

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.**

Wednesday, April 27, 1960.

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

**SUPPLY BILL (No. 1.)**

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by message, recommended the House of Assembly to make provision by Bill for defraying the salaries and other expenses of the several departments and public services of the Government of South Australia during the year ending June 30, 1961.

**SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.**

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by message, recommended the House of Assembly to make appropriation of the several sums set forth in the accompanying Supplementary Estimates of expenditure by the Government during the year ending June 30, 1960, for the purposes stated therein.

**APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 1.)**

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of the general revenue of the State as were required for the purposes mentioned in the Bill.

**QUESTIONS.****TRUST HOME TANKS.**

Mr. O'HALLORAN—I have received several suggestions from people in various parts of the metropolitan area and other parts of the State that the considerable drain on reticulated water would be removed by the encouragement to install rainwater tanks. I understand that in the early post-war period the Housing Trust, when it was building a substantial number of houses, did not provide rainwater tanks where reticulated water was available. Can the Premier say whether the trust provides rainwater tanks in all the homes it makes available for occupation, and, if so, whether it will continue to do so? If the trust gave a lead in this direction it would encourage private home owners to make similar installations. If the Premier cannot give any information on the subject now, will he have this matter looked into?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—I believe the Housing Trust has discontinued the practice of making rainwater tanks available in reticulated areas. The trust desires to build houses as economically as possible, and

any additional costs incurred ultimately have to be passed on in rent or the purchase price of the house. I will obtain a full report on the number of tanks provided, and also ascertain the trust's policy generally.

**WINE INDUSTRY INVESTIGATION.**

Mr. KING—Can the Premier say whether the Prices Commissioner has been able to help winemakers regarding price-cutting in the industry on the lower priced wines, and if so, what stage has the investigation reached?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The honourable member advised me that he desired some information on this matter, and I have obtained a report from the Prices Commissioner regarding it. I publicly commend the Prices Commissioner for the investigation he made into the wine industry, which, I think, was the first thorough investigation ever attempted in this State. The fact that the Commissioner was able to get information under an oath of secrecy probably provided him with information that could not have been provided in any other way. Subsequent to his report, I have had some correspondence with Mr. Elsworthy of the Wine Grapegrowers' Council, and I have told him by letter that, if the industry desires it, Mr. Murphy's services can be made available for a subsequent investigation before the next vintage. The Prices Commissioner reports:—

The price-cutting on lower priced wines which has been causing some concern in the wine industry was referred to the Prices Commissioner some time ago by the Government with a view to negotiating a set of price standards which would be both in the industry's interests and fair to the consumer of wine. The Prices Commissioner subsequently arranged a conference with wine-makers' representatives and I understand that this conference was held at a most harmonious level and that unanimous agreement was reached as regards an appropriate set of price standards. The department, however, did not consider that this agreement would be binding unless all winemakers were given full details of the scheme and their agreement sought. A total of 53 winemakers were then written to by the department and all have since forwarded their written agreement, although in two cases the agreement has been given conditionally, and a little sifting out of details will still be required. It is expected that the agreement will commence to operate early in May.

**SPRINGBANK TEMPORARY HOMES.**

Mr. FRANK WALSH—During the Address in Reply debate I made certain suggestions regarding the Springbank temporary homes. Some of the galvanized iron hutments have

been demolished and debris have been left. In the absence of the Minister of Works, will the Premier obtain a report from the Housing Trust on the estimated time that will elapse before the remaining galvanized iron hutments are demolished, and whether money can be made available for clearing the camp area generally where the emergency homes are to be retained?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—Yes.

#### NORTHERN DISTRICTS CASUALTY HOSPITAL.

Mr. CUMBE—Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked recently about the provision of a casualty hospital in the northern districts of Adelaide?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—I have received the following report from the Director-General of Medical Services:—

This matter has been raised in correspondence from the Corporation of Enfield on several occasions since November, 1959. I have nothing further at this stage to add to my minute to you dated February 10, 1960, herein.

In that minute the Director-General said:—

You will have read already my replies to the Town Clerk of the Corporation of the City of Enfield, in response to his request that a casualty section be provided at Northfield Wards. Some of the reasons which influenced my decision are:—

1. Already well organized and equipped casualty sections are provided at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and Port Adelaide Casualty Hospital, and also, I believe that casualty facilities are available at the Lyell McEwin Hospital at Elizabeth.
2. The time taken to transport patients from Enfield by ambulance to any of the established casualty departments or hospitals is only a matter of minutes.
3. It is possible that other districts may have as great, or even greater, claims than Enfield for increased hospital facilities, but the Enfield Council can be assured that full consideration will be given to their claims when it is decided that additional hospital facilities are to be provided in the metropolitan area.

#### ANZAC DAY TRAVEL WARRANTS.

Mr. BYWATERS—It has been brought to my notice that the policy was changed this year in relation to the issue of warrants to ex-servicemen travelling from the country to the city for the Anzac Day march. In the past, they have been able to get the warrants from secretaries of R.S.L. branches, but this year they had to apply to the Railways Department in Adelaide for their warrants. There

may be a good reason for this, but will the Premier take up the matter with the Minister of Railways and ascertain the reason for the change in policy?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—I was not aware that there had been a change in policy. The usual Cabinet approval was given in this matter and I did not see subsequently any recommendation for an alteration in the procedure. I will inquire and inform the honourable member in due course.

#### MELROSE BORE.

Mr. HEASLIP—Recently the Government purchased a bore about three miles from Melrose and the people of that town and district very much appreciated the Government's action in the matter. I received a letter from the Port Germein District Council expressing its appreciation. The bore is about three miles away from Melrose and is of no use to the town until it is connected. In the absence of the Minister of Works, can the Premier say whether there is any possibility of supplying water to the Melrose area in the coming season?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—I know some of the details that led to the purchase of the bore, as well as some associated with the work involved in connecting Melrose with the bore. I believe that it would be possible for the work to be included in the forthcoming Loan programme. I will check on the position but I imagine that the work would come within the scope of urgent work in next year's programme.

#### ROAD KERBING CHARGE.

Mr. FRED WALSH—My question relates to giving effect to the provisions of the Town Planning Act in regard to subdivisions, the construction of access roads, and the charges made subsequently on purchasers when the local council proceeds to construct the kerbing. It has nothing to do with the shoulder between the kerbing and the road provided by the subdivider, only the kerbing itself where the council charges 10s. a foot. In the absence of the Minister of Works, can the Premier say whether the council is competent to do this?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—Without looking up the Act, I believe that it is within the power of the council to charge a maximum of 10s. a foot. If I remember the amendments correctly—the matter was discussed at some length in this House on two recent occasions—10s. a foot is the total amount that the council can charge; therefore, any subsequent road work cannot be a charge for

moiety purposes. So that the honourable member will be able to inform his constituents on this matter I will get a full report from the Crown Solicitor.

#### TRANSFER OF TEACHERS.

Mr. CLARK—Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked on April 19 seeking details of the number of teachers transferred in the last three years from primary to secondary schools?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—The Director of Education has supplied me with the following information:—

(a) A total of 23 primary teachers were transferred or were posted on loan to secondary schools in 1958. Thirty-four more primary teachers were transferred or posted on loan in 1959, and 12 were transferred or posted on loan in 1960.

(b) Of these totals, the number transferred or posted on loan to high schools and technical high schools in each of the three years in question is as follows:—

	1958.	1959.	1960.
To high schools . . . . .	20	25	8
To technical high schools	3	9	4
Total . . . . .	23	34	12

(c) It is important to note that of the 23 transferred or posted on loan in 1958, five have already returned to appointments in primary schools, and of the 34 for 1959 four have already returned to appointments in primary schools.

It is expected that a number of others will return to appointments in primary schools as from the beginning of 1961.

#### DENTISTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Mr. LAUCKE—Is the Dentists Act Amendment Bill, which was introduced and passed in another place last session but subsequently lapsed in this House, to be re-introduced this session?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—Yes. It is the purpose of the Government at the appropriate time to move for the restoration of the Bill.

#### GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.

Mr. JENNINGS—The figures released in the report of the Public Service Commissioner in February last show that South Australia has 52 Government departments compared with 30 in Tasmania, 29 in the Commonwealth, 27 in New South Wales, 23 in Queensland, and 21 in Victoria. Does the Government intend to do anything about that following this report; or, on the contrary, as a variation of the old theme should we divide and confuse; or is it just a case of bureaucracy run wild under a supposedly free enterprise Government; or is the Government too busy

spending millions on the front page of the daily paper to worry about running its domestic affairs?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—It would be possible to amalgamate all the departments of the Public Service under one head, but that would not necessarily be conducive to efficiency. In fact, it would achieve just the opposite effect because it would create the position of a senior officer trying to deal with things with which he should never be worried at all. The Government does not intend to do much re-organization in the Public Service. Ministers prefer to deal with the heads of the individual departments who know the job they are doing. As far as I can see, there is no sense in merging two departments to deal indirectly with a matter that can be dealt with directly. We believe in decentralization.

#### SOFTWOODS TRADE.

Mr. HARDING—Has the Minister of Forests a report on softwood exports to Japan?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—The only logs that have been sent to Japan have been half a dozen or so samples of what the Woods and Forests Department has to sell. Some months ago there was an inquiry from a Japanese firm that wanted large diameter logs, of which our supplies are committed. On the other hand, the Woods and Forests Department has a large supply of small diameter logs for which it would like new markets. There have been no shipments of these to Japan.

#### GREATER PORT ADELAIDE PLAN.

Mr. TAPPING—I refer to the harbour development scheme that has been going on in Port Adelaide for some years, and particularly to the Serpentine Basin, known as the Lake plan, on the upper reaches of the Port River. I have before me an issue of the *Waterfront*, which comes to honourable members each month. It refers to the Lake plan. It reads:—

The South Australian Harbours Board plan is another step forward towards the realization of its Greater Port Adelaide plan. The project, still in its early stages, embraces 3,500 home sites and boat moorings to keep pleasure craft out of the Port River, a canal to the sea, and a marine drive. It will be financed through sales of reclaimed land.

Some years ago, when the Government brought down a Bill compulsorily to acquire land where this development scheme was necessary, it was mentioned by the then Minister, Mr. Malcolm McIntosh, that, when the reclamation was

brought about, the Housing Trust would be the building authority. Can the Minister tell me if the statement, that it is to be financed through the sales of reclaimed land, is true or has he plans to sell the land to the Housing Trust when the reclamation is completed?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The scheme is still very much in the planning stages and details have not been finally worked out as to precisely what authorities shall undertake various parts of the project, or just how finance for the project shall be raised. There have been discussions with the Housing Trust about certain matters, and other departments and the Harbors Board have been actively considering the most advisable means to adopt regarding construction and finance. I cannot enlighten the honourable member very much at this stage on the details of the project because they have not been determined. It will take a little time for all those things to be worked out. It is not determined at the moment in what order the various aspects of the scheme shall be worked out. It was suggested that first we might construct the channel and then the tidal basin, but later considerations suggest that it might be more advisable to consider reclamation within the basin itself prior to the construction of the channel; but the construction of the channel is an essential part of the whole project. The tidal basin could not be adequately utilized for the purposes mentioned without the channel giving access to the basin. I prefer at this stage not to enlarge on the matter because I cannot do so with certainty. I prefer that the honourable member direct his question to me later when further details can be given.

