would

also be able to be utilised for shipping of grain. What knowledge does the Minister have on this subject?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Our Manager for Forward Planning, Mr Trevor Bateman, is fully conversant with the background of this matter and I ask him to reply.

Mr Bateman: The department's involvement in Sceale Bay in recent times has been at the request of the Department of State Development. The gypsum company to which the honourable member refers has made representations to State Development for Government financial assistance in a feasibility study in relation to the development of those deposits and the development of the port for shipping. Some little while ago the matter was fairly active. It has for some time now been quiet because the primary export target is China. Because of balance of payment difficulties in China the thought of imported gypsum into China has gone cold for the time being. There are considerable difficulties in that the Sceale Bay site is very exposed.

There are very real difficulties and very high costs associated with any attempt to establish a port in that area. Any thoughts that the gypsum company has had have been related solely to a very special purpose slurry pumping system associated with a very special sort of vessel, with the vessel swinging on a single point mooring. The system would be entirely unsuitable for any other material, so, the aspirations of the local committee for a port that could have more general use are quite unfounded in that regard, because the gypsum people themselves, even in their wildest dreams, are not thinking of anything like that.

Mr GUNN: While we are on that side of the coast, can the Minister advise whether the Government intends to carry out any further development at Thevenard? The Minister would recall that some time ago it was planned to further develop the port. Does the Government have any plans to further upgrade or develop the port of Thevenard?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: In relation to the Thevenard port upgrading, existing limitations in the channel depth are: 9.1 metres at low water in the outer channel, and 8.2 metres at low water in the inner channel. Depth at the berth is 9.8 metres at low water. The maximum vessel length allowable is 180 metres and, of course, that limitation is determined by the channel. A small amount of dredging was undertaken recently to ease a bend in the channel, which is a very difficult one at the port. I have been there and have watched ship operators getting big vessels out—with some difficulty. I might add. Further, some of the channel beacons were repositioned, and this has permitted raising the maximum length of vessels allowed to enter the port from 168 metres to 180 metres.

Investigations are currently being made into the feasibility and cost of removing some high spots in the inner channel, to provide a depth of 8.5 metres at low water. Improvements to navigation lighting are also being examined, with the objective of permitting vessels to operate at night. The travel of the loading boom is being extended to cope with the increased distance between hatches of the larger vessels able to use the berth now. Recently, the *Iron Capricorn*, of 35 302 dead weight tonnes, 177.2 metres in length and with a beam of 27.84 metres, successfully loaded a cargo of 26 100 tonnes of gypsum. That was the largest ship and cargo ever to have been handled at Thevenard. So, I think that the improvements have made a difference. I think that the other investigations that are presently being made will look at the matter of the feasibility of removing further problems at that harbor.

Mr GUNN: Can the Minister advise whether his department has been involved in discussions or inquiries into the possibility of building a large live sheep depot in the vicinity

of Outer Harbor? I understand that some investigations have been made and, in view of this very important trade to South Australia, can the Minister give us any information on this matter?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I referred briefly, to this matter earlier today. The Department of Agriculture has been investigating the feasibility of the concept for a shedded feedlot facility. The major issues in reaching resolution of the concept are:

1. The cost of the feedlot and associated berthing facilities.
2. The overall financial viability of the proposal.
3. Environmental assessment considerations.
4. Obtaining industry commitment to joint investment and support for such a facility.

It is understood that at present there are substantial differences of opinion in the industry as to whether such a concept should be supported. These matters are presently being pursued by the Department of Agriculture.

Mr TYLER: As the Committee would be well aware, I am one of the members who represent part of the beautiful Fleurieu Peninsula. As a result of the wonderful beaches and waters around the Fleurieu Peninsula, the area sustains a very large recreational boating community. Of course, this is not unique to Fleurieu Peninsula, as South Australia as a whole has a very large recreational boating community. Can the Minister tell the Committee what money has been allocated this financial year for projects related to recreational fishing and will he outline details of those projects?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I know that the honourable member visits O'Sullivan Beach quite often and that is probably why he shows such great interest in recreational boating. The following projects are expected to be undertaken during the current financial year for the benefit of recreational boating. Work is to be undertaken on Encounter Bay and boat ramp improvement. This is subject to planning approval. The local council at its cost will provide land works, including parking area and road modifications in the vicinity. An amount of \$40 000 is expected to be spent. There is some concern on the part of local residents in the Encounter Bay area. They feel that the parking area has not been made large enough. However, the site encroaches on to local government territory, so I think it needs to be redesigned. That work is currently proceeding at the moment.

Dredging in the channel at Encounter Bay has been completed, and big improvements have been made to the boat ramp. There has always been a problem at Encounter Bay because of the very rocky incrop close to shore, and the department has been busy clearing most of the rock from the channel. At Ardrossan a boat landing and a timber walkway are to be provided, at a cost of \$40 000. At Port Victoria, \$50 000 will be spent on boat ramp improvements. At St Kilda we are spending \$35 000 this financial year in dredging the channel. Again, council will undertake work and contribute financially to the work undertaken. At Ceduna, \$25 000 will be spent on boat ramp modifications. The local council is also undertaking work and contributing in a like manner. At Cowell, in the Franklin Harbor, \$40 000 will be spent on the completion of boating facilities. At Port Neill, \$50 000 will be spent on a new boat ramp and \$60 000 will be spent on improvement of the boat ramp at Christmas Cove. An additional amount of \$10 000 will be spent on miscellaneous minor works.

Several proposals for the development of Christmas Cove and the adjacent area have been considered in recent times. However, a limiting factor on development has arisen by way of an objection from the Geological Monument Subcommittee of the Geological Society, which is of the opinion

that any development should retain certain nominated geological features in their present state and natural surroundings. The Department of Lands had undertaken a viability study through consultants to establish the feasibility of incorporating a land based development east of the cove, which study stated that financial viability could not be established.

The Department of Tourism also has endeavoured, without success, to promote a marina concept development with private developers. The notional proposal for the provision of town house-type accommodation at the base of the cliff at Christmas Cove, inside the cove, with a marina development, met with resistance from many local residents. Consequently, it is not likely that any major development will occur in the near future, and the department has agreed to proceed with improvements to the existing boat ramp, which will be a two-lane facility, and the council has agreed to provide improved car and trailer parking facilities at its cost. That is the program for recreational boating for the 1986-87 financial year.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Going back to the matter of charter boats which I raised before, can the Minister indicate the title of the Act which will have to be amended or the title of the Act under which the regulations will have to be made to correct the problem which currently exists?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: It comes under the Marine Act.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Can it be corrected by regulation or does the Act itself have to go before Parliament?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: It is a clear regulation and, of course, the regulations can be disallowed by Parliament. They must come to Parliament.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Granted, but the Parliament does not have to be sitting. What I am getting at is that Cabinet or Executive Council can gazette the new regulation and it becomes law straight away. The sooner this matter is corrected in the interests of the boating industry in South Australia to give them a better opportunity to compete fairly, the better.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The regulations can be amended under the Act.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Is it anticipated that that will occur fairly shortly?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Nothing has been put to me at this time, nor put before Cabinet.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Perhaps the Minister can explain just what the difficulty is, because I know that the industry has been pursuing this for quite some time, and I am led to understand that there is some difficulty in coming up with the right amendments or new regulations to correct this problem. Can we have some sort of explanation as to the difficulty with the existing law?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I think Captain Pearson referred to some of these earlier, and what I am prepared to do is investigate this and report back to the honourable member.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: The next matter I would like to refer to goes back to a question I put to the Minister in the House some months ago. I suggested to him that the Boating Act should be amended in relation to boat operators licences to assist the tourism industry, in particular, so that persons without a boat operators licence could hire, in tourist areas in particular, say, a 12 or 14 ft dinghy with a five h.p. outboard motor—

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: What budget line is this?

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: This comes under objectives and policy of the department and the Government. The response from the Minister on that occasion was that I was grossly irresponsible for even suggesting such a thing. I draw to the Minister's attention the fact that we have provision

in South Australia to enable very large yachts to be operated by persons without a boat operators licence but, if they put an outboard motor on that large yacht to make that vessel safer, then they are breaking the law—unless they have a boat operators licence—that in itself, is absurd. We also have the situation of having very large houseboats operating in South Australia for which we do not have to have a boat operators licence—and they are very large vessels indeed.

The CHAIRPERSON: I ask the honourable member to come to his question.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I will put the question and then give the explanation—the other way round.

The CHAIRPERSON: A brief explanation.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: This is a fairly complex matter in relation to the boating legislation in this State, and one which the industry wants aired quite positively.

The CHAIRPERSON: I remind members that this is not an alternative to Question Time or the adjournment or grievance debate. It is a questioning on the budget lines and I ask the member for Chaffey to come to his question.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: The yellow book—which is what we are dealing with here—clearly spells out what we are dealing with. We are dealing with marine safety.

The CHAIRPERSON: Which page?

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Page 325. On page 326 we are talking about safety in recreational boating. I cannot see anything more aligned to safety in recreational boating than the Boating Act and the boat operators licence.

The CHAIRPERSON: That is fine, and I ask the honourable member to come to his question, please.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I have to give an explanation so that I can get a positive response. I have indicated that we have the situation where the present law provides for a yacht and, if one makes the vessel safer by putting a 5 h.p. or 10 h.p. outboard motor on it, one is then in breach of the legislation. One does not need a boat operators licence to drive a houseboat but, if the dinghy accompanying the houseboat, hooked on the back, has an outboard motor, then the operator of the houseboat who has hired this \$100 000 vessel is breaking the law if he gets into the dinghy and starts the outboard motor.

The CHAIRPERSON: So the question is?

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Will the Minister further reconsider the position he put in the House some months ago that he was not prepared to look at the situation which exists in relation to small dinghies, and provide an exemption because of the inconsistency currently existing?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The department is presently discussing the position in regard to this hire and drive issue with the Crown Law Department, and I will note the points raised by the honourable member. I have been advised that it will take approximately two weeks to resolve the form of this matter with the Crown Law Department and for the department to discuss it with me as the Minister. We also require approximately six weeks in which to consult with the industry, to finalise what is put forward. We hope to have something moving within about eight to 10 weeks. I have noted the points that have been raised. We need to think them through and consult the industry before starting to amend regulations.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I am the last person in the world to suggest that we should reduce safety standards. Back in the early 1960s, when I was closely involved with the South Australian Water Ski Association, we brought in a voluntary boat registration system in the interests of safety, which was the basis of the system adopted by the Government, long before the Government thought about it. I am talking about consistency and anomalies. I support the con-

cept of a coxswain's certificate and understand why it was introduced for those who sail off the coast. Most of the Murray River fishermen have been born to fishing, and it is absurd to require them to have a coxswain's certificate to lift their drum nets, when every other private citizen can do the same with a boat operator's licence. I believe that the requirement for the river licence is virtually the same as for the offshore licence. It is complicated. Many of the fishermen had departmental officers virtually answer the questions for them because of its complexity.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The coxswain's certificate is consistent with the uniform shipping laws. It is purely a safety matter. I am pleased to hear the honourable member say that he would be the last person to suggest a reduction in safety. I am sure that that is true. The certificate involves quite a simple examination and I cannot see why there is so much concern about it. This is a technical administrative matter. Perhaps Captain Pearson can elaborate.

Captain Pearson: I realise that there is a difference between a coxswain on the Murray River and one using a boat on the ocean. I will re-examine the matter, but I must take account of the fact that the Murray River coxswains can operate on Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina where waves can be as high as outside. That is why we try to instil a sense of boatmanship. If the honourable member is worried, however, we can have another look at the matter.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I am worried inasmuch as the matter has been raised with me by several professional river fishermen who said that they found it difficult to cope with the examination. It is no secret that many of those who have received certificates were more than slightly helped by departmental officers.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Prompted.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: Perhaps. Recreational boat users with a boat operator's licence use Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina. I should have thought that a boat operator's licence under the Boating Act, which is regarded as adequate for the rest of the public, would be regarded as adequate for river fishermen fishing in the Murray, the lakes and inland waters. I realise, however, that there may be some difficulty with the legislation and the universal agreement.

The Minister said that he hopes that the Jubilee Point project will proceed. I understand that one of the major objections, especially from people in the metropolitan area except those who live near Jubilee Point, arises from the possible effect that the development into the Gulf could have on the beaches. It is thought that there could be erosion.

When overseas recently, I had an opportunity to put in a day with the Army Corps of Engineers at Vicksburg in Mississippi who showed me an extensive scale model of Buhne Point in California where they had modelled an area which had been eroded by the sea. If sand erosion around Jubilee Point is still regarded as a real problem, such an organisation could assist the Government to determine whether some of the public's fears are justified.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: This is a matter for the Coast Protection Board and an environmental impact statement. It is not my responsibility.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I thought that the Minister might be interested, for the benefit of the State.

The CHAIRPERSON: I am sure that he is but we are dealing with budget estimates.

Mr MEIER: I was pleased to hear of upgrading for three jetties on Yorke Peninsula. As for Port Victoria, we are pleased that the Minister took the time and trouble to make a thorough inspection himself. What is the program for

work at Port Victoria? Have all arrangements been finalised with regard to the CEP part of the project? Can the Minister give a timeframe for the upgrading of Marion Bay and Stenhouse Bay jetties and give a brief resume of the work to be done there?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The total estimated cost of restoring the Port Victoria jetty is \$191 000. As the honourable member is aware from his visit there, the local district council has agreed to contribute \$40 000 over two years and this offer has been accepted. Departmental costs are expected to be about \$72 600, with \$62 200 being spent during the current year and the balance being spent during 1987-88. An application for assistance has been lodged with the Commonwealth Employment Program.

Mr MEIER: Has it been approved and, if so, when will it start?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: We expect some decision after Christmas but, if approved, CEP is expected to contribute \$78 400. In anticipation of that approval timber has been ordered and, therefore, the department will be in a position to commence work soon after CEP approval is received and, as I mentioned, that is expected to be very early in the new year.

As a point of interest, the jetty subcommittee of the Port Victoria Progress Association, which is assisting the district council to raise funds, has been supplied with a list of material and estimated costs for the repair work. This will enable the committee to issue certificates to persons contributing to its Save the Jetty Fund, indicating that their donations have purchased or assisted to purchase specific materials. That is all the information that I can give in relation to the Port Victoria jetty but I hope that the CEP advice will come through and that we can make a start on it early in the new year. Work at Marion Bay and Stenhouse Bay will be completed during 1986-87.

Mr MEIER: What is the extent of the work to be undertaken at Marion Bay and Stenhouse Bay?

Mr Phipps: Some pile replacement and deck upgrading will be undertaken. The final scope of the work is yet to be determined in consultation with the councils, because they are contributors to the upgrading and the work will be completed in the second half of the financial year. Commencements also will be occurring in that time.

Mr MEIER: At page 332 of the yellow book a specific target for 1986-87 is to undertake maintenance of facilities at Port Vincent. How much money is it envisaged will be spent there and what facilities are to receive attention?

Mr Salisbury: Very minor work concerning the local boat ramp.

Mr MEIER: I notice that the works at Ardrossan and Port Victoria are about \$40 000 and \$50 000 respectively, which is a significant amount. Is that sort of figure envisaged for Port Vincent? If that information is not available, could that be tabled by 31 October for insertion in *Hansard*?

Mr Salisbury: Yes, that information can be supplied.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: What assistance or support was given to the construction of the new roll-on roll-off vessel in relation to the subcontract that C&P Marine Joinery Pty Ltd sought to obtain from Eglo? I believe that at one stage the subcontract revolved around obtaining a letter of intent from Eglo and, according to a copy of a letter from the Manager of the State Bank, 182 St Vincent Street, Port Adelaide, in his discussions with Eglo he found that there would be no problem in obtaining a letter of intent. Ultimately, the contract went to an interstate firm. It was a fairly large contract and, in an attempt to keep the work in South Australia, what assistance was the Government able to provide?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: This is a matter between Eglo and the subcontractor. I do not think that any Minister in office of either major Party has been in the habit of discussing in Parliament the details of the tendering system. In this instance there was a very large difference in the amount—I think it was about \$1 million difference. As I pointed out, it is really a matter between Eglo and the subcontractor and I think that we have answered to the best of our ability the matters that were raised by the person who missed out on the contract and that is all I can say about it here. I am quite happy to talk to the member about it and to show him the file.

The Hon. P. B. ARNOLD: The work did not remain in South Australia; it went out of the State to an interstate company.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I understand that a large part of the labour is South Australian.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: In relation to contract work that the department does for other companies, it was brought to my attention that the work that was necessary to lay the pipe across Barkers Inlet was the subject of a subcontract between Marine Industries and McConnell Dowell. Ultimately the work was completed by the department using a different method. To what extent does the department go out seeking that sort of work, or is it done purely as the result of an approach to the department?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: The simple answer is that the Minister of Mines and Energy came to me because he found that they were in a spot of trouble with that program. He wanted to know whether the department of Marine and Harbors crew could assist and we offered to do that. That completed the dredging program, or the digging of that trench, in the time necessary. Dredging of the trench for the PASA pipeline was carried out on a reimbursable contract basis for McConnell Dowell who, in turn, had a contract from PASA. That was the reason that the Minister of Mines and Energy approached us and we assisted where we could.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: The work concerned was the subject of a subcontract between Marine Industries and McConnell Dowell. Does the Minister know the final outcome of that situation and what was the result of the department coming in and taking over that contract? Also, what was the financial effect on Marine Industries?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I am not sure of that detail. I will ask the Director, Mr Phipps, to answer the question.

Mr Phipps: The situation is that it was a subcontract between Marine Industries and McConnell Dowell who were the main contractor to the Pipelines Authority. The situation is that the trench across the subject waters was only approximately 50 per cent completed by the time the construction period had expired. Our understanding is that the Pipelines Authority, in conjunction with the prime contractor, came to the view that it would be several more months before the trench for the pipeline could be completed if they continued with the subcontractor Marine Industries and his equipment.

Therefore, at that stage the prime contractor, in conjunction with the client, decided that something fairly dramatic had to be done, and that was the reason for the request from the Minister of Mines and Energy to the Minister of Marine. With regard to the financial considerations between the Pipelines Authority (PASA) and the prime contractor McConnell Dowell, and in turn the contractual relationship between Marine Industries and McConnell Dowell, that is really a matter for those parties to determine. Our only concern was that we were requested to do work on a reim-

bursable basis and we carried out the scope of the work as requested.

The Hon. P.B. Arnold: I understand that the reason for the method used was that that was an environmental requirement laid down related to turbidity in the water and that if they used a continuous excavator it would have created much more turbidity than the grab type machine being used.

Mr Phipps: I cannot comment on that matter because it really is a matter between the main contractor, the prime contractor and, in turn, the main contractor and McConnell Dowell. All the department of Marine and Harbors was doing was responding to a request to carry out a certain scope of work within due time. We were only made aware of two factors, first, that the equipment that was on site was clearly incapable of meeting the obligations of the contract and, if that equipment had continued on site, it would have failed to meet a number of the contract obligations. It was obvious to us as observers that action in the interests of getting the pipeline completed in a timely manner had to be taken as a matter of urgency.

Mr Meier: On page 331 of the program papers under 'Specific Targets and Objectives' for 1986-87 one of the stated objectives is to augment further direct shipping services between South Australia and particular world trading areas. I have noted that on two occasions reference has been made to endeavours to increase trade with South Australia through Port Adelaide or Outer Harbor.

The Minister will remember that on 30 July this year I took a deputation to him from Pea and Grain Exporters Australia. The basis of the discussion was to ascertain what arrangements could be made to increase shipping services for their products. As a result of that meeting, it was decided that an officer from the Minister's department would provide his services to ascertain whether he and Grain Exporters Australia, together with any other companies, could get together to make up a consortium to help win more trade. Can the Minister inform the Committee of what progress has been made?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will ask the Director to respond to that question.

Mr Phipps: We are certainly very concerned about the situation that the exporters find themselves in. The difficulty in this situation is that it is not easy to switch a shipping line, as the member would be well aware, into the port. However, we are trying very hard, in negotiations with various parties, whom I cannot disclose at the present time, to ascertain whether we can synchronise particular calls and particular cargoes to get the export to India. It is the sort of thing that could take a number of months to resolve.

We believe that we have a good case in terms of the cargo inducement. That is the first step. The second step is to push a shipping line over the brink and that, as the honourable member knows, is the very difficult thing to do. It is a priority for us in terms of our negotiations with the shipping companies.

The Hon. P.B. Arnold: I refer the Minister to the article that appeared in the press on 30 September under the heading 'Captain "in potential conflict of interest"' which states:

The \$42 000 a year State Government harbormaster at Port Lincoln has been accused by the Opposition of pursuing private business activities which could pose a potential conflict of interest with his official duties.

Does the department have any official policy or position in relation to departmental officers being involved in what I suppose one would describe as private business activities which one could describe as possibly being in conflict with

their duties as officers of the department or as Harbormaster?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: Permission to engage in outside employment was previously given to all outport harbormasters conditional upon them abiding by the conditions laid down in the Public Service Board memorandum to permanent heads No. 117. The Public Service Act was repealed and the government management and employment regulations came into operation on 1 July 1986. An approval has been given, subject to the following conditions:

1. At all times departmental requirements must be paramount.
2. If there is any doubt as regards to potential conflict of interest the matter must be referred.
3. A business card must not identify with the Department of Marine and Harbors, or with the position of Harbormaster.
4. The departmental vehicle is not used whilst so engaged.
5. Departmental stationery or services are not used.
6. That any use of the telephone on unofficial calls at work or home are accounted for and the department be reimbursed.

There is no conflict of interest with the official duties of the Harbormaster of Port Lincoln because a survey of fishing vessels is carried out by ships and engineer surveyors from Port Adelaide. The Harbormaster only checks items specifically indicated on a defects list to save the department the expense of having a surveyor return to Port Lincoln. A harbormaster pilot is required to work all hours piloting ships and over weekends as required but is entitled to take days off as and when not required specifically for piloting. Last year 267 ships were piloted at that one pilot port.

The Hon. P.B. Arnold: The only other area I wanted to raise with the Minister relates to navigation of the Murray River. This responsibility tends to be split between the Minister of Water Resources and the Minister of Marine. What work does he anticipate the Government will undertake to try to maintain a navigable channel in the Murray at normal pool level? In the last two or three months we have had above average flows in the Murray River. Consequently this has not been a problem but I did suggest to the Minister of Water Resources that a dredging program or a joint venture between the Government and a private operator could be undertaken if it were worth that person's while to put in an effective dredge on the river whereby it could not maintain a navigable channel at all times but also provide a source of high quality building sand for the building industry to offset quite considerably the costs involved in dredging.

At the moment we have a situation where dredging is undertaken in the Murray and the sand removed from the river is placed on the banks. Unfortunately, as soon as the high river comes the dredged sand is immediately flushed back into the river very much into the same position from which it was removed. If that sand could be utilised in the building industry and removed from that area completely we might make some headway in maintaining a navigable channel. I raise this matter because of the ever increasing importance of the Murray as part and parcel of our tourism industry in this State.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: On 13 April 1981 Cabinet approved that a navigational channel in the Murray River in South Australia be maintained by the South Australian Government where possible to a minimum width of 30 metres and, where possible, of sufficient depth for navigation of vessels drawing 1.37 metres (4ft 6in.) of water. It also decided that the Minister of Water Resources be responsible for carrying

out this work through the auspices of the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: In view of the fact that the tourism industry is continuing to grow we are getting bigger vessels on the river. Obviously, we shall have to go beyond what my Cabinet submission stated in 1981 if we are to cater for this expanding industry. Will the present Government go beyond that point?

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I follow what the honourable member is saying. Certainly, something needs to be done to improve the development of tourism along the Murray River because the E&WS Department is also responsible for desnagging and dredging the river. It is a matter that would have to be taken up by the Government to see whether we can proceed to improve the situation. Captain Pearson can probably add something to what I have already said. The honourable member knows the decision he made in 1981 and recognises that possibly that does not go far enough to meet today's needs.

