

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.**

Thursday, July 25, 1957.

The SPEAKER (Hon. B. H. Teusner) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

**QUESTIONS.****PENSIONERS' HOMES.**

Mr. O'HALLORAN—I understand that as the result of the disastrous Murray floods last year some pensioners lost their homes. Can the Premier say whether pensioners' homes, similar to those provided in the metropolitan area, have been made available for them, and, if so, whether the same rents are charged?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The trust has built homes for pensioners in the metropolitan area particularly, because of the convenience of servicing them. Naturally they are available for application from people in any part of the State. The applicants are not selected from any one class of society; the Housing Trust tries to give a service to all sections of the community. So far as I know, pensioners' homes have not been built outside the metropolitan area, but I will check on the position.

**ZEBRA CROSSINGS.**

Mr. DUNNAGE—Some time ago legislation was passed permitting the use of zebra crossings. The Unley council went to no end of trouble to tell the Minister of its intentions on the crossings, saying it was willing to use them and even went to the extent of putting some adjacent to schools and in other places. Can the Minister of Works say what has been done in this matter?

The Hon. Sir MALCOLM McINTOSH—I have no personal knowledge of what has been done. I will confer with my colleague, the Minister of Roads.

**HOUSING.**

Mr. TAPPING—I have received the following letter from the Port Adelaide Local Board of Health dealing with the provision of a home in a certain necessitous case:—

I have to advise that at the last meeting of the Local Board of Health held on the 11th instant (July) the matter of Mr. X was discussed. The facts are that Mr. X, his wife and eight children are living in a dilapidated caravan without the permission of the owner of the land or the licence of this board. I am directed by the Local Board to ask you if you would kindly use your influence to obtain a Housing Trust temporary dwelling for this family.

In addition I have been approached this week by two other families, one consisting of a husband, wife and six children and the other a husband, wife and four children in each case all living in one room. These people have lodged applications with the Housing Trust only within the last couple of years and as a consequence would not qualify for a permanent structure for at least five years. In view of the desperate plight of these people will the Premier consider taking up with the Housing Trust the desirability of building more emergency homes to expedite the housing of very necessitous cases such as these?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—Emergency houses were built at a time when it was not possible to build permanent homes because of the difficulty in obtaining certain materials, but everyone will realize that the building of temporary houses is not economically justifiable, nor is it, over all, a desirable policy. In an emergency it filled a useful purpose, but I think all members will agree that it is not desirable permanently to depress the standard of our housing by spending upon temporary housing a large sum which could be spent on permanent homes, which are in every way more satisfactory. However, if the honourable member will give me the names of the persons referred to I will see if the trust has any record of applications from them and whether anything can be done for them.

Mr. LOVEDAY—Will the Premier say what policy the Government has to deal with the needs of families such as the one described by the member for Semaphore (Mr. Tapping) and also those who have no home at all? Recently I had to deal with a case in which no trust home was available to a family with six children.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The Government has a policy of assisting housing and is putting more money *per capita* into housing than any other State, irrespective of the complexion of its Government. Indeed, when the allocations for housing were made this year the South Australian Government asked for the largest sum of any State under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. We are spending a far greater percentage of our money on the development of housing than any other State and are supporting housing to the utmost, even to the extent of cutting short other services. This will continue to be the policy of this Government until houses are more readily available.

Mr. RICHES—More particularly in the last 12 months than before I have been perturbed

because some families have found themselves without homes and means of support, even to the extent that they have said they could not afford to pay the rent of a Housing Trust home if one were available. Can the Premier say whether, in the house building programme to be carried out with the money being made available for housing, any attention is being paid to those people? Are there any governmental or private institutions or organizations that can be approached to meet cases of this kind?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The whole purpose of the establishment of the Housing Trust was to provide homes at the lowest possible economic cost, and the fact that it has been able to do that has, I think, been appreciated by people throughout the State. It is certainly appreciated by the many applicants for houses and tenants of houses, but of course it is not possible to meet every case of emergency before it arises. If the honourable member has any particularly difficult case in mind he can see me and I will do my utmost to see whether steps can be taken to meet it.

Mr. Riches—Should we write to you direct?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The honourable member need not write to me. He sees me nearly every day, and I will do my utmost to meet any case he brings under my notice. This may not be a complete answer to the problem, but the number of letters I now get regarding difficult cases has fallen greatly. At the peak of the difficulty, which was after the war, I probably received 60 or 80 such letters a day; indeed, at one time there was scarcely a night when people did not come to my home seeking assistance. I cannot promise that I can magically produce a house out of a hat, but I will do my utmost to see whether some assistance can be given for difficult cases that members bring under my notice.

#### THE ART OF SPEECH.

Mr. COUMBE—Will the Minister of Education give further consideration to the inclusion of the subject of the art of speech in the curricula of schools for the Intermediate and Leaving examinations, with a view to making this a subject for matriculation requirements, as is now the case with music?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—I have already given the matter consideration and discussed it with the Director of Education and other officers of the department, and have made representations to the Public Examinations Board.

The consensus of opinion is that it is not necessary to overcrowd still further an already overcrowded curriculum, but in view of the honourable member's question I will be only too pleased to make representations again and to give the matter my further personal consideration.

#### LOADING OF ORE AT PORT PIRIE.

Mr. DAVIS—Has the Minister of Marine an answer to the question I asked yesterday concerning improvements to the ore stacking sites on the Port Pirie wharves?

The Hon. Sir MALCOLM McINTOSH—I have had a report from the general manager of the Harbors Board who states that Harbors Board officers at Port Pirie regularly inspect the area during loading operations and take steps to correct drainage problems as they arise. The areas are also inspected by the board's maintenance engineer on frequent visits to the port. Additional sumps were put in during last year and areas where subsidence had occurred were regraded to existing sumps. The regrading and resurfacing of small portions of the stacking areas has since been carried out and this type of work is undertaken from time to time as it becomes necessary. The steel plates are placed on the wharf for a three-fold purpose, *i.e.*, to prevent damage to the wharf property, to provide a level surface for crane grabs to work on and to reduce the loss of ore by spill. These plates also improve the working conditions for the crane drivers. The General Manager adds even these hard surfaces become slushy in wet weather which goes to show how real are the difficulties that are experienced in providing, and maintaining, surfaces and drainage for a mixture composed of ore and water that will not freely run off. As I informed the honourable member personally, I should be glad to arrange an interview with him and the General Manager of the Harbors Board to see whether anything further, within reason, can be done to improve the amenities the honourable member says do not exist.

#### ACCOMMODATION OF FLOOD VICTIMS.

Mr. KING—Will the Minister of Lands say what steps have been taken to provide emergency accommodation for pensioners and others in areas affected by last year's River Murray flood?

The Hon. C. S. HINCKS—When the flood was at its worst I had a survey made of the

housing position in the towns affected and last session I told the House the number of applications received for homes and the number later confirmed after interview with the Housing Trust. At Berri 15 firm applications were made and temporary type houses have been built. I inspected them only last Thursday and found them comfortable. One house, which is not occupied, has been divided into two homes for pensioners, but no application has been received in that locality for them. The Housing Trust has advised that these homes could and would be let at 22s. 6d. a week if there were applicants.