#### URANIUM WORKERS' EXAMINATION.

Mr. MCKEE—Has the Premier a reply to a question I asked recently about the medical examination of employees at the Port Pirie uranium treatment plant?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The health of all uranium workers in this State is carefully guarded in accordance with established overseas practices. These include regular checks on radiation level by dust counts, and measuring of radon gas at Radium Hill and Port Pirie to ensure it remains below the prescribed limits. During the past five years many such readings have been taken, and only on a few occasions has the prescribed concentration been exceeded. In each instance the excess concentration has been very local, and has been quickly reduced below the recommended level by local action, such as

improved ventilation, etc. It is the opinion of the inspectorial staff that no dangerous exposure to radiation has occurred at either Radium Hill or Port Pirie.

Medical health measures include X-ray examinations and the taking of blood counts on selected personnel. With respect to blood counts, it is incorrect to say the normal count is 8,000. There is a great variation in individual counts, which will be affected by minor illnesses, such as influenza, colds, boils, etc., and a normal series of personnel examined by doctors of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science gave counts ranging from 4,000 to 14,000.

The investigations relating to white cells carried out in South Australia are considered more exhaustive than in other countries, but even more thorough tests are being planned. Dr. Bonnin, Senior Pathologist of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, is personally very interested in this matter and during his present overseas trip has been requested to pay particular attention to any additional methods of safeguarding the health of uranium workers that can be implemented here.

Mr. MCKEE—Employees of the uranium treatment plant are experiencing anxiety in this matter, which I consider a very important one. Will the Premier advise the management to make these medical reports available to employees who desire to peruse them?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—I will take up that matter with the authority controlling the Port Pirie uranium treatment plant.

#### BULK HANDLING OF MILK.

Mr. JENKINS—Dairymen at Jervois and on the Murray flats desire to change from the can pick-up to bulk handling of milk which will necessitate legislation or an alteration to the regulations to authorize the change from purchase and delivery of milk from weight to the dipstick or measure method, such as operates in Victoria, and the installation of tanks in the dairy farm units. I understand that the Warden of Standards is in South Australia at present and that the Metropolitan Milk Board and the dairying branch of the Agriculture Department are not opposed to the change. In order that settlers may confirm tentative orders lodged in Victoria for tanks and to allow them to effect the change before the busy flush of the season can the Minister give an assurance that early consideration will be given to altering the regulations?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—The Milk Board is at present pursuing inquiries into this method of collecting milk. It is not unsympathetic to the suggestion but a number of technical and other considerations must be studied before any recommendations can be made. I assure the honourable member that the board is working on the problem and will not unduly delay giving a reply.

#### LOXTON REVALUATIONS.

Mr. STOTT—The Minister of Lands will recall that in February last his department wrote a letter to the Land Settlement Association at Loxton regarding the revaluation of holdings and stating that it was expected that the valuations would be completed by the end of April or early in May. Will the Minister state whether those valuations are in hand and whether they will be completed in time, and will he state the general position regarding the valuations?

The Hon. Sir CECIL HINCKES—I got that information for the honourable member recently. I have no further information but I shall inquire to see if there is anything further to report.

#### LABORATORY WORKERS' WAGES.

Mr. HUTCHENS—It has been reported to me that recently the daily workers at the Port Pirie uranium treatment works were granted marginal increases and there is some concern about whether daily workers at the Australian Mineral Development Laboratories at Thebarton and Parkside will receive similar increases. Will the Premier say whether they will receive marginal increases?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—As the two institutions the honourable member mentioned are not directly under the control of the Government I have not the information, but I will inquire and advise the honourable member.

#### SOUTH-EASTERN RAIL SERVICE.

Mr. RALSTON—Yesterday the Minister of Works replied to a question on notice concerning sleeping accommodation on trains to and from the South-East during Easter. Arising from that reply I desire further information on two points. Firstly, on the 8.50 p.m. Mount Gambier to Adelaide train on Thursday, April 14, 20 berths were provided but only 18 were occupied, although the report stated that 10 passengers were unable to obtain sleeping

berths. I should like a report on why the two berths were not occupied. Secondly, I would appreciate a report as to the procedure adopted to compile the record of inquiries mentioned in paragraph 4 of the question, and especially on whether the record included all inquiries made to the booking clerks concerned or only those persons who, on being informed that a berth was not available, left their names and addresses or telephone numbers in case of a cancellation.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—I will obtain a report.

#### WHYALLA INDUSTRIAL SITES.

Mr. LOVEDAY—Will the Minister of Lands say whether the sale of the old aerodrome at Whyalla has been completed and whether any further progress has been made in allocating industrial sites?

The Hon. Sir CECIL HINCKES—I have not the information available but I will inform the honourable member tomorrow.

#### MARRYATVILLE INFANT SCHOOL.

Mr. DUNSTAN—Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question relating to the Marryatville infant school?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—The Director of the Public Buildings Department has reported that the new infant buildings for the Marryatville school are planned for completion by school opening in February, 1962. Drawings are now being prepared and it is expected that a contract will be let by the end of this year to enable the buildings to be completed by February, 1962.

#### DERAILMENTS.

Mr. O'HALLORAN—Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question regarding derailments on the Cockburn to Port Pirie line?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—The Minister of Railways has furnished the following report from the Railways Commissioner:—

The derailment at Crystal Brook occurred on track laid with 63 lb. rails in 1949. This section was not scheduled for relaying. The derailment at Winninnie occurred on track laid with 80 lb. rails which also was not due for relaying. The results of the respective inquiries into each of these derailments have not yet come to hand.

#### BACILLUS FOR CATERPILLARS.

Mr. KING—In a programme presented by the Australian Broadcasting Commission on Monday night, a person calling himself Tom

the Naturalist, who conducts the programme, said that bacillus had been discovered in Europe which was specific against caterpillars but did not affect any other insects, that experiments with it in Czechoslovakia had proved successful, and that a very effective control over the caterpillar of the white cabbage moth had been obtained. It was also claimed that some success had been obtained in controlling codling moth. If this bacillus is effective it opens up a wonderful vista for this country in the control of such pests as the caterpillar of the Oriental peach moth, the vine moth, the citrus moth, and the tortrix moth. Has the Minister of Agriculture heard anything of this bacillus, and if not, will he inquire to see whether the benefits are as great as claimed or whether there could be harmful results to the caterpillar which controls prickly pear?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN—I have heard something of this matter but I have nothing to tell the honourable member at present. I will obtain a report.

#### OUTER HARBOUR BREAKWATER.

Mr. TAPPING—For some time work has been carried out at the Outer Harbour breakwater for the purpose of consolidation and the safety of vessels coming into the outer harbour and inner harbour. Over the past five years I have observed the progress of the work, which, although no doubt very costly, is most essential. As I have been questioned by many people regarding the extent of the work and the possible completion date, can the Minister of Marine provide any information on this matter?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON—Repairs to the north-western breakwater at Outer Harbour are about 50 per cent complete. The contractor (J. H. Leverington) started the work about the middle of 1958, and the Harbors Board expects that same will be completed before the winter of 1961, although this expectancy could be affected by weather conditions. The work is estimated to cost, when complete, £393,000. Expenditure to date is approximately £200,000.

#### HOUSING TRUST RENTAL HOUSES.

Mr. RYAN—Has the Premier a reply to my recent question regarding the number of outstanding applications to the Housing Trust for rental homes during the last three years?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD—The report I have received is not in the same terms

as the honourable member's question, but is as follows:—

Rental applications received by the Housing Trust during the last three years are as follows:—

1957 . . . . .	5,368
1958 . . . . .	5,299
1959 . . . . .	5,595

16,262

During these years the following number of families were housed in rental accommodation, both in new premises and as the result of vacancies. In many cases the applications were lodged before 1957.

1957 . . . . .	2,331
1958 . . . . .	2,407
1959 . . . . .	2,624

7,362

These figures do not apply to emergency applications or houses as it is common for applicants for and tenants of emergency houses to also apply for an ordinary rental house, but records have not been kept of the number of applications resulting from this duplication. Of the 1957-59 applicants, it can be assumed, on the past experience of the trust, that up to about 50 per cent have found other accommodation but have not notified the trust.

#### AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE COURSES.

Mr. HARDING—During the last 10 years there has been agitation, particularly among country school committees, for the provision of more agricultural science courses. Has the Minister of Education anything to report on this matter?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—Ten years ago agricultural science was taught in nine secondary schools, and today it is taught in 15 secondary schools. The names of the schools with agricultural courses are Urrbrae agricultural high school, Balaklava high school, Birdwood high school, Glossop high school, Mount Barker high school, Mount Gambier high school, Murray Bridge high school, Naracoorte high school, Nuriootpa high school, Renmark high school, Brinkworth area school, Cummins area school, Eudunda area school, Oakbank area school and Yankalilla area school. I am extremely anxious to have similar courses in agricultural science established at other country high schools and area schools. Unfortunately, the limiting factor is the lack of suitably qualified teachers in agricultural science, but that is rapidly being overcome by the training of a number of very talented young people in the special course in agricultural science, and as a result I hope that these courses will soon be extended to several other country high schools and area schools.

## CHAFFEY DRAINAGE SCHEME.

Mr. KING—Some time ago I introduced a deputation from the Chaffey Settlers' Progress Association to the Minister of Lands when he was in that area. That association presented a petition, signed by all the growers in that area, asking for a drainage scheme for the area, a World War I settlement area. Can the Minister of Lands say what progress has been made with the investigation, and whether it will result in something tangible being done in the district before very long?

The Hon. Sir CECIL HINCKS—I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

## GAWLER ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE.

Mr. CLARK—Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question regarding building operations at the Gawler adult education centre?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON—I regret the delay which has occurred in the erection of the building. As the honourable member is aware, the delay has been occasioned because of problems connected with sewage disposal and the acquisition of additional land. However, those problems have now been resolved, and the Public Buildings Department is proceeding with the planning of the building and its erection on the site. It is not possible at this stage to say with any degree of accuracy when building operations will commence, but I sincerely hope that it will be very soon. I have informed the honourable member on several occasions, verbally and in writing, that the building is absolutely necessary, and the planning is proceeding.

## ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.

(Continued from April 26. Page 299.)

Mrs. STEELE (Burnside)—In rising to support the motion I feel much more at home than I did last year when I rose to make my first speech in this House as a new member.

I share with other members great joy at the birth of a son to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Philip. By this birth the line of succession has been strengthened and assured. With other members and all other loyal subjects of Her Majesty, I am delighted at the forthcoming marriage of Princess Margaret. I pay a tribute to Sir Robert and Lady George who left our shores some weeks ago. In all matters that had the welfare of the State at heart they, as Vice-Regal representatives, were always wholly and

personally interested. I feel sure that they will carry on the traditions of previous Vice-Regal representatives and prove themselves great ambassadors for South Australia. I add my tribute to Sir Mellis Napier who has so wonderfully filled the role of Lieutenant-Governor when the Governor has been absent from the State or pending the appointment of a new representative of the Queen. I hope that the Government will follow the policy that has always been followed and appoint a Governor from overseas.