Captain Pearson: I did the initial delivery voyage on board the *Murray Princess* from Goolwa to Renmark to see what problems would arise there. The vessel draws 1.2 metres. I put out a launch to see what would happen because as a vessel goes through the water she sinks slightly. The 1.37 metres is quite sufficient for the *Murray Princess*. Provided there is not strong winds a 30 metre width channel will be sufficient for her. With the desnagging the Minister of Water Resources is the Minister responsible.

I made a comment to one of my officers who is on a committee looking at the Murray River and suggested that desnagging should only take place to about 1.5 metres because, instead of having to drag the trees out of the river we know the vessel is not going to draw any deeper than about 1.37 metres and, with a cut off at 1.5 metres, that will be sufficient. Recently I received a letter from the owners of the *Murray Princess* about this problem and one of my officers is dealing with it in conjunction with the Murray River Committee and undoubtedly they will be making recommendations. If there is a navigational problem I will contact the E&WS Department.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: I would like the Government to pursue the matter of whether a joint venture with a private dredging contractor would be economically advan-

tageous to the Government in that if there was a market for the sand coming out of the river, at least it would have a double barrel effect in reducing the cost to the Government and provide a high quality building sand whilst preventing it from going back into the river at times of high flow and creating a problem. Whether or not it would prove to be feasible I do not know, but it would be worth pursuing.

The Hon. R.K. Abbott: I will refer the matter to my colleague the Minister of Water Resources, to see what he is prepared to do about the matter.

The Hon. P.B. ARNOLD: We have no further questions.

The CHAIRPERSON: There being no further questions, I declare the examination of the vote completed.

Works and Services—Department of Marine and Harbours, \$18 450 000—Examination declared completed.

Minister of Marine, Miscellaneous, \$1 440 000—Examination declared completed.

Minister of Lands, Minister of Forests and Minister of Repatriation, Miscellaneous, \$389 000—Examination declared completed.

The CHAIRPERSON: That concludes today's proceedings. I would like to thank the Minister and his departmental officers for their assistance to the Committee today. I also thank the Parliamentary Clerks, Attendants and *Hansard* for their assistance during the two weeks of the Estimates Committee hearings. I now lay before the Committee a draft report for Estimates Committee B.

The Hon. J.W. SLATER: I move
That the draft report be the report of the Committee.
Motion carried.

At 8.51 p.m. the Committee concluded.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE A

Deputy Premier, Minister for Environment and Planning,
Minister of Emergency Services, Minister of Water
Resources, Chief Secretary.

RED LIGHT CAMERAS

In reply to **Hon. D.C. WOTTON.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: A joint working party established to make recommendations to Government on the implementation of a red light camera program proposed that a system involving the use of 10 cameras to be interchanged over 30 intersections be adopted.

However, given the significant establishment costs associated with a program of that scale, the Police Department was asked to report on the resources required for a reduced program using five cameras over 15 sites.

The department's report on the revised resource requirements is in process of completion. The precise number of intersections at which red light cameras are to be provided will, however, be a matter for determination by Government once the report has been studied.

POLICE CRIME INQUIRY UNITS

In reply to **Mr GREGORY.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The replies are as follows:

1. On 2 January 1986, coinciding with the general reorganisation of the Police Force, police inquiry units were established at seven suburban Criminal Investigation Branches. Sixteen positions were created to staff these units.

2. A Post Implementation Review Working Party is currently examining the work load of these units and will report its findings to the Commissioner of Police in the near future. No additional staff have been assigned to the crime inquiry units in the current financial year.

POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY

In reply to **Hon. B.C. EASTICK.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The Police Complaints Authority has adopted a method of categorisation both of complaints and of the outcomes of those complaints for inclusion in the first annual report to Parliament. The authority is still discussing the details of the system of categorisation with the Commissioner of Police and the officer-in-charge of the Internal Investigations Branch. He expects to reach some agreement on the system of classification so as to provide broad comparability of data between the authority's reports and those of the police. The authority recently held discussions with several similar authorities interstate and the officer-in-charge of the respective internal investigations units to see whether it is possible to agree upon a basis of classification that might also provide comparability of data between jurisdictions. These talks are still only in preliminary stages, and it is not intended to await their outcome before adopting what will prove an effective and informative basis of classification for the complaints received in South Australia.

REMOTE SENSING UNIT

In reply to **Mr RANN.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The Minister of Transport has advised that the Government has been conscious of the increasing relevance of remote sensing technology to a wide range of activities. As part of this awareness, the Government took steps last financial year to obtain expert advice from consultants on the future of the South Australian Centre for Remote Sensing. The consultants produced several interim reports and a final report in July this year.

As a result of their advice, the Government has decided to upgrade processing facilities at the centre, and is currently considering further expansion to its functions and scope. Possible areas for implementation include geology, range lands, agriculture, thematic mapping, topographical mapping, engineering, and disaster management. Oceanographic and hydrological applications alone include mapping saline lake distributions, drainage systems, flood plain water-logging assessment, monitoring irrigated crop areas, irrigation-area salinity assessment, inventory of remote marine areas, classification of reefs, bathymetric reconnaissance of shoal areas, coastal zone management, tree-felling in water catching zones, dam-site selection, flood-peak monitoring and forecasting, sediment movement in floods, fisheries, and marine oil spills.

It should be noted, however, that the centre is a service unit, and consequently has to compete for its projects against other bids. The customer, in other words, determines its activities. However, although it cannot finally determine the nature of its work, the centre will continue to equip itself and pursue contracts in those areas where it believes remote sensing is viable.

MOUNT COMPASS WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

In reply to **Mr GUNN.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: In June 1986 State Cabinet approved construction of a water supply scheme for Mount Compass, at an estimated cost of \$750 000.

The scheme involves:

- the drilling and equipping of two wells
- construction of a 225 kilolitre concrete tank
- a total of 4.58 km of mains
- installation of flow meters and service connections.

Funding of the scheme was approved as follows:

	\$
Commonwealth COWSIP Grant	194 000
District Council of Port Elliot and Goolwa— Contribution	200 000
Engineering and Water Supply Department (Loan Funds)	356 000
Total cost	<u>\$750 000</u>

To date the two supply wells have been completed and main laying has commenced. Construction of the tank and equipping of the wells are to follow in the next few months.

SMOKY BAY WATER SUPPLY

In reply to **Mr GUNN.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: Although it is recognised that the Smoky Bay water supply system has insufficient capacity to meet the current peak demands and the growing needs of this town, the replacement of the existing mains would cost approximately \$3m and cannot be economically justified at this time. The Engineering and Water Supply Department is considering several lower cost alternatives in an attempt to alleviate the problems being experienced at present. This includes the possibility of increasing the flow

by installing a booster pump. It is proposed to install monitoring equipment at several locations on the Smoky Bay water main over this summer to aid in future examinations of this system endeavouring to find an economic long term solution to this water supply problem.

DEFERRED WATER SUPPLY SCHEMES LIST

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The information required is as follows:

Priority October 1986		Capital Cost October 1986
1	Upper Sturt	592 000
2	Meadows	793 000
3	Greenhills Estate	1 058 000
4	Kingston South (full scheme)	1 544 000
5	Echunga	719 000
6	Kingston South (part scheme)	307 000
7	Port Parham	370 000
8	Emu Bay	603 000
9	Forreton	127 000
10	Hundred of Moorowie	740 000
11	Southend	677 000
12	Carpenter Rocks	338 000
13	American River (part scheme)	2 274 000
14	Mundulla	487 000
15	Macclesfield	1 068 000
16	Watervale	1 682 000
17	Manoora-Waterloo	1 809 000
18	Cox Hill Road	444 000
19	Upper Hermitage	307 000
20	American River (full scheme)	4 983 000
21	Notts Well	952 000
22	Blanchetown	592 000
23	Callington-Strathalbyn (part scheme)	4 432 000
24	Greenhills-Victor Harbor	307 000
25	Callington-Strathalbyn (full scheme)	7 976 000
26	Keyneton	666 000
27	Kangarilla	1 227 000
28	Denial Bay	635 000
29	Port Kenny-Venus Bay	6 887 000
30	West of Ceduna	
	(a) Ceduna—District Council Murat Bay Boundary	5 035 000*
	(b) Ceduna—Penong	6 040 000*
	(c) Extension to Denial Bay	391 000
31	Mangalo	14 419 000
32	Hundred of Hooper/Ettrick	5 385 000

NOTE * Several schemes to supply the area west of Ceduna have been prepared. The costs quoted above are for schemes designed using information supplied by land-owners and the district council of Murat Bay. The capital costs also include \$1 322 000 for the upgrading of the Tod Trunk Main.

It is also to be noted that this is not a comprehensive list as schemes for areas such as Dutton, Middle Beach, Balgowan, etc., have not been investigated sufficiently for inclusion.

RIVER MURRAY COMMISSION PROGRAM

In reply to Mr KLUNDER.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: South Australia (through the Engineering and Water Supply Department) carries out works, both capital and recurrent, for the River Murray Commission. The full cost of these works are recharged to the RMC, which refunds to South Australia the total payments made on its behalf. These transactions are accounted for in a 'Trust Fund' line in the State's accounts. Victoria and New South Wales also carry out similar works on behalf of the RMC, which refunds those States in full for the works carried out.

Once the total cost of all works carried out on behalf of the RMC by the three States is known, the RMC then charges each State an equal portion to contribute to the total cost, i.e. one-third (1/3) for each State. In the case of capital works, the Commonwealth also contributes. Each State's share for capital works is therefore one-quarter (1/4). South Australia's one-third (1/3) share of operating costs and one quarter (1/4) of capital costs are charged to special appropriation lines in the State's budget.

The Engineering and Water Supply Department also incurs certain administrative costs which are not recoverable from the RMC. These costs are charged against Engineering and Water Supply Department's recurrent operations in the State's budget. The State also pay debt servicing costs for Commonwealth loans received for Dartmouth Dam. For the two years shown in the Estimates documents, the expenditure on each of the items discussed above is as follows:

	\$'000		
	Proposed 85-86	Outcome 85-86	Proposed 86-87
Works carried out on behalf of RMC	3 159	2 788	2 977
Administrative costs not recovered	155	164	157
Total	3 314	2 952	3 134
RMC call up (States 1/3 share)	2 991	2 979	2 992
Debt serving—Dartmouth Dam	1 101	1 100	1 257
Total	7 406	7 031	7 383

The receipts received from the River Murray Commission for each of the two years are as follows:

	\$'000		
	Proposed 85-86	Outcome 85-86	Proposed 86-87
Works carried out on behalf of RMC	3 159	2 788	2 977
Miscellaneous house rents, interest, etc.	148	148	327
Total	3 307	2 936	3 304

With the change over to the program estimates format for 1986-87 by the Engineering and Water Supply Department, certain changes were made, at the suggestion of the Treasury, to the presentation of the accounts.

1. In previous years all costs were included against the program for 'River Murray Activities on behalf of RMC', i.e. the proposed program expenditure for 1985-86 (page 160 of program estimates) totalled \$7.406m as shown above.

2. At the suggestion of the Treasury, future years will only include those activities carried out on behalf of the RMC, i.e. the State's 1/3 contribution and debt servicing costs for Dartmouth are to be shown as support service payments by the State.

3. The comparable figures as they should appear on page 160 of the program estimates therefore are:

	\$'000		
	Proposed 85-86	Outcome 85-86	Proposed 86-87
Works carried out on behalf of RMC	3 159	2 788	2 977
Administrative costs not recovered	155	164	157
Total Payments	3 314	2 952	3 134
Works carried out on behalf of RMC	3 159	2 788	2 977
Miscellaneous house rents, interest, etc.	148	148	327
Total Receipts	3 307	2 936	3 304

4. The State's contributions are shown in the line estimates documents as follows:

Page 64—River Murray activities (Administrative costs not recovered)	157 000
Page 65—Support services (RMC—call up)	2 992 000
(Debt serving costs Dartmouth)	1 257 000

Future year's program estimates will fully incorporate these changes and the figures shown will be truly comparable.

E&WS DEPARTMENT CAPITAL WORKS

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The 1986-87 capital works estimates for the E&WS Department allows for an expenditure of \$61.045 million. Within this program it is necessary to prioritise funds to meet established commitments. This has resulted in a limitation on the funds available for such items as improvements to existing services and replacement of assets. The specific areas considered to be of the highest priority are as follows:

Water filtration: an amount of \$2.013 million has been allocated to the Morgan water filtration plant to allow its completion in 1986-87, thus providing a safer and more aesthetically acceptable water supply to many northern country towns. The provision of over \$11 million for the Happy Valley water filtration plant will enable construction of this plant to be continued.

Infrastructure growth: the Engineering and Water Supply Department 1986-87 estimates provide \$18.876 million for growth of water supply and sewer infrastructure to service land development. Of this amount approximately \$5.3 million is required for works in the northern metropolitan area including Golden Grove and \$7 million in the southern metropolitan area. A total of approximately \$3.5 million has been allocated to infrastructure growth in country areas.

Replacement of assets: funds have been allocated to some 80 projects considered to be essential and totalling an estimated expenditure of \$6.6 million.

WATER FILTRATION PLANTS

In reply to Hon. J.W. SLATER.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: Construction of the Morgan water filtration plant commenced in March 1983 at which time commissioning tests were scheduled to commence in September 1986 in preparation for the plant to be fully operational by the beginning of November 1986.

Construction of the plant was completed two months ahead of schedule enabling commissioning tests to commence in July 1986. The plant is now fully operational and was officially opened by the Premier on Friday 10 October 1986.

With respect to the Happy Valley water filtration plant, the civil engineering works are approximately 60 per cent complete, and it is envisaged that tenders will be let for two of the three major mechanical and electrical contracts for the plant in the current financial year.

CHLORAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: Chloramination is a disinfection process utilising proportionate doses of ammonia and chlorine to form the compound monochloramine. This compound, although not as powerful as chlorine as a disinfectant, has the ability to persist in water distribution systems for a very long time.

The chloramination station serving the Yorke Peninsula is situated at the Paskeville No. 2 pumping station, south-east of the town of Paskeville.

Chloramination facilities have been or are being installed on a number of pipeline systems in this State as follows:

- Paskeville No. 2 pumping station—permanent station
- Tailem Bend No. 1 pumping station—temporary station being made permanent
- Jamestown—temporary station
- Beetaloo Reservoir—temporary station
- Swan Reach No. 1 pumping station—temporary station being made permanent
- Warren Reservoir—installation about to be commenced
- Morgan water filtration plan—chloramination to commence after the coming summer
- Myponga Reservoir—installation of facilities is proceeding

HORSE MANURE

In reply to Mr GREGORY.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The amount of \$1 065.57 was realised from the sale of horse manure during 1985-86. The current method of disposal is considered to be the most appropriate.

DUNCAN CASE

In reply to Hon. B.C. EASTICK.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The replies are as follow:

1. With regard to the current reopening investigation, no person has either sought or been granted immunity from prosecution in return for fresh evidence in the Duncan case.
2. No reward has been made up to this time nor is there any knowledge of the identity of any person(s) likely to lodge a claim for a reward in the future.

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S FEE

In reply to Mr KLUNDER.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: No adjustment to the health budget has been necessary as the audit fee charged by the Auditor-General is a similar amount to that which was previously being paid by each hospital to the private accounting firms who were performing the audits.

BRIGADE FUNDING

In reply to Hon. B.C. EASTICK.

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: Funding on a brigade basis is not available, but the following table, prepared for the Standards of Fire Cover, lists subsidies paid to councils from 1980-81 at 1985 dollar values:

TABLE 17
CFS Subsidies (\$85) to Councils 1980-81—1984-85

Total Subsidy	District
\$	
352 334	Stirling
271 249	Lincoln
268 951	Mount Barker
238 607	Mitcham Corporation
221 085	Willunga
213 836	Millicent
208 611	East Torrens
172 207	Naracoorte
170 736	Cleve
158 339	Onkaparinga

Total Subsidy	District
\$	
153 251	Tatiara
139 637	Gumeracha
136 231	Happy Valley Corporation
135 254	Angaston
119 961	Munno Para
113 205	Coonalpyn
111 193	Port Elliot and Goolwa
110 894	Victor Harbor
102 975	Yankalilla
102 694	Meningie
99 350	Strathalbyn
97 816	Light
97 774	Burnside Corporation
94 475	Lacepede
94 402	Penola
92 833	Kingscote
90 695	Streaky Bay
87 764	Lucindale
84 711	Murat Bay
80 978	Robe
77 040	Salisbury
74 702	Mount Gambier
70 854	Beachport
70 008	Yorketown
68 577	Kimba
68 367	Murray Bridge
67 262	Tea Tree Gully
65 975	Waikerie
62 706	Tumby Bay
62 586	Le Hunte
60 283	Mount Remarkable
58 783	Barossa
58 704	Elliston
58 127	Clare
58 072	Truro
57 698	Mount Pleasant
56 983	Kapunda
54 413	Saddleworth and Auburn
54 391	Karoonda/East Murray
54 004	Georgetown
53 288	Port MacDonnell
52 548	Port Broughton
52 135	Noarlunga
50 793	Hallett
49 952	Central Yorke Peninsula
48 469	Burra Burra
46 723	Warooka
46 630	Mallala
45 716	Blyth
44 203	Pirie
41 744	Minlaton
41 033	Riverton
38 814	Crystal Brook
38 758	Port Augusta Corporation
36 454	Bute
35 181	Jamestown
34 328	Wakefield Plains
33 285	Kanyaka/Quorn
31 345	Campbelltown Corporation
30 290	Paringa
29 739	Barmera
29 738	Ridley
29 582	Pinnaroo
28 246	Lameroo
25 282	Peterborough
25 088	Clinton
25 046	Dudley
23 490	Franklin Harbour
22 057	Northern Yorke Peninsula
20 679	Red Hill
20 638	Snowtown
19 694	Mannum
19 488	Eudunda
18 208	Peake
14 841	Iron Knob CFS
13 403	Berri
11 478	North East CFS
9 973	Gladstone
6 952	Orroroo
6 876	Morgan
6 236	Spalding
6 151	Robertstown

Total Subsidy	District
\$	
5 850	Laura
5 406	Iron Baron CFS
4 752	Cooper Pedy
4 271	Loxton
3 835	Far West FFA
3 001	Marree CFS
2 306	Andamooka
2 110	Tanunda
1 672	Kingoonya FFA
1 494	Wilpena FFA
1 166	Eastern Districts FFA
1 088	Brown's Well
460	Hawker

COAST PROTECTION FUNDING

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The main proportion of applications for funds for coastal protection come from country councils. Defining 'major' to mean \$40 000 or more in metropolitan areas, and \$15 000 or more in country areas, the following projects were delayed in 1986-87 for reasons of funding:

Noarlunga Council	Witton Bluff protection
District Council of Murat Bay	Upgrade Alexander's Beach
District Council of Port Augusta	West Beach replenishment
District Council of Port Augusta	2 car parks at Redbanks
District Council of Pirie	Solomontown redevelopment
District Council of Wallaroo	Office Beach redevelopment/acquisition
District Council of Beachport	Groyne maintenance
District Council of Lacepede	Kingston Foreshore development
District Council of Kingscote	Vivionne Bay purchase

ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING—CAPITAL WORKS

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: The information requested is as follows:

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM 1986-87 (Extract)

	Estimate 1986-87
	(\$000's)
Minor Improvements at Parks and Reserves	
National Parks	
Information shelters at various parks	95
Cleland—Development Works	80
Major Plant and Equipment	300
Radio Communications Network	150
Various Parks—Management Plans	70
Various Parks—Fire Control/Access Works	122
Health and Safety Works—D.H.C.	100
Sir Joseph Banks Group—Boxthorn Control	5
Big Heath—Boneseed Control	9
Tantanoola Caves—Upgrade Res. and Visitor Centre	8
Seal Bay—Development St. 2 Planning	5
Flinders Chase—Cape De Couedic Road Development	20
Innes—Concession Planning	10
Emergency Works	122

(\$000's)	Estimate 1986-87
Ngarkat—Fire Protection/Access Works	30
Far North—Aircraft Lease	85
Canunda—Sand Dune Stabilisation	21
Fairview—Alfalfa Fodder Control	23
Various Parks—Fencing Works	130
Deep Creek—Weed Control Tapanappa	10
Kelly Hill—Staff Ablutions	13
Kelly Hill—Parking and Landscaping	35
Para Wirra—Roadworks/Drainage	34
Coorong—Weed Control, Potters Land	10
Dalhouseie—Campground Development	20
Flinders Ranges—Regional Management Plan	10
Cost Escalation Contingency	140
	1 657
Recreation and Open Space Improvements	
Botanic Gardens	
Plant Records Program	38
Botanic Park Watering System	140
Mount Lofty Watering System	10
Wittunga—Flammables Storage	10
Wittunga—Roads	20
Mount Lofty—Roads	10
Other Works	26
	254
Development Management	
Production of S.D.P.'s	120
Inner Western Suburbs Program	5 032
Greening of Adelaide	50
	5 202
Technical Services	
D.E.P. Mis.—Purchase Hardware and Software	420
Environmental Survey—Lease of Uniras Software	15
Adelaide Hills Fire Management/Resource Data Base	45
	480
Management and Administration Services	
Corporate Data Base—Purchase 4 Terminals for M.A.S.	6
Equipment for Tasmania and Austpay—M.A.S.	4
	10
Pollution Management	
Barossa Valley Industrial Waste Disposal	200
Community Information Service	
Tantanoola Cave Interpretive Exhibit	30
Executive	
Onkaparinga Estuary Deveoplment	150
P & D Debt Serving and Repayment of Principal	1 012
Other Parks Reserves and Charges	166
Second Generation Parklands Development	250
Purchase Filsell Hill Scrub Property	250
Purchase Wottons Scrub Property	164
Monarto Breeding and Agistment Area	13
Monarto Fauna Management Facility	188
Grants to Councils (Sec. 69)—P & D Fund	200
Metro Regional Parks	120
	2 513
Total	8 689

RECONCILIATION OF ESTIMATES

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: A reconciliation appears on page 95 of the yellow book. This is a total reconciliation for all programs and illustrates the other sources of funds and expenditures not incorporated in Estimates of Expenditures from the Consolidated Account. The reconciliation does not provide detailing of 'external' funding which is generally under headings 'Trusts and Deposits'. Larger items are National Estate, CEP and NESA but there are many others which it would be laborious to dissect by program.

WATER FILTRATION COSTS

In reply to **Mr MEIER.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: In 1985-86 the operating cost of the water filtration plants that currently serve approximately 50 per cent of metropolitan consumers was \$13.4 million. This represented 16 per cent of total metropolitan water supply costs. Once it has been completed the cost of operating the Happy Valley water filtration plant, which will serve approximately 40 per cent of metropolitan Adelaide, is expected to be \$16.8 million per annum. The higher operating cost compared to the existing plants will occur because of inflation increasing the construction cost and subsequent debt servicing costs. The plant proposed for the Myponga Reservoir is expected to involve an operating cost of \$3.3 million per annum.

The cost of operating water filtration plants servicing all metropolitan consumers is therefore expected to be \$33.5 million per annum. The annual operating cost of the newly commissioned Morgan water filtration plant is expected to be \$5.5 million.

IRRIGATION POLICY ISSUES

In reply to **Hon. P.B. ARNOLD.**

The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD: As would no doubt be appreciated, policy development requires a long and complex consultation process. Given the number of external departments and interest groups that may become involved in the process, the realities are that a precise date by which a policy may become effective cannot be given. In these circumstances the only assurance that can be given is that every endeavour will be made to reach a decision on the policy issues under consideration as soon as possible.

