

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Wednesday, August 20, 1958.

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

QUESTIONS.

PREMIER'S VISIT TO UNITED STATES.

Mr. O'HALLORAN—I have no desire to impede the negotiations the Premier is conducting for an industry for South Australia, and I assure him that the Opposition will do all it can to assist in getting an industry, provided the conditions are satisfactory; but, in view of the very wide publicity emanating from Canberra as to the type and cost of the industry, I feel that the Premier should take this House into his confidence. Can he make a statement to the House?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—In the first place, I greatly appreciate the fact that members have realized that to conduct negotiations of any importance to outside bodies in the full glare of publicity does not serve any useful purpose, but only tends to create all sorts of difficulties by bringing outside vested interests into opposition to such projects. I greatly appreciate that members of the Opposition and of my own Party have refrained from being difficult over the fact that these things cannot be discussed publicly. We are living in a period of very competitive markets, and I think members can see that reports that have already emanated from Canberra have not tended to assist us. Instead, they have placed another competitor in the field, as members can see from what is reported in the press. Fortunately the whole ramifications of the discussions between myself and overseas people have not become public. Some of the statements that are public deal with phases of the discussions, but fortunately very many things that were discussed still have not had full publicity. I think that even at this stage it is still advisable to keep the matter somewhat confidential. I assure members that as soon as the facts can be disclosed, they will be disclosed to this Parliament before anyone else.

Secondly, the success of the overseas discussions will depend partly upon some investigations that have been set in train in South Australia since my return. Certain materials are required to carry out the full programme, and this involves a considerable amount of investigation in this State. I assure the Leader that as soon as anything transpires of any consequence Parliament will be notified,

and indeed, if the negotiations break down completely, Parliament will be notified fully what type of negotiations were carried on, with whom, and for what purpose.

NORTHERN RESERVOIR STORAGES.

Mr. HEASLIP—Last week I drew attention to the condition of northern reservoirs and how low they were. Since then rains have fallen in that area. Can the Minister of Works state what has been the intake into those reservoirs and what is their position today?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The weekly figures concerning metropolitan reservoirs that came to me this morning, which I do not propose to read unless they are required, as they have been published from time to time, disclose very material intakes over the last week that have brought them to a very satisfactory condition. The following table shows the present storages in country reservoirs and intakes for the week:—

	Storage	Net increase
	18/8/58.	for week.
Beetaloo . . .	214,300,000	1,600,000
Bundaleer . . .	771,000,000	140,500,000
Baroota . . .	304,100,000	80,200,000
Tod River . . .	1,495,800,000	121,000,000
Barossa . . .	266,800,000	600,000
South Para . . .	2,065,300,000	1,359,500,000
Warren . . .	1,401,400,000	73,400,000

The Warren reservoir is now full.

SEALING OF EDWARDSTOWN SCHOOL YARD.

Mr. FRANK WALSH—I understand that approval was given in March for sealing the Edwardstown Primary School yard. Will the Minister of Education obtain a report on how soon the work can be commenced and completed?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—Yes.

NORTHERN SUBURBS BUS SERVICES.

Mr. CUMBE—Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question regarding the possible improvement of the bus services to northern suburbs?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—When the honourable member asked this question yesterday I said I had not yet received a report, but that statement was incorrect and I do not want the Tramways Trust to be blamed. The report had been in my bag and I had removed it. It states:—

The question of modifying the pattern of services, which includes the use of more express buses at peak periods, is under investigation but it will take some little time to come

to a firm conclusion on the subject. It is mentioned that recently we inquired of the various capital cities in Australia and New Zealand what their current practice is in regard to express buses: we learned that there were relatively few used, even in cities far bigger than Adelaide. However, this notwithstanding, we are giving the matter a second look.

APPROACHES TO FERRIES.

Mr. BYWATERS—Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Roads, a further reply to my recent question concerning the approaches to the ferries at Walker's Flat and Purnong Landing?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The Minister of Roads reports.—

The Commissioner of Highways reports that the raising of the approaches to the ferry at Walker's Flat is completed and it is expected that tenders will be called in the very near future by the council for the raising of the approaches to the ferry at Purnong.

DAIRYING STANDARDS.

Mr. JENKINS—My question relates to the recent fall in the price of butter fat, which is having a depressing effect on the dairying industry. A comparison of prices for our butter with those received by other sellers on the overseas market indicates that the quality of our produce is inferior to that of other countries. Many dairies in South Australia, and the hygiene practised in them, are of a very high standard with the result that the quality of their butterfat is high; but there are still many others, most of which are being conducted as a sideline to other farming activities, which are not up to standard and produce an inferior butterfat that lowers the standard of the overall product for export and, consequently, the price received for it. Will the Minister of Agriculture consider launching, through his department, a full scale campaign of hygiene in the industry, and where a standard of 100 per cent cannot be obtained without structural improvements or a new dairy and the dairyfarmer is not financially capable of doing this, will he arrange to provide assistance by way of a loan from the State Bank? If this can be achieved I am sure that the improved quality of our butterfat will soon be reflected in better prices from overseas purchasers and will help the industry and State alike.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—The honourable member gave me notice of this question and I have set about getting a full reply

because this is a complicated question. I only regret that I have not the reply available yet. The matter is being closely examined and I shall be able to give the honourable member a more complete answer next Tuesday. Generally speaking, the policy of the Agriculture Department over the years has been to do everything possible to improve the standard of hygiene and efficiency in the dairying industry and I believe that much success has been achieved already. The honourable member is probably correct, however, in saying that there is still room for improvement.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

Mr. LOVEDAY—On June 19 I asked the Minister of Education a question concerning a letter sent out by the Education Department in January, pointing out that scholarships in some instances were not available to some students, although they had the necessary qualifications to earn them. The Minister agreed that it was desirable that such students should have the opportunity to gain scholarships and said he hoped that more would be available this year. Can he now say whether more will be available and whether they will be sufficient to meet the needs of all students capable of taking advantage of tertiary education?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—I regret that at the moment I am unable to give a definite reply. Some time ago I examined the position closely with the Acting Director of Education (Mr. Griggs) and asked him to submit a complete report and recommendations concerning the whole range of scholarships, bursaries and allowances. I studied his admirable report in some detail and submitted it to Cabinet, and it has been before Cabinet for two or three weeks. At present the Treasurer is examining it and no doubt will give me his opinion as soon as possible. I understand that the honourable member wants to get a definite decision as soon as possible, because this is a matter affecting the interests of a wide range of students, particularly in the country, and I think an announcement should be made very soon whether the number will be increased or not.

LAKE BONNEY DRAINAGE CHANNEL.

Mr. CORCORAN—Has the Minister of Works a further reply to my question of yesterday concerning the proposed Lake Bonney Channel?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Yesterday I said that the Deputy Engineer-in-Chief (Mr. Anderson) was preparing a statement on this matter, and I have now received it. It contains details I was unable to give yesterday, but it bears out substantially my comments. Mr. Anderson states that it is realized that owing to the exposed nature of the coast some difficulties may arise in maintaining an artificial sea outlet to Lake Bonney. However, the advantages likely to be gained by an outlet $\frac{1}{2}$ mile long compared with a tortuous channel 3 miles long fully justify the work recently approved and now in hand. There is no danger of tidal waves being forced into the lake and raising its level. Under present conditions, following winter rains and the discharge of floodwaters from the Millicent and Tantanoola areas, Lake Bonney rises to R.L.117. It then gradually falls until a level of R.L.113.5 is reached towards the end of the summer. The object of the new channel is to prevent the lake from rising above R.L.114. It is expected that the summer level of the lake may fall to R.L.112. The level of low tides is R.L.106; the level of ordinary high tides is R.L.110, but extreme tides and wave action may cause higher levels. It is not expected, however, that even under extreme conditions there will be any appreciable entry of high tides into Lake Bonney as a result of the direct outlet.

IRRIGATION ON PRIVATE PROPERTY ACT.

Mr. STOTT—On July 29 I asked the Minister of Lands whether the Government was considering amending the Irrigation on Private Property Act to create a trust to collect rates and so forth in respect of the development of undeveloped areas. I also asked whether he would consider extending the legislation to include not only undeveloped land, but land already planted with vines. Land may still be in the scrub state and it would be possible for a settler to plant vines. Can the Minister say whether any amendment to be brought down will cover property already irrigated or planted with vines?

The Hon. C. S. HINCKS—Prior to my absence from the House the matter had been discussed and the department had had a Bill drafted. This has now been dealt with by Cabinet and I think that I shall soon be able to bring down a full report covering the matters raised by the honourable member.

TRANSPORT OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

Mr. JOHN CLARK—My question deals with the transport of children from the Salisbury and Elizabeth areas to the Enfield High, Nailsworth Boys Technical and Nailsworth Girls Technical schools. Some weeks ago I conferred with the Minister on this matter and I am grateful for the assistance he so readily gave. I know we both hoped that the matter had been satisfactorily settled but unfortunately it has not. I shall quote from a letter I have received from a committee representing parents in the Salisbury and Elizabeth areas, and I understand a similar letter has been sent to the Education Department. It states:—

Three years ago a committee elected by parents brought to the notice of the Education Department and the Transport Control Board the disabilities suffered by children travelling by rail from the Salisbury-Elizabeth area to the above secondary schools. The Transport Control Board granted a permit to a bus proprietor to transport the children by road. They have carried the children at a cost per head of 1s. from Elizabeth, 9d. from Salisbury and 4d. from Pooraka each way and the Education Department has reimbursed the parents to the extent of the rail fare.

Owing to prosecutions by the Transport Control Board for overloading this firm has now set a maximum loading for each bus. The result has been that when the maximum is reached, the surplus children are left stranded at the schools concerned. To avoid a walk home of 10 miles or more children have had to resort to hitch-hiking, which could lead to very unpleasant consequences.

This has caused the parents concerned a good deal of worry and inconvenience. Whilst most of the children are regular travellers the remainder are casuals who only use the bus when they fail to obtain a lift otherwise to school.

At the Salisbury Institute on 4/8/58, a largely attended meeting of parents was held and a committee was elected to negotiate with the Education Department for an official school bus service.

The reasons justifying the request for an official school bus service are as follows:—

1. The buses would be under the control of the Education Department, and under supervision of the heads of schools concerned. At present there is no adequate supervision and while headmasters have taken an interest in the service, they have no official authority to correct faults which they have observed.

2. Children would not be left stranded at school or left behind on their way to school, it would be the bus operator's responsibility to cater for all children concerned.

3. When the Salisbury High School opens next year, it will, we understand, cater for first year students only, and therefore secondary school students at present travelling to other schools will still have to travel to those schools. Provision of a school bus would place the

parents of these children on an equality (financially) with the parents of children attending the Salisbury High School.

4. The number of children travelling by bus to the abovenamed secondary schools will become progressively less each year until eventually all secondary school children in the district will be catered for locally. The number of children at present involved are Salisbury and Salisbury North 209, Elizabeth 39 and Pooraka 16 making a total of 314 children. No figures are available to my committee of the number of Pooraka children attending Enfield High School. My committee feels that while some or all of the Pooraka children may come within the usual limits for school bus travel, consideration should be extended to them in this instance. These children are not conveniently situated for bus travel and owing to the road congestion caused by the volume of traffic to Weapon's Research Establishment (and at a later date to Holden's and other factories) that these children would be faced with unreasonable traffic hazards, if expected to ride cycles to school.

Can the Minister say whether any decision has yet been made on this matter? If not, will he see whether there is any possibility of a speedy and satisfactory solution of it?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—No decision has been made yet. I have a great measure of sympathy with the sentiments expressed by the writer of that letter and I would like to say more on this subject, but two factors preclude me from doing so. Firstly, the matter is still under consideration by Cabinet and no final decision has been made and, secondly, one or two prosecutions have been launched, so one aspect of the matter is *sub judice*. My own view is that the present transport service to which the honourable member referred is completely unsatisfactory, and I am not prepared to continue it for any great length of time under existing circumstances, and I believe some complete alteration will soon have to be made.

SOUTH-EAST FLOODING.

Mr. HARDING—Has the Minister of Lands anything further to report on the floods in the South-East?

The Hon. C. S. HINCKS—I have some further information, and only a few moments ago received a telegram from Mr. Conway Seymour, who is near the Maaoppe area, reporting that the flooding is rather serious. In a few moments I intend getting in touch with the department to send inspectors to the various areas that are reported to be flooded to make a complete inspection and report back to me as early as possible.

MANSFIELD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Mr. JENNINGS—A considerable time ago I inspected the Mansfield Park primary school at the invitation of the school committee. I wrote to the Minister on various matters and I am glad to say that most of the troubles have been remedied, but the most important one, that of toilets, has not yet been attended to. I recently received a further letter from the Minister saying that he would ask the Architect-in-Chief to treat this as a matter of urgency. Nothing has happened since, so I ask him if he will be good enough to take it up again with the Architect-in-Chief with a view to having the matter expedited.

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—Yes. Firstly I did what I promised to do and referred the question to the Architect-in-Chief and asked him to treat it as a matter of urgency. In view of the honourable member's further question I will repeat the request and ask him to deal with it as a matter of great urgency.

DEPOSITS ON HOUSING TRUST HOMES.

Mr. RALSTON—People wishing to purchase a Housing Trust home in Mount Gambier are dissatisfied with the position regarding the minimum deposit necessary. Inquiries have established that for a trust home at Naracoorte costing £3,050 the minimum acceptable deposit is £300. For a trust home at Mount Gambier valued at £3,080 the minimum acceptable deposit is £500. One reason given for this variation was that there was a waiting list. I point out that, subject to a waiting list, rental homes are available at Mount Gambier, but none have been constructed at Naracoorte. It is obvious that this reason has no bearing on the rights of people of limited means to purchase homes. Their desire to do so should be encouraged. In view of the Government's announced intention to reduce the minimum deposit necessary to purchase a trust home to £160, this difference in the amount of deposits is unreasonable. Will the Premier obtain from the Housing Trust a report listing the reasons for requiring a higher deposit for homes at Mount Gambier?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The maximum amount a person is able to get from an institution at present to finance the purchase of a house is £2,250, but the trust itself has advanced money on second mortgage on a number of occasions to assist people in securing homes. It has particularly tried to assist purchasers in areas where the trust is not building houses for rental, because unless a

person can purchase a home in such localities he has no hope of getting one. The trust is not building houses for rental at Naracoorte, but it is, on a large scale, at Mount Gambier. Under those circumstances it has tried to meet the situation by adjusting deposits accordingly. This matter will be dealt with by legislation removing the obligation of financing second mortgages from the trust. That legislation will be before the House in due course.

MARGARINE MANUFACTURE.

Mr. QUIRKE—When speaking to the Address in Reply I put forward a tentative suggestion relating to protective foodstuffs, which are extremely expensive for people on limited incomes, and suggested an investigation into the possibility of using some butterfat in the manufacture of margarine to provide a highly nutritional product at a cheaper price and also to create a home market for butter that is now exported. I do not know the economics of my proposal, but will the Minister of Agriculture investigate the feasibility of my proposal?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—Yes, I will get a report. The position regarding margarine is most difficult and the person making the report must consider whether the proposal will benefit or harm the dairying industry.

ALLOCATION TO UNIVERSITY COLLEGES.

Mr. O'HALLORAN—I have been informed that as a result of the Murray report on Universities, £80,000 is available to the University of South Australia to assist in extending university colleges on the understanding that the University raises a similar sum within two years. Can the Premier say whether the Government intends to provide financial assistance to the University to enable this offer to be availed of, and if so, what amount is contemplated?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The Murray report recommended that £80,000 be made available to the University colleges in South Australia, provided they raised a similar amount for expenditure on extensions within the next two years. There are four University colleges and they made a joint approach to the Government for financial assistance, pointing out that their policy had been to accommodate students attending the University as economically as possible, particularly students who could not normally reside in the metropolitan area. They believe it would be impossible for them to raise such a large sum

because in their fund-raising efforts they would be competing with each other. The Government has examined the position and decided to place on the Estimates £20,000 for this year and £20,000 for next, which would provide 50 per cent of the total amount required to be raised. That money will be paid to the University on condition that it transmits it to the University colleges. I am pleased the Leader asked this question because it will be some time before the Estimates are available to honourable members and, while it is not the usual practice to announce what the Estimates will contain, I believe the University colleges are most anxious to commence raising money because they only have a limited time in which to raise this substantial amount. The Leader's question enables publicity to be given to this matter, and that, I hope, will induce the public generally to give support to these institutions.

EDUCATION WEEK.

Mr. CUMBE—Last year a very successful Education Week was held, and it was appreciated by many citizens, children and parents. Does the department intend to repeat Education Week this year, and if so, can the Minister of Education indicate when it is likely to be held?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—In the final analysis, the decision is not for the Education Department, but for the Government. It is not intended to repeat Education Week this year. I agree that it was an outstanding success last year, which was acknowledged by all sections of the community, press, and radio, but it entailed an enormous amount of organization, not only by all officers of the department, but by school committees, school councils, parents' and friends' associations, and, by no means least, every member of Parliament. It was considered that it would not be desirable to repeat Education Week this year, but I confidently hope that it will be repeated again, and in fact enlarged, in the foreseeable future.

MARION ROAD RECONSTRUCTION.

Mr. FRANK WALSH—Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked through him of the Minister of Roads on whether plans for the reconstruction of Marion Road can be made available to the Marion Council?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The honourable member asked whether plans prepared by the Commissioner of Highways could be made available so that they could be dovetailed into

the council's overall plans. The information I have obtained from the Minister of Roads is that departmental plans for the reconstruction of Marion Road are available, and the Marion Corporation may have them on application.

STATE BANK ADVANCES.

Mr. LOVEDAY—Some time ago legislation was passed enabling the State Bank to raise its advances for building homes from £2,000 to £2,250, but I understand that no advances over £2,000 have been made because there have been sufficient borrowers at that figure willing to build homes. Recently it was announced that the maximum amount would be increased to £3,500. Will the Premier inform me whether that means that extra money will be made available so that there will be no diminution in the number of houses built under these arrangements, or that the bank will continue to advance £2,000 in view of past experience?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—Later today, when introducing the Loan Estimates, I will make a considerable statement on the general funds to be made available to various departments, including housing, and with the concurrence of the honourable member I think I can answer his question then. My statement will be somewhat longer than is usual in reply to a question. If there is some topic I do not mention, and he makes a friendly interjection, I will try to clear it up for him.

BOAT HAVENS.

Mr. CORCORAN—My question relates to a proposal to excavate a channel from the sea into Lake Butler to provide a haven for fishing craft. This matter has been before the House before, and has been considered by the Minister. I understand that in response to representations by the Fishermen's Association the department went so far as to get an estimate of the cost of excavating the channel, which will provide an up-to-date and safe means of negotiating the distance between the sea and Lake Butler and provide an ideal haven for all the fishing craft around the coast. The estimated cost was in excess of £80,000. Before these representations were made, the Government was approached and asked to do something to improve conditions prevailing at the existing slipway, which can only be used in very moderate weather conditions. The general opinion of people in the district is that the only way to deal with

this matter is to have the channel, which no doubt will be a success, and they are eager to know the Government's intention. Can the Minister of Agriculture inform me whether the Government intends to go on with the proposal to construct a channel irrespective of the cost, or whether it intends to improve existing facilities? I have been asked to seek this information although I believe the Minister recently received a deputation consisting of the former chairman and the present chairman of the Robe District Council seeking it. However, I do not think they were told anything definite. Can the Minister state whether there is any possibility that this new channel will be excavated in due course?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—I still cannot make a definite statement. The honourable member has outlined the position very well: the existing slipway is anything but satisfactory, and the deputation felt that rather than do anything to improve it it would be better to cut a new channel. The estimated cost was in excess of £84,000, and it was realized that it is difficult to come to a rapid decision in a matter involving such a huge sum. There is tremendous pressure for boat havens right along the coast, and the matter has been giving me thought. I particularly want to make sure that money spent on boat havens will be spent in the best places and in the wisest way. A considerable amount has been spent in the honourable member's electorate on boat havens, although not during the present Parliament. I cannot say when we will go ahead with this matter, because I must give it further consideration, and will let the honourable member know later.

ELECTRICAL FAULTS IN TRUST HOMES.

Mr. STOTT—I have been informed that in Housing Trust homes, some of them rental homes, when people turn on vacuum cleaners the neighbours cannot hear the wireless. This indicates that the houses were not properly wired or the condensers in the electrical equipment are not satisfactory. These people are afraid to approach the Electricity Trust to get the matter rectified because they may be billed for £3 or £4 to get the equipment working properly. Will the Treasurer take up this matter with the trust to see whether the problem can be solved?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—All electrical installations in new houses must be passed by the trust before it switches on the current; therefore I cannot believe that the problem outlined goes back to the original

installation. I will have an inquiry made, however, and it will help if the honourable member lets me know the address of a property where the difficulty has been experienced.

FOREST FIRE FIGHTING.

Mr. RALSTON—Has the Minister of Forests a further reply to the question I asked earlier this session concerning the advisability of sending an experienced forestry officer overseas to inquire into fire fighting methods there?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—I referred the honourable member's question to the Conservator of Forests, who agreed with my earlier statement that fire fighting conditions varied considerably in other countries, but that we could learn much from America about fire fighting equipment. The Conservator also said that we could learn much from South Africa, which has extensive forests. Whether we could send an officer there, however, is another matter, and the question of whether such expenditure would be warranted is one on which I cannot comment today; but I appreciate the point of the honourable member's remarks and his suggestion will be borne in mind. Later, we may combine such an investigation with a trip overseas by an officer for some other purpose.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE ENTITLEMENT.