We were all delighted at the honour conferred upon the Minister of Lands in the last New Year honours. I feel sure that it was a richly deserved reward, for Sir Cecil has given outstanding service to the State. When talking of honours the name of Miss Daphne Gunn comes to mind. I have been associated with her over the years in the work of assisting physically handicapped children and I know the outstanding service she has given. Like all other members I was shocked when I heard of the death of Mr. Hambour. I will never forget his kindness, help and advice to me when I came here as a new member. I was very moved when travelling in his electorate last week to hear the many personal tributes paid to his memory by people who had received kindness and help from him. The incoming member for Light will receive the same warm friendliness that is typical of this House, but he will face a difficult task in following on such an outstanding member as the late George Hambour.

Recently in South Australia we held an outstanding historical event. I refer to the Festival of Arts and the contribution it made to the State's cultural and artistic life. Although the case can be put more capably than I can do it, there is a need in Adelaide for a hall where productions worthy of a Festival of Arts can be staged. Some time ago I noticed that it had been suggested that one admirable site could be found on the banks of the River Torrens. Along with the progress that this State is making in a material sense we should, if we are to hand down anything of worth to posterity, cater for the aesthetic and spiritual values in this State's community life. I congratulate the Adelaide City Council on the wonderful parklands development that is taking place, and with it I couple the name of Mr. Veale, the Town Clerk of Adelaide, whose inspiration I feel is responsible for the tremendous development that is going on. He went overseas and came back with the latest ideas, which he put to the City Council. We

must thank both the council and Mr. Veale for the changed appearance of our parklands. Each day as I come into the city I pass a transformed eastern parklands. At weekends and on holidays it is a joy to see the Adelaide people enjoying the facilities provided for them and to see the number of people who avail themselves of the opportunity to partake of meals in the open air by using the barbecues provided in the parklands.

It is pleasing to all of us that the season has opened very well, and we hope that the rains that have fallen will be a precursor of good rains to come later. The rains have changed the outlook and evidence of that can be seen in the agricultural areas. I was interested when in the country last week to see the steps taken to counter soil erosion and the efforts being made by farmers in contouring and ploughing their properties. We must thank the skilled officers of the department whose services and advice are at the disposal of men on the land, and who render such sterling service to the State. I pay a tribute to the work done by a woman member of the Agriculture Department. I refer to Miss Dorothy Marshall, organiser of the Agricultural Bureau (Women's Branches). Under her inspired guidance this organization has grown and is providing wonderful opportunities for women to play their part alongside men on the land. It conducts all sorts of classes and leadership groups, and it helps the women to appreciate the problems facing their husbands. We have a number of women scientists who are playing an important part in the field of agriculture. Many of them are to be found at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute and working for the C.S.I.R.O. The State is fortunate to have the wonderful resources and facilities existing at the institute and advantage is taken of them by men confronted with various agricultural problems. I refer now to the herbarium at the Botanic Gardens to which a keeper from overseas was recently appointed. I should like to see the Government take some positive steps to improve the conditions under which the botanist at the herbarium is working so that he may carry out his job to the best possible advantage. If he is given adequate staff and facilities a good opportunity exists for the re-editing of that wonderful journal compiled by the amateur botanist (Mr. Black) entitled *Flora and Fauna of South Australia*, which needs to be brought up-to-date.

Quite recently, during the recess, I was able to visit various parts of the State and

on one occasion I was for some days in the South-East, where I was very impressed by the things I saw. Most parts of that area usually have a better rainfall than other parts of the State and the part I saw was in particularly good condition. I was taken around the district by a member of the Upper House and visited the land settlement areas at Penola and Eight Mile Creek where I saw some of the problems confronting the settlers. I was much impressed, when coming back from Naracoorte to Keith, to see the irrigation that is carried on in that area and in the country surrounding Keith and Naracoorte. Great quantities of water are available there at shallow depths and in many instances over 100,000 gallons an hour is being pumped out and used to irrigate the land.

The forests of the South-East impressed me. They were mentioned in the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, which outlined the Government's forestry plans. It was interesting to see the Mount Gambier mill, which is the best of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, and also the adjacent powerhouse for which fuel is supplied from offcuts and waste taken from the mill. I believe that a similar powerhouse is to be established at Nangwarry. At Snuggery there are two big mills. One belongs to Apcel and the other to Cellulose, and they will use offcuts and log timber from the mills in that area. The Lieutenant-Governor's Speech also referred to plans for another company that is to make some kind of hard board. All of these factories will provide outlets not only for the Government mills but for private forestry interests and will use the waste products from the mills.

The country visits I made in the recess have been of inestimable value to me as they enabled me to appreciate the problems of other parts of the State and of other sections of the community. As members of Parliament we serve the State in a broad sense even though our main responsibilities lie within the electorate we represent. In my own electorate of Burnside I have become accustomed to seeing work being carried out in many places in past months. Pipelines and mains that have been down for many years are being replaced to give the residents of those areas a better water supply. I am constantly being asked by the people who are building in the foothills whether I can do anything to facilitate the provision of water and sewerage services in those areas. This is

a recurrent problem and one that I know people who have bought properties and land and who have built houses were warned against long before they started to build homes. I was glad that recently some prominence was given to this by the Minister in charge of that service, and I was also pleased to see further publicity given in order to discourage people from buying allotments for speculative purposes. In several places in my electorate there are instances of subdivision where great expense has been incurred to build the roads that were required under the Town Planning Act before the property could be sold. Those roads are now falling into decay and others in places where they are on slopes are being eroded by water courses. Some are practically overgrown and that is evidence of a terrific waste of money. The people who buy the allotments have to pay for these improvements and something should be done to discourage people from buying land in those areas and speculating when they know that they cannot get the public services and amenities to which they feel they are entitled. The sooner that is done the better it will be.

In Burnside consideration must soon be given to the expansion of the existing transport services in what is becoming a rapidly developing area. I notice with appreciation also in that electorate that provision is made for the erection of new schools. A new primary school is to be erected at Magill and that has been recommended by the Public Works Committee at a cost of £115,600. This school will consist of 12 classrooms, library, general purposes room, administrative rooms, toilets and shelters. The Campbelltown high school, which is serving a very big area, is to be completed at a cost of £263,800 and the date for its completion has been set at February, 1962. During question time the member for Norwood asked a question about the Marryatville infant school, and I was pleased he did so because that is in my electorate. The answer given by the Minister of Education also pleased me. It appears that the member for Norwood and I are going to do a two-way swap, because he gets an infant school and I get the Norwood high school, which occupies an excellent site and is nearing completion. Another thing I am pleased about is that the Adelaide technical high school is to be located in the area I serve. It is to be built on a site in Frewville and I am interested because I had a finger in the pie when negotiations were going on for the school. The school will be close to transport and excellent playing facilities will be available nearby.

Two of the main roads in the area have been completely resurfaced—Portrush and Greenhill Roads—and I am pleased that a by-law has been laid on the table of the House making provision for the widening of Greenhill Road which will make for future development. That is a wise step. Other main roads in the area badly need resurfacing. I refer to Glynde Road and St. Bernard's and Newton Roads. Those roads serve an area that is growing at a tremendous rate and it will not be long before something will have to be done to improve the main roads in the area.

I come now to a subject in which I am particularly interested, namely, the decision by the Government to provide transport for physically handicapped children. I am well acquainted with this problem because I was chairman of the committee which negotiated this proposal and prepared the report that was presented, in the first instance to the Minister of Education. At first each institution dealing with the education of handicapped children was asked to pool its ideas on what it felt were the basic requirements. All the organizations—the Crippled Children's Association, the Suneden Home for Children, the Oral School, the occupation centres and every school providing facilities for the education of physically handicapped children—were anxious to participate in this scheme. A case was presented to the Minister in 1955, but because of lack of finance it was rejected. In 1958 we were given the green light, re-prepared the case, and presented it for consideration by Cabinet. As a result £9,000 was provided on the Estimates to carry out the scheme, but nothing was done in that financial year, the report being referred to a committee appointed by the Minister of Education. It was found that the scheme could probably be carried out more economically if private taxis were used, instead of buses as originally suggested, to bring the children to school and return them to their homes. The estimated cost dropped to £5,000 and eventually, towards the end of last session when this report was published, the committee appointed by the Minister considered that it could be done on a very limited scale for a little more than £2,500.

It was felt that that was the beginning of a very badly needed transport scheme, and I know from experience that this is working very well at the moment. Most of the organizations benefiting from it are concerned with mentally retarded children and children attending the pre-school at the South Australian oral school for deaf children. These children cannot travel

by public transport. The parents of the children were incurring much hardship and were put to physical inconvenience because they had to accompany the children to and from school. These parents are now contributing to the transport scheme on the basis that the Government provides two-thirds of the cost and the parents one-third. I think that because the parents are helping in this contributory scheme they are anxious to see it work satisfactorily, and they are far happier than they would be if it were completely financed by the Government. There is one difficulty I would ask the Minister to consider, and I know he has the power to do so. Many children who attend ordinary public schools or private schools have great difficulty in getting to and from the schools. Often their parents suffer hardship because they have to get them to school and in many instances pay quite large sums for transport. I would ask that these cases be considered on their merits and where possible these children, if their case is worthy, should be brought within the orbit of that scheme. I am hopeful that later the full plan that was prepared over a long period and with great care may be adopted by the Government.

Last year when I spoke on this debate one of my main subjects was the question of juvenile delinquency. I have been most interested to read in the press the impressions gained by members of the Public Works Standing Committee on their recent visit to other States to study the systems set up there. I have been rather gratified to find that some of the things I suggested in my speech last year were included in the Lieutenant-Governor's Opening Speech. I refer principally to the necessity to provide cottage homes for children who are under the care of the State. I am also pleased that reference is made regarding the consolidation and amendment of the law relating to juvenile courts, as advocated by me in my speech last year. I think this will be a step in the right direction. I reiterate that until we have in South Australia a proper staff training scheme to provide the personnel to deal with the question of juvenile delinquency at its source, namely, the home, so that parents may be given the benefit of skilled and trained social workers, I think we shall always have the problem with us. Prevention is much better than cure. Although it will cost a considerable sum to set up a staff training scheme, it is only what has been done in other States, and sooner or later I feel that we must come around to it here.

If money is saved by not proceeding in full with the proposed building at the Magill Reformatory, there will be money which could be well utilized in the provision of a staff training scheme.

Last week much attention was called through the press to a new society that has been formed called the Society of Sponsors, which has as its chairman no other person than Mr. Scales, S.M., who is the magistrate presiding over the Juvenile Court. No-one in South Australia knows the problems of neglected children better, and the very fact that he is chairman must give confidence to the public. The idea is similar to Legacy—that people shall offer themselves, as I think Mr. Scales said at the meeting, as uncles to these children so that they may be given some of the security and affection they have lacked as a result of their parents deserting or neglecting them. I commend the new society to honourable members and feel that it will make a worthy contribution to the social life of the State.