**Minister of Tourism, Minister of Local Government,
Minister of Youth Affairs**

FUNDING OF TOURIST OFFICES

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The relevant information is as follows:

TOWN TOURIST OFFICES		
Town	Dot Subsidy 1985-86	Proposed 1986-87
	\$	\$
Barmera	4 000	4 000
Berri	4 000	4 000
Bordertown	2 000	1 000
Burra	1 500	1 500
Ceduna	2 000	2 000
Goolwa	500	500
Kadina	4 000	4 000
Kingscote	4 000	4 000
Loxton	4 000	3 000
Lyndoch	2 500	2 500
Meningie	300	300
Mount Gambier	6 500	6 500
Naracoorte	2 000	2 000
Nuriootpa	4 000	4 000
Port Augusta	2 400	1 000
Port Lincoln	4 000	4 000
Port Pirie	1 000	1 000
Renmark	6 500	6 500
Robe	2 000	2 000
Victor Harbor	1 500	1 500
Waikerie	1 000	1 000
Whyalla	4 000	3 000

Town	Dot Subsidy 1985-86	Proposed 1986-87
	\$	\$
Proposed new funding:		
Clare	—	1 000
Gawler	—	1 500
Penola	—	1 500
Peterborough	—	1 000
Port Adelaide	—	1 500
Quorn	—	1 000
Total grants	\$63 700	\$66 800

VISITOR NIGHTS

In reply to Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: Information regarding visitor nights is as follows:

Year	Visitor Nights	S.A. Market Share
	('000)	(%)
1978-79	14 509	7.6
1979-80	15 222	7.7
1980-81	14 830	7.1
1981-82	17 244	7.9
1982-83	17 013	7.7
1983-84	16 961	7.5
1984-85	15 320	7.6
1985-86	16 282	7.8

(Provisional figure)

These figures are derived from the Domestic Tourism Monitor, a national survey which estimates travel in Australia by Australian residents. In 1984-85, a changed methodology was adopted for this survey and, as a result, the data presented for that year and subsequent years cannot properly be compared to the data for 1983-84 or earlier.

The honourable member requested the figures for the years 1982-83 to 1985-86 and the figures shown during the Tourism Conference this year.

The graph at the State Tourism Conference showed the years 1978-79 to 1983-84—the years before the methodology was changed.

Comparable figures of nights spent in South Australia by international visitors are not available.

TOURISM AWARENESS

In reply to Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The amount of \$71 000 was determined to include funding of a campaign to promote visitor hospitality, particularly in view of the first Grand Prix and the many events in 1986. The Department of Tourism had previously produced a highly successful television commercial in conjunction with the SA Great organisation. A similar concept was proposed. It was decided to involve a number of organisations and organisers of special events to seek their involvement. These groups included the Grand Prix Board, Department of State Development, the Jubilee 150 Board, the Adelaide Casino, and the Adelaide Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Due to the enthusiasm for the concept shown by some of these organisations, the Department of Tourism's contribution was reduced considerably, resulting in the reductions of spending on that particular line, whilst still achieving the original goal. It is proposed to maintain spending at the same level in this current financial year, and to take advantage of similar cooperative ventures.

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT FUND

In reply to Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The Department of Tourism has determined a program of \$1 090 000 for development projects in 1986-87. Payments to \$855 000, the approved budget, will be made in 1986-87 and the outstanding projects will be carried over to 1987-88. As requested, the following is a list of projects that were deferred consideration in respect to the \$1 090 000 1986-87 program. The deferred project total \$1 013 000.

Development Initiatives Projects	Deferred Dot Funds \$
Kangaroo Island Development	
Antechamber Bay	100 000
Penneshaw Foreshore (Stage 1)	25 000
American River (Stage 1)	120 000
Kingscote Foreshore (Stage 1)	15 000
Western River Cove	60 000
Vivonne Bay Study	10 000
SA/NT Border Information Bay	20 000
Tantanoola Caves (NPWS) Facilities	18 000
	<hr/> 368 000
Development Assistance Projects	Dot Funds \$
Moonta Bay Caravan Park Redevelopment	200 000
Marion Bay Caravan Park	200 000
Kirton Point Caravan Park Upgrade	100 000
Mount Schank Development	10 000
Cooper Pedy Information Bay	7 000
Coffin Bay Information Bay	6 000
Riverland Gateway Information Bays	20 000
Coulthard House, Nuriootpa Information Office	40 000
Burra Toilets	20 000
Torrens Lake Bank Upgrade	42 000
	<hr/> 645 000
Development Initiative Projects	368 000
Development Assistance Projects	645 000
	<hr/> \$1 013 000

BUILDING AND FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: The first part of the question relates to the expenditure of \$332 000 on 'building and fire safety standards', and the second with the adequacy of fire safety in certain buildings, namely places of public entertainment.

As I indicated, the expenditure of \$332 000 is the recurrent expenditure for the Building Control Branch of the Department of Local Government. However, it is pointed out that the provision of advice on regulatory matters relating to building fire safety is only one of the functions of the Building Advisory Committee which is involved in all matters covered by building regulations including construction materials and methods. They also act as a technical resource that is responsible for advising me on necessary important industries in this State and it is essential that our building regulations keep pace with modern building technology and allow the community to have buildings which are not only safe and functional but are also economical to construct.

With regard to the fire safety of buildings, the Building Control Branch, Building Advisory Committee, in addition to providing specialist advice on fire safety matters contained in the Building Regulations, also provides a Chairperson and Secretary to the Building Fire Safety Committees.

There is provision for a Building Fire Safety Committee for each council area. Where the fire safety of an existing building is found to be inadequate, a Committee can require the owner to carry out all the necessary upgrading of the fire safety. Legislation to establish these Committees was set up after the tragic Peoples Palace fire in 1975 in which seven people died. Because of this, the committees have given priority to the fire safety of buildings used for overnight accommodation, such as hostels, hospitals, nursing homes and hotels. The committee do not normally become involved with the inspection of places of public entertainment unless they are in hotels, since they are considered to be adequately controlled by the Places of Public Entertainment Act which is administered by the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs. If a problem did exist that the department could not deal with, it is likely that a committee would be made aware of it and would assist the Inspector of Places of Public Entertainment in resolving the problem.

Minister of State Development and Technology, Minister of Employment and Further Education

MOTOR VEHICLE INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE SCHEME

In reply to **Mr RANN**.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: In response to a question asked of me by the member for Briggs during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding the Motor Vehicle Industry Assistance Scheme, I advise that during 1985-86 \$762 483 was provided to the motor vehicle industry under this scheme.

DESIGN COUNCIL

In reply to **Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY**.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Kavel during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding proposed changes to the future funding of the Design Council.

Under the National Industry Extension Service arrangements, which were recently launched in South Australia, it is proposed that future payments to extension agencies such as the Design Council will be determined in accordance with nationally agreed priorities and will be of two kinds:

- support for basic operational costs, and
- payments linked to performance in specifically agreed projects.

It is considered that the development of performance linked payments will produce direction and encouragement to extension agencies in optimising the benefits to be gained by industry from the agencies services.

INTERESTS PAYMENTS—TECHNOLOGY PARK

In reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER**.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Mitcham during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding interest payments.

An amount of \$404 000 within the total budget allocation to the Technology Park Adelaide Corporation of \$1.176 million has been provided to meet interest payments to SAFA on funds borrowed for the construction of buildings.

The funds have been provided to meet the anticipated shortfall between net rent receipts, after building outgoings and the annual interest payments to SAFA. \$177 000 has been provided for Innovation House West and \$277 000 for Endeavour House.

Interest is paid to SAFA quarterly at the common public sector interest rate applying at the time of payment. The interest rate for the September 1986 quarter was 13.1 per cent per annum.

LOSS OF PROPERTY

In reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER**.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: In response to a question asked of me by the member for Mitcham during the Estimates Committee hearing I advise that the cost of losses of property from TAFE colleges in 1985-86 was \$15 450.72.

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES

In reply to **Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY**.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Kavel during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding annual payment to South Australian Government representatives.

Post	Incumbent	Retainer
Tokyo	Mr T. Tanaka (Elders Ltd)	\$A80 000 plus \$A65/day outside Tokyo
Hong Kong	Ms Susie Yip (Standford Chartered Bank)	\$A24 000 plus out of pocket expenses
Singapore	Mr Tay Joo Soon	\$A40 000 plus out of pocket expenses
Los Angeles	Mr Orm Cooper	\$A49 115 plus appropriate expenses

PATHFINDER FEES

In reply to **Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY**.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Kavel during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding the fees for the Pathfinder service.

The Small Business Corporation Pathfinder fees vary from \$20 per hour to \$45 per hour depending upon the Pathfinder consultant and his/her level of expertise and experience. The mode rate per hour is approximately \$35. It should be noted that the mode rate is about half the 'normal' charge rate for consultancy work. The Corporation does not add charges or service fees to the above rates.

During early 1985 the Corporation advertised extensively to attract retired and semi-retired professionals to the Pathfinder team. This program was only partially successful due to the poor response. Accordingly, the Corporation subsequently sought out people with specialist consultancy skills from various professions. These people are required to 'marginally cost' their time for the benefit of small-medium enterprises. The Corporation has succeeded in filling the skills/function gaps with professional consultants at about half the normal rate, approximately between \$35 and \$45 per hour.

If an entity with prospects for growth and development is unable to afford the consultancy fee from current cash flows, a grant of up to 50 per cent of the fee may be made under the Consultancy Grants Scheme. In these instances, the effective mode rate per hour is reduced from \$35 to about \$18 per hour.

TAFE OBJECTIVES

In reply to **Hon. H. ALLISON.**

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Mount Gambier during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding staff development objectives in the Department of Technical and Further Education.

With regard to staff development programs related to computer mastery, the amount of money spent on computing skills rose from \$88 300 in the 1984-85 fiscal year to \$110 000 in the 1985-86 fiscal year. This increase of \$21 700 represents an advance of almost 25 per cent. Comparing the two fiscal years using different measures, the number of TAFE officers involved in staff development activities related to computing skills rose from 480 to 700, an increase of 45 per cent; and the number of activities in the computing development area rose from 55 to 85, an increase of 55 per cent.

With respect to staff development programs for updating of technological and vocational skills, 1984-85 levels (171 in 1984-85 versus 161 in 1985-86) were maintained but at a greatly reduced cost to Government sources of funding. There has been a growing trend towards supporting efforts by TAFE colleges in putting together 'financial packages' which draw on both Government funding sources (both centrally held moneys and moneys allocated to colleges for staff development) and non-government sources (personal funds, college council funds and contributions from industry and commerce). Thus while central expenditure on technological/vocational update dropped from \$96 700 to \$61 800, the actual scope of the program was at the very least maintained. Expenditure has probably increased, as the figures for expenditure quoted above are taken from central records kept by the Staff Development Branch. If college based or college initiated activities were included, the effective staff development effort in the technological/vocational update area would increase by an estimated 150 per cent. Management information systems have been designed and implemented which will enable the Department to monitor staff development effort across the entire Department by the end of 1987.

I have listed below the expenditure from both State funds and Commonwealth Tertiary Education Special Grants since 1982-83, allocated to the Department of TAFE (South Australia) for the purchase of major equipment.

State Funds		Commonwealth Grants	
		(New Technology)	
	\$		\$
1982-83:	545 505.91	1983:	1 060 000
1983-84:	597 474.76	1984:	1 032 000
1984-85:	1 276 136.35	1985:	1 353 000
1985-86:	1 512 719.27	1986:	1 567 000
Total:	\$3 931 836	Total:	\$5 012 000

STANDARD CHARTERED BANK

In reply to **Mr GROOM.**

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise that I have received information in relation to the question raised by the member for Hartley during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding establishment support to Standard Chartered.

Due to commercial confidentiality it is not the practice of the Department of State Development to reveal the level of incentive negotiated with firms establishing in the State unless with the permission of the firm concerned. Such incentives are negotiated to suit particular circumstances pertaining to the development in question.

In the case of Standard Chartered an incentive payment in line with the normal formula relating to new employment levels and capital expenditure was approved. This incentive is similar in nature to that offered to other firms seeking to establish in South Australia.

No payment has yet been made to Standard Chartered.

TAFE LECTURERS

In reply to **Hon. H. ALLISON.**

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: In response to a question asked of me by the member for Mount Gambier during the Estimates Committee hearing, I submit the following information regarding the numbers of various categories of TAFE staffing:

- Senior Lecturers—156.3
(156 full-time, 0.3 part-time)
- Lecturers Class I—725.3
(725 full-time, 0.3 part-time)
- Lecturers Class II—523.2
(523 full-time, 0.2 part-time).

TRAINING SCHEMES AND SUPPORT PROGRAMS

In reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER.**

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Mitcham during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding the numbers involved in various training schemes and support programs.

	Numbers Involved	
	1984-85	1985-86
Adult Unemployed Support Program	N.A. (1)	456
Bridging the Gap	205	507
Home Assistance Scheme	80	93
Local Employment Development Program	N.A. (1)	Nil (2)
New Employment and Training Initiatives	N.A. (1)	N.A. (1)
Self-Employment Ventures Scheme	103	136
Jubilee Youth Employment Program	N.A. (1)	312
Community Employment Program	4 183	2 858

- (1) Program not in existence
- (2) Preliminary work only in 1985-86.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND GUIDELINES

In reply to **Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY.**

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: The guidelines under the development fund that apply to established firms seeking incentives are similar to those applying to firms establishing

in the State for the first time. Broad guidelines are published in the booklet entitled 'Incentives and Assistance for Business in South Australia'.

In summary the guidelines are as follows:

To qualify applicants must demonstrate that—

- they will be competing primarily in markets outside South Australia or against goods currently being produced interstate or overseas;
- the project will not injure existing South Australian industry unless a clear net benefit to the State results;
- the company has reasonable prospects of trading viably and has the capacity to fund the project.
- the support is necessary for the project to proceed.
- normally at least five new jobs will be created or, where the project is investment based, the investment will enhance the competitiveness of the firm in interstate or international markets.

The incentives are applied selectively based on the merits of the project on a case by case basis. Preference is given to projects involving firms in priority areas identified within the State's overall economic development plan, for example the aerospace industry.

Where a project involves investment in new machinery by itself the investment must be demonstrated to be a significant improvement in the manufacturing technology of the firm concerned.

The Department of State Development applies additional internal guidelines which it is not appropriate to make public as this would limit the Department's ability to negotiate appropriate levels of incentives on a case by case basis.

There is, however, a comprehensive review procedure that is applied to each application to ensure that consistency of interpretation is maintained. A copy of the Incentives Booklet is available for the honourable member's information.

COMPUTER HARDWARE/COMMUNICATIONS

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise that I have received information in relation to the questions raised by the member for Mitcham during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding computing hardware and communications for Government departments.

Thirty-two Government departments were surveyed to obtain the following information:

Q: 'How many mainframes and micros with a memory of greater than 100K exist by Departments ...'

1. The number of 'in-house' (departmentally owned) computers, total:

- 12 Mainframes
- 96 Minicomputers
- 1 066 Microcomputers

Q: '... and at what cost interface is this with the State Government Processing Centre?'

2. The communications costs associated with computers communicating with the Government Computing Centre are:

	Capital	Annual Recurring
Mainframes	\$60 000	\$23 000
Minicomputers	\$215 000	\$76 000
Microcomputers	\$251 000	\$174 000

Note: (a) Capital costs include purchase costs of hardware and software necessary for communications. For example, Modems, Multiplexers, Line Installations, etc.

(b) Annual Recurring costs include annual rental of software and hardware necessary for communications. For example, Modems, Multiplexers, and Line rentals.

Q: '... Also how many do not? ...'

3. Of the number of computers indicated in (1) above, the number that do not communicate with the Government Computing Centre are:

- 11 Mainframes
- 78 Minicomputers
- 971 Microcomputers

Q: '... How many in-house computers of this nature interface with units within their own Departments?'

4. The number of in-house computers communicating with other computers in-house are broken down as follows:

- Mainframes with mainframes 3
- Minicomputers and/or microcomputers with mainframes 35
- Microcomputers to minicomputers 107

Note: A number of in-house computers also communicate with a number of external computer bureaux.

APPRENTICESHIP—COMPUTERISATION

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Mitcham during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding apprenticeship courses with computing content.

Pre-vocational courses, which are conducted by the Department of Technical and Further Education (TAFE), aim to provide young people with experience and knowledge of a number of skill related occupations in order that students can make a more informed choice of vocation. Through this process, students are provided with immediately usable knowledge and skills in a number of areas which may enhance their employment prospects.

At present, a total of thirty-three (33) courses have been approved by the Industrial and Commercial Training Commission (ICTC), including twenty (20) trade based pre-vocational courses, three (3) pre-apprenticeship courses and ten (10) non-trade based courses.

In 1985, Cabinet made a decision that, from 1986 onwards, all State Government apprentices would be recruited from graduates of approved trade based pre-vocational courses.

All pre-vocational courses contain studies in introductory computing, so that students can gain a basic understanding of computer systems and their applications in the workplace. In addition, a pre-vocational course is currently being developed, for implementation in 1987, in the area of surveying, mechanical engineering, electrical/electronic engineering and architectural drafting.

Basic Trade Courses:

The Department of TAFE conduct a total of 62 basic trade courses covering some 111 declared vocations. These courses are compulsory for apprentices indentured to these declared vocations. Basic trade courses are constantly reviewed and updated to incorporate technological advancements, and this has led to the introduction of computer studies into many basic trade courses in the metals, printing, building, vehicle and electrical/electrical trades areas.

The Industrial and Commercial Training Commission is responsible for determining the objectives, nature of syllabus content and duration of these required courses of instruction. In the development and or review of these courses it is Commission policy, as with courses of pre-vocational training, to seek the maximisation of material on new technologies including computerisation.

COMPARATIVE PROGRAM FIGURES

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received information in relation to the question raised by the member for Mitcham during the Estimates Committee hearing regarding comparative program figures for the 1985-86 financial year.

Comparative figures for the 1985-86 financial year are, in the main, contained within the Department of Labour expenditure statements on pages 581 to 583 of the 1986-87 Program Estimates. Comparisons were extracted and an abbreviation of these comparisons, in respect of operation, is detailed below.

Program/Subprogram Titles	Recurrent Expenditure (Recurrent Receipts) \$'000			Employment—Average of Full-time Equivalents			Major Variation Comments
	1985-86 Proposed	1985-86 Actual	1986-87 Proposed	1985-86 Proposed	1985-86 Actual	1986-87 Proposed	
	Industrial and Commercial Training:						
• Operations of the Industrial and Commercial Training Commission	263	325	367	5.0	5.2	7.8	Staff positions varied to reflect project staff and long-term sick leave replacement
• Policy and Program Development and Promotion	383	316	476	8.4	4.6	6.0	Re-arrangement of subprograms
• Administration of contracts	—	—	276	—	—	6.6	Refer—Supervision of Contracted Trainees
• Supervision of Contracted Trainees	715	761	560	23.8	26.7	17.5	
• Special Training Schemes	1 223	807	1 195	—	—	2.0	No expenditure 1985-86 on three proposed schemes
• Centralised Recruitment of Apprentices in Government	89	29	105	—	—	1.3	Staff previously included in employment programs
Total Program	2 673	2 238	2 979	37.2	36.5	41.2	
Facilitation of Entry into the Workforce:							
• Women's Advisory Services	—	—	97	—	—	2.0	New subprogram. No previous comparison
• Community Improvement Through Youth	1 101	1 146	1 120	24.2	24.2	26.4	
Total Program	1 101	1 146	1 217	24.2	24.4	28.4	
Employment and Employee Incentive Scheme:							
• Employment Program Development	229	315	444	5.7	4.6	4.7	Increase 1985-86 relates to internal variation of allocation
• Self-Employment Ventures Scheme	—	—	675	—	—	5.6	Previously included as 'Other Employment Initiatives'
• Jubilee Youth Employment Scheme	—	—	1 323	—	—	4.5	Previously included as 'Other Employment Initiatives'
• Job Creation Scheme	24 104	23 864	17 415	16.8	16.9	17.5	Reduction in Commonwealth CEP allocation and transfer (increase) in a Deposit Account 1986-87
• Other Community Based Employment Initiatives	5 243	3 800	2 040	16.3	14.1	4.0	Refer other subprograms and reduction in Deposit Account expenditure
Total Program	29 576	27 979	21 897	38.8	35.6	36.3	
Labour Market Research Unit							
Total Program	175	179	147	4.0	4.1	3.0	1 staff position retained Department of Labour
Total All Programs	33 525	31 542	26 240	104.2	100.6	108.9	

CEP PROGRAM

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. LYNN ARNOLD: I now advise the House that I have received further information in relation to the question raised by the member for Mitcham during the Esti-

mates Committee hearing regarding job costs under the CEP Program.

As indicated in my response on 2 October it is difficult to provide an average global cost per job.

CEP projects have a total project budget that encompasses the CEP grant and sponsor contribution. For the 1984-85

and 1985-86 financial years the sponsor contribution was divided into cash and noncash (or 'in kind') contribution. In 1983-84 the sponsor contribution was not so divided.

Dependent on a definition of how cost per job is calculated, many figures can be generated. I have provided the figure which the Commonwealth has maintained as its data base to date. It is related to the CEP grant and not the total project cost which uses approved jobs rather than actual placements against expenditure.

The figures are those current as at 30 June each financial year for each 6 month job.

1983-84	\$10 977
1984-85	\$9 621
1985-86	\$9 732

The figure for 1985-86 is preliminary only as final expenditure is still being documented.

Minister of Housing and Construction, Minister of Public Works

LOSSES OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: There were no shortages, theft of cash or irregularities. However, the following is a list of theft or losses of Government property totalling \$19 271:

THEFTS AND LOSSES OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY UNDER \$100.00 FOR 1985-86

Location	Date	Item	Value \$
Black Forest Primary School	July 1985	Pop Rivetter	20.00
Netley	July 1985	Jack	40.00
Aberfoyle Park High School	October 1985	Pop Rivetter	40.00
Aberfoyle Park High School	December 1985	Drill	75.00
Salisbury North Junior Primary School	September 1985	Wheel	50.00
District 3	October 1985	Petrol Cap	10.00
District 3	October 1985	Petrol	50.00
Gepps Cross Primary School	October 1985	First Aid Box	95.00
Port Noarlunga	September 1985	Step Ladder	60.00
Mount Barker	December 1985	Calculator	20.00
Aberfoyle Park High School	December 1985	Flaring Tool	40.00
Fremont High School	April 1986	Trolley	98.00
Netley	January 1986	Calculator	30.00
Morphett Vale	June 1986	Extension Cord	60.00
Samuel Way Building	June 1986	Clamps	90.00

THEFTS OR LOSSES OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY OVER \$100.00 FOR 1985-86

Location	Date	Item	Value \$
Morphett Vale Child Care	April 1986	Various Plant	1 168.00
Paralowie School	March 1986	Refrigerator	300.00
Coorara Primary School	February 1986	Various Plant	600.00
Salisbury Heights Primary School	January 1986	Air Conditioner and First Aid	700.00
Yatala Labour Prison	January 1986	Grinder	150.00
Woodville Community	January 1986	Various Plant	1 500.00
Museum Redevelopment	December 1985	Drill	150.00
Salisbury Heights Primary School	December 1985	Theodolite	4 000.00
Glenside Child Care	February 1986	Tarpaulin	500.00
Museum Redevelopment	December 1985	2 LPG Torch Outfits	130.00
Aberfoyle Park High School	December 1985	Oxy Acetaline Set	300.00
Construction and Maintenance Branch	December 1985	Jig Saw	120.00
Netley	November 1985	Timber	700.00
Aberfoyle Park High School	November 1985	Various Plant	506.00
Communication Branch	November 1985	Various Plant	400.00
West Terrace Cemetery	September 1985	2 Aluminium Planks	140.00
Construction and Maintenance Branch	October 1985	Various Plant	250.00
Mansfield Park Primary School	October 1985	Oxy Acetaline Set	300.00
Mount Barker TAFE	August 1985	Cement Mixer	500.00
Croydon Primary School	October 1985	Airless Spray Outfit	2 339.00
State Library	October 1985	Various Plant	350.00
Aberfoyle Park High School	September 1985	Various Plant	560.00
Aberfoyle Park High School	August 1985	Various Plant	840.00
Munno Para Primary School	August 1985	Various Plant	300.00
Museum Redevelopment	July 1985	2 Ladders	300.00
Munno Para Primary School	July 1985	Winch	400.00

THEFTS OR LOSSES OF GOVERNMENT PROPERTY OVER \$100.00 FOR 1985-86—*continued*

Location	Date	Item	Value \$
Architectural Office	July 1985	Camera	250.00
Blackhill Lodge	July 1985	2 Ladders	100.00
Parafield Poultry	April 1986	2 Aluminium Planks	120.00
McNally Training Centre	June 1986	Router	120.00
State Library	May 1986	Various Plant	400.00
		Total of Minor Losses	778.00
		Grand Total	\$19 271.00

HOUSING TRUST—WORK STRESS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: Three staff are on sick leave or have submitted a compensation claim because of actual or alleged work stress, including two persons from the Emergency Housing Office.