#### ELIZABETH SOUTH SCHOOL.

Mr. JOHN CLARK—The rapid growth of Elizabeth has caused a correspondingly rapid increase in the number of children of school-going age there and these numbers are overtaxing the Elizabeth South school. Can the Minister of Education say when it is expected that the next school at Elizabeth will be ready for occupation, how many this school is planned to accommodate, and what other plans have been made for schools in this area?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—The new school at Elizabeth North is nearing completion. The northern wing will be completed and ready for use at the beginning of the third term on September 17 and will accommodate about 200 children. The whole school will be ready for occupation at the beginning of 1958 and it is planned to accommodate 750. The total plans envisage at present six primary schools, but three others will be required as other neighbourhoods become occupied. One school at Elizabeth South has been completed and houses 1,200 children. The third school, Elizabeth Grove, has been approved by the Public Works Standing Committee and is a large school with an infant department and will house 1,100 children. Three others to house 750 each are at Broadmeadows, Elizabeth East and Elizabeth Park. Those not yet planned will probably be at Elizabeth Vale, Elizabeth Heights and Elizabeth West. The long range plans also include a high school, a boys and girls technical school and ultimately schools for trade classes. I do not want to be held to these long range plans, because they are only in the planning stage. As honourable members realize, we must plan for future development, and everyone knows the tremendous development which is taking place and will take place in the near future at Elizabeth and the surrounding districts.

#### FRUIT FLY ERADICATION.

Mr. SHANNON—I have had a number of inquiries from fruitgrowers in my area with relation to the parasite that attacks the fruit fly. Is the Department of Agriculture informed of the efficiency or otherwise of this parasite and whether it could be used in any way to reduce the very high cost of campaigns to eradicate the fruit fly?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The matter is being considered by the Loan Council. Inquiries are being made by the C.S.I.R.O. overseas to see whether any useful parasite could be introduced into Australia to deal with the fruit fly. The benefit to this State would be very indirect indeed because obviously we would not provide the host material to keep the parasite alive. The advantage to this State could only be if it could clear up the pest in the other States from which we are continually getting infection. It could then, of course, be of very great value. It would be impossible to introduce the parasite into South Australia because of the lack of food for it to spread owing to the measures that have already been taken here. The Government is keenly interested particularly as it could make the attacks here less frequent—in fact, it could eliminate them altogether.

#### ART EDUCATION.

Mr. HUTCHENS—I understand from people interested in art education that there are some children, who come under the care of the Childrens Welfare Department and who are boarded out, with special qualifications or aptitudes that would enable them to take special courses with advantage to themselves and the State. These courses would be above the standard of ordinary primary school education, but I understand that if it is desired by the person with whom the scholar is boarded that these courses be taken it becomes the responsibility of that person to pay the cost of tuition in music or other arts. Of course, this often denies a promising young scholar of that further education. Will the Minister have investigations made to see whether it is possible to make provision that would enable these children to receive education warranted by their capabilities?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—I will make those investigations personally.

#### DOCK FOR TUG BUILDING.

Mr. STEPHENS—In today's *Advertiser*, under the heading of "Dock for Tug Building," there appear statements by the Premier

and representatives of the companies concerned. Can the Premier say whether the constructing company will build the yards for this dock or whether they will be built by the Government, and whether the land will be sold or leased by the Government? Can he also say whether the yards can be used for a dry dock, and if not, can provision be made to build a dry dock on this site?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The answers to all those questions are “No.”

Mr. STEPHENS—The Premier said that the reply to each of my questions was “No.” We ought to know whether the company or the Government will build the yard, or whether it will be built by the Government and leased to the company, or whether the land will be sold to the company. We are entitled to know the exact position.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—As far as I know, the reply I gave previously was correct. I listened carefully to the alternatives suggested by the honourable member. He asked whether the company or the Government would erect the premises and the answer must be “No” because premises already erected are being used. He asked also whether the Government would lease or sell the land to the company and again the answer is “No,” because the land is held by a shipping interest. In connection with the dry dock, the answer must be “No” because it would be an unsuitable place for a dry dock. The honourable member wanted to know whether the Government is assisting financially and again the answer is “No” because it is not. The Government is not doing anything in connection with the alternatives suggested by the honourable member.

#### PAINT WORKS FOR QUORN.

Mr. O'HALLORAN—Some time ago the Government had an excellent officer, Mr. Branson, who conducted inquiries into new industries which might possibly be encouraged to establish themselves in South Australia. Mr. Branson subsequently became secretary of the Chamber of Manufactures. Can the Premier say whether any officer has taken over the work formerly done by Mr. Branson, or if any investigation is continuing with a view to encouraging industries to establish themselves, particularly in country towns? If so, will the possibility of establishing a paint works at Quorn be investigated? A barytes plant is either actively operating at Quorn or is about to operate, and as barytes is now the base of

most paints it seems an ideal opportunity to establish an industry related to the barytes production which would be of considerable assistance to Quorn. Can the Premier say if this matter will be investigated?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—This matter was investigated some time ago by the then Auditor-General, Mr. Wainwright. Investigations reached the stage where local paint organizations became interested in producing lithopone in this State. The requirements of lithopone are barytes, particularly; some forms of zinc ore would be necessary, and also I believe a considerable quantity of extremely pure water. Another requirement is that manufacture has to be undertaken in an atmosphere which probably has to be air-conditioned because of the easy contamination. After much investigation, the Zinc Corporation finally became interested and stated that it would consider establishing this industry at Port Pirie. Later, it ruled against Port Pirie because the water would not be of sufficiently high quality and it decided to establish in Risdon. At the time the Government offered to establish a treatment plant to provide water of the necessary quality, but that offer was not accepted. I believe that even Risdon did not get the industry ultimately, and I understand the company still relies on overseas imports. Two or three attempts have been made since then to establish the industry without avail, and I doubt whether we could put forward a sufficiently attractive proposition.

When Mr. Branson was undertaking these investigations he was an officer of the Commonwealth Government attached to the Department of Development. We were paying him a small fee as Chairman of our Industries Development Committee. He was originally an officer of this Government. He still assists the Government in regard to new industries, and because of his unique position he has inside information as to proposed industries. He co-operates closely with the Government, which places great value on his services, which are as readily available now and as freely exercised as when he was an officer of the Commonwealth.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF DEAD BODIES.

Mr. DUNNAGE—According to the press, on Sunday a body was removed from the Port Adelaide canal, on Monday a lady was killed at Glenelg and yesterday another lady was killed. All three bodies were unidentified at the time of publication of the incidents. Has

the Government considered instituting a procedure whereby persons are issued with identification cards or discs so that in the event of an accident or fatality they can be readily identified? It must cost the Police Department a considerable sum to identify some bodies. When a person travels overseas he is supplied with a visa setting forth personal particulars, and every member of the services is supplied with an identification disc—

The SPEAKER—Order! The honourable member cannot debate the question. He has asked his question.

Mr. DUNNAGE—I received permission to explain my question and I am trying to explain.

The SPEAKER—The honourable member has asked his question.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—As I understand the question, it appears that the honourable member is suggesting that the Government should require every person to have an identification disc which they should carry so that they could easily be identified in the event of an accident or mishap. I point out that very frequently people who are hurt in the circumstances he mentioned do not desire to have their identities known. That is the position in at least two of the cases mentioned. Normally, if a person has an accident, he has papers on him that are sufficient to identify him. If any member of this House met with an accident I would think he would have in his possession easy means of identification. When a person does not desire his identity to be known all documents, laundry marks and anything else that would assist are usually studiously cut off or avoided. Under those circumstances, we would have no help if the honourable member's suggestions were adopted, because obviously the identification disc would not be worn at the time. These discs have not proved to be a means of identification. They can quite easily be transferred from one person to another, and they are not a conclusive means of identification in any court of law. They are only a guide for checking identification, and to that extent they would be admissible in a court, but they would only be an assistance to the police at best.

#### WOOMERA WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. LOVEDAY—Can the Minister of Works inform me whether the cost of pumping water to Woomera, including maintenance, comes under the heading of Morgan-Whyalla pipeline costs or whether it is the subject of a separate charge to the Commonwealth Government? If

so, what is the charge, and does it cover all costs incurred by the State in pumping water to Woomera, including maintenance?

