

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.**

Wednesday, June 1, 1955.

The SPEAKER (Hon. Sir Robert Nicholls) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

**QUESTIONS.****PETROL PRICES.**

Mr. O'HALLORAN—It was announced yesterday that 90 octane petrol would be available on June 24 in all States, except Queensland, at a premium of 3d. a gallon above the price for the grade at present being sold. Can the Premier say why Queensland is not to have higher octane petrol at the same time as other States, whether the price of this grade of fuel is controlled, and whether the margins to the resellers are the same as on the present grade of petrol?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—I am not in the confidence of the large oil refinery people or the Queensland Government, but I understand that petrol is now controlled only in two Australian States—South Australia and Queensland. For some time the petrol companies have been very concerned about the price they are receiving in Queensland which, they claim, is unprofitable. Figures that the Prices Department have supplied to me seem to support that claim and that petrol is being sold at the cost of the consumer in other States to the extent of about £1,000,000 per annum. The price in Queensland is below the price in South Australia, which in turn, I think, is the lowest of any of the other Australian States. For some time there has been considerable disagreement between the Queensland Government and the oil companies on the price of petrol there. When the higher octane petrol was first suggested some months ago representatives of the larger companies saw me and submitted that the higher octane fuel would undoubtedly cost them more to produce and, of course, it will mean a duplication in distribution. They suggested that it would be fair to allow the higher octane petrol to find its own market value, but to continue to control the present grade being sold. They said if that were allowed they would give an assurance that the present grade petrol would be freely available to consumers and that the new petrol would be made a distinctive colour so there could be no fear of substitution at the expense of the consumer, and pointed out that if under those circumstances anyone tried to charge too much for the higher grade petrol an alternative would be readily available. I discussed that

proposal with the New South Wales Commissioner, who was then still functioning *pro tem*, and it was accepted. However, it was not accepted in Queensland, and I understand that State decided that if higher octane petrol was introduced it should be sold at the same price as the ordinary grade, and that the companies were not prepared to do this.

**NEW RAIL CARS AND LOCOMOTIVES.**

Mr. FRANK WALSH—Last year I directed a question to the Premier about gearboxes for the new rail cars, and he replied:—

I have discussed the matter on the highest possible level with French authorities and the Crown Solicitor will take whatever legal action he can.

Is the Premier in a position to indicate whether the contract this Government had with the French Government for the gearboxes was ever finalized and whether the Government was able to get any redress on account of the cancellation of the orders?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—The contract that the Railways Department entered into was with a manufacturing firm in France. That firm got into financial difficulties and went into liquidation. The receiver carried on the contract by subletting the manufacture of the parts to other manufacturers. However, the parts were in every way unreliable and unacceptable, and finally the contract was terminated, but we did not get any redress. Unfortunately, we lost the amounts that had been forwarded in progress payments for the gearboxes that had been manufactured and delivered and which were not suitable when we put them into service. The matter was discussed with the French Government, which was most concerned because France is anxious to balance its trade position with Australia, especially as that country is a big purchaser of our wool. Obviously, the French Government was not responsible for the faulty gearboxes and could not take any action. The Government subsequently ordered other transmission gear which has been thoroughly tested and, I understand, it is quite suitable and is being made available fairly rapidly for service. Recently the Leader of the Opposition asked a question about diesel locomotives and it may be opportune for me now to give the information he asked for. The Railways Commissioner has now forwarded a report, which states:—

It is anticipated that the first train unit, comprising two new rail cars and one existing trailer car suitably modified will be in operation by the end of July next, when it will be tested under actual service conditions. It is

hoped to complete the construction of the 12 new rail cars required for three six-car trains by the end of December, 1955.

#### MONTEITH SCHOOL FENCE.

Mr. WHITE—Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked yesterday about a new fence for the Monteith school?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—On making inquiries I find that tenders were called for this fencing, but there was no response. Further tenders have now been called and will close on June 22, 1955. That emphasizes my general statement yesterday that it is difficult for the Architect-in-Chief to obtain tenderers for various improvements to school properties.

#### RAILWAY GAUGE STANDARDIZATION.

Mr. FRED WALSH—In last week's press Mr. Wentworth, M.H.R., is reported to have suggested on the subject of the standardization of railway gauges that the first step should be to provide a 4ft. 8½in. line from Broken Hill to Port Pirie. In commenting on the suggestion the South Australian Railways Commissioner is reported as having said:—

I strongly support standardization, but only on the condition that Victoria and South Australia convert their 5ft. 3in. lines at the same time.

Can the Premier say whether the condition stipulated by Mr. Fargher conforms with the State Government's policy on the standardization of railway gauges, and if so does it mean that any move by the Commonwealth Government to convert the Broken Hill-Port Pirie line to 4ft. 8½in. would be opposed by the State?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—This matter is governed by an agreement entered into by the South Australian and Commonwealth Governments, which has been ratified by both Parliaments and is at present in operation; therefore, it is a question not of what our policy may be, but really of what our commitments and obligations are in this matter. The agreement provides that South Australian Railways, with the exception of the Eyre Peninsula division, shall be converted to a standard gauge, but it gives South Australia the right to use the 5ft. 3in. gauge pending the completion of the scheme, if we are prepared to convert it to 4ft. 8½in. at our own expense. The financial obligations of the Commonwealth are that it shall provide, I think, £28,000,000, but the State would be responsible for the repayment of debt charges of £7,000,000. Under the agreement the Commonwealth Government is also committed to building a standard gauge line from Port Augusta to Darwin. Some work in the south-eastern

part of this State is being carried out each year under the agreement. If the honourable member wants to know whether I believe it would be practicable to change the gauge between Broken Hill and Port Pirie without changing our other northern gauges, I would say that would be unfair to this State, and that the Commonwealth would not be on good grounds in asking for it. If it desires to carry out the agreement it has entered into, this State has always stood up to its obligations.

#### INDUSTRY AT WALLAROO.

Mr. McALEES—Has the Premier received any inquiries regarding the use of the old grain distillery for an industry at Wallaroo?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—On a number of occasions we have let it be known, and once actually advertised, that we desired to place an industry in this building, and I am pleased to inform the honourable member that negotiations are well advanced with Cheeseman Brothers, of Port Pirie, who have applied to me for the building with the object of establishing an annexe of their industry there. They are prepared to take over the building, to pay a low rental for 10 years, with the right of purchase at valuation at the end of that time, and to maintain the building in a satisfactory condition. They have been very progressive at Port Pirie and are well accepted in that district. They have certainly given us the utmost assistance in connection with our large chemical plant there, and I believe their industry will be a valuable adjunct to the honourable member's district.

#### SELECTION OF JURORS.

Mr. TAPPING—Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question about the system of selection of jurors?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—I have received a lengthy report from the Attorney-General, and will read a few extracts from it. I am, however, willing to let the honourable member see the report, and if he then wishes to ask me any further questions he may do so. The extracts are:—

Annual jury lists for Supreme and Circuit Courts are prepared each December by the sheriff. They contain not less than 1,500 names for Supreme Court district, not less than 200 for Port Augusta, and Mount Gambier Circuit Courts. In actual practice 1,575 and 500 respectively are the figures used. Names are selected by ballot from Legislative Council rolls. . . . The fact that some citizens have

never been called up for jury service can be accounted for either by the fact that they are not enrolled on the Legislative Council roll or if enrolled they did not get drawn in the ballot. Provision is made in the Act (section 19) for the sheriff to exempt any person from jury service where he has served in that capacity within the preceding three years. If a person summoned for service should come within this category he would immediately be excused upon application to the sheriff.

#### IRRIGATION WATER RATES.

Mr. MACGILLIVRAY—Last week I drew the attention of the Minister of Irrigation to what seemed to me to be a mistake in the list of charges for water in irrigation areas, stating that the Chaffey and Cobdogla irrigation areas were shown as £7 an acre for a 24in. irrigation but at Nookamka and Loveday the rate was £6 10s. for the same amount of water. In his reply the Minister said:

That schedule is correct. The charge of £7 an acre made to the low lift pumping areas at Cobdogla and Chaffey is for five general irrigations, whereas the rate of £6 10s. an acre for Loveday and Nookamka is for four general irrigations.

I have discussed this personally with the Minister and draw his attention to the fact that in both cases the amount was 24 acre inches and that it would cost more to pump where the charge is £6 10s. than where, in the lower lift areas, it is £7. The Minister said he would re-examine the question. Has he any further information?

The Hon. C. S. HINCKS—I have obtained the following report from the Assistant Director:—

The Irrigation Act requires that the quantity of water to be supplied in respect of the rate shall be shown in the *Gazette* notice. Charges for water are, however, made on an *acreage basis* and in so far as Chaffey and Cobdogla low-lift areas are concerned, the specified quantity of 24 acre inches has no particular significance as no additional charge is made for quantities supplied in excess of this figure. For the three (3) years ending June 30, 1952, 1953, and 1954 the average quantity of water pumped at Chaffey was 31.15 acre inches and although separate figures are not available for Cobdogla, they would not be very different from those quoted for Chaffey.

The quantity of 24 acre inches has been used in the *Gazette* notice for many years for both Cobdogla and Chaffey on the assumption that less water would be used in a given number of irrigations on the heavier flat land in those areas than on the lighter soils, but this is not being borne out in practice. If it will help to clarify the position for the honourable member and others who may be interested, in future *Gazette* notices 30 acre inches will be used for the two areas in question.

#### METROPOLITAN TAXICAB CONTROL BILL.

Mr. JENNINGS—Yesterday I asked the Premier what the Government's intentions were concerning the reintroduction of the Metropolitan Taxicab Control Bill. I pointed out that certain disclosures had been made during the debate last year about trafficking in licences, the hiring out of licences and other irregularities, none of which had been denied. I said that I had been informed recently that similar acts were still being perpetrated. The Premier did not tell me what the Government's intentions were, but pointed out that agreement had apparently been reached between the Yellow Cab Company and its drivers. That may be so, although I doubt whether complete agreement has been reached, but the Yellow Cab Company was only one of the groups mentioned last year with regard to irregularities. It was then pointed out that many other people were getting licences from the Adelaide City Council which they could not use themselves but were hiring them to others at £6, £7, or £8 a week. The principle of the Bill introduced last year was for uniform control and I believe was endorsed by every member. We still have not uniform control because the Bill lapsed. Can the Premier say whether he is going to introduce a similar Bill this session with a controlling authority other than the Adelaide City Council, because that was the only point on which there was disagreement last year?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—I regret that I did not give the honourable member the information he required yesterday. I thought he was concerned with the dispute which had arisen between the Yellow Cab Company and its drivers. The Prices Commissioner's investigation necessarily had to take into account all factors operating in the industry to enable him to arrive at an understanding of the problem. Speaking in general terms, the Commissioner's finding was not adverse to the Adelaide City Council's control. He believed that it had been an honest control. The difficulties that had cropped up were largely due to the fact that certain metropolitan councils were licensing taxicabs, and, under an agreement between those authorities and the city council, those cabs became eligible for a certain type of licence from the city council. A large number of licences was issued by the city council not pursuant to its own investigations but because of that arrangement with other councils, some of which were not taking active steps to see whether the persons licensed were

personally operating the service, providing a reasonable service to the public, or only operating a peak service. The Prices Commissioner suggested that a great deal of the difficulty would be overcome if an advisory committee could be appointed comprising representatives from the city council, a representative from each of the northern, southern, eastern and western districts, and an officer from the Police Department to advise the city council upon what licences should be issued. So far as I know those suggestions have been accepted by the metropolitan councils and the city council, and I believe, although I am not sure, that that authority has been established. If it has, no legislation will be introduced by the Government.

#### TANKS FOR GAWLER TRUST HOMES.

Mr. JOHN CLARK—In Gawler there are two large areas of Housing Trust homes, but like similar areas elsewhere, they have been without rainwater tanks. Recently the trust began to install tanks in one area. Strangely, they are being installed in the area more recently built: the houses that have been erected for years have not yet been provided with tanks. Although the local council is doing its best the roads are similar to those in other Housing Trust areas and water is lying about. Will the Premier ascertain when the trust is likely to install tanks in the older area at Gawler?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—I will obtain that information for the honourable member, possibly by next Tuesday.

#### SCHOOL COUNCIL SECRETARIES.

Mr. HUTCHENS—Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked on May 24 about the regulation which appears to make it mandatory for the head teacher of a technical school to act as secretary of the school council?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—I had a look at the regulation. The honourable member's statement preparatory to his asking the question was, I think, a little more general than it need have been. He said that because of regulations it is mandatory that the headmaster or headmistress of a technical school shall on the appointment of a school council, become the secretary of that council. Actually, there are two types of technical school. One is the senior technical school which is, in effect, a country technical school and which is primarily for adults. In these the principal or the registrar is the secretary, in accordance with the

regulations, and it is considered by the department that it is highly desirable, because these bodies receive grants from the Government, as does the School of Mines. Experience has shown that with the registrar or principal acting as secretary the most efficient work results, as in the case of the School of Mines where the principal is the secretary of the council. Then there is the junior technical school, in which the honourable member is primarily interested. These schools are not governed by the regulation and the councils may appoint anyone they wish as secretary. The regulations were amended in 1952 and regulation 10, part III, subsection (30) simply says that at the first meeting of a junior technical school council the members shall appoint a president, secretary and treasurer. In any case, councils at present have the power to appoint other than the headmaster or headmistress as secretary. Therefore, it would appear that no amendment of the regulation is necessary, insofar as it concerns metropolitan technical schools in which the honourable member is interested.

#### URANIUM PROJECTS.

Mr. RICHES—Paragraph 23 of the Lieutenant-Governor's speech says, *inter alia*, that "an investigation of special interest is now being made into the production of uranium metal." Can the Premier say whether the actual planning stage has been reached and can he give the House any information as to the probable site for treatment works or an atomic power station? I recollect that in an earlier Parliament 1960 was fixed as the year when it was thought we would have an atomic power station to supplement the programme set by the Electricity Trust.

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—The paragraph concludes with the words: "The Government hopes to submit the results of the investigation to the Federal Government at an early date with the object of making arrangements for important work in connection with uranium to be carried out in this State." The honourable member's question is answered in that sentence. In other words, we have reached the stage when we hope to submit a proposal to the Commonwealth Government in the reasonably near future. I am proud to be able to tell the honourable member that we have in South Australia a highly qualified experimental branch in connection with uranium work, not as large but up to the standard of what is taking place overseas. Whilst we are getting valuable information from overseas from time

to time, we are in the position of being able to give valuable assistance to other projects than our own. We are not completely on the receiving end. At present we are investigating the matter. Technically we have processes which have been worked out and which are now in the laboratory stage for testing. Cabinet has approved of two officers of the Mines Department going abroad. Although they are South Australian officers and going at the State's expense, they are going under the sponsorship of the Commonwealth Government and as a matter of courtesy we are allowing that Government to release the names in due course. We believe the project is important. If we can succeed in it, it will be a big step towards our ultimate object of getting nuclear energy in this State.

#### COUNTRY SEWERAGE SCHEMES.

Mr. CORCORAN—Has the Minister of Works any further information in reply to the question I asked yesterday regarding the sewerage of country towns?

The Hon. M. McINTOSH—I intimated to the honourable member yesterday that I would give him further information today. There was a similar question by the member for Mount Gambier and I shall answer them both now. The committee on country sewerage recommended (1) that the rate for country sewerage schemes be increased from 1s. 9d. to an amount not exceeding 2s. 6d. in the £; (2) that the minimum rate on sewered properties be £4 per annum; and (3) that the minimum rate on vacant land be fixed at £1. I said yesterday that Mr. Riches, a member of the committee, intimated that he would like the opportunity to submit for the committee's consideration a scheme for septic tank installations as an alternative for those towns that might not want sewerage at these rates. The Government has accepted the recommendations of the committee and has asked the Parliamentary Draftsman to draft a Bill incorporating the rates recommended. I express thanks to the members of the committee for the time they have given and for the unanimous decision reached.

#### SUPREME COURT ACCOMMODATION.

Mr. TRAVERS—Last session I made some inquiries about much-needed additional accommodation at the Supreme Court. Can the Premier say whether the Government has had an opportunity to go into the matter and, if so, what decision has been reached as to the nature of the additional accommodation?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—The Government has given some consideration to this matter and, though I do not know whether this is a result of the honourable member's question, the judges have also made a series of requests and have asked Sir Geoffrey Reed to look at the problem generally. Our courts are congested and, furthermore, the Commonwealth Government has asked for accommodation for the High Court when it sits in Adelaide. The Government has advised the Commonwealth that it will provide that accommodation which would, of course, be available for our use, too, and we also said that the Commonwealth should recoup the State for the expenditure involved. I think the honourable member previously raised requests for additional accommodation for witnesses and for persons awaiting attendance on the court and also for additional library accommodation. I fancy that the cost of those projects was estimated at over £80,000. Plans were referred to the Public Works Committee for inquiry, and I understand that it has reached a decision and that its report will be issued soon. I will get further information for the honourable member in due course.

#### MAIN ROADS THROUGH TOWNSHIPS.

Mr. O'HALLORAN—Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked last week about the sealing of roads through towns in my electorate that are on the main highway to Broken Hill?

The Hon. M. McINTOSH—The honourable member asked whether the Government's policy of sealing main roads through country towns had been changed, and I said I would be surprised and disappointed if it had been. I am glad to be able to say that that policy has not been changed in any way. A report I have received through the Minister of Roads states:—

Mount Bryan, Hallett, Terowie, and Oodla Wirra have been sealed. Oodla Wirra has been sealed and the base at Olary commenced this financial year. It is intended to seal Olary in the very near future. Subject to the availability of funds, it is intended to seal Whyte Yarcowie, Mannahill, and Yunta during the financial year 1955-56.