RELOCATABLE BUILDINGS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The following are schedules of programed relocations with anticipated cost, relocations which require costing, and projects to be considered for inclusion in the 1986-87 program:

1986-87 RELOCATABLE CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATION PROGRAM

Project			Total Anticipated Expenditure	Actual Expenditure 1985-86	Anticipated Expenditure 1986-87
*Carry-Over Expenditure from 1985-86			—	—	37 200
Programed Projects for 1986-87—Received to Date					
To	From	Building Type			
Gepps Cross S.S.	Gepps Cross P.S.	(2) Dual Timber	33 500	29 300	3 750
Mount Compass A.S.	Relocate on-site	Triple Timber	31 500	1 860	29 200
Croydon Park P.S.	Relocate on-site	Dental Clinic	17 000	13 940	3 050
Whyalla Memorial P.S.	Gepps Cross P.S.	Toilet Block	24 500	2 060	22 250
Quorn Outdoor Education Centre	Marryatville H.S.	Demac	10 500	1 812	8 600
Milang P.S.	Victor Harbor P.S.	Dual Timber	26 000	21 230	4 500
Happy Valley P.S.	Marleston College of TAFE	Timber	15 500	311	15 000
Para Vista H.S.	Ingle Farm East P.S.	Single Metal	4 200	857	3 200
Fremont H.S.	Highbury P.S.	Single Metal	5 000	722	4 120
Strathalbyn P.S.	Marleston TAFE	Timber	23 500	87	23 000
Campbelltown TAFE	Kensington TAFE	Triple Timber	31 000	2 461	28 500
Victor Harbor H.S.	Victor Harbor P.S.	Dual Timber	17 500	14 852	2 500
Victor Harbor P.S.	Aldinga P.S.	Dual Timber	20 500	14 510	5 500
Walleroo Mines P.S.	Renmark P.S.	Dual Timber	40 000	216	31 900
Karkoo R.S.	Wharminda P.S.	Dual Timber	28 500	47	28 000
Poonindie P.S.	Elliston S.R.S.	Single Timber	17 500	37	17 000
Aldinga P.S.	Marleston TAFE	Single Timber	18 500	293	18 000
Penneshaw S.R.	Taperoo H.S.	Single Metal	12 000	9 502	2 300
Ceduna A.S.	Kooniba Aboriginal School	Single Metal	8 000	—	7 560
Direk J.P.S.	Ridgehaven P.S.	Single Metal	5 000	504	4 350
Farrell Flat P.S.	Munno Para P.S.	Single Timber	17 000	8 948	8 000
Murraylands TAFE	Mannum P.S.	Triple Timber	26 500	208	25 800
Coober Pedy A.S.	Kingston A.S.	Technical Studies Block	63 500	407	63 000
Morphett Vale West P.S.	Tonsley Park P.S.	Half Module Demac	3 200	382	2 800
Mulga Street P.S.	Glenburnie P.S.	Single Metal	8 000	—	8 000
Streaky Bay A.S.	Quorn A.S.	Timber Science block	37 000	13 160	23 600
Glossop P.S.	Cobdogla P.S.	Single Metal	6 000	—	6 000
Cobdogla P.S.	Renmark P.S.	Dual Timber	25 000	392	24 600
Suttontown P.S.	Glenburnie P.S.	Single Metal	7 800	—	7 800
Koolunga P.S.	MP Goyder, Port Wakefield	Timber	10 700	—	10 700
Freeling P.S.	Elizabeth Grove P.S.	Dual Timber	21 000	66	20 700
The Heights P.S.	Munno Para P.S.	(2) Dual Timber	4 500	7 696	38 050
Para Vista H.S.	The Heights P.S.	Single Metal	4 200	295	3 800
Bridgewater P.S.	Torrens ville P.S.	Single Metal and Relocate On-Site	9 300	—	9 250
Nairne P.S.	Aldgate P.S.	Single Metal	5 600	—	5 600
Parafield Gardens N/W P.S.	Modbury H.S.	(2) Metal	6 300	—	6 300
Myponga P.S.	Salisbury Heights P.S.	Toilet Block	20 200	—	20 200
Hackham South P.S.	Christies Beach P.S.	Quad Timber	34 500	—	34 500
Port Pearce P.S.	Airdale P.S.	Single Metal	5 100	—	5 100
Kensington TAFE	Port Augusta TAFE	Dual Metal	7 000	—	7 000
Adelaide TAFE	Port Augusta TAFE	Dual Metal	11 500	—	11 500
Port Augusta TAFE	On-Site	Various	12 700	—	12 700
Mount Barker H.S.	Marden H.S.	Dual Timber	27 500	—	27 500

1986-87 RELOCATABLE CLASSROOM ACCOMMODATION PROGRAM—*continued*

Programmed Projects for 1986-87—continued			Total Anticipated Expenditure	Actual Expenditure 1985-86	Anticipated Expenditure 1986-87
To	Project From	Building Type			
Parafield Gardens N/W P.S.	Virginia P.S.	Single Metal	5 000	—	5 000
Port Pearce P.S.	Port Victoria R.S.	Single Metal	4 900	—	4 900
Craigmore South P.S.	Elizabeth East P.S.	Dual Metal	9 000	—	9 000
Happy Valley P.S.	St Leonards P.S.	Single Timber	13 000	—	13 000
Madison Park J.P.S.	St Morris P.S.	Dual Timber	17 600	—	17 600
Craigmore South P.S.	Salisbury Heights P.S.	Dual Metal	7 600	—	7 600
Angle Vale P.S.	Gilles Plains H.S.	(2) Metals	9 600	—	9 600
Happy Valley P.S.	Reynella P.S.	Metal	5 400	—	5 400
Orroroo A.S.	Gladstone P.S.	Timber	17 700	—	17 700
Roverton H.S.	Renmark P.S.	Toilet block	11 100	—	11 100

Projects received for estimate and report but not included on 1986-87 program

To	Project From	Building Type
Murray Bridge South P.S.	Murraylands Educ. Office	Dual Timber
Price Primary School	Darke Peake P.S.	Dual Timber
Darke Peake P.S.	Stuart H.S.	Demac
Moculta R.S.	Black Forest P.S.	Timber
Surrey Downs P.S.	Enfield H.S.	Quad Timber
Springton P.S.	Marden H.S.	Metal
Williamstown P.S.	Modbury H.S.	Metal
Evanston Gardens P.S.	Gilles Plains H.S.	Metal
Smithfield P.S.	Gilles Plains H.S.	Metal
Reynella East H.S.	Moana P.S.	Dual Timber
Happy Valley P.S.	Norwood H.S.	Two Metals
Hackham South P.S.	Moana P.S.	Quad Timber
Aberfoyle Hub P.S.	Blackwood H.S.	Metal
Heyson P.S.	Blackwood H.S.	Metal
Yankalilla A.S.	Moana P.S.	Dual Timber
Morphett Vale H.S.	Moana P.S.	Timber
Sheidow Park P.S.	Hallett Cove South P.S.	Metal
Victor Harbor P.S.	Hallett Cove South P.S.	Metal
Reynella East J.P.S. and P.S.	Moana P.S.	Dual Timber
Redwood Park P.S.	Gilles Plains H.S.	Two Metals
Ashbourne P.S.	Moana P.S.	Toilet Block
Aldinga P.S.	Moana P.S.	Toilet Block
Balaklava P.S.	Murraylands Educ. Office	ATCO Unit
East Murray A.S.	Murraylands Educ. Office	ATCO Unit
Redwood Park P.S.	Gilles Plains H.S.	Two Metals

Projects to be considered for inclusion on 1986-87 Program but briefs not yet received from Education Department

To	Project From	Building Type
Walkerville P.S.	T.B.D.	T.B.D.
Moorak P.S.	T.B.D.	T.B.D.
McDonald Park P.S.	T.B.D.	T.B.D.
Parafield P.S.	T.B.D.	T.B.D.
Pt Lincoln J.P.S.	T.B.D.	T.B.D.
Ceduna A.S.	T.B.D.	T.B.D.
Total		
— — 782 880		

* The total anticipated expenditure constitutes those projects which have carried over from the previous financial year and are not expected to incur individual expenditure of more than \$2 000.

PARA VISTA SUBDIVISION

In reply to Mr GREGORY.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: In response to the member's request for information on the type of housing being constructed in the above subdivision, the following is provided:

Cottage Flats	7
Attached Houses	25
Single Units	139
Sale Allotments	30
Total	210

JOINT VENTURES

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: In further explanation of the question raised by Mr Becker, the department is helping to identify possible joint ventures in which it may be able to supplement the resources of consultants in the private sector so that jointly the combined resources of both organisations may be offered to undertake projects that may arise either within the State, in other States or in overseas countries. Examples of these joint ventures include aid projects advertised by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau in such countries as Tonga, the Solomon Islands, Vanuata, etc., as well as other projects advertised by other funding authorities.

SPECIAL AND AREA SCHOOLS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The proposed employment figures for 1985-86 were apportioned on actual figures for 1984-85 as the new computerised general ledger system was not operational and salary related costs were not available. The employment numbers were calculated by apportioning total numbers for the program against subprogram total expenditure. During 1985-86 the new system produced actual salary costs for each subprogram from which employment numbers were calculated. The proposed 1986-87 employment numbers were based on actual numbers for 1985-86. Total expenditure for each subprogram includes salaries, wages, goods and services and contract costs and as a consequence has no bearing or relationship with the employment numbers.

STEEL FABRICATORS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: In answer to the question dealing with price variations for work done by steel fabricators it must be noted that in most instances these people are subcontractors of the builder. The department is therefore only a third party to the contract between the builder and the steel fabricator. This is the case in regard to both of the projects raised by the member. Delays in relation to claims for work done by steel fabricators could result from a host of problems which are not all attributable to the department. However, the new system put in place in relation to price variations should overcome these problems and speed up the settlement of claims. The projects identified by the member have been checked and all matters relating to those contracts are being attended to.

SADHC—VEHICLE NUMBERS

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The following is a table of vehicles split up into three types:

MOTOR VEHICLES—1983-1986

Type of Vehicle	Year			
	1983	1984	1985	1986
Passenger	227	172	182	110
Light Commercials	173	170	190	254
Heavy Vehicles	66	59	37	36
Total	516	401	409	410

PURCHASE OF FRONT-END LOADER

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The tenders were evaluated by officers of the Department of Housing and Construction and the Superintendent of the West Terrace Cemetery. All loaders were inspected for safety assessment during the evaluation process by a Safety Officer. Both machines satisfied the performance requirements of the Cemetery. However, selection of the Toyota loader was based on safety and ergonomic aspects for the operator. The Toyota loader was selected because of the following:

- Complete forward action with the levers can be achieved with the operator maintaining good lumbar support at all times, reducing the risk of acute or chronic back injuries.
- Foot pedals are located in a reasonable depth floor pan (deeper than the other two machines) and at a slight angle, allowing the operator parallel thigh support and eliminating ankle and calf strain thus reducing the risk of repetitive strain injury of the legs or lower back.
- All round external viewing, particularly at the rear, is far superior than the other two machines.
- Brake lights, reversing lights and indicators are standard fittings. Although not specified in the tender specification, these fittings were considered to be advantageous as the unit will be used along the roads and paths throughout the cemetery. These are public thoroughfares, and at times carry heavy volumes of pedestrian and vehicular traffic.
- Lift up locking arm pins are operational from the cab.
- Toyota incorporates a self levelling bucket not featured on the other equipment. This is an added important safety feature.
- The bucket/backhoe system is the simplest and most versatile of the three machines to operate.
- The backhoe protrudes only 45 cm in front of the machine when travelling, thus allowing safe visibility for the operator.

In considering the requirement of a skid steer loader/backhoe for the West Terrace Cemetery and the environment it would be operating in, the purchase of the Toyota equipment at an additional cost of \$570 was justified. It was the most versatile and least hazardous equipment tendered.

TRUST ACCOMMODATION FOR AGED PERSONS

In reply to Mr BECKER.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The following is a schedule of waiting times.

Aged Persons Accommodation (September 1986)

Metropolitan		Elizabeth/Salisbury		Gawler	Noarlunga Area
Single Person					
North	June 1980	Elizabeth	March 1983	July 1983	January 1982
East	March 1982				
North East	May 1981				
West	December 1982	Salisbury	May 1985		
North West	December 1983				
Lefevre Peninsula	April 1983	Parafield Gardens	April 1982		
South	March 1981				
Inner Metro	July 1981	Para Hills West	January 1982		
Two Person					
North	August 1981	Elizabeth	March 1983	August 1980	September 1983
East	February 1982				
North East	August 1980				
West	April 1983	Salisbury	January 1983		
North West	December 1983				
Lefevre Peninsula	August 1983	Parafield Gardens	June 1982		
South	December 1982				
Inner Metro	March 1980	Para Hills West	December 1982		

Approximate delays for specific area and for other types of Trust rental accommodation can be obtained from the Enquiry Staff of the Metropolitan Services (Telephone 211 7177).

Country Cottage Flat Waiting Times* (September 1986)

Single Person		Two Person	
Renmark	June 1983	Renmark	June 1983
Berri	June 1985	Berri	June 1985
Barmera	June 1985	Barmera	June 1985
Waikerie	September 1983	Waikerie	September 1983
Murray Bridge	October 1984	Murray Bridge	October 1984
Mount Gambier	October 1981	Mount Gambier	June 1983
Naracoorte	February 1981	Naracoorte	August 1983
Port Augusta	April 1983	Port Augusta	September 1980
Port Pirie	February 1980	Port Pirie	March 1981
Whyalla	November 1983	Whyalla	November 1983
Port Lincoln	October 1983	Port Lincoln	October 1983

* The dates shown above represent the longest standing applications considered to be current in file.

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE SPACE

In reply to Mr OSWALD

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The relevant information is as follows:

Leased Premises Administered by the Department of Housing and Construction

The list shows the area and location of vacant space in leased premises administered by the Department of Housing and Construction. As at 3 October 1986, all the areas listed were unoccupied to enable commissioning work to be undertaken to meet the needs of the incoming occupants. The commissioning times are commensurate with those normally expected for the completion of documentation, calling of tenders, and allocation and completion of contracts. When a new area is to be leased every effort is made to minimise commissioning time to negotiate a full or partial rent abatement for these periods.

The total rental cost of leased space vacant due to commissioning work for planned relocations is \$152 585, which is 1.2 per cent of the Government's total annual rental bill of \$12 652 700 (1985-86) excluding electorate offices and police/court facilities. The areas listed represent 3.1 per cent of the total of 120 000 m² currently leased by the Government.

VACANT SPACE—LEASED PREMISES ADMINISTERED BY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION AS AT 3 OCTOBER 1986

Location	Area Vacant (m ²)	Rental (\$/m ² /Year)	Rent Payable/Vacancy Date	Occupation Date	Duration Vacant (Months)	Rental Cost During Vacancy/Commissioning	Comments
Goldsbrough House North Terrace 2nd and 3rd Floors	873	64.5	Dec '85	March '87	15	61 000	Museum collections relocated to areas in redeveloped Museum complex. Rental reduced 50 per cent from 1.4.86 during refurbishment of building by owner. Department for the Arts to be relocated from Commercial Union Building will occupy 55 per cent of space; remainder to be sublet
QBE Building King William Street 12th Floor	250	175	8.9.86	October '86	2	7 292	To be commissioned for S.A.F.A. Treasury Department expansion.
Pirie Plaza Pirie Street/ Gawler Place 8th and 9th Floors	1 740	165	9.9.86	11.10.86	1	23 925	Commissioned for Department of State Development
7th Floor	326	165	9.8.86	March '87	7	31 378	Floor temporarily occupied by Office of Employment and Training. Vacant area to allow progressive commissioning of floor.

Government Owned Premises Administered by the Department of Housing and Construction

The list shows the area and location of vacant space in Government owned premises administered by the Department of Housing and Construction, as at 3 October 1986. As a result of major organisational changes in the Education Department alterations have been taking place progressively in the Education Centre over the last twelve months. A complex series of relocations to achieve departmental operational requirements and consolidate spare space into viable areas has enabled the Children's Services Office and the Office of the Minister of Technology to be located into the building. Further moves over the next six months will take place with the objective of providing two floors for occupation by the Department of Lands from the Colonel Light Centre (leased premises). Vacant areas in the Motor Registration Centre stemming from the regionalisation of the Motor Registration Division are being held pending structural alterations to the building which will increase the available space, the occupation of which is under consideration by the Government Office Accommodation Committee.

Rationalisation of Public Buildings Department and Department of Housing and Construction operations at the Netley complex resulted over a period of time in the vacation of the Administration Building. Part of the space has been occupied by two Government supported bodies; however, possible uses for the remaining space did not eventuate mainly due to the location of the premises. Investigations are continuing as to the future use of vacant spaces of the property. The rental costs shown for Government owned premises are a notional estimate of current commercial market values. The total area of accommodation in Government owned premises administered by the Department of Housing and Construction is 127 000 m², of which the vacant areas listed represent 2.02 per cent (Administration Building, Netley, 0.85 per cent).

VACANT SPACE—LEASED PREMISES ADMINISTERED BY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION AS AT 3 OCTOBER 1986—continued

Location	Area Vacant (m ²)	Rental (\$/m ² /Year)	Rent Payable/Vacancy Date	Occupation Date	Duration Vacant (Months)	Rental Cost During Vacancy/Commissioning	Comments
Port Mall Port Adelaide	294	90	29.8.86	Dec '86	3	6 615	Vacated by Department for Community Welfare. To be commissioned for Department of Correctional Services and Department of Fisheries
Mobilong House Murray Bridge	150	150	July '86	March '87	9	16 875	Will be occupied by National Parks and Wildlife Service if funds are available. Space originally held for expansion
	88	150	July '86	Dec '86	5	5 500	Retail shop area—tenders called for occupation
Total						152 585	

VACANT SPACE—GOVERNMENT OWNED PREMISES ADMINISTERED BY DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND CONSTRUCTION AS AT 3 OCTOBER 1986

Location	Area Vacant (m ²)	Rental (\$/m ² /Year)	Rent Payable/Vacancy Date	Occupation Date	Duration Vacant (Months)	Rental Cost During Vacancy/Commissioning	Comments
Education Centre Flinders Street	931	165 (notional)	July '86	June '87	12	153 615	Areas progressively vacated and commissioned for reorganisation of Education Department. Two floors to eventually be vacated for planned occupation by Department of Lands from Colonel Light Centre
Motor Registration Centre Wakefield Street	550	150 (notional)	July '86	June '87	12	82 500	Areas vacant pending major alterations to 1st Floor. Occupation by Minister and Department of Transport under consideration.
S.A.D.H.C. Administration Building Netley	1 085	90 (notional)	Oct '84	June '87	30	244 125	Investigations are continuing as to the future use of vacant spaces of the property
Total						480 240	

STAFFING OF ELECTORATE OFFICES

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. T.H. HEMMINGS: The following is the relevant information:

ADDITIONAL STAFFING—ELECTORATE OFFICES

Office	No.	F.T.E.	Hours F/N	Classification	Justification	Funds
Ministers' Offices						
Ross Smith	1	1.0	75	CO-2	Premier's Office—High Workload	DHC
Baudin	1	.3	22.5	CO-2	Increase in workload due to extra responsibility as a Minister	DHC
Norwood	1	.6	45	CO-2	Increase in workload due to extra responsibility as a Minister	DHC
Ramsay	1	.6	45	CO-2	Increase in workload due to extra responsibility as a Minister	DHC
Whyalla	1	.6	45	CO-2	Increase in workload due to extra responsibility as a Minister	DHC
Country Offices—Able to establish more than one Electorate Office or an office at Parliament House						
Eyre	1	1.0	75	CO-3	Electorate covers a vast majority of the State	DHC
Flinders	1	.6	45	CO-3	Remote location of electorate, high work load	DHC

ADDITIONAL STAFFING—ELECTORATE OFFICES—*continued*

Office	No.	F.T.E.	Hours F/N	Classification	Justification	Funds
Murray-Mallee	1	.6	45	CO-3	Member did not have a convenient centre with which to establish an Electorate Office	DHC
Stuart	1	.6	45	CO-3	Increase in workload due to ministerial responsibilities	DHC
R.S.I. Offices Albert Park	1	.4	30	CO-3	Permanent Personal Assistant has an ongoing RSI problem. The temporary extra assistance has been provided to the office to enable the permanent Personal Assistant to slowly ease themselves back into the workforce.	DHC
Hayward	1	.4	30	CO-3		DHC
Playford	1	.4	30	CO-3		DHC
Walsh	1	.5	37.5	CO-3	Eventually the extra assistance will cease when the permanent assistant is able to resume 100 per cent of her duties. The situation will be reviewed at three-monthly intervals.	DHC

Premier, Treasurer, Minister for the Arts**ASER PROJECT**

In reply to Ms LENEHAN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The information requested is as follows:

1. The average number of employees engaged on the construction work in the ASER Project as at the beginning of October 1986 was 640.

2. The number of employees it is estimated who will work in the various commercial components of the ASER Project are as follows:

	Permanent	Casual
Convention Centre	45	250
Car Park	4	12
Hyatt Hotel	250	300

3. There are worthwhile economic benefits which accrue to the State as a result of conventions. It has been established that average expenditure per attendee for conventions, conferences and seminars is the highest expenditure of all tourist groups that have been categorised by the Bureau of Industry Economics.

The economic benefit to the State from the conventions for 1986 has been estimated by the Adelaide Convention & Visitor's Bureau to be \$93 m. The Convention Centre will provide a significant boost to convention income to the State because of its ability to attract large conventions of up to 3 500 people from within Australia and internationally.

The multiplier effect to be applied to the income from the Convention Centre and hotel within the complex is 1.6 as advised by the Bureau of Industry Economics.

NAMES OF SUBSIDIARIES

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J.C. BANNON: The information sought is as follows:

South Australian Finance Limited, United Kingdom
 South Australian Investments, United Kingdom
 South Australian Finance (HK) Limited, Hong Kong
 South Australian Finance Limited has issued securities which are guaranteed by SAFA. The proceeds of the issue have been used to purchase shares in South Australian

Investments. South Australian Investments invests the funds with a fund manager who manages them in accordance with SAFA approved guidelines.

The source of profit for South Australian Finance Limited is the dividends which it receives on the shares it holds in South Australian Investments.

South Australian Investments derives its profit from the return it is able to earn on investments in approved securities.

South Australian Finance (HK) Limited raises funds at favourable rates and invests the proceeds in approved securities to earn a margin.