When I was in the South-East recently I visited the Struan Farm, and I am afraid I have had to revise my opinion regarding its usefulness in trying to combat the problem of juvenile delinquency. Here is a most valuable property of which not adequate use is being made under the present set-up. The boys are not there long enough to really benefit from the farm training, and therefore I feel that the property is not being used to its fullest advantage and that it is serving very little purpose in rehabilitating the boys. This comment in no way reflects on the splendid men in charge of Struan, but I feel, after having seen the property, and having a little personal knowledge of what should be done to develop it, that it could probably be used to much greater advantage and brought up to its full productive capacity.

I now want to say a few words on behalf of that group of people who over the years have given loyal and devoted service to South Australian Governments and the people of the State and who in a period of inflation, such as we are now experiencing, should have consideration given to them because of the unfavourable position in which they find themselves. I refer to retired public servants who are entitled to superannuation benefits, and particularly to those pensioners who retired prior to 1949. I have prepared a table showing the position in the various States and in the Commonwealth service and ask that it be incorporated in *Hansard* without its being read.

Leave granted.

## Retirement at 65.

## SALARY £1,000.

	Vic. £ s. d.	Q'ld. £ s. d.	W.A. £ s. d.	Tas. £ s. d.	C'wth. £ s. d.	S.A. £ s. d.
Max. pension	682 10 0 15 units	672 0 0 16 units	682 10 0 15 units	669 10 0 38 units	682 10 0 15 units	637 0 0 14 units

## Contributions.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Age 20 .	28 12 6	30 0 0	28 14 11	33 9 2	26 3 8	34 2 0
Age 30 .	43 10 1	51 16 0	45 2 9	55 4 9	42 11 8	54 4 0
Age 40 .	72 0 5	97 12 0	73 15 3	91 9 4	68 15 3	91 16 0

## Retirement at 65.

## SALARY £2,000.

	Vic. £ s. d.	Q'ld. £ s. d.	W.A. £ s. d.	Tas. £ s. d.	C'wth. £ s. d.	S.A. £ s. d.
Max. pension	1,137 10 0 25 units	1,092 0 0 26 units	1,183 0 0 25 units	1,014 0 0 62 units	1,137 10 0 25 units	1,228 10 0 27 units

## Contributions.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Age 20 .	47 12 9	48 10 0	47 14 7	54 6 4	43 11 3	65 6 0
Age 30 .	72 5 11	83 16 0	75 0 2	89 15 8	70 16 6	103 18 6
Age 40 .	119 16 5	158 2 0	122 12 10	148 16 6	114 7 9	176 6 0

Mrs. STEELE—For the purposes of comparison, I will quote a few instances to show the disparity between the funds operated in the other States and that in South Australia. The table is based on retirement at 65, and because the New South Wales rates represent retirement at 60, I have excluded that State from the table. A public servant in South Australia retiring on a salary of £1,000 can take out 14 units to give him a maximum pension of £637 a year. In Victoria, Western Australia and in the Commonwealth service a man in the same position could take out 15 units to give him £682 10s., a difference of £45 10s. The annual contribution in South Australia would be £34 2s., compared with £28 12s. 6d. in Victoria, £28 14s. 11d. in Western Australia, and £26 3s. 8d. in the Commonwealth fund.

A man on £2,000 a year in South Australia can take out 27 units to give him a maximum pension on retirement of £1,228 10s. a year. Under the Victorian and Commonwealth funds the same man can have up to 25 units to give him £1,137 10s. and in Western Australia the same number of units would bring him a maximum pension of £1,183. Admittedly, the South Australian would be getting a bigger pension—£91 greater than in Victoria and in the Commonwealth service, and he would be

£45 10s. better off than a man in Western Australia, but to get that the South Australian has to pay £65 6s. a year compared with £47 12s. 9d. in Victoria, £47 14s. 7d. in Western Australia and £43 11s. 3d. in the Commonwealth service. These contributions are based on the minimum age of 20 and they get progressively higher according to the age of a man when he enters into the scheme. For further instances of disparity, honourable members will be able to study the table. However, I think I have given enough information to show that there is a real case for an increase in the South Australian pensions. Briefly and broadly, it means that South Australian contributors are paying about one-third more for their benefits than is the case in Victoria, Western Australia and the Commonwealth, and 10 per cent more than contributors in Tasmania. Retired servants of the South Australian Government are getting less for their money than the servants of other States and the Commonwealth, and this is not a very satisfactory state of affairs. Even in the face of reduced funds because of the recent bad season, if the Government could raise its contribution by 3 per cent, the unit of pension could be raised from 17s. 6d. to £1. So that the impact of such an increase should not be felt in any one year the increased provision could be staggered. For example, if the

concession granted to pensioners who retired prior to 1949 were extended to say 1953 in 1960, to 1956 in 1961, to 1959 in 1962, and to all pensioners in 1963, the additional cost each year would be reduced to less than £25,000. Furthermore, the concession already granted to the 1949 pensioners would then be much reduced and offset against these sums. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. RYAN (Port Adelaide)—First, I offer my condolence to the family and relatives of the late Mr. George Hambour. In my short term as a member of this House I had much to do with him and received some really good advice on numerous occasions; and although I could not see eye to eye with his political views, I learned to respect him as an individual. I thank honourable members on both sides of the House for the advice and guidance I have received as a new member over the last 12 months, and I thank especially the staff of the House. They have been extremely good in their advice and anything I have asked has always been readily given. The most important thing that has happened in recent weeks as regards this Parliament was the by-election last Saturday when, although the Government won the seat of Light, the Australian Labor Party had a moral victory.

Mr. Jenkins—Don't kid yourself!

Mr. RYAN—I am not. The only kidding done in this House is by members on the Government side. The *Mail* on Sunday under big headlines announced that the election was a Liberal win, but that there had been a 12 per cent swing to Labor. However, the *Advertiser*, which has a vastly different attitude on political matters, did not stress the swing to Labor. One would need a microscope to read its comment on the percentage loss sustained by the Government in each subdivision. After the result was known, the Premier said he was extremely satisfied. However, I believe that when he made that statement he must have had not only one tongue in his cheek, but a tongue in each cheek. If he said that he was satisfied with such a result, which would ultimately defeat the Government of this State, I cannot see how that can be a true statement. The figures show that not even one subdivision in the whole of the area of Light was won by the Government by its previous majority. I know the Government will use the argument of personality. On this occasion both candidates entered the field from

scratch. Therefore, the by-election was fought on the political ability of both candidates—for there were really only two. The third candidate was an also-ran in respect of whom the revenue has benefited by £25. It should be more than that, for it would certainly stop some people from entering the field when they knew they had no hope whatsoever, as was the case on this occasion.

The figures disclose that in each subdivision there was an increase in the vote for the Australian Labor Party candidate. If the Premier can say that he is satisfied with that result, there must be something wrong with him. Now that the campaign is over, it is rather interesting to read the speech made by the Premier in opening the campaign. I refer to the policy defined by the Premier on Tuesday night, April 12:—

Sir Thomas Playford appealed last night to the voters in the Light by-election on April 23 to avoid a stalemate in the House of Assembly by returning the L.C.L. candidate, Mr. Nicholson. Speaking at a well-attended meeting—

I do not know whether it was well attended, on the actual figures—

at Eudunda the Premier said he made a personal request for support for Mr. Nicholson. He said, "The numbers in the House are evenly balanced and if we lost Light the balance would be disrupted."

Mr. Fred Walsh—The *News* said the same thing.

Mr. RYAN—That is true. The report continues:—

In the interests of stability—

I do not know whether it is in the interests of South Australia at present—give me a majority to enable me to do the job. Honourable members will note he said "me"; I thought it was the L.C.L. Party.

The result of a stalemate can only be detrimental to all sections of the community . . . The Government's policy has also helped to create the population increase in South Australia and South Australia was now taking 15 per cent of Australian new migrants. As far as policy was concerned, I do not think during the whole of this campaign we heard of any policy at all from the Government's side.

Mr. King—Or from the Labor Party.

Mr. RYAN—The Labor Party put out a certain policy that it was prepared to publish, from which the Premier, as he had done on numerous occasions in the past, saw fit to take what he considered was the best and bribe the electors of Light once again. On the Wednesday night in his broadcast—"Playford's Fantasy" I think it is called now;

each Wednesday night we hear his broadcast in opposition to the policy of the A.L.P., which is factual—the Premier came out and offered a cut in the rural power rate of 10 per cent.

Mr. Heaslip—He did not offer it; he did it.

Mr. RYAN—Now that the L.C.L. candidate has been returned by an extremely reduced majority, many people in that area will receive a shock at what is going to happen. The price of the electricity used in the households in that area will not be affected. Electricity will continue to be charged for at the present domestic rate and the new rates will not operate until August 1 of this year. It is in direct contrast to the various requests made in this House many times by the honourable member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip) and to what was often requested by the late member for Light. It is interesting occasionally to mention what was said in the past by various honourable members. I refer now to a question asked by the late member for Light, reported in *Hansard* (1956-57) at page 251:—

Recently I asked the Premier questions relating to electricity charges in rural areas. Has he a reply regarding surcharges, the method of charging interest on capital costs, and the acceptance of full payment for installation to the consumer?

The Hon. Sir Thomas Playford replied:—

I have had prepared a full report, and as it is lengthy, I ask leave to make a statement. I do not intend at this stage to read the statement made by the Premier, but I think the first line of it answers the question often raised by the honourable member for Rocky River and by the late member for Light. It is: "The cost of supplying electricity increases with the distance from the power station."

Mr. Heaslip—It also covers surcharges.

Mr. RYAN—The statement covers two pages, but the first sentence answers the question raised. When the position is in reverse for the people of Light, and electricity goes through that area before it reaches the metropolitan area, the Premier does not give the same answer, and we still have the same charges for that district.

Mr. Heaslip—As the honourable member seems to be very good at figures, can he tell the House what the consumers will lose by the strike of the waterside workers?

Mr. RYAN—I wish the honourable member would stick to facts. The waterside workers are working; there is no strike by them. There may be by some other union.

The Hon. Sir Cecil Hincks—Not all are working.

Mr. RYAN—Because they cannot all get a job. They would be working if they could get work, but they cannot all be employed. I have nothing to do with the members of other unions. I represent the district of Port Adelaide, but it does not mean that I represent every union in my district.

The Hon. Sir Cecil Hincks—Can the honourable member state what the loss will be?

Mr. RYAN—I am one who in the past, present and future has always pointed out, am pointing out, and shall always point out the fallacy of the severe imposition of the penal clauses of the Arbitration Act. As soon as they are removed we shall get more peace in industry. If people inflict penal clauses, they must expect the people they affect to reject those clauses.

The Hon. Sir Cecil Hincks—The honourable member only believes in arbitration when it suits him.

Mr. RYAN—I am a believer in it. I do not subscribe to the wild statement made by a member of the Government Party in another place in which he criticized the arbitration system. I will criticize the present Government of this State because, each time it is considered necessary to make representation in the Arbitration Court on behalf of the workers for increased wages, this Government sees fit to make representation in opposition to those claims; yet last week we observed that the rise in the cost of living in South Australia was the highest of any capital city of Australia. That does not tally with the Government representative appearing in the Arbitration Court to oppose a claim for increased wages.

The Premier knew from its pamphlet what the Labor Party was advocating to the electors of Light. It emphasizes the fact that, so far as electricity charges were concerned, once again the Premier saw fit to steal something offered by the Opposition and offer it to the electors of Light. Once again, it was a case of bribery by the Government. I do not believe that any honourable member on the Government side knew anything about this until he read it in the paper, because I do not think the Premier would have told them.

