

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, August 1, 1961.

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

### QUESTIONS.

#### SALK VACCINE.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: I am concerned at the queueing up and consequent congestion that has taken place in the city today and yesterday as a result of the poliomyelitis immunization campaign. Has the Government considered ways of relieving this congestion? Could further depots be made available or some other means of decentralization provided to assist the parents of children?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: For some months now the vaccine has not been available, and in that time there have been three recent cases of poliomyelitis. On the one hand the vaccine has not been available, and on the other hand there has been a rather more than ordinary demand for it. The Government is naturally concerned that people should not be kept waiting and that when the supplies are resumed there shall be no waiting. South Australia has a proud record of providing the vaccine for children expeditiously. I will put the Leader's question before the Chief Secretary to see if anything can be done in the matter. I assure the House that the staff have responded magnificently to the demand made upon them. I understand that they worked very late last night to try to meet the demand. From my own observation, the demand for immunization appeared this morning to have lessened a little. I doubt very much whether anything further can be done, for at the present rate of using the vaccine we will be out of supplies again quite soon.

#### VICTOR HARBOUR JETTY.

Mr. JENKINS: The Victor Harbour *Times* of last Friday carried a report headed "Another rescue at jetty", which stated:

Another amateur fisherman—the fourth within six weeks—was saved from drowning at the screwpile jetty on Tuesday night. The man, a visitor from Adelaide, walked over the end of the jetty carrying a lantern. His cries were heard by two other visitors, who threw the struggling man a lifebuoy and pulled him back on to the jetty.

This report does not say whether the lantern was still alight. It continues:

Since last year, eight people—including three children—have fallen from the screwpile jetty, which is unprotected by safety rails. A Harbors Board official said in Adelaide last

month that safety precautions at the jetty would be investigated, but as yet nothing has been done.

Will the Minister of Works take up the matter with his officials in the Harbors Board to see whether anything can be done to prevent other people walking over the edge?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have not had the case mentioned by the honourable member brought to my notice. I cannot appreciate how a person carrying a lantern, which presumably was giving him illumination, would have made the unfortunate mistake of stepping over the edge of the jetty. However, obviously that happened. I will take the matter up with the General Manager of the Harbors Board and see what progress has been made in investigations to overcome the problem.

#### SOFT DRINK CHARGES.

Mr. FRED WALSH: My question concerns the new charge of an extra penny a bottle for drinks sold out of a refrigerator by storekeepers. I do not know whether Mr. Solomon, the secretary of the Retail Storekeepers Association, controls all those engaged in the sale of soft drinks but, whether he does or not, the fact remains that, if this increase is accepted by the great majority of the dispensers of soft drinks, it is an imposition that should not be tolerated. The argument used by Mr. Solomon (that it would give the soft drink retailers a 50 per cent mark-up to cover labour costs involved in the serving of drinks and in the maintaining of stores, glasses and refrigeration) is unfair because very few people are directly employed in the sale of soft drinks as those drinks are sold mainly by small stores and delicatessens run on a family basis, and an increase in the basic wage would not affect the proprietors. It can be argued that if it is—

The SPEAKER: The honourable member is debating his question.

Mr. FRED WALSH: It could be argued that this increased charge could apply to any other product sold from a refrigerator. Will the Treasurer refer this matter to the Prices Commissioner for inquiry and report?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Yes.

#### EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: This morning's paper reports the decision by the Government of the United Kingdom formally to apply for admission to the European Common Market. Has the Government considered the possible effects of such a step upon this State, and in particular upon its trading position?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Naturally, I have seen the report mentioned and also some comment about it by the Prime Minister and other Ministers in Canberra. At present an application for admission is really exploratory because the terms of admission could not possibly be known unless an application had been made for admission under the articles of the treaty setting up the Common Market. The British Government has not yet reached a decision nor are the terms under which an agreement could be reached known. Under those circumstances it would be premature for the South Australian Government to attempt to take action to rectify such an obscure position. I have noticed comments on this matter and do not intend to try to set out what the main issues may be. I assure the House that those issues will be closely studied and at the appropriate time the Government will express views on them. After all, this is one of the most important steps taken in connection with world trade in our time, if not for all time. I cannot go further than that at the moment.

#### STRATHMONT SCHOOLS' RECREATION AREA.

Mr. JENNINGS: It is proposed that an area of land between the Strathmont boys and the Strathmont girls technical high schools will be used jointly by both schools for recreational purposes. At present, unfortunately, because the ground has not been treated it is impossible for students to use the land, which is rough and has not been surfaced or prepared. Consequently, the students are restricted virtually to the tar-paved areas of the schools. I have inspected the land and find that it would not need much levelling because there is no drop, but it is rough and carrying a prolific growth of thistles. I understand that the schools, through much hard work, have raised sufficient finance to install an irrigation scheme when the land is fit for use. Can the Minister of Education say whether there is any possibility of expediting this matter, either by a departmental effort or by letting a tender to a private contractor?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: I shall be pleased to refer the matter to the Public Buildings Department. I am sure it is one of a long list of jobs it is unable to complete in the time. I am equally sure that it is not necessary for me to remind the honourable member of the tremendous building programme that department has for the Education Department. The Public Works Committee worked last week-end,

and will work again next week-end, on inquiries into some new schools and substantial additions to existing schools. I am afraid that some other works, however necessary and desirable, including school grounds, will have to take second place. I shall see what can be done, particularly as the honourable member says that only a small amount of levelling is required.

#### WHITING CATCH.

Mr. HALL: Can the Minister of Agriculture obtain for me the value, either retail or wholesale, of the South Australian whiting catch during the last three years?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will get what figures are available.

#### WARREN TRUNK MAIN.

Mr. HUGHES: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked last week about the progress being made on the Warren-Paskeville trunk main?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: As promised, I obtained the information. The Engineer-in-Chief has advised me that the enlargement of the Warren trunk main is proceeding rapidly. Already 62 miles of larger diameter steel pipes have been laid. The balance, 41 miles, is scheduled to be laid by June, 1962, thus completing the trunk main to Paskeville. Some branch mains will also be laid but it is expected that the balance of these will be constructed in the financial year ending June, 1963.

#### WATER SUPPLIES.

Mr. HEASLIP: Generally speaking, the State has had sufficient rain to allow a satisfactory germination of cereal and pasture seeds, but the position may be misleading when compared with the holding capacity of our reservoirs. Can the Minister of Works supply any information about intakes, indicate the capacity of our reservoirs this year compared with last year, and comment on whether the water supply position is satisfactory?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The honourable member's question is comprehensive, but I have the figures of the reservoir storages up until the week ending July 31 (yesterday). I have not had time to study them closely because they came to hand only this morning. I shall try to state the position shortly. We used to consider the total storages of country and metropolitan reservoirs as 32,000,000,000gall. However, for the first time we have included in the list on a new schedule the Myponga reservoir, which has a capacity of about 6,000,000,000gall. This means that the reservoirs listed under the

metropolitan heading rise from their previous total of 14,000,000,000 to about 20,000,000,000 gallons. That must be borne in mind when comparing the storages for this year with those of last year.

The country water position is fairly satisfactory in all reservoirs except the Tod River and, as announced last week, steps are being taken to ensure, as far as possible, that supplies are adequate in that area to carry it through the summer. The history of that reservoir is that unless substantial intakes occur by the end of July they are not likely to improve from then on. That is why steps are being taken now to augment the supply. At present Beetaloo with a capacity of 819,000,000gall. is holding 524,000,000gall. compared with 461,000,000 last year, so it is better off now than last year. Bundaleer with a total capacity of 1,400,000,000gall. has 562,000,000gall. whereas last year it held 1,300,000,000gall. That is well down on last year, but it can be augmented by pumping from the Morgan to Whyalla main and that is being done. Baroota with a capacity of 1,300,000,000gall. is holding 730,000,000gall., whereas last year it held 1,200,000,000gall., so it, too, is down. Tod River is holding only a quarter of its capacity. The Barossa Reservoir with a total capacity of 993,000,000gall. is in good shape, holding 806,000,000gall. compared with 765,000,000gall. last year. South Para, with a total capacity of 11,300,000,000gall., is holding 5,403,000,000gall. compared with 3,530,000,000gall. last year. The Warren reservoir is fairly low. Its capacity is 1,400,000,000gall. and it is holding only 418,000,000gall. whereas last year it was full.

At present the metropolitan reservoirs are holding 5,491,000,000gall. whereas the total capacity is 14,132,000,000gall. (plus Myponga's 6,000,000,000gall.), which means that they are about half full. Mr. Dridan and I have frequently discussed metropolitan storages. The reservoirs are gaining each week and, as good intakes frequently occur in the Adelaide hills in the latter part of winter and spring, Mr. Dridan feels that there is no cause for undue concern at this stage. The fourth unit of the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline is being installed and will enable a greater volume to be pumped at a given time if it be needed later. It is not intended that pumping shall commence at this stage. Metropolitan reservoirs are holding 5,491,000,000gall. out of a total storage of 14,000,000,000gall. which now becomes 20,000,000,000gall. with the addition of the Myponga Reservoir which is holding practically no water at present. Summing up, the position is fairly satisfactory throughout

the whole State and pumping is taking place (as always) on the Morgan-Whyalla line. Steps are being taken to improve the Tod River situation and the reservoirs and storages on the Mannum-Adelaide scheme are being watched, but it is not necessary to pump at this stage. We can also augment the metropolitan supply, if necessary, by some 10,000,000gall. a day from the South Para reservoir, which holds a good quantity at this stage.

#### WHYALLA TOWN COMMISSION.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Some while ago a short notice appeared in the daily press to the effect that the Government intended to bring down amendments to the Whyalla Town Commission Act. The report referred to the proclamation of Whyalla as a city, to the alteration of the allocation of proxy votes by Broken Hill Proprietary Company representatives on the Commission, and to the mayor. Can the Premier say what was intended by the reference to the mayor, as this was not clear in the press?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: As this Bill is not normally one that I would handle, I have not the precise details and I ask the honourable member to allow me, if necessary, to correct my statement tomorrow. From memory, at present the mayor has not the same privileges (for instance, the right of appeal against dismissal) as other officers of local government. I believe the provision is to give him the same rights as other local government officers.

#### BUNT NET FISHING.

Mr. BOCKELBERG: Certain fishermen at Thevenard have been using bunt netting for fishing. This method disturbs the sea bed and drives whiting from the feeding grounds. Will the Minister of Agriculture say whether the Government intends to introduce legislation against this method of fishing or, if not, will he have the matter investigated so that the trouble can be rectified?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The whole question of fishing regulations, licensing and statistics is being investigated at the moment, but I cannot give the result of the survey. Almost every statement given as a fact by one person can be challenged by another, and it is difficult to prove or disprove a statement that this method is ruining fishing. This question will be closely considered and, if I have anything to report, I shall notify the honourable member.

#### SCHOOL WIRING.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Can the Minister of Works say what procedure is followed by the

Public Buildings Department to ensure that school houses and buildings not previously wired for 240 volts are wired and ready for a connection to Electricity Trust supplies should such supplies become available to the towns where they are established?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I do not know that any hard and fast procedure is laid down about what steps are to be taken, but in general terms I think that whenever the department is aware that supplies of standard alternating current are available or likely to become available the district inspectors of the Public Buildings Department draw the department's attention to it and request that the wiring be carried out. If the honourable member has a case he would like to bring to my notice, I shall have it investigated and attended to.