#### RAIL CARS FOR MOONTA SERVICE.

Mr. McALEES—Has the Minister representing the Minister of Railways a reply to the question I asked last week about running the new rail cars between Adelaide and Moonta?

The Hon. M. McINTOSH—Through the Minister of Railways I have received the following report from the Railways Commissioner:—

With reference to the question asked by Mr. McAlees, M.P. in the House of Assembly on Wednesday, May 25, the Minister is advised that a number of country line rail cars have been constructed at Islington and are now awaiting the fitting of transmission equipment which is being obtained from the United States. When sufficient of these cars are available to traffic they will be placed in the Adelaide-Mounta service.

#### POLICE MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Mr. TAPPING—Under the heading "S.M. on Doctors' Test Delays" yesterday's *Advertiser* states:—

Long delays in the medical examination of motorists arrested on charges of driving under the influence of liquor seem to be becoming more and more frequent, said Mr. D. F. Wilson, S.M. in the Adelaide Police Court yesterday. Mr. Wilson was sentencing a 29-year-old man to a month's gaol for having driven a motor car whilst so much under the influence of liquor or a drug as to be incapable of exercising effective control. In this case a police doctor had examined the defendant three hours after the alleged offence. Will the Premier consider appointing additional police medical officers in main suburbs to overcome this problem?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—I understand the police have a medical officer on duty at all times and that he is called when required and attends as soon as possible. It is just possible that a number of cases may occur at the same time and that it would then not be feasible for the doctor to be at several places at once, but I will have the matter examined.

#### GEPPS CROSS MIGRANT HOSTEL.

Mr. JENNINGS—Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked recently about the need for extra toilet facilities at the Gepps Cross Hostel?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—The position is as I outlined when the honourable member asked the question. The working expenses of the hostel are virtually equal to the revenue derived from the rents. It follows that, if further bathroom accommodation were provided, there would either be a substantial loss on the operation of the hostel or rents would have to be increased to such an extent as to recover the capital cost over a limited period of years. Before the hostel was taken over the occupiers of flats were fully informed of what was proposed and knew of the bathroom arrangements, but approved of the proposed

arrangements. The hostel is not intended to provide permanent places of residence, and there has been a considerable turnover of flats. There are 360 flats in the hostel, and during the past two years from March 1953 to March 1955 there were 420 vacancies, that is a rate of nine vacancies a fortnight. At March 1955, of the 360 tenants in the flats when the hostel was taken over by the State only 96 were still there. Some tenants are able to secure other accommodation and reside in the flats only very short periods; for instance, 111 flats have become vacant from two to seven times over two years.

#### BRIDGE OVER MARION ROAD.

Mr. FRANK WALSH—Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked last week about the construction of a new bridge over Marion Road to give direct access from South Road to Henley Beach Road?

The Hon. M. McINTOSH—Through the Minister of Roads, I have received the following report from the Commissioner of Highways:—

The road in question is a district road and in parts carries fairly heavy traffic, which, however, is mainly to and from the local areas it serves rather than through traffic. Whether it is desirable to encourage through traffic is a matter requiring close investigation, particularly to the possible effect on other localities of any such diversion. In order that information may be available when required, some preliminary survey, etc., has been carried out, but this should not be taken as an assurance that the proposal has been approved or that the very substantial expenditure required can be provided.

#### CANUNDA COMMONAGE.

Mr. CORCORAN—An area known as Canunda Commonage, which is Crown lands, was placed under the local district council to administer for many years, and during that period it was leased to Coala Station. The lease has been terminated and the area is now under consideration for soldier settlement. It was referred to the Commonwealth Government for approval. Has the Minister of Repatriation any information on this matter?

The Hon. C. S. HINCKS—Recently—I think last Friday—the Land Development Executive submitted to me plans of a subdivision for this area and also estimated costs of its development, and both were satisfactory. Those plans and costs are again being submitted to the Commonwealth Government for acceptance. The area involved would be sufficient for six or seven settlers.

## GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR NORTHFIELD.

Mr. JENNINGS—Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked last week regarding the erection of a general hospital in the Northfield area?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—The Director-General of Medical Services reports:—

The only discussion that has taken place by the Royal Adelaide Hospital Board is in relation to providing further accommodation at Northfield wards, which is an adjunct of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, for the purpose of accommodating additional chronic types of patients. At the present time four of the small wards are being utilized for the accommodation of nursing staff, and the Hospital Board has submitted proposals for extensions to the nurses' home to enable those wards at present being used for nurses to be made available for patients. The plans for the proposed nurses' quarters, which have been discussed with the Architect-in-Chief are in course of preparation. Two prefabricated buildings, one to accommodate infectious disease patients, the other to accommodate nursing staff required for that building, were recently completed at Northfield wards and are now being utilized for those purposes. The provision of a general hospital in the Northfield area is not considered to be a matter for discussion by the board of the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

## GRANTS TO SWIMMING CLUBS.

Mr. TAPPING—Has the Minister of Marine a reply to my question of May 24 regarding grants to swimming clubs?

The Hon. M. McINTOSH—As I indicated at the time, it is not usual for the Crown Law authorities to give an opinion on such a matter, but, having regard to the nature of the question, my colleague, the Attorney-General, has called for and received the following report from the Acting Crown Solicitor:—

In my opinion a municipal council has no power to make grants of money to other persons or bodies to build swimming pools. However, a council may itself construct and provide swimming pools, and may, subject to the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1934-1954, borrow money for that purpose.

## NAILSWORTH BOYS TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

Mr. JENNINGS—On the opening day of the session in asking a question about the temporary roadway into the Nailsworth boys technical school, I said that, at a parents' meeting held shortly before, a number of motor cars had become bogged. The Minister brought down a reply but I was disappointed with it. Apparently whoever prepared it thought I required an explanation of why the motor cars became bogged, because it stated:—

Two gateways give access to the school and if the eastern gateway had been used, there

would have been no trouble regarding the parents' cars becoming bogged. By means of this gateway, the existing natural ground is used as a temporary roadway across the block and no access has to be made over the filled area where the new ground formation is taking place. Prior to the parents' meeting, a signboard was erected at the eastern gateway directing traffic to the school. Notwithstanding this, car owners used the usual gateway at the western end.

Why would they not use the gateway at that end? As the reply admits, the usual entrance is by the western gateway, so what was the sense of erecting a notice "Enter here" at the eastern gateway? It would have been more sensible to erect on the western gateway, which was usually used, a notice advising motorists to use the other gate. The road that is stated by the reply to be over solid ground is through an area which shortly will be disturbed by the laying of the school oval. I raised this question at the request of a responsible school committee; it was certainly not an irresponsible question as it seems to have been treated by the person who prepared the reply. My explanation indicates the great need for a temporary road. Has the Minister any further information on this matter?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—I listened with great attention and interest to the informative and exhaustive, if not exhausting, speech delivered by the honourable member preparatory to asking his question. The information I gave him on a previous occasion was supplied to me, not by an officer of the Education Department, but by the Architect-in-Chief. I shall be pleased to take up the matter to see whether the conflicting statements of the honourable member and the Architect-in-Chief can be reconciled, and to bring down a reply either tomorrow or next Tuesday.

## MOONTA MINES ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.

Mr. McALEES—Has the Premier a reply to my question of yesterday regarding an electricity supply for Moonta Mines?

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD—The Assistant Manager of the Electricity Trust reports:—

A number of people in the Moonta Mines area were supplied by direct current from the original Moonta system. These have now been changed to alternating current and a small number of additional consumers immediately adjacent are now being connected. The change over of the supply to alternating current in Moonta and the adjacent areas has been given priority because of the inadequate supply from the direct current system. It will be possible to commence the extension of supply to the remaining consumers in the

Moonta Mines area in about two months' time after similar work in the Port Hughes and Simm Cove area has been completed.

In a further statement Mr. Drew indicates that the work has been delayed mainly because of labour shortages.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: MR. H. D.  
MICHAEL.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE moved—

That one month's leave of absence be granted to the honourable member for Light (Mr. H. D. Michael) on account of ill-health.

Motion carried.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.

(Continued from May 31. Page 143.)

Mr. WILLIAM JENKINS (Stirling)—I add my sincere regrets to the expressions of other members concerning the deaths of the late member for Mitcham, Mr. Dunks, and the Hon. R. J. Rudall. Both will be missed. Both possessed high principles and were kindly gentlemen. Mr. Dunks will be missed in other places. He was always interested in the Home for Incurables and its welfare, and other institutions also had his sympathy. I congratulate the new member for Mitcham, Mr. Millhouse, on the excellent speech with which he moved the adoption of the Address in Reply. With his ability and youth he has, I feel, a great political future in South Australia.

Paragraph 3 of His Excellency's speech refers to the economic conditions of South Australia. This State has progressed in secondary industries and that it can attract industries is evidenced by the fact that there is a likelihood of a large motor industry being established in the Burbank area. I will, during the course of my remarks, compare our industrial progress with that of Western Australia. The recent visit by a party of Parliamentarians from South Australia to Western Australia was of great interest and we enjoyed the kindly hospitality of members of the Western Australian Parliament. I congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on the able manner in which you led the South Australian party. At all times you put yourself out to ensure the comfort and enjoyment of the party. Every day you were called upon to deliver addresses or to respond at civic and other functions. Your fine speeches added to the prestige of this Parliament. At a civic welcome in the Perth Town Hall the Western Australian Premier referred to the South Australian industries

and said that though Western Australia had about 200 more industries than this State, the output from South Australia represented about £1,500,000 more than in Western Australia. During our visit we visited the Kwinana oil refinery at Cockburn Sound, which has been established at a cost of £48,000,000, and there is no doubt that the activities of this establishment will before long be reflected in the economy of Western Australia. It was of interest to note that one of the by-products of this concern was bitumen which will be produced for £7 or £8 a ton less than the present purchase price. I hope that the negotiations at present proceeding will be successful and that a refinery will be established in South Australia in the near future.

We have had some experience of fruit fly in South Australia. The methods adopted by the Government have been severely criticized, not only in this Chamber, but by persons whose trees have been stripped. I can well understand their feelings, but from investigations of what is taking place in Western Australia I feel that we are adopting the only possible methods of eradication. The Labor member for Gascoyne, a banana grower, invited the member for Murray, Mr. White, and myself to the wholesale fruit and vegetable market in Western Australia. We inspected the system of marketing and I was most interested to notice the quantity of fruit condemned because of fruit fly infestation. We were shown cases of peaches that had been delivered in apparently perfect condition the previous evening, but which were partly putrified and a moving mass of fruit fly maggots that morning. I asked whether growers who had delivered fruit found to be infested were permitted to pick it over and resubmit what they considered good fruit. I was told that it was not permitted generally, but that two weeks previously when one of the biggest growers delivered 40 cases of best-grade peaches—then selling at 35s. a case—and they were found to be infested, he was permitted to pick the fruit over. When he had completed his task, 11 cases were thought to be reasonable. Mr. Connor, a former South Australian, the chief inspector, examined those cases, but everyone was found to be reinfested and the whole lot had to be consigned to the incinerator where condemned fruit and the cases containing it are destroyed. The manager of the market, the chief inspector, and members of both political parties in Western Australia were unanimous that the only method of eradication was that adopted by this Government. They mentioned that



many years ago California had an infestation of fruit fly and used similar methods to what we have adopted and is now exporting fruit all over the world.

I inquired what methods were being adopted by the Western Australian Government and local councils and was told that boards were established which at times sprayed trees in suburban gardens. It was not an effective measure of control. The fruit on the ground was never cleaned up. It was infested and the fly used to burrow to a depth of two feet beneath the surface of the ground during the pupae stage and reappear when the fruit was ripe. Every type of fruit appeared to be infested; bananas, chillies, peppers, tomatoes, melons and fruits, and it was suggested that even roses in suburban gardens were hosts for fruit fly. In Western Australia they have fruit fly areas. No. 1 area is within a 50-mile radius of Perth and the other areas radiate from there. No fruit is permitted to be transferred from one area to another and no fruit is exported except for use on vessels on the Indian Ocean run. It is considered that the loss to Western Australia is about £1,500,000 a year. The areas suitable for development as vineyards and orchards are being used for agricultural pursuits as people are afraid to invest money because of the danger of fruit fly.

The member for Alexandra, Mr. Brookman, referred to the need for water supplies in his district. In my district a survey is proceeding at the moment in the Hindmarsh Valley in connection with the construction of a new reservoir. I hope when the final geological survey is made the damming of the Hindmarsh River will be considered at the same time. There is an increasing demand for irrigation water for the purposes of market gardening along that river. Last week 85 acres of land were submitted for sale and a contract for sale was signed by four New Australians subject to water being available from the Waterworks Department through the reticulation system. That supply was not available and the sale fell through. The persons concerned considered that they could supply the whole of the southern district with vegetables and also supply large quantities to the Adelaide market. I hope that the damming of the Hindmarsh River will enable irrigation water to be made available for vegetable growing.

Paragraph 14 of His Excellency's speech refers to mental hospital accommodation. I believe that the main reason for the

insufficiencies of such accommodation was the war and the subsequent post-war period during which it was difficult to procure materials and labour. The great increase in population has added to our difficulties. Most of us agree with the Stoller report and other reports about the shortcomings of these institutions. If we were to spend enough money to correct the position within a period of five years we would have to rob other public facilities. About £5,000,000 has been allocated for hospital accommodation this year. The Education Department needs £7,000,000, but that will not be enough for its requirements. All these things need money, and if more is spent in one direction less is spent in another. It is said that some people are occupying beds in mental institutions when accommodation should be found for them elsewhere. The responsibility for housing the feeble folk, who cannot look after themselves, should be the responsibility of the family in some cases. I have been told that some families apply for their old folk to be admitted to an institution, and it is done when the application is supported by a certificate. Let me tell a story that I heard last week about a New Australian. He said that he could not understand the attitude of the people in Australia in regard to their old folk. He pointed out that in his country the responsibility for looking after the old folk rested with the family. He asked "Why it is that a mother can rear and take care of 10 children when 10 children cannot take care of the mother?" I think he has something there.

Mr. Davis—Do you believe in that?

Mr. WILLIAM JENKINS—Yes. I think families are too prone to relegate their old folk to an institution. I am entirely in favour of the establishment of steel works in South Australia, but I agree with Mr. Brookman that we should make haste slowly. A project of such magnitude should be carefully investigated. We have been told that it will cost £100,000,000 to establish a steel works, and that is enough to justify a thorough investigation. I want now to refer to the Wundowie wood-distillation, charcoal-iron and steel industry of Western Australia. The State Government in 1943 passed legislation for the establishment of works at an estimated cost of between £5,000,000 and £6,000,000. The works have been in full operation for about seven years, and about £100,000 a year of the taxpayers' money is still being put into the project yearly. This tremendous loss occurs in spite of the fact that the raw material is

obtained nearby. We should carefully investigate the proposed expenditure of £100,000,000 for the establishment of steel works in this State. Earlier this year a party of South Australians visited Wundowie and to us it looked a good scheme that would prove profitable. There is considered to be many years' supply of the necessary timber within 15 miles of the works. The iron ore is a costly material to transport because it comes from about 200 miles away. The timber is sawn into various sizes. The off-cuts are conveyed by belts to a circular saw where the timber is cut into blocks. These are dropped into trucks and run a short distance into the furnace where the charcoal is made. This charcoal is used for the treatment of the iron ore. The project may pay in time but some people we spoke to were not sanguine. The Government is reasonably happy because the works have been established in the Premier's electorate, which is supposed to be a borderline seat. The influx of workmen into the district has made the seat reasonably safe for him.

I am concerned about the fishing industry in our southern waters. Yesterday I asked the Minister of Agriculture a series of questions and I want to amplify the matter now. For some years we have been advocating the expansion of our fishing industry and additional encouragement for fishermen to go farther afield with the object of providing fish at reasonable prices. Since the war several men have been engaged in the industry. Some have operated between Port Lincoln and Victor Harbour and at various times have called at these two ports. They own cutters which cost between £6,000 and £10,000. To own a fishing cutter is an expensive business. Besides the cost of the cutter there is the money to be spent on the purchase of ice. As much as £80 has to be paid for a new sail and between £170 and £180 for a new anchor chain. Insurance is about £240. There is a good deal of responsibility and hard work associated with fishing. The proceeds from one boat may be on the average £6,000, about £5,000 of which comes from flake and about £1,000 from shark livers. That was the position up to several months ago, but now shark liver is off the market. Up to 2s. 3d. a pound has been received for the liver in South Australia, and 2s. 9d. in Victoria. The livers are no longer in demand because of the manufacture of synthetic oil, and possibly the importation of oil from Japan. I am not sure about the latter and I suggest that the Minister of Agriculture inquire into the effect

of import restrictions. Shark meat is edible. The price obtained at Port Lincoln for the flake was 1s. 6½d. a pound, but it has now been reduced to 1s. 2d. A person in Rundle Street, who paid a remunerative price for this fish, now imports hake from South Africa. A large amount of this fish has been imported for many years, but the quantity has increased recently. It is sold at a cheap price. One big man in Victoria has control of the market there and I think the same thing might happen here. When there is control of this fish here the price will become prohibitive, and by that time our shark fishing cutters will have been sold and no longer of benefit to the State. I know that our Minister will look at this matter and have the interests of the fishermen at heart. They are not used to getting hand-outs, although they are a hard-working people. Flake is edible. The shark lives on the best of the sea. It eats squid, octopus and crab, and is a clean living fish.