Mr. LAWN—A naturalized migrant recently told me that after he came to Australia he was employed for 10 months at Woodside by the Commonwealth Government. During that period the South Australian Railways Department opened a recruiting office at Woodside and the man accepted employment with the department. Can the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Railways, say whether his 10 months' service with the Commonwealth Government will be taken into account by the Railways Department in assessing his long service leave entitlement?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I will refer the question to the Minister of Railways.

WHEAT RESEARCH PROJECTS.

Mr. STOTT—Certain projects have already been approved by the Wheat Research Committee, which is financed by a levy on the Australian wheat industry. I understand that these projects are being held up because sufficient qualified officers are not available. Can the Minister of Agriculture indicate his policy on this matter and whether he has taken

steps to appoint qualified officers or train unqualified officers for this purpose?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—The press announcement concerning this expansion of the Wheat Committee's research programme is comparatively recent and at the moment I could not add anything to it, but I will get a full report on the current position and let the honourable member have it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION: MR. DUNSTAN'S POLITICAL VIEWS.

Mr. MILLHOUSE—I ask leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. MILLHOUSE—During my remarks in the Address in Reply debate yesterday, in the heat of interjection I said that I believed that the member for Norwood (Mr. Dunstan) had at some time been a member of the Communist Party, and in saying that I was speaking of what he told me many years ago in our student days. I wish to make it perfectly clear that I did not mean to imply that he is still a member of the Communist Party, or that his policy or utterances on public matters are in any way coloured by Communist views. If that was the implication of my remarks, I sincerely apologize to him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION: COST OF CRANES.

Mr. TAPPING—I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. TAPPING—When speaking to the Address in Reply last night I referred to the purchase of four cranes for Port Adelaide by the South Australian Harbors Board, at a cost of £500,000. I should have said £250,000.

STATE BANK REPORT.

The SPEAKER laid on the table of the House the report and balance sheet of the State Bank of South Australia for the year ended June 30, 1958.

Ordered to be printed.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate of motion for adoption.

(Continued from August 19. Page 446.)

Mr. FRED WALSH (West Torrens)—I support the motion and associate myself with the remarks of previous speakers concerning the unfortunate death of our late colleague, Mr. John Fletcher. I may have known him a little better than some members, because for

many years we were both members of the Public Works Committee. He was a gentleman who was held in high esteem, not only by members of this House, but by other people as well, particularly those in the district that he represented for so long. I believe there was very little difference between the views he held and those so often expressed by members on this side of the House, on which he always sat. That can be borne out to some extent by the fact that he represented Mount Gambier for so long. I desire to extend my sincere sympathy to his widow, whom I know personally.

I congratulate the new member for Mount Gambier (Mr. Ralston), and I am sure he is destined for a long career in this House. I am confident he will be a worthy representative of the district of Mount Gambier, as was his predecessor. I shall not touch on the by-election, as that has been referred to by many other members in this debate. I congratulate the new Ministers on their appointments. We on this side of the House may hold certain views on those who could have been appointed, but it is not our prerogative to appoint Ministers. I am sure that the Honourable G. G. Pearson and the Honourable D. N. Brookman will uphold the traditions and dignity of their offices. I think they will be easy to approach, as were other Ministers before them. I compliment the Minister of Works (Honourable G. G. Pearson) on the manner in which he conducted the business of the House while the Premier was absent overseas. It is not often that a man with limited experience in the Ministry is called upon to answer many involved and general questions, but it was obvious that he will be an exceptionally good Minister. That applies, perhaps to a lesser degree, to the Minister of Agriculture. If there is one portfolio to which he is suited it is the one he has been allotted. He has had considerable experience on the land, and it is a man with such experience that should be appointed to the portfolio of Agriculture.

Owing to continued ill-health the Honourable Sir Malcolm McIntosh had to resign from his portfolio and has decided not to contest the next elections. I express to him my sincere appreciation of the assistance he has given me for many years. He has endeared himself to all members on this side of the House, and there was not one occasion on which I approached him that I was not well received. I did not always get what I asked

for, but if I did not he gave me sound reasons for his decision.

The debate on this occasion has not followed the usual lines. Sometimes we get a break from the usual speeches. Of course, most members refer to matters affecting their districts or give us an ear-bashing on their pet subjects, but in this debate many members departed from general practice. Mr. Speaker, I do not envy you, for last week in particular you frequently had to call several members, including myself, to order, and yesterday you had to more or less place a ban on interjections. I am not afraid of interjections. If they are silly they can be treated as such, and if they are constructive and helpful I welcome them; but it is difficult for you, Mr. Speaker, to control the House when members interject continually. Many members yesterday abused the usual latitude allowed by the Speaker, but I hope that the general ban on interjections imposed yesterday will not be permanent. I should hate to listen to debates here if they resembled a church service. I am not speaking disrespectfully of church services or sermons, but they should not be delivered in this House, which has to deal with legislation affecting all South Australians.

There has been a tendency on the part of members on the Government side to indulge in prolonged eulogies of the achievements of the Government, especially during the last 12 months. After we have listened to that sort of thing for some time it becomes monotonous, and we start to wonder when we shall get a change and hear something of real benefit to those listening. I do not wish to discredit the Government in any way for the work it has done not only in the last 12 months but in the many years it has held office. I think members will agree that it has been able to do many things as a result of the support and co-operation of members on this side of the House. We will continue to give our support and co-operation so long as we believe the legislation sponsored by the Government is in the best interests of the people. Members too frequently cite South Australia as an example of progress and stability as compared with the other States and advance arguments to the detriment of the other States—especially those governed by the Labor Party. It is an attempt to discredit Labor Parties in other States and to suggest that they are unable to perform the functions of government as efficiently as the South Australian Government. They would have people believe that other States are stagnant in their development.

Mr. O'Halloran—Which is not the position revealed by the inquiries and reports of the Grants Commission.

Mr. FRED WALSH—No, or by many other reports. The Government would have people believe that no new industries have been established, that unemployment is considerably greater, and that the standard of living is lower in other States. Admitting that some new industries have been established here in recent years and that others are in the promissory stage, other States are just as prosperous as South Australia and have developed just as rapidly, if not more so. Much has been said by Government members about the Premier's good work, but little about the co-operation of the Opposition, particularly during his recent absence overseas. Government members should admit that it would not have been possible for him to leave South Australia without the assurance from the Opposition that no attempt would be made to take advantage of his absence. I admit our co-operation has been recognized by the Premier, but the many Government speakers ignored it.

Other States are prospering as much as South Australia and I could spend the remainder of the afternoon giving illustrations of their advancement without having to refer to oil refineries. In the *News* of August 11 under the heading "New Works Saves Funds" the following articles appeared:—

Sydney, Today: Australia's first polythene factory which opened here last December, is already producing at the rate of 5,000 tons a year. This represents a saving in Australian overseas funds of £2 million a year. Previously, all Australia's polythene had to be imported.

Announcing the progress by the factory, Mr. D. J. Field, controller of I.C.I.A.N.Z plastics group, said today that substantial expansions to plant capacity were already well advanced. Next month it would be possible to supply the whole Australian polythene requirement, apart from a few special grades.

Although an aura of secrecy surrounds the industry the Premier is attempting to induce to South Australia, from press reports it would seem that this is the type of industry the Premier is interested in.

Mr. O'Halloran—That industry is in a Labor-governed State.

Mr. FRED WALSH—Yes. The member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse) ridiculed the Premier of New South Wales, Mr. Cahill, and suggested that he had returned from overseas empty-handed.

Mr. Millhouse—What industry has he brought back?

Mr. FRED WALSH—Listen to this. I quote again from a press cutting:—

Pope, New South Wales, plant to expand. Major expansion plans for manufacture in New South Wales were announced today by Pope Products Ltd. "The company's property investment in the State will be nearly doubled to reach £400,000." The managing director, Mr. S. Barton Pope, said two factory buildings had been taken over at Belmore, a Sydney industrial suburb. Mr. Pope said that because of Belmore's industrial nature there was a good labour potential that would permit rapid expansion.

Recently the Minister for Trade and Customs (Mr. McEwen) said that overseas capital was flowing into Australia at the rate of £100,000,000 a year. He is a Country Party member, so that statement did not come from any supporter of Labor. Mr. McEwen went on:—

Last week a council of 20 top Australian industrialists was formed to encourage further the continuous inflow of capital. "I am constantly meeting people from overseas who are very attracted to the opportunity of growing with Australia," he said. Mr. McEwen said capital could not be attracted unless there was a feeling that both the Australian economy and the political situation were sound. I suggest that that means that the other States are getting their share of this £100,000,000 coming into Australia annually. Mention has been made of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company steelworks, but that is not to come from overseas capital, or at least we have been led to believe it is not. Other industries established here do not necessarily have overseas capital. Many of them are an expansion of industries established in other States, which possibly come here because of the potential market.

The Premier has rushed backwards and forwards between Adelaide and Canberra approaching representatives of interstate and overseas firms, to induce them to establish industries in this State or, if they are already established in other States, to expand here. We do not object to that; we wish him success, but the inducement or bait held out to these people is a matter for conjecture and concern. In moving the adoption of the Address in Reply the member for Light exhausted his vocabulary. That was not very difficult, although he is very verbose on occasions, but on this occasion he ran out of platitudes in his eulogies of the Premier. Later he condemned the member for Murray and others for attempting to have an industry transferred from his district to the district of Murray.

Mr. Jennings—The Premier is doing that all the time.

Mr. FRED WALSH—He is, but in a very much wider field. He has said we are living in a very competitive world, but I suggest we are living in a very competitive State, and if we listen to some of the debates we realize we are living in competition with ourselves. The member for Murray very adequately answered the imputations made by the member for Light.

Mr. Hambour—I did not make imputations; I only told the truth.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I do not think the honourable member stood up to his statement. There was a certain amount of hedging when pressure was brought to bear. What inducement is held out by the Premier to industries is a matter for conjecture. It may be that he offers favourable concessions, or tempts them by saying that the cost of production here is considerably less than in other States—which may be correct in some respects if we analyse the position closely. An example is the long service leave legislation passed by this Parliament last year under which workers lost 13 years' retrospectivity in their leave entitlement. Despite the fact that this State passed legislation of this kind, sponsored by a Liberal Government, the great majority of employers, not only in South Australia, but in every other State not bound by State awards, were prepared to make agreements granting far more favourable conditions than our Act provided. Very few employer groups refused to make agreements with the respective unions, and many of the agreements are considerably more favourable than in the Federal code. I had the honour on behalf of a certain group of employees to make some agreements that are more favourable than any others I know of in Australia, except of course, for Government employees.

Under the Workmen's Compensation Act in this State a worker who has an accident in the course of his employment is generally worse off than his counterpart in other States, particularly in regard to coverage when travelling to and from work. In fact, I believe this is the only State in which such coverage does not obtain. In the matter of wages, because of the policy of the Government to suspend quarterly adjustments, the advantage to the employer will not be denied by any fair-minded person. True, some other States, after continuing to grant quarterly adjustments following their suspension by the Com-

monwealth Court, subsequently suspended them, but in every instance, with the exception of Victoria after the advent of the Bolte Government, they have provided for an increase in the basic wage by a decision of the State Industrial Court. It is interesting to compare the Federal and State basic wages in the various capital cities, as shown in the following table:—

	Federal.			State.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sydney	13	8	0	13	14	0
Melbourne	13	0	0	13	0	0
Adelaide	12	16	0	12	16	0
Hobart	13	7	0	13	12	0
Brisbane	12	3	0	12	14	0

I point out that, although the State and Federal basic wages are the same in Adelaide, the wage would be £13 if we applied the C series index figure. It may be argued that, for one quarter at least, the State basic wage rose to a figure 2s. above the Federal, but I point out that that was the first time almost in living memory, certainly the first time since the South Australian Board of Industry automatically adopted the Federal basic wage as the State living wage. Prior to that, and ever since this State's living wage was determined under the provisions of the Industrial Code, there was only an average difference of 6d., and that difference did not favour the State living wage. If we compare the Federal and State basic wage in the various cities, we find that the South Australian and Victorian worker is considerably worse off than the worker in any other State.

I now refer to the attitude of the Playford Government's advocate before the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission in the recent basic wage case. In addition to opposition to an increased wage he claimed an inter-city differential, something that had never been claimed before. One can only suggest that the object of the Playford Government in claiming this was to reduce still further the value of the basic wage in this State and to reduce production costs here below the level of other States. In respect of that claim the commission stated:—

The substance of the State's case on the inter-city differential was that the actual cost of living was so much lower in Adelaide than in Melbourne or Sydney that greater disparities in basic wage rates should be determined if any general basic wage increase was decided upon, subject to a concession that no reduction should be made in Adelaide's present basic wage.

I ask members to note the condition stipulated: that there should be no reduction in the present

basic wage. The commission ultimately decided to increase the Federal basic wage in this State by 6s. a week. The report continues:—

The South Australian Government had claimed that Adelaide's rate should be about 10 per cent below Sydney instead of the present approximate 5 per cent difference. The commission said the claim must be rejected on the ground that it would not be wise or just to apply it in South Australia in view of the fact that it was not supported by any other party and because its application to the Government and its instrumentalities alone was not sought.

The Playford Government did not seek to apply the differential only to its own employees: it wanted the differential to apply generally to all employees including those in private industry, even though those employers had not applied for it. That proves conclusively that the object behind the move was the desire of the Playford Government to establish that production costs in South Australia were considerably lower than those in other States. Yet this Government professes to have the interests of the worker at heart, although it is willing to allow the worker to bear the full brunt of the sacrifices entailed in lowering production costs. I intended to reply to certain remarks of members opposite, but I have refrained from doing so until now because those members were not in the Chamber.

Mr. Shannon—Following an example, you know.

Mr. FRED WALSH—We had reasons for doing what the honourable member suggests; we took umbrage. Indeed, there is nothing in the world to prevent every member opposite from leaving the Chamber now. I would just as soon talk to members on this side, and I do not desire that remark to be taken as personal, much less insulting. In his speech in this debate the member for Unley (Mr. Dunnage), who is in the Chamber now, said:—

I listened to honourable members behind the Leader and thought what a sorry outlook he will have next year if all he hopes for comes about. I cannot imagine for one moment that he would like to be Premier and have behind him the gentleman who is sitting behind him now. The member for Norwood (Mr. Dunstan) repudiated his Leader last week.

I take it that Mr. Dunnage was talking about all members on this side who are members of the Australian Labor Party. When Mr. Lawn interjected, Mr. Dunnage said that under no circumstances would he get down as low as Mr. Lawn; but if he wanted to get any lower than

his remarks indicated he would have to go underground. I resent such insults as those levelled by Mr. Dunnage. I assure him and all other members opposite that Mr. O'Halloran has the absolute confidence of every Opposition member and it ill becomes any member to say anything to the contrary. After every election this Party elects its leader and that, if it won the election next year, it would immediately elect a leader, and I have no doubt about who it would be. I point out, however, that the other Ministers and members of committees would be elected by a ballot of all Caucus members. There would be no pre-selection, and no selection by one, two or three individuals. I do not want to reflect on the Liberal and Country Party. What the members of that Party do is their own business, and as we are prepared to be tolerant and allow them that freedom we expect them to be tolerant towards us.

Mr. Shannon—I think I can say that the overwhelming majority of members on this side approve of your selection of Leader.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I have no doubt about that, but that was not the point I was making. At least one member gave the impression that there was a sort of underground movement among members on this side against the Leader.

Mr. Shannon—That came from one source only.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I am glad to hear that, and I accept the honourable member's assurance. If any member should have set an example during this debate it was the member for Unley (Mr. Dunnage), who holds the high office of Deputy Speaker and Chairman of Committees. On more than one occasion he had to be spoken to very abruptly by the Speaker himself and advised, in effect, that he ought to know better and be aware of the Standing Orders and rules of debate. I cannot imagine any greater reflection on a member, especially one holding such high office, than to have the Speaker address him in those terms. As the member for Unley is not in the Chamber now I shall not refer to other things that he said in this debate.

When the member for Burnside (Mr. Geoffrey Clarke) was speaking on hire purchase he said:—

I am satisfied that the hire purchaser—the man making the deal—really does not care a rap what rate of interest is charged. He is concerned with three things. First, does the chattel satisfy his need; secondly, is the weekly payment within his means; and thirdly, is it worth to him what he has to pay. If he does

not like it, he does not buy it. If the weekly payment is too high he should not buy the article, and if it is not worth what he expects to pay, he will not buy it either.

I think the honourable member contradicted himself there, but I stress that people usually enter into hire purchase transactions because they are victims of circumstances. They have not the ready cash to purchase an article outright, and many of them do not care what the rate of interest is, but that does not apply to the majority. Again, many people use hire purchase because the neighbour next door has a refrigerator or some other article used in the home and they want one just as good or better.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—You are not going to legislate against that, are you?

Mr. FRED WALSH—I am not speaking of legislation, but quoting what the honourable member said. We may be debating hire purchase before long and no member is keener to have a Premiers' Conference on this subject than I. If such a conference is held I hope we shall later get uniform legislation throughout Australia to deal with hire purchase. Many people find they are unable to meet their commitments when they lose their job or when there is illness in the family. Hire purchase companies never show them any sympathy then, but re-possess the article. One firm had an arrangement with a hire purchase company to buy re-possessed vacuum cleaners for 30s., and they were later sold for £5 and upwards. The firm concerned advertises vacuum cleaners almost every week. It would be far better if people in unfortunate circumstances were permitted to retain the article and pay off the instalments when they could, despite the high interest rates that I do not subscribe to.

Mr. Stott—There is no sentiment in business.

Mr. FRED WALSH—That may be, but if we take sentiment out of life there is not much left in it. I have considerable respect for the views of the member for Burnside, but he said:—

Here are some facts which put hire-purchase in Australia in its proper perspective. From the latest statistics available, the total wages and salaries paid in Australia were £2,807,000,000. Of this £448,000,000 was spent on clothing, footwear, drapery and the like, £396,000,000 on tobacco, cigarettes, beer, etc., and £308,000,000 on hire-purchase. Nearly 33 per cent more was spent on tobacco, cigarettes and beer than on hire-purchase, but for the £308,000,000 there was at the end of that year some tangible assets in hundreds of thousands of homes. Members can make their own assessments of the relative value of the £369,000,000

spent on tobacco and liquor and the value of the £308,000,000 spent on hire-purchase.

Then the Leader of the Opposition interjected:—

About half of the first figure went back to the Federal Government in excise and duty. As a matter of fact, it is considerably more. There seems to be a typographical error in the honourable member's speech because his figures do not agree.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—There is. The figure should be £396,000,000.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I will accept that. The honourable member has not quoted the latest figures.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—They were the latest figures I could get from our library.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I understand that the figures quoted would have been obtained from the Federal Treasurer's "White paper" which is a supplementary paper to the annual Budget address and is tabled after the Budget has been announced. The honourable member's figures were for 1956-57 and not for 1957-58. The Commonwealth Statistician's office makes a complete census of retail sales every four years. The latest figures available are for 1953-54 and the items he mentions are tobacco, cigarettes and cigars £70,919,000, and wines, spirits and beer £174,402,000—a total of £245,321,000. Figures have not been completed for 1957-58 but figures relating to retail sales of wine, spirits and beer are available for 1956-57 and are as related by the honourable member—£235,400,000—and for tobacco, cigarettes and cigars, £160,600,000, a total of £396,000,000. It is interesting to note the excise and duty included in those figures. On beer, excise and duty amounted to £103,516,265; wine and spirits, £10,838,019, and for tobacco, cigarettes and cigars, £130,765,852—a total of £245,120,136. If that is deducted from the amount of sales, a balance of £150,879,864 remained for distribution to the manufacturer and retailer.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—That does not affect my argument that the purchaser had to find that money out of his pocket.

Mr. FRED WALSH—That is not disputed, and he had to find the interest rates on hire purchase. It is obvious that people are exempt from other forms of taxation because this money is mulcted from the people who drink or smoke.

Mr. Geoffrey Clarke—A lot of taxation is paid by the companies who sell those goods.

Mr. FRED WALSH—And a lot isn't. Since 1930 the price of liquor to the consumer has increased by 40 per cent. Wages have increased by 194 per cent and excise by 436 per cent. One only needs to analyse those figures to appreciate the unfairness of excise and duty to those people who smoke and drink. The manufacturer does not pay it because it is passed on to the consumer. The member for Burnside singled out smokers and drinkers in his comparison with hire purchase. I know it is good tactics to single out that which suits your argument, but the fact remains that when one is trying to convince people of the soundness of his argument he has to apply his examples justly and fairly. It is my intention to refer to some of the statements made by the member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse). I regret that I was not able to get the second part of the galley pull of *Hansard* because apparently he had some interesting comments to make.

Mr. Millhouse—I have it here if you would like it.

Mr. FRED WALSH—It is too late for me to study it.

Mr. Millhouse—Bad luck.

Mr. FRED WALSH—Yes, bad luck for the honourable member. Mr. Millhouse said:—

Let the people of this State know that the only reason why the Labor Party wants to regain power here is so that they can wreck this State and do away with it altogether.

That is ridiculous, coming as it did from a man I credited with more than average intelligence.

Mr. Millhouse—It is ridiculous, but that is what you want to do.

Mr. FRED WALSH—We want to gain power to govern this State in the best interests of the people.

Mr. Dunstan—And the people think we should, too.

Mr. FRED WALSH—We hope we will be able to, despite the electoral boundaries that react to our detriment as a Party. Mr. Millhouse also said:—

I believe wholeheartedly in the Federal system of government in Australia and that it is in the best interests of the people. I believe in the diffusion of powers of government and that some matters can best be handled by a national Parliament and others at the State level. I do not believe in centralizing power in any one centre on this vast continent. I believe wholeheartedly in the doctrine of Federalism.