#### ODNADATTA SCHOOL BROADCASTS.

Mr. CASEY: Has the Minister of Education a reply to a question I asked last week regarding school broadcasts for the Oodnadatta school?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: The Postmaster-General withdrew the existing broadcasting facilities at the Oodnadatta school as from April of this year because of the re-arrangement of the telephone and broadcasting channels between Adelaide, Alice Springs and Darwin. I have now approved of the provision of special equipment which it is hoped will enable programmes to be received direct from Station 5CK, Crystal Brook.

#### PARKING OVER RAILWAY STATION.

Mr. LAWN: Either last session or the session before I asked a question about building a parking station over the top of the Adelaide railway yards and the Minister obtained a report from the Railways Commissioner, who said that this could not possibly be done because it would affect railway employees and the public. Last week, the member for Victoria raised the matter in a slightly different way with the Premier and suggested that a parking station be built, not over the railway station but over the railway yards further westward. Again the Premier said that the Railways Commissioner was opposed to this, and that it could not be done. Since then, over the week-end I saw a press report (which I can only presume is correct) that the New South Wales Government, or the railway authority, intends to build a four or five-storey building over the railway lines in Sydney. If New South Wales can do it, why cannot we do it in South Australia?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I think that I would be wrong in giving the impression that the Railways Commissioner said it could not be done. What I said was that the Commissioner had reported against it, which is totally different. He pointed out that a considerable problem would arise from train travellers being affected by the fumes from the diesel engines, and also a great cost would be involved in providing such a structure over a railway yard, and therefore he did not favour it. I have not checked the point, but I believe that under the Railways Commissioner's Act the Commissioner has certain powers in these matters. In any event, I can assure him and the people that the Government would be anxious to see that the passengers on the railways were not inconvenienced by a structure being erected which, under certain circumstances, created some disability to them.

Mr. Lawn: In view of what they are doing in New South Wales, would you ask the Commissioner to submit another report?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: What is being done in Sydney is nothing new. While overseas I stayed in a hotel that was constructed over a railway station. It is a question only of cost and advisability, and the Commissioner has advised against it.

#### ABATTOIRS BOARD.

Mr. STOTT: On July 25 I asked the Minister of Agriculture about the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board's investigation into the desirability of instituting certain alterations. Can the Minister say whether the board has considered making those changes and, secondly, could he lay on the table of the House the report of the personnel administration company that apparently reported on these matters?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I understand that the board has announced that it is making some changes, but it has not given the final details. Regarding the reports, that is a matter for the chairman to discuss with his board, and I have not officially asked the board whether it would like these papers tabled. However, I understand that the honourable member asked the board some time ago to do this and that the chairman declined the invitation. I have not yet received a reply in this matter, but unless the board changes its mind I think it will decline to table these reports.

#### LIVESTOCK ON "RED HENS".

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Since the sittings of the House last week I have been approached by a resident of Clapham, in my district,

regarding the carriage on the "red hens" of pigeons and chickens. In the good old days of steam the crates of pigeons and chickens used to be carried in the guard's van, but now that we have "red hens", there is no guard's van and these crates are carried in the open space at the front or rear of the car. The train which this person particularly had in mind I can only describe as the 6.19 a.m. from Eden Hills. These pigeons and chickens are loaded at Mitcham and brought down to town, apparently to the annoyance of passengers who object not only to the noise but also to the smell. Will the Minister of Works take up with his colleague in another place the practicability of making other arrangements for the transport of these livestock?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I think the best answer I can give the honourable member in the circumstances is "Yes."

#### MENTAL HOSPITAL INMATES.

Mr. TAPPING: The inmates of the Parkside Mental Hospital would normally qualify for an invalid pension if under 60 years of age and, if over 60, would qualify for an age pension in the case of a female. One or two approaches have been made to me seeking my assistance in compiling forms to qualify these persons for pensions, but under the Commonwealth Government regulations they are not permitted to enjoy a pension. As this is some strain upon the finances of this State, and also upon the person who desires a pension in order to get some pocket money, can the Premier explain to the House the procedure from the State Government angle? Seeing that these people are debarred, what recompense does the State get from the Commonwealth Government because of this situation?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: As far as I know, none whatever. The only assistance that I know the Commonwealth Government is giving in connection with mental hospitals is that some years ago the Commonwealth Government stated that it would, on a subsidized plan, provide £10,000,000 for all of the States to help build mental institutions. As far as I know, no subsidy whatever is given to the Government in respect of patients in mental hospitals, with the possible exception that I believe that Queensland has been able to get one or two of its mental hospitals accepted as hospitals under the National Health Act. They have integrated some of their mental hospital boards with other boards and succeeded in getting them accepted by the Commonwealth Government as ordinary hospitals.

The history of this goes back many years. I believe it was the Chifley Government that

first offered the State Governments some assistance in regard to mental homes under a five-year plan. The amount was insignificant: I fancy it was only 8d. a day that the State Governments got under that plan. When the scheme expired, the Commonwealth Government made another investigation and the Commonwealth Minister for Health at that time said the amount provided to the State Governments was not at all satisfactory, but his cure was to recommend that they should get nothing. Since that time there has not been a Premiers' Conference held in the last 10 years at which this matter has not been raised. We have never succeeded in getting the Commonwealth Government to accept any responsibility except the responsibility I have mentioned of an overall figure of £10,000,000 for hospital buildings on a pound for pound subsidy. I believe that Victoria has succeeded in spending the money allotted to her under that scheme. South Australia still has some money to spend as prior to the scheme we had done much building. Consequently, all the money allotted to South Australia has not yet been used. Steps will be taken to use it as and when the recommendations by the Director-General of Medical Services are received.

#### JERVOIS BRIDGE.

Mr. RYAN: On June 20, my colleague the member for Semaphore (Mr. Tapping) raised the matter of the scale model of the Jervois Bridge being built at the University and how far the Public Works Committee had gone in its investigations. As the chairman of the Public Works Committee said, six weeks ago, that the model would be available in three or four weeks' time, can he enlighten me on the finalization of the scale model, which would help the Public Works Committee to come to a decision?

Mr. SHANNON (Chairman, Public Works Standing Committee): For the benefit of the member for Port Adelaide, I can say that at this stage we have not yet been informed by the University that the scale model is complete. I saw a picture in the paper, which the honourable member for Port Adelaide probably saw, showing only the floor of the tunnel and model cars moving on tracks, but that is obviously not adequate to test the efficiency of a tunnel. We still hope that we shall get that information and that we can look at that scale model any time now, although I cannot say when. I have not pressed the University authorities in this field because I realize that this matter is not so urgent as some people in Port Adelaide would have us

believe. I know very well the condition of the Jervois Bridge and that it could be closed.

Mr. Ryan: Or that it could collapse.

Mr. SHANNON: I do not think it would collapse but I think it could be closed. It may be that river traffic will be denied upstream access because the authorities will close it and be unable to re-open it.

Mr. Ryan: That happens every day.

Mr. SHANNON: We know all about that; the committee is well informed on that, but obviously the first step to be taken is the provision of an alternative crossing of the river, which the committee has already recommended. That is being actively pursued. Whether it will be a viaduct or what form it will take will be decided on the economics of the situation. I am not concerned with how the river will be crossed at Bower Road, but I can see no necessity for moving further upstream from that point. A few pipes would do all required to move any surplus water upstream or down. I assure the honourable member that we are not necessarily lagging on this project. As soon as we get the University's report on the matter and have viewed the scale model, we shall proceed at once to deciding on it.

#### UMEEWARRA MISSION.

Mr. RICHES: The Education Department, following repeated requests from the Port Augusta district, sent Mr. Piddington and Mr. Price to conduct a survey of children who might benefit from the establishment of an additional remedial class and a senior opportunity class, and to report on the standard of education provided for children from the Umeewarra Aboriginal Mission. Can the Minister of Education give the House, not today but later, a résumé of the recommendations of those officers and a statement on the policy of the department in giving effect to any recommendation?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: The reports of those two officers will have been made to the Director of Education, not to myself, but I shall be pleased to comply with the honourable member's request, discuss the matter with the Director, and bring down a report.

#### SCHOOL CONTRACTS.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: I understand the Government intends to let contracts for some schools this year. Much money is being spent by the Public Buildings Department on workshops, etc. Because of the present tendency in the building trade towards working piecemeal, we shall be short of journeymen or tradesmen in many building operations. Will the Treasurer consider, with his Cabinet, the

possibility of the Public Buildings Department's organizing a building squad to erect one or more of these schools instead of letting them out to contract? It will involve day labour and will, of course, embrace some phases of the work that must be done by sub-contract—for instance, solid floors.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The policy of the Government for many years (and also, I think, of all Governments preceding it in South Australia) has been to call for tenders where practicable for the erection of new buildings. I know of no fairer way of distributing work. At present there is a shortage of work in the building industry and if the Government employed its own work force others would be denied the opportunity of getting work. The Government's policy of calling tenders for public buildings has proved satisfactory and will be continued.

#### INSECTICIDES.

Mr. HARDING: At present, insecticides are used for spraying fruit trees and vegetables and for dipping sheep and cattle. Producers are concerned at the cost. Included in the materials I have in mind are Dieldrin, DDT, lindane, phenyl and chemicals used to quieten bees when inspecting and robbing hives and in caponizing cockerels. Although the flesh of these animals and the honey may have only a slight and harmless trace of the insecticides, they could be refused entry into the United States. This could be fatal if we lose some European markets. Will the Minister of Agriculture obtain reports at State and Commonwealth levels on this matter?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will obtain a report at the State level.

#### HAWKER WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. CASEY: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked last week about a water supply for Hawker?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Engineer-in-Chief has advised me that the new bore sunk by the Mines Department to supplement the supply from the Hawker reservoir proved to be a total failure. The bore purchased from the Commonwealth railways has been giving considerable trouble with sand and the new bore which was sunk close to it was intended to take its place. The department will continue to use the old Commonwealth railways bore at a reduced output to try and overcome sand troubles which are thought to be due to breaks in the casing. Consideration has been given from time to time to improvements to the Hawker supply and at the present time the district engineer is examining a proposal for

a large storage tank. The Hawker reservoir received an intake a few weeks ago and at present the quantity stored in it is 2,217,000 gallons.

#### PENONG POLICE.

Mr. BOCKELBERG: I understand that the policeman at Fowlers Bay is to be transferred and that a patrol policeman will be stationed at Penong. As this is the last station before the Western Australian border and for some distance beyond, will the Premier ascertain whether a second policeman will be stationed at Penong or will the officer perform the patrol duties in addition to his present work?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I am not aware of the details but will get the information and let the honourable member have it, probably tomorrow.

#### COOBER PEDY SCHOOL.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question concerning the Coober Pedy school?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: I have been advised that the new wooden school building comprising three classrooms and other usual amenities will be erected at Coober Pedy during October or November of this year.

#### PADTHAWAY RECREATION LAND.

Mr. NANKIVELL: The Padthaway Progress Association has asked me whether it could receive financial assistance, by way of subsidy, for the purchase of a recreation reserve. Last week the Premier, in reply to a question asked by the Leader of the Opposition, said that the Government would subsidize 50 per cent of the Land Board's valuation of any land purchased for recreational purposes. Can the Premier say whether this applies only to purchases by councils or whether the Government would subsidize land purchased by a progress association?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Government's policy has been to subsidize approved purchases for which councils are responsible. When bodies other than councils are concerned problems arise, including trustee problems. If the honourable member wants this proposition considered he should approach the local council to see whether it is prepared to sponsor and assume responsibility for it.