Several of our shark fishing cutters are on the market. Mr. Fred Harry has given up shark fishing in the last few months and is just pottering around doing a little fishing here and there. Mr. Lionel Puckridge has gone out altogether and sold his cutter. Mr. Nigel Buick, one of the best fishermen in South Australia, told me that he is putting his cutter on the market. There is no sale on the mainland for flake and shark liver. Only a small quantity of it is sold at Port Lincoln. The fishermen go a long way into southern waters and it means travelling a long distance when they go to Port Lincoln. A Mr. Sheridan has his boat on the market and now spends his time fishing with nets around the coast. The boats are being sold for the Island trade or as pleasure craft. We cannot afford to lose an industry of this nature.

The State can look forward to another year of prosperity and expansion in industry. The season has opened auspiciously and we should hope that it will continue for the benefit of the State and the people generally. I support the motion.

Mr. FRANK WALSH (Goodwood)—I, too, support the motion and join with other members in expressing regret at the deaths of two of our colleagues. The capabilities of the late Mr. Dunks were well and truly displayed, not only in the district he represented, but throughout the State. He represented Mitcham since 1938, and as the member for an adjoining district I know much about the work he did. I congratulate the new member for Mitcham, Mr. Millhouse, on his speech in moving the

adoption of the Address in Reply. I congratulate him on his delivery, but I cross swords with him on some of his statements. He said:—

During Mr. Dunks' lifetime I used to regard him a little timidly as more than a mere acquaintance of mine: rather as a wise old counsellor from whom I had already picked up a few good tips.

I, too, pay a tribute to the late Mr. Dunks, but I remind the member for Mitcham that his predecessor had not less than 25 years of commercial experience before he entered this Chamber. He was engaged in the food trade when commodities were available to the public if they had the money to purchase them. I think Mr. Millhouse attained a high standard of education between 1947 and 1951, but during that period the Government made available over £700,000 in grants to the university. I hope he will alter some of the decided views he expressed in his speech, especially on price and rent controls, for it seems he has had little experience of their operation and does not realize the effect of decontrol. I hope that Mr. Millhouse will not have to suffer the trials and tribulations that many members have suffered in the past. Many members have had to seek extension of time for the payment of income tax for their constituents. At about the time Mr. Millhouse was born this State was passing through a severe depression, but he has been fortunate enough to grow up in times of prosperity. I believe the honourable member desires to carry out his district work on the same lines as did his predecessor, and I hope he will use his influence with the Mitcham Council and get it to remove the rubbish dump at Springbank for the benefit of local residents, some of whom are in my electorate.

The member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip), who seconded the motion, referred to hire purchase. Last year he had the opportunity to express his views, and he will probably have another opportunity to do so this session when the Opposition introduces another measure on this subject.

Mr. Lawn—Is he one of the financiers?

Mr. FRANK WALSH—I do not know of all his investments. He spoke of primary production and the establishment of secondary industries, but South Australia would not be in such a happy position if the Commonwealth Government, assisted by the British Government and other countries, had not established defence projects with a view to preventing war. South Australia has benefited greatly from the con-

struction of the Long Range Weapons Establishment and other undertakings near Salisbury and the Rocket Range at Woomera. Mr. Heaslip said that Opposition members seemed to be interested only in small matters, but in total they become important. He wondered whether any money invested in hire-purchase could be allocated for the purchase of homes, but the hire-purchase system as we know it operates too savagely for that. The true interest charged on the financing of the purchase of a motor car would astound many people. The rate on a used car is usually 10 per cent flat, which means that interest is calculated at that rate on the original sum borrowed, no allowance being made for repayments of principal. If the time of repayment is three years this means that the interest rate is actually about 30 per cent. I understand that hire-purchase companies can borrow money at 5 per cent.

The Government has stated from time to time that it considers points raised by members when speaking on the Address in Reply. In company with many other members, I returned from Western Australia by rail early this year. We changed trains at Port Pirie junction when the shade temperature was 106 degrees. We were transferred to a steel coach that was not equipped with blinds to give protection from the sun. The condition of that coach was not creditable to the railways, but I have found that it would not normally be necessary to send it to the Islington workshops for repairs. In the Adelaide yards there are people who can carry out minor repairs. I do not know whether there are sufficient of them there, but it is the Government's responsibility to see that railway equipment is kept in a reasonably good condition. Apart from the Rolling Stock and Ways and Works Departments there are no stores in the Adelaide yards and it is most difficult for the workmen to obtain materials. I do not know whose fault this is, but the Government should rectify the position. Recently a glass partition was needed in an office in the railcar section at the Adelaide yards and, after specifications were drawn up, two skilled coachbuilders were taken off their usual work and instructed to erect it. Armourplate glass intended for use on a railcar was used, as it was considered that the vehicle would not be put into service again. However, it was later decided to use this railcar again, and it was discovered that there was no glass of the correct size in stock to use on it. This necessitated taking the coachbuilders from their normal work again to dismantle and re-assemble the partition. Is it any wonder that

we are asked to pass Supplementary Estimates when such matters occur? The work at Islington Workshops on rolling stock is so far behind that about one-third of the men are asked to work overtime. I realize that it is necessary to have supervisors, but surely it is not necessary to have as many supervisors during the working of overtime as it is with a full staff, and that is the position that obtains now. This matter should be investigated.

The Government sometimes takes notice of what honourable members say in the Address in Reply debate, so I would like now to refer to the Lottery and Gaming Act, which I believe should be amended. I am particularly concerned about amateur sporting bodies who have the difficult task of endeavouring to raise money. They consist of people engaged in normal employment during the week who desire to play organized games such as baseball, cricket and swimming according to the season. In my electorate is a football club, the secretary and management of which consider that at least £500 a year is needed to enable it to field two teams each Saturday during the season. This club assists in teaching boys from the Edwardstown, Ascot Park, Forbes and South Road Primary Schools, and also the Marion High School. It makes its oval available for organized sports conducted by these schools, and in addition sometimes provides the necessary equipment. It also provides coaches to assist the students. Last year I asked the Premier whether charges laid under the Lottery and Gaming Act against the secretary, who is a very honourable man, could be broken down. The Premier made representations to the Crown Solicitor, who reported in words similar to these: "The offence is a breach of the Lottery and Gaming Act. If you, as Premier, direct me as Crown Solicitor not to proceed, I will obey your direction, but I assure you that a breach has been committed." Sporting bodies cannot be run without conducting some form of lottery.

I do not like to see reputable citizens charged under this Act because they try to do something in the interests of organized sport, so I suggest that the Government should give urgent consideration to amending the Act. If that is not done I believe that I, as a private member, should endeavour to have it amended, but I believe the Government is big enough not to want honourable citizens coming before the court. I have discussed the matter with senior police officers, who have told me that they do not like doing this work because they would prefer an art union to be conducted. I believe that if a sporting

body needs money it should have the right to conduct an art union. I do not want hard and fast rules laid down about what the prizes should be, but at the same time smart people should not be given any opportunity to commercialize such a project. Sporting bodies want to get school children interested in healthy sports because the playing of organized games helps to prevent the activities of bodgies and widgees, but it costs money to conduct a club. I advocate assistance for this wholesome sport by an amendment of the Lottery and Gaming Act. I understand that the Government intends to further subsidize certain hospitals and institutions on a pound for pound basis. The Act should be amended to give these organizations the power to raise money by means of an art union. Like many other people I receive tickets from the Art Union of New South Wales, the prizes for which run into thousands of pounds. Some years ago I introduced an amendment to the Act to enable a State lottery to be set up, but my move received very poor support. The Act should be amended so that art unions could be conducted and trophies, such as motor cars and washing machines, rather than cash prizes, awarded. Permits for such lotteries could be issued by the Chief Secretary, and so long as the profits went back into the organization and no self-appointed agent collected a rake-off, there would be no harm in such a proposal.

I now turn to a subject that is causing many people grave concern—the drainage of new housing areas. On May 30 the *News* under the heading "Complaints on Roads at Parkholme," reported that I had visited that area, but that was incorrect: I visited Ackland Gardens off the South Road. My electorate contains many square miles of broad acres which have no topographical fall and which therefore receive water from the surrounding higher parts. The occupiers of some trust homes in my district cannot walk into their homes without wading through water and mud. There is a need for better co-ordination between the trust and local councils so that a complete survey may be made on building land in order to ascertain the direction in which it should be drained. It is no use saying there are no surveyors available to do this work, because frequently I see cadet surveyors with theodolites, steel tapes and other equipment measuring up the Botanic Park. That is a routine class exercise, whereas the community generally would be assisted if those students were sent out to the new housing districts to ascertain the levels there.

A few years ago I complained about drainage conditions at St. Marys where the water from streets was drained directly through some properties and into a paddock. The same thing is occurring today in Ackland Gardens where the trust has built homes around a lagoon and where the Marion Council must now get permission to drain water through certain homes because it cannot be drained either into the underground drain on Sweetmans Road or in a northerly direction.

Mr. John Clark—Who planned such a scheme?

Mr. FRANK WALSH—I don't know, but the land was subdivided, and later bought and built upon by the trust.

Mr. Quirke—It sounds like broadcasting rather than planning.

Mr. FRANK WALSH—It has not been planned in the way it should have been. The surveying cadets to whom I have referred should be used to help survey such areas rather than asked to do routine exercises in the Botanic Park. If the Chrysler enterprise proceeds with its plans in my district, more homes will be required there, but much of the land is under water and will require surveying so that it may be drained correctly. If the Housing Trust is to continue as the building authority for this Government, it must co-operate with local councils so that the areas may be drained satisfactorily. In Parkholme, roads have been laid and later ripped up for the laying of sewer and gas mains. An attempt has been made to drain water into Sturt Creek, but its banks are higher than the road level, and unless a shutter type outlet is used, the water from the creek will flood the area already built on.

Mr. Fletcher—Where is the outlet for the Sturt Creek?

Mr. FRANK WALSH—Its water runs into the sea near Glenelg. A real effort should be made by the Housing Trust and local councils to eliminate the conditions I have mentioned; then the press would be unable to publish pictures of people trying to enter their homes through water and mud. In Ackland Gardens I recently counted 12 letter boxes at one corner, 15 at the second, and 12 at the third. The only access to the homes in those streets was through water, but surely those people are entitled to something better because after all they pay rent. Better planning in the initial stages is necessary.

In its desire to ensure that the trust continues as the main building authority in the State, the Government has prohibited the State

Bank from building homes. State Bank homes contain more equity than similar homes built by the trust. It is estimated that the trust will build about 3,000 homes this year, but that will hardly supply our annual requirements let alone overtake the building lag. Are we ever to achieve the goal of providing homes? I have already mentioned the Chrysler Company's project to be established in my district and I am pleased to know it is to be erected there, but it will result in a further industrialization of the metropolitan area. The Housing Trust is busily engaged building homes in the satellite town north of Salisbury or nearby, but I have not heard of any industries being established there, although they are to be some day. I believe the Chrysler Company will be in production before any industries are established at the satellite town.

The trust is to build a little more than 3,000 homes this year, but they will not be sufficient to meet the community's needs. I understand that certain councils in my district have signed an agreement with the trust to permit the continuance of emergency homes for a 10-year term. These homes have certainly served a purpose, but the emergency today is even greater. That is how far behind we are. I do not want this type of home erected around the Chrysler site, otherwise the company may not decide to come here. I pay a tribute to the town clerk of Marion, Mr C. W. Bradley, for his efforts in the negotiations.

On the area situated on the south side of Daws Road and to the west of Goodwood Road, which is sometimes called Centennial Park, sometimes Springbank, and at others the area previously occupied by the air force huts, there are about 500 emergency homes. Many are converted air force huts or single unit homes. The converted air force huts have outlived their usefulness and the Government should instruct the Housing Trust to demolish 25 of them and erect 50 habitable homes. This could be done without any extension of sewers or other services. I do not want to see these homes demolished without others being erected in their place. I believe the trust pays rates to the Mitcham Corporation for the area, but I cannot recall any council work being done there. Metal roads existed in certain sections, but they are now unfit to drive upon. It is up to the Government to consider this housing question at its next Cabinet meeting and call in the chairman of the State Bank Board and advise him to proceed with the building of group homes.

The time is long overdue when the Government should seriously consider the material requirements of the State, among which homes are a very important factor. I have in mind the production of burnt red bricks. If there is one company which has set itself out to improve production it is the City Brick Co., Glen Osmond Road, Glen Osmond. About five or six years ago the Government granted the company financial assistance to erect another Hoffmann kiln, which has been in production for quite a time. When I called there recently the proprietor said that if he had another Hoffmann kiln he could increase production and added that he could get the necessary labour. He would need no more than 50ft. frontage of the adjoining public reserve, which is not big enough for a soccer or football field. I believe that in the summer it is sometimes used for scout troop rallies. If he could obtain the additional area he could erect another kiln. He informs me it is under the control of the Unley Corporation. Which is the more important—that this small area of land should be made available to the company to erect another kiln to produce burnt red bricks, or that it should remain as a rather untidy area that could be used when someone wants to play some type of game on it? It is necessary in the interests of home building that this matter should receive urgent and serious consideration.

I am informed that in the Hindmarsh area people who had acquired land for brick production had sold out their interests and now the local council has stepped in and said that brick production will not be permitted, thus cutting off this supply of brick clay. I do not want to see holes made in the metropolitan area for the manufacture of bricks if better use can be made of the land, but is the Government prepared to provide money on a fifty-fifty basis so that another site can be utilized, or is the local council to be allowed to dictate the position and say that no more holes are to be dug in this area? I know it is desirable that the Mines Department should be the chief quarrying authority, but I am reminded that the City Brick Company now has to go to Crafers and transport shale to its Glen Osmond works for brickmaking. This is due to the closing of a quarry at Glen Osmond because of a Mines Department regulation concerning the maximum height of a quarry face. The Government officers concerned could solve the problem without the need for it to be voiced here.

It would have been better had His Excellency's speech indicated that investigations had been made concerning the City Brick Company and that legislation was to be amended to enable it to erect another kiln on that reserve and that shale was to be made available from a closer source than Crafers.

I believe that with the present cost of homes it is necessary to review the amount that can be lent under the Advances for Homes Act. I have always maintained that the interest rate on loans is a governing factor. I understand that all State Premiers agree that money they obtain from the Commonwealth Government should be at a flat rate of 3 per cent interest. The interest on advances for home building should also be at a pegged rate. I commend to the Government's attention the matters I have raised.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE (Burnside)—I share the regrets of other members at the passing of two Parliamentarians who believed in the institution of Parliament, its traditions and purposes. I, too, congratulate the member for Mitcham, Mr. Millhouse, but there is no need to employ the conventional charity in commending his maiden speech. It was a good speech by any standards. It is true that His Excellency's speech is a recital of the Government's achievements and the State's response to them in the past year. The Leader of the Opposition seemed to find some cause for complaint because it was a record of real achievement. One would not expect to find a trail of economic disaster and neglect from the present Government. On the other hand, it does not necessarily follow that the Government has been able to do all it would have liked to do or all the Opposition would have liked it to do. There are such things as costs, shortages of men as well as supplies and indeed, in this growing and flourishing State, priorities. It is easy to be critical especially when criticism is not tempered with financial responsibility and often without full knowledge of all aspects of a question.

It must be disappointing for the supporters of the Opposition to find that, with one or two exceptions, members opposite have contented themselves with generalities rather than critical or constructive analyses of the Government's policy. One can well repeat the editorial in a recent issue of the *News*—"Where is the Labor expert on health, mining, works, education, roads, local government and so on?" That very pertinent question has not been answered in this debate.

Mr. John Clark—Where are the experts on your side of the House?

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—They occupy the front bench on this side of the House and the front bench of the Government in the Legislative Council. Lest I be charged with lack of constructive criticism I will briefly refer to some matters which seem to me of importance. I commend the Government's policy of sending technical men abroad to expand and increase their knowledge of material matters such as engineering, mining and so on. We recognize our limitations in these matters and realize that the world at large has much to teach us. This is equally true in other spheres—education, primary production, public works and cultural affairs. We have not recognized that other people can teach us much in these respects. I know the great faith the Premier has in engineers to aid our development. I share that faith, but it would be a one-sided development if the humanities had to take a second or, worse still, third place. It would be a poor community indeed which had nothing but good engineers. I strongly urge the Premier to send his Ministers abroad. I am not suggesting joy rides or pleasure tours, but I am convinced that the taxpayers of this State would get value for their money if any of the present Cabinet went abroad on fact-finding missions.

I recognize the vast problem of educating and accommodating our rapidly growing school population and am aware of the constant pressure to include new courses of study in the school curriculum. I am not advocating that new courses should be introduced at this stage but draw attention to the needs of the School of Arts. Good work is being done there with outmoded and limited equipment and I am gratified to know that the school is to embark on a diploma course. I feel that much good could come from interstate visits by senior officials responsible for the direction of the study of artistic matters in South Australia. The same applies to the technique of teaching teachers.

Our material needs have, of necessity, first priority, but a stage is reached when utility—in some cases, stark utility—must make some concessions to aesthetics. I think that stage may have been over-run, but at any rate our outlook on this matter needs awakening. This brings me to the spoiling of natural features by the quarries which mar the foothills in my electorate and which are steadily marching into the Premier's electorate. It is true that quarrying is lawful and necessary. The close proximity of suitable building stone for

housing, roads and sea walls keeps some check on costs by the saving of cartage which forms such a heavy ingredient in the cost of stone, but I think that this is a case where stark utility must now concede something to aesthetics. I hope that the Government, now having assumed control over quarries, will give consideration to this matter if legislation is contemplated this session. I trust that under existing legislation something can be done to reduce the outward effects of quarrying which so many people are dismayed to find is marring the beauty of our foothills.