The investments of the off-shore subsidiaries of the South Australian Finance Trust, are managed by professional London based investment managers who also act for SAFA with respect to the management of some of its off-shore investments. The two managers currently used by South Australian Finance (HK) Limited and South Australian Investments are Credit Suisse First Boston Investment Management Limited (CSFBIM) and County Bank Limited.

The investment managers have discretion to buy and sell securities within specific guidelines agreed between the companies and the manager and documented in formal agreements. The managers chosen not only work for SAFA and the above companies but also have clients ranging from large international corporates through to the central banks.

It is not appropriate to disclose investment guidelines in detail as they may vary from manager to manager based on perceived relative investment strengths and weaknesses and, in any case, the information is commercially confidential.

As a broad indication, however, it can be advised that the guidelines stipulate, *inter alia*:

- * the kind of money market instruments (e.g. CDs, time deposits, bonds, etc.) that may be held;
- * the maximum maturity of such instruments;
- * the minimum proportion of instruments that must be held with a maturity of 12 months or less;
- * the currency of the investments (in all cases \$US to match the currency of the liabilities);
- * the credit status of the securities in terms of the ratings given by Moody's or Standard and Poors (all AA or better);
- * a limit on the size of holdings on any one issue.

The arrangements provide for monthly reports on such things as all transactions undertaken, cash flows, valuations, performance relative to benchmarks and income received. As the portfolio of investments is changing on a regular basis and also as the information is commercially sensitive it is neither practical nor appropriate to list in *Hansard* the investments currently managed for the two companies.

LAND TAX COLLECTIONS

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J. C. BANNON: The information sought is set out in the following tables:

TABLE 1
NUMBER OF TAXPAYERS, TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE OF LAND AND TOTAL TAX PAYABLE IN VALUE RANGES FOR 1985-86

	Taxpayers	Total Taxable Value \$	Metro Levy \$	Tax \$	Tax + Levy \$
Fully taxable Assessments					
0—40 000	81 443	1 226 977 036	0.00	0.00	0.00
40 001—80 000	12 241	696 719 645	90 808.52	828 329.20	919 137.72
80 001—120 000	3 831	373 967 815	99 076.16	1 287 846.90	1 386 923.06
120 001—160 000	1 792	248 033 709	80 343.30	1 498 430.45	1 578 773.75
160 001—200 000	947	169 514 115	60 093.51	1 458 406.40	1 518 499.91
200 001—	2 672	1 649 506 792	722 271.93	31 999 695.92	32 721 967.85
Partially Taxable Assessments					
0—40 000	85	1 128 397	0.00	0.00	0.00
40 001—	124	53 134 935	22 807.56	96 252.56	119 060.12
Fully + Partially Taxable Assessments					
0—	16	12 563 699	5 419.91	32 797.06	38 216.97
Non Taxable	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	103 151	4 431 546 143	1 080 820.89	37 201 758.49	38 282 579.38

TABLE 2
NUMBER OF TAXPAYERS, TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE OF LAND AND TOTAL TAX PAYABLE IN VALUE RANGES FOR 1986-87 (PROPOSED SCALE)

	Taxpayers	Total Taxable Value \$	Metro Levy \$	Tax \$	Tax + Levy \$
Fully Taxable Assessments					
0—60 000	100 282	2 406 823 620	0.00	0.00	0.00
60 001—80 000	6 845	478 602 530	0.00	203 707.59	203 707.59
80 001—120 000	6 155	600 371 740	0.00	1 179 088.05	1 179 088.05
120 001—160 000	2 878	400 095 890	0.00	1 651 856.83	1 651 856.83
160 001—200 000	1 549	277 584 850	0.00	1 700 862.75	1 700 862.75
200 001—	3 956	2 402 882 510	667 844.17	40 035 870.07	40 703 714.24
Total	121 666	6 566 361 140	667 844.17	44 771 385.29	45 439 229.46

METROPOLITAN LEVY

Year	Amount Raised (\$)
1981-82	1 006 000
1982-83	1 110 000
1983-84	1 280 000
1984-85	1 400 000
1985-86	1 110 000
1986-87	668 000

(estimate based on proposed tax scale)

PROPERTY VALUATIONS

In reply to Hon. B. C. EASTICK.

The Hon. J. C. BANNON: The whole of the State comprising approximately 625 000 properties is now being revalued every year on the basis of current market value.

The Valuer-General has advised that every endeavour is made by his staff to ensure that a fair and reasonable valuation is placed on all properties thus ensuring an equitable distribution of rates and taxes.

Valuers throughout the State are constantly comparing and checking the relationship between properties within each Region and between neighbouring Regions.

Valuers continually monitor sales of properties within the State and also have regard to current asking prices and the results of property auctions to ensure that valuations are relative to the property market.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES REPORT

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J. C. BANNON: Chief Executive Officers are responsible for determining the number and mix of positions (including Management Services positions) within the overall staffing and funding allowances for their departments. The need for Management Services staff varies between departments. For example, some departments have greater training requirements than others and therefore some will be able to achieve reductions more quickly than others.

The Government is committed to a policy of reducing overheads, particularly at senior levels and including Management Services positions. As part of this policy, the 1986-87 budget provides for an aggregate saving of 24 Management Services positions and this constitutes around 10 per cent of existing specialist Management Services Officer positions. This and any future reductions will necessitate line management accepting more direct responsibility and involvement in personnel management matters.

AYERS HOUSE

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J. C. BANNON: The approximate area rented to the restaurant operators at Ayers House is 1 200 square metres, which on current rentals is \$83.00 per square metre. Rental is reviewed annually and with advice from the Office of the Valuer-General is negotiated with the lessee. The Valuer-General bases his advice on comparison with actual rentals of other city restaurant properties.

INTEREST RATES

In reply to Mr OLSEN.

The Hon. J. C. BANNON: All departments and semi-government authorities were affected by the revised debt and interest rate arrangements. The general principle that agencies should be charged full interest rates—with any exemptions or concessions considered desirable being given in a direct way rather than through low interest rates—were supported by the previous Premier in introducing the Government Financing Authority Bill in 1982. The present Government agrees with this general principle. The new arrangements were explained in my Financial Statement delivered on 1 September 1983 on the second reading of the Appropriation Bill 1983. Further details have been provided in successive annual reports of the South Australian Government Financing Authority.

One of the main aspects of the revised arrangements was that a common interest rate was applied to all public sector borrowings.

With respect to the loan from the Government to ETSA referred to in the lead-up to the Leader's question it should be noted that the increase in the interest rate on that loan in 1983-84 did not result from any debt rearrangements with SAFA but resulted from a separate decision by the Government to use its discretion under the lending arrangement entered into with ETSA many years earlier, to review the interest rate on its loan to ETSA to bring it into line with the Government's average cost of its debt. The loan had not been funded by low interest rate loan funds from the Commonwealth or any other source, but from the general pool of loan funds available to the State and it was appropriate that the interest rate charged by the State for re-lending such funds should reflect the cost of those funds—consistent with the approach adopted by the Government and SAFA with respect to SAFA's lending to agencies.

Since the establishment of SAFA in 1983 all semi-government authorities with the exception of ETSA, the Australian Barley Board and the Local Government Finance Authority have been borrowing from SAFA. New loans are absorbed into the above arrangements.

It is not possible to continue to produce figures of additional interest for future years that would be in any way meaningful. If the previous arrangements had continued, as the existing debt of authorities matured, it would have been "rolled over" at prevailing current market interest rates. Assumptions would need to be made about the timing and maturity of such roll-overs to estimate what would have been the cost under previous arrangements compared to the present arrangements. As part of the simplification of debt relationships applying in the State public sector, a policy has been adopted that agencies should not make repayments of principal while they have net capital funding requirements.

As indicated in previous responses, the new arrangements tend to spread out the impact of changing interest rates over the total public sector rather than concentrating such movements (in recent years mainly increase) on recent borrowers.

Minister of Education, Minister of Children's Services,
Minister of Aboriginal Affairs

JOINT COMMUNITY—SCHOOL FACILITIES

In reply to Mr De LAINE.

The Hon. G. J. CRAFTER: The attached tables provide details of school/community provisions funded through the Capital Works Assistance Scheme, from the 1979-80 financial year to proposals for the current financial year.

Western					
Jamestown H.	Hall	253 000	50 000	203 000	Under Construction
Port Lincoln P.	Hall	335 000	81 320	253 680	

1986-87—Projects approved or currently under consideration by the School Loans Advisory Committee.

Adelaide					
Mount Barker H.	Hall	387 000	79 500	307 500	Planned
Oakbank A.	Hall	100 000	40 000	60 000	Planned
Prospect P.	Hall	290 000	43 700	246 300	Planned
Black Forest P.	Hall	290 000	43 000	247 000	Planned

Northern					
Gawler East P.	Hall	402 200	216 527	185 673	Approved
Banksia Park P.	Hall	121 800	36 275	85 525	Approved
Surrey Downs P.	Hall	218 200	61 000	157 200	Planned

Southern					
Moana P.	Hall	242 200	40 940	201 260	Approved
St Leonards P.		67 000	16 900	50 100	Approved

Eastern					
East Murray	Hall	77 000	27 000	50 000	Approved
Morgan P.	O/Door Fac.	80 450	55 350	25 100	Approved
Penola H.	Hall	270 000	210 000	60 000	Planned

Western					
Kirton Point P.	Hall	300 000	105 000	195 000	Planned
Victor Harbor H.	Hall	1 439 500	1 228 600	210 900	

Eastern

Western					
Flinders View P.	Hall	259 290	110 790	148 500	
Maitland A.	Hall	301 990	131 400	170 590	
Marree Aborig.	Swm/Pool	51 000	12 000	39 000	
Miltaburra A.	Hall	137 000	19 300	117 700	
Moonta A.	Hall	303 600	64 000	239 600	
Streaky Bay A.	Hall	246 685	48 000	198 685	

1985-86

Adelaide					
Challa Gardens P.	Hall	292 200	74 000	218 200	
Fulham North P.	O/Door Fac.	34 515	17 015	17 500	
Kingscote A.	Hall	425 000	165 550	259 450	
Unley P.	Hall Mod.	212 300	56 000	156 300	Under Construction

Northern					
Dernancourt P.	Hall	156 200	36 000	120 200	

Southern					
Brighton H.	Hall	761 000	254 000	507 000	
Coorara P.	Hall	210 700	26 100	184 600	
Port Noarlunga P.	Hall	84 000	20 250	63 750	
Mount Compass A.	Hall	251 000	41 500	209 500	
Yankalilla A.	Hall	258 900	73 000	185 900	

Eastern					
Allendale East P.	Hall	287 000	76 000	211 000	Under Construction
Hamley Bridge P.	Tennis Courts	4 500	3 250	1 250	
Birdwood H.	Hall	257 600	62 000	195 600	
Gawler H.	Hall	193 500	62 500	131 000	
Paralowie	Hall	215 200	66 000	149 200	

Southern					
Hackham West P.	Hall	179 869	33 869	146 000	
Meadows P.	Activity Centre	84 418	11 768	72 650	

Eastern					
Glossop H.	Hall	301 500	81 500	220 000	
Karooonda A.	Swm/Pool	51 000	20 000	31 000	
Keith A.	S/C Library	141 418	80 018	61 400	
Kingston A.	Hall	926 000	350 000	576 000	

Western					
Napperby P.	Change Rms	29 750	9 000	20 750	
Port Broughton A.	Hall	276 000	48 000	228 000	
Stuart H.	Hall	242 300	51 000	191 300	

1984-85

Adelaide					
Marryatville H.	Hall	365 570	145 000	220 570	
Walkerville P.	Act. Area	55 200	20 300	34 900	

Northern					
Highbury P.	Hall	174 755	38 000	136 755	

Southern					
Edwardstown P.	O/Door Fac.	68 309	67 309	1 000	
Hackham East P.	Hall	233 700	75 700	158 000	
Hackham South P.	Hall	168 000	43 400	124 600	
Urrbrae H.	Hall	310 555	130 000	180 555	
Wudinna A.	Hall Eqp.	6 000	0	6 000	

1982-83

Adelaide					
Marryatville P.	O/Door Fac.	32 500	15 000	17 500	
Norwood H.	Change/Rooms	74 000	59 000	15 000	

Northern					
Modbury H.	Hall	472 000	234 304	237 696	

Southern					
Stanvac P.	O/Door Fac.	23 000	13 000	10 000	

Eastern					
Browns Well A.	Hall	218 500	56 614	161 886	
Meningie A.	Hall Ext.	20 000	8 000	12 000	
Mount Gambier	Hall	206 000	103 000	103 000	
Pinnaroo A.	Hall	208 189	34 889	173 300	

Western					
Cleve A.	Hall	183 860	50 060	133 800	

1983-84

Adelaide					
Highgate P.	Hall	191 000	46 400	144 600	
Mount Barker South P.	Hall	137 000	12 800	124 200	
Parndana A.	Swm/Pool	62 300	33 600	28 700	

1983-84

Adelaide				
Seaton H.	Hall	177 200	76 000	101 200
Taperoo H.	Hall	254 228	94 000	160 228
Thebarton H.	Hall Ext.	63 000	35 000	28 000
Northern				
Risdon Park H.	Hall	158 000	50 000	108 000
	Hall	45 000	4 000	41 000
Wudinna A.	Hall	96 542	37 290	59 252

1981-82

Adelaide				
Kidman Park H.	Hall Eqp.	6 000	0	6 000
Thorndon H.	Eqp.	6 000	0	6 000
Vale Park P.	Activity Centre	39 000	14 000	25 000
West Lakes H.	Hall	186 000	90 000	96 000
Northern				
Elizabeth West H.	Hall	144 000	46 490	97 510
Ridgehaven P.	Hall Eqp.	6 000	0	6 000
Smithfield Plains H.	Hall Eqp.	11 000	0	11 000
Southern				
Mitchell Park H.	Hall Eqp	10 000	0	10 000
Seacombe H.	Hall	156 000	110 000	46 000
Strathalbyn P.	Hall Eqp.	10 000	0	10 000
Eastern				
Balaklava H.	Hall Eqp.	6 000	0	6 000
Lameroo A.	Hall	145 071	34 500	110 571
Lucindale A.	Hall	166 994	53 000	113 994
Tintinara A.	Hall	135 815	53 500	82 315
Western				
Augusta Park P.	Hall	83 300	21 900	61 400
Cowell A.	Hall Ext.	41 000	15 600	25 400
Minlaton H.	Hall	126 496	43 685	82 811
Risdon Park H.	Hall Eqp.	11 000	0	11 000

CAPITAL WORKS ASSISTANCE SCHEME

School Council	Project	Total Cost	Funding	
			School Cncl & Commu- nity	Education Department
1979-80				
Northern				
Salisbury East H.	Hall Extensions	39 500	27 500	12 000
1980-81				
Adelaide				
Croydon H.	Hall	305 500	116 400	189 100
Kidman Park H.	Hall	135 975	64 627	71 348
Marden H.	Hall	126 766	81 998	44 768
Thorndon H.	Hall	130 000	54 928	75 072
Northern				
Ridgehaven P.	Hall	140 020	41 477	98 543
Smithfield Plains H.	Hall	203 048	83 110	119 938
Southern				
Daws Road H.	Hall Ext.	92 155	51 853	40 302
Mitchell Park H.	Hall	142 258	66 500	75 758
Strathalbyn P.	Hall	148 274	85 500	62 774
Eastern				
Balaklava H.	Hall	128 863	49 998	78 865
Swan Reach A.	Swim/Pool	38 000	17 867	20 133
Western				
Darke Peak P.	Swim/Pool	55 101	36 508	18 593

INTERAGENCY SUPPORT SERVICES

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The format of the Program Estimates has changed for all Government agencies. In meeting the objective to reduce the overall volume of the Program Estimates, it became necessary to condense the information provided. Amalgamation of the Executive Management, Professional/Technical Support and Administration/Clerical Support was required to meet that objective. Details are attached of the comparative figures, as requested.

SUPPORT SERVICES

	Recurrent Expenditure			Capital Expenditure			Average F.T.E.		
	Proposed 1985-86	Actual 1985-86	Proposed 1986-87	Proposed 1985-86	Actual 1985-86	Proposed 1986-87	Proposed 1985-86	Actual 1985-86	Proposed 1986-87
Minister and Office	681	770	769	—	—	—	14	13.4	*15.4
Executive Management	1 152	1 607	1 610	—	—	—	22	25.2	25.2
Professional and Technical Support	1 186	843	845	—	—	—	38.5	22.9	22.9
Administration and Clerical Support	21 924	23 860	24 569	2 234	4 144	1 180	351.1	348.8	335.2
TOTAL	24 943	27 080	27 793	2 234	4 144	1 180	425.6	410.3	398.7

*Additional funds and head count had been provided by Treasury for the Education Department to continue servicing the Minister of State Development's Office. Adjustments will be made during 1986-87 when responsibility is transferred to the Department of TAFE.

DEBT SERVICING

In reply to Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The Teacher Housing Authority was paid \$385 000 in 1985-86 to offset the increased interest payments resulting from the amalgamation of the authority's outstanding loan balances by SAFA in the 1983-84 financial year. The transfer to SAFA resulted in a loss to the authority for which it was reimbursed as this loss would not have occurred otherwise. The common public sector interest rate is based on the weighted average cost of virtually the whole of the State public sector's debt. Because of this averaging process, some authorities' interest bills were reduced when the arrangements were introduced in March 1984 while others increased; this situation arose largely because of the different timing of individual authorities' borrowings in the past. The new arrangements are more equitable in that all Government authorities share the benefits of old 'low cost' borrowings.

The Teacher Housing Authority was one of the bodies whose interest bill increased as a result of the changeover. Rather than maintain a lower interest rate for that body, which would have been out of line with the overall arrangements and, indeed, would have amounted to a 'hidden' subsidy, a direct grant has been provided to the authority so that its effective interest costs have remained unaffected. The debt relationships applying between semi-government activities (including the Teacher Housing Authority) and SAFA are summarised in the section entitled 'The Common Public Sector Interest Rate' commencing on page 8 of SAFA's 1985-86 Annual Report, which was tabled in Parliament on 16 September 1986 in time for the Estimates Committee debates.

Currently there are 24 speech pathologists on the payroll (some of whom are on fractional time) and they add up to 22.4 full-time equivalents. The gradings are as follows:

Base grade	18.4
Senior	3.0
Chief	1.0
Full-time equivalent	22.4

ABORIGINAL LANDS TRUST

In reply to Hon. P.B. ARNOLD.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The replies are as follows:

- \$3 507.25
- 12 months
- 3 years; however, this was later made into a grant.
- The Aboriginal Lands Trust has not made interest-free loans to other sporting bodies. This was a once-off payment to protect a Lands Trust asset.
- The Aboriginal Lands Trust advises that the answer is 'nil'.
- I have requested that the Aboriginal Lands Trust record in its Annual Report to Parliament a separate profit and loss account for the Camp Coorong Sheep Project.

OFFICE ACCOMMODATION CHARGES

In reply to Hon. H. ALLISON.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: Details of accommodation charges prior to 1983 are not available. In May 1983, the Treasurer approved a system whereby all Government agencies would be charged for accommodation services provided through the then Public Buildings Department, effective from 1 July 1983. Rental as such is not paid by Government agencies occupying State Government-owned premises but office accommodation costs recovered by the Department of Housing and Construction include cleaning, rates, energy and telephones. Office accommodation costs together with those rental costs, applicable to the Education Department since 1 July 1983 are as follows:

SPEECH PATHOLOGISTS

In reply to Hon. H. ALLISON.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The current complement of speech pathologists is 23 FTE positions of speech pathologists in the Department, made up of:

Base grade	18.0
Senior	5.0
Total	23.0 FTE

	\$M
	1983-84
	1984-85
	1985-86
Estimated	1986-87

The annual Northern Area Education Office accommodation cost, including rental, is \$212 438. The office occupies a floor space of 1731.3 square metres. An examination is being made to see what might be the most appropriate part or parts of the Northern Area Office to be relocated. There has been no formal report through the Education Department that inspectors from the Department of Labour consider the Northern Area Education Office overcrowded. However, those inspectors are currently discussing space requirements with the Northern Area Office staff. It is anticipated that space in schools which are no longer near capacity will be used in the relocation process. Para Hills High School is one of the schools currently being assessed as a possible future venue for some aspects of the administration of the Northern Area.

SCHOOL CLOSURES

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: During 1987 no school closures are proposed, although Christies Beach Junior Primary School will amalgamate with the Primary School. Area Education Officers are currently examining utilisation of resources in the context of enrolment predictions during the next decade. It is not possible at this juncture to predict which schools, if any, will be considered for closure in future years.

TOWNSEND HOUSE PRE-SCHOOL CENTRE

In reply to **Mr ROBERTSON.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: The Townsend House pre-school centre was established specifically to integrate hearing-impaired children with children of normal hearing. This integrated model worked well and was beneficial to all involved. The number of hearing-impaired children has gradually diminished. The situation for the long-term future is not certain, but as long as there is a demand for such an integrated service, it will be provided. The centre is under review through the Southern Area Education Office.

J150 YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: A total of four officers were seconded to the festival for varying lengths of time during part of 1985 and 1986. An estimate of salary costs which could be applied to the festival is \$94 000. In addition, physical accommodation costs have been assessed as \$5 000.

INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED CHILDREN

In reply to **Mr ROBERTSON.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: The Education Department does not have a general policy to mainstream intellectually disabled children. Rather, the policy relates to integration, which can have several forms. Integration may involve the physical location of a special school on a primary school campus; the establishment of a Special Education Unit within a neighbourhood school; classroom interaction between disabled and other children; interaction at an individual level; normal attendance in a regular classroom, and so on. Under these circumstances, the cost per student would vary con-

siderably. As a guide, however, the average cost of a student in primary and special schools was \$2 522 in 1985-86 compared with \$3 495 p.a. for a student in a secondary school. Since these are average costs, the costs at particular schools may vary markedly.

SCHOOL BUSES

In reply to **Hon. H. ALLISON.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: The Education Department currently owns 461 buses. Of these, 21 vehicles are dispersed in country locations to be used when fleet vehicles are required for maintenance purposes. These vehicles may also be used to cover the short-term unavailability of a school bus contractor's vehicle through breakdown. A further 25 vehicles are held in Adelaide to be used for exchange with vehicles required to be brought to Adelaide for major body or mechanical repairs. This number also includes those vehicles awaiting sale.

GRANTS TO ORGANISATIONS

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: The information is as follows:

	1986-87
	\$
A. Aboriginal Education Foundation	12 500
Adelaide Festival Centre Trust for school visits	42 000
Family Life Movement	55 000
SPELD	30 000
Come Out Festival Committee	40 000
Minor Grants	118 500
Downs Children Inc.	34 000
B. Ministerial Consultative Committee	36 000
SA Aboriginal Consultative Committee	120 000
Non-government Schools Secretariat	165 000

LEAVE FOR TEACHERS

In reply to **Mr MEIER.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: Teachers on accouchement leave have the usual sick leave entitlement, i.e., 10 days per year, and have the right to claim against those days plus any accumulated sick leave entitlement, providing that the sickness has nothing to do with the state of pregnancy. A medical certificate has to be produced to support the claim. In the 1985-86 financial year approximately 45 teachers claimed against that entitlement. Since leave records are not computerised, a manual search would be required to ascertain the exact cost to the Education Department. The effort required to obtain this information could not be justified.

HECTORVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

In reply to **Mr GROOM.**

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTY: A site visit was made on 30 October 1986 by the Facilities Manager, Adelaide Area Education Office, and an engineer from the Department of Housing and Construction. The necessary design work will be undertaken immediately, with a view to having the work completed during the 1986-87 financial year.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

In reply to Mr ROBERTSON.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: Special Schools and Centres within the Education Department which cater for secondary age students may be considered in three main categories:

1. Serving the needs of students who require almost constant support, e.g. the Piddington Special School situated at the Strathmont Centre.