#### PENSIONERS' RAIL CONCESSIONS.

Mr. RICHES: Earlier this session the Premier promised to make representations to the Commonwealth Railways Department about concession fares for country pensioners. The South Australian Railways Department now

provides country pensioners with two warrants a year to come to Adelaide and I asked the Premier to ascertain whether the Commonwealth would grant similar concessions to pensioners travelling on Commonwealth lines in this State. Has he a reply?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: No reply has come to my notice so I assume none has arrived. I will inquire and let the honourable member know.

#### MORPHETT STREET BRIDGE.

Mr. LAWN (on notice): Has the Government any plans for the reconstruction of the Morphett Street bridge?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Commissioner of Highways reports:

Under Section 2 of the Highways Act, the Corporation of the City of Adelaide is excluded from the provisions of the Act. Accordingly, this department does not carry out any works in the city area.

#### KESWICK BRIDGE.

Mr. LAWN (on notice):

1. Is it intended to widen the Keswick bridge?
2. If so, when is it anticipated that this work will begin?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Commissioner of Highways reports:

1. It is proposed to widen the Keswick bridge.

2. It is not possible at this stage to indicate when the work will begin. Survey work has been carried out, and design aspects are under consideration.

#### GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES.

Mr. LAWN (on notice): What was the number of State Government employees at June 30, 1953, and June 30, 1961, respectively?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Deputy Government Statistician advises that the number of State Government employees at the dates specified were (figure adjusted to nearest 100): June 30, 1953, 33,600; June 30, 1961, 44,700.

#### WHIPPINGS.

Mr. DUNSTAN (on notice):

1. How many adult offenders have been whipped in South Australia in the last 10 years?
2. How many of these have had subsequent convictions (a) in this State; (b) elsewhere?
3. How many juvenile offenders have been given corporal punishment in the last 10 years?
4. How many of these have had subsequent convictions?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The replies are:

1. 17.

2. (a) One. This person's subsequent conviction was in no way related to his original offence.

(b) Not known.

3. Five. These were canings (not whippings) administered by officers of the Prisons Department. These do not include corporal punishment administered by parents at the instance of the court. Police officers do not administer canings, but may be required to witness a caning carried out by a parent.

4. Nil.

**DENTISTS ACT.**

Mr. LOVEDAY (on notice): Is it the intention of the Government during this session to introduce an amendment of the Dentists Act to resolve the conflict between sections 40 and 48 and to confirm the intention of the legislation as expressed in section 40 (c) of this Act?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Board advises:

The Board is aware of the conflict between sections 40 and 48 of the Act and is of opinion that the intention of the legislation is expressed in section 40 (c) and that section 48 (b) was overlooked in the drafting. Under these circumstances the matter is not regarded as urgent and will be tidied up on some future occasion.

**RAILWAY CROSSINGS.**

Mr. Lawn, for Mr. RALSTON (on notice):

1. Do metropolitan local governing bodies contribute towards the cost of installing flash-

ing lights and/or other warning devices at railway road crossings, within their particular areas?

2. If so, which such bodies have contributed and what percentage of the total cost of each installation have they paid?

3. What is the number of crossings involved and the total cost to each such body?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Railways Commissioner reports:

1. Metropolitan local governing bodies do contribute from time to time towards the cost of installing flashing lights or other warning devices at railway road crossings.

2. Bodies which have contributed are shown on the following table setting out costs, percentages and locations where warning equipment has been installed or altered.

3. The total number of crossings involved is six—and the total cost to each of the bodies is:

	£
Highways and Local Government Department . . . . .	17,388
Corporation of the City of Woodville . . . . .	3,150
Corporation of the City of Unley . . . . .	2,107
Corporation of the City of Marion . . . . .	820
Corporation of the City of Mitcham . . . . .	820

As the reply indicates, details are submitted in a schedule, and I ask permission to have it incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RAILWAYS.**

*Locations where metropolitan local governing bodies have contributed to the cost of installing flashing lights and/or other warning devices.*

Location.	Work.	Total cost. £	Disbursement. £	Body.	Percentage.
Emerson (Cross Roads)	Automatic gates, *F.L. and T.L.	11,733	2,460	Unley Cor. £820	} 7% each 21% total
				Mitcham Cor. £820	
				Marion Cor. £820	
Goodwood (Leader St.)	Automatic gates, *F.L. and T.L.	7,979	1,287	Unley Cor. . . . .	16%
Kilkenny	Automatic gates, *F.L. and T.L.	6,290	3,150	Woodville Cor. . .	50%
Rosewater (Grand Junction Road)	F.L. . . . .	2,385	1,495	H. & L.G. . . . .	63%
Pooraka (Main North Road)	Automatic gates and F.L.	24,619	15,329	H. & L.G. . . . .	62%
Dry Creek (Grand Junction Road)	Moving F.L. account widening	564	564	H. & L.G. . . . .	100%

\*F.L. = Flashing lights.

T.L. = Traffic lights.



*Totals to Bodies.*

	£
H. & L.G. . . . .	17,388
Woodville . . . . .	3,150
Unley . . . . .	2,107
Marion . . . . .	820
Mitcham . . . . .	820

## RAILWAY HOARDINGS.

Mr. FRED WALSH (on notice): What amount of revenue was received during the 12 months ended June 30, 1961, as rental for each of the advertising hoardings at the crossing of Railway Terrace and Hilton Road and at the eastern end of West Beach Road behind the Keswick railway station?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Railways Commissioner reports:

Hoardings—Railway Terrace and Hilton Road crossing, £147 per annum. (All signs under one contract.) Hoardings—eastern end of West Beach Road, £72 per annum.

## DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES.

Mr. FRANK WALSH (on notice):

1. What was the average cost of building the 900 class diesel locomotives?

2. What was the average cost of purchasing the 930 and 940 class diesel locomotives respectively?

3. What additional costs have been incurred in the strengthening of the cracked underframes of 930 and 940 class diesels?

4. What is the estimated cost of completing the strengthening of the underframes on 930 and 940 class diesels?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Railways Commissioner reports:

1. £114,000.

2. £116,500.

3. £4,800.

4. £3,200.

It should be noted that the average hourly wage rate during the period of construction of the '900' class locomotives was 5s. 4.5d., whereas the average hourly wage for the period December 16, 1955, to July 8, 1959, during which the locomotives '930' to '949' were supplied, was 7s. 6d. The cost of strengthening the underframes is being borne by the contractors. There has not been any severe cracking requiring removal of locomotives from traffic. The strengthening is being carried out when the locomotives are brought into Islington on heavy service.

DIESEL HYDRAULIC SHUNT  
LOCOMOTIVES.

Mr. FRANK WALSH (on notice): Is it intended to call tenders for the supply of 10 diesel hydraulic shunt locomotives, and if so, when?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Railways Commissioner reports that there is no intention

at present of calling tenders for the supply of 10 diesel hydraulic shunt locomotives.

## SEMAPHORE RAILWAY TANK.

Mr. TAPPING (on notice): Is it necessary to retain the elevated tank located on railway property at the western end of Semaphore railway station?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Railways Commissioner reports:

No. Consideration is at present being given to its removal.

## SWIMMING CAMPAIGN.

Mr. TAPPING (on notice): Is the Minister of Education in a position to report on the conduct of the schools' learn-to-swim campaign held last summer?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: Last summer's learn-to-swim campaign was the most successful ever conducted by the Education Department. Enrolments for swimming classes held in term time numbered 21,384 and those in the vacation classes were 22,445, making a total of 43,829. Vacation classes were held at 95 centres; 75 were in country districts and 20 in the metropolitan area.

A total of 27,587 beginners, progress, junior and senior swimming certificates were gained; 13,181 Royal Life Saving Society awards were received by school children; and 2,061 awards were gained by Teachers College students. Total enrolments since the learn-to-swim campaign was initiated in 1955-56 have now reached 200,000. Of the 60,000 pupils in departmental schools who are 11 years of age or over, about 78 per cent can now swim.

## ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption, which Mr. Frank Walsh had moved to amend.

(For wording of amendment see page 140.)

(Continued from July 27. Page 158.)

Mr. HALL (Gouger): I welcome this opportunity once again to express views on matters concerning the welfare of the people of this State. I most heartily support the Address-in-Reply as initially drafted. I intend to touch on some matters pertaining to my district, to mention Electricity Trust tariffs and then to say something about the Australian Labor Party and about Communism, particularly as it applies to this State. I join with other speakers in expressing my pleasure at hearing the opening Speech of His Excellency the Governor. I am sure all members were pleased that so soon after his

arrival in this State we were able to hear him open this session.

I congratulate the mover and seconder of this motion. I think that they performed their duties outstandingly well, and that the matters they mentioned were of vital importance to the State. I congratulate the member for Barossa on his spirited defence of arbitration, which was well worthy of the beliefs he holds so strongly and of his backing of the system of arbitration we have in this State and the Commonwealth. In my opinion the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition is nothing less than a repudiation of the system of arbitration we have at present. The matters raised by the mover and seconder about water supplies were of great importance. I thought that the mover's reference to desalination was topical, and that the seconder's remarks concerning the resources and the water-shed of the whole system of the Murray Valley were invaluable.

I feel that in some ways we are wasting the talents of a man such as the member for Chaffey, who has a great knowledge of the resources and the needs of the Murray Valley. I would say that his speech will be a reference that we can use in *Hansard* in future discussions on the Murray Valley. I should like to see his researches carried further, perhaps in a semi-official capacity. If a man such as the member for Chaffey were to inquire (or be a member of a committee that could inquire) into water resources and the needs of this State, I am sure that he would devote his talents in a way that would benefit all.

Mr. Clark: Would you advise him to get out of Parliament to do so?

Mr. HALL: Most certainly not; we could easily appoint a Parliamentary committee to look into the necessary aspects of water utilization here. The honourable member could help such a committee a great deal. It has been said that we could produce fresh water from salt water, and that we should conserve more water from our reservoirs and, although that may be true, I feel that we as a community can give more thought to water conservation as we use it. A great wastage of water is going on in industry and in private homes. I know of one industry that is using much water for cooling purposes; it was getting this water at a rate that was so attractive that there was no incentive to put in a cooling tower. Those people let the water run through from the mains to cool their operative processes in their industry,

and it was a one way trip because the water went straight down the sewers. That is one instance where a cooling tower would have enabled that water to be re-circulated and used again and again.

We know that private homes nowadays can be supplied with a washing machine that will use from 30gall. to 40gall. in one wash to wash 9 lb. of clothing, but we should ban machines like that in this country. Using 30gall. or 40gall. of water to wash 9 lb. of clothing is almost a crime against the needs of this State. I am sure we must look very hard at our use of water. One Government department—I think it is the Mines Department—has developed a toilet that will flush out on six pints of water. These may be small matters, but collectively they mean the saving of many millions of gallons of water in this State. That is what I mean when I say that men of the calibre of the member for Chaffey could make a contribution to a committee that could well look into aspects perhaps a little wider than a Government department can handle at present. Members are well aware that we in the district of Gougèr have been honoured by the choice of the site for a sewage treatment works that will serve Adelaide.

Mr. Ryan: That is appropriate.