The thought of foothills brings to mind the devastating bushfires that sweep parts of this State from time to time. I am pleased to learn that steps are being taken to review the organization of bushfire fighting and I would like to make two suggestions to the Minister of Agriculture that he might refer to the Bushfires Advisory Committee. With great advantage in many aspects of our daily affairs, we have encouraged and, indeed, insisted on insurance as a corollary of State aid. We very properly insist on compulsory third party insurance for motor vehicles and require compulsory workmen's compensation insurance. The taking out of medical benefits insurance entitles a person to aid in sickness and hospital charges. We encourage life assurance and superannuation by taxation concessions. These schemes are all designed so that the claims of the needy can be met to some extent when circumstances necessitate their being assisted. As a result the burden on the community is lessened. I suggest that the Bushfires Advisory Committee might consider, firstly, whether in certain localities bushfire insurance should be compulsory or, secondly, whether it should be a condition for the receiving of State aid after a bushfire that the claimant should have carried some insurance. The position is analogous to hospital benefits and in line with the requirements of the Act which assures recognition of claims from fires arising from trains if proper breaks are ploughed.

The Hon. A. W. Christian—Would you suggest that a man who had no insurance and was burnt out should get no relief?

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—The person who does not take out health insurance does not receive medical benefits from the Commonwealth. I think the analogy is complete. The person who does not insure his motor vehicle for comprehensive risks and whose vehicle is

destroyed receives no aid even if his livelihood is lost. That seems to me to be an exact parallel.

I have been informed that a number of country councils—and some comparatively large councils—have not properly qualified health inspectors. On the one hand there are not sufficient qualified men to provide full time officers for the councils and, on the other, there is not the work for them to do nor the money available for full-time employment. It seems to me that with great advantage—so obvious that it does not need expounding—groups of councils could, between them, employ a health inspector. This is done in a number of localities and could well be extended. Men with proper qualifications could be engaged.

Mr. Teusner—That has been done in my district.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—It is done widely, but not universally. Having made some reference to health matters I would like to submit a point for the consideration of the Minister of Health. Members have all seen ambulances travelling at great speed through city traffic. With dismay we have seen in the last year or so many grave accidents in which ambulances have been involved and injuries caused to others and damage done to their property. I asked a friend of mine, a well-known and highly qualified medical practitioner, if any real purpose was achieved by the speed at which ambulances travel. His words to me were “If the case is so desperate that the minute or two saved by travelling at speed dangerous to the ambulance and the public is vital, there’s not much that can be done for the patient in any case.”

Mr. Fred Walsh—It might send the patient on his journey more quickly.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—Many grave accidents have been caused and other patients have been seriously injured as the result of the high speed of ambulances. I ask the Premier if he will have a report prepared on this and take it up with the ambulance services if it is found that my assumption is right.

An overseas visitor to this State last year said to me in the course of conversation that many of the problems which face Governments all over the world can be solved if they spend enough money. I don’t suggest for a minute that moral problems, social disorders or even poor taste can necessarily be corrected by spending large sums of money. But the

general tenor of this debate has been that a great number of our State’s needs can be met by spending money. That is very substantially true, as my friend from overseas agreed, but—and it is a very big “but”—where does the money come from? I expect the Opposition to say, “It’s got to be found.” Going back again to the criticism of the *News*, to which I referred earlier—where is the Opposition’s expert on financial matters who will tell the Government how it can be done? The only member on the other side of the House who has ever put forward views on this matter is the member for Chaffey. I don’t agree that his solution is the right one, but it is only fair to say that he holds his views on public finance sincerely and he has studied his solution.

Mr. Quirke—He is not the only one.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—Then I will add the member for Stanley, but whether he or the member for Chaffey likes the present financial system or not, they know, as indeed all members on this side know, that whatever the Government spends it must first receive, either by way of taxation or from loan. I shall not weary the House with my views about restoring the State’s right to impose income taxation, which most members must know, but a word or two might be said about loan policy from which so many of our public works are financed. The Financial Agreement, into which all States and the Commonwealth entered in 1927, provides that borrowing shall be done through the Loan Council, but with its permission a State or a State instrumentality may borrow outside the Loan Council. Its outside borrowing is, of course, included as part of the allocation which is made to the State concerned. It is true too that the method of raising the loan is a little more costly, interest rates are somewhat higher and I believe that sinking fund payments are heavier. Nevertheless the State—or at least this State—with its stable Government would get the money it needs and be able to go on with works which otherwise might have to be delayed. A delay and consequent increased costs could easily be more expensive in the long run than the extra charges involved in floating a purely State loan such as the loans for the Electricity Trust and the Housing Trust.

The Hon. A. W. Christian—Has not the lack of steel had some relation to the delays?

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—Steel is not used extensively in all projects, but there are many, I am sure, which could have been gone on with years ago had funds been available.



Mr. Stephens—If we had had the right Government in power.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—We have had the right Government, make no mistake. In recent years such loans as those I have referred to have been over-subscribed, whereas loans launched by the Loan Council have been barely filled, and sometimes not even that. I remember large advertisements in this State for other State instrumentalities, blessed or otherwise with Labor Governments, appealing to the thrifty and prosperous people of South Australia to subscribe to their loans which had not met with success in their own States, while our own loans have been oversubscribed. The reason, of course, is that people like to see something for their money, and if they subscribe to public loans that carry low rates of interest they like the money to be spent in their own State.

Mr. Quirke—Would such loans as you suggest be taken into consideration by the Grants Commission?

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—The Grants Commission is not basically concerned with loans, but with the level of revenue expenditure on social services.

Mr. Quirke—Well then; the Loan Council?

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—I have already said that the Loan Council takes into consideration money raised outside, but for which it must give its permission. When it makes an allocation to the State it does not necessarily guarantee that it will get that money; that depends on the investor, but if the State raises a larger portion by domestic loans within its own boundaries it will at least be assured that a larger part of its quota will be filled.

Mr. Macgillivray—But this State is not allowed to raise its own loans.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—I have already shown while the honourable member was absent, that the Loan Council gives permission for such loans as were raised by the Electricity Trust and the Housing Trust.

Mr. Macgillivray—They are not Government loans.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—But they are taken into account in the Loan Council's allocations and it seems to me that there is a need, from several points of view, to make this avenue of investment available to South Australian people, because the Trustee Act very strictly limits the investments into which trust moneys may be put. I think these "trustee investments" cover only Commonwealth Loans, Electricity Trust, Housing Trust and Gas Company debentures and real property. It seems then that

South Australian investors and, indeed, the many thousands of depositors in the savings banks with balances greatly in excess of the average of the Commonwealth might well be encouraged to invest directly in a State Loan. It is true, of course, that large sums are invested directly by the savings bank in loans, but it is a good thing for the people themselves to have a direct interest in these things.

Mr. Macgillivray—Investors can get six per cent for their money elsewhere, so how can the Government expect to fill its loans when it can only offer four and a half per cent?

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—As I have already said, fields for trustee investments are very limited and trustees cannot invest in those securities which carry six per cent. The Trustee Act permits only four or five investments plus Government or semi-Governmentally sponsored loans.

Mr. Macgillivray—I do not see how your suggestion would improve the position.

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—I am sorry if I cannot make the honourable member understand, but while he was out of the Chamber I gave him credit for being one of the two members on the other side who have ever put forward a proposal to deal with our financial needs, though I did not say I agreed with him.

It is idle to speculate on the contents of Bills of which notice has been given, but it is surprising to find that the Government is convinced that price control must be still retained when the other States have given it up. If the economic trends which have influenced the Government to retain price control for another year are valid, it still does not preclude the speed up of price freeing for goods now in plentiful supply. Indeed the trends are for buyers to become more choosy, and competition from interstate manufacturers in many lines, from frozen confections to hardware, will have a salutary effect on any trends towards excessive prices in South Australia.

The retention of rent controls has little to be said for it apart from the fact that houses are still needed in thousands. I have always felt that homeowners who have let their houses have had to carry a very much heavier share of the cost of retaining stability than they should have had to do. It is little consolation to them to know that conditions here for landlords are better than in the other States, as the President of the Real Estate Institute recently reported. The State must get out of this control as soon as possible. Some easing of the burden on landlords was made last year and this process must continue with a target

date by which we can get out of this difficult and vexatious legislation. There is, too, every justification for some increase in rentals in many thousands of instances, as all sections of wage earners have benefited by the sustained prosperity and when all said the man who lets his house provides a somewhat comparable service to the man who makes his labour or skill available. He supplies a need and that need should be properly paid for.

I hope that a Town Planning Bill will be introduced this session. There has been ample time for those who are particularly interested in town planning to have made their criticisms and observations on the Bill that was before this House last session, and this is a subject in which delay can be costly to the planning and future development of the metropolitan area.

Mr. Fletcher—Would you make it State-wide?

Mr. GEOFFREY CLARKE—I will consider that when the time comes. The Address in Reply provides a useful sounding board for the expression of views of all kinds, and I trust that the Government will give consideration to some of the suggestions which I have had the honour to put forward this afternoon in supporting the motion.

Mr. McALEES (Wallaroo)—I join with other members in extending sympathy to the relatives of the late Honourable R. J. Rudall and Mr. Dunks. The Government did not treat the new member for Mitcham, Mr. Millhouse, fairly when it asked such a young member to move this important motion, but I congratulate him on the way he did the job, although the Opposition cannot accept all he said. Various speakers have referred to his remarks, and there is no need for me to mention them. I listened carefully to the Lieutenant-Governor's speech but was not satisfied with it. Thinking I had missed something I read it, but I could find no mention of Wallaroo, so I can properly say that there was nothing in the speech. The people of my district are disappointed. For many years it was the backbone of the State, but after taking all the riches from it the Government said the people could do what they liked with the mine holes. What was taken from the district was taken by Liberal Governments, which have made many promises to help but few have been carried out.

There is little for which I can thank the Housing Trust. Last Saturday's *Mail* contained a report about a deputation waiting

on the mayor of Kadina for Housing Trust rental homes to be built there. It seems that most of the trust's building operations take place in the metropolitan area and little in the country. This is not satisfactory. There is no more suitable place than Wallaroo for the establishment of an oil refinery because in the locality are all the necessary requirements. We have the labour, a harbour, and a jetty, and ships drawing 29ft. of water can come in and go out under their own power. All the overseas ships require a pilot. As far as I know it is the cheapest port in Australia. There is no expense for tugs. In fact, the people of Wallaroo would not recognize a tug. If the oil refinery were established at Wallaroo other industries would follow. Last session the Premier told us that one could not be built at Wallaroo because it would be too far away from industries. The Wallaroo people want to know why the industries are all in one spot, where they could be destroyed by the dropping of one bomb. They would be safer at Wallaroo because no bombs would be dropped there. At one time the Premier used to help Wallaroo when there was something he could get from the district but since then he has not visited the town. He has promised to come but has never done so. There was an occasion when we had the band ready and the red carpet down, but he did not come. Once when the grain distillery was started the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition attended a social at Wallaroo. Much was said about the industry and how it would be good for the prosperity of the district, but since then nothing has been done. The only man who had a good laugh that night was the Premier, for he knew what was going to happen. I am caught only once and when the Premier makes promises now I do not take much notice of them.

Bouquets have been handed out to the Minister of Education for his work in connection with schools, but I do not give bouquets to anybody. The present Minister has not done much for my district, although he is a busy man in the metropolitan area. We are short of teachers and nurses because salaries and conditions are not made sufficiently attractive by the Government. We can get miners to go to Radium Hill, Woomera, and places hundreds of miles from nowhere, because the Government pays them well and makes working conditions attractive. The rail service to Moonta and Wallaroo from Adelaide is disgraceful. I think it is the most disgraceful in the State.

A rail car leaves Adelaide on Thursdays at 6 p.m. and if it runs to time it reaches Wallaroo at 10 p.m. That is a journey of four hours over a track so rough that the passengers do not know whether the car is on or off the rails, and whether it has square or round wheels. We have been promised diesel cars that will reduce the time of the journey and make travelling conditions more comfortable. Going through the Hummocks the railway line goes six miles farther than it should do. It was put down about 100 years ago when picks, shovels and wheelbarrows were used. That is why it has to go around the hills. Nowadays with good earth-moving equipment the line could go straight through them, which would reduce travelling time and rolling-stock would not have to be replaced so often. The district of Wallaroo has no chance of getting an industry whilst the present Government is in office. The Wallaroo people look forward to the next elections when there will be a change of Government, which is badly needed, and then the district will get all to which it is entitled. I support the motion.

Mr. QUIRKE (Stanley)—I join with other members in expressing regret at the passing of Mr. Stephen Dunks and the Hon. Reginald Rudall. They performed their duties and stood up to their responsibilities each in his own way and we honour their memory for having served their fellow men faithfully and well. I congratulate the mover of the motion (Mr. Millhouse) on his speech. I was impressed by his obvious sincerity and I wish him well in his political career which, under the present system, will be as long as he wishes. I also congratulate the member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip), who seconded the motion. He is no less sincere in his approach to matters under discussion, but his thinking is very muddled on one matter. He quoted the following paragraph from the Lieutenant-Governor's opening speech:—

A feature of the Australian economy, however, which gives special concern to my Ministers is the strong pressure to increase interest rates. Merchants, manufacturers, and financiers—in particular those engaged in financing hire purchase transactions—have entered the loan market seeking large sums for the extension of their businesses and, in a number of instances, are offering high rates of interest. At the same time there is an unprecedented demand for loans by semi-Governmental authorities in the eastern States. While the loan money available this year is sufficient to provide for all Government works for which men and material can be found, there is a serious risk that if the pressure on the loan market is not relieved, Governments may be

unable to raise sufficient money for next year's requirements.

That is the vital paragraph of His Excellency's speech. Mr. Heaslip, in reply to an interjection by the Leader of the Opposition said:—

If your Bill would have been effective I would have supported it, but it would not have been effective or workable.

Actually the only realistic approach to the problem of hire-purchase was that made last year by the Leader of the Opposition. He did not seek to destroy the hire-purchase system, but tried to make it less attractive to financiers who are in competition with the loan market. To that extent his Bill was the soundest that has been introduced in any State Parliament. Mr. Heaslip also said:—

There is no question that hire-purchase enables people to live beyond their means. They tend to mortgage next week's earnings to pay for what they get on hire-purchase.

Several members take exception to hire-purchase because it mortgages future incomes, but yesterday's *Advertiser*, under banner headlines, quoted the remarks of Sir Norman Nock, President of the Australian Council of Retailers. He said:—

The Federal Government should seek £1,000 million in overseas loans for national development.

We would have to mortgage our future income to pay for that, which is merely another form of hire-purchase but on a national scale. However, it is a form of hire-purchase that is absolutely unnecessary. We certainly mortgage the future under the hire-purchase system, but this shows that never at any one time in our economy is there sufficient money to purchase the output of secondary industry. If we passed legislation to stop hire-purchase we would stop every industry in Australia and precipitate the unemployment of hundreds of thousands of people. Hire-purchase has grown rapidly because people have not sufficient money to buy the goods they want, and if we abolished the system we would have a crisis worse than that of 1930-33. According to today's *Advertiser* a member of another place said he deplored the fact that three of the big private banks had hundreds of thousands of pounds invested in hire-purchase finance, but the proposal put forward in New South Wales was that the only people that should be permitted to put money into hire-purchase would be the banks.

The Premier, as head of the Government, knows he has a financial problem. He knows there is a static amount of money that is rigidly controlled in this country and that

much of the money raised by Commonwealth loans comes from small investments. The loans raised by the Commonwealth Government are distributed amongst the States for spending. If some people or corporations such as hire-purchase companies, intrude in the loan field, and get some of the money available a crisis is precipitated. That is what is meant by the third paragraph of His Excellency's speech.

I congratulate the member for Burnside (Mr. Geoffrey Clarke) on his speech today. He said that the only members that had put forward proposals to overcome our financial problems were the member for Chaffey and myself. He has not told us how we can increase the purchasing power of the people on a non-inflationary basis so that they can acquire the output of secondary industry. The mere fact that many people invest in Commonwealth loans does not mean there is any more money to carry out public works. If we get the permission of the Loan Council to borrow money the amounts so raised are deducted from the State's share of Commonwealth loans, so we are no better off. I repeat what I have said before, that one way to get money for housing would be to use the two State banks of this State. This would considerably cheapen the money available to us.

Mr. Macgillivray—Couldn't the trading banks help too?

Mr. QUIRKE—I do not think so at present because the trading banks of Australia are jittery about their future under the administration of the central bank. All members know what Mr. Macgillivray and I have advocated in the past, but I have yet to hear any member dissect our statements sentence by sentence and show where we are wrong. I am sure that many members are too shy to depart from orthodoxy, but I am equally sure that they are convinced that the answer to our financial problems lies along the road that we ask the finance of this country to travel.