We have no dispute with that, and the honourable member cannot quote any resolution, rule

or statement made by any responsible officer of the Labor Party that would contradict it.

Mr. Millhouse—Let me have a look at the platform and I will soon find it.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I will get the honourable member a copy. Yesterday he made a statement that nobody believed. He said that there were luxurious carpets through the whole of Trades Hall, but that is incorrect. A man who will make such a statement will make other inaccurate statements and no reliance can be placed on anything he says. By force of habit he may have gone into the Liberal Club Building on North Terrace, where no doubt he would see luxurious carpets. Everything associated with the Labor Party and Labor organizations is run on the sixpences and shillings subscribed by members of affiliated bodies.

Mr. Millhouse—So is our body.

Mr. FRED WALSH—Oh, yes! I think members opposite would adopt a different attitude towards legislation introduced here if that were the case.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson—Wipe your eyes.

Mr. FRED WALSH—The day the Minister makes me cry will be some day, I assure him, and that goes for many associated with him. I do not want to be personal, but if he gets personal he must expect what he gets.

Mr. Millhouse—I think you should give your officer at Trades Hall a carpet.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I agree; nothing is too good for the workers. We are striving all the time to improve their standard of living. It is immaterial to me as an individual whether it is a Socialist, Communist or Capitalist system—whichever returns the greatest good to the people is the system to which I subscribe.

Mr. Jennings—That is why you are a Labor man.

Mr. FRED WALSH—That is so.

Mr. Hambour—There is room for you here.

Mr. FRED WALSH—No, there is not.

Mr. Coumbé—Mind you are not put on the carpet.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I have no fear of what may happen to me as a result of anything I may say here or outside. No man is more loyal to the policy, platform and principles of the Labor Party than I.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson—That is accepted by everybody on this side.

Mr. FRED WALSH—Thank you, Mr. Minister. At any rate, there is no carpet to put me on.

Mr. Corcoran—Members opposite know we are not out to wreck this country.

Mr. FRED WALSH—No, we want to build up not only South Australia, but Australia as a whole, because we are Australians. Many of us fought for our country—and I am not reflecting on those who did not—and we were prepared to risk all we had for our country and the freedom of the world.

Mr. Millhouse—That gets back to the fact that basically we are not very much different. We are all Australians.

Mr. FRED WALSH—That is perfectly true, and that is what we want members opposite to recognize. We want them to give us the right to criticize any action of the Government, despite the fact that it is a Liberal Government. It would be a sorry state of affairs if we had no Opposition, either Labor or Liberal.

Mr. Jennings—He should take back the statement that we want to wreck the country.

Mr. Millhouse—I cannot do that, because of the platform.

Mr. FRED WALSH—The platform has remained the same for many years, and the principles have been the same all the time I have been associated with the party.

Mr. Hambour—Are you afraid of criticism?

Mr. FRED WALSH—That sounds good, coming from the member for Light, whose whole speech was built up on criticism.

Mr. Hambour—I did not criticize you in any way.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I am a member of a party, and an injury to one is an injury to all. I wish to bring to the attention of the Government the plight of the many mentally retarded young people in our midst. In the past four or five years children between six and 16 years of age have been well catered for in the Woodville and Kent Town occupational centres and at a place called Suneden, which I understand is subsidised by the Government. I believe 128 children are attending these three institutions. I am concerned about those who were too old to be admitted to them, and those who will be required to leave because they have reached 16 years of age. Nearly two years ago a deputation from the Mentally Retarded Children's Society approached the Minister of Health asking that daily occupational centres be established to cater for children over the age of 16. A few months ago I spoke to the Minister of Education in a more or less unofficial capacity, and was advised that as a result of arrangements made

between the Education Department and the Health Department provision had been made for a number of children who had reached 16 years of age to attend the Woodville and Kent Town centres. The Minister said this was only a temporary arrangement, however, and this aspect concerns the association. It is felt that the Government should do something in the way of establishing daily occupational centres to assist the children to help themselves.

In reply to a question I asked earlier this session about the establishment of a home by the Department of Health, the Premier said he would obtain a report on whether the home would affect the children to whom I referred. He advised me later that it would not and that only two children were affected. I asked him to check the number, and later he told me he had done so and found that only two were affected. I think that information was incorrect, because the Mentally Retarded Children's Society knows of 30 children over 16 years of age who need special training, and in addition it is expected that 10 children will be leaving existing centres each year. Figures show that approximately .4 per cent of the population have an intelligence quotient of between 40 and 60, and these are the people the society considers can be suitably trained. That .4 per cent gives a figure of about 2,000 in the metropolitan area. The establishment by the Government of such a centre would enable it to sell the work, such as rope mats and wicker baskets, done by the people attending there. All members are acquainted with the type of work produced by inmates of the Royal Institution for the Blind and there is a considerable demand for it. If something along those lines could be done for these children, it would help the centre to pay its way.

I visited the home of one of these boys and saw the work he did. I assure members it was of a high standard, considering the disability of the child. Those parents were in a position a little more favoured than many others and last year they sent their boy to night school for three hours a week, where he made considerable progress. These children need recreation and the company of other children and these could be obtained by bringing them together in such an institution as an occupational centre. It is a difficult and trying burden for parents of these older children and they are compelled by circumstances to shoulder it alone. In some instances a mother must go out to work and can only

look after the child before leaving for work and after returning home. That statement applies particularly where the child cannot attend one of the centres provided for children up to the age of 14 years. Although everyone subscribes to the sympathy and help given to the blind and maimed, I myself and the Mentally Retarded Children's Association feel that these children, too, are entitled to help and sympathy both from the public and from the State Government. Two letters published recently in the press give some idea of the burden to be borne by the parents of these children. One states:—

It would not occur to most people to ridicule a crippled or blind person, yet for an unknown reason there are some who get a strange pleasure from ridiculing a mentally sick person with a "crippled" brain. It is a cowardly attitude because the unfortunate victim cannot defend himself.

The other states:—

Apart from the lack of adequate facilities for treatment of the mentally sick, a heart-breaking aspect is the lack of sympathetic understanding such as we have encountered as the parents of a mentally retarded child for whom we have done our utmost. Some people expect and demand "normal behaviour" from a retarded child. When this is not forthcoming, they complain and subject both child and parents to humiliation and despair. A little tact and kindness could help ease the crushing burden on a very unhappy home.

These letters give some idea of the sad problem facing these parents. The Minister of Education is most sympathetic and understanding in such matters and I feel sure that, if he can get the support of the Government, something will be done in an effort to solve the problem. The Mentally Retarded Children's Society are anxious that an occupational centre be established, because this will help not only present sufferers, but also the increased number of sufferers which is bound to result from the steady increase in our population. The regulations of the Education Department require that a child shall leave an existing centre once he turns 14 years of age and he must then face the world alone, except for the help of parents and sympathetic friends.

I now refer to the deplorable sewerage conditions existing in that part of Grange bounded on the south by Terminus Street and on the west by Military Road. I have inspected some of the homes there and have seen the conditions. It is impossible for septic tanks to function there because of the high water level and I have seen backyards where planks

have had to be placed so that householders may go from one part of the yard to another. I have also seen the effluent from the septic tank lapping the back steps of the house. Apart from the inconvenience associated with such conditions, we must consider the serious health hazard that will sooner or later affect residents in the area. The *Adelaide Mail* of March 29, contained the following report under the heading "Septic Tanks not Working":—

The approaching winter is regarded "with dread" by residents of Terminus Street, Grange, and adjacent streets because of unsuitability of septic tanks in the area.

The *News* of May 21 contained the following report under the heading "Grange Homes Need Drainage":—

The Government was accused of considering finance before the health of the people at a meeting of the Henley and Grange Local Board of Health. The accusation was made by Alderman S. S. Knight. Alderman Knight said the plight of some residents in the Grange area would not be recognized by the authorities until a serious epidemic broke out, which could happen. In the last of several letters to council, Mrs. M. V. Westthorp, of Terminus Street, Grange, pleaded for something to be done about the deplorable sewerage arrangements at her home and other nearby homes.

The mother of five children, Mrs. Westthorp said the stagnant water near which her children had to play was most unhygienic. "The garden is so waterlogged that very soon it will not be able to take any more water," she said.

These people on occasion when the bores fill up have to dig pits, bucket out the effluent and spread it over the garden. It is not long before the gardens are absolutely soaked and it is impossible for it to drain away. I have approached not only the present Minister but the Acting Minister prior to his appointment. I have approached also the department and the ex-Minister, Sir Malcolm McIntosh. All were sympathetic. I feel confident in saying that the present Minister is sympathetic too, and would much appreciate, in the interests of those suffering these conditions and in view of the health hazards associated with such conditions in the backyards of those homes, something being done. It is far better to do it now than later when something serious has developed.

I have taken a little longer than I intended to and, for that reason, I shall let some of these matters with which I was going to deal stand over to another occasion when an opportunity will present itself. I see that the member for Unley is now back in his seat. I do not want to go back on some of the things I was going to say about him during his absence

because that would somewhat upset the tenor of my speech. I know I shall not have the opportunity of referring to those things on another occasion, so the honourable member can consider himself slightly fortunate that he was not here at the time. Maybe I am a little boastful in saying that but he has got out of it lightly. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON (Minister of Works)—Mr. Speaker, because of circumstances that existed in the earlier stages of this debate necessitating the Premier's absence from Parliament, it was decided that I should wind up the debate on behalf of the Government. I do not intend to speak at length but there are one or two things I should perhaps say. First, I am sure that all members of the Government appreciate and fully identify themselves with what has been said about various personnel whose status in political affairs has changed over the last few months. I am particularly pleased with the complimentary remarks about Sir Malcolm McIntosh that expressed in sincere terms our feelings about him. If there is one thing about which I have often thought, as I am sure honourable members have, it is that, as the years pass and one nears the end of one's life, there is nothing that gives greater satisfaction than to be able to look back on a busy life well spent in the service of one's fellow men. I do not think there is anything that one could desire more than to be able to come to the end of an active life with reflections of that sort. Indeed, I often think how empty must be the reflections of people who have spent the whole of their lives satisfying only themselves. Having reached the end of the road, they have only that to look back on. In that respect, surely Sir Malcolm McIntosh is one who can enjoy satisfactory memories of that nature in his impending retirement.

That applies also to the late member for Mount Gambier, Mr. Fletcher, whose record of service was long and distinguished. He was a very able man, full of human sympathies, endearing himself to everybody. Both Mr. Brookman and myself are most grateful to members for their kind remarks about us personally. I should like to say in the brief period when I was doing the Premier's work in this House how much I appreciated the attitude of everybody here. Of course, one did not expect all the bowling to be deliberately outside the off stump: there would naturally be a few balls directed at the wicket. After all, those are the fortunes of any game. In order to

facilitate the Premier's absence, arrangements were made with the Leader of the Opposition and they were scrupulously adhered to. Whatever criticisms one may make in debate or in political discussion about the Leader of the Opposition in this House, no-one ever doubts his sincerity of purpose and his absolute integrity in sticking to an arrangement. I say that deliberately because I have reason to be grateful. I am saying only what everyone here knows to be the truth.

While I am discussing the affairs and conduct of this Chamber, I think it is a matter for some regret that so frequently Parliamentary institutions, and members of Parliament in particular, receive from people outside, and sometimes from the press, unjustified criticism of themselves and their motives. The Parliamentary institutions, designed as they are to enable the functions of government to be provided in the interests of the community, sometimes deserve rather better of their critics than they receive. After all, the community gets the kind of Government it deserves, and the Government of this State—and when I say "Government," I speak of Parliament as a whole; I do not want to be misunderstood—and the way in which its work is carried out reflect the conscience, integrity and tone of the citizens.

This Parliament is probably one of the most efficient and effective anywhere—at least in Australia. It fulfils its functions in a spirit that does it credit. Its members, of whatever Party, carry out their duties creditably. As has been said in debate this afternoon in an exchange of compliments between the member for West Torrens and other members on this side (including, I believe, the member for Mitcham), we all set out to achieve a common objective. The means by which we expect to arrive there may differ but it is agreed between us that we have the welfare of the State and its citizens at heart. That is our approach to it. Of course, one could elaborate that question, but I must not spread myself too much. When this session is over we shall go out on an election campaign, which will undoubtedly engender some sharp differences of opinion and perhaps a little heat, but I feel that the people of South Australia are well served by their Parliament and the people representing them.

It is pleasing that at this time the seasonal prospects are much brighter than they were, perhaps even when this debate began. We have had adequate rains over most of the State—a little too much in some parts—and as a result

the prospects for the season are now rather better than average. We have become accustomed to getting a seasonal return rather better than our wont, and it may be that the more stringent seasonal conditions that were extant last year came as a sharp reminder to us that our State is one in which seasonally hard times come sometimes. Perhaps it is well for the younger generation on the land that this little evidence of the vagaries of Mother Nature was forthcoming so that they will be wise now instead of sorry in their later years.

That leads me to another matter pertaining to the farming community—the prospects of the wheat harvest. It is fortunate for Australia that this season is shaping up much better than the last one or two because we were getting down to dangerously bare boards in respect of reserves of foodstuffs. If we had another season as lean as the last throughout the Commonwealth there would be a serious problem in respect of food supplies for both man and beast. I think that most country members agree that the company which was set up under the aegis of the Bulk Handling of Grain Act a couple of years ago has functioned with credit to itself and much benefit to producers. Of course, there have been some complaints, as there always will be about the administration and some of the company's policies, but it is fair to say that the growing support which has been accorded the company by the increased membership of farmers as members of the company is in itself evidence of the confidence that wheat-growers have in it and in what it is trying to do.

Another pleasing aspect is that our metropolitan reservoirs are not far from full, and that being so at this stage of the year I feel sure that we shall go into the summer with the reservoirs practically full and that the extensive pumping of water to supply the metropolitan area may not be necessary. Fortunately, we have two large mains that can supply water from the Murray to the metropolitan and country areas, but if we can avoid the heavy cost of pumping the savings can be used with great advantage in other directions.

Something has been said in this debate about the Snowy Waters Agreement. Only a few weeks ago the problem of reaching agreement was still unsolved, so it is gratifying that the differences between the parties have been resolved with complete vindication of South Australia's point of view and complete protection of its rights as we saw them.

Whatever one may say in criticism of the administration of this State, I think the attitude adopted by this Government, particularly by the Premier, is a cause for congratulation. We had a long and difficult legal battle, and when our point of view was fully expressed to the Prime Minister he gave assurances that our rights would be protected.

I deprecate the political attacks made on South Australian Liberal Senators in which it was claimed that they had sold out this State. That is not borne out by the facts, and it is certainly not borne out by the result. The undertaking which the Prime Minister gave to the members of his Party and his Senators in Canberra has been completely carried out, and whatever doubts may have existed—and I concede that at the time there may have been doubts in the minds of many people on whether the undertaking would be carried out—there is no cause at this late hour for members to get up and say that South Australian Liberal Senators sold the State out.

Mr. Frank Walsh—Would you be prepared to admit whether there was any representation made by the Government of this State to the Senators you mentioned relating to their attitude before the vote was taken?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—What the Senators of this State do in the Federal House is entirely their responsibility, and they accept their responsibility. They exercised their proper prerogative during their discussions with the Prime Minister, and he gave them certain undertakings which he fulfilled.

Mr. Frank Walsh—Were any representations made by any persons or the Government of this State to them before a decision was arrived at?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—What does it matter? Of course, the Senators from this State were *au fait* with the Government's point of view.

Mr. Frank Walsh—Your Government's point of view.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Yes.

Mr. Frank Walsh—They did not put it into effect.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I tell the Deputy Leader of the Opposition that the proof of the pudding is in the eating, and by their fruits he shall know them. No other judgment can be exercised on the conduct of any person. It is no good casting political aspersions, because the facts speak for themselves.

During this debate no-one has referred to the rather sombre international atmosphere in which we are living, although that is not a matter which comes directly within the purview of this Parliament. However, it is a matter of great concern to all that there should be continuing unrest in various parts of the world. I am not going to develop the subject at all, except to link my remarks with those I made earlier regarding the responsibility of Parliamentary institutions and their members. It is easy for well-meaning people to criticize the actions of people in responsible public positions because they do not do this, that or the other. It is equally easy for us to express what we earnestly feel in our hearts to be desirable—the hope for a peaceful solution of all our problems. However, sometimes well-intentioned people forget that it is the responsibility of a Government—and I include Governments of all political opinions—to have regard for the welfare of the community it governs and to protect it if need be from the inroads, onslaughts or threats of others who may desire, and who may reveal evidence of a desire, to impress their will upon others or to invade others' territories and control their destinies.

It is not easy for any Premier, Prime Minister or head of State to have to make decisions which entail hardships upon the community and may interrupt or tend to interrupt the peaceful flow of our daily life and the development of our economies. Sometimes, however, these decisions have to be made and these factors should be considered when people so blithely say and write that we should do this or that. Everybody knows that the hope of every honest legislator and every sincere administrator is that he will not involve his country in war. The hard facts of life have to be met and the hard facts of a situation faced, and woe betide the head of State who neglects to make proper provision for the safety and welfare of the community he governs if and when an aggressor steps ashore on his land. He immediately becomes the target for all the abuse, criticism and condemnation of every member of the community.

Let me refer now to matters more closely affecting us. Whatever the aspect of our administration, there always seems to be somewhere or other the various equations of pounds, shillings and pence. People have a natural tendency always to be seeking more money from the Government and, conversely if I

may say so, less money to the Government. This evening the Treasurer will introduce the Loan Estimates for 1958-59. I forecast that during the debate on the Loan Estimates and on the Budget which will follow in due course, members on both sides will relate long and intelligent stories about the need of the State for more money here, and more money there. That is the pattern of our debates. Soon after I came here I heard the Treasurer say that it was his custom to sit through a couple of weeks of debates on financial matters and listen to 27,354 suggestions as to where he could spend more money and not one idea as to where he could raise it. I am sometimes concerned because everybody, not only in Parliament but outside, seems to be anxious to suggest ways and means for the Government to spend money—and many of the suggestions are proper, useful and humane—but nobody suggests how 15s. worth of taxation can do 25s. worth of work. The best Treasurer in the world cannot make that happen.

The member for Burra (Mr. Quirke) has an interesting formula. I do not want to cross swords with him on this, because he may be too good for me in debate, but I have never been able to conjure up any way by which one can get something which is worth anything for nothing. That seems to have been part of my upbringing and part of my experience and I am afraid I am stuck at that point.

One of the disabilities of uniform taxation is that from its resources the State provides virtually all the money required for the development of the State and it receives only the direct returns which accrue from that development. This development is the basis for the direct and indirect returns which accrue from the expenditure. We get our water rates, our land tax, our railway fares and so on coming into the revenue of the State, but the indirect return, namely the taxable income which accrues in the community by virtue of the State's development, flows into the coffers of the Federal Treasury. As a result, we do not receive, except in a small and indirect way, the results of the development of our State and the indirect returns that accrue therefrom.

Some people are inclined to say that in times of financial stringency we should resort to the kind of finance we resorted to during war-time. I have heard the Leader of the Opposition and other members expound that theory, and sometimes we read in the press statements by supposedly well-informed people who suggest that because we could find money

for war purposes we should equally be able to find it in peace-time. My answer to that is that when your house catches alight you do not mind throwing the children and perhaps your wife out of the window if that is the only possible way to save them. When your ship is wrecked in the open sea you will go out in an open boat, but under normal circumstances one does not either jump out the window of the third storey of a building or set out in the middle of the Atlantic in a tiny boat on a dirty winter's night. One does those things because one is forced into it.

Mr. O'Halloran—And then you use that principle to finance deficits.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—No, you finance deficits out of loan as a rule, and you rob Peter to pay Paul.

Mr. O'Halloran—Have you read the Federal Budget proposals?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Yes, I have. It is all very well for people to make glib statements about providing money in peace-time in the same way that it is provided in war-time.

Mr. Shannon—We are paying for wars for all time.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Yes. The irrefutable facts are that we do not escape the consequences of those drastic and emergency methods of finding money. As the member for Onkaparinga said, they live with us for all time. War-time finance results in taking value out of the pound permanently, in higher costs of production and higher costs all round. That does not matter so much to the people whose income goes up in terms of so many pounds per year, but it does have a dire effect on those sections that depend on fixed incomes or the results of savings; it affects pensioners, and it robs people of their savings in the bank or in the form of assurance policies. Some prudent, frugal people have struggled through hard days to pay their premiums when they could probably ill-afford to pay them perhaps 20, 30 or 40 years before. They may have paid for an assurance policy worth £1,000 in order to keep themselves safe in their old age, but they find that that amount is only chicken feed today. That sort of thing cannot be avoided.

Mr. Quirke—Do you say that that is a condition that human ingenuity cannot overcome?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I have not yet discovered the kind of ingenuity that can overcome it. That is the price we have to pay when we are willing to pay any price for national and individual survival, when citizens are prepared to risk their lives to save their homes and freedoms, but I suggest that it is ridiculous to contemplate that sort of finance as a regular feature of our economy. Nobody knows those facts better than the Leader of the Opposition, and nobody would be confronted with them more sharply than he would be if he ever became Treasurer of this State. People have always been running around the countryside, and they are still doing it, being all things to all men wherever they meet them. That is a typical political trick, and somehow or other it seems to be possible to fool some of the people for most of the time.