The Hon. Sir. MALCOLM MCINTOSH—We have a special arrangement with the Commonwealth Government, and the charge in the main covers the costs mentioned. The Commonwealth pays an amount calculated to be reasonable for the amenities given to the people there. I will bring down for the honourable member the exact amount paid.

#### PRESS ARTICLES ON EDUCATION.

Mr. RICHES—Yesterday the Minister of Education, in reply to a question by the member for Hindmarsh (Mr. Hutchens) stated that an article in the *Advertiser* by the Deputy Director of Education, Mr. McDonald, had been submitted to him and he had approved of its publication. Will the Minister inform me whether it was submitted as an act of courtesy, or whether there is any obligation on the part of an officer of the department to submit articles before he is allowed to give expression to his convictions in the press?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—The article in question, and a second article that appeared today, were submitted to me by the Deputy Director as a matter of courtesy for my information and education and for discussion. I would not have taken exception if the Deputy Director had the articles published without any reference to me; but they deal with questions of major Government policy, and as Mr. McDonald is a very experienced public servant, and always does the right thing, he had a discussion with me. It was an act of courtesy for him to do so.

#### ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL CHARGES.

Mr. LAWN—Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked on June 27 about charges imposed by the Royal Adelaide Hospital on pensioners?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—Normally pensioners do not pay for attention at the outpatients' department at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. If they are inmates they pay some charges.

#### TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT HILTON.

Mr. LAWN—I have received the following letter from the West Torrens City Council:—

For some time my council has been convinced of the necessity of installing traffic safety lights at the intersection of the South Road-Rowland Road at Hilton, the approximate cost of which would be £3,000. My council feels that it should not be called

upon to bear the whole of the cost of the installation and has approached the Highways and Local Government Department on more than one occasion with a request that the department assist financially in this installation, but in each case has been advised that the department is not prepared to do this. I have been requested by my council to inquire if there is any way in which you can assist in inducing the Government to share with us the cost of this installation, and anything you may be able to do in this direction would be appreciated by my council.

Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Local Government to investigate the matter to see if the Government can assist financially?

The Hon. Sir MALCOLM McINTOSH—Yes.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.  
(Continued from July 24. Page 134.)

Mr. HUTCHENS (Hindmarsh)—I regret that a misunderstanding occurred yesterday afternoon. I had been assured that I would be allowed to continue my remarks until 5.45 p.m. I had also entered into an arrangement with Mr. Hambour not to sit down earlier. Because of a remark made to me I asked at an earlier time for leave to continue my remarks. This was due to a misunderstanding. It is the custom for members to make arrangements in this way and to keep them. I regret the embarrassment which was caused the Minister of Education.

Yesterday I was speaking about child welfare and had referred to the position that had arisen as the result of our increased population, greater mechanization in industry and the artificial entertainment, mainly moving pictures, forced on many of our young people. Economic conditions in industry have made it possible for the establishment of a 40-hour working week. This has meant that young people have much spare time on their hands and they have to use up their excess energy in various ways. When we older men were boys we had our fun and sometimes forgot the rights of other people. Not many members in this Chamber who were brought up in the country have not ridden a horse that did not belong to them, and some of them may have driven somebody else's motor car. Today when a young fellow takes another person's motor car for a bit of fun he is regarded as a criminal. I do not encourage the taking of motor cars in this way because we must safeguard the property rights of people, but to

prevent it there should be the right kind of encouragement for young people to become good citizens. As reported in the *Advertiser* of June 28, just prior to his retirement from the position of Metropolitan Police Superintendent, Mr. J. P. Walsh said:—

Juvenile delinquency would be one of the greatest problems confronting the police in future, and the only way to arrest the trend was a general return to God.

I agree wholeheartedly with those sentiments. I believe that there is nothing better to keep young people on the straight and narrow path than a good church education and family upbringing. In the final analysis, of course, the responsibility lies with the parents. It would be wise if some of them followed the advice given in a popular song now being broadcast, "Don't send the children to Sunday School. Get out of bed and take them." However, it does not end there. Citizens generally have some responsibility and, when visiting the eastern States recently, I was very pleased to note what is being done in the thickly populated industrial centres where we were shown with great pride by the Director of Parks and Gardens of New South Wales swimming pools built by the Sydney City Council at a cost of tens of thousands of pounds capable of accommodating 6,000 swimmers in one day. We saw areas where sub-standard houses had been replaced with playgrounds and kindergartens, and it was remarkable to note the interest shown by the parents once these facilities had been established. As far north as Cairns and Townsville in Queensland we were shown great camping areas provided by church organizations and the National Fitness Council which were subscribed to by the citizens of Queensland and not by the Government. I think it improper to boast of what one sees elsewhere and condemn one's own State for doing nothing, and since I have returned I have made inquiries and believe that some organizations here, like the Life Savers, the Amateur Swimming Association, the Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides are doing remarkably good work. In travelling around the metropolitan area at week-ends it is pleasing to note the number of small areas being used by young people with the support of citizens without aid from the Government. This sentiment extends to the country. Recently in Waikerie I noted the great pride of the people in the establishment of a young people's club by the sergeant of police. On the occasion of my visit 83 boys were being instructed on civic pride and the right way of thinking, and I trust that the press will take up this matter and support, if only

morally, the people who are endeavouring to help young people to make this country what it ought to be. Added to that, of course, the Government has some responsibility. That brings me to a question I directed to the Minister of Education yesterday regarding the obligation of students who enrol in secondary schools to continue to attend for at least one year. I am gratified to learn that this matter has received his personal consideration and I am confident that he will do all he can to this end. I am referring more particularly to technical schools where the staff is often embarrassed, after arranging the classes and schedules for the use of classrooms and workshops, to find that a number of students do not continue, making it necessary to re-adjust the whole of the arrangements with loss of time and inconvenience to both teachers and scholars.

I offer my congratulations to the Premier on his ability to build around himself so many trusts—the Housing Trust, the Electricity Trust and the Tramways Trust. They remind me of the number and manner of Solomon's wives—there to do the bidding of one master. They never seem to co-operate in their endeavours to satisfy their ruler but seem to work against one another. We have heard this afternoon that the Housing Trust seeks to house the population by building homes, not like the wise men of the east of Adelaide who built their homes on rock, but these foolish people have built the houses upon clay without reinforcement rods in the foundations; the houses have crumbled in ruin and great has been the sorrow of those who struggled to acquire enough money to put into these homes. I agree that the Housing Trust is endeavouring to house the populace, but the Electricity Trust is not co-operating in any way, for in my electorate I find that the trust has a number of homes of really good quality—one which I believe to be owned by the Trust has eight rooms—which have been empty for years. I know people in need of homes who would have been only too pleased to sign an agreement to vacate the homes if they had been allowed a tenancy of even one month. The trust is not only denying the people of accommodation but is losing some amount of revenue. It is a shame and sin to see these places empty when they could be used to accommodate at least the employees of the trust, thereby making other homes available to the people.

I join with the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. O'Halloran) in expressing dissatisfac-

tion at the affairs of the Municipal Tramways Trust and I remind members that this is not the first time I have expressed such dissatisfaction. Members were told five years ago that if they voted to the Tramways Trust £1,180,000 the trust would be able to carry on under its own power and supply transport facilities to the people of the metropolitan area, but today members can see that £3,000,000 has been voted to the Tramways Trust for no good purpose. The trust is scrapping its good trams and tearing up its permanent way. The £3,000,000 has gone down the drain because of its extravagant and unwarranted programme. Living in an area serviced by the Tramways Trust, I have seen the results of the conversion of a route from tram to bus transport: two buses are required to carry the load formerly carried by one tram. People living within a mile or two of the city invariably have to strap-hang for the whole of their journey into town. The trust has failed most miserably and I regret that the Government has seen fit to deny this Parliament the right to say "Whoa" when things have gone far enough. Despite the extensive votes to the trust, tram and bus fares have recently been increased and the people obliged to use public transport because they have been unable to accumulate sufficient to buy a motor car are being penalized. This means that young people who would have saved will have their money fleeced off them by way of fares. For these reasons a halt should be called to the extravagance of the trust in order to save money and give a proper service where it is required.