Mr. HALL: I believe I have mentioned before that there is a possibility of using the effluent, after it has been treated, for agricultural pursuits. On investigation I find the question is technical in many respects as it relates to levels and soil tests over a wide area; therefore, it is a matter for experts. The Public Works Committee, in recommending that these works go ahead, stated:

The committee is of the opinion that every effort should be made to find some economic way of making use of the effluent. At the same time it recognizes that the quality of the effluent may limit its usefulness for irrigation, and that a soil survey of any area available for irrigation would be necessary to determine the likely effect of continued application of the effluent. The committee suggests that a committee of experts including officers from the Department of Lands, the Department of Agriculture and the Engineering and Water Supply Department should be appointed to report on possible uses of effluent for irrigation.

I maintain that it is time now for that committee to be appointed to look into this important question, because I believe that the system will be used in the next three or four years. This committee might conduct an investigation that would take years to complete, so I say it is time now for it to be appointed.

Another matter pertaining to the abattoirs concerns the abattoirs' offal. We have in the district of Gouger many tomato-growers who in the past have used this offal for manure in their gardens. It is evident to anyone who has had anything to do with this offal, or who has seen it, that it will breed flies. The people in my area have come under a health ban regarding the use of this manure and, although that ban has been applied intelligently, there has been an increase in the fly population since it has been used. I should greatly appreciate the Department of Agriculture's investigating this matter during the next few months, so that some method of treatment or control might be devised by which this manure could, with impunity, be used in the market gardens in my area. If this offal could be used it would benefit not only the abattoirs, which has a disposal problem on its hands, but also those growers who at present cannot get the same production from the application of an alternative additive to their soil.

I now turn to the question of Electricity Trust tariffs and their application, especially to country areas in this State. I believe that our goal should ultimately be one price for electricity throughout the State. Some people will ask, "What is the justification for that?" I would say at the beginning, however, the great proportion of the trust's funds is supplied by the Treasury of this State. As an analogy, I think we could perhaps turn to another department of the State (namely, the Railways Department) and ask "What is the financial investment of the railways?" If we asked that question we would find that most of the investment was in the country because, obviously, that is where most of the lines are. However, even though those lines are in the country would any member say that they are there especially for the country man? No, because the rail lines bring the produce of the country to the city and to the ports. They take back the products of this city. We as country dwellers want the products of this city, and the city wants the products of the country. More than that, the products that the city does not use from the country are sold overseas and they bring in export income that the city uses to supply its factories with raw materials.

My point is that this State, comprising country and city, is completely interdependent. Our society is completely interdependent and, if we in the country can bring our goods to the city, they are sold in the open market in most

instances. The consumer in the city pays what he thinks the goods are worth.

Mr. Lawn: That's a good one!

Mr. HALL: If members opposite study the marketing methods of this State, they will find there is something in it.

Mr. Lawn: You wouldn't know!

Mr. HALL: It can be seen from a study of the marketing of products of this State that the railways are in the country for the equal benefit of city and country people. That thinking can also be applied directly to the installation of electric power in this State. The people in the country produce what the city wants and the people in the metropolitan area produce what the country wants. We have installed throughout the country an electric power system that assists us in that production. That present investment in country lines is not solely there for country people.

Mr. Fred Walsh: How does that help the marketing?

Mr. HALL: It is not there solely for the country people. There is no justification for having a different price for country and city consumers. We know that it costs more to take electricity to country consumers than it does to supply city consumers. I congratulate the Electricity Trust on running its affairs on a businesslike basis, but the trust takes a unit viewpoint of its own business. We must take a viewpoint for the whole of the State. From a country viewpoint, it would be a brave man who could assess how much of the value of each job belonged to each section of the community. In fact, our investments on a State basis are becoming so widespread and their benefits are going on from one location to another so extensively that we can hardly at this stage say that £20,000,000 is being spent there for those people, and £10,000,000 for these people, because they are so inter-woven in their social and trading life that it is, after all, now one investment. I do not in any way wish to enter into an argument that so many millions of pounds is being invested in the country and so many in the city, because it is not valid. We are here in the State for each other's benefit.

To give some idea to honourable members of what one price would cost us in this State, I have done some calculations based on the Electricity Trust's report of last year. Unfortunately, the figures that are vital in some instances are not there and have to be obtained in other ways. I have a list of unofficial

calculations to back up my theory that we can, painlessly, have one price in the main country residential consuming areas.

In March, 1961, £84,000,000 was invested in the trust, £36,000,000 of which was in generating equipment and £45,000,000 in distribution networks. This percentage includes all lines such as the lines from Port Augusta to Adelaide, which can be considered neutral as they bear the electricity to the main centre from which other distribution goes in all directions. Therefore, we can deduct the cost of the three lines from Port Augusta to Adelaide (between £4,000,000 and £5,000,000) and say that the capital cost is reduced to £40,000,000, which is about 48 per cent of the trust's total capitalization. This distribution capital bears interest at the rate of £1,600,000 a year out of a total interest of £3,300,000. The actual cost of running that distribution system is £1,825,000. Depreciation is nearly £2,000,000 for the whole of the trust, of which £1,000,000 can be fairly apportioned to distribution. Thus, the total yearly share for distribution of the whole cost to the trust would be about £4,400,000. Therefore, although the distribution system of the trust requires 48 per cent of the capital of the trust, it requires only 29 per cent of the operating costs. It is only the collection of this amount that must be considered when we talk of one price between country and city in regard to electricity consumers.

I said that I could not get some figures but, by going to populations of areas, I have approximate figures listing the numbers of consumers for each tariff zone. I find there would be 162,000 domestic consumers in Zone 1, 10,000 domestic consumers in Zone 2, 18,000 in Zone 3, and 37,000 in Zone 4. With an average domestic consumption of 2,520 kilowatt hours a year, a city consumer is charged on a single-meter tariff, which I take to bring the whole figure into line. I think that is one that can be applied in all fairness. On a single-meter tariff, he will pay an average of £25 3s. 8d. a year or £4,079,700 for the whole of Zone 1. The single-meter tariff in Zone 2 would produce £26 9s. 4d. a year, and £264,670 for the whole of Zone 2, £12,840 extra to what it would have if it had been on a Zone 1 basis. The yearly average for Zone 3 is £28 15s. 8d., or £66,800 above what it would be were it on Zone 1 tariff. Zones 4 and 5 (which I have combined) pay a yearly average of £32 18s., or £295,529 more than they would were they on Zone 1 tariff. I do not claim that these calculations are exact, but they are not

significantly wrong and have not been loaded one way or another. On these figures country residential consumers pay £375,000 a year more than they would pay were they on the city tariff.

Mr. Millhouse: Would you comment on the additional cost involved in supplying them?

Mr. HALL: I thought I had fully covered that when I drew an analogy with the railways. We are so interwoven that no-one can say we live in the country for our benefit alone or that city people live here for their benefit alone. If this £375,000 were spread over all consumers the city consumer would pay £1 13s. a year more, or 8s. 3d. a quarter; the Zone 2 resident would pay 7s. 4d. a year more, or 1s. 10d. a quarter; Zone 3 residents would pay £1 19s. a year less or 9s. 9d. a quarter; and Zone 4 and 5 residents would pay £6 1s. 4d. a year less or £1 10s. 4d. a quarter. I am not suggesting that this should be done immediately. I do not want to unjustly confront city consumers with an increase in their electricity charges.

Mr. Millhouse: I am glad you admit it would be unjust.

Mr. HALL: It would be unjust in their eyes, but not in mine.

Mr. Millhouse: You are on the receiving end, though!

Mr. HALL: Country people can hardly be considered to be on the receiving end when they pay £7 a year more for electricity than city people. They pay many surcharges for the capital installation of lines.

Mr. Lawn: Do country consumers pay a higher tariff than city consumers?

Mr. HALL: I said that I do not recommend that this be put into immediate effect.

Mr. Laucke: It should be a long range programme.

Mr. HALL: Yes, and it should be the policy of this Government and of the trust.

Mr. Loveday: Do country consumers pay more than city consumers?

Mr. HALL: Apparently the honourable member has not been listening.

Mr. Lawn: Do you say definitely that country people pay a higher tariff?

Mr. HALL: I thought the honourable member could have followed these figures. If the honourable member had listened, instead of writing, he would have heard.

Mr. Lawn: Obviously they should not receive a lower basic wage.

Mr. HALL: If Zones 4 and 5 were abolished it would cost the trust £150,000 a year. The trust's finances are unlikely to remain stagnant; they will increase or decrease over the next few years.

Mr. Clark: Either one or the other?

Mr. HALL: The honourable member knows that few things remain static in this State, except the political representation which is static because of the public viewpoint.

Mr. Loveday: That does not respond to supply and demand, does it?

Mr. HALL: The abolition of Zones 4 and 5 would cost the trust £150,000 annually. If the price of electricity increases (and I am told it probably will not) the equalization could begin by leaving country tariffs as they are and by increasing the city tariff until it reaches the same level as the country tariff. If, on the other hand, the trust's profits increase it could immediately abolish some of the country tariff zones. The most just way would be to abolish Zones 4 and 5 first. At present there are about 65,000 country residential users and 162,000 city residential users. The ratio of country industrial users to city industrial users would not be near as great, because of the concentration of industry in the city. When I first investigated the matter of tariffs I expected the cost of an equalization programme of tariff charges would be far more adverse. I contend it is feasible for the trust to immediately implement a policy of justice in electricity charges by reducing some of the outer country tariffs if the trust's financial position improves, or by increasing the inner tariffs if the trust's financial position worsens.

Mr. McKee: Do you think that heavier country charges are hampering decentralization?

Mr. HALL: Members opposite are certainly trying to put words in my mouth. We can see how far this State and this country have come under sound leadership. We have achieved an almost surprising Budgetary result in the surplus of over £1,000,000, which is huge in a total Budget of about £100,000,000. I am sure we can go a long way further if we can maintain this leadership, as I know we shall, but I am most concerned about some of the leadership this State is getting. We know that some of the Labor Party's Commonwealth election proposals have been based on an auction system and that, in 1954, these proposals would have cost this country an extra £372,000,000. In 1955, its proposals would have meant an increased spending of £187,000,000, and in 1958 an

increase of £165,000,000. All Labor's financial policy is based on incredible contradiction. We have recently had an economic squeeze partially based on the hire-purchase industry, yet the Leader of the Opposition has said in this House that there are not enough controls on hire-purchase. That is an incredible contradiction.

Mr. Lawn: You think we should have fewer controls, do you?

Mr. HALL: I am pointing out the contradiction. The results of the squeeze have come largely from restrictions on hire-purchase credit, yet the Leader of the Opposition has deplored the results while saying that we want more controls on hire-purchase. He is supported in the Commonwealth sphere by Mr. Calwell.

Mr. Fred Walsh: You are not saying that that is a cause of the squeeze, are you?

Mr. HALL: It is a great contributing factor.

Mr. Fred Walsh: Don't you study the overseas position?

Mr. HALL: I have studied it, and I know that measures taken on hire-purchase are a considerable factor. Nothing the honourable member says will explain this contradiction. His Party wants more control over an industry that is now apparently suffering from over-control.

Mr. McKee: Don't you think their rates are too high?