Mr. Lawn—You have been doing it for some time.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The other day I read a criticism of the Federal Budget by the Leader of the Federal Opposition. It was a singularly unimpressive criticism, if I may say so, and it is summed up by the writer of the leader in the *Advertiser* much better than I could sum it up. After having referred to Dr. Evatt's criticisms, the writer went on to say:—

This display of compassion was so broad in scope as to arouse some doubts about its sincerity.

I think that was rather well put. He continued:—

While certain aspects of the Budget were clearly open to criticism, Dr. Evatt's sweeping condemnation of it, and his expressions of concern for all and sundry, had an air of unreality. It is difficult to resist the conclusion that the Opposition Leader often spoke with an eye to the coming election.

Of course he did. That is putting it mildly. The Federal Treasurer must be given credit for presenting a Budget which could not in any shape or form be considered as a wooing of the electors. It was a plain, honest and straightforward Budget which had regard to the economic circumstances of the day, and was presented in an honest and workmanlike fashion, as has been typical of Federal Budgets for a number of years. Sir Arthur Fadden drew attention to what he felt to have been his attitude to financial matters, and never were truer words spoken when he said that the proudest thing he had accomplished in his life was honest finance.

Mr. O'Halloran—Particularly the little Budget—the "Horror" Budget.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The *Advertiser* article continued:—

He was plainly intent on gaining the maximum political advantage from the Budget's lack of popular appeal.

I have just said that it had no popular appeal, and it was not designed for that purpose. I am interested in other people besides Dr. Evatt. I refer to the member for Norwood (Mr. Dunstan) who in his speech in this debate mentioned that he frequently visited country electorates. It is well-known that he is an extremely hard worker for himself and for his Party, and I believe he prides himself on the number of trips he makes into the country and the seeds of political kindness that he is continually apt to sow on those visits. I do not want the honourable member to mistake me, and I do not want him to think I am being personal, but I want to tell a little story about a certain little animal called a chameleon. I was not certain what that animal was so I looked it up and found that the definition of it was as follows:—

A lizard of the genus *Chamoeleo*, having a naked body, a prehensile tail, four feet suited for grasping branches, and the eye covered by a single circular eyelid with an aperture in the centre. The best known species is *Chamoeleo africanus* or *Chamoeleo vulgaris*, a native of Africa. The faculty which the chameleon possesses of changing its colour is due to the presence of clear or pigment-bearing contractile cells placed at various depths in the skin, their contractions and dilations being under the influence of the nervous system.

Mr. O'Halloran—It sounds like the definition of an L.C.L. Government.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—It sounded to me like the definition of a football barracker. The little moral I would like to draw is based on the fact that at one time a couple of boys caught a chameleon, put it on a lawn, and it turned green. They then put it on a verandah, and it duly turned red, the colour of the pigmentation of the verandah; they put it on various things, and it changed colour. Then they got the idea of putting it on a patchwork quilt, and it promptly blew to smithereens. It seems to me that the policy of running around the countryside and being all things to all men is being like a chameleon, changing colour wherever it is put. If one were ever required to marry these things into a compact Government and meet all of them at once, one would find it very difficult.

It is a very engaging pastime to run around the countryside and agree with everyone's

complaints, saying that the Government ought to do more about it, and promising "If we were ever the Government we would do this, that and the other thing." These people write letters to the press saying, "The Labor Party's policy on this matter is this and that," which tickles the ears of people for whom such statements are designed. Making statements in one part of the State that do not marry with statements made in other parts is an engaging pastime, but there comes to these people a day of reckoning. All I want to do is draw the attention of the people of South Australia to this sort of thing and let them know that various remarks are being made and people are running around the countryside changing colour wherever they go like chameleons.

Mr. Lawn—Have you any proof of it?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I do not think it would be hard to get. A recent aspirant for the honour of Prime Minister in New Zealand, after winning the election, had to face the job of marrying the promises he had made to electors. As in the old gold rush days, when people lit their pipes with five pound notes, the people in that country lit their pipes with income tax assessments, only to find that in a short time there was a different complexion on things. That does not apply only to New Zealand, but to any place where people, to assume control of the Government by a persuasive wooing of the electors in using these promises, are suddenly confronted with the necessity to make good the promises so glibly made.

I now turn to education, about which a good deal has been said during this debate. It is becoming quite clear that a programme has been worked out by the Opposition for the forthcoming Federal and State elections. I forecast that efforts will be made first of all to discredit the Federal administration and later the State Government in respect of education. Let me now digress and link education with social services generally, as it is so linked in certain groupings. There is a growing tendency for the Labor Parties of Australia to claim that they alone possess a regard and concern for the ordinary man. This tendency has been very marked over the years. Labor members have claimed that they are the representatives of the people who need social services, and always preach the story that they are the people who have a deep and abiding regard for the humanities excluding, although I do not say they do so completely, others who have similar regard for this. I give the lie

to that. If members look around this House they will see that nearly every member on each side has come up the hard way and these are not usually the kind of people who have hard hearts. It is quite wrong for the Labor Party or any other Party to say that they have some exclusive regard for the humanities in legislation.

The Hon. Sir Thomas Playford—The experience of legislation does not support that in any case.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Of course it does not. If the administration of this State can point to any achievement over its long history, it is in respect of this very matter—the proven objective of the Government, for the last 18 years at least, and probably before then, has been the welfare of every citizen and nobody can say that anybody in the community has not had a fair go. We will not take second place to any administration in Australia in this matter. That the Premier is still in office is proof that people in this State recognize it, if it is proof of nothing else.

I think the Opposition has fastened on education as a very good subject upon which to build an election campaign—that and one other to which I shall refer briefly later. After all, it is a matter of very great concern to every parent that their children receive a good education. It is a very appealing subject, and I give the Opposition full marks for fastening on it as a good election subject. I think we all agree that education is very important, and although I have said deliberately that the Labor Party has fastened on it as a good election policy, I do not suggest that its members are not at least sincere in the matter.

Mr. O'Halloran—We are not cryptic, but we are sincere.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I have never suggested otherwise, but it is a good election story. The member for Gawler (Mr. John Clark) who always seems to have a penchant for superlatives, said:—

There is an appalling shortage of school buildings, and a substantial percentage of those erected are outmoded and overcrowded. An acute shortage of properly trained teachers also exists, over-large classes have become the usual thing, and we find that temporary rooms have become permanent. We also find inadequate and often deplorable sanitary and hygienic conditions existing, and insufficient washing and drinking facilities are the regular thing.

That is just not so.

Mr. John Clark—It is so.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Everybody knows that it would be desirable to improve these things and that there is no state of affairs so good that it is not capable of improvement, but it is not in accordance with fact that insanitary and unhygienic conditions, and insufficient washing and drinking facilities, are the regular thing.

Mr. John Clark—I was quoting a delegate to a conference.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I accept that. The honourable member was quoting a delegate, but he used the delegate's words.

Mr. John Clark—You accused me of using superlatives.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The honourable member used the delegate's words and he must stand by them.

Mr. John Clark—I accept all of it.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The honourable member went further and in an effort to build up a case against the Prime Minister—of course, having in view the elections in November—he inadvertently put South Australia well out in front. He said that our boys and girls are entitled to the best education we can give them. We all subscribe to that and work for it. I did not have much education and I think the education given to a number of members here was the result of sacrifices by their parents. It was so in my case and for that reason I think we have a high regard for education and do the best we can for our children. Mr. Clark continued:—

... but I ask "Are they getting it in South Australia and in the other States where I believe their educational facilities are worse than ours?"

Thank goodness we are not the worst in the world, and I am glad the honourable member was good enough to say so. I believe it slipped out.

Mr. John Clark—I was trying to be fair.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I believe that fairness is part and parcel of the honourable member's make-up and that it forced him to say things which afterwards he wished he had not said. We hear much in recent times about money needed for education from those directly engaged in the work—teachers and university dignitaries. I have noticed at odd times when the salaries of members of Parliament have been under consideration that many critics have expressed wonderment at the level of members' self-esteem, but when education is involved there seems to be a lack of interest, even though the increased amount advocated is for better educational facilities for children.

I am concerned about another matter. Persistent efforts have been made to discredit the Government because of our educational set-up. No-one suggests that there is not room for improvement. From time to time we read articles and hear statements about the cost of building schools in South Australia, and criticism of the way money for education is provided here, and it seems to me that a campaign is being developed in this regard and directed against one particular person—the Premier.

Mr. Jennings—There is scarcely anyone else to direct it against.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—That confirms what I have said. Here are some of the statements that have been made in this debate. Mr. John Clark said:—

No-one is more sympathetic than I with the Minister of Education who is waging a keen battle with meagre resources, indeed without the full sympathy of the Premier concerning what can be done for education in this State . . . I think the Premier has let down his Minister of Education.

Mr. Hutchens said:—

With a complete lack of appreciation of what the Minister of Education is endeavouring to do, the Premier set out to tickle the ears of the unthinking electors without the slightest concern for the detrimental effect it will have upon future citizens of this State.

Mr. Hughes said:—

I have heard it claimed by Government members that the Premier is a man of great vision.

I shall have more to say about Mr. Hughes directly. He went on:—

Apparently he has only acquired these powers in recent years or otherwise the Minister of Education would not be labouring so hard to maintain the required staffing of schools . . .

Other members were perhaps a little personal in referring to education or the lack of it. I suppose it came from both sides and I do not pin it on any particular member. I have always believed, and it is generally accepted in an enlightened community, that a man's lack of education does not necessarily affect his standing in the community. When a man overcomes this disability and makes a success of his life he is lauded as a self-made man. People must have little minds indeed when they suggest, as they have done, that the Premier, perhaps because he does not hold an academic degree, is not sympathetic towards education. Surely he has graduated in honours in such things as leadership, public administration, human relationships, and political science. No-one can say that he has not conducted

affairs with decency and integrity, or held the scales of justice with equal poise, yet people over the air call him a petty politician. What little minds some people have, and how they discredit themselves. They cannot hold a candle to the Premier in matters of real education. It seems to me sometimes that people who make such outbursts must suffer from an acute inferiority complex. The stature of the Premier of South Australia is such that fairly recently Her Majesty the Queen awarded him a high honour, one of rare distinction in the British Commonwealth. Then everybody stood up and with one voice cried, "Well done, Sir Thomas."

The facts are that the Premier has repeatedly strained the Treasury resources in order to meet the educational needs of the State. Expenditure in other departments has been curtailed so that the Education Department could have more money. Everybody knows that the Minister of Education could do much more if he had additional money to spend, and every other Minister could spend more money wisely and well in providing productive work. We do not hear suggestions of the services that could be curtailed in order that education facilities might be improved. Nobody says he wants fewer hospitals or railways, or that teachers' salaries should be reduced, or water supplies, sewerage schemes, and electricity supplies reduced. Nobody says taxation should be increased or Harbours Board charges raised. No-one advocates these things so that education might have more. I am open to suggestions, and so is the Treasurer. Let us see what amounts have been expended on education in the last few years. In 1953-54 the total expenditure was £6,727,714; in 1954-55, £7,627,758; in 1955-56, £9,263,320; in 1956-57, £10,122,999; in 1957-58, £12,149,701. In the five years under review, the State's total spending increased by £18,681,000, or 18 per cent. In the same period expenditure on education increased by £5,408,464, an increase in its own right of 80 per cent. That represents practically 30 per cent of the total increase in the State's spending.

Mr. Lawn—You know more about budgies than Budgets.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I know a little about Budgets and if the honourable member cares to spend a little time on homework he will find that those figures are correct. I repeat that education has received 30 per cent of the increase in the State's total spending

in the last five years. These facts and figures cannot be twisted. This is the way our so-called unsympathetic Premier has neglected educational needs. This is the Premier who it is said goes to the electors without due regard to the facts and the future of our children, the Premier who has no vision.

I shall now speak about the pet topic of the Opposition, namely, decentralization. This Government has been accused of a disastrous decentralization policy. I do not know how disaster is measured. The so-called disastrous policy of the Government has resulted in some very important gains to the people of South Australia. We still have, I understand, the highest income and the highest savings per capita of any State, including the penny banks. We had 1,213,495 savings bank accounts at the time the last figures were published. Despite the fact that we have only 861,912 people in the State we have 1,213,495 savings bank depositors. That is rather remarkable and I had to look at the figures twice before I could believe them. It means that there are $1\frac{1}{2}$ savings bank accounts to every person. Those accounts have a credit balance of £135,755,642. This is one of the banks which provide quite a proportion of the money to finance certain Government undertakings, including housing, and thus is a very important institution associated with the State's development.

No one will attempt to controvert the fact that our standard of living is equal to or better than that of any State. One member said today that we were trying to play the other States down and make invidious comparisons. We are not attempting to play other States down; in fact, we invite comparisons with them. That is fair enough. If the worth of the Government is to be assessed, surely it should be assessed on the grounds of what it does in the light of what other Governments are doing. I invite members to compare our position with that in Sydney and to consider how many people there are without the amenity of sewerage, and how people in that State have had water restrictions year after year, and also power restrictions, because of insufficient generating plant; and also the length of our water mains compared with those in New South Wales.

Mr. O'Halloran—Because of their wonderful development the other States cannot keep pace in these things.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—That is not the position. The honourable member knows

that is not completely correct and that it is not the reason they suffer from these deficiencies. It is because the other States do not possess the long-sighted planning capacity of the South Australian Government. A total of 67 per cent of South Australians own their own homes, 90 per cent have electricity and 92 per cent have water laid on under pressure.

Much is said by the Opposition from time to time regarding the decentralization of population, and I shall make a passing reference to it. I find that in the 10-year period from 1947 to 1957 the populations of the various States have moved somewhat in the ratio of the metropolitan to the country population. In New South Wales the metropolitan population increased by four per cent and the country population correspondingly decreased four per cent. In Victoria the metropolitan population increased by two per cent, in Queensland by three per cent and in Tasmania and South Australia by one per cent, and in Western Australia there was virtually no change. What about this disastrous policy which the South Australian Government has pursued? Surely it should be reflected in the census figures, as near as we can adjust them. They show that if the position is computed in terms of population drift, as the Leader of the Opposition so frequently calls it, South Australia is the second best State, being beaten only by Western Australia. Whereas in South Australia the metropolitan population has increased more in proportion than in the other States since June, 1947, the increase being 38 per cent compared with a combined figure of 35 per cent for the other States, the country population in South Australia has increased proportionately much more than in the other States except Western Australia. In the period under review the South Australian country population increased by 36 per cent. The average of the other States is only 20 per cent, so where is this disastrous policy we are pursuing? The country population of South Australia has increased proportionately more than that of any other State except Western Australia. Further, South Australia is one State that shows almost the same increase in its metropolitan as in its country population, for the metropolitan population has increased by 38 per cent and the country population by 36 per cent during that period. That applies to only one other State—Western Australia.

I went a little further and named, at random, 10 country towns. I asked my secretary to get certain information about them and

he has supplied me with the following. During the census period 1947-1954, 37 houses have been built in Crystal Brook, seven by private builders and 30 by the Housing Trust, and the population has increased by 17 per cent. At Cummins—a town I know something about—36 houses have been built, 29 by private builders and seven by the trust, and the population has increased by 26 per cent.

Mr. Davis—The houses have been built by retired farmers.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—No. It is typical of the honourable member to buy into something about which he knows absolutely nothing. Having lived around Cummins since 1935, I know a little about it, but I doubt whether the honourable member has ever been there.

Mr. Davis—How many homes have the workers built there?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—They have built a number. Indeed, more have been built there by workers and small business people than by any other section. The following table sets out the information concerning the other eight towns I selected at random:—

	Homes built privately.	Trust homes built.	Popu- lation increase. per cent.
Jamestown	23	10	7
Kadina	41	16	4
Minlaton	21	8	22
Mount Gambier	664	327	52
Walleroo	20	12	14
Murray Bridge	188	75	18
Naracoorte	281	23	51
Port Lincoln	396	161	47

I cannot agree that this is the result of a disastrous Government policy; nor can I agree with the Leader of the Opposition who has sent copies of his speech in this debate to nearly every country newspaper and who has attacked the wicked policy of the Playford Government!

Mr. Lawn—How many factories were established during that period?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I am coming to that. The member for Wallaroo (Mr. Hughes) had much to say about the oil refinery and claimed that it should be established at Wallaroo. I do not blame him for advancing the claims of that port; indeed, I thought the refinery should have been established at Port Lincoln. Perhaps I had an advantage over the honourable member as I had a little more inside information and was able to advance my claim before he could advance his. I found that the vessels that would use the oil terminal at Halletts Cove could not get into

the Port Lincoln harbour. That is one of the little difficulties that arise when you consider such a project. I could not, therefore, persist in my claim, apart from any other economic difficulty connected with the establishment of an oil refinery at Port Lincoln. Further, the company might have some views based on economic circumstances.

The honourable member said that at Wallaroo there was a good port and other facilities. That may be true, but to get sufficient water for the tankers envisaged one would have to go six miles off the end of the Wallaroo jetty.

Mr. Hughes—How far out from Port Hughes?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I am coming to that. Two or three miles south of Wallaroo the tanker could get into the water about 5½ miles out. I give the honourable member full marks for wanting the refinery at Wallaroo, but I wanted it at Port Lincoln. About 30 or 40 rail tankers a day would be required to transport oil products from Wallaroo to the metropolitan area; therefore, they could be brought from Wallaroo, but at what cost and to what purpose?

Mr. Hughes also had something to say about the Government's water storage plans and referred to Myponga. He said we were building a new dam there which would impound much water, but he made the rather significant comment that all Myponga's capacity was committed to the oil refinery at Halletts Cove so we would be no better off than we were before. I claim, however, that we are an oil refinery better off. I have more than a passing interest in our water supplies because they particularly affect country amenities and decentralization. Therefore, I went into the matter and found that we had 8,200 miles of water mains in this State. That is not much when you say it quickly. Further, we have a water storage capacity of 32,381,800,000 gallons. That is excluding the little local reservoirs. Then there are our country supplies, which are relevant to decentralization, and the reservoirs that are usually considered country reservoirs. I have discovered that the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline supplies at least 3,000,000 acres of country land. So, when people say that all these things are devoted to the service of the metropolitan area, they should have some regard to these facts: that our water supply from the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline is utilized for the benefit of at least 3,000,000 acres of country lands, and that we have 18,361,800,000 gallons of storage capacity in the reservoirs

devoted to the country service. The Morgan-Whyalla pipeline, as everybody knows, has been the life blood of our northern districts for many years.

The honourable member for Wallaroo is always complaining—indeed all the Party opposite complained at election time—that Wallaroo has been completely neglected. Wallaroo has a water supply, it has electricity from the Electricity Trust, it has a broad gauge railway linking it with every part of the State, it has a first-class port, it has a bitumen road to every Peninsula town and to the metropolitan area, it has a Government hospital and it is a rapidly developing holiday resort, and yet the member for Wallaroo preaches propaganda of gloom—"Let us bury the city!" Nothing is burying it more quickly than that. If you want to develop your town you do not go round the countryside singing its swan song and draping a black flag round the body, but try to boost the morale of your people. You encourage business people to invest there.

The honourable member for Murray has been decrying for some time the prospects of Murray Bridge. Recently, an interesting advertisement appeared in the *Advertiser*. It is a huge one showing a photograph of a subdivision of land and advertising "Big sale of Murray Bridge land," and so on. There is a photograph of an implement factory full of agricultural machinery at Murray Bridge. There is a caption "Murray Bridge is growing fast." "It is a rapidly growing town" and the population is increasing.

Mr. Fred Walsh—That is encouraging the people to go there.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Another caption is "Project welcomed by the leaders of the town." The mayor of Murray Bridge has been a very good advocate for this town, and so of course has the member for Murray. This is what he is reported to have said:—

Murray Bridge has much to offer in climate, water supply and the ideal situation for marketing of products in local and interstate markets.

That is in contrast to the honourable member for Wallaroo, who is always running down his town. The member for Murray talks in this House about the disastrous policy of decentralization but, when he goes to Murray Bridge, he does not say that. He says:—

The unlimited confidence in Murray Bridge shown by the expansion taking place was most pleasing.

Mr. Bywaters—Read what I said in this House. It is the same as I said there.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I might have included the honourable member in the list of chameleons. He continues:—

It was obvious that business enterprises had realized the possibilities of the town and district.

Of course they have. It has everything it needs to be an industrial centre. He continued with these words, which are significant:—

For reasons of defence and economy a policy of decentralization was essential, Mr. Bywaters said. When this policy began Murray Bridge was the logical place near Adelaide for industrial expansion.

Near Adelaide! A refinery at Hallett's Cove is in the metropolitan area; that is too close. Murray Bridge is just right, "the logical place near Adelaide."

Mr. Davis—Tell us something about the north.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I will. I have here a table of works sponsored and assisted by the Government, which sets out concisely a programme of decentralization. Then following are 22 items, which I will go through very quickly. The Leigh Creek coalfield was financed and operated by the Government. Radium Hill Uranium Mine was financed and operated by the Government. The pyrites deposit at Nairne was financed through the Industries Development Committee and investigations were made by the Mines Department. Gypsum works on the west coast and Kangaroo Island were financed by the Government, who gave technical advice. Then there is the barytes deposit near Quorn in the north, which received finance and technical advice from the Government. The country brickworks at Nuriootpa, Port Augusta, Littlehampton, etc., were financed and given technical assistance by the Government. The electric power stations at Port Augusta, Port Lincoln and Mount Gambier received financial, constructional and operational help from the Government. Then there are the uranium treatment works at Port Pirie and the various timber mills of the South-East including the large new Mount Gambier mill. There were the extensions to the paper industry in the South-East and manufacture of sulphuric acid at Port Pirie. The Government has assisted butter, cheese and milk processing in various country towns, and also the fruit packing sheds and wineries in the river areas and the new cannery at Upper Murray were financed under the Loans to Producers Act. We have assisted in the manufacturing of agricultural machinery at Murray Bridge and the fishing and fish canning industry at Port Lincoln.