In conclusion, on behalf of those I represent I express concern at the decline in the economic position of Australia in general and this State in particular. I regret the complete hopelessness of the prospect of the present Commonwealth and the South Australian Government finding an answer to the problems confronting them; I assure members that the Australian Labor Party will do what it can within the limitations of Opposition, having faith in the future of this great country, confidence in its people, and love of fellow men. I support the motion.

Mr. HAMBOUR (Light)—In supporting the motion I congratulate the mover and seconder on the way they spoke and the subject matter of their speeches. I was proud of the effort of the member for Barossa (Mr. Laucke) with whom I am closely associated; his speech was well delivered and well received. The member for Eyre (Mr. Bockelberg) delivered a speech that radiated his personality and general

attitude to life. I believe both their contributions were well worthwhile. I offer my condolences to the widow and the father of the late member for Wallaroo. To me Larry Heath was a close friend inside and outside the House. We had many interests in common and I particularly liked his rugged approach to all questions and problems. I might sum up my feelings by saying, "He goes to his Master, having served Him well."

I congratulate the Premier on the high honour Her Majesty has bestowed on him. The Premier has said that the honour is to the State, but I believe it is to him, and on account of his personal efforts it was well deserved. I am sure all members agree with at least one statement in His Excellency's speech:

I have to inform members that Her Majesty the Queen has been pleased to extend the term of my office as Her Majesty's representative for a further two years.

My constituents, particularly those who have had personal contact with His Excellency and his good lady, will welcome that extension.

I should like to comment on the speeches of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. O'Halloran) and the member for Hindmarsh (Mr. Hutchens). I listened to them with great attention and would liken the Leader's speech to the effort of a mother woodpecker that penetrated the bark and got into a little bit of the wood, but nowhere near the core. Mr. Hutchens' speech reminded me of the effort of the woodpecker chick that pecked at the bark but only bent its beak. Both members made great play on paragraph 3 of His Excellency's speech, saying that the Government had tried to attribute the State's prosperity only to good Government; but nowhere in the speech is there any indication that the Government takes full credit. I am willing, however, to give the Government credit for helping to achieve that prosperity. Mr. O'Halloran went to great lengths to prove that the State is prosperous because of the wool industry. Nobody will deny that, but he then indulged in a statistical meander. Dealing with paragraph 4 of His Excellency's speech, he said:—

Most of the Loan moneys has been spent on providing amenities and maintaining employment, but I believe that its expenditure on the latter objective should be guarded in circumstances such as those existing in South Australia at present so that surplus funds may be available in the future to provide for a recession should one occur.

On the one hand Mr. O'Halloran demands more public works, but in the next breath he criti-

cizes the Government for providing amenities and public works. Indeed, he concludes by saying that the Government should provide neither, but should keep the money until some future recession. I cannot reconcile those statements. We have experienced prosperity and I believe it will continue, although neither the Government nor the Leader controls the seasons. I think we should look to the future with some optimism.

Mr. Lawn—You want to tell the pensioners that. How can they be optimistic with a Liberal Government in power?

Mr. HAMBOUR—The provisional director of Foy and Gibson's interrupts with reference to pensioners. I am sympathetic to them and I think my heart is as big as his, and my head is probably bigger. Speaking regarding the expenditure of Loan moneys, the Treasurer has made it perfectly clear that in supporting bulk handling of grain projects considerable sums of money will be used to provide the necessary facilities. However, Mr. Davis, the member for Port Pirie, keeps persisting that expenditure is necessary on wharves at Port Pirie. I think that the Leader of the Opposition is quite fair and will admit that the amount of £23,000,000 can be spent only in certain directions, and once it is used, that is all there is to it. I am astounded to think that members of the Labor Party would cry the Government down for keeping the Tramways Trust in existence. If that criticism came from country members, I could understand it, but here we have the member for Hindmarsh criticizing the service. What would his electors say if the Government withdrew its financial support from the trust?

Mr. John Clark—Would you not call the Leader of the Opposition a country member?

Mr. HAMBOUR—He represents a country electorate and also the Labor Party, and is speaking for the members behind him. I am not suggesting that what he said were his own views, but they were the Party's views. It surprises me to think that the Opposition would criticize the Government for keeping the tramways in existence. Mr. O'Halloran made a statement which I do not think would be true in fact, namely, that if tram fares were reduced there would be a considerable increase in patronage of the service. I think he is modern enough to appreciate that each year more and more people will own their own motor cars, and therefore there must be a reduction in the use of buses and trams. I am not convinced that the Opposition's plans



for the Government's taking over the tramways is a solution of the problem. I think that Mr. O'Halloran will admit that even if the Government did this the losses would be just as great. He also said that the Government should absorb all the losses and keep tram fares down in the hope of increasing the number of passengers. What he said regarding the tramways means nothing. Trams and buses under the trust's control will continue to show losses, and even if the Government took them over in their entirety I believe the losses would increase.

Mr. Stephens—That doesn't say much for the Government.

Mr. HAMBOUR—It has nothing to do with the Government whether the tramways show a loss or not. It depends on the administration. In criticizing the administration Mr. O'Halloran said he would appoint a committee of experts to deal with the service. They have had experts in. I do not know the personnel of the trust, and they may be a lot of dunderheads, but surely they are not, and are men of ability who are rendering good service and doing the best they can with a difficult problem. Where will the Government get these suggested supermen? Perhaps it may be able to get them out of the Labor Party—perhaps from among the rejects in Queensland. If the Government brought in a board of experts, Lord help us as to what the deficit would be then. To me the more expert they are, the more expensive they are. Mr. O'Halloran spoke at length on the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline and said that the position would be better if instead of industries being established in the metropolitan area they were established along the Murray. I think that is quite correct and support it; that view is quite sound. It would be fine to see industries along the Murray, but who has power to direct them to the Murray or to any other area?

Mr. Davis—The Government.

Mr. HAMBOUR—That is the most foolish remark I have heard. It is utterly impossible to direct an industry anywhere, unless it is in a communistic State. People in the country are not happy about having to help to pay for the reticulation of Murray water to the metropolitan area.

Mr. O'Halloran—Who planned the satellite town of Elizabeth?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Probably the Government. Mr. Hutchens complained about there not being enough houses. Members opposite want them in the metropolitan area. Who-

ever was responsible, they selected the land at Elizabeth and started to build houses. Perhaps there was no need to build them there, but where else could they have been built?

Mr. John Clark—Could there not have been some on the Murray?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Even if that were done, what work could the people apply themselves to? Would they have to get into their Tiger Moths and come to the metropolitan area to work? Members opposite have their heads entirely in the sand. Nobody is more keen on decentralization than I am, but I deprecate the romancing that some members have indulged in. They say that we should build houses on the Murray and that industry will go there. What industry? Members should be more specific. I do not think any member could say that the Government had power to direct industries there. I am sure the Leader of the Opposition would not say that. Later I shall say what should be done regarding decentralization, but my remarks will be on lines entirely different from those of members opposite.

Much has been said about the cost of water, but I emphasize that people in the metropolitan area are very fortunate, for they get water. I could instance many places in my district that have no reticulated supply. I think the Leader of the Opposition asked why we should be short of Loan money in a period of prosperity. That remark stunned me. If a man of his high intelligence makes a remark like that he is either kidding himself or trying to kid some of the younger members of this House. He knows that prosperity has no bearing on the revenue at the disposal of the Treasurer. I think his remarks were supported by the member for Hindmarsh (Mr. Hutchens), who spread himself and got himself really into the flour, but I shall deal with him later. The biggest factor causing financial problems has been the increase in population. We have to house and educate the people.