Mr. Bockelberg—There is an error in that.

Mr. RYAN—It may be an error to the honourable member concerned but not to me. I repeat that during the policy speech the Premier mentioned the Labor Party three or four times, but he mentioned the L.C.L. only once, when he said, "Vote for the L.C.L. candidate." He said, "Give me the vote." It was not a plea: it was a scream by the

Premier. He fully considered what it meant as far as he or the Playford fallacy was concerned. As has happened in other parts of Australia recently, it has been a moral victory for the Labor Party. It is not very often that the press of South Australia comes out and predicts the defeat of the Government in South Australia. I presume that some members opposite would not be very pleased to read that. An article published last night in the *News* spoke of "the same swing" in South Australia as in Victoria, so it is applicable not only to one State but to all States. It said that the same swing in a General Election could swing seven seats to the Labor Party. That is true. It is not published year after year by the press of South Australia that such a swing could put a Labor Government back in office in South Australia. It is interesting to note, of course, that, even though other people may decide to run against the Labor Party, the press says that it would make no difference whatsoever because it would give the Labor Party an additional three seats irrespective of the opposition. It is quoted in the *News*. The honourable member for Unley (Mr. Dunnage) can swing his arms round but he may be swinging them round at the next election in Unley.

Mr. Dunnage—Everybody says that about me!

Mr. RYAN—The member for Unley's seat is mentioned as one of the seven that will ultimately swing back to the A.L.P.

Mr. Dunnage—For 20 years they have been saying that.

Mr. RYAN—Everything comes to an end and the honourable member's days as a politician are nearing their end. I have heard no praise by the Government of the results of the by-election. I read that the members of the Government have fallen down on their job, have been accused of not doing their job in the past. The *News* reports:—

A Liberal and Country League spokesman said, "The result is satisfactory"—

I do not know what he means by "satisfactory"; he must have a different dictionary from mine—

"taking into account the issues. In fact, it will do more good than harm, because it shows that we cannot sit back. We have to get out and work."

Members of the Government side have been sitting back for 26 years. Their spokesman says they have to get out and work. I encountered some of the Government members working

in the Light district. They resented the fact that they had to follow suit as regards our application to organizing, because, even though Parliamentary duties may be a sideline for Government members, the members of the Opposition throw everything into their jobs, including organizing. We were never accused of not getting out and doing a job.

Mr. Jenkins—There were very few in the House at that time.

Mr. RYAN—On the honourable member's side. They get corns; they may have them on their feet after this by-election, as they may have to do a little walking. The absence of members of the Opposition was noticed by members opposite, who followed suit. We adopted new techniques and the Government had to do likewise, as it has done in the past. I previously referred to the Playford fantasy broadcast over 5AD on Wednesday nights. If the Premier ever lost his office he could obtain employment with Walt Disney. He has put forward schemes for getting fresh water from salt water, for lakes in the great inland and anything else that nobody else could conceive. Apparently, only one person believes in them; members of the Government do not, as they know nothing of what the Premier intends to do until they read about it in the press.

A wildcat scheme announced by the Premier in one broadcast that directly affected the district I represent was known as the Greater Port Adelaide scheme. I believe anyone reading about it in the paper the next morning would have thought it was something that would have been operated on by the Government in the next few weeks and that it was of utmost importance to the people of this State. If I remember correctly, the heading of the article stated that 6,000 homes would be built in a garden suburb under this scheme. It is interesting to refer to the answers given to questions asked subsequently about this wild dream. On July 30, 1959, I asked a question relating to this dream and the Minister of Works replied as follows:—

I think the honourable member will appreciate that the proposals mentioned in this morning's press are of a long-range character and to some extent are speculative, although not wildly so. About 10 years ago the Harbors Board announced a policy for what was called at that time the "Greater Port Adelaide Plan." Certain works have been undertaken in implementing that policy. The programme announced now is a furtherance of that policy and to some extent a modification of it, as changing circumstances have required. It also introduces some new factors which were not apparent 10 years ago. I hope the honourable member will not attach undue importance

to any one aspect of the proposals. All matters involved in the developmental plan will be considered by the Parliamentary authority which investigates Governmental undertakings. The member's question is somewhat premature, but I assure him no action will be taken without full consideration and without ascertaining the requirements of the people and bodies affected.

This answer was given despite the press report that 6,000 homes were to be built in the garden suburb! I think the Premier was referring to the Garden of Eden! The member for Chaffey may laugh, but I remind him that the Premier once said that Lake Bonney was to be the greatest inland scheme ever to be undertaken in Australia. The Premier now intends to spend the finances of this State in Victoria and New South Wales on a scheme that will make an inland port. When he makes these broadcasts his mind apparently becomes blank, as the following week he comes out with something contradictory. In all these wildcat schemes millions of pounds is involved, but we have millions to throw away! However, when the people require anything important we are told that no finance is available.

This morning a deputation to a Minister of the Crown was told that an all important matter in this State involving the safety of the people could not be commenced because finances were limited. Since I became a member of this House the Premier said that the financial genius of South Australia had devised a scheme whereby this State would no longer be a claimant State. It was the greatest financial wizardry ever in this State but on that occasion, as on each occasion since, the Opposition pointed out that it was one of the biggest financial mistakes the Premier ever made, although he has made numerous mistakes. Everything that happens now is subject to further investigation by the Premier because of the finances of the State. I have inquired from various Government departments about what will happen in relation to various works ratified by the House and have been told that they have been shelved owing to the severe drain and the lack of finance for public works. The financial wizardry of the greatest financial genius who has ever graced the Treasury benches has proved to be a bubble that has burst!

Mr. Hall—Like the posters at Watervale.

Mr. RYAN—Those posters at Watervale offered a pronounced policy but the Liberal and Country League posters were a scream by the Premier to this effect: "Unless you give me the numbers I will not be able to govern."

He offered no policy, as he did not have one; the only thing he ever legislates on is what he is prepared to steal from this side of the House. On various occasions I have asked the Premier, as the Minister indirectly in charge of the Housing Trust, for the policy regarding industry as it was directly connected with housing in the metropolitan area. I once asked how many homes were to be built in the metropolitan area this financial year and was told that it was expected that 300 rental homes would be built and that they would be confined to the Assembly districts of Edwardstown and Enfield, yet recently members were taken on a Cook's tour, with an ulterior motive, to view the Greater Port Adelaide plan. I participated in that Cook's tour and was told about the terrific influx of industry to the area. I asked what was the use of creating a further industry if no provision was made for housing the people engaged in it. The reply was unsatisfactory: I was told that no homes would be built in that area until there was co-ordination between various Government departments to provide various things that were essential before home building could be commenced. That is a really good policy—a policy that we saw in reverse at Elizabeth, which is now seven miles from Adelaide but which will probably be closer still in a few weeks. Homes were built at Elizabeth before industry was established. I was asked recently if I would request the Minister of Railways to investigate transport problems of people living at Elizabeth who worked in other areas. In February I wrote to the Minister of Railways requesting that an investigation be made, but I have not yet received a reply. I do not suppose that the Premier has had a chance to investigate the matter because it would affect the satellite town he created and I presume it was affected by the coming by-election, but three months is a long time to wait for a reply.

Today I asked a question regarding the number of applications received by the Housing Trust and the number of people accommodated. I am not decrying the job the trust is doing but on occasions I have met the Premier in deputations and he has said that the housing problem is not acute and therefore should not concern any member of Parliament. However, this afternoon he gave some outstanding figures. He stated that in the last three years 16,262 applications had been made for rental homes and 7,362 applicants had been accommodated. That leaves a balance of 8,900 and as the trust is tied down by Government financial policy

(or the lack of it) ex-servicemen must wait four and a half years, and others five and a half years, to obtain a rental home. The information provided by the Premier this afternoon discloses an outstanding balance in the last three years of 8,900 homes, yet the Premier has the audacity to say that there is no acute shortage of homes in South Australia. He is probably confined to his own district because of what is going to happen soon, and therefore does not know what is going on in the rest of the State.

Last session I raised a matter which may be even more important now, seeing that the wild dreams of the Premier on the Greater Port Adelaide scheme may come true in the next 50 years. If I asked a question of the Minister of Works I would be told once again that I was premature, and that I should not take much notice of what the Premier said. The monthly publication *Waterfront*, referred to earlier by my colleague, the member for Semaphore, states that a watersider was successful in winning a by-election in Western Australia. Unfortunately, the Labor Party is in opposition in that State also.

Mr. Clark—Only temporarily.

Mr. RYAN—Yes. It has not been in opposition as long as the Labor Party in this State, but with the 12 per cent swing I mentioned earlier we shall be back in power, probably during the next two years.

Mr. Lawn—The people can change their Government in Western Australia.

Mr. RYAN—Yes. Irrespective of the obstacles the Premier places in the way of our gaining the Government, he cannot stop the opinion of the people who can cause a 12 per cent swing when they have occasion to do so. When people can effect a 12 per cent swing in a blue-ribbon Liberal seat, even the gerrymander will not be able to stop the Opposition soon. The newspaper *Waterfront* stated that this worker in Western Australia who ultimately gained the seat in Fremantle was a Commissioner of the Fremantle Harbor Trust. Last session I pointed out that a member of the waterfront union in Victoria was the Deputy Chairman of the Harbor Trust in that State, but I did not know at that time that a worker in Fremantle was a commissioner of the Harbor Trust there. We find in this State that it is not the desire, the wish or the intention of the Government to give representation on this important Government instrumentality to other than its own chosen people, and apparently there is some ulterior motive in that.

In the last fortnight or so I have read where the Chairman of the Harbors Board was due to retire, but the Government had decided to extend his term. The General Manager, who is also a member of the board, is also due to retire shortly, and it is expected that his services will be utilized in an advisory capacity. It is very clear that, if the present policy is to continue, there will be one experienced member and two inexperienced persons appointed by the Government. In view of the expected expansion by the Harbors Board in the Port Adelaide area, I appeal once again to the Government to further consider extending the representation and to appoint either an employer or an employee, or both, to the board of this important Government instrumentality. Members who went on the Cook's Tour to see what is going to be done on the Greater Port Adelaide scheme within the next 50 years will fully realize the benefits that can be obtained from a wider representation, especially in view of the possible retirement of two members of the present board. I ask the Government at least to appoint somebody who is in direct contact with what is going on in the area and knows what is required of this important Government instrumentality.

Mr. Millhouse—You are saying the scheme would be even better if there were another board?

Mr. RYAN—I did not say anything about that.

Mr. Millhouse—Do you say that would be so if there were other personnel on the board?

Mr. RYAN—Yes. If it is good enough for other States to have representatives who are really experienced and know what is going on, it would at least do no harm if South Australia followed suit.

Mr. Millhouse—And the Greater Port Adelaide scheme could be improved thereby, could it?

Mr. RYAN—It certainly could. The Premier is in the habit of announcing these wildcat schemes over the air on Wednesday evenings. The member for Mitcham did not know anything about this scheme until he read about it in the press, but it originated 10 years before.