Let us consider housing. That is the first problem of Australia and upon the security and sanctity of family life depend the future of this country. The security of the family unit is the one thing upon which real security can be built, and there is nothing that makes for insecurity more than the lack of houses, which is a deplorable thing today. We are so in the grip of this static financial situation that has Australia throttled that it is beyond the contemplation of any ordinary individual to build a home. The other day I asked the

Premier whether it was intended to increase amounts available under the advances for Homes Act and he replied that it would be done if money were available. Why is not money available? It is only an intangible thing in house building, unlike cement, bricks, roofing tiles and roofing iron—it is only a medium of exchange by which these things can be purchased. There is not a stock of money to which people have no access. Money, apart from pocket money in the hands of the people, is only represented by figures on paper.

In 1934 Sir Norman Nock said that our national income was about £600,000,000; it is now £3,000,000,000. I ask members to reflect on this. Where did the difference between these figures come from? Who made it? Who brought it into existence? How did it come into existence? Honourable members know the answer to that. They know that every penny of it came into existence as a debt; there is no other way in which money comes into existence. It is made through advances to somebody. I do not think that even half-wits believe the old hoary lie that the banks lend their deposits. If anybody believes this I refer them to the monthly statements distributed amongst the high personnel of the Commonwealth Bank in which that theory is scornfully laughed at. Sir Arthur Fadden before the last Federal elections said that money can be increased only by a multiplication of printing presses. The scourge of his stupidity was too much for me and I had to reply to him, because, if he believes that, despite the statement of the Commonwealth Bank, it is time that he was removed from his exalted office. Anyone who talks like that is a menace to our internal safety.

There is a way in which money can be advanced for housing if the will is there to handle the problem properly. There are nations that make a direct subsidy for every house built. When we talk of subsidies we are told that they are a direct inflationary measure but that, too, is wrong. It depends how the job is done. Let me give an illustration of this. If the timber and bricks for a small cottage cost £800 and the purchase of those materials is subsidized to the extent of £800, where is the inflation? The only inflationary medium is in the profit that accrues to the manufacturers of the bricks and sellers of the timber, and this happens in any case under this system. How can it be inflationary to subsidize these things? Let us have no more of

such statements. This job can be done, and if we are to have internal security it must be done. The honourable member for Adelaide tells heartrending stories of people in this city who are without houses, and I suppose all members in the metropolitan area have like stories.

Mr. Dunstan—Not in Springfield.

Mr. QUIRKE—We will not differentiate. There is very little of that in the country.

Mr. Macgillivray—Not to the same degree, at any rate.

Mr. QUIRKE—That is so, but the fact that we have this anywhere in South Australia is a disgrace and a reproach to the people who control the State. We talk and think of assets in terms of broad acres, bricks, mortar and money in banks, but what is the real asset of South Australia or Australia? The people are the only assets. But people are secondary in many respects today, particularly in relation to assets. People who have bodies and souls are secondary to monetary consideration and material things, yet we call ourselves an enlightened race! How much longer we or the people of this country are going to tolerate this I do not know, but the position is getting steadily worse. Although the Housing Trust has made tremendous efforts, it is limited in its operations because people cannot obtain sufficient money. The man desiring to build his own home cannot do so unless he has sufficient money, and I make a plea on his behalf.

I have represented the district of Stanley for almost 15 years. When I came into that district in 1941 the number on the roll was 5,200. It is now 150 less than that figure, and every country district in South Australia is in a similar position. Where are our young people? Where are the people who, 15 years ago, were 15 years of age and are now 30? Are they in the country? No, they are down here, and satellite towns are being built for them when they should be in their own natural environment, the country area in which they were born. The country is being bled white, and today, in place of the people who formerly were on the land, there are tractors and combines, and the people are in the city. It is the same the world over. It is the same in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide as it is in New York and London, and the metropolitan areas do not reproduce the wastage. Every city is parasitic on the surrounding countryside because it draws population from it. That is taking place in South Australia to a marked degree.

I have heard honourable members in this House asking why a certain industry should not be established in their district, whether at Port Adelaide, Wallaroo or elsewhere. I see no reason why an oil refinery should not be established at Wallaroo. The fact that it is so many miles distant from Adelaide does not mean a thing these days, because there are pipelines running for thousands of miles in other parts of the world, and such a pipeline could pump oil to Adelaide just as easily as water is pumped from Morgan to Whyalla. I would rather not see an oil refinery established in this State than have it stuck down at Port Adelaide or near the city. From a strategic point of view we know that the Australian population is the most vulnerable in the world, and why is it so? It is vulnerable because within 100 miles of Melbourne and Sydney over 50 per cent of the population of Australia resides. In today's paper there is a picture of eight guided missiles in America, tornadoes of destruction leaving a chute. They can be fired from submarines or aeroplanes. Recently, jet planes flew non-stop from Japan to Australia. How vulnerable are we, with our population along the coastline, yet we are still herding people into the cities and putting the only means of livelihood available to the people in the city.

A satellite town for 30,000 people is being constructed, and the homes look like rows of peas, the only variation being in the contours of the roofs. Until that town has enough time to grow the trees that will break the ghastly skyline, it will look just like what it is likely to be, a beehive of workers who will go from their homes to the places of their toil, which will be within hearing distance of their homes. Is that how we are to plan the nation? If so, it will damn our chance of progress. There is no shortage of land in Australia; then why should the land around Salisbury be used? I opposed the satellite town when it was first mooted. I want houses in the country so that young people there who wish to be married will be able to settle down away from the city.

I want small industries to be established in the country. Country people do not want those great, smelly secondary industries; Port Adelaide can have them with their belching of smoke and refuse over the neighbourhood. Give us the small industries that make component parts. In America Henry Ford, the originator of centralization and the chain system of assembly, found that centralization of production was his greatest mistake and he is now decentralizing his production throughout the countryside with workshops miles and

miles apart, whereas we say that the cost of transport between places is so great that decentralized production prevents us competing successfully. That is absolute nonsense when applied to the production of small parts.

Take the case of Shearers of Mannum, a firm making small parts for Adelaide industries. They can get enough pig iron to Mannum in one load to manufacture enough parts for an Adelaide refrigerator company for months to come, and the cost of transport on each item manufactured is only a penny or so.

Mr. Macgillivray—But centralization has gone too far.

Mr. QUIRKE—Possibly, but that does not prevent my saying, "I told you so." Today we have in this country a state of perpetual warfare between employers and employees. Employees may approach the Court for an advance and it is opposed by employers. Industries are planned so that workers may be herded together within a mile or so of their workshop. This seems to be necessary in a big city because a worker's transport costs may take a big slice out of his wages. It is impossible to get adequate transport facilities in the city, and one has only to visit the new aerodrome to realize this. What happens to a man I know who lives at Gilles Plains but works at St. Marys? By the time he reaches work he is no longer an efficient factory worker, and what is he like by the time he returns home? That sort of thing is destroying life and deadening the minds and souls of industrial workers. The land should be opened up, but we are still in the stage that was given away by America years ago. Why can't we be modern in this respect? Everything hinges around the question of money.

Mr. Macgillivray—Even education.

Mr. QUIRKE—Yes. In that regard I have two proposals that I hope will be on the Estimates this year. They have been approved, but will be placed on the Estimates only if the money is available. One is a septic tank system for the Clare primary school where the same lavatory accommodation is used today as was used when only half the number of pupils attended the school—the old night soil pan collection system. For some years Clare has had the benefit of water reticulated from the Murray, but still this obsolete system remains, not because no approach has been made for a better one, but merely because money has not been available.

The closing of small country schools has gone too far. Today in some districts one school

bus service serves two localities, with the result that some children have to sit in doorways on the town's main street waiting for the bus to return to take them home. One group of children is brought to school early and the other just in time for school. What an admirable system! We have not enough teachers mainly because they were not paid enough in years gone by. Certainly they are better paid now, but we cannot catch up the lag at present, although we may get them later. This constant travel has an adverse effect on many country school children, and the only ones who do not mind it are those who live closest to the schools. This is another problem that resolves itself into a question of how much money is available.

The member for Goodwood today referred at length to the lack of roads in new housing areas, but why are there no roads there? There are tractors, earth-moving equipment, and men, but the local councils have not got the money. How can they be expected to have it, because until the area is built up they collect very little rate revenue from it. Why can't we have, in relation to the Housing Trust, a gang of roadmakers equipped with the most modern tractors and other equipment so that at least the bed metal may be put on to the roads to improve the present appalling conditions? Travelling from town to town and suburb to suburb, such a gang could clean up conditions within three months, but today each organization is a separate entity with insufficient equipment and finance to do the job; therefore, even though people occupy the houses they have to wade up to their hocks in mire to get to their front doors. That is neither right nor necessary. Any man running a big business who allowed such conditions to continue would not be running it long: his board would sack him.

I now turn to the grave position of the wine industry. Here again the problem hinges around the availability of money. When I asked the Premier a question on this matter the other day, I distinguished between proprietary and co-operative wine interests. I deliberately excluded from my remarks the proprietary interests because they wished to be excluded. They have built up famous names and wish to be considered separately. I am concerned with the co-operative side of the industry which handles mainly the products of soldier settlers. Unless we soon take the necessary action to assist them, those settlers will be in sore straits indeed.

I have a plan to solve this problem of co-operative organizations and, although it is my own plan in its present form, it was originally advanced some years ago by a competent member of the co-operative wine industry, Mr. Weidenhofer of Renmark. That plan is to co-ordinate the activities of co-operative organizations to so bring their products together at one central place that they will manufacture and market high quality wines at reasonable prices, and, with the aid of the forces of advertising, to distribute their wines throughout the market. Today, however, it is impossible for any one organization to do much advertising. This proposal would take much money. I would not ask for a gift, firstly because if I were silly enough to ask for it I would not get it, and secondly, because I believe—as does the industry itself—that it should stand on its own feet. It is impossible, however, to get the money from the growers, as a very large sum is required.

The Hon. A. W. Christian—What about the £500,000 recently handed over to the industry by the Commonwealth?

Mr. QUIRKE—That is for research and other essential work, but not towards the furtherance of my scheme. If the money were advanced on a long-term basis, the growers in the co-operative wineries could have share holdings, the same as they have in their co-operatives today. A large sum would be required to build up a show equipped with the necessary wood containers for maturation, which are preferable to the big silo-like containers at Loxton. The Loxton set-up is no real way to process wine. The only outlet for the Loxton product is to sell it cheaply to the proprietary wineries, who can then market it under their own labels and reap the profit between the cheap and the bottled prices, whereas under my scheme the profit from the bottled price would go to the growers. That can be done, and no finer men exist in the wine organization of Australia than those in the co-operative movement.

[Sitting suspended from 6 to 7.30 p.m.]

Mr. QUIRKE—I recommend for the Premier's consideration the proposals I put forward concerning the wine industry and those organizations known as co-operative wineries. In this country there is a surplus of about 3,000,000 gall. of wine a year which can practically be represented by the intake of grapes by the co-operative wineries. If we can control that surplus in the way I have suggested it would do much to stabilize the industry.

I plead for a new approach to housing, particularly for those who wish to shoulder their own responsibilities, and not a restriction of housing because of the shortage of money. We should consider the real assets of human beings so that all the people will benefit. We read and hear much in the press and in Parliament about time-payment. I urge members to treat this with caution. We cannot interfere with it to any great extent without causing chaos in the secondary industries, because sufficient money is not available at any one time to purchase the output of industry, and that is shown clearly in paragraph 3 of the Governor's speech. Time-payment is the only way that the demand for goods can be met at present under orthodoxy, and if we set about crippling that we must accept the responsibility, under the existing organization, of crippling the industries which manufacture those goods. Someone mentioned during the debate that the Savings Bank deposits of the people reflect their prosperity. The average is about £160 a head, which is only the price of a refrigerator, and if a person wants a washing machine as well he has not sufficient money to buy it. The average also includes women and children; the money could be mopped up by including articles other than washing machines which are part and parcel of civilized family life. I congratulate the mover and seconder of the motion, and whilst I do not agree with them I hope my remarks are taken in the best spirit in my endeavour to correct what is muddled thinking in relation to muddled finance.

Mr. DUNSTAN (Norwood)—With other honourable members I express regret at the passing of Mr. Dunks, former member for Mitcham. He and I often clashed and differed, but I agree with other honourable members that his sincerity was patent, and it would be a great thing for this country if every person in public life had as much sincerity in the espousal of his beliefs as the late honourable member. I also take the opportunity to congratulate the new member for Mitcham for the able manner in which he moved the motion. I was very interested in his concluding remarks, because I think they would bear considerable analysis and I propose to devote myself to analysing what they meant. He said:—

Having said this, I confess freely that I have a strong bias in favour of the present Administration, which comprises members of the Liberal and Country League. I, too, am a member of that league and I subscribe to the principles and beliefs which it upholds.

What are the principles and beliefs which the Liberal and Country League uphold? This has always been a matter of interest to me, because I was brought up a liberal, I remained a liberal, and I always shall be a liberal and that is why I am a member of the Labor Party and a democratic socialist. To honourable members opposite who do not know terribly much about political science that may, of course, seem something of a conundrum. Nevertheless, it is consonant with the best analysis of liberal philosophy today. Probably the only prominent liberal in Australia who has ever taken the trouble to examine the basic beliefs and policies of Liberalism was the late Sir Frederick Eggleston, a very eminent politician in this country. Sir Frederick had this to say as to what the Liberal spirit was:—

Thus, as I see it, the Liberal spirit has expressed itself in two ways in modern times. First, in a Liberal philosophy, based on the assertion of human values, and the supreme importance in social affairs of the human personality. It emphasizes toleration, decency in human relations, freedom, individual initiative and personal responsibility. But it realizes that man is a social being, and that personality can only reach the full ambit of its powers within the organized community, while within that community, freedom has no value unless it is open to all, and the conditions necessary for enjoying the fruits of freedom are universal. The Liberal also believes that the scope of human action can be enlarged by social reorganization and co-operation, provided that the machinery created does not smother individual initiative and diminish personal responsibility.

I am certain that all honourable members on this side would subscribe to those beliefs. Sir Frederick, being a logical man, was moved to say just where those principles would lead him. He freely admits that they led him to Socialism. He also had this to say:—

The approach to socialism or to a co-operative collective community must, therefore, be an evolutionary one, a process in which the required social functions are developed and become the norms of the community. But while this is so, we must have these social ideals in mind and be thinking out the means by which they can be realized. In other words, a scientific Fabianism is required. I shall, in another chapter, outline a policy of this kind which I think will have results that most people will desire.

It cannot be said that members of the Liberal and Country League are people who would subscribe to such a policy, a policy which is espoused by the Australian Labor Party. I want to see exactly what are the tenets to which they subscribe and why they do it.

Mr. Lawn—They are conservatives.

Mr. DUNSTAN—No. Many of them would not subscribe to the principles of Burke. They are not Liberals—they are neither fish fowl, nor good red herring. They do not know whether they are Arthur or Martha. Their catch-cry is that they believe in private enterprise. We as democratic socialists are not doctrinaire. We do not believe there is any particular virtue in either private enterprise or public enterprise. In fact we say that both have their place in the community, and the criterion which must be used to decide which shall be the form of social organization is whether the form of organization in question is meeting the real needs of the community. If it requires public organization then we believe in public organization, and if it requires private organization then we believe in private organization. We are not doctrinaires, but honourable members opposite would believe in private enterprise under all conditions. In fact I have even heard members of the Liberal Party suggest that we should sell the post office to private enterprise. Why was this? It goes back to the period of the Liberal philosophers of the last century who had not read the economists very carefully and came to the extraordinary conclusion that it was inevitable that if the Government did nothing but act as a policeman the result would be that if everyone pursued his own personal advantage the greatest good to the greatest number would inevitably accrue. In fact according to Bentham's *Manual of Political Economy*:—

The general rule is that nothing ought to be done or attempted by governments: the motto or watchword of governments, on these occasions, ought to be—be quiet. The request which agriculturists, manufacturers, and commerce present to governments is as modest and reasonable as that which Diogenes made to Alexander: stand out of my sunshine.

A more popular writer in the last century said:—

The more I learn upon this subject, the more I feel convinced that the interests of nations, as well as those of individuals, so far from being opposed to each other, are in the most perfect unison. Liberal and enlarged views will always lead to similar conclusions, and teach us to cherish sentiments of universal benevolence towards each other: hence the superiority of science over mere practical knowledge.

It was based on a misunderstood economic doctrine because the people who wrote that stuff probably had not read Adam Smith and the other Liberal economists. They based it on the doctrine of perfect competition because most economists in their analysis



started from the basis of perfect competition, where neither the seller nor the buyer by any action could affect the market, and the market would inevitably produce the things the community required. We see that today and the old philosophy comes forth on every occasion when honourable members opposite are talking about releasing all scarce articles from controls. As economists over the years have pointed out, and as I quote from Lord Keynes:—

The world is not so governed from above that private and social interests always coincide. It is not so managed here below that in practice they coincide. It is not a correct deduction from the Principles of Economics that enlightened self-interest always operates in the public interest. Nor is it true that self-interest generally is enlightened; more often individuals acting separately to promote their own ends are too ignorant or too weak to attain even these. Experience does not show that individuals, when they make up a social unit, are always less clear-sighted than when they act separately.