Mr. Fred Walsh—Aren't we creating a bigger home market while the population is increasing? Are you in favour of the migration policy?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Yes, but I do not like hearing the constant squeals from members opposite about the housing position. I should like to hear the opinions of constituents of members opposite on the suggestions made by those members. We have a growing nation, and we shall have growing pains for many years. The housing problem will never be satisfied while our population continues to

increase at the present rate. Some members want the Government to build all the homes: overnight the Government becomes the fairy godmother! I should like to see the conditions in other States with glorified Labor Premiers. What have they done about the housing position? In his concluding remarks yesterday the Leader of the Opposition said:—

... whether something cannot be done to improve the state of affairs in South Australia, to provide homes and education for the people, and land for those thousands of unsatisfied land seekers throughout the length and breadth of South Australia, and finally, to take real steps to bring about the effective decentralization of industry on which the future progress and prosperity of this State undoubtedly depends.

The Leader of the Opposition should have been christened "Mandrake," because to do everything he says should be done would cost many times the amount of money the Treasurer has at his disposal.

Mr. John Clark—That does not mean those things are not necessary.

Mr. HAMBOUR—There is nothing to stop any honourable member from romancing. Many members delight in sitting in an armchair and dreaming, but this is not the place to dream, but to be factual.

Mr. Davis—Why don't you set us an example?

Mr. HAMBOUR—I am. If the honourable member paid more attention to the Government's activities and qualified himself to deal with public matters he would be in a better position than he is today.

Mr. Lawn—Are you supporting the Government now?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Entirely.

Mr. Lawn—Last year you were the leader of the back benchers. I told you that you would come into line.

The SPEAKER—There are too many interjections. The member for Light has the floor, and I ask him to address the Chair.

Mr. HAMBOUR—I do not object to the interjections, Mr. Speaker. I hope you will be tolerant towards them, Sir, because the only time they can make statements without taking responsibility for them is when they are in this House. The member for Hindmarsh (Mr. Hutchens) really spread his wings and said:—

Australia is running a grave risk in reducing wheat production because more markets are becoming available every year.

He must have read of the trade pact that has just been concluded with Japan by the Federal Minister for Trade. If members read

my remarks on the Address in Reply of 12 months ago they will see that I said wheat-growers were being advised to grow less wheat. Australia then had a surplus of 94 million bushels.

Mr. Lawn—Do you believe in selling wheat to Red China?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Yes, and we are also selling wool to that country. The farmers grew less wheat, and this year the wheat harvest is down about 60 million bushels, but I think we shall finish with a surplus of about 30 million bushels, yet the member for Hindmarsh said we should grow more. It does not bother him if the growers have to sell their wheat at a loss. They are guaranteed cost of production, but their only salvation has been the fact that we have had good seasons. The cost of production is based on yields of 13 bushels to the acre, but good seasons have resulted in an average of about 18. The member for Hindmarsh should make himself more familiar with wheat production before he talks on this subject. Then he said we should produce more flour, but have we ever heard anything so stupid? Last year we lost a part of our Ceylon market to France. This year the Australian Wheat Board has been subsidizing some exports of flour, but at the expense of the wheatgrower.

Mr. Heaslip—That subsidy has become necessary.

Mr. HAMBOUR—Yes, but if we have to subsidize primary production who will pay for it? Certainly not our secondary industries, for they are inflated to such an extent that they would burst with a pinprick. Our wheat-growers have to compete overseas with France and the United States of America. In the United States £500,000,000 sterling went into the grain industry in supports. In France £56,000,000 sterling was needed to support the industry. If the general production in this country were in a position to support our wheat industry, the remarks of the member for Hindmarsh might apply. What is to happen to the surplus wheat which we produce? I am not a defeatist, but we have to find markets and if we can do so we can sell the wheat. The farmers in Australia will produce as much as can be sold. The member for Hindmarsh referred to butter and eggs and said that the country must produce more of these commodities. Does he wish eggs to go rotten? And what are the farmers to do with the butter?

Mr. Davis—Eat it.

Mr. HAMBOUR—The honourable member may have the capacity to do that. What will happen to the surpluses? The next part of the honourable member's remarks was almost humorous. He went on to agree with Dr. Forbes, the member for Barker. Dr. Forbes said that on Australia's present rate of increase in primary production we would have to import in 23 years or so. It is perfectly true that he made that statement.

Mr. Hutchens—It was seven years in one case.

Mr. HAMBOUR—That may be so. In answer to Dr. Forbes and the member for Hindmarsh, I say "Sell, and our primary producers will produce." It would be foolish to expect primary producers to produce and put their products in the storehouse. We have no storage capacity available for wheat, and I think other States have taxed the storage capacity for butter.

Mr. Hutchens—Have you ever heard of the starving millions of the world?

Mr. HAMBOUR—I will come to that in a moment. The main reason for decentralization is a better spread of our population. I do not think any member is concerned with what particular work people do, and the important thing is to relieve the congestion in the metropolitan area. I believe that to be the earnest wish of everyone.

Mr. Davis—Has your Government adopted that policy?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Yes. I think we can improve our country conditions. We can take people to the country because we have industries there, and in fact there is one in my district of which I am very proud, but I am sorry to say that the proprietor passed away last week. It was built around his pride and pertinacity and that of his father before him and the people of an earlier generation. Given drive and pride in accomplishment, there are plenty of people who will do things in the country. I believe in a cannery on the River Murray because the products are there for the processing.

I have criticized the Opposition for some of their statements. I do not say that Opposition members are silly all the time, and only criticizing some of the statements which I consider should have been given more thoughtful consideration before they were uttered by responsible people.

Mr. Fletcher—You will get industry wherever there is Independent representation.

Mr. HAMBOUR—The member for Mount Gambier said that with a humorous touch and

a twinkle in his eye, but it should flatter the people of Mount Gambier in their representation. Water is a big factor in getting people into the country, and it must be taken wherever humanly possible with some degree of economy. I know of specific cases where there would be more people and greater production if water were available.

Mr. Stephens—Why don't you do something about it?

Mr. HAMBOUR—We are doing it; the honourable member will see that if he looks at the Estimates.

The SPEAKER—Order! The honourable member must address himself to the Chair and not across the floor of the House.

Mr. HAMBOUR—Yes, Mr. Speaker. Water reticulation is essential to decentralization, but the Government has only limited money at its disposal. While I disagree with the Minister on some of his proposals I am not suggesting that I am right. I am entitled to my opinion and I will disagree with him on different points, but I give him credit for doing his best with the money at his disposal.

Last year I was highly critical of the Government's road policy and made several suggestions for decentralization in road-making. I think honourable members who have any familiarity with the country realize that this is coming to pass. There are resident engineers with resident gangs in the country; work is proceeding fast in most country districts, and the only limitation is the money available. The policy adopted by the Electricity Trust is a good one. The trust is moving fast, and the only fault I can find is the cost of power which I will deal with later.

Mr. Stephens—Your Party was opposed to the acquisition of the Adelaide Electric Supply Company and voted against it. If it had not been for the Labor Party there would not have been a trust.

Mr. HAMBOUR—I am no historian, nor have I been in this House very long, but I believe it was the Playford Government that acquired the Company. I believe that to be the truth, and yet the member for Port Adelaide is saying that we were opposed to it.

Mr. Stephens—Your Party turned it down.

Mr. HAMBOUR—If what the member for Port Adelaide says is true I have no knowledge of it. I believe that with a concerted effort we can increase and stimulate our primary production; in doing so we can take people to the country, but we have to be mighty careful what we do with our secondary industries.