I did not speak on hospital charges when the Opposition moved for the disallowance of those regulations, but I certainly agree with the motion. When people in this House make statements they should be prepared to stand by them and face the electors with those statements. One of the last speakers in the debate made a statement to which I took strong

objection, and so do the people who consider that they are at least entitled to something they have paid for. I refer to the statement that free hospitalization is a charity and charity is not acceptable to the people of South Australia. I would like this statement tested by a Gallup poll, a referendum or some other means, to find out from the people who really count whether they believe that free hospitalization is charity. When a person pays for something all his life when he is in a position to do so, as a wage or salary earner, he is at least entitled to that benefit when he needs it. A certain proportion of income tax receipts is allocated to social services, and if a person is no longer fortunate enough to pay income tax he is at least entitled to what he has paid for all his life.

It is not true to say that free hospitalization is a charity and therefore unacceptable to the people, and that statement should not have been made. Many people have told me of the severe imposition placed upon them in being asked to pay for something which, as I said previously, they have paid for all their lives and should receive as an absolute benefit now. It is too late because the force of numbers has decided that there will be this imposition on people who can ill-afford to meet it. If the 12 per cent swing in voting persists (and I have no doubt that it will) we shall be able to implement something for people whose service to the State and to Australia should be recognized. I support the motion.

Mr. KING (Chaffey)—I, too, support the motion and I add congratulations to the member for Albert on his very thoughtful contribution to this debate. He is a man of considerable ability and he used it in research work to produce such a fine speech. I congratulate you, Mr. Acting Speaker (Mr. Dunnage), on your contribution in seconding the motion. With other members I mourn the passing of George Hambour. I had much to do with him and had a high regard for his qualities in every way. They have been mentioned by speakers on both side of the House and I heartily endorse all that was said about him. He was a wonderful chap and I personally mourn his passing.

One of the events during the past year in which much interest was taken by people in the river districts was the conferring of an honour by Her Majesty on the Minister of Lands. Sir Cecil has given distinguished service to the State in many ways, not only as Minister of Lands but in his work for the

returned soldier movement, and for disabled soldiers in particular. I had the pleasure of travelling to another State with him on one occasion and he always made a point of asking the man in charge of the lift whether he was a disabled ex-serviceman. Whether or not the man was an ex-serviceman, Sir Cecil always had a friendly word for him. The example he has set, with his disability, is a wonderful example for all people suffering from a disability. Returned soldiers generally owe him a great debt and they will never be able to repay it. He has personally taken a great interest in soldier settlement schemes and in my district in particular he is held in high regard by all he has tried to help. He always has a sympathetic ear for their troubles. He has constructive and helpful suggestions to make to them dealing with their problems. To a man they respect and honour him for what he has done for them. The citation when the honour was conferred on him at Government House referred to his distinguished war service. He was one of the first to enlist, was on Gallipoli, and was one of the last to be discharged from the Army. He has given long service that has been of great benefit to South Australia. The disability from which he suffers he has ignored and he has been a wonderful example.

I was sorry when Sir Robert and Lady George ended their term of office here. They had endeared themselves to all people and we of the river districts remember the way in which they shared our misfortunes, visited the districts during the flood time, and made themselves known to the people concerned. We wish them a happy retirement in England until they take up another position.

The Irrigation Branch of the Lands Department is an organization that concerns itself particularly with my district. We are pleased with the way in which the new pumping station is operating. It was opened last year by Sir Cecil Hincks. It has brought about a much improved irrigation service. The times of irrigation have been cut down and I hope that with the availability of more water the Minister will be able to bring to fruition more schemes to bring into production high land and land in some of the other areas serviced by the Lands Department.

At present the citrus industry is having market troubles, mainly because the districts concerned suffered a severe frost in June last year. This must have affected about 90 per cent of the citrus crop. Last year there were on all markets many dry oranges with the

result that lower prices were received for the fruit and this meant much to the growers who depend so much on oranges in their production. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has made a survey of the citrus industry, and it and the growers are confident that the industry can be expanded. We are not unduly depressed by the present situation: we are only temporarily embarrassed. We feel that the future for citrus is assured, because we know that the areas in which we live, because of natural advantages, are capable of producing some of the finest citrus in the world. I think that the Minister, without further expense to his department could increase the citrus area, and produce for him an additional source of revenue that will tend to off-set some of the burden he is carrying in providing water for irrigation areas today. It illustrates in another way how the Government helps to maintain industries established in the country. Our population in the river districts has increased steadily. It increased by about 20 per cent between the two census dates and I am sure that the increase will continue. We have fostered the policy in our district of keeping the people interested in processing their produce in their own district.

Mr. O'Halloran—A very good policy.

Mr. KING—It has been successfully carried out in our district. I will instance one company for whom I had the honour of working for a number of years. I remember that at Christmas time the staff used to dwindle to about 30, because the work fell away as the district production was not there. Much of it went to other districts.

Mr. Lawn—They could try that out in the district of Light.

Mr. KING—Yes, and at Wallaroo. The company I have mentioned now has 200 people permanently on the payroll. Imagine what that means to the town in terms of income, etc. We have established the successful Riverland Co-operative Cannery, which did much to meet the position in which the canning industry found itself several years ago.

Mr. Bywaters—Is it marketing under one label?

Mr. KING—It markets under several labels. I do not think I should disclose its marketing policy at this stage but it handled satisfactorily all the fruit offered to it this year. The pack was double what it was the previous year, and it has been satisfactorily disposed of. Reports indicate that the peaches canned by the River-

land Co-operative Cannery last year were the best handled on the London market in 1959 and that was against world competition. Unfortunately, the prices for fresh fruit have dropped slightly and growers are finding it a slight strain to carry on, but that is a temporary setback and, taking into account the efficiency of the cannery and the sales made, I believe the canning industry will see a way out of its temporary difficulties. There has been, and will have to be for some time, an adjustment in the way canned fruits are processed and in the pattern of the canning industry in this State. We all await with interest the report of the committee at present inquiring into the canning industry. I hope the report will be published this year and that it will be a guide to what we can do to properly establish the canning business in South Australia and to make this State Australia's canning State. There is competition from the other States, but we have an opportunity to establish ourselves, and I am sure that with the quality we have, our markets will be maintained.

The Government has been of great help to my district in the offer it made to the Renmark Irrigation Trust on drainage. This required a reassessment of the problem in the area. When the problem was examined in detail it was found to be necessary to drain effluent and salt water through the drains into an area known as Salt Creek. A channel carrying fresh water runs through that Salt Creek. It carries water to the pumping station and along a three-mile gravity channel and the water is lifted by pumps to supply the irrigation area. Unfortunately, the channel also runs through the salt water deposit area. Fresh water cannot be mixed with salty water, and the further problem of how the situation can be handled has arisen: how can we handle the water from the source to the point of pumping? That throws a rather different light on the problem as it was originally envisaged when it was thought it was purely a drainage problem. In view of that problem the sum available will have to be carefully budgeted and will have to be assessed in view of what I have told the House. I have no doubt that the scheme will be successful, but time is the essence of the contract and I hope that expert assistance will be available to draft the necessary plans of the irrigation and drainage layout. The scheme was accepted at a meeting of growers and the Renmark Irrigation Trust, and that meeting unanimously approved of it and commended the Government and the Irrigation Trust for the steps taken.

Consequent upon the amalgamation of the Renmark Irrigation Trust and the area previously administered by the trust with the corporation I believe that the new local government body will be a success and that Renmark, and the district as a whole, will go forward by leaps and bounds. Finally, referring to the Department of Lands I thank the Government for the consideration it recently gave to a deputation from the leaders of the wine industry, the dried fruits industry, the citrus industry, the vegetable industry, and the canning industry when that deputation told the Government of the capacity of the respective industries to meet existing water charges and a suggested increase. The representations made by that deputation were successful and, as members probably know, following on a question asked in the House the water rates for the district will remain unchanged for the next 12 months. This is a concession that was accepted by the growers and one I am sure the Government made after considering all the facts.

The Department of Agriculture is most active in my district and I again compliment the Minister and his officers on the way they have handled the fruit fly problem this year. So far we have not had a known outbreak of fruit fly in the metropolitan area. This is due to the measures taken by the Government in the first instance and to the able policing of the Government policy by the officers of the department headed by Mr. Strickland. Their work has been extremely successful and we have not heard of a strike. The road blocks have been most effective, but I recently heard of people who came from another State and went to great lengths to bring fruit into South Australia. These people run along the border and follow a timber cutter's trail to bring the fruit in and get it on the Adelaide market. On another occasion they came through sheep country and tried the Taplan Gate or the Noora Gate. I have informed the proper authorities of this and I hope the culprits will in time be caught and prosecuted. It is difficult to do anything because it is like trying to find a cattle rustler in the Northern Territory. The main danger resulting from the border hoppers is not only the fruit fly, but they might also introduce phylloxera, and if that disease ever gets into the vineyards of South Australia it will be a direct threat to the wine industry.

The Department of Agriculture has also been extremely helpful to the area I represent in the matter of the infestation of

peaches by the Oriental Peach Moth. Several senior members of the department were sent up to Renmark and most of the strikes found were not even known to the growers concerned. Oriental Peach Moth was found to be active on about 90 properties in the Renmark area, but fortunately it has been found that its control is no more difficult than, and may not be quite as difficult as, control of Codling Moth. If Oriental Peach Moth can be kept in the Renmark area that will be to the advantage of other growers. The growers concerned are considering this matter and each district will probably decide its own fate and determine the way in which it will handle the problem. If the bacillus I heard of the other night proves to be a fatal disease to the caterpillar the Oriental Peach Moth will go the way of all grubs and we shall have nothing to worry about. That, however, seems to be too good to be true, but it will be a wonderful thing for these industries if this caterpillar disease turns out to be as good as we think it is.

I thank the Minister of Education for the interest he has taken in a problem that is not common to my district, but affects all districts. Resulting from the initiative of the school committees and the interest taken by departmental officers, the first steps have been taken towards the establishment of opportunity and remedial classes in the Upper Murray, and also an occupational centre for mentally handicapped children. I think that this is probably the first excursion the department has made into this field in the country. As the work of the Education Department expands and as some of the arrears are caught up with, I hope that this type of work will be continued and expanded for the benefit of those people who need special attention. In this way the standard of all of us will be lifted greatly. We are still striving for a Leaving Honours class, but adult education, where a principal has been appointed, is going ahead by leaps and bounds. Mr. Treloar, of Renmark, spent much time and trouble to build it up.

Recently, at Berri, a meeting was called by the Parents' and Teachers' Council, an organization formed by the parents' committees and welfare clubs with the Teachers' Institute. The meeting was addressed by Mr. E. Golding, president of the Teachers' Union, and Mr. Ray King, who is president of the Parents' Association. I was pleased that both gentlemen said they recognized that whilst much was still to be done in the field of education in the State, they considered that the South Australian

Government had gone as far as it was possible with the resources at its disposal to meet a situation that was without parallel in any other State. That meeting, as well as other meetings held since, supported a motion asking the Commonwealth Government for financial assistance for education.