2. Catering for students who have, in the main, attended special schools or units during their years of primary education, e.g. the Kensington Centre and Gepps Cross Senior School. (A proposal is being considered for the introduction of a pilot program of this type in the Southern Education Area).

3. Centres which accept students with academic and social problems from standard secondary schools for specialised assistance in these areas for a limited period of time, e.g. the Daws Road Centre, the Kilburn Work Experience Centre and the Prospect Centre.

Students who leave the second category schools to enter the workforce, generally do so through sheltered workshops. Specific training for transition to open employment for all enrolled students is carried out only in the third category of Centres. These programs, which are under constant review and revision, are open only to students who have reached the age where compulsory attendance at school is not required, i.e., they must be over 15 years old. The programs, whilst having a common basic core, are tailored to fit the need of individual students.

A Priority in Education Project, introduced in 1986 for disabled students, will continue throughout 1987. This project, which is open to all disabled secondary students whether in special or standard secondary schools, has three main thrusts. These are:

1. The workforce—open employment
sheltered employment
valued activity
 2. Independent living skills
 3. Recreation and community involvement
- Schools participating in this project must run the three components concurrently.

DEPARTMENTAL BUSES

In reply to Hon. H. ALLISON.

The Hon. G.J. CRAFTER: The Education Department has entered into a three-year contract for the supply of 101 large buses and 51 small buses. Funds for this purpose have been allocated in 1985-86 and 1986-87. The 1985-86 allocation of \$3.2 million was used as follows:

- purchase of 41 chassis and 25 bodies for large buses
- purchase of 16 small buses.

The 1986-87 allocation of \$3.62 million will be used to purchase 40 chassis and 37 bodies for large buses.

Minister of Health, Minister of Community Welfare

CONCESSIONS

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: The increased budgetary provision for concessions is a result of the increasing number of persons who qualify for the concessions and increased payments for the rates concessions as more recipients become entitled to the \$150 payment rather than a lower 60 per cent of rates figure.

Increase in Concessions: Numbers and Cost

Concession	1984-85		1985-86		1986-87
	Numbers	Cost \$	Numbers	Cost \$	Budget \$
Remission—Council rates		11 116 000		11 830 000	12 540 000
Remission—E&WS rates	85 861	10 176 000	87 439	10 431 000	11 057 000
Electricity	10 929	5 541 000	112 365	5 627 000	5 890 000

Concessions—Numbers and Categories of Persons Approved

Concession		Pensioners	War Widows	State	Beneficiaries (Est) (1)	Total
				Concession Card Holders		
Rates remissions	1984-85	77 941	117	553	7 250	85 861
	1985-86	79 869	95	475	7 000	87 439
Electricity concessions	1984-85	100 294	2 828	407	5 400	108 929
	1985-86	104 246	2 925	394	4 800	112 365
Transport concessions	1984-85	173 072	5 240	1 359	39 250	218 921
	1985-86	174 154	5 840	1 298	30 000	211 292
		(2)	(3)			

(1) Beneficiaries are required to apply each time they receive an account and recorded as number of cases. Each 'case' could apply four times per year for water/sewerage rate concessions, and once for council rates.

(2) All pensioners in South Australia who are holders of the Pensioner Health Benefits Card are eligible for transport concessions.

(3) All war widows are issued a transport concession card.

LOANS

In reply to **Hon. JENNIFER CASHMORE.**

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: The Department for Community Welfare rarely grants loans of money. No loans were approved in 1985-86. However, a procedure does exist for repaying assistance provided through emergency financial assistance (EFA) payments. Such repayments are usually made at the instigation of the recipient rather than a DCW requirement. Amounts received are paid into consolidated revenue rather than credited against EFA expenditure. The incidence of such repayments is insignificant. A survey of the first quarter of 1986-87 indicated that thirty-eight repayments totalling \$950 were received. This compared with the estimated 9 500 EFA payments totalling \$300 000 during the period.

INQUIRIES, COMMITTEES AND WORKING PARTIES

In reply to **Mr OSWALD.**

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: The following inquiries, committees and working parties were established by me in 1985-86.

- Working Party on entrepreneurial medicine established in April 1986. This Working Party has not reported at this time.
- Ministerial Task Force on Nursing Home Accommodation was established 1986 at no cost as it involves nominees of various organisations who attended at no cost. An interim report was provided in April 1986, and a final report is expected in early 1987.
- Review of Management and Industrial allocations at Glenside Hospital. The review was completed in June 1986 at a cost of \$62 800.
- Management Review of Metropolitan Public Hospitals was established, chaired by Mr John Uhrig. A report has been completed at a cost of \$3 000.
- Interdepartmental Committee to examine increased self management of education, welfare and health services by Aboriginal Communities. This committee has not yet reported.

- Environmental and public health of aboriginal communities in remote areas of South Australia (including Yalata and the Northern Western) This study has not yet reported.
- Review of the Central Office of the South Australian Health Commission chaired by K. Taeuber. A first report was issued in June, 1986. A second report is expected by 31 October 1986.

CONDOMS

In reply to **Mr OSWALD.**

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: The STD Services does not purchase condoms for distribution through its clinic. Manufacturers, however, have provided condoms to the clinic and these are provided to selected clients. The number is limited and they are provided to people who are considered likely to use them. However, the AIDS program did purchase some condoms last financial year at a cost of \$532. These condoms are provided to clients of the AIDS Clinic as part of a 'Safe Sex' pack.

COPE AND GROW

In reply to **Mr OSWALD.**

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: Amounts granted were as follows:

COPE:

COPE was granted \$387 700 in the 1986-87 year. This figure was achieved in discussions with officers of the Health Commission and based on its previous years allocation. In addition to this amount, COPE requested an additional \$192 000 for:

	\$
● building an additional storey on its current building	62 000
● expansion of services to IDSC, Noarlunga and Lyell McEwin	(p.a.) 100 000
● purchase of a computer	30 000

Funds were not available to meet this additional request.

GROW:

GROW was granted \$207 500 in 1986-87 out of an original request of \$246 896. This allocation was made on the basis of previous funding.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE B

Attorney-General, Minister of Consumer Affairs,
Minister of Corporate Affairs, Minister of Ethnic Affairs

LEGAL COMPLAINTS

In reply to Hon. H. ALLISON.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The information about complaints to the Legal Practitioners Complaints Committee is set out in the following tables.

COMPLAINTS—STATISTICAL INFORMATION
1985

Area of Complaint	July	August	September	October	November	Total
Delay	6	11	8	14	8	47
Failure to provide accounts	2	4	4	2	5	17
Lack of communication	1	—	1	2	3	7
Acting without instructions	1	3	2	3	1	10
Failure to follow instructions	1	9	1	2	5	18
Misrepresentation	2	5	1	1	1	10
Negligence	—	—	2	—	—	2
Incompetence	—	1	2	2	7	12
Other	2	—	—	—	3	5
Total	15	33	21	26	33	128
Closed	27	45	33	25	21	

Area of Law	Sub-Area	Court	1985					Total	
			July	August	September	October	November		
1. Litigation	1. Commercial	1. Local	L F	2	3	3	2	5	15
		2. Supreme							
		3. Federal							
	2. Personal injury	4. High	L F	5	18	4	10	11	48
5. Industrial									
6. Tribunal									
	3. Criminal	7. Tribunal	1. Magistrates	4			1	2	7
		8. Children's							
		2. District							
2. Commercial	1. Company 2. Partnership 3. Other	3. Supreme	0. No court	1	3	1	1	1	7
		4. Federal							
		5. High							
3. Bankruptcy Liquidation	1. Bankruptcy 2. Liquidation	3. Supreme	1						1
		4. Federal							
		5. High							
4. Real Estate	1. Conveyancing 2. Other	0. No court		1	5	1			7
5. Matrimonial	1. Divorce 2. Custody 3. Property	0. No court	1	6	4	4	4	6	21
		3. Supreme							
		4. Federal							
6. Licensing	1. Transfer of Shares 2. Transfer of Licence 3. Other	0. No court							
		2. Licensing							
		3. Supreme							
		5. High							

Area of Law	Sub-Area	Court	1985					Total
			July	August	September	October	November	
7. Probate Will	1. Probate 2. Will	0. No court 3. Supreme 5. High	1	1	4	5	3	14
Other				1		2	5	8
Total			15	33	21	26	33	128

1985-86

Area of Law	Sub-Area	Court	1985-86					Total
			December	January	February	March	April	
1. Litigation	1 Commercial	1 Local L 2 F 3 Supreme 4 Federal 5 High 6 Industrial 7 Tribunal	1	3	7	5	5	21
	2 Personal injury	1 Local L 2 F 3 Supreme 5 High 6 Industrial 7 Tribunal	3	6	7	6	5	27
	3 Criminal	1 Magistrates 8 Children's 2 District 3 Supreme 4 Federal 5 High	1		1			2
2. Commercial	1 Company 2 Partnership 3 Other	0 No court		1	1	1		3
3. Bankruptcy Liquidation	1. Bankruptcy 2. Liquidation	3. Supreme 4. Federal 5. High						
4. Real Estate	1. Conveyancing 2. Other	0. No court	3	3	2		2	10
5. Matrimonial	1 Divorce 2 Custody 3 Property	0 No court 3 Supreme 4 Federal 5 High	3	2	5	3	8	21
6. Licensing	1 Transfer of Shares 2 Transfer of Licence 3 Other	0 No court 2 Licensing 3 Supreme 5 High						
7. Probate Will	1 Probate 2 Will	0 No court 3 Supreme 5 High	1	2	2	2	5	12
OTHER				1	4	4	2	11
TOTAL			12	18	29	21	27	107

COMPLAINTS—STATISTICAL INFORMATION
1985/86

Area of Complaint	December	January	February	March	April	Total
Delay	6	5	11	14	3	39
Failure to provide accounts	1	4	1		5	11
Lack of communication					3	3
Acting without instructions		2		1		3
Failure to follow instructions	2	3	4	1	4	14
Misrepresentation		2	1		2	5
Negligence						
Incompetence	2	2	7	5	6	22
Other	1		5		4	10
TOTAL	12	18	29	21	27	107
CLOSED	21	38	23	10	19	

		1986				
Area of Law	Sub-Area	Court	May	June	Total	
1. Litigation	1 Commercial	1 Local 2 3 Supreme 4 Federal 5 High 6 Industrial 7 Tribunal	L F	3	5	8
	2 Personal Injury	1 Local 2 3 Supreme 5 High 6 Industrial 7 Tribunal	L F	10	4	14
	3 Criminal	1 Magistrates 8 Children's 2 District 3 Supreme 4 Federal 5 High		1		1
2. Commercial	1 Company 2 Partnership 3 Other	0 No court				
3. Bankruptcy Liquidation	1 Bankruptcy 2 Liquidation	3 Supreme 4 Federal 5 High				
4. Real Estate	1 Conveyancing 2 Other	0 No court		1	1	
5. Matrimonial	1 Divorce 2 Custody 3 Property 0 No court 3 Supreme 4 Federal 5 High		1	3	4	
6. Licensing	1 Transfer of Shares 2 Transfer of Licence 3 Other	0 No court 2 Licensing 3 Supreme 5 High				
7. Probate Will	1 Probate 2 Will	0 No Court 3 Supreme 5 High	3	2	5	
Other			2	2	4	
Total			20	17	37	

COMPLAINTS—STATISTICAL INFORMATION
1986

Area of Complaint	May	June	Total
Delay	3	6	9
Failure to provide accounts	2	1	3
Lack of communication	1		1
Acting without instructions			
Failure to follow instructions	4	3	7
Misrepresentation	2		2
Negligence			
Incompetence	3	2	5
Other	6	4	10
TOTAL	20	17	37
CLOSED	11	26	

JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: Total estimated cost of hardware for 1986-87 is \$5.585 million. This covers projected capital payments to Fujitsu, CSIRONET and Telecom.

Total estimated cost of consultancy services for 1986-87

is \$85 000. This is made up of fees paid to Logica Pty Ltd and Keith London Associates.

Total estimated cost of software development tools for 1986-87 is \$448 800.

Total estimated cost of people resources, J.I.S. Project Team and agency personnel funded by the project for 1986-87 is \$1 230 000.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS

In reply to Ms LENEHAN.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: As Ms Lenehan suggested in her question, this information would best be provided by the Minister of Correctional Services and I understand he will provide the information sought. The Director, Office of Crime Statistics has been advised by the Department of Correctional Services that the costs per person per annum for community service orders are: 1982-83—\$3 900; 1983-84—\$2 185 and 1984-85—\$3 357.

LICENSING DECISION COSTS

In reply to Hon. H. ALLISON.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:

Legislation	Recurrent Costs	
	1985-86 (Actual) \$	1986-87 (Proposed) \$
Secondhand Motor Vehicles Act	172 000	149 000
Secondhand Goods Act	6 000	78 000
Commercial Tenancies Legislation	133 000	211 000

No capital expenditure was incurred in 1985-86 in respect of these initiatives, nor is any proposed for 1986-87.

BUILDERS LICENCES

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: No general builders or restricted builders have had their licences cancelled by the Builders Appellate and Disciplinary Tribunal in the last six months.

COMMERCIAL TENANCIES

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: During the period 1 January to 30 June 1986 the Commercial Tribunal heard the following general applications under Part IV of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1936:

Nature of Application	Outcome
1. Application by landlord for recovery of rent	Order for refund granted
2. Application by tenant for refund of bond	Order for application to be moved to Local Court
3. Application by landlord for recovery of rent and enforcement of lease	Settled out of court—application withdrawn
4. Application by landlord for enforcement of rent review clause	Part heard

In addition, the Tribunal received eight applications for exemption from provisions of the Act, with the following outcomes:

Applications refused	2
Applications granted	2
Adjourned—awaiting decision	3
Application struck out—no jurisdiction	1

LICENSING COMPLAINTS

In reply to Mr DUIGAN.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: Between 15 April 1982, when section 68d of the Licensing Act, 1967 was introduced and the repeal of the Act on 30 June 1985, a total of 9 complaints were lodged with the Licensing Court.

Since the introduction of the Liquor Licensing Act 1985 on 1 July 1985 a total of 10 complaints have been lodged with the Liquor Licensing Commissioner. The following results have been obtained.

- 3 complaints have been successfully conciliated
- 1 complaint has been dismissed
- 1 complaint was settled by fixing trading hours pursuant to another section of the Act
- 1 complaint has been adjourned
- 4 complaints have been referred to the Licensing Court

PUBLIC TRUSTEE

In reply to Hon. H. ALLISON.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: At 30 September 1986, Public Trustee was acting as administrator of the estates of 2 124 persons under the care of the Guardianship Board and 166 estates for aged and infirm persons.

CEP

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: CEP project funding involves two elements—one provided by the Commonwealth, the other by the employer. Until June 1985, the South Australian Government provided the 'employer' contribution for projects in State Government agencies through a central Treasury line (i.e. the agency's own budget was not impacted).

The two applications mentioned were submitted on this basis, and no provision for the employer's contribution was made in the Commission's 1985-86 estimates. Since the 1985-86 financial year, there have been no new funds put into this Treasury line and agencies have had to find their own employer contributions. In these two cases, the Commission had no provision for this purpose and the applications had to be withdrawn.

One project was for research into the needs of Indo-Chinese refugee youth. This project was taken up, in a modified form, by the Refugee Youth Task Force (an inter-agency group centred on the Commonwealth Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs) and funded from other sources.

The other project covered a variety of I.Y.Y. activities for ethnic youth groups. Some of these were funded through the Commission's ethnic grants scheme.

VARIATION IN EXPENDITURE

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The variation in expenditure for the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs from 1985-86 to 1986-87 is as follows:

1985-86 (Actual)	\$16 189 000
1986-87 (Proposed)	\$21 150 000
	<u>\$4 961 000</u>

The proposed variation in expenditure comprises:		\$
1. Proposed expansion (see Note 1)—includes \$51 000 expansion in Office of Commissioner for Equal Opportunity	3 654 000	
2. Equal Opportunity (see Note 2)—transferred from Department of the Premier and Cabinet	702 000	
3. Full year effect of 1985-86 national wage increase		160 000
4. Full year effect of 1985-86 increase in staff		275 000
5. Increases in goods and services related to commitment (other than Equal Opportunity)		170 000
		<u>4 961 000</u>

Note 1: An analysis of the maximum expansion envisaged (\$3 654 000) is briefly:

Program	Salaries	Goods & Services	Sub-Total	Total
1. Funded at no cost to South Australian Government				
Self-Funding				
(a) Public Trustee—mainly computerisation	431 000	1 044 000	1 475 000	
(b) Residential tenancies	82 000	30 000	112 000	
Commonwealth Funded Equal Opportunity	31 000	20 000	<u>51 000</u>	1 638 000
2. New Initiative				
Government Deregulation Adviser	60 000	15 000	<u>75 000</u>	75 000
3. Expansion Subject to New Legislation being passed				
Commercial Division				
—strata titles legislation	27 000	32 000	59 000	
—hairdressers	59 000	41 000	<u>100 000</u>	159 000
4. Other expansion—Subject to justification to Treasury				
(a) Licensed Premises Division—24 hour operation of Casino	53 000	1 000	54 000	
(b) Occupational Licensing	419 000	283 000	702 000	
—builders licensing				
—real estate				
—travel agents				
—commercial and private agents				
(c) Commercial Division				
—relocation of accommodation		450 000	450 000	
—new cash receipting system		110 000	110 000	
(d) Consumer Affairs Division	355 000	111 000	<u>466 000</u>	1 782 000
—secondhand motor vehicle dealers				
—secondhand dealers				
—real estate				
—commercial and private agents				
				<u>\$3 654 000</u>

Note 2: Equal Opportunity

The Office of the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity appears in the estimates of the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs for the first time in 1986-87.

The proposed total expenditure for Equal Opportunity for 1986-87 of \$753 000 includes \$51 000 for expansion in item 1.

The proposed expenditure for 1986-87 is \$753 000. This comprises:

Commonwealth Funds	\$299 000
State Funds	\$454 000
	<u>\$753 000</u>

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY BUDGET

In reply to Mr D. S. BAKER.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The total budget of the Office of the Commissioner for Equal Opportunity in 1985-86 was \$599 000. This comprised:

Commonwealth Funds	\$251 000
State Funds	\$348 000
	<u>\$599 000</u>

In 1985-86 the Commonwealth funds were paid into a working account and were not included in the State Government budget papers.

This represents an increase of \$154 000 over 1985-86 expenditure. This comprises:

	Salaries	Goods & Services	Total
1. Expansion of one position—funded by Commonwealth	31 000	20 000	51 000
2. Full year effect of three staff employed late 1985-86	59 000	—	59 000
3. Increase in goods and services related to commitment	—	44 000	44 000
			<u>154 000</u>

CROWN SOLICITOR'S OFFICE

In reply to **Hon. H. ALLISON.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:

A. Community Welfare Court Matters

1984: 44 matters received from Department of Community Welfare

1985: 64 matters received from Department of Community Welfare

1986: (first 9 months)—78 matters received from Department of Community Welfare

The length of the average case listed for trial is about five days: the number of sitting days has increased by 400 per cent in the last two years. Between two and three of the trials are currently being listed each week.

B. Litigious Matters handled by the Civil Section, Crown Solicitor's Office

The number of files held by each solicitor in the Civil Section has doubled since July 1984, and a very large percentage of these files relates to court matters. It is estimated that the court work load of the Civil Section is three times greater than in 1984.

DISCRIMINATION

In reply to **Ms LENEHAN.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The member for Mawson sought information on the number of complaints made regarding the prevention of discrimination on the grounds of sex, marital status or disability.

I am informed that no reliable records exist in this regard prior to 1982, which was the year in which the Appeal Tribunals took over the administration of the Sex Discrimination Board and the Handicapped Persons Discrimination Tribunal. Statistics of matters lodged for 1982 onwards are set out below.

The new Equal Opportunity Act came into operation on 1 March 1986, and, as can be seen from the figures in the table below, there has been a substantial increase in matters lodged compared to previous years. It is too early in the life of the new Act to determine whether these lodgements will continue at the same rate.

Year	Complaints Lodged	Applications for Exemptions from the Act	Total Matters Lodged
1982	5	5	10
1983	6	4	10
1984	7	6	13
1985	6	3	9
1.1.86 to 28.2.86	—	—	—
1.3.86 to 8.10.86 (New Act became operative from 1 March 1986)	22*	15	37

*All lodged by same complainant

CROWN SOLICITOR

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The reply is as follows:

LIST OF AUTHORITIES AND OTHER BODIES FOR WHICH THE CROWN SOLICITOR IS AUTHORISED TO ACT
 Aboriginal Lands Trust
 Adelaide College of Advanced Education (Council)
 Adelaide College of Arts & Education

Apprentices Commission
 Art Gallery Board
 Betting Control Board
 Botanic Gardens, Governor of
 Builders Appellate & Disciplinary Tribunal
 Builders Licensing Board
 Building Advisory Committee
 Building Fire Safety Committee
 Casino Supervisory Authority (Approved 19.11.84)
 City of Adelaide Planning Commission
 Clean Air Advisory Committee
 Coast Protection Board
 Collection for Charitable Purposes Advisory Committee
 Commercial and Private Agents Board
 Commissioner of Charitable Funds (Approved 19.11.84)
 Commissioner for Equal Opportunity
 Country Fires Services Board
 Credit Tribunal
 Dog Fence Board
 Electoral Commissioner
 Health, Central Board of
 History Trust of South Australia
 Hospitals Board of Management
 Industrial Commission of South Australia
 Industrial & Commercial Training Commission
 Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Board
 Institute of Medical & Veterinary Science
 Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation
 Kindergarten Union of South Australia
 Land & Business Agents Board
 Libraries Board of South Australia
 Medical Board
 Metropolitan Taxi Cab Board
 Motor Fuel Licensing Board (Discriminatory Pricing Provisions) (Approved 19.8.85)
 Murray River Commission (S.A., Vic., N.S.W.)
 Museum Board
 Non-Government Schools Secretariat
 Nurses Board of South Australia
 Occupational Therapists Board of South Australia
 Parks Community Centre
 Pastoral Board
 Pest Plants Commission
 Planning Appeal Tribunal
 Public Accounts Committee (Approved 21.6.84)
 Renmark Irrigation Trust
 Residential Tenancies Tribunal
 Road Traffic Board of South Australia
 Secondhand Vehicles Licensing Board (Approved 3.5.85)
 Senior Secondary Assessments Board of South Australia
 Small Business Corporation (Approved 28.5.85)
 S.A. Film & Television Financing Fund (Approved August 1986)
 S.A. Finance Trust Limited (Approved 11.9.86)
 S.A. Government Financing Authority (SAFA)—Verbally approved 18.2.85)
 Sagric International (Approved 27.1.84)
 S.A. Health Commission
 S.A. Metropolitan Fire Service
 S.A. Planning Commission
 S.A. Superannuation Investment Fund Trust
 S.A. Teacher Housing Authority
 S.A. Timber Corporation
 S.A. Urban Land Trust
 S.A. Waste Management Commission

PAROLE LEGISLATION

In reply to **Hon. H. ALLISON.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The Director has advised me that data collection for the parole evaluation has been completed. Compilation of the final report has had to be deferred because of other work pressures. However, the report should be completed by the end of 1986.

JUSTICE INFORMATION SYSTEM

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: Some of the functions of JIS likely to be implemented this financial year include the following:

Projects necessary to support end-user projects

1. Security—techniques to prevent unauthorized access

to data and functions, including access to functions to facilitate development.

2. Creation of development environment.
3. Migrate data from early development facilities to long-term environment—involves microprocessors and main-frame interchange.
4. Automation of Quality Assurance—techniques to ensure that only high quality work proceeds from one phase of development to another. This also addresses the development of a Systems Development Methodology to describe the sequence of tasks which must be performed in the development life cycle.