There is a clamour to get every industry possible into South Australia regardless of the economic impact. That has an effect on every primary producer, because every new industry that requires any protection—and most of them require some—steps up the costs of the primary producer and makes the product of his labour more unprofitable. The Leader of the Opposition berated the Government for keeping costs down in this State. The Opposition grizzles because the South Australian wage is less than in other States, but it does not deny that the purchasing power of that wage is equal to that in other States. It is a feather in the cap of the Government that it can keep costs down.

The member for Enfield (Mr. Jennings) asked whether I would do business with China. I would do business with any nation that had peaceful aims towards this country. We are doing business with China. Those acquainted with the situation may have read the report of Mr. H. C. Menzies who led a trade commission into China last year. I want members opposite to remember what they have said this afternoon, because they may have to change their ideas. The Chamber of Manufactures has accused Mr. McEwen of selling Australia's birthright for a mess of pottage and the mess of pottage was soft wheat. What they want is protection for their industries, but, believe me, if one Australian becomes unemployed over this trade agreement with Japan the Labor Party will hold its hands up in holy horror and scream to the high heavens for an abrogation of this trade pact. The effect of the pact will be to provide cheaper goods in Australia and cheaper costs of production for our primary producers. I welcome that, but will members opposite? What would the trade unionists say? They would repeat what the employees in Lancashire said in 1955 when we bought less of their goods: "Australia is turning to other countries and is creating unemployment in England." That was true, but at the same time England was doing precisely the same and creating unemployment in her country. This afternoon the Opposition is advocating that we do business with Asian countries. I wholeheartedly support that advocacy, but I am afraid Opposition members will trip at the first hurdle and I will be the only one continuing, because they are not sincere in their advocacy. Their supporters do not advocate it. I know that in Canberra there is some disagreement among Liberals as to whether we should do business with China. Canada has entered that trade and America

and Australia are the only countries left. I am afraid America will race Australia to the China market. I believe any friendly trade should be welcomed.

I praise the Government for the part it played in assisting those people in my electorate who were affected by the Murray River flood. That assistance was given without hesitation and those who benefited are thankful to the Government and the officers concerned. It is heartening to note the progress made by our railways and I believe if it continues in the near future we will be able to write off some of the dead wood that is no longer lucrative. Since I have been a member of this Chamber I have been intensely interested in all matters pertaining to the supply of electricity to country areas, particularly to groups of consumers. I have applied time to a study of this question in an effort to evaluate what does happen. I compliment the trust and its officers on the work carried out. Any criticism I make is not directed at the personnel, but at the charges. The financial agreement between the trust and the consumers served may be quite sound from a business viewpoint and I believe the trust could not offer better conditions unless it were prepared to involve other transactions or correlate other transactions with this agreement. What does the trust do in these cases? It ascertains the cost of an extension after which it estimates what revenue it can receive therefrom. It then assesses what extra charge will be necessary to return it eight per cent on the capital cost. That amount covers interest and depreciation and is payable for 10 years. In actual fact the consumers at no time repay any of the capital cost. Before finalizing the amount to be paid as the annual charge by a group of consumers the trust deducts 20 per cent from the estimated receipts for power or from actual receipts, whichever is the greater amount, and a further five per cent from the gross amount. In 1954 the Government said it would contribute five per cent as a subsidy towards ameliorating this charge. The trust did not accept the Government money. From the Estimates it can be seen that in two years following £5,000 was set aside for this purpose, but was never used. It would have been much better had the trust thanked the Government for that five per cent and contributed its five per cent as well, making the total reduction 10 per cent. I am sure the 2,300-odd people concerned would be grateful if the trust, in collaboration with the Government, publicly indicated it would remove the surcharge from

as many consumers as possible each year. The thought of some alleviation in future satisfies many country people. The trust could add a qualification to any public announcement that such would only be done if the finances of the trust were sufficient to allow for any removal. A public statement would ease the minds of many country people and enable them to see their way clear of this obligation which is contained in the contract whereby they agree to pay so much a year as a surcharge.

Mr. John Clark—When public meetings are held officers of the trust tell people that there is a possibility they will not pay surcharges for ever.

Mr. HAMBOUR—What the member for Gawler says is quite true. Would it not be better if the Premier, in conjunction with the chairman of the trust, made the statement? I cannot give that assurance, nor can any member of this House.

Mr. John Clark—The trust's officers have done that themselves in some cases.

Mr. HAMBOUR—They only recite what has happened in the past, and say that there is a possibility of the surcharge being removed. I would like that statement to be made public, and the qualification "provided the finances of the trust permit" could be made. I think that is a clear enough statement to make. An installation to cost £22,000 is to be made in my district, and under its formula the trust requires an annual guarantee of £1,431 to cover interest and depreciation. That amount has to be divided amongst people in the district in amounts varying from £25 to £38. This does not mean very much to a primary producer on a big holding, but it does to a small man. Something should be done to assure the people that this charge will not be made longer than necessary. If they were assured of this, it would build up their hopes of relief and put the Government in good odour with them.

Mr. John Clark—What is your opinion on the possibility of evening up the costs?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Recently the Premier stated that, with the increased production of Leigh Creek coal, it is expected that the cost of electricity will drop. If this does eventuate, I ask that any savings be first meted out to those who are paying most. I now turn to one or two matters that concern my district. An application has been made to extend the water supply to a very dry area in my district. Although the extension would be only a little over two miles, the application was refused on two grounds, the first of which was

that it was not economic. However, it could have been made economic, without resorting to excess rating, if the landowners were given an opportunity to say what they would pay. The second ground for refusal was that the Warren district is not capable of handling its commitments. The people in this area are not very far from the Murray water, and they are not very happy about this statement, because it will probably take years before the Warren water district can be completely satisfied. Not many people are involved and the amount of water they want is not very great. If they have to wait until the Warren water supply can be enlarged, I can assure the House that they will remain discontented.

My predecessor arranged with the Minister of Works for an extension in the Neales Flat district. I know that the Minister did all he could, and it was decided to provide the installation. However, the pipes have been lying on top of the ground for over 12 months, and the people are very angry about this. They have been told from month to month that the installation will be carried out but no move has yet been made. Only a few months ago they were carting water and if something is not done in a hurry they will be carting water for the whole of next summer. I ask the Minister to have a look at this matter.

Mr. John Clark—Has their member approached Parliament about it?

Mr. HAMBOUR—Yes. This matter was on the cards when I first came into Parliament. The people concerned have asked me to raise this matter in Parliament, which I have done gladly in the hope of getting something done. I might mention that these people are paying 3s. 4d. an acre water rate. A school bus service in part of my district was discontinued last year because unfortunately there were not enough children living more than three miles from the school. This closing down has affected 25 children, and the people in the district are very concerned. Something should be done to provide transport to the school.

I ask the Government to reconsider its attitude on tattoo branding of pigs. Last year a request for legislation was rejected, it being said that it would inconvenience many for little advantage. I suggest that this industry is worthy of better consideration. Although pig production values increased from £23,800,000 in 1954 to £25,700,000 in 1956, our exports have dropped because local consumption has increased, and pig breeders are asking for tattoo branding of pigs. In February 1955 an Act was proclaimed in New South Wales

making it compulsory for pigs going to market to be tattoo branded or otherwise earmarked so that the origin of pigs, if diseased, could be ascertained.