We have assisted the salt works at Port Augusta and will assist the oil refinery and associated industries at Hallett's Cove. We have helped the Whyalla expansion in promotion and other facilities. In addition, and in connection with the foregoing, the Housing Trust has built over 8,000 homes outside the metropolitan area, exclusive of Elizabeth.

To summarize this rather significant list, let me put it another way. We have provided five straight out bank loans and 13 bank guarantees; we have assisted six wineries, 10 fruit packing sheds, six dairy and milk treatment factories, seven cold stores, two marketing organizations, five fish canning and processing factories and 76 fishermen. We have assisted the Co-operative Bulk Handling Company with bank guarantees and finance, and also the Berri Co-operative Cannery. I apologize for taking so long but I shall now refer to the Premier's vision.

Mr. Davis—Do not put that on to the Premier again.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Having made reference to a few of this Government's activities in various parts of the State, I pose this question: how did all these things happen?

Mr. Lawn—The master put them there.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Members opposite frequently refer to this "hole in the ground" at Leigh Creek and at Radium Hill. They sometimes ask derisively, "I suppose the Premier put the coal down the hole?" We did not dig a hole in the ground and put the coal there, but we dug the hole and got the coal out. There was no sign post in the ground at Leigh Creek to say "There is coal here. Dig." However, we found 138,000,000 tons of coal there. Again, there were no pegs in the ground at Radium Hill saying, "Dig here and you will get £7,000,000 worth of uranium." There was no flag flying at Nairne to show there were 14,000,000 tons of pyrites there that would supply our sulphuric acid requirements for 40 years. There was no "X" marking the spot at Iron Knob or at the racecourse saying, "Dig here for 30,000,000 tons of high grade ore." What happened was that the Minister of Mines, with the authority of the Government, set to work patiently and intelligently and asked his officials to explore the whole of our mineral resources. They have done that all over South Australia, and are still doing it, in search of minerals, coal and water.

Someone else had a vision, too. The Leader of the Opposition had a vision, and so did the members for Whyalla and Stuart. They had a vision that the way to develop the State's industries was to take them from someone else and give them to the State. I have chapter and verse here about the various motions that have been moved in this House and the speeches made by those members on what we should do to the Broken Hill Proprietary Company's leases. During one session the Leader of the Opposition moved:—

That in the opinion of this House . . . the said leases of the Broken Hill Proprietary should be terminated, the mining, transport and crushing plant . . . acquired by the State . . . so that all interests may be fully considered and fairly served.

In the following session we had Mr. Loveday here, for the Government created a new electorate at Whyalla which was a straight-out gift to the Opposition as a sure seat for all time as a result of our policy of establishing industries in the country. He said that we should adopt Gentleman Jim tactics and appoint a Royal Commission to arrive at the same result as that sought by the Leader of the Opposition. I do not think the people will be misled by what members opposite say about decentralization. I think their story is wearing a bit thin, for in the *News* recently the Honourable K. E. J. Bardolph had a centrespread in which he referred to the defence requirements of decentralization. It seems to me that Labor members have given up the idea of persuading the people to follow their line of thought, so they are trying to frighten them. I believe the people are aware of this Government's programme. Members opposite say that the Government, as a matter of policy, does not put industries in country electorates, but let us examine the position.

The oil refinery near Christies Beach will be in the district represented by my colleague, the Minister of Agriculture. The timber mills at Mount Gambier were established in the district represented by the late Mr. Fletcher and, as everyone knows, he was a consistent supporter of this Government. The steelworks at Whyalla resulted in the creation of a new district which the member for Whyalla enjoys as a gift on a plate. When the Leigh Creek coalfield was established that district was represented by Sir George Jenkins. The pyrites deposit at Nairne is in the district so ably represented by the member for Onkaparinga. The gypsum project that

is now being developed at Thevenard is in the district of the member for Eyre. The cannery at Berri, which we are now sponsoring, is in the district of Chaffey represented by Mr. King; the cannery at Nuriootpa, which we assisted, is in the Speaker's district; thousands of Housing Trust homes have been built in the district represented by the Minister of Education; and at Port Lincoln, which is in my own electorate, we are rebuilding the harbour works and making provision for great industrial expansion. In spite of all that, we continue to hear the story about the Government's insincerity and allegations that we will not decentralize industry because it would be prejudicial to our political prospects.

I stress that the Government has proved over and over again that it is not concerned with political prospects, but with the development of this State. I believe the people recognize that the Government's programme is not a bad one. They recognize that the Government's achievements are without equal in any State and that the Government is not concerned with politics, but with progress. I think the people realize that the legislative programme set out in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech will enable the State to make the greatest of many giant strides towards a new prosperity and ensure a continually expanding economy. The only way the State can take care of its growing population and find jobs for its young people is to have an expanding economy, and the only way to get that is to adopt the policy of this Government in planning for the future. These projects are not flowers that bloom for a day, but the foundations on which beneficial economic results will accrue for many years to come.

The Government does not claim to be perfect, but whatever criticisms are made of the Government and however the factual figures may be distorted, no Government has done better, and very few have done as well. I believe the people of South Australia are not likely to forget that. I support the motion.

Motion for adoption of the Address in Reply carried.

The SPEAKER—I have to inform the House that arrangements have been made for the Address in Reply to be presented to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor on Tuesday next at 2.10 p.m.

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

LOAN ESTIMATES.

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by message, recommended the House to make provision by Bill for the appropriation of such amounts of the revenue and moneys of the State as were required for the following purposes:—

- (a) The repayment with interest of the sum of £23,672,000 to be borrowed for the purposes mentioned in the Loan Estimates for the financial year 1958-59, and of any other sums to be borrowed pursuant to the Public Purposes Loan Bill, 1958.
- (b) To make payments from the Loan fund of repaid Loan money and surplus revenue for the purposes mentioned in the Loan Estimates for the financial year 1958-59.
- (c) Any other purposes mentioned in the Public Purposes Loan Bill, 1958.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD (Premier and Treasurer) moved:—

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the Loan Estimates for the year ending June 30, 1959, as set out in Parliamentary Paper No. 11.

Motion carried.

In Committee.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—During 1957-58 expenditure from State loan funds on capital works amounted to £24,829,000, and £4,000,000 was expended under the provisions of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, making a total of £28,829,000 expended on works and housing during the year. Of the £4,000,000 Housing Agreement moneys, £3,200,000 was advanced to the South Australian Housing Trust, £600,000 to the State Bank, and £200,000 to building societies.

For 1958-59 it is possible for the Government to plan a somewhat larger programme of works, services and housing because of an increase in the overall borrowing figure approved by the Loan Council. At the most recent meeting of the Loan Council early in June the Commonwealth Government stated that it was prepared to support a total programme for 1958-59 for State works and housing of £210,000,000, an increase of £10,000,000 over the total programme of £200,000,000 for 1957-58. Of the increase of £10,000,000, South Australia has been allocated £1,770,000, of which £628,000 is required to finance revenue deficits, and the balance of £1,142,000

will be available for works, services and housing. I will give a full explanation of the revenue deficit finance when dealing with the Public Purposes Loan Bill which will be before the House later in the session. This deficit arose out of an advance the State Government made several years ago for country roadmaking purposes, which was not accepted by the Loan Council as an allowable item under our Revenue Estimates.

The total available for spending on works and housing during the year will be £31,722,000, being £28,672,000 of new loan funds and housing moneys and £3,050,000 from repayments to the Loan Fund. An amount of £5,000,000 is being made available to the State under the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, and it is proposed that the balance of £26,722,000 be spent as outlined in these Estimates. Of the £5,000,000 of Housing Agreement moneys £3,500,000 is to be allocated to the South Australian Housing Trust. For the purpose of making advances to home builders, £1,200,000 will be allocated to the State Bank and £300,000 to building societies.

The Commonwealth Government has once again indicated that its support of the loan programme is subject to a mid-year review, but in the meantime the States are receiving monthly advances based on a programme of £210,000,000. In recent years the mid-year review has not resulted in any decrease of the support initially indicated, and at this stage I see no reason to expect any change in the programme during 1958-59. I shall now give members a brief review of the progress made on works and services during 1957-58 and information on the proposed programme for 1958-59.

STATE BANK.—Advances for Homes, £1,000,000.—As it is the Government's intention to introduce legislation later in the session to increase the maximum for individual advances under the Advances for Homes Act from £2,250 to £3,000 on a 5 per cent deposit, and up to £3,500 on a 15 per cent deposit, funds for advances for home building have been increased substantially this year.

In addition to the £1,000,000 under the Advances for Homes Act the State Bank will be allocated £1,200,000 of Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement moneys, so that the total amount available to the bank for lending for housing will be £2,200,000.

Loans totalling £642,000 under the Advances for Homes Act last year assisted 369 applicants to build or purchase new homes, and

£600,000 of Housing Agreement funds enabled advances to be made by the Bank to a further 424 applicants. The £200,000 of Housing Agreement funds made available to the building societies enabled them to make advances to a further 114 applicants.

It is of interest to note that of approximately 180 societies throughout Australia participating in this scheme only four have received allocations of Housing Agreement funds greater than that of the Co-operative Building Society, which is the largest South Australian society. Whereas this society received £125,000 in 1957-58, the four large interstate societies I refer to received allocations varying from £144,000 to £214,000. For 1958-59 the Co-operative Building Society has been allocated £188,000 of new moneys under the agreement.

Overall, the amount available from Government sources for housing advances by the State Bank and building societies during 1958-59 will amount to £2,500,000, an increase of £1,058,000, or 73 per cent, over the amount available last year.

Loans to Producers, £600,000.—In 1957-58 the bank approved advances under this scheme totalling £385,000. This figure included approval for loans to distilleries, £22,000; to the fishing industry, £32,000; to cold stores and packing sheds, £31,000; and to the fruit canning industry, £300,000. The actual amount advanced, however, was £100,000, and the increased provision this year will be required to finance the establishment of a new co-operative fruit cannery at Berri, for which approval has already been given.

Advances to Settlers, £100,000.—Advances under this scheme are made to primary producers for the erection of houses and farm buildings, the clearing of pastures and the purchase of plant. During 1957-58 the bank approved 44 applications for loans totalling £45,000, but the amount advanced totalled £50,000 as it included some carryover in respect of loans approved in the previous year. Requirements for finance under the Advances to Settlers Act are growing each year and an increase to £100,000 is proposed for 1958-59.

The sum of £10,000 is provided for advances under the Loans for Fencing and Water Piping Acts, £1,000 for advances for vermin proof fencing, £455,000 for advances to the State Bank to enable it to carry out its normal trading bank services for primary producers and for secondary industry, and £1,000 for loans for water conservation.

ROADS AND BRIDGES, £200,000.—During 1957-58 the sum of £15,000 was made available from loan funds for roads and bridges. This was to finance further work on the Patawalonga bridge which was completed during the year. Of the £200,000 provided this year £100,000 is required for works associated with a new bridge at Blanchetown, the estimated total cost of which is £667,000. The £100,000 will enable the Highways Department to go ahead with design work, to carry out investigations such as the sinking of test piles, and to commence work on approach roads and cuttings.

The sum of £95,000 will be required for the commencement of work on bridges at Renmark and Cadell. Both will be steel and concrete structures to replace steel and timber bridges. The Renmark Avenue Bridge will require £45,000 this year out of its total estimated cost of £55,000, and the Cadell bridge £50,000 out of its total estimated cost of £70,000. An amount of £5,000 is provided for preliminary investigations connected with a proposed new bridge over the Port River to replace the existing Jervois bridge. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is enquiring into the proposal and a firm site for the bridge has not yet been determined.

LANDS DEPARTMENT.—Land Repurchase for Closer Settlement, £1,000.—A nominal amount of £1,000 is provided for the purchase of land under the provisions of the Crown Lands Act if required to enlarge a Crown lease or agreement into a living area.

Crown Lands Development Act, £100,000.—Actual expenditure in 1957-58 was £100,000. During the year work commenced on an estate of 30,000 acres in the Lucindale district in the hundreds of Woolumbool and Lochaber. This project is planned to be completed during 1960-61 at an estimated cost of £310,000.

In the hundred of Short the development of an estate of 3,270 acres is nearing completion and has been re-submitted to the Commonwealth authorities for war service land settlement as three grazing holdings. Near Penola, in the hundreds of Monbulla and Grey, an area of 7,300 acres was partially developed. This project is planned to be completed in 1960-61 at an estimated cost of £112,000. The £100,000 provided this year will permit further developmental work on these schemes and continued investigations in the Woods Well district, hundreds of Field, Colebatch, and Messent. Further areas for development under the Crown

Lands Development Act are under consideration and funds will be made available when the investigation is completed and approval given to proceed with the projects.

Members probably know that the Commonwealth will not give any further approvals as far as group soldier settlement is concerned. The Minister of Lands has only this moment informed me that he received a letter today advising him that purchases of single properties are also to be discontinued. I was hoping that the Commonwealth would have continued with the single-property proposition, which would have enabled us to turn over our money and get very much more effective land settlement with the funds available to us.

Mr. O'Halloran—Does this apply to soldier settlement?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—Yes, it is all soldier settlement. When I interposed to make this comment I did not know that that letter had been received.

Settlement of Discharged Soldiers on the Land (1914-18 War), £2,000.—The sum of £2,000 is provided for advances as required and for the maintenance of reverted properties.

Lands Department (Buildings, Plant, Etc.), £25,000.—This amount is provided for purchase of plant and equipment, motor vehicles, and minor buildings as required. Actual expenditure last year was £23,000.

IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS, £200,000.—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1957-58 were £217,000. This expenditure included a special contribution of £100,000 towards expenses associated with flood protection, so that payments in respect of normal works amounted to £117,000. The main work completed was the construction of a pumping plant and rising main at Waikerie, the final cost being £27,000. Satisfactory progress was made in the electrification of Berri pumping station and also in the electrification of pumping stations serving the reclaimed areas of the lower Murray. In the reclaimed areas Cowirra, Pompoota, Wall, Mypolonga, Mobilong, Burdett and Wellington stations have been completed, while Neeta and Woods Point were under construction at the end of the year. Seven further stations remain to be converted. The proposed expenditures for 1958-9 are:—£115,000 for further pumping plant electrification, including £43,000 for the completion of Berri and £72,000 for reclaimed areas. The

Berri station is expected to be finished in February, 1959, and this year's provision is to cover the cost of civil works and contract payments for pumps and rising main; £20,000 is provided for the commencement of a comprehensive drainage scheme at Cooltong, for which the total estimated cost is £160,000; £10,000 is required for the installation of an additional pumping unit and alterations to the rising main at Moorook to increase the supply of irrigation water; £5,000 is required to enlarge the rising main and install a larger pumping unit to improve the town water supply at Berri; £11,000 is required for drainage works and channels; £8,000 for embankment sluices in reclaimed areas; £5,000 for various town water supplies; and £26,000 for buildings, plant, and minor urgent works.

Lessees Reclaimed Swamp Lands (Loans to), £1,000.—A nominal amount of £1,000 is provided this year for advances to settlers on irrigation areas and reclaimed areas if required.

South-Eastern Drainage, £400,000.—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1957-58 amounted to £292,000 and satisfactory progress was made in the area of 260,000 acres which is being drained south of Drains K-L. Departmental plant completed the enlargement of Drain L between Robe and Lake Hawdon North, and departmental and hired plant constructed smaller drains in the Biscuit Flat, Reedy Creek Flat and Avenue Flat areas.

For 1958-59, £363,000 is provided for construction of drainage works and acquisition of land in the Western Division of the South-East. £200,000 approximately of the provision will be required to complete development in the areas south of Drains K-L, and this will take the total cost of drainage works in that area of 260,000 acres to approximately £3,000,000. The balance of £163,000 will then enable work to be commenced in the area of 140,000 acres north of Drains K-L, a project which has been investigated and favourably reported upon by the Parliamentary Committee on Land Settlement. The total estimated cost of drainage works proposed for this area is £1,500,000, and the work to be commenced in 1958-59 will be the outlet structure to the sea, three miles north of Kingston, and the main drain from the sea to Blackford Flat. The sum of £10,000 will be required for construction of bridges over existing drains, £25,000 for construction of petition drains, and £2,000 for purchase of plant, stores, etc.

AFFORESTATION AND TIMBER MILLING, £975,000.—For 1957-58 payments from Loan

Account totalled £986,000 made up as follows—

	£
Maintenance of existing forests ..	110,000
Preparation of land and planting ..	133,000
Purchase of land	6,000
Erection of central mill at Mount Gambier, including purchase of plant and equipment	570,000
Purchase and erection of houses and other buildings	60,000
Purchase and installation of plant and equipment at other mills and in forest areas	44,000
Administration	63,000
	<u>£986,000</u>

At the end of the year the principal work in progress was the central mill at Mount Gambier, on which approximately £1,645,000 had been spent out of the total estimated cost of £1,800,000. The board mill commenced partial production in September last year, and the case log mill early last month. Contract work on the seasoning kilns and reconditioners, mill exhaust system, sawdust delivery and wood waste disposal is nearing completion and work on the automatic sprinkler system is under way. The following are the main items of expenditure at the mill to the end of June, 1958:—

	£
Land	12,000
Buildings	259,000
Water supply	32,000
Drainage, roads, etc.	48,000
Grading and levelling site	34,000
Plant and machinery	1,055,000
Plant awaiting installation and stores	87,000

The output of log timber from Government forests in 1957-58 was approximately 138,000,000 super feet, and for 1958-59 an increase to 167,000,000 super feet is expected. The treatment of this increased output is likely to be broadly as follows—40,000,000 super feet to case production at private mills, 97,000,000 super feet to flooring and case production at departmental mills, 2,500,000 super feet to plywood manufacturers for the furniture trade, and 28,000,000 super feet to pulpwood plants. The proposed expenditures for 1958-59 are as follows:—

Maintenance of Existing Forests, £153,000.—This is to cover the work of replanting, control of weeds and suckers, spraying, fire protection, etc.

Preparation of Land and Planting, £112,000.—The Department proposes to complete the establishment of the 1958 plantation of approximately 5,000 acres, and to commence the

establishment of a further 5,000 acres as the 1959 plantation, which will take the total area of Government pine plantations to 137,000 acres.

Purchase of Land, £20,000.—Expenditure of this nature depends on the amount of suitable land which becomes available at a reasonable price.

Erection of Homes, Buildings, etc., in Forest Areas, £37,000.—This provision includes £20,000 for employees' housing and £17,000 for other buildings. The Department has found that by providing houses for its workers it has been able to lessen labour turnover and so increase efficiency.

Plant and Machinery for Forest Areas, £40,000.—This provides for the purchase or replacement of trucks, tractors, and miscellaneous forest plant.

Central Mill, Mount Gambier, to cover the completion of the project, £155,000.—It is anticipated that the bandsaw line will be operating and the entire plant in full production by the end of 1958.

Treatment Plant, Mount Gambier, £10,000. To the end of 1957-58, approximately £17,000 out of a total estimated cost of £27,000 had been spent on the softwood sleeper treatment plant, and £10,000 is required to complete the project. At Nangwarry £24,000 will be required for improvements to the water supply and £25,000 for a shopping centre, while at Mount Burr £12,000 will be required for the construction of a recreation hall. The £163,000 provided for other improvements is to cover erection of houses at mill townships, construction of small buildings as required, and provision of services. The sum of £21,000 is provided for new kilns at Nangwarry to season increased output, £25,000 for a new planing mill, and £33,000 for a record gangsaw at Mount Burr to replace existing plant which has reached the end of its useful life. An amount of £50,000 is provided for other items of plant and machinery as required.

The next three items, £305,000 for felling and hauling mill logs, £993,000 for sawmill working expenses, and £200,000 for administrative expenses applicable to sawmill working, will be charged against a working account, while the last item, £95,000 for administrative expenses, applicable to forest establishment, will be a charge against Loan Account. It is expected that during the year a proposal to build a power station at Nangwarry will be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works. The station envisaged will use mill waste as fuel, will probably

be of 3,400 kilowatts capacity, and will cost about £600,000. The station will provide steam and electricity for the Nangwarry sawmill, and surplus electricity will be purchased by the Electricity Trust for distribution through the South-East grid system. The new station will replace a station which has reached the end of its useful life.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION, £2,500,000.—Actual payments from Loan Account during 1957-58 amounted to £1,989,000, and during the year a number of projects for purchase or construction of rolling stock were completed. Under a contract for the supply of ten 750 h.p. diesel electric shunt locomotives, two locomotives were issued to traffic in 1955-56, six in 1956-57, and the final two last year. The total cost of this contract was £594,000. These locomotives have completely displaced steam locomotives at the Gillman marshalling yards at Port Adelaide, they are handling all freight traffic between the Gillman yards and Mile End, and are also assisting with shunting at Dry Creek and in the Mile End yards. Two bogie refrigerator cars were issued to traffic in 1957-58, completing a project for ten such cars at a total cost of £58,000. They are now helping to handle the expanding traffic in refrigerated space for fruit and vegetables.

Other rolling stock projects completed were two bogie refrigerator cars for narrow gauge lines at a cost of £12,000, two joint stock twin-ette cars for the Adelaide-Melbourne service, for which the South Australian share of the cost was £49,000, a spare engine and generator for main line diesel electric locomotives, £39,000, conversion of six vans to workmen's sleeping vans, £11,000, and hydraulic re-railing equipment, £11,000. A number of projects were in progress at the end of June last and I shall give some detail of these when dealing with proposals for this year. An amount of £567,000 is proposed this year for Way and Works Branch items such as relaying, improvements to buildings, signalling and communications equipment, safety devices, lighting, etc., which are continuing requirements from day to day and which are made up of a number of small jobs. The sum of £50,000 is required for residences for staff, and £76,000 for plant and sundries.

