

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.**

Tuesday, August 8, 1961.

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

**QUESTIONS.****AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY.**

Mr. FRANK WALSH: My question concerns a company known as the Australian Medical and Accident Insurance Company Limited, which had registered offices on North Terrace. According to press reports, the Commonwealth Treasurer instituted proceedings against this company because it had not contributed the necessary guarantee money, viz., £35,000. The case was adjourned for two weeks and when it resumed last Friday, the necessary money had been found, but during this period it would appear that the office was closed. I had an interview with a contributor to the above company and was informed that he had received a cheque, which was dishonoured. I believe that representation was made to the Treasurer, and that this particular cheque has now been paid.

I understand that Mr. Anderson was manager of the above company, but it would appear that he has vacated the position and that its office in Western Australia is closed. Can the Treasurer inform the House concerning this company? Have its books been seized by the police? Further, with a view to safeguarding the people who have contributed to this company for benefits, will claims be met during the period they are valid, and will the moneys owing to the staff be paid?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The honourable member knows that certain of these matters come under the Commonwealth insurance laws and the social service law over which my Government has no control. The only matters over which it would have any control relate to any criminal offence created. That is a matter for the police. I will get a report from the Police Commissioner and advise the honourable member tomorrow on that aspect.

**SALES TAX ON ICE CREAM.**

Mr. JENKINS: I ask the Premier whether he will take up with the appropriate authorities the question of a reduction of the sales tax, either in full or in part, on ice cream, because it can hardly be considered a luxury today, and the increased sales that would result from lifting the tax would increase the demand for dairy produce and help the dairymen and the industry generally.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I will do that.

**SOLOMONTOWN BEACH WALL.**

Mr. RICHES: The Minister of Marine will remember that representations have been made to him from time to time regarding the erection of a beach wall at Solomontown, and that he received deputations and had discussions at Port Pirie when he undertook to take up with Cabinet whether the Harbors Board would do the work. Towards the end of last year he explained in the House that it would not be possible to have the wall erected for the beginning of last summer because the work would have to be done in connection with harbour rehabilitation. Can he say when the work can be commenced and, in particular, whether the wall will be ready for the beginning of next summer?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Some time ago I discussed this matter with the General Manager of the Harbors Board and he said he would not be able to free his pile-driving team from the main work of wharf reconstruction at Port Pirie until the summer. I have not yet sought Cabinet approval for the work because the general manager has not asked me to do so, but I will check with him to see how his works programme is progressing and when he can set aside his men from their main task to do this work. Although the general manager has not sought Cabinet approval, I believe that he has provided something on his estimates for the work to be done this year. I cannot assure the honourable member that the work can be done before summer, but I will check and let him have my reply.

**SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES.**

Mrs. STEELE: Over a considerable period—in fact, for some years—the position of Supervisor of School Libraries has been either vacant or filled temporarily for varying periods. As a result the service, which was pioneered and raised to such a high standard of efficiency by the original organizer (Mrs. Riddle), has deteriorated and the office has consequently been lowered in status and remuneration: this at a time when so many fine new schools have been and are being established throughout the State, most of which provide library facilities with adequate room for future expansion. In view of this, it seems a pity that the appointment of a permanent Supervisor of School Libraries has been fraught with so many setbacks and such long delays. Will the Minister of Education say what is the latest position regarding this appointment?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: I join with the honourable member in expressing regret at the long delay in filling this position, which I regard as of considerable importance, but I remind the honourable member that it is a Public Service and not an Education Department appointment. The position has been advertised twice by the Public Service Commissioner. I think the applicants were not considered entirely suitable for the position until the last applicant applied; I understand that he was considered suitable but withdrew his application recently. I believe that the position will be advertised for the third time, and that it is now a matter for discussion between the Public Service Commissioner, the Director of Education and the Principal Librarian of the Libraries Department.

#### JERVOIS BRIDGE.

Mr. RYAN: Recently I asked the Minister of Works whether he would obtain a report from the Minister of Roads regarding the safety and condition of the Jervois bridge. Has he obtained this report?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have received the following reply from the Minister of Roads:

The Commissioner of Highways has supplied me with copies of the report on the Jervois Bridge dated July 24, 1959, following a detailed inspection at that date, and also a further report dated July 28 last, setting out the repairs which have been necessary since the previous report. The comparison of the two reports indicates that maintenance work, although extensive, has been sufficient to keep the bridge operating as well as can be expected. In summarizing the reports, the Commissioner states:

The controls and operating mechanism of the moving span have required continual repairs and replacement of parts to keep them operating, and the cast iron chamber, housing the gear, has developed additional cracks which, although caulked, increase the danger of flooding the operating machinery.