Mr. HALL: Further control will completely wreck the hire-purchase industry. I am not saying that it is completely wrong to do so; I am speaking about the contradiction from the other side. The main point of dissent in this community with the Labor Party is not finance but the collaboration in many fields of its members with Communists. I do not say that lightly. This anti-Communist fear in this State has kept the Labor Party out of office for a long time and I imagine that it will keep it out of power for a long time yet. I have here some quotations made by other Labor men.

Mr. Clark: Tell us about the Liberal Party.

Mr. HALL: I will tell the House something about this collaboration. At the outset let me say that I am not in any way anti-union, as I am a member of a union.

Mr. Fred Walsh: The Farmers' Union.

Mr. HALL: No, the Wheat and Wool-growers' Association, which is a union for the benefit of the people who join it in their

occupation. Many unions have had a great past and will have a great future, and I wish them success, but I know that many are being misled in this time of great national danger, which we know is due to international Communist influence. We are getting collaboration between union members and Communists at top union level, not at the bottom.

Mr. Ryan: What are you doing about it?

Mr. HALL: I am telling the House about it. If the honourable member likes to take an anti-Communist viewpoint, let him tell us about it; I will not stop him. The attitude of many Labor members of Parliament also is puzzling. Senator Kennelly is a man who, I always thought, stood high in the Party. The *Bulletin* contained the following report:

P. J. Kennelly, Deputy Opposition Leader in the Senate, said that if he were a waterside worker he would vote for Jim Healy, Communist General Secretary of the Waterside Workers Federation.

Mr. Ryan: Is that all he said?

Mr. HALL: He said a lot more than that.

Mr. Ryan: What about the proviso?

Mr. HALL: I have not got the proviso, but that phrase is significant to me.

Mr. Loveday: Why don't you give the full quotation?

Mr. HALL: I have not got it, but I will give some more quotations.

Mr. Riches: Other people praised Jim Healy recently.

Mr. HALL: I did not, I assure the honourable member. Dr. Cairns, M.H.R., who is apparently the leading economist in the Australian Labor Party and a member of the Labor shadow cabinet, wrote in the *Students Magazine* of the University of Western Australia:

It is not a matter of leaders, parties or who is on the side of the Federal executive or the State branch, as it was in New South Wales in the 1930's and Victoria in 1955. It is not a matter of being for or against unity tickets that counts. The only thing that counts is whether you are for the socialization of the means of production.

They are Dr. Cairns' words, and it is easy to find that the emphasis is on the last sentence.

Mr. Loveday: What do you deduce from that?

Mr. Ryan: Is there anything wrong with that?

Mr. HALL: That is indicative of the thought that I am trying to point out exists. An interpretation that any student of the English language would give is that socialization of the means of production comes before the safety of this country, and that statement was made by

Dr. Cairns, a leading member of the Labor Party.

Mr. Ryan: When are you coming to the point?

Mr. HALL: If the honourable member cannot see that the safety of the country is the point at this time, I will try to impress it on him.

Mr. Ryan: You are not accusing Labor members of not having the security of the country at heart?

Mr. HALL: I will have something more to say in a moment about the security of the country. I shall presently quote, from an independent news source, some words that may interest the honourable member.

Mr. Ryan: Who governed the country during the war when we were in danger?

Mr. HALL: Addressing a meeting at Moss Vale in New South Wales, Senator J. P. Ormonde, a Labor senator and former vice-president of the New South Wales Labor Party, said:—

The President of the New York Stock Exchange (Mr. G. Funston), when he visited Australia recently, forecast the emergence of people's capitalism, mass ownership of shares by wage earners. Such a scheme would lead to tame-cat unionism. If this system gets a hold in Australia, unions will be powerless here as they are in Russia, as far as wages and conditions are concerned. Labor must meet the challenge of this Funstonian people's capitalism.

There we have a leading Labor politician saying that we must meet the challenge of people owning things. That is what he says: we must meet the challenge of people owning a small portion of this country in which they live. Wouldn't it be a disaster if all the 70 per cent of Australia's population who are buying their own homes got to know this! Why doesn't the Labor Party tell them? Seventy per cent of the people are owning something of this country, and Senator Ormonde says it is wrong.

Mr. Hughes: I wish you would tell us something about our unemployed instead of this.

Mr. HALL: Mr. Arthur Caldwell absolutely dismayed his followers in his last television broadcast. I can tell the honourable member that one will not combat unemployment by trying to repudiate arbitration in this country, which is another communistic approach; in fact, one of their main purposes in this country is to wreck arbitration. If members of the Labor Party cannot stand up to what is going on in this country, that is not my fault.

Mr. Ryan: They are all Communists, are they?

Mr. HALL: If members opposite want to hear about a unity ticket, I have plenty of information in a little booklet I have here and from which I should like to quote. The heading to this article is, "What is a unity ticket?" The article, written by John Williams, is called, "A detailed exposure of unity tickets."

Mr. Ryan: Who is he?

Mr. HALL: Probably a Democratic Labor Party member and a well-known anti-Communist. The article reads:

When you go along to vote in Federal or State elections, each Party hands you its "How-to-vote" card at the polling booth. In exactly the same way, in all elections in important trade unions, how-to-vote "cards" or "tickets" are circulated by the opposing teams, advising union members how to mark their ballot papers. Here is a "unity ticket." It was issued by a Communist-A.L.P. team in the July, 1960 elections in the Melbourne Branch of the Waterside Workers' Federation.

It goes on to mention many names that would mean nothing to members on this side of the House, although they may be known to members opposite. It then states:

A "unity ticket" is a how-to-vote card for a union election in which:

The "team" is made up of members of the A.L.P. and the Communist Party; The positions in the union are shared between members of the A.L.P. and Communist Party.

It is drawn up so that:

No Communist is opposed by an A.L.P. member;

No A.L.P. member is opposed by a Communist.

Thus A.L.P. members work for and seek the election of Communists, who always get the key position—whether it is secretary or organizer or president. In a statement in the *Age* (7/1/58) the Victorian A.L.P. secretary (Mr. J. Tripovich) explained that a unity ticket was one "which deceived the voter into supporting a Communist candidate in the belief that he was voting for the A.L.P." The operational word is "deceived"! How is the voter deceived? He is deceived because he sees well-known A.L.P. names on the "ticket"; he therefore presumes that all the names are of A.L.P. men, or, if he knows that some are Communists, that the A.L.P. endorses them as well. Through this deception, the Communist Party is enabled to control many important trade unions.

We know that, Mr. Speaker. If there is anything else the Opposition thinks is lacking, I can go on and quote, because there is much information in this booklet.

Mr. Loveday: What do you call it when Liberals vote for a Communist candidate?

Mr. HALL: Does it happen?

Mr. Loveday: I can bring you evidence of it.

Mr. HALL: The member for Port Adelaide is well aware that at a recent election in the Waterside Workers' Federation there was no A.L.P. candidate. Of course, this was not a unity ticket; it was going much further than that, for the Labor Party just did not put up a candidate; it let the Communists have the position. We have people in the Waterside Workers' Federation who are good Labor people and staunch supporters of the security of this country, with no-one to vote for except a Communist or a D.L.P. man whom they may not like, because their own Party has completely deserted them. If members would like the figures from South Australia, I have them here. A report in the *Advertiser*, headed "Sydney, July 5", states:

Sydney waterside workers have voted for the Federal General Secretary of the Waterside Workers' Federation (Mr. J. Healy) by a majority of almost 7 to 1. Mr. Healy is certain to be re-elected to the secretaryship. His only opponent is Mr. V. C. Alford, a member of the Democratic Labor Party. A ballot to elect Federal officials of the W.W.F. was held in 56 Australian ports on Monday. Returns so far indicate that Mr. Healy, a Communist, will be re-elected by an overwhelming majority. Port Pirie has voted 175 for Mr. Healy, 48 for Mr. Alford.

Of course, that was no true expression of the feelings of the people at Port Pirie, because they did not have a candidate of their own choice.

Mr. Ryan: What do you want them to do—vote informal?

Mr. HALL: No, I want them to have a candidate of their own choice. The Labor Party let it go unchallenged, and it is a shameful position when the Party goes one further than a unity ticket and has no candidate at all. I am concerned with the representation of decent unionists, who lack leadership and are completely without voice in a most important sphere. I am concerned with their life and their conditions, and the effect their union can have in the running of this country. They are completely without leadership. We can go back to the origins of this lamentable position. After the war, the Communists infiltrated the Labor Party to a great degree, and Mr. Chifley at one time threatened to call out the Army reserve in some industrial fields (although I do not know that he actually did). Then there was the institution of the industrial group, which fought successfully the Communist influence in Australian industrial life. The Commonwealth Labor Leader (Dr. H. V. Evatt) at that time strangely turned upon the industrial groups.

His is a continual history of the defence of Communism. He appeared for certain Communist parties in the Petrov case, and in many other cases he appeared for the Communists and was often successful. He was successful in wrecking the industrial groups within the Australian Labor Party. His views were endorsed by a strange Labor Conference held in Hobart in 1955. In 1954 Mr. Keon said:

The Federal executive has torn up the rules of the A.L.P. It now proposes to hold a special conference to which non members of the A.L.P., including Communists, fellow travellers . . . will be admitted as delegates. The 17th congress of the Communist Party resolved that the defeat of the independent groups in the Labor Party and the formation of a united front with the progressive militant section of the party to eliminate the right wing was its major objective.

In New South Wales, the Labor Party Executive said:

We express profound concern at the possible results of this inexcusable act against the only organized body meeting the threat of Communism in the trade unions.

That is what Labor people thought of this action, this destruction of the Communist opposition. So by their action they achieved Communist tactics and objectives—the abolition of the industrial group. Communist tactics succeeded. We do not see here a part of Labor Party policy being carried out: we see Communist Party policy being carried out by Labor people.

Mr. Lawn: Are you a Commo?

Mr. HALL: No. It is all very fine to talk of other States because they have these troubles which we do not have here, but let me quote from the *News Weekly*. Members opposite will know it.

Mr. Loveday: That is a very reliable source of information!

Mr. HALL: I quote from the back page of the *News Weekly* of December 16, 1959:

A railwayman who admitted being an executive officer of the Communist Party is one of those elected on a unity ticket in the South Australian A.R.U. elections, recently concluded. He was elected as vice-president of the branch and also as one of two delegates to the Railways Union's supreme national body—the Australian Council. A retired member of the union swore a statutory declaration that the member concerned, S. G. Heath, had "freely disclosed to me that he was an executive officer of the Communist Party in the State of South Australia". Heath's name appeared with those of members of the A.L.P. on a how-to-vote ticket which was authorized by a member of the A.L.P. State organizer of the union, Arthur Dennison, himself a candidate in the election.

So we come away from Victoria where this evil is rife, and from Queensland and New South Wales, and we find it going on under the noses of the members opposite.

Mr. McKee: What do you intend to do about it?

Mr. HALL: Will the situation continue? They are in a position to do something about it.

Mr. Lawn: Tell the truth: that the Labor Party in Australia expelled two persons this year for the very thing you are complaining of.

Mr. HALL: For what?

Mr. Lawn: You don't understand it.

Mr. HALL: The honourable member will not come out and say it was on a unity ticket. One was in the meat industry. I am told that the two members were very expendable as far as the Labor Party was concerned. When Labor members come up against someone who is too strong for them, why do they just sit and do nothing but make excuses? Let them get up and defend their participation in unity tickets.

Mr. Lawn: One was unnamed.