And yet this is the doctrine espoused by the Liberal and Country League. They have that parrot cry on every possible occasion but they are faced with the unfortunate fact that because the community has some say in its government—not very much in South Australia—they have to keep the public quiet because the public can see for itself that the doctrines of private enterprise are not going to give it all it requires. The Liberals, like all other Parties, have introduced public ownership of certain public utilities contrary, of course, to their principles. They have introduced social services for the poor people in the community and they indulge in Keynesian budgetary and central banking policies although in 1949, following their catchery of private enterprise, they said they would remove these controls because they did not believe in the necessary Keynesian controls which afterwards they reimposed in 1951 through their Federal Parliament. As a result they did not know quite where they were going. They say one thing one moment, do another the next and the result is that in South Australia there is not a clear-sighted policy based upon the first principles normally understood, but an incredible muddle expressed quite clearly in the Premier's speeches. He produces a jumble of inconsistent alleged reasons and his main purpose appears to be making a virtue of inconsistency. What has that meant to the public of this State? Because the Government has espoused the policy of each seeking as much for himself as he can and giving as

little in return, which is the philosophy of private enterprise—enlightened self interest—the people have been prevented from governing this State as they wish it to be governed. In other words the people do not have elected to office the Party they desire and it is clearly the present Government's policy that they should not. On many occasions the Premier has said quite frankly that he does not believe in one vote, one value. The member for Torrens, Mr. Travers, has said that we cannot have majority rule or a system under which a Government is elected on the counting of heads.

Mr. Shannon—The Leader of the Opposition has said the same thing.

Mr. DUNSTAN—He has not. The Leader of the Opposition throughout has espoused the principle of one vote, one value, which has been, and always will be, the policy of the Labor Party. It is quite clear that the Government does not believe in what is commonly termed democracy. It does not believe in what Liberal Parties elsewhere have always said they believe in and the Conservative Parties elsewhere have espoused. We were able to see its attitude quite recently when its colleagues in the Federal sphere sought to have an instruction from the Governments to the independent Electoral Commission—not a commission like the one to be appointed in this State, tied hand and foot—appointed under the Federal Act. That commission was to be told, "We cannot have the redistribution that you have decided on after taking evidence in its favour: we have to have one that is unfair because otherwise we will not get back into office." That is the doctrine of the Liberal and Country League in this State.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—The Federal Labor Party had the same quarrel with an electoral commission some years ago.

Mr. DUNSTAN—The Federal Labor Party has never suggested on any occasion—nor has any other Labor Party—that seats should be re-aligned so as to give a smaller percentage to a particular group which will vote in a particular manner. In South Australia we have an enormous and increasing agglomeration of people in the metropolitan area. The member for Port Adelaide, Mr. Stephens, represents more constituents than yourself, Mr. Speaker, the Premier, the Minister of Lands, the Minister of Works and the Minister of Agriculture combined. That means that the people of his district are deprived of their proper say in this Parliament and cannot get

the things to which they are justly entitled as electors.

Housing is the most pressing need of people in the crowded metropolitan areas. In the electoral districts of Adelaide and Norwood, also Torrens—as the member for that district will discover at the next State elections—people are housed in fantastically dreadful conditions. Last year I pointed out that people in my district were living in water-logged cellars. They still are. They are living in hovels so incredible that you would not find anything as bad in the humpies of the natives of Patagonia. We tolerate this in South Australia because we cannot get what we want. We are not producing the houses for the people and it is not the Government's intention to do so. What is the position with regard to applications for rental houses in South Australia at the moment? The Premier provided me with information the other day which revealed that the outstanding applications for emergency dwellings total 4,700. That means, of course, that there are really no emergency dwellings being made available to meet the need. In my district the front wall of a man's house has fallen out and half the ceiling fallen in, but he has not got an emergency house from the Housing Trust. People have been evicted on the street in my district but they haven't got emergency houses. People are living in indescribable conditions but the reply from the trust to their applications is that it is not the trust's obligation to provide for slum clearance and it does not have accommodation available for these people. At the time I received these answers the emergency accommodation that was available was being given to recruits of the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

A short while ago people could have applied for timber houses, but that scheme has now ended. Applicants for timber homes are told to convert their applications to brick houses. There are 3,300 outstanding applications for timber homes. The waiting period for a brick rental home is six years. If you are an ex-serviceman you may get a home a few months before that time. There are 7,000 outstanding applicants for brick homes. Why has this position arisen and why are our methods of allocating houses so extraordinary? It is very difficult for members to discover precisely the Housing Trust's policy on rental homes. The trust first states that it is first come, first served, and certainly that applies in most cases, but every member has knowledge

of persons who have had applications in for a few months being provided with rental homes. When you write to the trust asking why this is when there are people in your district vitally in need of homes to safeguard the health of themselves and their families—and I have produced dozens of valid doctors' certificates to the trust—the reply is, "Well, of course, we are in business and we sometimes find a tenant whom we think would be eminently suitable and, therefore, we make an exception in his case." One cannot get any more information than that.

There is no fair and above-board method of allocating houses in South Australia. In Victoria and New South Wales the position is quite different and houses are allocated according to need. In New South Wales those people in dire straits are put into emergency camps and are taken from there by ballot on the first in, first out principle. The others who apply are investigated and if their need is urgent they are allotted a position in a ballot according to their particular class of need and their particular class of family. People who have been in ballots from an early time and who are in difficult circumstances because they have not received a house through a ballot are provided with special ballots to cater for their needs. When a house is allocated to them through ballot their circumstances are again investigated to see that their need is the same as it was when they applied. If it is, they get their home. That position does not obtain here. Many people who do not need homes are allocated houses merely because six years ago they made application to the trust. Surely it should be the policy of the trust to cater for the urgent needs of the community. That is not its policy at the moment. The reason it is not is obvious. The Housing Trust and the Government which controls it do not have to pay attention to the urgent needs of the people in the metropolitan area because the Government feels safe without their votes.

Why is it that more houses are not coming to hand to cope with this urgent need—the need the Premier himself admitted last week? The Government's policy is not to interfere with private enterprise. We are short of bricks in South Australia. After building controls were lifted there was a decline in the number of houses under construction and that decline has continued. The last quarterly summary reveals a considerable decrease in the number of houses built and under construction since building controls were lifted. We are not getting enough bricks and the reason is obvious.

The effective economic demand does not call forth from brick manufacturers the additional capital investment required to expand brick production. In 1923-24, 89,369,506 bricks were produced but according to the last published figures available, in 1951-52 only 52,904,000 were produced, a decrease of 5,000,000 on the previous year. That is the position after the Government, through the Industries Development Committee, had devoted £174,000 to brick manufacturers for expanding their production. The plain fact is that it is the duty of the Government to provide building materials if private enterprise will not do it. We must cater for the real needs of the community. The materials are here. The finance can be found to produce bricks after getting the necessary plant. If it is necessary to interfere with private enterprise in order to produce bricks, which are a real need of the community, it should be done.

Mr. Teusner—Do your figures include cement bricks?

Mr. DUNSTAN—No. Even with these bricks the figure would be appallingly low.

Mr. Pearson—Do you know the cement brick production?

Mr. DUNSTAN—It is not great at present and makes no significant difference in the comparison between 89,000,000 and 52,000,000. The other major lack in building materials is steel, which has become a popular subject for discussion in this place. In 1953 the Governor's speech said that the Government was giving special attention to iron ore reserves with the object of ensuring that the ores would be used in the best interests of the State, but that is an old story. When Mr. Riches moved for the appointment of a Select Committee of inquiry, following on receipt of reports by the Director of Mines, the Premier did not feel so keenly about the matter. In a lengthy speech he sought to excuse the Broken Hill Proprietary Company and he told the House that the Government would not repudiate the agreement with the company, and that he did not intend to enter into an industry in conjunction with the company and the Commonwealth as suggested by Mr. Riches. He said that there was not very much that could be done.

Mr. John Clark—Nor has anything been done.

Mr. DUNSTAN—No. Since then there has been a further report from the Director of Mines, which is even more unequivocal. The report has received wide publicity both through the press and through speeches delivered by the Director. The Premier has felt the chilling

winds of public opinion touching him lately, so much so that the Chamber of Manufactures and a Country Party member in the Federal House have had a good deal to say about the matter. As a result, we have a paragraph in the Lieutenant-Governor's speech to the effect that the Government is not prepared to acquiesce in the present unsatisfactory position, but it is the position in which he was prepared to acquiesce when Mr. Riches moved his motion. The Government has said that if it cannot find sufficient ore deposits outside the leases held by the company it will ask an expert committee what shall be done. It does not say that the Government will suggest to the committee what shall be done. It does not propose to interfere with the agreement.

Clause 17 of the Indenture prescribes that the benefits and rights of the company shall not be interfered with by the State Government. If the Government cannot find sufficient deposits outside the leases of the company what does it propose to do? It is difficult to see what it can do unless it intends to do something about the deposits held by the company. Does it propose that the investigation which has been going on for some years for iron deposits, and which so far has been unsuccessful, will be continued to the last moment when the Government will appoint a committee to tide it over the next elections, and so be able to say that something is being done? If that is the purpose then the Government must realize that it is not going to get away with that sort of thing. The report by the Director of Mines is full and clear. He had a great deal to say about what he would do. It is interesting to look back on precisely what was the position when the company negotiated the indenture with the State Government. When the Select Committee was appointed in 1937 to inquire into the proposed indenture it sent to the company a request for information, and one question was, "When are steel works likely to be established?" It is interesting to see what Mr. Essington Lewis, on behalf of the company, told the committee. When giving evidence on October, 27, 1937, Mr. Lewis gave some interesting information. He was asked by Mr. Lacey (question No. 52):—

Would you agree to inserting a provision in the agreement that you would treat 375,000 tons annually at the blast furnace at Whyalla? and his reply was:—

I do not think it would be wise for anybody to put into an agreement what is dependent on the future. The iron and steel industry, just like this country, has its periods of depression and prosperity, and what one is compelled

to do in periods of depression is not a good thing to have on record, but, generally speaking, if this blast furnace were erected at Newcastle we would establish it in the hope of getting some financial return for the large expenditure involved. We would not desire to spend £1,500,000 at Whyalla on something that we did not intend to use and get a return from. He was also asked by Mr. Lacey (question No. 59):—

If a blast furnace were established at Whyalla would it be absolutely essential that there should be a greatly improved water supply provided by the Government?

And he replied:—

If the blast furnace only is established at Whyalla we do not seek any further fresh supply. We think that by various means, such as evaporation from the sea, the unnatural rainfall of Whyalla, plus the bringing of water in our steamers as ballast from Newcastle and Melbourne, which we have been doing every day for years, we would have sufficient water for our blast furnace. If, as I presume we all hope, a blast furnace is established, it will lead to the establishment of a coke oven plant and a steel works, and it will then be necessary to augment our fresh water supply to a considerable extent.

He gave a promise to the committee that if a blast furnace were established a coke oven and steel plant would be put in at Whyalla. In answer to question No. 60 he said:—

Without there being any commitment on my part to try to forecast the future it is a general condition of affairs in the rest of the world that where a blast furnace is established coke ovens and steel works follow. That has been the general trend of things in the countries I have visited. Again, without committing myself, I hope I can visualize the necessary coke ovens and steel works being built behind the blast furnace at Whyalla. I can give no guarantee of the company's policy or of what might happen in the future, but the first step and the most definite one is the establishment of a blast furnace. When a blast furnace is established it is usual to follow it up with coke ovens and steel works.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—You said just now that he had made a promise.

Mr. DUNSTAN—Yes, he did. Then he said he could not guarantee it, but it was obvious that it was the usual sort of thing and that in his opinion the erection of a blast furnace at Whyalla would lead to the establishment of steel works.

Mr. Heaslip—Would you say that he promised steel works?

Mr. DUNSTAN—Not in so many words.

Mr. Heaslip—Do you say that from the evidence he promised one?

Mr. DUNSTAN—Yes, and so will other evidence given in answer to questions put to him by the present Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. Travers—He said he could not commit himself, so that is not a promise.

Mr. DUNSTAN—He made it clear that in his opinion those things would follow. The present Minister of Agriculture asked (question No. 80):—

It seems that there are two sets of shareholders involved—the shareholders in your company and the shareholders in the State?

And he replied:—

I suggest that they are all one.

Mr. Christian then said (question No. 81):—

In that case neither would be likely to deliberately infringe the interests of the other.

Mr. Lewis replied:—

We look more on our company and the steel industry generally as a national undertaking. We are given the credit of that in most places and I think that the board of directors of our company have shown that to be their wish and desire. So long as it is a national concern just so long will the interests of both parties be protected.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—Is all this supposed to discredit Mr. Lewis?

Mr. DUNSTAN—I am not seeking to discredit him. I think he is a very clever gentleman and an able advocate for his company. All this evidence is interesting because it is public interest at the moment.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—Mr. Essington Lewis was considered a great national figure.

Mr. DUNSTAN—I think he has been a wonderful man in many ways, but I do not suggest for a moment that his view that the interests of his company are necessarily those of Australia is a valid one.

Mr. Travers—All you are suggesting is that he would not commit himself.

Mr. DUNSTAN—The honourable member may read the evidence for himself. One question put to Mr. Lewis by the chairman of the committee was:—

After the expiration of the present agreement you will have the right of renewal of your leases for a further term under the present mining law. The feeling of some members is that Parliament should have some say in the conditions laid down after the expiration of the agreement.

Mr. Lewis replied:—

Our point is that this arrangement was arrived at after a great deal of discussion and our people thought that that protection was necessary and asked that it be inserted. If we are going to build up a big industry at Whyalla we want to know how we stand with our iron ore leases. The whole thing is security and when it comes to vast sums of money being spent and exploitation of industries the thing the directors always ask first is, "Are we safe?"

When the chairman asked what the approximate cost of the steel works would be he replied:—

It would depend on the works. We have spent £10,000,000 at Newcastle and £5,000,000 at Port Kembla.

Mr. Riches—That was for steel works?

Mr. DUNSTAN—Yes. The whole tenor of this evidence was that although he would not commit himself as to times it would naturally follow that once the blast furnace was at Whyalla it would lead to the establishment of a steel industry there.

Mr. O'Halloran—And that is why the State provided the pipeline.

Mr. DUNSTAN—Yes, and why the clause was in the agreement.

Mr. Riches—And the Premier of the day accepted that promise.

Mr. DUNSTAN—Mr. Christian, who was a member of the committee, asked:—

You spoke of your concern as a national undertaking. From that point of view we must have regard to conservation of our supplies. If, however, as proposed in this indenture, you are given virtual sole control or a monopoly of our raw materials and your policy is to exploit them to the fullest capacity possible we have no control over conservation. We lose whatever control we may have, but give you virtually a lease in perpetuity which cannot be altered in any way unless some future Parliament repudiates the contract, which we do not want to see happen; therefore, we must have regard to what terms and conditions we are prepared to give.

Mr. Essington Lewis replied:—

I do not quite follow your argument. Are you looking at the export point of view?

Mr. Christian said:—

Not necessarily. If we exploit these resources fully we may ultimately exhaust our supply.

Mr. Essington Lewis replied:—

It is much more likely that world supplies will be depleted first.

Mr. Christian said:—

I am thinking of conserving our supplies to meet whatever exigencies may arise in the future so far as our requirements as a nation are concerned.

Mr. Essington Lewis then said:—

Practically the whole of the iron ore used in Australia today is used for the nation. Leaving out the question of export, the whole of the resources at Iron Knob will be used by us for the nation, so that the nation's interests are adequately protected.

At the conclusion of his evidence Mr. Essington Lewis stated:—

I appreciate the nice friendly spirit in which you have met not only me, but others, in this arrangement, and I assure you that the directors of our company are very sympathetic

towards South Australia and are anxious to do, if they can, something for the advancement of the secondary industries in South Australia. We feel if a steelworks is established subsequently, and a water supply is put down to Whyalla, part of which we would pay for, an enormous benefit will be derived by the primary producers around the coast to Whyalla, and the position of such places as Wallaroo and Port Pirie would be strengthened in so far as their becoming manufacturing centres in the future is concerned. There is no reason that I can visualise why a certain number of industries should not develop from the establishment of a steelworks in this State. There is no reason why they should stop at Whyalla. There is every reason why perhaps some of the finishing industries should be carried out at Port Pirie or Wallaroo, or even at Adelaide. If the agreement comes into operation, or any arrangement, and it accomplishes that, we will be amply repaid.

They were the remarks that Mr. Essington Lewis made in reply to the committee's questions about the establishment of a steel industry at Whyalla. Obviously the committee would conclude from his remarks that Mr. Lewis was a man of his word and that it was the intention that once the blast furnace had been established inevitably a steel industry would follow. He did not commit himself as to dates or times, but he gave the committee to understand that that was what would happen and that that was what the B.H.P. intended in getting these iron ore leases. The Parliament took him at his word. Parliament did not bind him on details because it felt the company merited the confidence of Parliament and that the B.H.P. would conserve the iron ore deposits for the use of the nation, as Mr. Lewis said it would. He said, in fact, that a steel industry would be established as a result of giving the company those assurances.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—Don't you think the war made some difference?

Mr. DUNSTAN—The war finished 10 years ago.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—But war broke out immediately after that evidence was taken.

Mr. DUNSTAN—That may have accounted for the company's not establishing a steel works immediately, but if it intends to stand by the representations made by Mr. Lewis one would think it would have given us some indication of when it was going to do it. However, it has adamantly refused to do so.

Mr. Riches—It established steel works at Newcastle and Port Kembla instead.

Mr. DUNSTAN—Yes. Let us see what Mr. Dickinson has had to say. He is the Director of Mines and is a fair and reasonable

man with no axe to grind. In his report to Parliament in 1953 he said:—

During the early stages of industrial development in South Australia in the 1930's it was generally agreed that the South Australian legislation, namely, the Broken Hill Proprietary Company's Indenture Act, 1937, would reward the company, and at the same time serve well and adequately the public interest. At that time South Australia was still essentially an agricultural State, and was seeking the industrialization of her limited, but extremely valuable mineral resources. There was reason to believe this Act could be depended upon to render mutual and commensurate advantages both to the State and the company. The Act stipulated that there would be certain developments in South Australia as a condition of the private title. Experience, however, has shown that there are strict limitations to the compatability of private, and public motives.