For rolling stock in 1958-59 the sum of £484,000 is provided for progress payments under a contract for the supply of 20 1,750 h.p. diesel electric main line locomotives. In respect of this project six locomotives had been issued to traffic to the end of 1956-57, and in 1957-58 a further seven went into service, making a

total of 13 up to the present. The remaining seven are expected to be in service by December next. Payments from Loan Accounts to the end of 1957-58 were £1,784,000, and this year's provision of £484,000 will complete the contract at a total estimated cost of £2,268,000.

The 13 diesel electric locomotives now in traffic under this project, together with 10 from a previous project, give a total of 23 now operating. They are handling the Adelaide-Melbourne passenger traffic, practically all freight traffic on the southern and south-eastern lines, and assisting with freight traffic on the northern and Angaston lines. Diesel electric locomotives are now pulling up to 1,000 gross tons through the Adelaide Hills in one train compared with a maximum of about 500 tons for steam locomotives. The £40,000 provided for spares for diesel electric locomotives is for two spare bogies costing £20,000 each. The amount of £5,000 required for 10 diesel electric shunt locomotives is the "retention" money under a contract which I have already referred to as physically completed.

The sum of £916,000 is proposed to be spent on further work on four projects for the construction of suburban diesel rail cars as follows:—For the first group of 12 cars nine had been issued to traffic to the end of June last and the remaining three are to go into operation early this year. Final payments amounting to £7,000 are provided for. For the second group of 12 cars £28,000 had been spent to the end of June last on components, equipment and material. This group is scheduled to be completed by June, 1959, and £553,000 will be required for 1958-59. For the third group of six cars £314,000 will be required, and it is expected that all cars will be issued to traffic before the end of this financial year. For the fourth group of 12 cars £42,000 will be required for purchase of material and fabrication of details during 1958-59. The 12 cars are expected to be available for service during 1959-60.

On the Port Adelaide and Gawler lines, where the new type of diesel rail cars are carrying the passenger traffic, faster and more frequent services are now being achieved and considerable savings in costs have been effected. An amount of £75,000 is provided this year to complete a project for 11 diesel mechanical rail cars for country passenger services. Ten cars had been issued to traffic up to the end of June last, and the eleventh will be available this year. The sum of £62,000 is provided to complete a group of three diesel power baggage cars. The project was approximately 70

per cent complete at the end of 1957-58 and all cars are expected to be available for service by November, 1958. They will enable more efficient handling of country parcels business.

An amount of £57,000 is required to meet South Australia's share of payments incurred this year on the construction of four joint stock cars for the Adelaide-Melbourne passenger traffic. The total estimated cost of the cars is £262,000, of which this State's share is £106,000. Two cars are to be completed by October 1958, and two by August 1959. The sum of £12,000 is provided for the conversion of three model 75 rail cars from petrol to diesel operation, and it is proposed to spend £8,000 on improvements to "D" vans. The programme of improving the suspensions of 100 vans was well under way at the end of June, when 42 vans had been completed. The remaining 58 vans will be completed this year. For narrow gauge rolling stock £27,000 is provided for conversion of eight model 75 rail cars from petrol to diesel operation. This will complete the dieselization of this model rail car. Plant and machinery and motor vehicles will entail continual expenditure throughout the year and £121,000 is provided.

HARBORS ACCOMMODATION, £1,600,000.—The actual payments from Loan Account for Harbors accommodation amounted to £1,130,000 in 1957-58, and the major items on which expenditure was incurred were:—

	£
Port Adelaide—Inner harbour— Reconstruction of Nos. 13 and 14 berths	238,000
Port Lincoln bulk handling installation and additional shipping accommodation	354,000
Port Pirie—Dredging improvements channel and harbour	69,000
Wallaroo bulk handling installation	209,000

At Port Adelaide the reconstruction of berths 13 and 14 was approximately 95% completed at the end of June last. This work provides for two new concrete wharves, four 6½-ton wharf cranes, two cargo sheds, rail tracks, roads and other services. During 1957-58 the wharves were completed and work on the cargo sheds progressed satisfactorily. The four cranes have now been tested and recently went into operation.

At Port Lincoln the project to provide bulk handling installation and additional shipping accommodation was approximately 75 per cent complete at the end of 1957-58. The civil works, including reclamation, steel piling, erection of cargo sheds and construction of roadways, are being carried out with departmental

labour, and at the end of June last they were nearing completion. A contract for the mechanical work and conveyor structure was let during the year, fabrication and delivery of equipment is now progressing satisfactorily, and the erection of the conveyor has been commenced. When completed the bulk handling project is to consist of a berth of dolphin type structure with catwalk access and a belt conveyor gallery extending over the water from a shore silo to the berth. The additional shipping accommodation is for both overseas and coastal vessels, and the project includes the extension of an existing pier, the construction of a new wharf, and the provision of sheds, stacking areas, road and rail services.

At Port Pirie the dredging improvements to the channel and harbour are designed to allow for the movement of deeper draft vessels carrying concentrates overseas and to eliminate lightering. Last year work commenced on the channel, and of the 35,000ft. to be deepened 4,000ft. had been dredged by the end of the year.

At the Wallaroo bulk handling installation foundations and other civil works were completed with departmental labour during the year, and the contract work for the supply of mechanical equipment was well in hand at June 30 last. The project as a whole was approximately 70 per cent complete. When completed it is to consist of a belt conveyor gallery extending over the water from a shore silo to a shipping gallery at the seaward end of the jetty. It will be capable of delivering 400 tons of grain an hour from silo to ship.

Turning to the expenditures proposed for 1958-59, an amount of £69,000 is provided for further work on the reconstruction of berths 13 and 14 at Port Adelaide. This is intended to cover further payments under the main contract for cranes, the cost of electro-magnets for the cranes, and the completion of cargo sheds and roadways. A sum of £160,000 is provided so that work may commence on the reconstruction of North Parade wharf. It is proposed to improve facilities for intra-state vessels by reconstructing about 1,500ft. of wharf on the eastern side of the river between Birkenhead bridge and Jervois bridge, by deepening and by providing sheds and services. The total estimated cost of the project is £639,000.

An amount of £83,000 is required for work on improvements to the dockyard at Glanville, including the sheetpiling of Hawkers Creek, a small arm of the Port River, and the erection

of a new store for dockyard plant and equipment. The total estimated cost of these works is £96,000. A total of £24,000 is required for the purchase of spare parts for the cranes at the Osborne coal-handling plant, and £82,000 is proposed to be spent on land acquisition to allow for future port expansion.

For Port Lincoln bulk handling installation and shipping accommodation £190,000 is provided for 1958-59 to enable the completion of the project. This amount will be used principally for payments under the contract for the bulk-handling plant. It is proposed to spend £290,000 this year on further dredging at Port Pirie to improve the channel and harbour.

An amount of £80,000 is provided to enable work to commence at Thevenard on the modification of the pier and construction of a bulk-handling installation for gypsum, wheat, and other suitable bulk commodities. The bulk-handling equipment is to consist of a receiving hopper on high ground and then a series of conveyors to the jetty where it will be possible to discharge to a ship on either side of the jetty. The total estimated cost of the project is £200,000, and the £80,000 provided this year will cover departmental work on the modification of the pier and the first progress payments under a contract for mechanical equipment. The sum of £59,000 will be required for the final payments under the contract for the Wallaroo bulk handling installation, and £50,000 is provided for progress payments on a new grab dredger to be purchased for an estimated £160,000; £80,000 for work on the modernization of an existing dredger; £100,000 for plant and equipment as required; £2,000 for improvements to the Meyer Oval; and £331,000 for various works which may be authorized during the year. A new oil berth at Kirtan Point, Port Lincoln, is proposed so that tanker traffic may be isolated from the general shipping berths. This project has been referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for report.

WATERWORKS AND SEWERS, £6,970,000.—Loan expenditure on water supply and sewerage works during 1957-58 was £5,968,000 and during the year a number of schemes both in the country and in the metropolitan area were completed. These include the following:—Hundred of Finnis—A reticulation scheme for country lands adjacent to the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline between Mannum and Palmer at a cost of £100,000. Mount Pleasant—A township reticulation scheme, which draws water from the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline, at

a cost of £30,000. Strathalbyn—A project to raise the reservoir bank and construct a new trunk main to improve the water supply which has been inadequate during the summer months, cost £44,000. Baroota Reservoir—New overflow channel at a cost of £60,000 to reduce erosion.

Port Broughton—Improvements to reticulation system of town and surrounding area at a total cost of £27,000. Booleroo Centre—New storage tank to improve supply at a total cost of £24,000. Hundreds of Hawker and Playford—8in. asbestolite main to increase supply to Cowell and lands to the south of the town at a total cost of £43,000.

Works completed in the metropolitan area were as follows—West Terrace, Adelaide—The relaying of the 30in. trunk main at a total cost of £59,000. Residential areas—Extension of water supply systems to new houses, including those erected by the Housing Trust, and improvements to existing reticulations at a total cost of £650,000. Extension of sewerage systems for new housing areas to cost approximately £1,000,000.

The principal works in progress at the end of 1957-58 were:—

Mannum-Adelaide Pipeline.—Expenditure during 1957-58 was approximately £500,000, taking the total expenditure to £10,300,000. The total estimated cost of the whole scheme is £11,300,000. The operation of the pipeline last summer made it possible to avert drastic water restrictions which would otherwise have had to be imposed in the metropolitan area. During the year the pipeline delivered over 14,000 millions gallons of water. Due to the continued dry weather, pumping continued even into mid-winter, but following the recent useful rains it has now been discontinued. There is every prospect that pumping from the Murray will not be necessary until the end of February next.

South Para Reservoir.—Expenditure during the past year was £370,000, bringing the total cost to £3,370,000. Further progress was made in the concreting of the spillway. The reservoir is estimated to cost, when completed, £3,750,000.

Myponga Reservoir.—During 1957-58 expenditure amounted to some £400,000, taking the total expenditure to the end of the year to approximately £440,000. Contract work was carried out on the excavation of the spillway, and the department commenced the laying out of pipes for the 32 miles of trunk mains to the Happy Valley reservoir. The reservoir is estimated to cost finally £3,930,000.

Onkaparinga Valley scheme.—An amount of £330,000 was spent during 1957-58, taking the total cost to the end of the year to approximately £700,000. Further sections of trunk main were laid during the year so that the main from the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline is now continuous. The estimated total cost of the project is £1,276,000.

Clarendon-Belair-Blackwood scheme.—A total of £10,000 was spent during last year on preliminary work for this £800,000 scheme, which is designed to give Belair and Blackwood a new source of supply from Clarendon weir.

Elizabeth water supply.—Expenditure during 1957-58 was £75,000 taking the total expenditure to the end of the year to £225,000. Main laying has kept pace with erection of houses. The total estimated cost of the present scheme is £620,000, but due to an expansion of the housing plan, new proposals for extension have now been submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.

Warren Trunk Main.—During 1957-58, £30,000 was spent on preparation of the pipe track and other preliminary work for this scheme, which will eventually cost about £4,300,000. It is designed to provide a large proportion of the water requirements of Yorke Peninsula, and to improve the supply in areas now served by the Warren reservoir.

Yorke Peninsula Scheme.—Expenditure during 1957-58 was approximately £950,000, taking the total expenditure to the end of the year to £4,600,000. The enlargement of the trunk main from the Bundaleer reservoir to the Clinton pumping station is now operating, the trunk main down the Peninsula has been constructed to a point eight miles south of Minlaton, and reticulation of country lands as far south as Maitland has been carried out.

Glenelg Sewage Treatment Works.—Total expenditure to the end of June last on this £1,000,000 scheme was £230,000, of which over £200,000 has been spent during 1957-58 on construction work and payment for plant.

Salisbury Sewage Treatment Works.—During 1957-58 expenditure was £15,000, taking the total expenditure figure to £65,000. This includes the purchase of the works from the Commonwealth and the purchase of land for extensions.

Sewerage of Elizabeth.—Expenditure of £120,000 during the past year carried the total expenditure figure to £320,000. As with water supply, sewerage has kept pace with house construction. The total estimated cost of present proposals for sewerage is £750,000.

And, now, turning to the Estimates for 1958-59—

Morgan-Whyalla Water Main £49,000.—The sum of £35,000 is provided this year for air vessels at the four pumping stations as a protection against the effects of water hammer; £10,000 is provided to complete the installation of chlorinating plant at Morgan to purify the water; and various minor works and services will require £4,000.

Adelaide Water District, £3,027,000.—For further work on the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline £150,000 will be required during 1958-59. This provision will enable the Department to continue the construction of storages on the gravity section of the main, and to commence the Anstey's Hill tunnel.

It is proposed to spend £300,000 this year on further work at the South Para reservoir, £246,000 being provided under Adelaide water district and £54,000 under Barossa water district. This year is expected to see the completion of the excavation and concreting of the spillway, and by June next the whole project will be practically completed.

The sum of £1,159,000 is set aside for the Myponga reservoir and it is expected that by the end of the year some 40 per cent of the contract work on the dam will have been carried out and about ten miles of trunk main will have been laid in the vicinity of Morphett Vale.

The sum of £300,000 is provided for the Onkaparinga Valley scheme, and this sum is intended to cover construction of mains, reticulation of Nairne and Littlehampton, and construction of two more tanks. The scheme will be completed during 1959-60.

The sum of £150,000 is to be spent on the Clarendon-Belair-Blackwood scheme. This provision will cover further purchases of pipes and the laying of mains.

The sum of £100,000 is provided for further work on laying of mains for the Elizabeth water supply. It is anticipated that main laying this year will continue to keep pace with house construction by the Housing Trust.

The £62,000 set aside for improvements to supply for Noarlunga country lands is intended to cover the laying of larger mains to Moana, Port Noarlunga and Christies Beach. Of the £90,000 provided for tanks, £40,000 is for work at Darlington and £50,000 for work in the Marino and Seaview Downs areas. The Darlington tank and associated alterations to trunk mains will improve the existing metropolitan supply, while the Marino and Seaview Downs tanks are required to provide additional water for Housing Trust projects in those

areas. The sum of £82,000 will be required for the construction, extension, or improvement of mains in Goodwood Road, Grote Street and Gouger Street, and at Salisbury, Lobethal, Seacombe, Beaumont and Gepps Cross.

The sum of £12,000 is provided for a pumping station at Lyons Road to improve the supply to Northfield and Clearview areas. This station will also avoid the depletion of Thorndon Park reservoir during summer months. The remaining provisions of £10,000 for depots, £20,000 for workshops, £28,000 for cement lining, £571,000 for services and minor works, and £47,000 for plant and machinery are necessary to cover those items which recur each year.

Barossa Water District, £75,000.—The £54,000 for South Para reservoir I have already commented on under Adelaide Water District. The sum of £2,000 is provided to complete the enlargement of mains at Hamley Bridge, and £19,000 for services and minor works which may become necessary from time to time.

Warren Water District, £784,000.—The sum of £715,000 is provided for continued work on the enlargement of the Warren trunk main. Contracts have now been let for the supply of approximately 19 miles of 40in. pipe, and pipe-laying with departmental labour will proceed as the deliveries are made. The department expects to lay at least 10 miles of pipe this year. The sum of £4,000 is required for the completion of a pumping station at Angaston and £10,000 for electrification of a pumping station at Hansborough. At Nuriootpa the £11,000 provided is to cover completion of duplicate booster plant £3,000, and extension of mains £8,000. The sum of £6,000 is required for construction of a waterworks depot, £9,000 for cement lining *in situ*, £19,000 for mains, services and minor works, and £10,000 for plant and machinery.

Country Water Districts, £316,000.—Details of the projects for which amounts are provided for 1958-59 are:—

Bright, Hundred of.—£10,000 to complete a scheme to provide country lands with water from the Morgan-Whyalla pipeline. Estimated total cost £16,000.

Encounter Bay.—£50,000 for the commencement of work on a scheme to improve the supply at Goolwa, Middleton, Port Elliot, and Victor Harbour. River Murray water is to be pumped from Goolwa. The total estimated cost is £319,000.

Jamestown-Peterborough Pipeline.—£15,000 for further pumping plant and pipelaying during 1958-59. This scheme is designed to improve the supply at Peterborough and adjacent lands, and is estimated to cost £239,000.

Kingston (South-East).—£20,000 for further work on a new township supply for which the bore has been sunk. The estimated total cost is £80,000.

Loxton.—£21,000 to continue work on electrification of the pumping station which supplies the town, the irrigation area and country lands with domestic water. Estimated total cost is £38,000.

Meningie.—£2,000 to complete a township supply drawing water from Lake Albert. Estimated total cost is £10,000.

Milang.—£8,000 to complete a township supply drawing water from Lake Alexandrina. Estimated total cost £15,000.

Moorook.—£15,000 to complete the electrification of the pumping station on the River Murray for a district scheme. Estimated total cost is £25,000.

Mount Gambier.—£10,000 towards installation of pumping units for a town and country supply from the Blue Lake. Estimated total cost is £60,000.

Murray Bridge.—£28,000 for the electrification of the pumping station, the installation of a chlorination plant, and the extension of mains to supply country lands in the Pallamana area. Estimated total cost is £81,000.

Naracoorte.—£10,000 for extension of the existing township scheme by providing another bore and pump and by extending mains.

Orroroo.—£2,000 to complete an additional bore to augment the existing township supply. Estimated total cost is £5,000.

Paringa.—£4,000 for the completion of a new township supply drawing water from the Murray. Estimated total cost is £5,000.

St. Kilda.—£3,000 for the completion of a new scheme to provide a township supply drawing water from a bore. Estimated total cost is £5,000.

Swan Reach.—£5,000 for construction of a pumping station to draw water from the Murray for a township supply.

Warooka.—£15,000 for completion of a scheme to supply both township and country lands by drawing water from wells. The estimated total cost is £148,000.

Winninowie, Hundred of.—£5,000 for replacement of an old main in the existing scheme.

The sum of £16,000 will be required for cement lining *in situ*, and £77,000 for mains, services and various minor works.

Tod River Water District, £198,000.—The sum of £10,000 is required for exploration of the Lincoln underground water basin to assess its potential in augmenting the supply to Port Lincoln. To complete the installation of pumping plant and laying of a 12in. main in the hundred of Wanilla, £28,000 is required so that additional underground water may be pumped to the storage tank at the principal Uley-Wanilla pumping plant. The total estimated cost of this scheme is £47,000. The sum

of £29,000 is required to complete the pumping station and plant at Lock—total estimated cost £32,000. This station is to act as a booster on the Tod River main to give a larger delivery to the storage tank at Minnipa.

An amount of £51,000 is provided for the laying of 4in. and 6in. mains to improve supplies in the hundreds of Boothby, Brooker, Lincoln, McLachlan, Mann, Shannon, Tarlton, and Yadnarie. The total estimated cost of these schemes is £61,000 and £14,000 is required for depots and other buildings, £22,000 for cement lining *in situ*, £19,000 for mains, services and minor works, and £25,000 for plant and machinery.

Beetaloo, Bundaleer and Baroota Water District, £801,000.—An amount of £640,000 is proposed to be spent on further work on the Yorke Peninsula scheme. It is anticipated that this year will see the extension of fibrolite pipelines to Port Victoria, Port Vincent, Stansbury, Yorketown and Edithburgh; the construction of nine of the remaining eighteen tanks; and the reticulation of some country lands near these tanks. The £18,000 provided for tanks is made up of £12,000 for a 500,000 gallon tank at Bird's Hill to improve the Laura water supply and £6,000 for a 100,000 gallon tank at Caltowie.

The sum of £25,000 is required for mains varying from 3in. diameter up to 18in. diameter at Port Pirie and in the hundreds of Clinton, Crystal Brook, Cunningham, Howe, Koolunga and Pirie. The estimated cost of these schemes totals £174,000. An amount of £24,000 is provided for buildings; £18,000 for cement lining *in situ*; £45,000 for mains, services and minor works; and £31,000 for plant and machinery.

Adelaide Sewers, £1,169,000.—The sum of £343,000 is provided for reticulation sewers. This proposed expenditure is for the extension and replacement of main sewers, for the sewerage of new Housing Trust areas at Fulham, Henley Beach, Campbelltown, Windsor, Seacombe and Flinders Park, and for the sewerage of other residential areas at Seaton Park, Viaduct Estate, Osborne, Taperoo and Largs North.

For further work on the extensions to the Glenelg Treatment Works, £364,000 is required. By the end of this financial year the first half of the additions will be completed and in operation, and the second half of the project will be in course of construction.

An amount of £30,000 is required to complete work on the Queensbury pumping station,

the total estimated cost of which is £93,000. This station serves a large part of the north-western suburbs and pumps to the Port Adelaide Treatment Works, and it is essential that its capacity be increased to cope with the growth of population and industry.

A total of £9,000 will be required for buildings such as workshops and depots, £160,000 for house connections, £29,000 to improve ventilation of existing sewers and to install vents on new works, £5,000 for making advances under a deferred payment scheme for inside sewer connections, £172,000 for miscellaneous extensions and minor works as the need arises, £2,000 for preliminary investigations, and £55,000 for plant and machinery.

Salisbury Sewers, £187,000.—This provision includes £50,000 for the construction of an extension to the Salisbury treatment plant, £17,000 to complete the sewerage of Salisbury, and £120,000 for further work on the sewerage of Elizabeth. The completed cost of the sewerage of Salisbury is estimated to be £245,000. By the end of this financial year some £440,000 will have been spent out of the estimated total cost of £750,000 for present proposals for the sewerage of Elizabeth.