Mr. HALL: There is plenty of opportunity to defend this publicly. Every time they mention unity tickets, they get in deeper. This is what Mr. Sharkey said:

The decisions of the Hobart A.L.P. Conference can be supported by Communists and open up tremendous possibilities for united front work with Labor Party members.

That, of course, is going right back to the fact of these foundations—Dr. Evatt's attack, the endorsement of this policy by the A.L.P. Conference in Hobart, and Communist approval of it. An extract from the *Australian Worker* of March, 1961, states:

For the last four annual elections of the Queensland Trades and Labor Council all 15 Communists on the Executive and subcommittees have been unopposed. There has, in fact, been no election—exactly 45 nominations for 45 positions.

Mr. Lawn: Yes. We have known for a long time. I think the honourable member is a subscriber to D.L.P. funds.

Mr. HALL: Every Australian should ask himself why he is not a good anti-Communist. The Labor Party will not take a stand on this matter. It will talk about it and say that it is anti-Communist. I do not doubt that it is sincere, but it will not actively participate; it will give no leadership. I quote now from the *Bulletin*, which is a very good paper.

Mr. Ryan: A good worker's paper!

Mr. HALL: It will improve the education of the people of this country. I quote from a heading, "The perplexing paradox of the



D.L.P." If honourable members want more of the text, I will read the lot:

If the Labor Party were capable of action instead of enacting the umpteenth act of its dreary political tragedy it could still just possibly save the day for itself.

It goes on to say:

It is no criticism of the D.L.P. to say that so far it has been primarily a pressure group determined to destroy Labor's chances. The dismantling of the A.L.P. industrial groups, the entry into the A.L.P. of Communists and fellow-travellers, the subsequent collaboration with Communists in union battles, and the preparation of what was, in effect, a pro-Communist foreign policy—

Mr. Lawn: You collaborate with the D.L.P., and that is just as bad.

Mr. HALL: It continues:

are all good reasons for any Australian who cherishes his liberty, and indeed his life, to wish to see the present kind of Labor Party destroyed. And the D.L.P. is destroying it.

Mr. Riches: Will the honourable member answer a question for me?

Mr. HALL: My question is: why do we not get leadership from those people who are in a position to give it, who are in close contact with the unions? Is it money that they are worried about? Is it because the Party cannot afford to lose the financial support of these unions that it does not put up candidates? In the *Seamen's Journal* of December, 1958, under the date-line "Canberra, November 25, 1958" the following appears:

On behalf of my co-trustees Dr. Evatt and Mr. Calwell I desire to thank your union for its very generous contributions to the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party's election campaign fund. Our press, radio and television advertising campaign, although reduced to a minimum was very costly and your contribution was most opportune. I enclose official receipts for the sums of £1,300, £423 4s., £297 and £288 10s. in respect of your union's donations. Yours sincerely, N. E. McKenna (Labor Leader in the Senate).

The same issue shows a total contribution of £7,407 17s. to political parties and contains a letter of thanks from Mr. L. L. Sharkey, General Secretary of the Communist Party. This issue reports that of the £7,407 17s. the A.L.P. got £4,350 6s. and the Communist Party £3,057 11s. I fear that the reason for the lack of opposition to the Communists in this key union is that the Labor Party knows that if its candidates were beaten it would lose the union's financial support. I have an important matter to quote from the *Advertiser*. Although the paper I quote from is dated August 25, 1948, the subject matter is topical. Under the heading "No Union Visit to Range" the following appears:

The visit of South Australian and interstate trade union officials to the Woomera rocket range proposed for tomorrow, Friday, and Saturday, has been cancelled by the S.A. Building Trades Federation. The trip was abandoned yesterday because only six union officials of a party of 13 nominated by the B.T.F. were granted permission by the Department of Supply and Development to visit the range.

About a month ago a conference of building trade unions in Adelaide decided to ask the department to arrange the visit to enable union officials to study wages and conditions of employees. Following the conference, the S.A. Secretary of the B.T.F. (Mr. J. L. Cavanagh) submitted the names of 13 trade union officials. A number of those nominated are believed to be members of the Communist Party. The cancellation followed a letter yesterday to Mr. Cavanagh from the Chief Scientific Officer for the Long Range Weapons Project (Mr. W. A. S. Butement).

Mr. Cavanagh said that the letter stated that the department was prepared to issue permits to only six of the delegation and named the six. He had telephoned an officer of the project, asking him why the permits for the other officials had been refused, but the officer would not give any reason. He had sent a telegram of protest to the Acting Minister for Supply and Development (Mr. Riordan) stating that, unless the position was rectified, the B.T.F. would have no alternative but to withdraw labour from the range.

In the *Advertiser* of August 25, 1948, Mr. Cavanagh announced the names submitted to the department, and a press report stated:

It was authoritatively stated last night that the six officials to whom the department was prepared to issue permits were Messrs. Bollmeyer, Shaw, Scattergood, Wang, Trevorrow and Brookman. A special meeting of the Building Trades Federation called to consider the position last night condemned the action of the Department of Supply and Development and demanded a full and immediate inquiry. In the *Advertiser* of August 26, 1948, under the heading "Four Union Men for Woomera" the following appeared:

Only four union officials of those originally nominated will visit the Woomera rocket range tomorrow. They are the secretary of the S.A. Branch of the Electrical Trades Union (Mr. J. Trevorrow), the secretary of the S.A. Branch of the Bricklayers' Society (Mr. H. Bollmeyer), the secretary of the S.A. Branch of the Building Workers' Industrial Union (Mr. H. T. Scattergood), and the Industrial Officer of the S.A. Branch of the Australian Workers' Union (Mr. P. Galvin).

Messrs. Trevorrow, Bollmeyer and Scattergood were among the 13 names submitted by the S.A. Building Trades Federation which cancelled the proposed trip because only six permits were issued to its nominees by the Department of Supply and Development. Those three officials were included in the six granted permits. Mr. Galvin made a separate application for a visit. The four officials have been instructed by their unions to make the

visit despite opposition by the S.A.B.T.F., with which the unions are not affiliated. They will leave by air from Parafield tomorrow morning on a one-day visit to study wages and conditions of employees.

Under the subheading "Union's Stand" the following appears:

Both the secretary of the S.A. branch of the Plumbers Union (Mr. T. Wang) and the secretary of the S.A. branch of the Builders Laborers Union (Mr. F. Shaw), who were among the six granted permits, have been refused permission to make the trip tomorrow by their unions. They said last night, however, that they would probably visit the range later. It was stated last night that the unions refused them permission because they were affiliated with the S.A.B.T.F. and considered themselves bound by the B.T.F. decision to cancel the trip. The president of the S.A. branch of the B.L.U. (Mr. S. Hibbens), explaining the decision regarding Mr. Shaw, said that the union executive "did not wish to condone the attitude of the authorities in trying to create a split in the union movement by refusing permits to accredited union officials."

In the *Advertiser* of August 27, 1948, under the heading "Rocket Work Goes On—Unions Warned", the following appears:

The Federal Government will apply the penal clauses of the Approved Defence Projects Act should any attempt be made by building trades unions to withdraw members working on the guided weapons range at Woomera. The Minister for Defence (Mr. Dedman) and the Acting Federal Attorney-General (Senator McKenna) implied this in statements made today on the refusal of the Supply and Development Department to grant permits to seven of a party of union officials selected to go to the range. Mr. Dedman said that he approved of what had been done. It showed that the security arrangements applying to the range were satisfactory. "I thoroughly approve of the security screenings of all visitors to the range," Mr. Dedman added.

"If there is any breach of the Approved Defence Projects Act governing operations at the range I don't think it would be necessary for me to ask the Attorney-General to take action. I am quite certain that he would act with great speed and the provisions of the Act would automatically apply."

Senator McKenna said that Government policy on this matter was quite clear. It would brook no interference with the rocket range project. When the Act was introduced the Attorney-General (Dr. Evatt) had stated the Government's viewpoint and this had not changed. Asked whether the reasons would be given for barring the union officials from visiting the range, Senator McKenna said "Not so far as I am concerned". The security service, he added, was not required to disclose the reasons for its action.

Mr. Millhouse: And now Mr. Cavanagh wants to join as a member of the Party led

by Senator McKenna, the man who refused him permission to visit Woomera.

Mr. HALL: That would be an amusing contradiction were it not so tragic. This man was refused permission to go to the rocket range, for security reasons, yet members opposite are prepared to have him as their third Senate candidate for the next election.

Mr. Millhouse: It is rather ironical.

Mr. HALL: It is a tragedy that someone who was, for reasons of security, prevented from going to the rocket range in 1948 may have an opportunity to vote on national matters. It is not too late for the Labor Party to nominate for the Commonwealth election a candidate who has Australia undeniably at heart and against whom no aspersions can be cast on matters of security. I hope that at least Labor members will take an anti-Communist line in this matter and select a candidate against whom no aspersions can be cast, so that the people of Australia can see that the Labor Party in this State is not riddled with communistic influences, as it is in Victoria. It is high time that the Labor Party had leadership because, unless it has, it will once again be buried by an avalanche of anti-Communist votes. This matter goes much farther than union votes. The people of this country have a great influence in unions, and thousands of unionists are calling out for leadership that has the safety of the country at heart. I challenge members opposite not only to say that they are anti-Communist but to prove it by their actions. I support the motion.

Mr. QUIRKE (Burra): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply without the amendment. We have listened to many speeches, and they have all been good; in fact, I think they have been better than in other years. Many subjects have been touched upon, and the Governor's Speech has been referred to. There is nothing nation-rocking in the Speech, but to criticize the Government loosely on the lack of mention in the Speech of things to come is to overlook what has been done. As a member of the P.W.S.C. I consider that I cannot allow to pass unchallenged any attempts to decry the Government's efforts relating to projects for the wellbeing of this State. The Public Works Committee is working overtime (and not getting paid for it, either) on Saturdays and Sundays as well as week days.

Mr. Ryan: No penalty rates?

Mr. QUIRKE: No; the honourable member might do something for us, as he is a strong

unionist. This work is brought about by the tremendous number of references before the committee and the enormous sums that have been spent. The school programme alone staggers people to whom I speak and indicate its magnitude. We must be careful in loosely criticising the Government and saying it has done nothing, or saying that somebody else could have done better. In absolute fairness to the Government, it should be remembered that in the last three years it has worked magnificently for this State. Some things can be criticized; I can criticize some things, but no organization is infallible. I think some things that have not been done can and should be done, but it is not correct to say, as has been said in this debate, that what has been done is of negligible quantity or quality.

One speech to which I must refer is that made by the member for Barossa. He extolled the Government's financial programme and became so wrapped up in it that he said that the Government kept a strict orthodox line and was not led astray by any silly ideas of finance. I think he meant the "silly" part. What idea of finance is more silly than the one we have? One has only to look at last year's Auditor-General's report or read today's *News* to see how silly it is. The registered number of unemployed at the end of June this year was about twice as great as at the end of June last year. That is not only in South Australia: it is Australia-wide, but the system is the same and that is what it leads to. It has led to over 100,000 registered unemployed, which means that at least 500,000 people are in dire stress. When the head of the family is unemployed and he has a wife and two, three, or more children they are all in trouble. They do not get as much food and clothing as they need and, if they have goods on hire-purchase, they must be reconciled to the fact that having paid they will now lose. If they are buying a house they are in danger of losing it because they cannot pay the rental. If that is a sound and stable system I should like to investigate a silly system, just for a change at least, because in this country, as in the rest of the world, we see headlines showing the despairing attitude of England in trying to save herself from this sound system! So sound is it that England, at one time the mighty house of control of the wealth and destiny of the world, is asking the International Monetary Fund for a loan of £900,000,000. That is just how foolish it is, and it is how we are doing it.