I stress that experience, not the doctrinaire views of members opposite, shows that in many cases private and public motives are opposed. Mr. Dickinson continued:—

The facts clearly show that a company has never received so much for so little, for so long, for such a valuable resource essential to social existence and well-being.

Mr. Dickinson stated that our high-grade iron ore deposits are strictly limited. I think the Government has been searching for more deposits outside the leases, but it has not yet found any deposits upon which a steel industry could be based. At a recent public lecture Mr. Dickinson, when questioned on this point, said there was some promise of finding further valuable deposits, but there was no proof of them. In his report Mr. Dickinson stated that the only valuable and workable deposits upon which a steel industry could be founded were those at present held by the B.H.P. He said it was vital that these resources be conserved because it was only upon the profits from our limited high-grade deposits that the cost of a steel industry at Whyalla could be amortized, and unless it was amortized through those profits the development of low-grade ores for the purpose of steel production would be uneconomic and a steel industry would be lost to this State. He pointed out that the B.H.P. was a monopoly whose position had been inimical to the national interests of Australia. He went on:—

The seriousness of the situation in South Australia is illustrated by the rapid depletion of the high-grade iron ore of the Iron Monarch deposit. If conserved, the reserves can be made to last 40 to 50 years; if not, they could be exhausted in 15 to 20 years. It is vital that they be conserved for the establish-

ment of a steel industry at Whyalla. Conservation would be naturally effected by the establishment of the steel plant by the company, which would undoubtedly wish to prolong the life of these reserves for the sake of future supplies to such a plant. However, if the steel plant is not established, the South Australian Government should give serious consideration to taking over the iron ore leases and iron ore production activities of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company and so regulate production and development to fully safeguard the interests of South Australia. This course of action, however, is only advocated if the company is not agreeable to modify the terms of the agreement as set out in the company's Indenture Act of 1937, or establish forthwith a steel industry of an agreed capacity.

In paragraph 4 of his conclusions Mr. Dickinson stated:—

In my considered judgment the Government would be fully justified in taking over the leases of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company and the company's iron ore production plant and equipment if the company is unable to give any guarantees on the establishment of a steel plant at Whyalla. The Government would then be able to control supplies to the Broken Hill Proprietary Company's plants in New South Wales and any other such plants, to be established in South Australia, aimed to collectively meet the Australian demand. Sufficient is known of the quality, magnitude and location of the high-grade deposits to indicate very clearly that any additional high-grade ore likely to be discovered will be insignificant in comparison with the deposits already known. Accordingly, the conservation of supplies for local industrial development becomes a matter of paramount importance.

It is clear that the conservation of iron ore deposits in the national interest, about which Mr. Lewis told the Select Committee, is not taking place. In fact, the iron ore deposits in the Middleback Ranges are being exploited at a rate completely contrary to the national interest and to the interests of this State. The company has not given any undertaking about the establishment of a steel industry at Whyalla, regardless of the fact that repeated overtures have been made to it by the Government for such an undertaking. Consequently, I believe that the only course open to the Government is to adopt the recommendation made by Mr. Dickinson, namely, to take over the B.H.P.'s leases and the company's iron ore production plant and equipment.

Mr. DUNNAGE (Unley)—The motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply was ably moved by the member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse) and seconded by the member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip). I would like to be associated particularly with the remarks

made about the late Mr. H. S. Dunks, who was Chairman of Committees. He was a great personal friend of mine for many years, and it was due entirely to his interest in me that I had the opportunity to come into this House 14 years ago. I pay a special tribute to him for the work he did on my behalf. For many years Mr. Dunks was a member of the Unley City Council and held every office possible in it. In passing, I might say without any egotism that the Unley City Council is the greatest council in South Australia. Mr. Dunks gave many years of outstanding service in the council, which benefited very greatly from his experience. I pay a special tribute to the work that he did, not only in this Parliament, where he was an outstanding character, but also in local government.

I would also like to be associated with the remarks made about the late Honourable Reginald Rudall. When I first entered this House I had the pleasure of hearing him speak on constitutional powers. Of course most present members were not here then. He gave an address on this subject that lasted for four hours and I think he influenced this House more than any other member has ever done. I would like to compliment Mr. Millhouse on his maiden speech. I had the privilege of hearing him speak at some of his meetings and I was particularly impressed by his outstanding knowledge, not only of this Parliament, but of the general principles of the Liberal and Country League which another member sitting opposite has tried to depreciate. Of course, he has not grown up yet, but he will do so in a year or two. He condemned the Liberal and Country League and its members, but he did not say anything about what happened last Saturday in Victoria or in England recently. Although I was not here this afternoon when I should have been—and I apologize to the Labor Party Whip for letting him down, as I think I did although it was not my fault—I have been listening to this debate for the last couple of days. I knew when I heard the Lieutenant-Governor's speech that it contained nothing that members opposite could criticize. The member for Norwood, who should have been interested in his own district was concerned about the district represented by the honourable member for Stuart, and got himself tangled up with iron ore and Whyalla because he had nothing to criticize the Government about. I am going to criticize the Government myself later in respect of my own district, not because it has not done a good job, but because it has not done a job as good

as I think it could have done. I am simply amazed at the influence the Liberal Government has had on this State and the prosperity revealed in the Lieutenant-Governor's speech. The beneficial effect of this Government has been felt for 22 years, according to the honourable member for Adelaide who said that a Liberal Government has been in power in this State for that period.

Mr. Davis—But against the wishes of the people.

Mr. DUNNAGE—The people of this State have never been better off. No other State of the Commonwealth is better off, and this State will never be better off than it is at present. This is due entirely to the wonderful Government here. Of course, Providence has come into it by giving us bountiful seasons. I hope that this Government will stay in power for many years; in fact, I know it will. The people in this State will never get rid of this Government that has done so much for the good of the community.

Mr. Riches—The people voted against you last time.

Mr. DUNNAGE—We are still here whether they did or not. Surely members opposite know who won the elections last Saturday in Victoria. The people in that State threw the Labor Party out of office.

Mr. Lawn—They have the right to do so in Victoria, but not in South Australia.

A Member—It was a victory for Dr. Evatt.

Mr. Lawn—It cannot happen here.

Mr. DUNNAGE—It can.

The SPEAKER—Order! The honourable member made reference to something that is not in the Lieutenant-Governor's speech.

Mr. DUNNAGE—Can I not speak about the Victorian elections?

The SPEAKER—The honourable member can make only a passing reference.

Mr. DUNNAGE—I was only making a passing reference, but honourable members opposite do not like it. Paragraph 9 of the Lieutenant-Governor's speech refers to the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline. The Morgan-Whyalla pipeline saved the whole of the north in the 1944-45 drought—it saved Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Whyalla.

Members interjecting—

The SPEAKER—There are three people speaking at once. That is against Standing Orders. The honourable member for Port Pirie has spoken and cannot speak again. I ask him to maintain silence.

Mr. DUNNAGE—In the 1944-45 drought the Morgan-Whyalla pipeline paid for itself,

in my opinion, because of what it saved this State. A similar thing has happened this year because of the completion of the Mannum to Adelaide pipeline, and even though it cost about £9,000,000 it has paid for itself in one year.

Mr. Davis—Is it a fact that we are still losing money on that water?

Mr. DUNNAGE—I do not care if we are. We are losing money on all water schemes now. I pay a tribute to the Minister of Works for his work on this project, which saved the city, and on the Morgan-Whyalla pipeline, which saved the mid-northern areas through the Warren reservoir from a state of absolute chaos. It does not matter what the Mannum-Adelaide scheme cost because it has paid for itself already and it is now all profit. It is a tribute to the Minister and his staff, and as the representative of a large district I am grateful for what was done. Yesterday the Minister of Works said that pumping has stopped because of good rain and we hope that within the next few weeks our reservoirs will be full and further pumping will be unnecessary. A few weeks ago it was possible to see almost to the bottom of the Millbrook reservoir, but we will never be in the position again of having that or the Mount Bold reservoir with such depleted supplies, because in the event of a dry season they can be kept full. If the Government has not done anything else in its years in office, the Morgan-Whyalla and Mannum-Adelaide pipelines are two things that will stand to its credit.

Mr. Davis—How long did the people have to plead before the pipeline was constructed?

The SPEAKER—Order! I warn the honourable member for Port Pirie. On two occasions he has spoken, and he must not interrupt.

Mr. DUNNAGE—Paragraph 11 of the Lieutenant-Governor's speech interests my district very much. It states:—

The increased road revenue has enabled the Government to accelerate its programme of road construction and maintenance.

Later in that paragraph it is stated that the Government will spend £6,000,000 this year on roads. My district has very little need of such a large amount of money because its council keeps all its roads in first-class order. I would now like to make reference to the future of road transport and roads throughout the metropolitan area. Any metropolitan member who travels in his own district can see what is happening because of motor transport: our roads are becoming jammed. Last

Saturday afternoon I was in a traffic block on the Norwood Parade along which motor vehicles were coming from the Kensington and Norwood ovals. That sort of thing is merely typical of many more traffic jams that will occur throughout the metropolitan area. At any time between 4 and 6 p.m. each week day it is practically impossible, in a motor vehicle, to pass a tram car on the narrow Unley Road because of the motors parked at the side of it. The Unley Council has done everything possible to facilitate the progress of traffic throughout Unley, but the Unley Road is not wide enough. The Hon. M. McIntosh was responsible for many years for the work of the Highways and Local Government Department and he instituted a programme of road widening that is gradually taking effect.

Mr. John Clark—I wish it would take effect on the Gawler Road.

Mr. DUNNAGE—The programme is taking effect there the same as along certain roads in the Unley district. All main roads are to be widened, but the final results of the programme may not be seen for some years. The Unley Council controls the area adjacent to the Anzac Highway between the Keswick Bridge and the South Road intersection, and recently in conjunction with the West Torrens Council it took a census of the motor vehicles using that intersection. There is a considerable amount of traffic there, and I would imagine that a similar problem applies in the Enfield and Norwood districts and on the Port Road. Between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on Friday, May 13, officers of the Unley and West Torrens Councils, the Royal Automobile Association, and the Highways Department, supervised by Traffic Inspector J. Turnbull, took a census of traffic over the intersection. During those 12 hours 28,879 vehicles passed over it, and even if we estimated the rate for the other 12 hours at a quarter of that ascertained, the result would be about 36,000 motor vehicles in 24 hours. That presents a problem that must be solved by something better than control by a single police officer, and the Unley Council is now negotiating with the West Torrens Council on a proposal to install lights there.

Mr. Stephens—Would they be mostly light vehicles?

Mr. DUNNAGE—They were all types. The flow of traffic along the Anzac Highway was two and a half times greater than that along the South Road. Recently the Premier notified the world that the Chrysler enterprise was to



establish a plant at Burbank, and if this traffic census is a criterion of what is happening today—and I do not doubt that it is—what will happen in another four or five years after the establishment of the Chrysler plant and its subsidiary industries in the Burbank area? The development of those industries and the housing of the 7,000 workers by the Housing Trust will mean far greater congestion than we have ever known.

A similar problem will have to be solved north of Adelaide when the new town near Salisbury has been established. I deplore the Premier's statement that the establishment of the Chrysler enterprise at Burbank will necessitate a spur railway line, because that will result in another road-rail intersection similar to the South Road-Cross Road intersection and mean even greater traffic congestion. In accordance with modern ideas of transport this Government should consider the establishment of a rail siding in the Clapham area to which the motor bodies could be transported by motor vehicle in order to eliminate the danger at such a road-rail intersection. Further such a spur line would cut through valuable country and would possibly be used only by the one business enterprise.

Mr. Stephens—Wouldn't that result in greater congestion on the roads?

Mr. DUNNAGE—Both Chrysler and Holdens now transport motor bodies by road to the wharf and rail head. I frequently stay at Christies Beach, and on reading the Premier's statement on this matter I realized that Christies Beach, Noarlunga, and Port Noarlunga are within 20 minutes by car from the Burbank area, which may mean that in the near future the Housing Trust will be building houses in that seaside area, and the whole of the South Road as far as Noarlunga may run through a densely populated area supplying a dense stream of traffic.

Mr. Stephens—Shouldn't the Chrysler works be established in the country?

Mr. DUNNAGE—It is all very well to talk about decentralization, but such a business must be run at a profit, and the company will establish its work at the most convenient site.

For the reasons I have stated, all main roads should be widened as soon as possible to take the increased flow of traffic. The Government has £6,000,000 to spend on roads, but I remind members that road building is expensive. It is estimated by the Unley City Council that the construction of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles of road in the district will cost about £30,000; indeed, it is so expensive that we have had to go to the

Premier for advice and assistance. The Ashford Community Hospital is controlled by the West Torrens, Mitcham and Unley Councils through a board of businessmen who voluntarily devote much time to the conduct of its affairs.

Mr. Lawn—Do you mean that the businessmen do all the work?

Mr. DUNNAGE—Of course there are paid workers, but the hospital board consists of businessmen who have the brains and have had experience in running their own businesses. They are doing a wonderful job with the assistance of the Treasurer and the Minister of Health. The committee includes Mr. Coogan, an ex-mayor, who has been chairman since the inception of the board, and Mr. Cosgrove, the deputy chairman, who is acting for Mr. Coogan while the latter is in England.

Mr. Riches—They do not get a subsidy.

Mr. DUNNAGE—We have been helped considerably by the Government, but as far as I know we are not subsidized. This hospital is making a profit, and I pay a tribute to those responsible. I am a member of the Public Works Committee and the question of hospitals has been before it quite a lot recently and one often sees reports in the press on its activities. I pay a special tribute to the staff at the Royal Adelaide Hospital under Dr. Rollison. They are doing a marvellous work, and if ever I happen to be ill or in need of attention because of accident that is where I should like to go. Wherever I travel I hear about its good work. The outstanding problem facing our doctors is the treatment of accidents at our hospitals. Instead of accommodating people suffering from a serious complaint they are filled with accident cases. I look with a good deal of trepidation to the future, because I cannot see an end to accidents. When I drive a car I sometimes wonder there are not more accidents; and perhaps if someone drove behind me they might come to the same conclusion. That is my view after seeing how indiscriminately some people handle a car.

I should like to bring before the Premier the position of aged people who have nowhere to go. They are often taken to hospital and kept there because there is no-one else to look after them. Perhaps a son or daughter is unable to care for them because they are living in a flat. The result is that many beds at hospitals are occupied by elderly people who need only a little attention and should be in a place like the Enfield Receiving Home. The Lieutenant-Governor's speech mentioned the building of additional wards at the Northfield

Hospital for this purpose, but I do not think it is building enough. I want it to do more. Young men and women are being deprived of attention at the Royal Adelaide Hospital because of elderly people occupying beds and only waiting to die. I have heard much criticism of the Parkside Mental Hospital, but in spite of that criticism I notice we have a lovely nurses' block there and another new block for women patients. We are told nothing is being done by the Government at this institution, but one does not have to go inside the grounds to notice the alterations and additions being made.

I will now deal with schools, a pet subject of mine. At last I am starting to get somewhere regarding increased high school accommodation for the Unley district, after 15 years' effort. The question of a new high school is now before the Public Works Committee.

Mr. Lawn—When is it to be built?

Mr. DUNNAGE—About 1958. It is only the beginning of a very good school. The first section, costing about £220,000, will be for boys and will accommodate about 900, and the girls' section to accommodate about 700 to 800 will be built subsequently. The Unley Girls' Technical School will then take over the old high school building and the primary school will occupy the technical school building. I think this will solve our problem in that area, and not before time. I and many members of school committees have been agitating for these improvements for many years. I still think the Government could do much better than it is doing, but it does not believe me. That has been proved because it did not take any notice of me. The only way to solve our school problem is to place the buildings around the city terraces. Then an area of an acre or two would be enough for a school building, and the children could use the parklands to play on. These areas are available all the week, as no-one uses them during that time. The Pulteney Grammar School and the Methodist Ladies' College have built comparatively small schools, and the children use the parklands to play on, whereas for a Government school they must have about 20 acres costing between £20,000 and £30,000, and yet the parklands are lying idle. The children could use these areas from Mondays to Fridays when there is not a soul on them during that period. It will cost the Government about £500,000 to complete the Unley High School for both boys and girls. The Minister of Education has done more than any previous Minister of Education and I thank him.

Housing is a problem in the district I represent. In his speech, the Lieutenant-Governor referred to what the Government has done to meet the housing problem, but I suggest that it has not done enough. Private persons cannot build houses for letting purposes because it does not pay and it is the Government's responsibility to build them. The Housing Trust commenced building operations in 1937 and has constructed 23,000 homes. To solve the problem we should be building twice the present number each year. Since 1948 there have been over 44,000 marriages, but only 23,000 homes, of which 5,000 are in the country, have been constructed. I cannot understand where the young married couples are accommodated. They always seem to be knocking on my door and asking me to help them in securing homes. I sympathize with all metropolitan members who are confronted with this problem. The Government has done a good job up to a point, but it needs to expand its housing activities. Thousands of migrants are entering this State every year and they, too, will require accommodation. I desire to refer to something the Hon. C. R. Cudmore said in the Legislative Council.

The SPEAKER—The honourable member cannot touch on that. It is against Standing Orders.