Country Sewers, £220,000.—The sum of £20,000 is provided for preliminary work on the sewerage scheme for Mount Gambier. With rapid development which has taken place in recent years the scheme is estimated to cost approximately £1,000,000. An amount of £100,000 is provided for the commencement of work on the Naracoorte sewerage scheme which, when completed, will cost £343,000. Since Naracoorte derives its water supply from bores, the sewerage of the town will remove the risk of pollution of the water supply.

The sum of £100,000 is provided for work on the Port Lincoln sewerage scheme which it is estimated will cost £375,000. The hospital, the high school and the primary school are already provided with sewerage facilities and it is proposed now to sewer the whole town.

Mr. Riches—Has the special committee submitted its report yet?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—I understand so. It has issued an interim report which enables the work to proceed.

Water Conservation, £20,000.—The sum of £5,000 is provided for a pump and an overhead tank to supply water to Marree township, £9,000 for five roof catchments and tanks between Penong and Eucla, £3,000 for two roof catchments and tanks in the Lake Everard-Kingooonya district, £3,000 for minor works and services as required, and £124,000

is required for the purchase of construction plant and for the completion of Sassafras Depot.

River Murray Weirs, Dams, Locks, Etc., £280,000.—This amount is provided to meet South Australia's share of the cost of work carried out by the River Murray Commission.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND LAND, £7,500,000.

Hospital Buildings, £3,150,000.—Actual expenditure in 1957-58 was £2,933,000, including £1,697,000 at Queen Elizabeth Hospital and £1,236,000 at other hospitals. The principal work completed last year was the nurses' home at the Mount Gambier Hospital. The home, which cost £294,000, provides accommodation for 120 nurses. At Parkside Mental Hospital two large buildings were completed. The final cost of the new men's admission block was £142,000, and the new men's T.B. block £93,000. A new kitchen at Northfield Mental Hospital was completed at a cost of £80,000. A number of projects were in progress at the end of June and I shall comment on them as I deal with the amounts proposed to be spent on further work in 1958-59. The 1958-59 proposals are as follows:—

Royal Adelaide Hospital.—The sum of £236,000 is provided for further work on the dental hospital additions. This work consists of two new wings, one of five floors and one of three floors, and the construction of an additional floor on each of the two existing wings. Of the total estimated cost of £499,000, £28,000 had been spent to June 30, 1958. The planned completion date is the middle of 1960. £330,000 is provided for the radio-therapy building. The initial work provides for a ground floor, a basement and a sub-basement, but the foundations will permit of up to nine additional floors being added. Of the total estimated cost of £694,000, £19,000 had been spent to the end of June. December, 1959, is the anticipated completion date of this first section of the building.

Plans for the upper floors to provide accommodation to the extent of 444 beds are at present before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works. Final plans and specifications will be completed in time to enable work on the building to be continuous, so that the rebuilding plan for the whole hospital may proceed. The amount of £39,000 is required for a new chest clinic. This project provides for alterations to the ground floor of Ruthven Mansions and the erection of a single-storey building at the rear. Of the total

estimated cost of £77,000, £3,000 had been spent to the end of 1957-58.

An amount of £30,000 is required this year for extensions to the McEwin Building to provide recovery wards containing 12 beds and two additional operating theatres. The total estimated cost is £53,000, and the anticipated completion date is the first quarter of 1959. The sum of £61,000 is provided for alterations and additions, equipment, furniture, etc. This provision is to cover work on a new lift shaft in the casualty block, utility rooms in Bice Building sterilizing facilities, caesium treatment rooms, and improvements to the kitchen.

Northfield Wards.—An amount of £78,000 is required for further work on the nurses' homes—two buildings each of two storeys are being provided to accommodate 82 nurses. The total estimated cost is £108,000, and the anticipated completion date is December, 1958. The sum of £15,000 is required for a new pharmacy and it is expected that the work will be completed this financial year.

An amount of £25,000 is provided for alterations and additions, equipment, furniture, etc. This is to cover the cost of a new mortuary and oil store, and improvements to the kitchen.

Queen Elizabeth Hospital.—The sum of £853,000 is provided for the completion of the hospital and the purchase of furniture. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital will provide, with its maternity wing, outpatient department and casualty section, a complete health service in the western districts, as well as being an additional teaching hospital for medical students and nurses in conjunction with the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The general hospital will now provide 384 beds, including 66 on the sixth floor, which was to have been left in shell form but which has now been fully fitted out. On the seventh floor there will be some private and some intermediate bedrooms where patients can be treated by their own doctors. Half of this floor will be a nursing unit designated as a memorial to war nurses. The eighth floor will have private and semi-private suites for the use of patients of honorary staff at the hospital.

The maternity section is now operating in a separate wing and provides 114 beds. New ante and post-natal clinics have been completed recently and are in operation. This maternity section commenced operations in the Nurses' home which has now been re-converted to its original function. Accommodation has been provided at the hospital for 580 nurses and

sisters and 80 doctors and students. It is anticipated that the complete hospital will be in operation early next year.

Parkside Mental Hospital.—The amount of £10,000 is required to complete payments in respect of the men's admission block which I have already referred to as physically completed. The sum of £40,000 is provided for the central boiler house and steam reticulation. This scheme is designed to replace individual boilers in the various buildings and to supply steam and hot water for the whole hospital. The total estimated cost is £79,000, and a contract will be let early next year. An amount of £77,000 is provided for sanitary annexes. Of the total estimated cost of £80,000, £3,000 had been spent to the end of June last. These annexes are to be three-storey blocks attached to each of three existing wards and they are to provide bathrooms, showers, toilets, store rooms, and goods lifts. An amount of £113,000 is provided for alterations and additions, equipment, furniture, etc. This provision is to cover work on the workshop, dispensary, female and male wards, and airing courts.

Northfield Mental Hospital.—The sum of £98,000 is provided for additional accommodation for 280 patients and is to cover the completion of four blocks, namely, for senile men, senile women, girls and boys. The total estimated cost of the four blocks is £643,000. The men's block is expected to be completed by September, the women's block by November, the boys' block by December, and the girls' block early in 1959. An amount of £27,000 is required for further work on the boiler house and steam generating plant for which the total estimated cost is £170,000. This work will provide hot water and steam services for additional blocks which have recently been constructed or are now under construction. The anticipated completion date is early 1959.

Mount Gambier Hospital.—A sum of £464,000 is provided for work on the new general hospital at Mount Gambier. Of the total estimated cost of £1,207,000, £619,000 had been spent to the end of June. This work provides for a new six-storey hospital to accommodate 217 patients, and is expected to be completed by the end of 1959. An amount of £72,000 is required for the boiler house and steam generating plant. A contract has been let for the steam generating plant and tenders will shortly be called for the boiler house. The total estimated cost is £120,000. A sum of £5,000 is provided for work on a new pathological laboratory, the estimated total cost of which is £65,000. The laboratory will be situated near

the new general hospital and pathological work will be undertaken for other centres in the south-east in addition to Mount Gambier.

Port Augusta Hospital—At this hospital £20,000 is provided for additions to the maternity block.

Port Pirie Hospital—A sum of £16,000 is required to continue work on the new theatre and men's block. This building, which will be completed in September, will consist of three floors and will contain two operating theatres, X-Ray facilities, sterilizing and staff rooms, and accommodation for 70 patients. The total estimated cost is £210,000. An amount of £202,000 is provided for a project for a new kitchen, laundry boiler house, workshop, equipment and sewerage system. The total estimated cost of this work is £405,000, and the building contract has been let.

Mareeba Babies' Hospital—An amount of £9,000 is required for alterations, additions, equipment, furniture, etc., including work on a laboratory, the X-Ray department, and a new lift.

General—The sum of £250,000 is provided for minor alterations and additions and £80,000 for furniture and equipment at the various hospitals as the need arises from day to day.

School Buildings, £3,600,000—Actual expenditure for 1957-58 was £2,662,000, and during the year the following new schools were occupied—An infant school at Thebarton; primary schools at Belair, Elizabeth North (south site), Hectorville, Macclesfield and Nairne; an area school at Yankalilla; technical schools at Mitchell Park and Vermont; and high schools at Campbelltown and Henley Beach. Craftwork centres were completed at eleven schools at a cost of £112,000, while 300 prefabricated classrooms and 50 classroom equivalents were manufactured by the Finsbury Works Branch at a cost of £352,000. In giving details of schools under construction at the end of last year or to be commenced this year I shall refer to the type of construction, the total estimated cost and the number of classrooms. In practically every case there will also be a library, office, shelter sheds and similar units provided as well as the number of classrooms quoted. At the end of 1957-58 work on new schools or major additions to existing schools was in progress at the following centres:—

Primary schools—

Broadmeadows—A new school of precast concrete construction to contain 15 classrooms, to cost £96,000, and to be completed early in 1959.

Croydon Park—A new school of brick construction to contain eight classrooms, to cost £42,000, and to be completed in December, 1958.

Hampstead—A new wing of four classrooms, of brick construction, to cost £15,000, and to be completed in November, 1958.

Infant schools—

Forbes—A new school of precast concrete construction to contain 14 classrooms, to cost £88,000, and to be completed early in 1959.

Gepps Cross—A new school of precast concrete construction to contain 11 classrooms, to cost £90,000, and to be completed in December, 1958.

Linden Park—A new school of eight classrooms of precast concrete construction, to cost £74,000, and to be completed early in 1959.

Technical schools—

Croydon Girls—New school buildings of precast concrete construction containing 12 classrooms, to cost £96,000, and expected to be completed by the middle of 1959.

Norwood Boys—New school buildings of brick construction containing 14 classrooms, to cost £135,000, and to be completed by the middle of 1959.

Area schools—

Eudunda—a brick addition to the existing building to provide a classroom, and a science room, etc., to cost £37,000, now practically completed.

Oakbank—A new brick building of eight classrooms and two science laboratories, costing £140,000, and now almost complete.

High schools—

Bordertown—A new school of brick construction to cost £56,000, to contain four classrooms, and to be completed early in 1959.

Brighton—A new wing of brick construction containing six classrooms, costing £82,000, to be completed in October of this year.

Enfield—A new precast concrete building on the same site as existing timber classrooms, which are to be retained, to cost £210,000, to contain 14 classrooms, and to be completed early in 1959.

Findon—A new precast concrete building on the same site as existing timber classrooms, which are to be retained, to cost £210,000, to contain 15 classrooms, and to be completed early in 1959.

Loxton—A new school of brick construction, to contain seven classrooms, to cost £73,000, and to be completed by December, 1958.

Marion—A new precast concrete building on the same site as existing timber classrooms, which are to be retained, to cost £230,000, to contain 15 classrooms, and to be completed early in 1959.

Port Augusta—A new block of precast concrete construction, containing four classrooms, costing £40,000, to be completed early in 1959.

Salisbury—A new school of precast concrete construction, to contain 14 classrooms, to cost £196,000, to be completed early next year.

Unley Boys—A new school to cost £367,000, to consist of 28 classrooms of pre-cast concrete construction, to be completed by December, 1959.

Waikerie—A new school of brick construction, to contain 5 classrooms, to cost £70,000, and to be completed by December next.

Work was also progressing on craft centres at high schools at Birdwood, Booleroo Centre, Kadina, and Mount Barker.

The provisions for 1958-59 are as follows:—
The sum of £919,000 for 19 new primary and six new infant schools. This proposed expenditure is to cover further work on the Broadmeadows and Croydon Park primary schools, and the Forbes, Gepps Cross, and Linden Park infant schools, which I have referred to as being in progress at the end of June last, and to finance work on primary schools as follows:—

Burnside—Total estimated cost £52,000, six classrooms, precast construction.

Christies Beach—Total estimated cost £140,000, 18 classrooms, precast construction.

Clapham—Total estimated cost £193,000, 23 classrooms, precast construction.

Elizabeth East—Total estimated cost £188,000, 23 classrooms, precast construction.

Elizabeth Grove—Total estimated cost £160,000, 23 classrooms, precast construction.

Elizabeth Park—Total estimated cost £135,000, 18 classrooms, precast construction.

Fulham—Total estimated cost £85,000, 10 classrooms, precast construction.

Fulham Gardens—Total estimated cost £129,000, 18 classrooms, precast construction.

Kirton Point (Port Lincoln)—Total estimated cost £65,000, 8 classrooms, brick construction.

Klemzig—Total estimated cost £88,000, 11 classrooms, precast construction.

Lockleys North—Total estimated cost £88,000, 12 classrooms, precast construction.

McLaren Vale—Total estimated cost £48,000, 5 classrooms, precast construction.

Mitchell Park—Total estimated cost £129,000, 18 classrooms, precast construction.

Mount Gambier North—Total estimated cost £116,000, 18 classrooms, to be built of Mount Gambier stone.

Netley—Total estimated cost £131,000, 18 classrooms, precast construction.

Seacliff—Total estimated cost £66,000, 8 classrooms, precast construction.

Warradale—Total estimated cost £128,000, 18 classrooms, precast construction.

And also to finance work on infant schools at—

Challa Gardens—Total estimated cost £65,000, 9 classrooms, precast construction.

Mount Gambier East—Total estimated cost £50,000, 8 classrooms, to be built of Mount Gambier stone.

Willsden—Total estimated cost £60,000, 6 classrooms, precast construction.

An amount of £19,000 is proposed to be spent on completing the additions at Hampstead and commencing a new wing of four classrooms at Hectorville primary school.

The sum of £137,000 is required for work on the following new technical schools:—

Elizabeth Girls'.—Estimated total cost £226,000, 12 classrooms, of precast concrete construction.

Gilles Plains Boys'.—Estimated total cost £125,000, nine classrooms, of timber-framed construction.

Gilles Plains Girls'.—Estimated total cost £106,000, nine classrooms, of timber-framed construction.

LeFevre Boys'.—Estimated total cost £301,000, 16 classrooms, of precast concrete construction.

An amount of £210,000 is required for major additions at technical schools, including further work at Croydon Girls' and Norwood Boys', and the commencement of work at the following:—

Croydon Boys'.—A new building to cost £173,000 on the same site as existing timber classrooms, which are to be retained. The new building will be of precast concrete and will contain 10 classrooms.

Port Adelaide Girls'.—A new building to cost £218,000, to be of precast concrete construction, and to contain 12 classrooms.

Whyalla.—A new wing to cost £140,000, to be of precast concrete construction, and to contain 11 classrooms.

The sum of £90,000 is required for a new area school of timber construction to accommodate 400 pupils at Parndana, Kangaroo Island, and £40,000 is provided for the completion of the additions at Eudunda and Oakbank area schools. The amount of £461,000 is required for new high schools. This provision is to cover further work at Bordertown, Loxton, Salisbury, Unley Boys', and Waikerie; and work at Seacombe Gardens, which is to be of timber construction, containing 15 classrooms, plus other services, to accommodate 600 pupils, and to cost £90,000.

The £358,000 for alterations and additions to high schools is required for the completion of the major works which I have referred to as being in progress at Brighton, Enfield, Findon, Marion, and Port Augusta. The sum of £160,000 is provided for craftwork and domestic arts centres. This is to cover the

completion of work in progress at Birdwood, Booleroo Centre, Kadina, and Mount Barker high schools, and for new works at Bordertown, Campbelltown, Henley South, Naracoorte, Port Augusta, and Urrbrae agricultural high schools; Orreroo, Snowtown, and Tumby Bay higher primary schools, and Cummins area school.

An amount of £73,000 is provided for work on adult education centres at Gawler and Mount Gambier; £315,000 for prefabricated buildings; £50,000 for furniture for new schools; £150,000 for a further grant to the School of Mines towards extensions to the Playford Building; £153,000 for the purchase of land for future schools; £65,000 for new residences; £10,000 for the purchase of land for recreation areas; £370,000 for miscellaneous small works as the need arises; and £20,000 for investigations and other preliminary works.

Police and Courthouse Buildings, £300,000.—The actual expenditure during 1957-58 was £172,000 and the major work carried out was on the Supreme Court additions where £48,000 of the total estimated cost of £235,000 had been spent to the end of the year. This work envisages a new five-floor reinforced concrete framed building containing the main library, offices for the Sheriff's Department and for reporting staff, an additional courtroom, accommodation for the Industrial Court, store rooms, work rooms, staff amenities and toilets.

The year also saw completion of the police station and divisional headquarters at Mount Gambier and the police station at Crystal Brook. Work commenced on combined police stations and courthouse buildings at Angaston and Kapunda, on single men's quarters at Mount Gambier, and on major additions to police buildings at Renmark. The provisions for 1958-59 are as follows:—

£10,000 is required for the commencement of work on a new police station at Port MacDonnell, the total estimated cost being £12,000;

£21,000 is proposed to be spent on continued work on Mount Gambier additions £12,000, and Renmark additions £9,000.

£15,000 is required for the commencement of work on new courthouses at Naracoorte and Port Pirie, of which £10,000 of the total estimated cost of £19,000 is to be spent at Naracoorte, and £5,000 of the total estimated cost of £17,000 at Port Pirie.

£86,000 is set aside for further work on the five-storey Supreme Court additions.

£93,000 is required for combined police stations and courthouses. At Angaston £23,000 is required for the construction of a new building; at Barmera £6,000 for the commencement of a £10,000 building; at Elizabeth £20,000 for commencement of a £74,000 building; at Kapunda £26,000 for the construction

of a new building; at Kingscote £8,000 for commencement of an £18,000 building; and at Morphett Vale £10,000 for commencement of a £12,000 building.

£20,000 is provided for new residences; £53,000 for minor alterations and additions to police and courthouse buildings as the need arises; and £2,000 for preliminary work on various projects.

Other Government Buildings, £450,000.—Actual expenditure in 1957-58 was £429,000, and the major works completed were the alterations and additions to the Rundle Street buildings at a total cost of £182,000, alterations to the bio-chemistry room at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science at a total cost of £65,000, and alterations to the photolithographic section of the Department of Lands at a total cost of £15,000. I shall comment on the principal works in progress as I deal with the proposed expenditures for 1958-59, which are as follows:—

£32,000 is required to complete workshops at Netley for the Architect-in-Chief's Department.

£50,000 is provided to complete construction of offices at Murray Bridge and Port Lincoln. The new government offices at Murray Bridge, which were over 80 per cent completed at the 30th June, are expected to be finished by December 1958, at a total cost of £35,000. Those at Port Lincoln, which were 40 per cent completed, are expected to be finished early in 1959 at a total cost of £52,000.

£65,000 is proposed to be spent to complete a new security block at Magill Reformatory. This block, which was 25 per cent completed at the end of June, is expected to be finished by December 1958, at a total cost of £84,000. This building is to be a single storey brick structure containing 22 cabins, amenities room, kitchen, dining room, and toilets. It is to provide secure accommodation for youths who are thought to be potential absconders.

£8,000 is required for extensions to the nursery at Seaforth Home.

£11,000 is provided to complete the building for the central sterilizing unit of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science. It is expected that the total cost will be £72,000; £5,000 is provided for Mount Gambier Gaol to cover the cost of 12 new cells, and conveniences; £15,000 is required for Port Augusta Gaol for the construction of 13 new cells, asphaltting yards, and extension of sewerage.

£20,000 is provided for the commencement of work at a new prison establishment at Cadell estimated to cost £320,000 in total. At this

prison farm citrus, stone fruits and vines will be grown under irrigation, and dairying and pig raising will be provided for. The establishment will be able to hold 120 prisoners.

£60,000 is provided for new residences, £15,000 for plant and equipment, and £169,000 for minor alterations and additions.

EXPENSES AND DISCOUNTS OF FLOATING CONVERSION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES LOANS, £400,000.—Although all flotation expenses and discounts are charged against this line in the first instance certain recoveries are made from departmental loan accounts and from activities conducted outside the Budget. The amount which is likely to be required each year is very difficult to estimate in advance, but £400,000 is provided this year as a reasonable cover.

TEMPORARY AND EMERGENCY HOUSING ACCOMMODATION, £21,000.—This amount is provided this year to cover such small jobs as may become necessary from time to time.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST, £500,000.—During 1957-58 the Trust completed 3,033 dwellings, of which 1,451 were in the metropolitan area, 649 in the country, and 933 at Elizabeth. Houses for sale totalled 1,674, comprising 1,069 single units of solid construction, 542 timber framed single units, 32 rural dwellings, 29 dwellings for ex-service-men settlers, and 2 double units of solid construction, while rental dwellings numbered 1,359, including 1,018 double units and 103 single units of solid construction, 161 flats, 64 cottage flats, 11 timber single units and 2 units under a scheme to provide low cost housing for persons of limited means in country towns.

At the end of June last the Trust had 2,357 houses under construction, including 909 in the metropolitan area, 447 in the country and 1,001 at Elizabeth.

At Elizabeth, the Trust's major construction project, the 933 houses completed in 1957-58 brought the total of completions at that centre to 2,504, and at the end of June 1,001 houses were under construction. The approximate population of Elizabeth at the end of June last was 9,250. During the year the first neighbourhood shopping centre, comprising 22 shops, was opened and satisfactory progress made on the erection of a second centre.

The Lyell McEwin Hospital, to have 45 beds initially, and the three-storey nurses' quarters, were well under way at the end of the year. The Trust's second largest project is at Henley Beach, where at the end of June last 385 houses had been completed and

a further 120 were under construction. The Trust had to carry out a major drainage scheme in this area, and on completion this was handed over to the local corporation for future control. At Whyalla the expansion of the activities of the Broken Hill Pty. Co. Limited has created a demand for further rental housing. Contracts were let in 1956-57 for 160 units, of which 62 had been completed to the 30th June last. The Trust recently let contracts for a further 150 rental houses and 25 single units for sale. During 1957-58 the Trust purchased an area of approximately 2,000 acres near the proposed refinery site at Christies Beach. At the appropriate time this will be developed into a new town site.