In this State in the last three years compensation amounting to £36,495 was paid, and this is quite a considerable amount. In New South Wales, where legislation now exists, the payments dropped from £42,000 in 1954 to £36,000 in 1956. In 1953 the New South Wales fund had £2,170, which increased in 1956 to £50,491. After paying out £16,000 refund to the Treasury against advances, there was a balance of £34,491. That indicates that branding saves money, and I think breeders here all agree that it helps locate the source of disease. It is useless increasing pig production unless that production can be increased in quality. Some of the pigs produced here are not suitable for export, but can only be used as sausage meat. The people vitally interested are those producing high quality pigs. I ask the Government to give serious consideration to this request for branding. I have raised the matter with the Minister of Agriculture and ask that he request the Government to reconsider it.

Mr. FRANK WALSH (Edwardstown)—I join with previous speakers in supporting the motion and endorse their remarks about the death of Mr. Heath under tragic circumstances. Here it is opportune to suggest that the State Traffic Committee or some other committee should go into the matter of road signs, particularly where the crest of a rise is being approached, and in this regard it is important to remember the Port Wakefield Road. I am pleased that Sir Robert and Lady George will remain in this State for a further period. Sir Robert has been well received as Governor and I am sure his popularity will continue.

I do not intend to deal with Treasury matters today, but I want to speak about the Treasurer who has been acting as Chief Secretary. Several matters need to be cleared up. I was perturbed to learn that the Government had accepted the resignation of Mr. Jacobs from the Hospital Board. I do not know all the facts, but if it had not been for the personal explanation made by the Treasurer on this matter I would have been more caustic in my remarks. I understand that Mr. Jacobs had been a member of the board for some years and that it was suggested that the administration of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital should be associated with that of the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Because of his business experience Mr. Jacobs would know

how to administer the staffing position. I have never been a Chief Secretary nor an Acting Chief Secretary, so I cannot realize how the Treasurer, whilst acting as Chief Secretary, sent the recommendations of the Hospital Board to the Auditor-General for an investigation. His report was sent to the Hospital Board, which was not prepared to alter its previous decision, and then the Acting Chief Secretary appointed a committee to deal with the matter. That seems to have been a wrong procedure and there was no justification for it. The board members did their work in the way they thought best for the Government and the hospitals, so there must be something more to it than the public has been told.

The Government can ill afford to act in this way. I am not speaking for any person in particular but there must be something more behind this matter. I think investigation would reveal something not in the best interests of the public. I extend my sympathy to Mr. Jacobs. He has been a good worker and he exhibited a kindly disposition towards sick people. I know what he has done as a member of the board, and the State has now lost his services. It seems that one person has had power in his hands too long and too often. We are entitled to further information from the Treasurer as Acting Chief Secretary. When will the Government acknowledge that the Dental Hospital has had people registered for about two years for treatment? These people cannot go elsewhere for treatment for they cannot afford it.

Mr. John Clark—Some of the people registered for treatment are now dead.

Mr. FRANK WALSH—I am prepared to believe that there may be many who have registered for dental treatment who are no longer on this earth. If the Government advocates the dental care of children in schools why is it that they have to wait for two or two and a half years for treatment, and why do aged invalid pensioners have to wait for the same period? I know that if an aged pensioner happens also to be a diabetic he is placed on an emergency list and gets early treatment, but the aged person who may require dentures or other dental treatment may have to wait for a very long time. I have noticed children wearing braces on their teeth which I believe is for the purpose of straightening them, and if the Government were really concerned about the policy it advocates surely it would see that children

requiring such treatment were given it without undue delay. I understand that to have it done privately would cost parents not less than £80 or £100 which is far beyond the means of the average worker. Now that the Treasurer has had an opportunity to learn what is going on in the Chief Secretary's Department perhaps he will interest himself in the matter and appoint a committee to inquire into the administration of the dental branch so that children whose parents cannot afford to pay for this expensive treatment may receive it without undue delay.

In March last I attended two lectures given by Dr. Guttman, who has been Director of the National Spinal Injuries Centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, England, since its inception. I have been a member of the South Australian Paraplegics Association for a number of years, but we have not made approaches to the Royal Adelaide Hospital because we have been unable to get co-operation between all the honorary specialists. All members may not be aware of what is meant by paraplegic. A person who is involved in, say, a road accident, or an industrial accident, and suffers injury to the vertebrae can become paralysed from the hip downwards and is then termed a paraplegic; a quadriplegic is one paralysed from the chest downwards. Some members of the association, one of whom is secretary to a Minister of the Crown, have endeavoured to prevail upon industry to employ some paraplegics, and have met with some success. Unfortunately, however, most paraplegics have not had an opportunity of getting treatment immediately following the accident and it is very doubtful if it will ever be possible for them to enter industry again. It is most desirable that an immediate investigation be made by the Government with a view to establishing a clinic at Northfield for this type of patient for, according to Dr. Guttman, it is essential that people involved in accidents that will cause them to become paraplegics should be admitted immediately to a clinic which provides the essential nursing attention, and where they can be educated to reshape their attitude to life once it becomes known to them that they will be paraplegics for the remainder of their lives. Dr. Guttman emphasizes that if treatment is undertaken immediately many should be fit to go back to some type of employment within six months. The clinic in England was established by his efforts during the last war. When he found that men disabled on active service were being sent back to England as

hopeless cases he resigned from his practice as a neurosis surgeon in order to rehabilitate paraplegics being aware that in matters affecting the brain there was never any guarantee of complete success. He visited and delivered many lectures in Australia and the members of the Medical Board and the surgeons at the Royal Adelaide Hospital did everything to make his stay in Adelaide successful.

There are other aspects of this complaint with which I will not deal on this occasion, but I point out that the paraplegics are spread through many wards at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and if they do not receive proper attention a certain complaint may spread throughout the hospital. I have received this advice from medical experts who consider that a clinic should be established at Northfield. From his experience as Acting Minister of Health over recent months the Premier may be able to indicate later in this debate whether such a step is proposed.

At the time of the recent unfortunate death of the Police Commissioner (Mr. Ivor Green) the Deputy Commissioner was overseas with the object of improving his knowledge of police methods, and I do not criticize the value of such a visit. I draw the attention of members, however, to the career of ex-Superintendent Walsh who often acted as Police Commissioner and who, possibly more than any other police officer, cultivated good relationships between the police force and the public; but when the Government was appointing a Deputy Commissioner he was overlooked. Since his services were not recognized can we expect the fullest co-operation from police officers if those who have devoted their lives to making the police force their career find that they can never get to the top of the tree? As an analogy, may I ask whether there was ever elected to this House a member who did not aspire to Cabinet rank or the position of Speaker or Chairman of Committees? Surely every man is ambitious to go further. I have not yet been a Cabinet Minister, but I should say that the recent appointment of the Police Commissioner came within the purview of the Premier while he was acting as Chief Secretary. If I were asked to nominate a Deputy Police Commissioner I could think of nobody more suitable than ex-Superintendent Walsh. What has been done about the appointment of a new Deputy Commissioner? The Government should encourage the members of the Police Force by appointing a police officer to this position.

I now turn to the subject of traffic lights. I believe that traffic light arrangements should be uniform throughout the metropolitan area. Much good has been achieved by the installation of traffic lights at the Emerson railway crossing, and under the present set-up even the greatest novice could turn safely at that intersection provided he used normal common-sense, but I object to the painting of a double line on the road. I believe it should be eliminated and a broad line painted to give an indication to traffic, for I have been informed that certain businesses in the vicinity have lost custom because of the double line. At the intersection of Anzac Highway and South Road the lighting system is not the same as that at the Emerson Crossing. For instance, a driver travelling from Glenelg to Edwardstown and desiring to turn right is left in a maze because there is no indication as to how he is to turn. He must do the best he can without the help of any lights. The same applies to a driver travelling from Adelaide to Richmond who desires to turn to the right. The traffic lights at the West Terrace-Grote Street and West Terrace-Currie Street intersections are different again: some drivers get an indication of when they may turn to the right, but other drivers who want to go in another direction have to fight their way through. I believe that traffic lights should be uniform on all major traffic routes.