The member for Barossa is a keen business man but he would think little of a business which, having sold its products, then taxes the shareholders to pay them a dividend. That would not be business, but it is exactly what we do—and that is not a silly system! This thing has gone outside Australia but, before I deal with countries outside Australia—and it is necessary to do so—I remind members that the member for West Torrens, with his appreciation of things outside South Australia, touched on something by way of interjection. Let me touch on this aspect. I do not think that a more infamous remark than this (reported in the *Advertiser*) has ever been made by anybody in constitutional authority in Australia or elsewhere:

The Federal Attorney-General (Sir Garfield Barwick) said tonight that unemployment because of the credit squeeze was larger than the Federal Government would have wished or could truly have foreseen, but the Government had come out of the squeeze well.

The Government had come out of the squeeze well!

Mr. McKee: What about the unemployed? How did they come out of it?

Mr. QUIRKE: The man who could make that statement is completely amoral, without any idea of morality. What about the thousands of people who are today suffering because of his action and the action of people like him, who are due for the most thorough-going condemnation ever handed out by the Australian people to anyone? However, I am afraid they will not get it, because, as is indicated in Victoria—and I take up here where the member for Gouger left off—the people hate the originators of this squeeze but are afraid of the alternative. That will be the picture in the next Commonwealth elections. Labor will not defeat the Menzies Government, because the people of Australia are afraid of the alternative. There is a lot of truth in what the member for Gouger said. I honour and respect the Labor movement, for no movement has done more for Australia in the past. That movement has the capacity to work wonderfully well in the future, but not under its present set-up. The people will not trust it, and there are people in the Labor movement who know that and fear the result, but they do not know how to handle it at present. I think they will handle it.

The member for Gouger asked questions and members here wanted to ask him questions about how he knew certain things, but he could not give the replies. I will give that information to members. The Australian

Labor movement is a union movement, and it has been strong in its union affiliations. Communism, in order to break the Australian people, must first smash the unions, and in smashing the unions it would smash the Australian Labor Party. In fact, Communists are busily engaged in white-anting those unions, with some marked success. The Labor Party knows that. I do not agree with the member for Gouger when he says that the Labor Party is in complete ignorance of it; I know that Labor members are afraid and concerned about what is taking place, and sooner or later the position must be taken in hand or the great Australian Labor Party, which has done so much for Australia, will perish. It is an undeniable fact that the Labor Party has brought Australia economic security more than once. That Party, unless it acts today, will be destroyed, and the people that will destroy it cannot make any progress in Australia until they destroy it. That is the answer to the problem. I ask members to listen to this part of the report of Sir Garfield Barwick's remarks:

"We didn't put the squeeze on and hope for the best," he said.

He went on to say that it was put on in the knowledge that there would be trial and tribulation. Regarding spending, the article states:

Sir Garfield Barwick said he agreed that the effects of the squeeze would be over by Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot in six months erase an indelible mark from the soul of the people. The squeeze threw 100,000 people into misery, and yet Sir Garfield Barwick said the worst of it would be over by Christmas. How much did he suffer?

Mr. Loveday: What about the psychological effect on the people out of work?

Mr. QUIRKE: That is what I say. We cannot sear the soul of a nation, and then by giving a person a job tell him to forget all about it. That is the very thing that is being ignored today. It is not so much a question of whether a man has a job or has been put out of work by the credit squeeze. That is bad enough, but when we blast his ideas of the future we do irremediable harm.

Mr. Loveday: Isn't that what builds the Communist Party up?

Mr. QUIRKE: Of course it is, and that is precisely what I am leading up to. When we destroy the faith of people in this nation, what do we do? We send them to the very opposite to that which destroyed them. That is what is happening in Australia today out of this credit

squeeze. The only body that has got a lift out of it is the Communist Party of Australia, and there is no denying that; if no-one else will say it, I will.

Mr. Loveday: I am going to say it.

Mr. QUIRKE: It has also been said that one of the difficulties today in getting back to the position we were in before the squeeze is that people are not spending. It has been said, "Let us spend all that we have got, and start again what we stopped." However, we must not forget that 100,000 people have nothing to spend. Who is going to make that up, and when is it going to be made up? Was there any moratorium under which the Government that put on this squeeze said, "You are going to be put out of a job, and if you are out of a job we will pay your rent until such time as you get your job back."? Did anybody say that? Yet is the Government not the custodian of the well-being of the people of this country, and should it not have said that? If it were necessary to put these people out of work, then it was necessary that somebody should look after them. No attempt has been made to do that. If we take a man earning £20 a week and put him back on £6 a week social services we do something worse to him than if we give him nothing at all, because we hand him the greatest insult that we can hand a man—a pittance. He is a man who in the interests of his family is prepared to work and is qualified to work. He is prepared to take his place in society, but he has been thrown down. The results of this are no shoes or clothes for his family. This is a dreadful thing to happen to a man who has a pride in his family and in his home. It is the cruellest thing that can be done, and it is the one thing that can never be erased. Three times it has happened to this country—once in the bank smash of the eighties, once in the thirties, and now. They are getting closer together, and under the present system, if it is maintained, we will have these credit squeezes closer and closer together until they bring this country down in desolation. There is nothing to stop it because at present there is no other way of keeping what they call stability in this system than by doing what they have done.

I was concerned about this and wrote to the Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia. I did not get a reply from the Governor (I suppose I am too small fry for him to worry about), but he did ask his manager to reply. I should like to have had the Governor's answer, though. I asked him a few questions

in a short note and got a courteous reply from his manager. It is rather difficult for those who have not gone into this to understand it. I can understand it, but I want to read it and then later I will show honourable members the confirmation of it internationally. My letter to Dr. H. C. Coombs, Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia, reads:

In *Currency* for March and April, 1952, mention was made of expansion and contraction of money. From the article, I take the following paragraph: "If, for example, banks consider a cash deposit ratio of 20 per cent adequate, an additional £10,000,000 of cash deposits would permit them to expand advances by up to about £40,000,000."

That is in the bank's paper. The letter continues:

Recently, there has been a succession of £17,500,000 releases of impounded deposits to private banks and it has occurred to me that such releases by themselves could make little impact on Australia's economy. The question now arises: Are these releases subject to a cash deposit ratio of 20 per cent, or some other figure, and, if so, what has been the recent ratio? Finally, what would be your estimate of the total credit made available by the banks from the last £17,500,000 release? I will read the reply in full. Honourable members may digest it in *Hansard* because it will need a little study:

The Governor has asked me to reply to your letter of 5th July. The recent repayments to the banks of funds held in their statutory reserve deposit accounts with the Reserve Bank were intended firstly to provide banks with funds to meet the usual drain on their cash over the June quarter when customers were making their tax payments and, secondly, to build up banks' "free" liquidity to support a moderate increase in their new lending.

So there, for the information of the honourable member for Barossa (Mr. Laucke), is clear evidence that liquidity was made available so that people could borrow money to pay their taxation. The letter continues:

By "free" liquidity is meant the amount of liquid and near liquid assets (comprising cash, working balances, Treasury bills and other Government securities; together referred to as "L.G.S. assets") under the banks' own control, over and above what they regard as a working minimum. The working minimum which banks have adopted in agreement with the Reserve Bank is a ratio of L.G.S. assets to banks' deposit liabilities of 16 per cent. The above repayments from statutory reserve deposit accounts added directly to banks L.G.S. assets and helped to raise the overall "L.G.S. ratio" to about 20 per cent, thereby increasing the margin of "free" liquidity to about four per cent. Under the credit creation process described in the article in our staff magazine to which you refer, bank advances and deposits can, in theory, be expanded by several

times the amount of the initial increase in the L.G.S. assets base. However, while it is the case that banks tend to be more willing lenders as the margin of "free" liquidity rises, variations in free liquidity are only one of a number of factors influencing their decisions. A further factor complicating a strictly mathematical approach is that the term "new lending" is not synonymous with published figures of advances outstanding;—

You have still got some advances that have been made, and there is still some of it outstanding. The letter continues:

—the latter being the net result of new lending, repayments of old loans and drawings against loans approved earlier. Also the time which elapses while the various factors are working themselves out must be taken into account. In practice, therefore, the ultimate effect of repayments from statutory reserve deposit accounts on the volume of bank credit cannot be predicted precisely. It can be said, however, that the repayments recently made have put the banks in a stronger position to make a moderate increase in their lending.

I will read the last paragraph because I owe it to the bank:

We hope the foregoing will also be of some assistance in explaining the matters raised in your letter. If, however, there are aspects on which you wish to have further information, it might be convenient for you to discuss them in the first instance with Mr. E. E. Chittenden, our manager in Adelaide, who would arrange where necessary to refer to us.

I thanked them sincerely for that answer, which is courteous if not complete, to my letter, but I shall shortly be interviewing Mr. Chittenden. There you have this silly system that brought about this credit squeeze. Do we get on with it, or do we change it? Is it proposed that we change it and, if so, who proposes that we change it? There is a paper in the library called *The Economist*. Usually it has a most unblemished record as regards fingerprints, but there is some matter in it vital to people who are interested. There is in Europe the Common Market proposal that will affect this country. If Britain were to join a common market with what was once known as the British Commonwealth of Nations, she would get out of her troubles easily providing she was prepared to recognize that everybody had mutual interests and that the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street did not toll the bell every time. Because she has not done it in the past as she would not let us hang together, she is the first one to hang separately. Today's position is that the other nations of the world are collaring and cornering her currency and her overseas assets, as happened in America to the assets she had there before the last war. They were promptly liquidated on "cash and carry" during the

war. She had what were called her invisible exports. She had millions of pounds invested in America that she had to sell to pay for the goods that America sent her under "cash and carry". They were her invisible exports.

West Germany has those invisible exports today. She has practically cornered sterling and dollars in Europe. There was the Biblical story "An enemy shall encompass you about and beat you flat to the ground and not a stone shall be left upon a stone." That related to Jerusalem. That happened to Germany but, unlike Jerusalem, West Germany today is the strongest force in Europe. She is embarrassing all the world through the amount of American and English dollars and sterling she commands. She has so much that she is buying gold in order to build up permanent reserves. She has been helped by America to rise like Phoenix from the ashes. Today she is the master in complete control of Europe and its currencies. That has brought forth three plans known as the Bernstein plan, the Triffin plan and the Stamp plan. They are being debated in financial circles in Europe, and particularly by the International Monetary Fund. There is discussion about overcoming the difficulties of every country in relation to external trading. The only way we can obviate the need for occasional credit squeezes is to divorce our internal economy from external economy and run them as two separate economies. I have preached this for years but I have been like the proverbial voice crying in the wilderness.

It is important that we, as legislators, should have some idea of what is going on and what can beset us in the international financial sphere if things go badly in relation to export markets in Europe. An extract from *The Economist* of May 6, 1961, refers to the three plans. In connection with the Bernstein plan it says:

In order to meet their problem (b), the traditionalists favour the plan fathered by Mr. E. M. Bernstein (a very able but fairly conservative American, who was associated with the International Monetary Fund from its earliest days). Mr. Bernstein's idea is that the I.M.F. should be enabled to borrow funds under stand-by arrangements from countries that are increasing their international reserves (e.g., at present, Germany) and lend out the D-marks thus borrowed to countries in deficit. Last month Mr. Jacobsson, the present head of the I.M.F., in effect expressed himself in favour of the Bernstein plan, which he said would lie within the competence of the I.M.F.'s present articles of agreement.