We have heard many statistics quoted showing how much money has been spent per capita on various social services, including education. In considering these statistics we should consider the premises and the basis on which conclusions have been drawn from the figures. In South Australia we have had a much bigger increase in the school population than in any other State. It follows that the average age of the children in South Australia would be lower than in the other States. Statistics based on a comparison of populations and age groups will not hold water. The important thing is that in South Australia no child has ever been denied education by being turned away from school, except in cases of extreme youth, such as children aged about four and a half years. We have found accommodation for every child right through from infant school to university. In two other States they have a quota system, particularly in relation to secondary education, and children cannot get into some of these schools. We read recently of children with academic qualifications not being able to enter a teachers' college in another State. We are being penalized from a statistical point of view by having these figures quoted, although we are doing our utmost, whereas in other States whose figures are quoted children in some cases are being turned away.

The suggested provision of a dam on the Murray near the border has created much interest not only in Parliament, but particularly in my area, because portion of the dam would be situated in the district of Chaffey. Such a dam would tremendously benefit South Australia. I have a feeling that the scheme will eventuate as all the signs are favourable. It follows a suggestion I made in the House in my first year as a member that one day we would have to put a dam at Purnong. I do not claim that my suggestion was novel, because it had been suggested by people on the river for years. The proposed scheme offers tremendous possibilities, although the position has not yet been clearly stated in terms of acre feet. The quantity of water available to South Australia in a drought year under the River Murray Waters Agreement is 500,000 acre feet. Although we usually use about 180,000 acre feet a year for irrigation, leaving 320,000 acre

feet for other purposes, in 1953 we used only 7,000 acre feet for other diversions. Because of extraordinary conditions last year, and the rapid growth of population in South Australia, the figure of 7,000 acre feet increased to 120,000 acre feet—that increase in a matter of seven years. What will be the position in the next seven years?

It is obvious that if we have drought conditions in the next decade, with the continued growth of water usage, we shall be in trouble, and something will have to be done. I and others would have to go out of irrigation in order that water could be available for domestic purposes, or we would have to turn sea water into fresh water. The proposed dam is of great importance to the future of the State. In the other States which control the tributaries to the River Murray they are going ahead with new schemes. They know that they have to supply water to South Australia under the River Murray Waters Agreement. In Queensland nine tributaries with a combined length of 2,000 miles supply water to the River Darling. People there may ultimately decide to do something with their rivers that may affect the flow of water in the Darling. But for the flow of water in the Darling today, there would be no flow in the Murray. There is a meeting at Bourke next Friday when Queensland people will discuss the development of the inland centre of that State. We are particularly concerned that they may desire to use some tributaries of the Darling River which originate in that State.

The annual flow of the Murray in the last 20 years has dropped from 9,000,000 acre feet to an estimated 6,000,000 acre feet. Therefore, we have lost one-third of the water that was available from the watershed of the Murray. That is important when it is remembered that in a dry year we have had as little as 760,000 acre feet. The proposed dam will help to control some floods, such as those that occurred in 1931, 1933, 1939 and 1952. We went for 13 years without a high river, and then we got more than our share. The Murray is unpredictable and we must take advantage of every drop of water that we can get. I hope that the Premier's efforts in connection with the proposed dam will be successful, as I feel sure they will be.

There are one or two matters I should like to clear up in connection with certain petitions of the wine industry presented to the House last year by several members. It is apparent from what has transpired since that much misconception has arisen about these

petitions, particularly about the state of the wine industry. Firstly, a petition was circulated in my district by a body that had been trying to establish itself in the area as a growers' organization. It was signed by some growers in my area—in fact, by about 650. Similar letters were signed in some other wine-growing areas, but not all of them. The one signed by most growers was a letter addressed in each instance to the member of Parliament for the district, asking him to bring to the notice of the Government the state of the wine industry and to ask the Government to institute an inquiry. This was done in August.

When these letters were collected, it was found that whoever had drawn them up did not originally have in mind a petition to Parliament; otherwise, he would have taken the elementary precaution of finding out how to draft it. The growers wanted the members of Parliament as a whole to take certain action.

We received those letters, which were in due course passed on to the Minister of Agriculture, who instituted the initial stages of the inquiry. Subsequent to those petitions to members being signed, it was found that they could not be handed in to the House. Then each member was presented with a petition properly drawn up, the petition in my case being signed by five growers. In all, I think that the six petitions handed in originally were signed by 18 growers. Those petitions did not indicate that they had the support of most growers, but that did not matter: the subject matter of what they wanted to do was already under way. The petitions listed a number of grounds for instituting this inquiry which were not in the original letter, but the petitions could not be debated because of the provisions of Standing Orders.

The growers' request was granted immediately it was made. Subsequently, on four occasions questions were asked in this House as to what progress was being made with these petitions. Also, during that period the scope of the inquiry was widened, the Prices Commissioner being brought in to make the inquiry.

That is the position that obtained the night before Parliament prorogued. On that night, stimulated probably by some outside body, the member for Murray (Mr. Bywaters) endeavoured to secure a debate on a motion that the prayer in the petition be granted. From the answers given to those four questions the prayers had obviously been granted.

Therefore, the question itself was merely a political stunt, and it has since remained a political stunt by irresponsible people. The outcome of all this was a report by the Prices Commissioner, which was very good, a particular point being that the wine industry was in a very precarious state in more ways than one.

To illustrate that I must quote a few figures. As regards the plantings of wine varieties in South Australia, of a total area of 57,723 acres in 1957 24,569 acres is in the irrigated areas—that is, 42 per cent of the total area. That 42 per cent leaves Reynella, Tanunda, Angaston, Adelaide, Clare and the South-East with the other acreages. The production from that 24,569 acres is about 78,000 tons of grapes each year, which is 60 per cent of the total production of South Australia, so we have 42 per cent of the total area producing 60 per cent of the total production. The reason for that is that the average production in the Upper Murray is 7.63 tons an acre. It is as low as a little over one ton an acre in Barossa, and three tons an acre in some of the other districts. That situation shows that there is an essential difference between the Upper Murray irrigated areas and the dry areas. My point is that, whatever happens to the 78,000 tons that we produce in the river areas, it is a most important contribution to the total. That area with that quantity has one price while all the dry areas have another price for their grapes.

When the Prices Commissioner produced his report, he recommended that the dry areas should receive £4 a ton increase for their grapes, and the irrigated areas £2 10s. a ton increase. He also implied that the wine industry would need an increase of 1s. 6d. a gallon to meet those charges. I asked a question about it the other day, when it was pointed out that the actual increases paid by the winemakers were about £1 1s. 3d. a ton this year for the irrigated area grapes, and £2 10s. for the non-irrigated area grapes. That is less than the Prices Commissioner recommends, but he says that at present winemakers could pay 25s. a ton. They do not do that, because they are doing as before: they pay a large increase perhaps for some varieties of which there are very small tonnages and then they pay less for the large tonnages. As the large tonnages are those in which the growers are greatly interested, obviously the advantages were not too great.

The variety particularly concerned is what is known as the Muscat Gordo Blanco, which is the common Gordo and is produced in great quantities on the River Murray. For years the

growers did not receive an increase, but last year they received a small increase. As that is the greater part of the quantity grown in our areas, the efforts of the winemakers obviously did not achieve the results envisaged by the Prices Commissioner. The moral in all this is that something has to be done about it. Several proposals have been made but, before we decide what can be done, let us look at another part of the wine industry.

Of the total production of wines and spirits, only 15 per cent is sold in South Australia, so any legislation passed here affecting the price of grapes or of the product itself can be effective only in South Australia. Only about 5 per cent of total production is exported, the balance being sold in other States where it is subject to their licensing systems and State laws. We have no control over it, and neither has the Commonwealth, so we can do very little about controlling the price. Winegrowers will have to get an increase of 1s. 6d. a gallon over the whole production, not only on South Australian production. If this industry is to prosper there must be co-operation between the grower, winemaker, wholesaler, retailer and consumer, as these are the people concerned.

When this investigation was made by the Prices Commissioner we had the utmost co-operation from winemakers and I studiously avoided any acrimonious debate in this House because I did not want to prejudice the inquiry. If anyone had said vicious things about the winemakers and had made statements that would have caused them to refuse to co-operate I am sure that we would not have obtained the concessions we did or the co-operation of the industry.

An answer given by the Premier in reply to a question I asked today indicates to me that the Prices Commissioner has a valuable part to play in sorting out the differences in this industry. That is another aspect that must be placed before this House because in assessing what has to be done we must know what happens regarding sultanas and currants, and gordos, the dual purpose grapes. Before the war practically no sultanas were sold to wineries but nearly all were dried; whereas now about 20,000 tons are sold to wineries. These grapes have taken a firm place in the wine industry. The dried fruit market can absorb them but as long as they go into the wine industry they will jeopardize the prices received by growers of doradillos, who sell their grapes to wineries for spirits. Almost the same applies to gordos. In a wet

season, when growers are not prepared to dry them for lexias, they are only too anxious to send them to the wineries without bothering about the price, as they regard it as a salvage job. Some wineries take advantage of this although others play the game and pay the proper price.

Another serious aspect is that most wines produced in the past have been the heavy fortified types, the sales of which have not increased as much as the sales of light wines. Whereas a couple of years ago there was an 8-months' supply of fortified wines on hand there is now a 2-years' supply, and that is not a good thing for any market. Something should be done to promote the sale of these wines. This is principally a South Australian problem as this State produces most of the grapes used for heavy wines. A lot has been done; the Wine Board has provided £50,000 at a time towards the promotion of wine sales and the food and wine clubs have done a tremendous job to familiarize people with wines and their uses, to such an extent that the demand for table wines, helped by New Australians, has added considerably to consumption.

Finally, I draw the Government's attention to the valuable part played by the reduction in excise on brandy. This duty has been a considerable source of worry to grape growers for a long time. Recently, the Commonwealth Government reduced the excise rate with the astonishing result that a tremendous amount more brandy was sold and, although the rate on each gallon was considerably lower, the Federal Government's income continued to rise. This excise, coupled with the excise on fortified spirit, gives the Federal Treasury a harvest of about £2,500,000 a year, which is a tremendous contribution towards Federal revenue.

Mr. Fred Walsh—It is a shameful tax.

Mr. KING—It would not be if the money were put into the promotion of sales. However, it exists and, whatever happens, we do not want the Federal Government to increase it. We would like to stay in the same position in relation to other spirit manufacturers as we are in today, and we hope that the Federal Government will not alter the *status quo* and that our Government will press for that when the opportunity presents itself. In a campaign that has been waged in my district I have been singled out because of my refusal to prejudice the result of this inquiry by entering into frivolous correspondence that has been circulating in my district. I have not done so because the noisy system of shouting about our troubles has been used in this House for many

years by some people without producing, as far as I can see, any tangible result. I think the method we have used of having conferences, using persuasion, and trying to see the other person's point of view, has produced more. People who know nothing about the industry would be well advised to keep their noses out of business which they do not understand and which does not concern them, but which makes them the laughing stock of people who know the position. Although they do not realize it, some people have been made "stool-pigeons" by people with axes to grind. Unfortunately, some people have been trying to make industry politics out of it and others ordinary politics, but I am keen to see that our wine and fruit industries are not made political footballs.