5. Back-up/Recovery—derivation of procedures to ensure that the system in its entirety can be reconstituted in the (unlikely) event of malfunction or corruption.

6. Software Interfaces—procedures to ensure that data interchange between different software components can occur in a controlled way.

End-user projects

7. User Administration—identification and control of people who are permitted to use each of the functions on the system. There may be up to five projects.

8. Office and Officer—routines to permit specification of which person works in which office for each agency. This information is needed by multiple future projects. There are five of these projects, one for each agency.

9. Administer Warrants.

10. Administer Police Bail.

11. Criminal Incident—some components relating to crime reporting, apprehension reporting, victim support, witness support.

12. DCW Client File Index—a means of correlating and co-ordinating services being provided by DCW.

13. Child Protection—some components will be completed but more will be developed.

14. Prisoner Movement In/Out of Gaol.

15. Supervise Community Offenders—phase 1 will be completed.

16. Prisoner Movement Documents.

17. J.P. System—maintaining a register of Justices of the Peace.

18. Award Text—infrastructure to maintain and enquire on text of Industrial Awards will be in place. Populating the files may not be complete.

19. Industrial Regulation Application—prototype will be available, may not have completed this project.

FUJITSU

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER.**

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The honourable member sought information as to the total moneys that will be paid to Fujitsu for the six-year contract. The total moneys to be paid to Fujitsu over the six-year period is \$5.94m.

Minister of Mines and Energy

INTERCONNECTION

In reply to **Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY.**

The Hon. R.G. PAYNE: The total cost of the interconnection project included in the heads of agreement was \$155 million, of which \$102 million was South Australia's share based on estimated share of benefits. The cost to South Australia comprised:

Projects directly associated with interconnection	\$74 million
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Advancement cost associated with SE line	\$28 million
	\$102 million

Interconnection costs are continually reviewed as technical studies progress. Some minor equipment changes have become necessary, and in some cases tender prices have been obtained. Overall, there has been no significant change in capital cost estimates.

However, the advancement cost was calculated on the assumption that reinforcement of the SE line would have been required in 1995, implying an advancement of five years. More recent studies indicate the reinforcement would not be needed until about the year 2000, resulting in a greater 'cost' attributable to the interconnection project.

On this basis, the cost of advancement is now estimated to be \$47 million, an increase of \$19 million.

However, a review of benefits has resulted in a similar increase attributable to:

- higher level of opportunity transfer savings;
- higher reserve capacity savings;
- optimisation of plant installation programme.

The intangible benefits of greater protection against uncertain gas supply and price have never been included in the savings attributed to the project. Overall, the breakeven period for the project remains at about 10 years, as in the original estimate, and compares with the lifetime of the asset of well over 30 years.

ELECTRICITY PURCHASES

In reply to **Mr GREGORY.**

The Hon. R.G. PAYNE: Purchases of electricity by ETSA from South Australian organisations in 1985-86 were as follows:

	MWh
Department of Woods and Forests ^(a)	
Mount Gambier	5 375
Nangwarry	2 210
Adelaide Wallaroo Fertilizers ^(b)	
Port Adelaide	2 229
BHP ^(c)	
Whyalla	89
	9 903

This equals 0.13 per cent of total generation.

- ^(a) Wood-fired boilers
- ^(b) Sulphur combustion
- ^(c) Off-gas

ROXBY DOWNS WATER

In reply to **Mr GREGORY.**

The Hon. R.G. PAYNE: An allowance has been made for 220 litres per day per person for watering public areas: municipal gardens; sports areas; grassed areas. A proportion of the above water will be provided from recycled water from treated sewage and from stored storm water run off from the roads and car parks.

SOLAR ACCESS REGULATIONS

In reply to **Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY.**

The Hon. R.G. PAYNE: Section 40 of the Planning Act 1982 establishes a development plan which expresses development control policies for all parts of the State. Section 41 provides that the development plan may be amended from time to time by a supplementary development plan, which may contain principles of development control.

These principles are statements that guide and control the type of development that may occur and the conditions under which it may occur. Such principles may either guide a planning authority (local council) when a proposal is being considered, or permit or prohibit specific forms of development.

The Energy in Buildings Consultative Committee in July 1984, after a comprehensive review of solar access options, recommended that a supplementary development plan containing principles relating to solar access should be prepared. The SDP could apply either to the whole State or to the Adelaide metropolitan area.

In early 1985, agreement was reached between the Ministers of Mines and Energy, Environment and Planning and Local Government for the incorporation of solar access principles in the residential standards and design supplementary development plan. This SDP will apply only to residential development in metropolitan Adelaide, excluding the city of Adelaide.

It is proposed that the principles will be restricted to advisory principles in relation to 'consent' development, i.e. developments which are not automatically permitted and which require approval from a planning authority. This will exclude most single storey domestic construction but will include most multi-storey domestic construction.

The proposed principles will address not only the question of protection of one allotment from developments in neighbouring allotments, but also the question of incorporating principles of energy efficiency into a new residential subdivision. As far as possible, the principles would be specific rather than general.

The residential standards and design SDP is currently being prepared by the Department of Environment and Planning, Urban Consolidation Group. It is not expected to be completed until some time in 1987.

Draft principles on solar access were provided to the Department of Environment and Planning by the Department of Mines and Energy in August 1985. It should be noted that they relate only to buildings, and do not include trees. They also do not relate to industrial, commercial or other zoning classifications, only to certain residential developments noted above.

Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Fisheries, Minister of Recreation and Sport

TAB EMPLOYEES

In reply to Mr TYLER.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: The information regarding TAB employees is as follows:

S.A. TAB employees as at 24 September 1986 = 560

	Males	Females	Total	Ratio
Permanent:	36	25	61	1.44M:1F
Part-time:	Nil	111	111	0M:111F
Casual:	6	382	388	1M:63.67F
Total	42	518	560	1M:12.33F

LOCAL LEVEL FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: A list of applications received for consideration under this program will be forwarded to the honourable member.

EGG INDUSTRY RETAIL PRICES

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: The South Australian Egg Board routinely surveys retail prices of 55 g size eggs. Price information gathered from weekly retail surveys between September 1984 and September 1986 has been collated and has made available to the honourable member.

ALLOWANCES, DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: No Department of Fisheries employee receives a *per diem* allowance. Travel and accommodation costs are met on the basis of reimbursement of actual costs incurred and attract no taxation liability. In a determination of the Remuneration Tribunal published in the *South Australian Government Gazette* of 2 October 1986, authority is given at section 5 of that determination for payment of a *per diem* allowance to Chief Executive Officers who travel on official duty. The department has been advised by Treasury that, if such an allowance is paid, it will form part of the assessable income of the Chief Executive Officer and will not be subject to fringe benefits tax.

VINE-PULL SCHEME

In reply to Hon. TED CHAPMAN.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: The Rural Assistance Branch received a total of 732 applications for vine pull assistance up to 30 May 1986. These applicants owned 5 240 ha of vines and applied to remove 3 220 ha. The number of applicants was reduced to 699 when 19 growers withdrew from the scheme and another 14 failed to meet initial eligibility criteria. Of these 699 applicants, 348 were granted immediate approval. The remaining 351 were advised of the new guidelines for eligibility. On 30 September 1986, 402 grape growers had received approval for removal of 2 099 ha of vines. The total amount committed for this removal is \$5 714 644. A sum of \$3 226 350 has been paid to 210 growers by 30 September 1986.

GOLDEN DODDER

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: Details were sought on the *ex gratia* payments made by the Department of Agriculture in regard to the pest plant golden dodder on the property of Mr J.T. Summers at Keith. The produce from the area infected with golden dodder was purchased from Mr Summers. The payments were:

	1981-82 Financial Year	
		\$
Purchase of approximately 8.4 tonnes of lucerne seed	25 599.23	
Legal/administrative costs and related contingencies	1 135.58	
	1984-85 Financial Year	
Purchase of 5 357 bales of lucern hay	16 071.00	
Purchase of 5 574 kg of lucerne seed	20 902.50	
Total <i>ex gratia</i> payment	\$63 708.31	

However, the department recovered a portion of those costs through the sale, under controlled conditions, of much of the hay and seed. Returns from those sales amounted to \$17 346.05, giving a net 'loss' of \$46 362.26. The Department of Agriculture has not accepted liability for the problem which confronted Mr Summers.

FRINGE BENEFITS TAX

In reply to **Hon. TED CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: Officers permanently stationed on Kangaroo Island can claim costs for annual leave travel to and from the mainland on the M.V. *Troubridge*. The South Australian Public Service Board Administrative Instruction No. 261 (Reissued 7.10.83) enables officers to be reimbursed the actual cost of transport for the officer, his/her immediate dependent family, one motor vehicle, and either a caravan or trailer on the M.V. *Troubridge*.

Travel and accommodation expenses for country-based officers forced to travel to Adelaide for medical or dental treatment can also be claimed by Departmental officers. Claims permissible and the various terms and conditions are defined in Administrative Instruction No. 265.

Reimbursement payments made to officers in both of these travel circumstances will be subject to fringe benefits tax under current legislation.

OVERSEAS PROJECT CONTRACT

In reply to **Hon. TED CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: The contract with the Iraqi Government was completed in August 1985. All staff left the project when it was complete, although final reporting was not completed until after that date. Some related follow-up consultancies have been undertaken since then.

ALLOWANCES—DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

In reply to **Hon. TED CHAPMAN**.

The Hon. M.K. MAYES: The information in relation to allowances payable to officers of the Department of Agriculture has been provided direct to the honourable member.

Minister of Labour, Minister of Correctional Services

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

In reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER**.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: In South Australia during 1984, 103.1 working days per 1 000 employees were lost compared to the Australian average of 482.8 per 1 000 employees. In 1985 South Australia lost 199.0 days per 1 000 employees compared to an Australian figure of 700.1.

In the 12 months to July 1986, South Australia lost 561.9 working days per 1 000 employees in the construction industry while Australia lost 615.7 per 1 000 employees. In other words the level of industrial disputation in the construction industry in South Australia has been lower than the national average for the last three years.

ABUSE OF AWARD PROVISIONS

In reply to **Hon. J.W. SLATER**.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The analysis of complaints and subsequent arrears collected on an award by award or industry by industry basis is not presently carried out in the department.

Action is in hand, however, through the development of the department's statistical systems, to provide for ready access for such information in the future. In the longer term those statistics will form part of a uniform data collection system on non-compliance with awards in conjunction with Federal and other State authorities.

It can be said that, of the complaints investigated by the department, a number do involve the retail industry, particularly in the foodstuffs related and small shop areas. Of those a proportionate amount are initiated by juvenile employees.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY

In reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER**

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: I am advised that most organisations are currently in the process of developing an annual report covering as many of the items in section 15 of the Code as possible. To date two annual reports for 1985-86 have been received by the Co-ordinating Committee. One from the Department of Arts, the other from the Department of Labour, both contained an appropriate statement of health and safety.

It is expected that other departments will progressively report on the items listed in section 15 of the Code as meaningful information becomes available. This is in line with expectations for the planned phased introduction of this aspect of the Code of Principles.

I am advised that every Permanent Head has submitted to the Co-ordinating Committee a policy statement as required.

All organisations advised that their safety and health policy had been disseminated as required. A number of policies have been issued in multi-lingual form.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT

In reply to **Mr S.J. BAKER**.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: Following a Government initiative to introduce equal employment opportunity management planning in State Government departments from 1985, the Department of Labour volunteered to become a pilot for this program. In June of that year after establishing a working party, reflecting the diverse nature of the department and specifically including the Women's Adviser's nominee and two representatives from the Public Service Association's Job Representatives Committee, a comprehensive action plan was prepared and distributed to all branches. The action plan spanned two years and covered nine separate phases (based on a logical problem-solving approach).

Phase One: Allocate responsibilities and resources to equal employment opportunity management planning.

Phase Two: Develop understanding and commitment to equal employment opportunity (ongoing).

Phase Three: Collect information on employment related policies, practices and programs.

Phase Four: Analyse and define problems and identify issues from information retrieved.

Phase Five: Identify strategies and actions for implementation to overcome the problems and issues.

Phase Six: Report to departmental executive on phases one to five. Include comments on proposed processes for phases seven and eight.

Phase Seven: Implement complex strategies.

Phase Eight: Evaluate the strategies.

Phase Nine: Write final report and recommend ongoing strategies and activities.

Since the Working Party's establishment it has a number of achievements to its credit. It was one of the first (amongst other participating pilot departments) to write, and publish within the department, an Equal Opportunity Policy. In addition, to ensure that all staff and visitors to the department were made aware of the policy, large posters depicting a summary of the policy were distributed to each branch

and regional office. Another significant policy developed by the Working Party is the sexual harassment and grievance procedure policy. Brochures explaining the policy and the resolution of grievances is currently being designed and will be made available to each individual within the department. Other Working Party activities include:

- the incorporation of the department's EEO and sexual harassment policies and practices in the department's induction program and as specific inserts in the staff information manual.
- organising a number of speakers including representatives from the Ethnic Affairs Commission, Department of Personnel and Industrial Relations (Equal Opportunities Branch) and the Department of Labour's Women's Adviser's representative, to educate and raise the awareness of Working Party members of various minority groups. Representatives from the aboriginal and disabled communities are also on the agenda.
- establishing a number of subcommittees to address various stages of the action plan. They included—identifying current employment related policies, practices and programs and determining if any were inconsistent with the departmental EEO policy and practices. This process also assisted in identifying issues to be asked in a survey to be produced at a later date. Two other subcommittees were established to develop EEO awareness training programs and the development of a comprehensive questionnaire.
- conducting educational sessions for the executive and branch heads on EEO, the legislation and its implications for managers.

During 1986 as a result of a Cabinet reshuffle, the Department of Labour's staffing and functions changed significantly which in turn affected the structure, composition and activities of the Working Party. A new Working Party has been established and has agreed on the following activities as top priority:

1. Individual brochures explaining the department's sexual harassment policy.
2. The development of a comprehensive questionnaire, based on relevant issues raised during previous research to be prepared and trialled before the end of 1986 and implemented throughout the department in early 1987.
3. The ongoing awareness raising throughout the department to be done in conjunction with the training on the new Government Management and Employment Act to reinforce that EEO is an integral part of day-to-day management by line managers.

As of today, all three priority tasks are on target.

PERSONNEL TRAINING

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The following is a breakdown of the \$352 000 referred to.

Contingencies (to cover the costs of departmental staff \$42 000 and Executive Officer Training which includes registration, travelling, accommodation and associated expenses).

Staff Development Funds—deposit account (to cover the \$150 000 costs for the development and conduct of training courses, including training aids, on a service-wide basis). Training program schedule for 1986-87—

- (a) GME Act Training
- (b) Management Development Programs
- (c) Management Leadership Courses
- (d) Regional Training Programs

Salaries (to cover the costs of staff involved with the \$160 000 development and administration of staff development activities)

AUSTPAY SYSTEM

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon FRANK BLEVINS: The AUSTPAY system was acquired by the Government Computing Centre, Department of Services and Supply in August 1984 at a cost of \$75 000. Prior to acquisition, extensive testing of AUSTPAY was undertaken by a project team of four during a trial of the system that took place between December 1983 and May 1984. The project team undertook tests to evaluate AUSTPAY's capacity to:

- replace the common payroll system in producing the payroll for 14 200 employees in departments
- pay 9 300 weekly paid employees in departments
- accommodate the requirements of a generalised/parameter-driven personnel system.

The trial was reviewed by a review committee that reported that it believed that AUSTPAY would satisfy in excess of 90 per cent of the known requirements for a centralised payroll system and was a suitable base from which the Government Computing Centre had the opportunity to satisfy the diverse requirements of South Australian Government Agencies. Since acquisition, further testing has been undertaken to determine the most appropriate ways of using the various features of the system.

The following 17 agencies are currently having payrolls produced by the AUSTPAY system:

- Auditor-General's Department
- Department for Community Welfare
- Department of Correctional Services
- Courts Services Department
- Department of Labour
- Department of Lands
- Department of Marine and Harbors
- Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- Department of Public and Consumer Affairs
- Department of Personnel and Industrial Relations
- Department of Recreation and Sport
- Department of State Development
- Department of Tourism
- Department of Transport
- Children's Services Office
- Office of Employment and Training
- Office of the Government Management Board

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

In reply to Mr S.J. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The information sought is set out in the following table:

S.A. PUBLIC SERVICE—PERMANENT PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

Departments	June 1985			June 86		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Agriculture	4	23	27	5	21	26
Arts	2	5	7	1	9	10
Attorney-General's	2	11	13	1	9	10
Auditor-General's	0	0	0	0	0	0
Community Welfare	5	129	134	9	101	110
Corporate Affairs Commission	0	1	1	0	2	2
Correctional Services	1	18	19	3	20	23
Courts	0	34	34	0	36	36
Education	5	79	84	6	82	88
Electoral	0	2	2	0	3	3
Engineering and Water Supply	5	35	40	8	34	42
Environment and Planning	2	14	16	5	15	20
Fisheries	0	3	3	0	3	3
Highways	2	23	25	5	16	21
Housing and Construction	9	20	29	12	13	25
Labour	2	8	10	2	13	15
Lands	6	35	41	10	33	43
Local Government	6	41	47	3	59	62
Marine and Harbors	2	12	14	0	10	10
Mines and Energy	3	4	7	4	4	8
Ministry of Technology	0	0	0	0	0	0
Police	1	17	18	2	18	20
Premier and Cabinet	0	2	2	0	4	4
Public and Consumer Affairs	5	17	22	4	21	25
Public Service Board	1	4	5	0	5	5
Recreation and Sport	2	1	3	0	2	2
Services and Supply	4	21	25	4	23	27
State Development	0	2	2	0	2	2
Technical and Further Education	4	40	44	4	51	55
Tourism	0	3	3	0	3	3
Transport	4	44	48	2	39	41
Treasury	2	5	7	1	5	6
Woods and Forests	2	7	9	1	6	7
Total	81	660	741	92	662	754

ABORIGINAL PRISONERS

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The number and percentage of Aboriginal prisoners at all institutions on 30 June 1986 were as follows:

Institution	Number of Aboriginal Prisoners	Percentage of Total
Adelaide Gaol	36	12.2
Yatala Labour Prison	16	11.9
Northfield Prison Complex	5	7.4
Northfield Security Hospital	1	5.0
Port Augusta Gaol	26	26.0
Cadell Training Centre	13	12.3
Port Lincoln Prison	10	20.0
Mount Gambier Gaol	2	5.9
All Prisons	109	13.5

The Department of Correctional Services formulates programs for all prisoners with sentences of six months or more. Programs are designed to assist prisoners develop skills to facilitate their return to the community.

A range of programs specifically designed for Aboriginal prisoners is offered at all institutions. Port Augusta Gaol recently ran a program to plan and develop an environmental shelter for Aboriginal elders and community groups, incorporating camp draft yards, stables, working dog kennels, arid lands flora and fauna reserve and ablutions blocks.

The horse program at this gaol is supervised by an Aboriginal Correctional Industry officer and the majority of the participants are Aboriginal prisoners.

The School of Prisoner Education runs courses on Aboriginal Studies at Yatala Labour Prison and an Aboriginal arts and crafts group is operating at this prison also. General education subjects in the areas of literacy and numeracy, mathematics, welding and crafts are offered to Aboriginal prisoners at all institutions. Specific groups such as Aboriginal Legal Rights, Aboriginal Hostels, Aboriginal Sobriety, Aboriginal Health Unit and the Aboriginal Christian Fellowship all work with and provide support to Aboriginal prisoners in all institutions.

The department has had an Aboriginal Liaison Officer since 1984 and this Officer has developed a resource book for Departmental staff. The Officer provides a useful function in the area of personal contact, advice, and interaction for all Aboriginal prisoners.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: During the financial year 1985-86, the following notifiable diseases were diagnosed in the State's prisons:

Hepatitis (all types)	9
Gonorrhoea	3
Syphilis	1

In addition, three persons with known notifiable conditions, viz. lymphadenopathy syndrome, were also admitted into the correctional system. The incidence of these notifiable diseases was not significantly different from that of the preceding year.

Actions taken in the past year to improve management and minimise the risk of the spread of disease have included:

1. Significant upgrading of the Prison Medical Service with the introduction of full-time trained nurses into the major institutions, and the commissioning of the Yatala infirmary.

2. Implementation of most of the recommendations of the committee headed by Dr S. Cameron, Head of Epidemiology Branch of the South Australian Health Commission, appointed to look into the issue of communicable diseases and public health in prisons, particularly in relation to hepatitis and AIDS.

3. Continuation of an active program of voluntary screening of inmates for hepatitis and AIDS virus commenced since April 1985.

ESCAPEES

In reply to **Mr OSWALD**.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: In the 1985-86 financial year nine prisoners escaped from custody in six separate incidents. All escapees have been recaptured. At Yatala Labour Prison there were no escapes from within walls in 1985-86. One Yatala escapee (G. R. Forrest) escaped from hospital escort. In 1984-85 there were no escapes from Yatala for the first time in 25 years.

REMAND CENTRE PARKING

In reply to **Mr OSWALD**.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: Forty car parking spaces are provided for Adelaide Remand Centre staff at an annual cost to the department of \$45 600. These spaces are located in a building at 160 Currie Street.

TAFE COURSES

In reply to **Mr OSWALD**.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The eligibility for unaccompanied leave of absence for education purposes has not changed. However, a departmental instruction No. 75, issued 25 August 1986, formalises previous guidelines and clearly sets out criteria and conditions applying to such leave.

PRISONER PAYMENTS

In reply to **Mr D.S. BAKER**.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The pay system for prisoners incorporates a basic daily wage, a daily skill and conditions payment and a daily performance payment. The following scales of allowances have operated from 1 November 1984:

Basic daily wage:

Stage 0—0.10c
Stage 1—\$1.50
Stage 2—\$1.60
Stage 3—\$1.70
Stage 4—\$1.90
Stage 5—\$2.10
Stage 6—\$2.30
Stage 7—\$2.50

Daily skill and conditions payment:

Stage 0—0.00
Stage 1—0.10c
Stage 2—0.20c
Stage 3—0.30c
Stage 4—0.40c
Stage 5—0.50c
Stage 6—\$1.00

Daily performance payment:

Stage 0—0.00
Stage 1—0.20c
Stage 2—0.40c
Stage 3—0.60c
Stage 4—0.80c
Stage 5—\$1.00
Stage 6—\$1.20
Stage 7—\$1.40
Stage 8—\$1.60

All prisoners are entitled to a basic allowance set at stage 0 of the basic daily wage, that is, 10c per day. All prisoners shall be entitled to the remuneration set at stage 4 of the basic daily wage scale, that is, \$1.90 per day unless they:

- receive wages;
- are in a police prison;
- refuse to satisfactorily carry out personal duties;
- refuse work assigned to them;
- are segregated under section 36 of the Correctional Services Act 1982 (unless the segregation is for the prisoner's own welfare); or

fail to attend the place assigned to them at any time during the workday (other than those who report sick and are subsequently hospitalised or remain unfit for work for a period in excess of three working days).

All prisoners assigned work shall be entitled to be credited with wages according to the type of work assigned, the performance in carrying it out, and the attitude and behaviour of the prisoner. (The basic allowance is included in the rates prescribed for the basic daily allowance).

Prisoners who carry out their assigned work, but refuse to satisfactorily carry out their personal duties shall receive stage 0 payment only on basic daily wage.

Special Allowances: The following categories of prisoners shall receive only the allowances as set out in this section.

Those sick or injured for a period of four working days or more shall be credited with the remuneration for each work day they are unable to work commencing on the fourth day.

Those permanently incapacitated by injury, sickness or physical or mental conditions shall be credited with the remuneration for each week day.

Prisoners permitted to work on personal projects shall be credited with the remuneration for each week day.

Prisoners who attend an education course approved by the Manager shall be entitled to be credited with wages for each week day.