Because of that I hold it suspect. Continuing, the extract says.

Because the Bernstein plan would tend to mean that any country which runs exorbitant

balance of payments surpluses should have some obligation to lend the funds it secures, instead of piling up its gold reserves, it would certainly be an advance on any system that the world has had since the war.

To that extent it would be good. Continuing: But the limitations of the Bernstein plan are that it would not increase total world liquidity; That is a right and proper criticism. In not increasing total world liquidity it would probably help the International Monetary Fund. Continuing:

. . . it would merely try to prevent some countries from hogging an undue amount of the limited supply of international liquid funds now in existence. It would therefore involve some continuance of present distortions.

Isn't that lovely writing? How many meanings are there of the word "distortions"?

Mr. Loveday: It depends on who uses it.

Mr. QUIRKE: Quite so. Continuing:

Undisciplined countries would continue to react to the general shortage of international reserves by resorting to exchange restrictions and trade restrictions long before they consider it necessary to cut internal spending.

Shades of the last six months! They want to protect themselves before getting inside to protect internal spending. That is what we did here. It sounds much like the Guggenheimer plan that we had a few years ago. The extract continues:

Very disciplined countries would continue (at least occasionally) to hold back their internal economic expansion because of foreign exchange difficulties instead of continuing expansion up to the point made possible by full utilization of their domestic resources, and central bankers might continue to try to ration credit movements by restrictive agreement instead of by free market prices.

I think we can rub out the Bernstein plan altogether. Now I come to the Triffin plan, which has long been sponsored by Professor Robert Triffin of Yale. The extract states:

This plan has acquired new importance because Professor Triffin is an adviser of President Kennedy's and was last month a surprise member of the official American delegation to the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development meeting in Paris. The essence of Triffin's belief is that "the use of national currencies as international reserves constitutes a totally unnatural built-in de-stabilizer for the present world monetary system . . .

In other words, it can be wrecked just as West Germany's actions today are wrecking it in Europe. The extract goes on:

. . . and is bound to weaken dangerously in time the key currencies—primarily sterling and the dollar . . .

Isn't that what is happening? Then the extract continues:

... used as reserves by other currencies under this system." So he believes that "the United States and the United Kingdom should bar the use of sterling and dollars as monetary reserves by other countries." Countries "should be offered instead the opportunity of keeping in the form of deposits with the International Monetary Fund any portion of their reserves which they do not wish to hold in gold"; initially, it might be right to say that every member of the International Monetary Fund should keep at least 20 per cent of its reserve in the form of these deposits, but as they would be deposits guaranteed against any possibility of devaluation and bearing some interest most countries would be likely to choose in time to keep a far larger proportion there.

I think this was said hopefully. This would strengthen the International Monetary Fund and make it the lender and the stabilizer of international currency. The article continues:

On the basis of these deposits, the I.M.F. would then be able to indulge in international credit creation (*i.e.*, making overdraft loans)—just as any other bank which attracts deposits does. In order to appease the fears of those who think that this might lead to a risk of world inflation, Professor Triffin would agree "to limit the fund's net lending, over any 12 months' period, to a total amount which would increase total world reserve by only a certain given percentage (say 3 per cent) annually." In addition, "a second broad category of fund lending would take the form of investments in the financial markets of member countries." Initially, the fund would take over most investments "in the form of bank deposits, acceptances and Treasury bills previously held by the central banks themselves in New York and London." It "would have no immediate need to modify the pattern of these investments," but should be given "an option— which it would not necessarily wish to use every year," of switching into other investments "at a maximum pace of, let us say, 5 per cent annually."

The objective is to create a world exchange bank into which the reserves of countries would be paid. Exports and imports would be liquidated from that central authority. If that could be properly controlled, particularly in the personnel elected to it, then it could achieve much for the import and export trade. However, there are inherent dangers that would have to be looked at. The extract continues:

The objections in London to the Triffin plan seem to be as follows:

(1) It is said that the plan would rob Britain of its role as an international banker. Another way of saying this is that Britain would no longer have to bear the burden, and court the danger, inseparable from the use of sterling as a reserve currency.

In other words, England still wants to get the return from balancing other people's accounts.

Under this scheme I doubt whether that would be possible because it would be to the International Monetary Fund that those returns would accrue. The article continues:

Because of its excellent system in the city of London for collecting and dispensing savings, Britain would undoubtedly still attract in commercial investment funds and be a large commercial investor overseas. But we lose the "benefit" of the unrequited capital imports we have received when foreign countries have been running their sterling balance up, in return for shedding our present burden of unrequited exports and capital outflows when other countries run their sterling balances down. As part of this we would be sharing with other countries the responsibilities that are now attendant upon management of the sterling area system—and the political influence, particularly within the Commonwealth, which has sometimes accompanied it. This last is admittedly a considerable political point.

(2) Some fears have been expressed about the so-called "obligation to repay sterling balances"; the figure of possible 5 per cent "switchability" quoted above has even been interpreted by some people to mean that "Britain would have to run a very deflationary policy in order to achieve a sufficiently large balance of payments surplus to repay the whole of the sterling balances after 20 years."

Of course, she would never be able to pay them, and no-one pays them after 20 years. That would be one advantage of this international fund because they would not be owed directly to anybody. No-one would be harmed. The extract continues:

But anybody who reads the passage concerned must see that the Fund would move out of sterling only in years when sterling could bear this (including some years when, because of high interest costs, Britain would welcome not having to harbour such Funds).

(3) There is more the general fear that if the fund were allowed to increase world liquidity automatically, it might lead on to world inflation. This would happen only if the fund's lending powers were improperly used. As the management of the fund should obviously be left in the hands of stern-minded international bankers, with discretion to whom they should grant loans, this risk seems a much smaller one than that of a bias towards restriction of trade under the present world monetary system.

(4) Finally, there is the overriding Whitehall reaction that the "Triffin scheme is so complicated that most countries could not get their finance ministries to understand it, and it would be folly to sacrifice the good (Bernstein) to try to get the best, even if Triffin really is the best."

I have taken the trouble to outline this scheme to members to show that the concern cannot be measured in terms of our domestic affairs. This concern is world wide, and the system that permits the credit squeeze here (irrespective of

who is responsible—and the Commonwealth Government is responsible, although it may have suggested blaming the Commonwealth Bank) is the same as the system that is being reviewed internationally at present. The system that we have here is the same that they have in America, although it is handled much differently. Unless we change our system we will break ourselves internally and we will destroy our position overseas. If we have to go after new markets we must devise a plan different from that which we have today. We can only hope to sell to underprivileged markets at prices that are going to return us our high costs of production based on our high living standards and we will have to do something about that if the European market fails. If we are going to produce surplus goods and sell them overseas we must sell to other countries that do not have our standard of living and cannot pay our costs. Yet we must sell them.

I wish to deal now with the Stamp plan. The article states:

Whatever one thinks about the validity of these four objections, all of them and particularly in Britain the first, are widely felt. There has, therefore, been a search for less frightening plans. One of these, fathered in the *Guardian* on February 10 last by Mr. Maxwell Stamp, a former official of the Bank of England and one time British director of the I.M.F., received the accolade of mention by Mr. Maudling in the budget debate.

The people I refer to are tall poppies in the financial world and the name of Stamp is well known. This opinion simply endorses the views of people who have my views that I have been preaching for years. The article continues:

It is quite simply that the governors of the existing I.M.F. should "authorize the issue of fund certificates to a value of, say, \$3,000,000,000 over the next 12 months."

Just as a bank note held under control and a note issue held under control are accepted by the people and are secure in the confidence of the people this method of international exchange, secure in the confidence of the people, would work in exactly the same way. The article continues:

These certificates should be given to an aid co-ordinating agency which would allocate them to the under-developed countries under an agreed programme. Countries like Britain which were willing to accept payment for goods in these certificates and treat them as being as good as gold by holding them in their reserves or selling them to one another, could then qualify for getting orders for their machinery, etc., under the aid scheme. Countries which regarded the whole scheme as improper need

not accept the certificates but would not then qualify for such orders.

The underprivileged countries are the ones we want to trade with and we cannot trade with them under our present system. The article continues:

It will be obvious from the above summary that *The Economist* would be, on balance, in favour of the full Triffin plan, or something like it. But if, for institutional or political reasons, the present British Government cannot accept it, then is it really asking too much that it should throw its weight behind some such simple variant as the Stamp plan? If there is no hope of getting the 70-odd members of I.M.F. to accept the scheme, why not urge that some such certificates should be issued through the new O.E.C.D. on which America, Britain, and the major industrial countries of the free world are to be represented? This would certainly be the most economic way of fostering the aid schemes to which O.E.C.D. is supposed to be committed. It would also, quite apart from its economic benefits, be a useful political initiative. There is a real danger of missed opportunities in the present situation where all the radically imaginative ideas are coming from the bright young men around President Kennedy, and where the countries of Europe tend to act like inverted Micawbers—constantly waiting for something to turn down.

We are inverted Micawbers because we are constantly waiting for something to come up so we can expeditiously turn it down. We have to get out of that way of thinking because this is a tremendous country with tremendous opportunities and we have tremendous responsibilities. Unlike those who have responsibility without power, and of whom, I think, an English Prime Minister said, "They are the henpecked of all ages," we have powers: we have responsibilities in this House; we are part of the governing factor of Australia albeit a small part in South Australia. There are others. The Treasurer said we must get together on this unemployment question and the inverted Micawbers say we should not do so. There is a scheme advanced here and the Treasurer wants to turn it down. Can any harm come from having it? Why should it be turned down? There are immense possibilities and therefore turning it down was wrong.

Mr. Frank Walsh: Why did he turn it down last February?

Mr. QUIRKE: I do not know but I am telling you now that it has been turned down again and whoever turned it down is wrong. The development of this country with its wonderful opportunities will not be brought about by people who think in vacuums or by others whose equipment is calcium carbonate from the shoulders up. We don't get anywhere that



way. We have to broaden our outlook in this country and broaden it as wide as this country is broad.

Mr. Fred Walsh: Wider than that!

Mr. QUIRKE: Yes, that is true. If we do not do that we will not keep this country. Our attitude towards Australia internally has to be a broad outlook. This country is not in any way near its full potential development. The development of Australia has been achieved in only 100 years. Prior to that there was a slow motion process of getting into position to go ahead. That work was done by marvellous people who engineered the pioneering development of the early days but all we have, all our industrial equipment, buildings, bridges, roads, and other forms of national equipment, have been achieved in 100 years. There was a wider outlook in the early days than there is today.

We are told that we cannot do anything today and that we cannot afford this and that in terms of the energy expended or in thought provided. We cannot do it because we are cursed and held down by a so-called financial system that will not allow expansion and now, after being thrust down, we have men such as Sir Garfield Barwick saying that the Government came out of the credit squeeze quite well notwithstanding the desolation of 100,000 homes. Australia will never grow on that sort of thing and I am glad to have had the opportunity of voicing those few remarks which, I hope, have been constructive. I support the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply.

Mr. McKEE secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.20 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, August 2, at 2 p.m.