I think I have said enough to show that the ramifications of this industry are particularly involved and that with the situation that exists, with production and consumption so close together, we would expect help from the Opposition and from organized bodies rather than the hindrances they have been throwing into the matter in trying to make political capital out of something they do not really understand. However, the wine industry will continue, and I hope it will meet with the success envisaged by the Prices Commissioner; but we need to co-operate. The whole of the outlets for the products of the wine industry are in the hands of big established firms; the amount sold directly to retailers by co-operatives is negligible. Ninety per cent of the brandy made by the co-operatives is sold to the co-operative wineries as brandy, and 50 per cent of their production is sold to the proprietary wineries as wine. That is due to the high standard of wines made on the river, which in turn is due to the standards evolved at the Roseworthy Agricultural College and practised by the whole of the wine industry. People need our wines, otherwise they would not buy them. The co-operatives have done good work and established high standards in the past few years, and this subject is not something to be bought into by members who know nothing about it, for I can assure them that there is no political profit to be gained from it. It is so easy to throw spanners into the works and get people steamed up over something, only to then be terribly disappointed. To achieve success involves careful study and co-operation by every section of the industry.

I congratulate Government members who took part in the by-election in Light. I do not take all the member for Port Adelaide said as having a ring of truth. After all is said

and done, I think it has been said before by a better authority than I that loud noise does not speak much for logic.

Mr. Ryan—Figures do.

Mr. KING—Figures can lie. In spite of the trumpeting from the other side of the House, the Opposition really took a thumping last Saturday, and the result must be an anticlimax and a great disappointment to them. I admit that their members worked hard; in fact, they brought in half the members of this House, Federal members, and all their members from Grote Street who, after all, keep Labor politicians in their jobs.

Mr. Ryan—It caused many Liberal members to do a bit of work for a change.

Mr. KING—Results do speak for themselves sometimes. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. FRED WALSH (West Torrens)—I support the motion, and in so doing I congratulate the mover of the motion on his very able address. I also wish to refer to the seconder, but I did not agree with much of what he said and I may deal with that later. I associate myself with the sympathy expressed at the lamentable passing of our late colleague, the member for Light (Mr. George Hambour). I am sure that members who have spoken have fully expressed the feelings of us all towards the late Mr. Hambour. Although we often differed and even argued by way of interjection, the fact remains that he did, with the aid of interjections by others, enliven the proceedings of this House. One thing that can be said in favour of Mr. Hambour was that he never carried outside the Chamber any feeling that may have arisen in the course of debate. He was a gentleman who was always well met, friendly and kindly, and I am sure we all lament his passing.

I also associate myself with the congratulations to the Minister of Lands (Sir Cecil Hincks) on the recognition of his services to the State, not only as a member of Parliament, but in the service of his country as a soldier. Although we on this side of the House do not subscribe to recommendations for knighthoods, while that is the Government's policy and men like Sir Cecil Hincks are selected for such recognition Opposition members feel that nobody is more entitled to such recognition than he is. He has rendered valuable service to the State, particularly as a soldier, and, as we all know, he made a great sacrifice in the course of that service. We hope to see Sir Cecil associated with the Parliament, perhaps not as a Minister,

but certainly as a member for a long time to come. These statements are not made with any lack of sincerity, and I am sure that I am endorsing the feelings of all the members on this side of the House.

Unfortunately, in the course of this debate some members always attack the Australian Labor Party. When they throw stones, naturally they must expect stones to be thrown back at them. The member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) used most of his speech to attack the Labor Party and aspects of Labor's policy, but he does not know the first thing about it. I respect his knowledge of farming, but when he comes into spheres which I am sure he knows nothing about, the very statements he makes lead me to question the sincerity of anything he may say from time to time. The member for Unley made similar remarks, and went on to attack the Labor Party. Both those members were saying things on a matter they know nothing about.

At that time I felt like approaching this thing from a different angle, but an ex-member of this Parliament who is also an ex-judge of the Supreme Court supplied, in my opinion, all the necessary replies. Probably every member of this House read an article by Sir Charles Abbott in last Sunday's *Mail*, and I will quote from that article because I think it makes interesting reading. One thing I regretted about Sir Charles' article was his reference to how he first entered politics and his early associations when, shouldering a rifle, he accompanied other people to the wharves at Port Adelaide. Some of those people were not prepared to shoulder a rifle during the war when they were capable of doing so; indeed, some were prominent sporting men at that time. Those people went down to Port Adelaide in an effort to break what was a strike against a principle, a principle that to some extent is being fought in South Africa today. It was connected with the taking out of licences by waterside workers, which licences the Government of the day said they must have in order to get employment. Because of their opposition towards that practice the waterside workers took action, but the forces arrayed against them prevailed and they were compelled to take out the licences in order to get work. The strongest condemnation has been voiced of the South African Government for its insistence that the native population have passes. This is a deep matter and I do not want to go into it. It is not because it would upset the susceptibilities of anybody, because

I feel that all members hold the same views as I do on the matter. Sir Charles Abbott said:—

During the week that the strike lasted we spent many hours discussing politics. It was there that the Young Liberal Movement was born.

I will not mention the names of the people with whom he was associated then because one or two of them have passed on and I have the greatest respect for them. Sir Charles retired from the Bench at 70 years of age. It is now a little over 30 years since those things happened on the waterfront, so if we assume that he was 40 years of age at that time it is rather difficult for me to work out how he and the others were classified as young at 40 years of age. He further said:—

We used to go out and join as many party branches as we could. In those days the rules permitted it. Then we would get positions on the local committees. From there we would elect ourselves to represent branches in the State sphere. In this way we hoped to reach the central executive. In fact, we eventually became the central executive.

Nobody would question Sir Charles for he was both a respected member of Parliament and a judge of the Supreme Court. When in Parliament he was both Attorney-General and Minister of Education. When he says these things we must regard them as true, but how does this line up with some of the views expressed by Government members when talking about what happens in the Labor Party? I suggest that the members for Unley and Gouger do not indulge in such attacks in the future, because they live in glasshouses themselves.

Mr. Hall—No-one votes twice on a Liberal plebiscite.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I do not want to indulge in personalities, but can the honourable member explain to me how the present member for Burnside was selected? Perhaps the Young Liberal Movement could say how the present member for Mitcham was selected? The member for Unley said that 17 years ago I said he was on the way out. I want to tell him that I had not been sufficiently long in this House in those days to be able to assess his value to the Parliament of the day, but probably I am able to do it today. What I said was the view I expressed prior to the election before last. He said, "We are out to get you" and "You will be lucky if you are returned at the next election." As he said, we were both returned and I will let it go at that. For the sake of something better to say members opposite attack members on this side and indulge in personalities.

Mr. Jenkins—The member for Port Adelaide did it continuously today.

Mr. FRED WALSH—I speak for myself, and I am referring to what members on the other side say. I may not agree with all that members on this side say, but they are allowed to express their views and the responsibility is on Government members to attack them. The statement has been made both here and outside that wages are rising more than prices. That has been published in some periodicals and possibly some Government members have taken their information from them, but they should study the actual position and compare prices with nominal wages as against real wages. People who make comparisons in this matter use only nominal and not real wages. It is real wages that purchase goods. We get to the position where, if prices rise and nominal wages rise in proportion, the purchasing power of the worker is the same, but if prices do not rise and nominal wages do the real wage rises accordingly, and then there is a greater purchasing power. In the *Advertiser* of April 19 it is reported that retail prices in Australia have risen 134 per cent since 1945, whilst average wages have risen 219 per cent. This was a statement by *Facts*, the journal of the Victorian Institute of Public Affairs. The *Advertiser* report said:—

*Facts* says that prices rose sharply in the early '50's and the rise continued at a much slower rate from 1955 to 1959. The rate had begun to increase again.

If we make a comparison with these wages we will find that they are not in accordance with what *Facts* says. *Facts* has taken the nominal wage as against the real wage. In Adelaide in November, 1945, the basic wage was £4 13s. a week; in 1946 it was £4 15s.; £5 6s. in 1947; £5 16s. in 1948; and £6 6s. in 1949. That shows that under a Labor Government from 1945 to 1949 the basic wage and the cost of living increased by £1 13s. a week. In 1950 there was a rise in the basic wage to £6 17s., to £9 4s. in 1951, £11 9s. in 1952, and in 1953 when wages were pegged in August it was £11 11s. Under a Liberal Government from 1949 to 1953 the cost of living, to which the basic wage was tied, increased by £5 5s. as against only £1 13s. during the period of the Chifley Government. I compare the real wages and this aspect counts more than anything else because that is what we can judge the standard of living on. The cost of living retail index figure for 1946 was 1,081, the nominal wage 2,354, and the real wage 1,251. I ask leave to incorporate

these figures in *Hansard* without my reading them.

Leave granted.

#### C.O.L. RETAIL PRICE INDEX.

No figures between 1939-1945.

	Price Index.	Nominal Wages.	Real Wages.
March, 1946 . . . .	1,881	2,354	1,251
March, 1947 . . . .	1,953	2,527	1,307
March, 1948 . . . .	2,071	2,781	1,343
March, 1949 . . . .	2,263	3,099	1,369
June, 1953 . . . .	3,805	3,512	1,449

Wages pegged September, 1953.

Movement in seven

years . . . . .	1,924	958	198
September, 1954 . .	3,851	5,591	1,452
June, 1955 . . . .	3,941	5,746	1,458
September, 1955 . .	4,001	5,774	1,443
September, 1956 . .	4,334	6,290	1,473
September, 1958 . .	4,341	6,391	1,457

Movement from

September, 1953,

to September, . .

1958 . . . . . 490 800 5

(Last figures available.)

Mr. FRED WALSH—The table shows that the worker's real wage has hardly increased at all, yet figures are often given proving that Australians have so many motor cars, so many television sets, so many washing machines and other household items.

Mr. O'Halloran—They also show that £400,000,000 is owing on them.

Mr. FRED WALSH—Yes. Those articles are in the homes but they are not possessed by the people at all because over £400,000,000 is owing on the goods. If they were all paid for and they were still in the homes of the people there would be justification for the statements made but there is no justification for them because at any time these goods may be repossessed if there is any slackening in the payments provided under the hire-purchase agreement. I do not intend to speak on hire-purchase in this debate because that will come before the House during the session either from the Government or from the Opposition. Honourable members may not appreciate the point that these things are not paid for, but that they are in the homes merely as a temporary arrangement. Any person may ring a television firm and have a set in his home tonight.

Mr. Hall—Very few television sets are repossessed.

Mr. FRED WALSH—The honourable member says very few are repossessed but does he know that one of the biggest electrical firms in Adelaide built its business up to what it is today on an agreement to purchase

repossessed articles at a certain price and the articles comprised vacuum cleaners, washing machines and similar goods? This firm reconditioned the goods and sold them at a much higher price. That business is today discarding that practice and is entering into new business but other people are probably entering the vacated field. I know that that firm had an arrangement with certain distributors of vacuum cleaners to purchase any repossessed cleaner at 29s. That saved everybody on the other side any worry at all. True, some of the vacuum cleaners may not have

been worth even 2s., but a great many were with a little attention and adjustment, and when put on the market again they fetched a much higher price. That statement cannot be denied. I have not mentioned the name of the firm but if I am asked to do so I shall. I ask leave to continue my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.28 p.m. the House adjourned until Thursday, April 28, at 2 p.m.