The Governor's speech included the following:—

Road authorities have again had to cope with the growing volume of traffic and the excessive weight of loads. To meet these difficulties the Highways Department has this year done more work than ever before. The expenditure amounted to £6,750,000—an increase of over £750,000.

I admit that there is need to have very good roads, but contend that from the payment of their registration fees and the petrol tax those living in the metropolitan area are not getting the full benefit. Excellent roads for interstate hauliers, namely, the Main North Road and the Mount Barker Road, have been provided, but if the Railways Department can produce rollingstock for the efficient transport of motor bodies interstate, it should also be able to develop a type of rollingstock capable of carrying these motor bodies in the trailers of hauliers from capital city to capital city. The prime mover vehicles could be located at certain depots in the capital cities. If, for instance, fully loaded trailers were delivered at Melbourne railway yards for transport to Ade-

laide, the prime movers could await their arrival at Mile End for unloading. This would have the advantage of there not being such excessive maintenance on the interstate roads.

Those who pay the most toward revenue by registration of their motor vehicles and by the tax on petrol should have a reasonable chance of getting good roads. Mr. Hambour indicated that the railways would be a paying proposition in the near future, and I hope his forecast is right. If the Government considered the matters I have mentioned I am sure the Highways Department would be involved in lower maintenance costs and that our railway system would be rejuvenated. These matters should be investigated in the interests of taxpayers.

If there is to be proper access to the south-western suburbs, a bridge must be erected over the railway at Marion Road where the Brighton Road intersects. It is to be hoped that some day the Sturt Creek will be straightened and a bridge provided so that there will be a direct access from South Road opposite the Flagstaff Hotel. This should have been done many years ago, and it certainly should now receive immediate consideration. In the report to be submitted on the proposed drainage scheme for the south-western suburbs I hope this matter will receive consideration. If the creek were straightened from Darlington to Morphetville, much land could be made available for useful purposes rather than have it wasted because of the winding creek.

In part of my electorate the Housing Trust is erecting homes of solid construction. I know that the foundations are substantial, but substantial as they may be there will always be some shrinkage and therefore consequent deterioration to the homes, which are being constructed of brick, stone or concrete. Back in 1942 I said in this House that it was the responsibility of councils, some of which are now cities or corporations but were then mere district councils, to examine the ground and stipulate what types of homes should be built in the different areas. I also said that many of the timber-frame houses that were being erected would be an asset to any country, and I have not changed my ideas about that. However, some of the Housing Trust timber-frame homes are not up to standard. The trust should use jarrah weatherboard and asbestos for the outer sides. Big chimneys are not needed because, owing to the scarcity of wood, gas or electric fires should be provided. I do not want to be too critical of the trust's architects and engineers, but they should make



better arrangements for the drainage of roof water. For many years this water has not been drained into the streets, but into backyards to form quagmires or lagoons.

I believe the Minister of Education has to spend too much of his time on the problems of providing schools and amenities for children. I have complained before about the conditions at the Forbes primary school. Surely it is not good enough that, on the average, there is only one toilet there for every 61 girls. This school has grown rapidly, and I said last year that if the headmaster had a motor scooter he could not get around to know all his teachers, let alone his children. The school was opened a few years ago to accommodate 320 children, but on the opening day some of the children had to be sent to Ascot Park school and others elsewhere. Another school was opened at Morphetville Park, but it did not relieve much of the congestion at Forbes. Today this school has about 1,700 scholars, 1,100 in a primary school and 590 in the infant. The department must have miscalculated the number of children likely to attend this school.

I asked whether more land could be purchased for this school because it has so many buildings now that practically half the area is built upon, leaving insufficient for the playing area. Recently I criticized the Government for not explaining the necessity for granting an additional £60,000 for the University. It would not need nearly as much money as that to provide sufficient toilets at the Forbes school to obviate the necessity of girls queueing up at recess time, which cannot be done by staggering the recess hours. That will not work, and it is not fair to the infants to suggest that the primary school children should use their toilet accommodation. The Minister should insist on adequate toilet facilities being provided at the Forbes school forthwith.

Rapid industrial development is taking place in the district of Edwardstown. Another factory has just commenced on South Road, adjoining Tonsley Park. The factories being erected by Chrysler Australia Limited are taking longer to build than we expected, though there may be good reasons for that. I am perturbed at the unsatisfactory bus service being run from Darlington to Adelaide. This is a private service run under licence from the Tramways Trust. It carries many people, but it does not always run to the timetable. My representations to the Minister of Works and to the trust seem to have been waylaid. The Treasurer took up the matter with the trust, which has now acknowledged its importance

and has given the proprietor three months to rectify the position. However, he has had many years in which he could have improved the service, and I doubt whether he can do so. My information is that there will be at least 100 people employed in the New Year in the industry to which I have referred. They are not all living in St. Mary's or the surrounding districts, and many will depend on public transport. I believe this bus service to be a well-paying concern, and if the trust is not in a position to take it over it is at least under an obligation to the public to give such an opportunity to a competent operator.

I have made representations to the Minister and to the trust and took a deputation to the Minister of Works with regard to the Glen Osmond to Glenelg bus service. This service carried 343 children to eight different schools or colleges. The trust has ignored my representations on behalf of the parents of the children. Last year 80 scholars from the Presbyterian Girls School alone used that bus service. The Education Department is not in a position to erect sufficient school accommodation to cater for the children who used this service night and morning, nor to pay the salaries of the teachers that would be required for them, yet the Government has closed schools in some areas and subsidized operators to transport children 20, 30 or 40 miles daily. The trust is able to borrow and receive money, but it does not see fit to subsidize the operator of this particular service, and he must go out of business. There is a moral obligation on the Government to see that its money is spent to the greatest advantage, even if it means providing a subsidy to the operator of the Glen Osmond to Glenelg service.

The member for Light, who spoke at length this afternoon, should have confined his remarks to subjects he really knew something about. I point out to him that the Tramways Trust has only one medium of obtaining revenue, and that is through conveying the public; it has to depend on passenger traffic alone for its revenue. People should be encouraged to use these services, but is the trust doing so by increasing fares, reducing the service, and shortening the sections? It is up to the trust to provide a service that will encourage people to use the public transport. One can go to any part of the metropolitan area and see how many people are queued up after 9 a.m. waiting for trams and buses. In some places where they had a three- or five-minute service it

has been lengthened to 12 minutes; the 12-minute service has been lengthened to 24; and the 15-minute service has been lengthened to 30 minutes or longer. How can people be expected to wait around without any shelter? If the trust is to succeed it must consider its obligation to the public. It is no use the trust parading the 40-hour week, the five-day week, or the question of one man on buses which should be operated by at least two men.

I have never agreed to the ripping up of tramlines to make way for diesel or petrol-driven motor vehicles, because this means that we are dependent on rubber for the transport system in the metropolitan area. I remind members that during the war the most serious tramway maintenance problem was the supply of brake blocks for the trams. If there were another war we would not have supplies of oil and petrol, quite apart from rubber, and yet we are pulling up the tram tracks. The management of the trust must

provide an adequate service, with reasonable fares, otherwise the Government will be obliged to make thousands of pounds available annually. It is not so long ago that I bitterly opposed the allocation of £500,000 to the trust and questioned the efficiency of its management. The Government was so perturbed that it sent motor cars out to rally its supporters at 11 o'clock at night. The Leader of the Opposition has said that it is not right to provide huge sums to the trust without having a Minister of the Crown responsible to this Parliament to supervise the expenditure. Until the Government accepts that the present inefficient service, with its haphazard control, will continue.

Mr. GOLDNEY secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.05 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, July 30, at 2 p.m.