Prisoners who are permitted to participate in work release programs shall be credited with the basic allowance for each week day they are on a work release program.

Prisoners who are unable to work on any day by virtue of it being a public holiday, officer's rostered day off or for any other reason beyond their control shall be credited for each week day, with the remuneration, or the amount of the previous days allowances, whichever is the lesser.

No allowances for overtime or second jobs shall be paid unless authorised by the Director, Operations. Any jobs requiring work in excess of five days shall be approved by the Director, Operations.

The Senior Officer in charge of each workplace is required to ensure that the allowances awarded fairly reflect the standard achieved in the execution of the prisoner's assigned

duties and tasks. The Senior Officer in each institution is required to inspect weekly all prisoner payment forms to ensure that they accurately reflect the level and standard of work achieved and that this is reflected in the productive output of the total workplace.

COMMUNITY SERVICE ORDERS

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: At 30 June there were 456 offenders on the program; 683 people were placed under the program during the 1985-86 financial year.

PRISON DISTURBANCES

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: In the 1985-86 financial year the number of incidents involving confrontation with staff and attacks on staff and inmates were:

Assaults on staff	27
Offender on offender attacks	60
Sit ins	2
Refuse to return to cells	3
Other refusals of orders	14

PRISON PERSONNEL ON WORKERS COMPENSATION LEAVE

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The following are details of prison personnel on workers compensation leave as at 8.10.86:

October 1986	Courts complex	1
	Yatala Labour Prison	12
	Adelaide Gaol	8
	Cadell Training Centre	1
	Mount Gambier Gaol	1
	Port Augusta Gaol	1
	Port Lincoln Prison	—
	Adelaide Remand Centre	—
	Northfield Prison Complex	2
Total	26	
October 1985	Courts Complex	—
	Yatala Labour Prison	13
	Adelaide Gaol	4
	Cadell Training Centre	—
	Mount Gambier Gaol	—
	Port Augusta Gaol	2
	Port Lincoln Prison	—
Northfield Prison Complex	3	
Total	22	
October 1984	Courts Complex	—
	Yatala Labour Prison	23
	Adelaide Gaol	4
	Cadell Training Centre	—
	Mount Gambier Gaol	—
	Port Augusta Gaol	—
	Port Lincoln Prison	—
	Northfield Prison Complex	2
Total	29	

ATTACK ON PRISONER

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: Following police inquiries, a prisoner was charged with misprision of a felony in that he 'well knowing that Raymond Matthew Canham had, on 8 June 1986, been unlawfully and maliciously wounded with intent to do him grievous bodily harm, unlawfully concealed or kept secret the commission of the said felony'. The prisoner so charged appeared in the Adelaide Magistrates Court on 24 September 1986, and was further remanded to appear on 22 October 1986.

PAYMENT FOR UNLAWFUL IMPRISONMENT

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The amount of \$1 350 was paid to Mr A. Daniels in full settlement of his claim against the department for unlawful imprisonment. Mr Daniels was arrested for non-payment of fines and was conveyed to the Adelaide Gaol in the early evening of 9.3.83, at which time he offered to pay the fine. As there was no officer in attendance at Adelaide Gaol with authority to accept payment, Mr Daniels was detained until 10.3.83. The procedure followed by the prison authorities was the ordinary and standard practice at that time. This practice has now been regularised by section 39 (3) of the Correctional Services Act 1982. This Act had not been proclaimed at the time of the incident. A Crown opinion was sought which recommended that the case be settled by the payment of a \$1 000 claim plus legal fees of \$350.

CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMS

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The current status of the major capital works projects is summarised below:

Hillcrest Security Hospital: The progress of the works has been delayed approximately 12 weeks by inclement weather and minor industrial disputes and is expected to be completed by mid May 1987 within the approved funds of \$5.87 million.

Mobilong Prison: The project is proceeding on program. Tenders for 85 per cent of the construction work have been let and the project is expected to be completed by September 1987, three months ahead of the original program, within approved funds of \$21.25 million.

Yatala Labour Prison: The staged redevelopment is progressing as planned and the major components status is:

- (1) Forecourt Zone—including the perimeter fence, the new visiting centre, administration building and admission building—completed within approved funds of \$7.5 million. Operations building is under construction and expected to be completed by February 1987 within approved funds.
- (2) 'B' Division—Stage 1 has been completed and occupied by the prison and stages 2 and 3 are under construction and expected to be completed by August 1988 within the total approved funds of \$8.3 million.
- (3) Industries Zone—Minor contracts for tower No. 1, waste disposal unit, siteworks and new entrance gate are proceeding on program and are expected to be completed by mid 1987 within the approved funds of \$0.70 million.

Adelaide Remand Centre: The building has been completed and was operational in September 1986. The final estimated cost is expected to be \$16.5 million. The project was completed within approved time and cost.

Cadell: New residences are completed within approved funds and tenders are currently being appraised for the construction of the new kitchen block.

Mount Gambier Gaol: Upgrade was completed at a cost of \$245 000.

The other minor works are proceeding on program and are generally expected to be completed with the approved funds.

PAYMENTS FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

In reply to Mr D.S. BAKER.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: A total budget of \$52 000 has been allocated for committees in 1986-87 comprising:

Correctional Services Advisory Council	\$13 500
Parole Board	\$23 500
Community Service Orders Advisory Committee	\$15 000

This will provide for fees and expenses.

INVENTORY CONTROLS

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The Department of Correctional Services has been unable to establish and operate an inventory control system because of other demands on existing resources. However, the department has appointed an officer to control housing and transport and a register of all departmental property will be developed.

Software International has developed an assets register/inventory control system which is integrated with the existing computerised financial systems SIGL and TAS. This system is currently being examined by the Department of Correctional Services along with other agencies to determine its feasibility and the desirability of introducing a centralised system operating through the Government Computing Centre.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL RELATED PROBLEMS

In reply to Mr OSWALD.

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: There was a total of 131 drug related and 23 alcohol related incidents in all South Australian Correctional Services institutions during 1985-86. To assist in understanding the extent of the problem the department commissioned a comprehensive review of drugs and related incidents at Yatala Labour Prison. This review examined all aspects of the problem including incidents and an analysis of incidents, sources of drugs and related substances, methods of drug introduction, drug detection and other related matters. A preliminary appraisal of the review confirms the previously held view that drug taking and dealing in small quantities has been developing in the prison system over the last few years. This trend appears to reflect the trend within the general community.

Various prevention and detection measures to improve security have been implemented over the past several years in order to minimise the number of drug and alcohol related incidents in South Australian prisons. A drug and alcohol treatment services program to work with prisoners will be implemented shortly.

Minister of Transport

MICROCOMPUTERS

In reply to Mr. M.J. EVANS.

The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY: My colleague, the Minister of State Development, has advised that during 1985 the Data Processing Board prepared a proposed policy on the purchase of microcomputers. The basic tenet of that policy was that one vendor should be recognised as the supplier of standard microcomputers for use in Government, and that agencies should acquire that equipment except where, for technical or other reasons, it was not suitable. The draft policy was referred back because of a concern that it might be unduly restrictive in a rapidly changing market.

In the absence of a general Government policy, agencies were encouraged to make microcomputer acquisition decisions which would best suit their own processing and interconnection requirements. The board has been able to exercise considerable influence through its appraisal of proposals for microcomputer systems where the projected total costs were in excess of \$50 000 and also by advising agency representatives where particular assistance has been sought. A paper is currently being prepared which recommends agencies be required to develop their own acquisition policies for microcomputers and to forward those policy statements to the board for comment. It is expected that most agencies will adopt the guideline on this matter issued by the Australian Government Public Service Board.

There are currently no Government policies concerning communications between microcomputer systems within a single or different agencies. Relatively few agencies have attempted to network, excepting in local 'clusters', which enable the sharing of peripheral equipment such as printers, disk storage, backup, etc. At present there is no 'industry standard' for interconnection of microcomputers which could be practically adopted by Government. However, investigations were recently initiated by the Government Communications Policy Group, which reports to the Government Management Board, to identify a suitable infrastructure for Government's overall communications requirements. Through that project, a number of interim and long-term strategies and policies will be recommended, some of which will address the interconnection and communications for microcomputers.

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT FUNDING

In reply to Mr. INGERSON.

The Hon. C.F. KENEALLY: Total funding available to the Highways Department during 1986-87 is \$213 million. Sources of this funding are detailed in the Departmental Schedule of Proposed Works; however, the main sources include:

State	\$m	
Motor Registration and Drivers Licence Fees	58.000	
Fuel Franchise	25.700	
Transfer from Consolidated Account	14.000	
Other	13.841	
		111.541
Commonwealth		101.469
		<u>213.010</u>

Motor registration and drivers licence fees are dedicated to the Highways Fund and are available for departmental purposes once collection costs associated with the Motor Registration Division (MRD) are met and payments for road safety, personalised number plates and police services are made.

These receipts are initially used to fund the department's recurrent (administration only) expenditure, i.e., the \$25.357 million shown in the Estimates of Expenditure and any interest commitments. The balance is paid into the Highways Fund. The derivation of the \$58 million as compared to the \$90 million shown in the Estimates for Revenue is as follows:

	1985-86		1986-87	
	Actual		Estimated	
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Motor Tax				
Registrations	60.1		72.0	
Licences	11.0		18.0	
			<u>90.0</u>	

	1985-86		1986-87	
	Actual	\$m	Estimated	\$m
Motor Tax				
As per Revenue				
Estimates		71.1		90.0
Less Costs of Collection		13.5		14.9
		<u>57.6</u>		<u>75.1</u>
Less Police Services	7.7		7.7	
Road Safety Council	1.6		2.8	
Personalised Number Plates	.9	10.2	.3	10.8
Less Net Drivers Licence Money Held in Reserve			6.0	
MRD Computer Sys- tem Reserve			.3	
			<u>6.3</u>	
Total Funds Available to Highways Department		<u>47.4</u>	<u>58.0</u>	

The \$14 million shown under Capital Account is in addition to Motor Taxation receipts and is provided to enable the department to maintain 'real effort' given that funding from traditional State sources does not achieve that level.

This is notwithstanding for 1986-87, additional funds by way of five-year drivers licences are to be collected and held (because of the long-term nature of the licence fee) on the department's behalf (approximately \$6 million). At the time of preparation of the estimates, it was understood these moneys will be available to the department after 1986-87. Therefore, in summary:

- the \$25.4 million represents recurrent administration expenditure funded by motor registration and drivers licence fees.
- the \$14 million represents moneys allocated to the Highways Department in addition to traditional 'dedicated' sources, i.e., motor registration fees to enable the department to maintain 'real effort' and is used to fund both construction and maintenance activities.

Minister of Lands, Minister of Marine, Minister of Forests,
Minister of Repatriation

PORT VINCENT JETTY

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: A gravity wall is scheduled for construction behind the old timber sheet piling at the wharf at an estimated cost of \$70 000. This will prevent the escape of filling through the sheeting and consequent subsidence of the area behind the wharf. The major part of the expenditure will be carried out in the next financial year in February-March when tides will be at their lowest.

WALLAROO HARBORMASTER

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: In view of Government directives that numbers in the AO/EO or equivalent classifications are to be reduced, the position of Harbormaster/Pilot at Wallaroo, HP2 range was critically examined. Statistical information collated in regard to activities at Wallaroo and Port Pirie requiring pilot services indicated that pilotage duties at Wallaroo could be undertaken from Port Pirie without disruption to port operations at either port. One of the pilots at Port Pirie would be appointed Harbormaster, Wallaroo, but would continue to reside at Port Pirie.

Following the transfer of the Harbormaster from Wallaroo it was decided that for a trial period the position of resident Harbormaster would not be filled, but the situation would be kept under review to determine the practicality of arrangements during that period. The matter was discussed in detail with the Mayor of Wallaroo and the Yorke Peninsula Trades and Labor Council on 28 October 1986. Whilst the department's decision is not fully supported it has been accepted that it should be introduced for a trial period.

HIRE AND DRIVE REGULATIONS

In reply to Hon. P.B. ARNOLD.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: As advised during the Estimates Committee hearing, the Director, Ports and Marine Operations will be resolving the best form of proposed hire and drive regulations with Crown Law and representatives of the recreational boating industry over the next few months.

YORKE

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The new pilot vessel *Yorke* has been returned to Wallaroo pending review of the best deployment of the pilot vessels.

COXSWAIN'S CERTIFICATES

In reply to Hon. P.B. ARNOLD.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The Director, Ports and Marine Operations is reviewing the requirements in regard to certificates of competency for River Murray professional fishermen. However, as the present requirements conform with the uniform shipping laws introduced with the endorsement of the former Marine and Ports Council of Australia (now amalgamated with the Australian Transport Advisory Council) any change would need very careful consideration. A recommendation on this matter is expected within the next month.

CREOSOTE POSTS

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: No order was received by the department from the user. The order was apparently lodged with Dalgety's of Millicent. The first and only contact the user has made with the department was in late September 1986 when he rang to inquire about his posts. At this time only a general response could be given as there was no identifiable order from Dalgety's for exact stock he had ordered from them.

Subsequent investigation has disclosed an order for similar type posts received from Dalgety's Millicent on 11 June 1986. The subject order on Dalgety's was apparently dated 2 June 1986. Unfortunately the volumes on the order do not match as the posts ordered were only 1 500, not 2 000 as stated in the letter. (Perhaps Dalgety's intended supplying the balance from stock they already held on orders placed earlier.)

The total quantity of posts ordered by Dalgety's was supplied over four deliveries made during the period 13 August 1986 to 23 September 1986. These deliveries were spread to share amongst all customers awaiting delivery of their stock, the production becoming available as the posts became sufficiently dry for preservative treatment.

The strainers were not ready for delivery in early September 1986 due to the stock not becoming available in deliveries from the forests until later than expected. The stock is not now expected to be dry until early 1987 and will be forwarded as soon as it is available. The department did offer Dalgety's some 2.4 metre strainers instead of the 2.1 metre strainers. These were available ex stock and offered at the 2.1 metre price to keep faith with the original expected delivery date. This offer was not taken up.

The department advises of expected dispatch dates based on the best information available at the time of receiving any order. Achievement of that date depends upon availability of suitable stock from the forest and normal air drying conditions. Winter and spring 1986 were particularly wet, causing delays in the planned drying and production program. I can assure the honourable member of the department's best efforts to satisfy its customers; however, it appears on this occasion communication with the user has been complicated by the overall ordering and supply arrangements of his stock agent.

FORESTRY ACT REGULATIONS

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Officers of the Woods and Forests Department have recently completed conducting nine public meetings in the areas of the State in which the majority of our State forest reserves occur. This also included a meeting in Adelaide. The major issues which have come from those meetings have been noted. The department has also received approximately 60 written submissions and numerous telephone and personal calls. On the whole, no major disagreement was expressed with the overall intent of the forestry regulations. There were, however, special areas of concern which will be taken into consideration during the redrafting of the proposed regulations.

The concept of fees (more particularly the level at which they had been originally proposed), caused some consternation amongst a number of individuals and groups who responded to the opportunity to provide a response to the proposal. As a result, the following revised schedule of fees, which appears to have wider support, is being refined taking into account public comment from the above meetings:

THIRD SCHEDULE (Revised proposal 12.9.86) (Regulation 14 (1) (b))

FEES FOR ISSUE OF PERMITS

Number of people covered by each permit

Number of visits per annum	Number of people covered by each permit		
	1-4	5-19	20+
	\$	\$	\$
One	5	7.50	12.50
More than one	10	15	25

plus \$1 for each endorsement on the permit.

Endorsements

1. Under Regulation 4 (Access)
2. Under Regulation 5 (Plants, animals, soil etc.)
3. Under Regulation 6 (Boating)
4. Under Regulation 7 (Camping)
5. Under Regulation 8 (Caving or cave diving)
6. Under Regulation 10 (Driving)
7. Under Regulation 11 (Firearms)
8. Under Regulation 12 (Fossicking)
9. Under Regulation 13 (Horseriding)

A concerned response from some meetings and individuals regarding the form of the regulations is worthy of note. The view expressed was that the regulations in their present form were directed at those who were not going to offend anyway. In fact, some people expressed a clear preference for regulations which were directed at offences and thereby the individual(s) who offends rather than those who will keep the law anyway. The department believes that this is

basically a feature of the form in which the regulations were presented and the next draft, while not altering the intent to any significant degree, will overcome this perceived issue.

Some individual groups, like cave divers, horse riders, trail bike riders and gem and mineral club members, have made specific representations which, the department believes, they are able to satisfy.

At this time, it is anticipated that a second draft will be completed by Parliamentary Counsel before the end of the year which will enable the community to participate in meetings to be held in Adelaide and the South-East to test the level of acceptance. The present target date for promulgation is now scheduled for the middle of 1987. Other processes which will need completion before that date include the appointment of Forest Wardens who will oversee the implementation of the Forestry Act Regulations and the establishment of the necessary administrative procedures.

LOG HAULIERS

In reply to Hon. H. ALLISON.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Following the disastrous forest fires in 1983 in the South-East region and the completion of the ensuing salvage operation, logging activity in the remaining forest plantations was scaled down for an anticipated period of four to five years. Some smaller contractors were reduced in activity below viable financial levels and following an offer by the Minister of Forests in December 1983 subsequently offered their equipment for sale to the Woods and Forests Department. Two contractors were initially involved and sales were completed in April and June, 1984. These operations continued to be run by the department on a short-term basis.

On 2 January 1985 a larger logging contractor took a similar course of action and his equipment and facilities were purchased by the department. Because of the larger scale of activity in direct logging by the department, South Australian Timber Corporation Logging Services was created to manage and operate the logging business using the equipment purchased by the department. South Australian Timber Corporation Logging Services therefore acted as agents for the department in managing the activities previously undertaken by contractors who relinquished their business.

Since the calling of open tenders in November 1985 to place the logging activity back into the private sector and the subsequent allocation of contracts on this basis, the activities of South Australian Timber Corporation Logging Services have been wound down and ceased on 1 September 1986. During the operation of South Australian Timber Corporation Logging Services they reported a net profit for the half year to 30.6.86 of \$17 140 and a net profit of \$60 794 for the year ending 30.6.86.

Equipment purchased from logging contractors has gradually been resold or transferred to other operations conducted by the department such as direct harvesting activity in the Central and Northern Region. Purchase and resale of equipment was incorporated in total departmental plant and equipment requirements.

STATE LAND SURVEY

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The variation in 1985-86 was due principally to the fact that the project 'State Primary Geodetic Survey' had been initially funded from the Recurrent Account, but following advice from Treasury, the funding of the project (which, due to the use of the advanced

technology of the global positioning system was able to be completed in four years instead of 10 years) was determined to be more appropriately contained in the Capital Account.

The difference can be summarised as follows:

	\$	\$
Transfer of project from Recurrent to Capital:		
Sal.	291 000	
Cont.	257 000	548 000
PRT and Superannuation not allowed for		36 000
Other equipment purchases		55 000
S/Total expenditure on SPGS		639 000
Less minor equipment not purchased ...		65 000
		<u>574 000</u>

The difference in the estimates for 1986-87 compared with actual for 1985-86 is again mainly due to the expenditure on the State Primary Geodetic Survey (SPGS) project.

Estimate of SPGS for 1986-87	\$882 000
Actual for 1985-86	\$639 000
	<u>\$243 000</u>

The remaining amount (\$96 000) is due to the additional expenditure required to replace the MV 8000 computer in the Mapping Branch at Netley.

SHACK SITES—POINT TURTON

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Following the review of the classification of non-acceptable shack sites in South Australia from 1980-83 the Review Committee recommended that:

- (a) Sites 385/388 (4 sites) be reclassified acceptable.
- (b) Sites 389/426 (38 sites) be reclassified as being suitable for a 30-year lease.

The Government would not accept classification (b) and the Department of Lands was asked to review these sites to assess whether they could be freeholded. The result of this review left the 38 sites in the life tenure/non-acceptable category with freehold tenure not being an option. Factors which influenced this decision were potential for flooding, erosion and future planning for the foreshore in relation to the Town of Point Turton.

PITJANTJATJARA LANDS

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The board was asked verbally by the Community Adviser of Amata Community to inspect these lands. The board asked that this request be put in writing. No such request has been forthcoming to this date. The Pastoral Board has not proffered any opinion on the non-traditional uses of the Pitjantjatjara lands, as it has no jurisdiction over these lands. Regulations requiring Pastoral Board inspections or decisions on livestock operations in Pitjantjatjara lands have not been enacted.

GRAND JUNCTION INDUSTRIAL ESTATE

In reply to Mr De LAINE.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The construction of the Grand Junction industrial estate stage I involves the development of 48 allotments covering 37.5 hectares at an estimated cost of \$2.72m. The extent of works includes the provision of roads, water supply and sewers, underground power supply, and stormwater drainage. The project will use engineering

consultants to design the estate and oversee construction, consulting surveyors to carry out the survey function, and the Engineering and Water Supply Department to oversee the filling operations. The development commenced with filling in 1984-85 with the main construction to commence in 1986-87 with an estimated completion time during 1987-88. Some blocks were contracted for sale in 1985-86.

MINTABIE LAND

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: Section 28 of the Pitjantjatjara Land Rights Act, 1981, provides for the lease to the Crown by Anangu Pitjantjatjaraku of section 1291 Out of Hundreds (Everard) for a term of 21 years. The Minister of Lands may, upon the application of a Mintabie resident, issue or renew an annual licence entitling him, subject to the terms and conditions of the licence to occupy land within the defined area. Earlier this year (1986) disputes arose concerning the boundaries of occupation licences within the leased area. Eighty-six sites were subsequently surveyed by the Department of Lands, the boundaries being marked by steel posts. A copy of survey data was made available to the Mintabie Progress Association and has been used by the Association in resolving disputes.

HINDMARSH ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The acquisition program ranges over properties formerly owned by the Commissioner of Highways and private individuals and companies. At this time the acquisition of Highways owned properties has been completed and a program has been established in relation to the privately held properties. Pursuant to the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, all parties having an interest in the privately owned land (including the owners) have been served notices of intention to acquire. Additional to that notice, landholders and interested parties have been informed by letter of the Department of Lands acquisition program and the dates by which vacant possession of their properties may be required.

Effectively, the acquisition area has been divided into the following two parts:

- (a) Properties which may be required by 31 December 1987, to facilitate initial development work;
- (b) Peripheral areas which will be required by 31 December 1988, to facilitate further development of the proposed centre.

The Land Acquisition Act places no obligation on the acquiring authority to negotiate prior to compulsory acquisition being taken over, however, it is usual for the acquiring authority to contact landholders prior to the notice of acquisition being issued and this procedure has been followed in the case of the Hindmarsh Entertainment Centre.

MONARTO

In reply to Mr GUNN.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: The remaining stock of unsold land at Monarto comprises approximately 700 hectares of which 100 hectares are within the planning area controlled by the District Council of Murray Bridge for township

purposes and the balance is rural land also within that council area. The district council is currently preparing a draft supplementary development plan in respect of the township lands and when that has been authorised disposal of the township lands will be able to be finalised.

With respect to the rural lands, whilst these are under lease at the moment, action is being undertaken to determine the best method of sale, having regard to the planning prescription for the area which enables these lands to be subdivided into rural living allotments. The land comprises approximately 50 per cent cleared and 50 per cent wooded land and will require the extension of water and electricity services prior to its disposal. It is anticipated that the rural project will be completed by the end of the current financial year to enable disposal to commence.

SURPLUS PROPERTY

In reply to Mr MEIER.

The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT: It would be a time-consuming exercise for the Department of Lands to provide a complete listing of properties surplus to Government requirements at this present time. However, the department is in the process of designing and implementing a Government property register which will enable the identification and valuation of all Government owned property. The design and implementation of these systems are expected to be completed by December of this year, following which detailed lists of both overall Government property and surplus Government property will be readily identifiable.