Mr. DUNNAGE—A gentleman I know said that soldier settlers had been placed on the land at enormous expense to the Commonwealth and the State. What, however, have we done for the men who enlisted from the metropolitan area? They are not provided with homes. Ex-servicemen are placed on the land and given everything they require. As a matter of fact we give them money to stay on the land if they cannot make it pay.

Mr. Corcoran—Do you suggest we should not exploit our land resources?

Mr. DUNNAGE—No, but we should not do it to the detriment of ex-servicemen from the metropolitan area. If a man who enlisted from the metropolitan area wants a home he must pay for it himself. I know of a technician in the P.M.G. Department who is building his own home in Colonel Light Gardens. He knows nothing of bricklaying, timberwork or erecting a roof, but nothing is being done to help him. Country men are receiving all the privileges, but metropolitan men do not get a block of land to build on. Must we spend all our money on a few selected individuals in country areas. If we can devote so much money to country areas why cannot we

do something to provide homes for ex-servicemen in the metropolitan area? Frequent references are made to timber-framed homes and pre-fabricated homes and I suggest that the people of this State would be happy if the Government would import another 3,000 homes. Every time I see the pre-fabricated homes area at Gilles Plains I feel that the Government should continue with such a scheme.

It has been suggested that the Government does not do anything about decentralization. I was chairman of the Industries Development Committee for many years and on only about three occasions was I approached by members suggesting that certain industries might be accommodated in their districts. Apart from those members no approaches were made to me or, I believe, the Treasurer. Notwithstanding that, many members criticize the Government for doing nothing. It is interesting to read the report of the Housing Trust, which reveals conclusively that the Government is encouraging people to go to the country. The report lists the towns in which the trust has constructed 50 or more houses and the following towns are mentioned:—Angaston, 130 houses; Gawler, 128; Loxton, 292; Mannum, 69; Mount Barker, 68; Mount Gambier, 402; Murray Bridge, 67; Port Augusta, 391; Port Lincoln, 211; Port Pirie, 473; Radium Hill, 93; Renmark, 57; Salisbury, 928; Whyalla, 593 and Wallaroo, 58. There is a long list of country towns which have not had more than 50 houses built in them.

Mr. McAlees—Speak the truth.

The SPEAKER—We have already decided that we will not accuse other members of not telling the truth. The honourable member will withdraw the implication that Mr. Dunnage is not speaking the truth. It is against Standing Orders to accuse him of it.

Mr. McAlees—Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to withdraw.

Mr. DUNNAGE—I am quoting from the Housing Trust report, which I believe to be true. When we see what is being done at Whyalla, Port Augusta, Port Pirie, Mount Gambier and other places we must deplore statements by the Opposition that little is being done in the matter of decentralization. I think we are tackling the matter successfully and it is proved by the Housing Trust report.

Mr. Dunstan dealt with the establishment of steel works, but I think it is more a matter for a country than a metropolitan member. We have a member representing the district where it is suggested the steel works should be

established, and he is doing a good job in this matter. As chairman of the Industries Development Committee I was associated with the opening of the Nairne pyrites mine. I suggest that members inspect the magnificent work that has been done there. As soon as the works at Birkenhead are ready to take the pyrites, activities will be in full swing at Nairne. I visited the mine last week and was amazed at the tremendous work done, and I was proud of the Government that had started the project, at the instigation of the Premier. There is already a township of about 40 houses. There is a fine community in a beautiful valley, and it is all due to the efforts of the Government.

Mr. O'Halloran—It gets very close to socialism.

Mr. DUNNAGE—No. I congratulate the Government on the matters included in the Lieutenant-Governor's speech and I especially compliment the new member for Mitcham on the way in which he moved the motion.

Mr. CORCORAN (Victoria)—I support the motion and join with other members in deploring the untimely deaths of two members of Parliament. I had a very great respect for Mr. Dunks. I acknowledged his ability as a debater, but I admired mostly his great tolerance for the point of view of the other fellow. He was fearless in advocating what he thought was right and he had the courage of his convictions. I pay a tribute to his memory, also to that of the late Honourable Reginald Rudall, whose qualities as a politician were highly valued by all who were cognizant of his work. I congratulate the new member for Mitcham, Mr. Millhouse, on the able and impartial way in which he moved the motion. I feel that he will co-operate and lend his wisdom towards solving the problems confronting the State and his district in particular. I congratulate Mr. Teusner on his appointment as Chairman of Committees. I have no doubts about his ability to act in a capable and impartial manner.

I have previously urged the Government to deal with matters I consider to be of importance but I do not know that I have been successful. However, I have not yet lost hope that one day the Government will respond to some of my requests. The people of Rendelsham suffered severely from the disastrous bush fires that occurred on January 2, known as "Black Sunday," a day we shall always remember. I am not unmindful of the sufferings of people in the Adelaide hills and other parts of the State from those bush fires, and I

appreciate the assistance given by the Bush Fire Appeal Committee as a result of the great public support from the people of this State. When I visited the scene of desolation and ruin at Rendelsham I mentioned the sufferings of people in other parts of the world and said that many parts of London were razed to the ground by bombing during the war. I told the people that ultimately the rain would come and the grass would grow again and that the Bush Fire Committee, through the generosity of the Commonwealth and State Governments and the people of this State, would enable them to build their homes again. I believe that in 12 months there will be hardly a scar left to show the effects of the disaster. So far the Government has carried out its promises to these people, and I know that nothing will be left undone to re-establish them, and others in various parts of the State.

The people expect that much more road construction and maintenance will be carried out as a result of increased motor taxation. They have not complained about this increased taxation because they had the Premier's assurance that every penny raised by this means will be spent on roads. In the past I have said I did not expect the Government to rehabilitate the roads in the South-East overnight. I have advocated a system under which some portions of the principal roads could be reconstructed each year, but I will have been here three years next March, yet so far nothing has been done on the lines I have suggested, and the Government can have no excuse for this lack of activity. I appeal to the Government again not to overlook the fact that the people are expecting more road work as a result of increased motor taxation.

Recently I asked that portions of the Kingston-Naracoorte Road, the Beachport-Millicent Road to the intersection of the Princes Highway, and the Robe Road to the intersection of the Beachport Road be placed in good repair. I am not overlooking the necessity to reconstruct other roads, but the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Roads, said the Estimates had not yet been framed. However, he gave me to believe there was a remote possibility of some sections of those roads I have mentioned being included in this year's Estimates, and I hope I shall not be disappointed.

Further work on the broadening of the railway gauge in the South-East has proceeded this year, but not as quickly as expected. When this broadening was started it was expected that it would take about 12 months,

but it was commenced nearly three years ago. It seems that the broad gauge will reach Millicent in a few months. I have asked whether the Government will commemorate that achievement in a manner similar to what was done at Naracoorte and Mount Gambier. I believe the Government will acknowledge its obligation and treat Millicent with the same respect as it treated those other towns, and I am looking forward to receiving some message from the Minister of Railways in that regard in a few days.

The people of Beachport are worried about the railway serving that town. They want to know what will happen after the line has been broadened to Millicent, and their anxiety has been aggravated because the Transport Control Board visited the district recently to see whether the line should be broadened to Beachport or even closed down. However, I have been assured by the Premier that the line will not be closed before the question is debated in this House, and I have informed the people of this assurance. The Glencoe-Wandilo section is now causing me concern, for this is another line under consideration for closing. I shall not discuss the merits or demerits of this question now, but I ask the Government to consider extending that line to the Mount Burr sawmill. At present the production of that mill is carted by road either to Millicent or Kalangadoo, the bulk going to the latter town, which is 20 miles away. I intend to debate this question further when the House considers any recommendations of the Transport Control Board in regard to the closing of railway lines.

In my district various schemes for land development are being carried out. The member who has just resumed his seat was critical of the Government's activities in regard to soldier settlement. There has been some development of broad acres in my district, and the only criticism I have is that there has not been enough. It is the responsibility of any Government to develop land, and if we do not get on with that job I am afraid someone else will do it for us. We are not justified in holding this country unless we do something to exploit our land resources.

The only comment I have about soldier settlement schemes is that not enough has been done. I hope that during the coming year the Government will take a survey through the Parliamentary Land Settlement Committee of areas in which many men have holdings of 30,000 acres and are not utilizing the great resources, because I am certain that unless

something of this nature is done we will not be able to hold this country, and what is more we will not be entitled to do so. We know that people who have gone on the land have had the opportunity to establish themselves in a better way of life, but the Government has only given effect to the promises made when these men went away to fight, and we are glad to know that it is honouring those promises. No soldier wants charity, but only justice, and the people want to see the Government fulfill its promises. In doing so the Government is developing our resources and is making the country much safer for the future. We are all glad to know that soldier settlers have been successful, but at the same time we hope that the Government will investigate the possibility of opening up further land for settlers.

Although I am the last one to talk about compulsory acquisition of land if it can be avoided, and I think if the matter is properly handled it can be avoided, there is power under statute to acquire land. However, let us first try to convince the people concerned that they should make land available at a proper price, and that by doing so they are acting in their own interests and in the interests of the younger generation. If the matter is vital, necessity knows no law, but I hope that commonsense will prevail and the landholders concerned will yield in the public interest.

During the coming financial year between £6,000,000 and £7,000,000 will be spent on education. When land is developed there is a need for roads, schools, transport, and telephones. I know what is going on because of constant representations made to me by people who are settled in my district, and I do my utmost to see that their needs are catered for. The Minister of Education has been very sympathetic and, after I have approached him, in the majority of cases the problems have been considerably relieved, if not totally removed. I do not hesitate to give credit to him, and I hope that his spirit of co-operation will continue.

The honourable member for Adelaide referred to the conditions under which some aged people live, and said that some of them are in the asylum. I know they are there because someone has declared them insane, probably in many cases those nearest to them. The Premier was asked how many there were, to which he replied "Nil." The member for Adelaide questioned the accuracy of that statement, which I hope is correct. It is the

responsibility of the Government to see that the aged are properly housed. Surely this can be done for those pioneers who built up the foundations on which we stand today, as the honourable member for Adelaide pointed out. They worked 60, 50, or 48 hours a week because they did not have the organization to fight for their rights that the workers of today have, and they should be treated as Christian human beings. If Government assistance were given to religious and philanthropic institutions that care for the aged, this position would be met. I do not think it is the concern of the Housing Trust because in many cases they are beyond helping themselves and must be in a place in which they can be treated and cared for. I am growing old and if I thought I would have to finish my days under similar conditions I think I would jump in the river.

All members are aware of the staffing problem confronting the Education Department, and the member for Gawler attributed it partly to the terrific increase in secondary industry, which has opened up avenues that have attracted potential trainee teachers. The suggestion advanced by the honourable member, that teacher training activities should be decentralized, should be seriously considered by the Government. One Teachers Training College could be established at Naracoorte or Millicent and others in other parts, for many young people cannot bear the expense involved in training in Adelaide. The member for Gawler furnished much information that should be of great value to the Minister of Education, who should seriously consider increased pay and improved conditions for these trainees.

I realize that the housing shortage is a nation-wide problem, and until real efforts are made to solve it the Government must be accused of falling down on its job. The Opposition believes the Government should appoint a full-time Minister of Housing to concentrate on this important subject and recommend to Parliament methods whereby the problem could be solved. Mr. Dunstan had something to say about the proposed establishment of a steelworks at Whyalla. He knows more about that subject than I, but I realize that it is imperative that we have more steel. It will not grow on the ground like mushrooms, and, although I admit that the B.H.P. has played an important part in the economic life of this State, I hope it will see fit to co-operate with the Government in the establishment of a steelworks at Whyalla. The sewerage of country towns is a subject that is bound up with the

public health, and although only the other day the Minister of Works told me that prospects in this regard are brighter, I am afraid that, when the scheme is implemented, the charges will be too severe.

The Hon. M. McIntosh—The charge will probably be lower than in towns of a similar size in other States.

Mr. CORCORAN—If no action is taken in these prosperous times, it is unlikely to be taken in bad years. I hope that the expectations of the Minister will be realized and that something will be done in the coming financial year. I am not satisfied that all the aspects of a septic tank system of sanitation for country towns have been considered, although I understand that a report that has been submitted on this matter will receive consideration later. The member for Unley spoke about decentralization, but I think he must have been under a misapprehension because he spoke about decentralizing a mine; but that type of industry cannot be decentralized as it has been on the one site all the time. By decentralization Opposition members mean taking industry to the country, and when the member for Wallaroo spoke about the establishment of an oil refinery at Wallaroo, he was not speaking foolishly because that centre has a deep-sea harbour and much land that could be used as a site.

Mr. O'Halloran—And available labour.

Mr. CORCORAN—Yes, and more labour would follow the job away from the city. The continued increase in the population of the metropolitan area cannot go on indefinitely, because eventually a state of stagnation will be reached. That has been the experience in every other country where this trend has been encouraged and prolonged. In 1935 the State's population was 586,000, of which 315,000 (53.7 per cent) were in the metropolitan area and 271,000 (46.3 per cent) in the country. By 1953 the population in the metropolitan area had increased until it was 62½ per cent of the State's population, and by "metropolitan area" I mean that area within a 25-mile radius of the Adelaide Town Hall clock. In the country we have 37½ per cent of the people. We have submitted ideas whereby this position could be tackled. No matter how stupid it may seem to suggest that an oil refinery should be established in the country, there is a lot of good sense in it, and I hope the Government will consider the matter. If we are ever bombed by an enemy, which I hope we will not be, with all our oil storages on the Port River they are in the right place to be

destroyed. Wallaroo, which played an important part in the early history of the State, would be re-vitalized if Mr. McAlees' suggestion were agreed to.

It is a sacred responsibility placed on the Government to see that as far as is humanly possible everything is done to cater for the sick and maimed. In Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland hospitals are supported by lotteries, and I do not see any harm in having a lottery here. I hope the public will understand my attitude in this regard. The mere fact that we will not introduce a lottery here is not preventing our people from participating in lotteries. They are buying tickets from the other States, resulting in our money going there for the benefit of those States. What is wrong with a lottery? We might just as well have the benefit of one here so that the money can be spent on our own hospitals. The Treasurer is emphatic in his opposition to introducing the system here, but some day it will be established. I am not a gambler, nor do I want to encourage it, but I believe in exploiting this source of revenue which is at our disposal. It would result in the raising of thousands of pounds. Most people are happy to take a ticket and enjoy the chance of winning something.

The Millicent Council was in trouble last year about getting a road grader. Although it did not get the Government's sanction to purchase the machine, because of the urgent necessity for this plant it arranged temporary finance in anticipation that it would get an interest-free loan from the Government this year. As far as I can gather the council is now in queer street as to whether it will get such a loan. I hope the Government will overlook any inconsistency on the council's part and favourably consider a loan.

I am not over-enthusiastic about the prospects of Rivoli Bay as the site for a deep-sea port, and the reply to a question I asked recently was not encouraging. I think the project will be forgotten before long, but I hope I am not right. I intend to fight on. The Premier won two elections on the promise of a deep-sea port for the South-East. By saying that a port would be established there he more or less intimidated the Public Works Committee, which had not considered it, although he may have been honest about it. I have my own opinion, and many others have too. The Premier developed the enthusiasm of the people in the South-East for an atomic pile at Lake Leake, and went so far as to drive out there with a photographer.

One man told me I had better be careful about what I was saying regarding this project, but I can look after myself. It has not come to pass and I have heard nothing more about it since. I was disappointed that there was no reference to electoral reform in the Lieutenant-Governor's speech.

Mr. Stephens—You did not expect it, did you?

Mr. CORCORAN—No. I was wondering whether the Labor Party's Bill on the subject, which was placed at the bottom of the Notice Paper last year, will come to light again. We endeavoured to set up a system whereby the principles of democracy would have been applied. A Royal Commission has now been appointed to consider adjustments to electoral boundaries, and I am anxiously awaiting its report, because I do not know what the result will be in the South-East. We will keep on fighting for electoral reform so long as the Labor Party sits on this side of the House, but if it is returned to the other side we shall have electoral reform. We are not going to be pushed aside or demoralized. I assume that the Labor Party will this session again introduce legislation for electoral reform. Ultimately the people will be behind us and we will achieve a democratic system of elections. We will not support a setup that prevents a Party that gains 47,000 more votes than its opponents from taking office. The 20 members of the Legislative Council are elected by one-third of the people who vote for this House. That Chamber has the right to nullify any effort of this House. Is that democratic? I would, perhaps, have supported the appointment of a Royal Commission into electoral boundaries had it not been instructed that it must not increase the number of districts, must retain the same ratio between metropolitan and

country districts, and must not consider the principle of one vote, one value. That is not democratic. It should have been permitted to act on its own initiative. I will await with interest its report. I hope that I have not wearied members or been unfair and made false accusations, but I have given credit to those entitled to it and have accused those guilty of misdemeanours and wrongdoing. I make no apologies for my remarks. I again congratulate the member for Mitcham, Mr. Millhouse, and hope to hear him take his part in the affairs of this House, as no doubt he will. I trust that I will have his support in some of the matters I have raised this evening. I have pleasure in supporting the motion.

The Hon. T. PLAYFORD secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### JOINT COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION.

The SPEAKER—I have received the following letter dated June 1, 1955:—

Following on my recent election to the position of Chairman of Committees of the House of Assembly I beg to notify you that it is my desire to be discharged from attending the Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation of which I am a member.

The letter is signed B. H. Teusner, Member for Angas.

#### SALISBURY NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL.

The SPEAKER laid on the table the report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works on the Salisbury North Primary School, together with minutes of evidence.

Report ordered to be printed.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

At 10.17 p.m. the House adjourned until Thursday, June 2, at 2 p.m.