For 1958-59 the Trust plans to spend £10,286,000 on the construction of houses and associated works. Of this requirement, £5,311,000 will come from the Trust's internal funds, from the proceeds of house sales and from deposits. Under the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement the amount available will be £3,675,000, comprising £3,500,000 out of the State's allocation as I explained earlier, and £175,000 in respect of houses built for members of the defence forces. In connection with the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, the State can nominate precisely as much as it wants for housing. Although it means that we have less on the other Loan programme, we can get the allocation for housing. If we get £28,000,000 from the Loan Council and we desire to allocate £10,000,000 for housing, we have only £18,000,000 for other works, and we have to give a very much larger percentage to building societies, because under the agreement we have to give a certain percentage to them. This year I nominated a larger amount for housing than previously, and that is why the trust will have such a large amount available for its functions this year.

An amount of £500,000 is to be raised by the Trust from lending institutions and the public, and £300,000 remains of the sum of £368,000 received as a special grant from the Commonwealth last year and passed over to the Trust for the erection of houses for deserving and needy families in country towns. The sums available from these sources total £9,786,000, so that £500,000 will be required from State loan funds for the balance of the programme of £10,286,000. Of this figure, £8,791,000 will be required for progress work on 5,470 living units, comprising 2,357 under construction at the end of June last and 3,113 to be commenced this year.

The 5,470 units are expected to include 2,127 double unit houses for rental, 2,706 single unit houses for sale, 150 single unit houses for rental under the special country scheme, 362 units in two-storey flats, and 125 units in cottage and villa flats. The break up of the 5,470 units by location is expected to be 2,116 in the metropolitan area, 2,097 at Elizabeth and 1,257 in the country. Of these 5,470 units on which the Trust will be engaged, approximately 3,090 are expected to be completed during the year, and 2,380 to be under construction at the end of June next.

An amount of £795,000 is to be spent by the Trust this year on the purchase of land for future projects, £300,000 on roads, drainage schemes and other developmental works, £150,000 on the town centre at Elizabeth, and £250,000 on erection of shops and factories, head office accommodation, etc. In recent years this House has approved of the recording in *Hansard* of a table setting out the localities outside the metropolitan area in which the Trust has recently completed houses or has houses under construction. I have here a table setting out such information in respect of the year 1957-58, and also giving information about anticipated commencement during 1958-59. I ask that approval be given for it to be recorded in *Hansard* for the information of members.

Leave granted.

Town.	Houses Com- pleted, 1957-58.	Under Con- struction, 30/6/58.	To be Com- menced, 1958-59.
Aldinga	—	1	—
Ambleside	3	—	—
Angaston	—	3	—
Ardrossan	4	1	3
Ashton	—	—	1
Balaklava	—	3	—
Barmera	6	3	—
Berri	4	5	49
Bordertown	2	—	9
Brinkworth	—	—	1
Burra	—	—	2
Caltowie	1	—	—
Ceduna	1	—	1
Christies Beach	—	1	—
Clare	6	1	9
Cleve	1	1	—
Cockburn	3	—	—
Crystal Brook	—	5	13
Cookes Plains	2	—	—
Coonalpyn	1	—	2
Cowell	—	—	1
Frances	—	1	—
Freeling	—	1	—
Gawler	18	11	20
Gladstone	—	2	2
Halidon	1	—	—
Hallett	1	—	—
Iron Knob	—	—	1

Town.	Houses Com- pleted, 1957-58.	Under Con- struction, 30/6/58.	To be Com- menced, 1958-59.
Jamestown	—	4	1
Kadina	7	1	7
Kapunda	—	3	2
Karoonda	—	—	4
Keith	5	1	15
Kimba	—	—	1
Kingston, S.E.	—	—	2
Kongorong	1	—	—
Lameroo	—	3	2
Leigh Creek	1	—	—
Lobethal	—	3	2
Loxton	12	1	4
Lock	—	1	—
Lucindale	2	—	1
Maitland	1	1	2
Meadows	—	—	1
Meningie	2	—	3
Minlaton	1	—	10
Minnipa	1	—	1
Millicent	15	10	84
Moana	—	—	1
Modbury	1	—	—
Moorook	—	—	5
Mount Barker	6	7	4
Mount Gambier	184	115	80
Mount Lofty	1	—	—
Mundalla	1	—	—
Munno Para	—	—	1
Murray Bridge	12	12	16
Nairne	—	—	2
Napperby	—	—	1
Naracoorote	37	7	36
North Shields	—	—	1
Nuriootpa	1	—	3
Palmer	—	1	—
Parndana	—	—	1
Penola	4	5	9
Peterborough	—	4	2
Pinnaroo	1	—	4
Poochera	—	—	1
Poonindie	—	—	1
Port Augusta	33	51	16
Port Broughton	3	—	—
Port Germein	1	—	—
Port Lincoln	22	15	31
Port Noarlunga	1	—	—
Port Pirie	79	73	26
Port Victoria	—	—	1
Radium Hill	2	—	—
Reedy Creek	—	—	1
Renmark	9	7	11
Riverton	—	3	—
Robe	3	—	2
Roseworthy	1	—	1
Saddleworth	1	—	4
Salisbury	1	—	—
Snowtown	—	2	1
Stenhouse Bay	—	—	1
Stirling West	—	—	1
Strathalbyn	1	3	3
Struan	1	—	—
Swan Reach	1	—	—
Tailem Bend	4	—	8
Tanunda	—	3	—
Taylorville	—	—	2
Tintinara	1	—	1
Truro	—	—	1
Victor Harbour	1	—	1

Town.	Houses Com- pleted, 1957-58.	Under Con- struction, 30/6/58.	To be Com- menced, 1958-59.
Waikerie	1	—	6
Walleroo	—	—	7
Wanbi	—	—	2
Warooka	2	—	—
Whyalla	68	48	229
Wilmington . . .	—	2	—
Wirrulla	—	—	1
Woodside	1	3	—
Yankalilla	1	—	—
	588	428	781

In addition, 32 rural dwellings on farm properties and 29 houses for the Land Development Executive were completed during the year; there were nine and 10 houses respectively under construction at 30th June, 1958, and it is planned to commence 15 and 14 respectively during 1958-59.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—My report continues:—

ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, £2,000,000.—During 1957-58 the Trust spent £6,607,000 on capital works. Of this, £3,000,000 was from State loan funds and the remainder from loans raised by the Trust, depreciation funds and other funds in hand. Before dealing with the proposed programme for 1958-59, I shall give some details of the major capital works for last year.

Osborne "B" Power Station.—The sixth turbo-alternator of 30,000 kilowatts capacity and the eleventh and twelfth boilers were brought into service, increasing the capacity of the station to 180,000 kilowatts. Only minor works now remain to be carried out to complete the station, which was commenced in 1942. Of the total estimated cost of £11,300,000, approximately £11,100,000 had been spent to the end of 1957-58, so honourable members will see that this project is virtually complete.

Port Augusta "A" Power Station.—This station, designed for six boilers and three turbo-alternators, each capable of generating 30,000 kilowatts, had reached a capacity of 75,000 kilowatts at the end of 1956-57, when the three turbo-alternators and five of the six boilers had been installed. The sixth boiler was brought into service last year, increasing the installed capacity to its designed 90,000 kilowatts. Expenditure on this station during 1957-58 was £240,000, and up to the end of the year £9,400,000 had been spent out of the total estimated cost of £9,710,000. This station is also virtually complete. **Port Augusta "A" Station** is now using over 13,000 tons of Leigh Creek coal each week, and during 1957-58 it produced almost half of the total electricity output for the Trust's main system.

Port Augusta "B" Power Station.—The total estimated cost of this station is £15,200,000, and to the end of June last £1,500,000 had been spent, including £900,000 during 1957-58. This £900,000 was for the continuation of concrete work, the commencement of the erection of steelwork, and progress payments on generating equipment. The first turbo-alternator in the "B" Station will be commissioned in 1960. The station will be connected to the metropolitan system by two 275kv transmission lines costing approximately £1,700,000 each. To June 30, 1958, £230,000 had been expended on one circuit. A contract was let during last year for the second circuit.

At the Mount Gambier Power Station the third and fourth boilers and the third turbo-alternator were brought into service during 1957-58, increasing the capacity of the station from 6,800 to 11,800 kilowatts. A further boiler and turbo-alternator to be commissioned in 1958-59 will complete the station to its designed capacity of 16,800 kilowatts. The total cost of the station is estimated at £2,200,000, of which £1,770,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including £550,000 during 1957-58. The Mount Gambier station is burning wood waste from the timber mills in the district and is equipped to burn oil as an alternative fuel.

Transmission and Distribution System.—The total amount spent on the main transmission and distribution network during the year was approximately £3,000,000. This covered erection of new mains and substations for new consumers and alterations and additions to substations and mains to maintain supply to existing consumers. During the year 10,804 consumers were added to the Electricity Trust's system. Of this number 4,929 were consumers in country districts. In 1946, when the trust was established, consumers numbered 118,262. Now slightly more than one-quarter of a million consumers are supplied with power generated by the trust.

I now turn to proposals for 1958-59. The trust proposes to spend £8,666,000 on capital works during the year. To finance these works it will have £3,916,000 of internal funds and anticipates raising £2,750,000 from lending institutions and the public. The balance of the requirement, £2,000,000, is to be provided from State loan funds. The trust's expenditure during 1958-59 on major power stations is estimated at £3,006,000, including £213,000 for Osborne "A" and "B" stations, £40,000 for preliminary investigations for a new power

station, £138,000 for Port Augusta "A" station, £2,324,000 for Port Augusta "B" station, and £291,000 for general works at Port Augusta. At Osborne this year's provision is to cover the completion of civil works at the "B" station, the final payments in respect of generating equipment already installed, and payments for plant or services to meet the combined needs of the two stations.

For Port Augusta "A" station this year's provision is for final payments in respect of generating plant already installed, for civil works, for extension of various services, for the purchase of other plant and equipment, and for progress payments on a chimney stack for which tenders have been called. The purpose of this stack will be to emit the smoke at a height which will keep it clear of down-draughts and eddies caused by the presence of the power station buildings and so carry it clear of the town of Port Augusta. Wind tunnel tests carried out by the Aeronautical Research Laboratories of the Department of Supply in Melbourne have confirmed the estimates of the Chief Engineer that a chimney stack about 260ft. high will substantially decrease the dust nuisance from the Port Augusta "A" station.

The major expenditure on account of Port Augusta "B" station this year will be progress payments on generating equipment amounting to £1,562,000. It is expected that £307,000 will be spent on other electrical equipment and £235,000 on civil works. Provision is also made for payments in respect of plant and equipment for water treatment, for dust precipitation, and for handling ash, etc. Regional expenditure during 1958-59 is estimated at £547,000, including £71,000 for Port Lincoln region and £476,000 for South-East region. For Port Lincoln region the main expenditures this year will be for extensions of the system, but some small final payments remain to be made for the power station equipment.

For the South-East region the £476,000 estimated expenditure includes £242,000 for the Mount Gambier power station to cover payments for generating equipment, other plant, and station services, and £234,000 for distribution works. The sum of £4,130,000 is proposed to be spent by the Distribution and Supply Division. The major individual items within this provision are the 275kv transmission lines between Port Augusta and Magill, and the terminal substation at Magill. The West circuit transmission line, which will be completed by March 1960, is being constructed

partly by contract and partly by the trust's own staff. The East circuit is to be constructed almost entirely by contract. During this year it is expected that various extensions will add a further 10,500 consumers to the trust's system. The sum of £983,000 will be required for sundry items, including land, buildings, transport, pole manufacturing, design costs and capitalized interest.

THE LEIGH CREEK COAL FIELD, £100,000.—Capital works costing £104,000 were carried out at Leigh Creek coal field during 1957-58, but it was possible to finance them from depreciation and other funds so that there was no call on State loan funds. The main capital items were the construction of buildings at the north field, construction of bitumen roads in the township and to the aerodrome, and improvement of township services. The field is now capable of producing 1,000,000 tons of coal per annum, while present output is at the rate of about 700,000 tons per annum. Construction work still to be done is mainly associated with extending the coal loading facilities and improving the township and service facilities. Expenditure on these items in 1958-59 will be approximately £324,000, of which £224,000 is to be found from depreciation and other funds, leaving a requirement of £100,000 from State loan funds. When the field was first established we had few customers and much hostility and for many years heavy operating losses were incurred. Operations are now carried on at a profit and I expect that by the end of June next the losses incurred in the early stages will have been offset by the recent profits. There are always two accounts. The capital charge relates to money spent to provide the asset and the operating charges are those incurred in production. In the initial stages of the field full costs were not returned. The first £300,000 required was provided from surplus revenue. Speaking from memory, the capital cost of starting the field was about £4,000,000. This has all been wiped out. The operating costs were very heavy in the first two years, at one stage amounted to £300,000, but this has also been wiped out. I understand that the operating profit last year was £70,000.

MINES DEPARTMENT. Buildings, Plant, Etc., £125,000.—Actual expenditure in 1957-58 was £101,000, and for this year £125,000 is provided. Equipment to be purchased includes scientific instruments used by geological and geophysical parties in the field and laboratory equipment for experimental work in the

research and development laboratories. Additional seismic refraction equipment, costing approximately £15,000, is being obtained from the United States and this will be put into operation immediately it arrives. The Government has already concluded an agreement with Delhi Australian Petroleum Ltd. for use of the equipment in the search for oil in the north-east of the State. A rotary drilling rig, together with ancillary equipment, costing in all some £19,000, will be purchased to undertake drilling operations associated with the seismic survey. In accordance with the terms of the agreement, operating costs will be recouped by the company. Funds are also provided for replacement of worn out and obsolete workshop equipment, motor vehicles and drilling plants.

The geological investigations which have been taking place in connection with the Delhi-Taylor and the Santos group in the north-west of the State have, I believe, completely falsified earlier predictions that oil would not be found in South Australia. I am not selling oil shares. I neither own them nor buy them and I do not advise anyone to gamble in them; but I am now confident that oil will be found in Australia, and I place South Australia high on the list of likely sites. I say that with great confidence. The exploratory work carried out by the Santos group, the Delhi-Taylor group and the Mines Department has shown that there are promising structures in the interior of Australia. Although these were reported upon by the Government Geologist in the early history of the State, for some obscure reason they have been completely overlooked ever since. Oil is where you find it. No money we have spent in recent years has been better spent than that made available to the Minister of Mines for mineral surveys. A tremendous amount of development has taken place, undoubtedly due to the fact that the Mines Department has been strengthened by the appointment of competent officers, and sufficient funds have been provided by Parliament for extensive investigations, which in the final analysis, have been extremely profitable to the State.

URANIUM PRODUCTION.—Capital £100,000.—The actual expenditure through the Loan Account during 1957-58 was £54,000. Radium Hill expenditure of £45,000 covered completion of the railway spur line, construction of roads, improvements to the mill, additional transport, additional mining equipment, and town services such as septic tank installations.

The expenditure of £9,000 at Port Pirie was, in the main, on additional equipment and sealing of the road surfaces in the working area. Although construction at both Port Pirie and Radium Hill is now complete some capital expenditure will be required during 1958-59.

At Radium Hill it is estimated that £80,000 will be spent on additional mill equipment to improve recoveries, replacement and additional mining equipment, improvement to ventilation in the mine, improved change-house facilities for employees, and a power line to a new shaft, which it is anticipated will be worked during the coming year. In the town some further expenditure for septic tanks, roadways, and services will be incurred. For Port Pirie £20,000 is provided to supply additional equipment designed to improve recoveries and lower costs.

Tonnages mined at Radium Hill in 1957-58 were as estimated, and at Port Pirie the quantity of uranium oxide produced exceeded the estimate. The value of uranium exported was approximately £2,800,000, and £2,916,083 was received in cash for payment of this and earlier deliveries. Of this figure £1,944,444 in Australian currency (equivalent to 4,363,224 U.S. dollars) was from the United States, and £971,639 in Australian currency (equivalent to £777,311 sterling) from the United Kingdom. After payment of all operating expenses £1,100,000 was available against repayment of funds borrowed.

Operating expenses at both Radium Hill and Port Pirie were below estimate. The development programme at Radium Hill was maintained and included the completion of the main shaft to a depth of 1,380ft. The proceeds for the year 1958-59 are estimated at £2,600,000 (two-thirds in U.S. dollars and one-third in sterling). This is less than last year as the stockpile of Radium Hill concentrates has been reduced to a low level. After meeting working expenses it is expected that there will be a surplus of £900,000 to be credited against capital cost.

MUNICIPAL TRAMWAYS TRUST, LOAN TO, £300,000.—Actual advances to the trust from Loan Account in 1957-58 amounted to £700,000. During the year the trust completed the third contract for the purchase of diesel fuel buses to replace trams. This third contract was for 90 buses, and the final cost was £754,000. At the end of the year the fourth contract, which was for 78 buses, was well under way and some

£370,000 had been spent out of a total estimated cost of £660,000. The proposed payments of the trust for capital works this year amount to £587,000, of which £287,000 will be provided from other than State loan funds, leaving £300,000 to be provided on these Estimates. The sum of £314,000 is expected to be spent on the purchase of fuel buses. This will cover final payments in respect of the completed third contract and most of the remaining cost of the fourth contract.

The sum of £6,000 is to be spent on paving at Hackney North bus servicing depot and £27,000 on city depot re-arrangements, which are to provide for bus parking areas in the tram running sheds, tramcar maintenance facilities, and alterations to the administrative building. The sum of £25,000 is required for motor vehicles, plant and equipment; £210,000 for the restoration of roadways by contract; and £5,000 for furniture and fittings. In November, 1958, all the Trust's tram routes except Glenelg will have been converted to diesel bus operation. The modification of the existing workshops, the construction of new workshops, and the erection of repair and servicing facilities at Hackney will complete the Trust's rehabilitation programme.

METROPOLITAN AND EXPORT ABATTOIRS BOARD, £100,000.—During 1958-59 the board plans to carry out a capital programme totalling £217,000. The sum of £117,000 will be available from internal resources so that £100,000 will be required from State loan funds. The larger proposed expenditures of the Board are as follows:—

£150,000 for work on a meat hall to enable distribution of meat to be carried out more efficiently.

£17,000 for construction of air lock to enable cold stores to be used independently.

£15,000 for construction of a save-all to increase the recovery of saleable fats and solids, and to simplify the problem of disposal of waste.

£10,000 for ammonia recirculation equipment to give more efficient chilling at a lower operating cost.

For smaller works, including alterations and additions, equipment etc., £25,000 is proposed to be spent.

PUBLIC PARKS ACT, £5,000.—The Public Parks Act empowers the Government to acquire land for use as public parks in areas where there are insufficient open areas available to the residents. The Government may then transfer such lands to the local authority on such terms as it thinks fit. The sum of £5,000 is provided this year for these purposes.

PRINTING AND STATIONERY DEPARTMENT, £30,000.—Actual expenditure on plant, equipment, and stores last year was £35,000. The sum of £30,000 is provided this year for the purchase of a printing press, folding and enveloping machine, wire stitcher, tabbing machine, and minor items as required.

PRODUCE DEPARTMENT, £20,000.—Actual expenditure from Loan Account in 1957-58 was £16,000. The principal expenditures during the year were for installation of the first of two boilers at Port Lincoln and for improvement of refrigeration services at Port Lincoln and Light Square. For 1958-59, £12,000 is required to complete the installation of the two boilers and associated equipment at Port Lincoln and £8,000 for purchase of plant and equipment as required.

FISHING HAVENS, £100,000.—Actual expenditure from Loan Account in 1957-58 was £30,000 and work was carried out on slipways, jetties, or other services for the fishing industry at Beachport, Cape Jaffa, Port Lincoln, Rivoli Bay, Robe, Thevenard, and Venus Bay. The principal provision for 1958-59 is £72,000 for the construction of a slipway and ancillary workshops at Port Lincoln. The sum of £28,000 is provided for such small works as may be approved from time to time.

I have only given honourable members a factual survey of the actual work, but I would be remiss in my duty if I did not say that this programme is probably the most comprehensive this State has ever carried out and emphasizes the tremendous development that has taken place. We could not have financed half these works a few years ago. This programme is that of a State that is developing rapidly and efficiently. A programme of this magnitude covering such a wide range and containing so many works that will benefit this State, not next year or even in a few years, but probably in perpetuity, is one we could not have undertaken a few years ago.

In the programme special provisions have been made that are much larger than normal. These directly result from the development that is taking place. When members remember that the Education Department today has to cater for about double the number it had to cater for 10 years ago, that the rate of increase still continues, and that the percentage population increase in South Australia is much greater than that of any other State, they will see that this programme emphasizes the tremendous economic strength this State has achieved. That economic strength arises from

the fact that consistently over the last 10 years we have had large credits in our trading results overseas and, as far as I can ascertain, with other States; therefore, there has come into South Australia progressively new capital that has gone into the development of factories and many other activities. In turn, this has not only made it necessary that we undertake these gigantic works of expansion, but has also made it possible for us to do so. I move the adoption of the first line.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

WRONGS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. DUNSTAN, having obtained leave, introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Wrongs Act, 1944-1956. Read a first time.

HOLIDAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. DUNSTAN, having obtained leave, introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Holidays Act, 1910-1947. Read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 9.53 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, August 26, at 2 p.m.