Increased maintenance has also been necessary on the fixed spans. Further deterioration of timber piling, girders, and decking has necessitated the placing from below of numerous steel plates and additional timber girders to support road and footways.

The position is being closely watched, and it is probable that further restrictions on the weight of vehicles using the bridge will be necessary in the near future.

I do not consider that there is a serious risk of a sudden collapse, but there is always a possibility that a hole could develop in the road or footway due to decking failure.

I cannot estimate with any certainty just how long the moving span can be kept in operation, or when the deteriorating condition of the bridge generally will prevent its further use.

#### PENOLA ABATTOIRS.

Mr. HARDING: My question relates to the evidence taken by the Industries Development Committee from the Penola Abattoirs Committee. Can the Premier give me any information on the matter or will he get a report from the Industries Development Committee?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I have no information on this topic. Government policy has been stated in this House on several occasions and there would be no objection to my sending a letter to the chairman of the committee, if he desires one, setting out Government policy on the matter. The committee has not, as far as I know, asked the Government to give any specific evidence to it on this matter, but if it desires information I shall see that it is made available to it.

#### POTATO PRICES.

Mr. TAPPING: Has the Minister of Agriculture obtained a reply to the question I asked on July 25 regarding potato prices?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I have received a report from the South Australian Potato Board. It is lengthy, but I will read most of it, as follows:

Under section 20 of the Potato Marketing Act the board has power to fix maximum and minimum prices at which potatoes may be sold. In its exercise of this power the board fixes, by orders, from time to time the price to be paid to growers and the prices at which licensed merchants sell to retailers. The board does not fix retail prices, but publicizes a guide retail price whenever new grower and merchant prices are fixed. This guide retail price provides for a reasonable margin to a retailer and indicates to consumers the maximum price which they should pay for potatoes. South Australia is a net importer of potatoes and in order to ensure local market supplies in times of shortage it is the policy of the board to fix a base price related to that ruling in the eastern States. Generally, this base price is the cost of prime potatoes at Ballarat, Victoria, plus freight and cartage. Supplies of South Australian grown potatoes can only be retained for consumers in this State by maintaining a price which is as attractive as that which may be secured interstate. Although the board endeavours to relate its prices to those in Victoria, sudden fluctuations in the Victorian market may upset the relation and establish, temporarily, a differential which is too large or too small. Such a contingency is met by fixation of a new South Australian price as soon as possible. In the instance

quoted by Mr. Carman the difference between Melbourne and Adelaide prices was less than indicated by the quotation of the primary wholesale price for Melbourne and the secondary merchant's price plus delivery charges for Adelaide. However, there was a difference which was adjusted by reductions of the South Australian grower's price from £60 as on the Wednesday, to £57 on the following Friday. The board's powers are restricted to the marketing and distribution of potatoes produced and distributed in this State. It has no powers in relation to interstate trade or to the purchase or distribution of potatoes produced outside of South Australia.

#### CLARE HIGH SCHOOL.

Mr. QUIRKE: A list of proposed new high schools published early this year referred to Clare. Land has been purchased for that high school. In the £4,500,000 worth of schools handled by the Public Works Committee recently, Clare has not been mentioned. The primary school at Clare is congested and the old high school is needed for primary school expansion. Can the Minister of Education say when the new high school will be built?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: The proposed new high school at Clare was included in a lengthy schedule of requirements submitted by the Education Department to the Public Buildings Department, which has completed plans for many of these proposed new schools. Those schools were submitted to me, to Cabinet and then to the Public Works Standing Committee for investigation and report, but as yet no plan of the proposed Clare high school has been submitted to me. If and when I receive that plan I will submit it to Cabinet later for reference to the Public Works Standing Committee.

#### BERYL.

Mr. McKEE: In the *Advertiser* of May 18 a report headed "South Australian Work on Vital Atomic Metal" stated:

The Australian Mineral Development Laboratories in Adelaide have been awarded an Atomic Energy Commission contract to investigate an atomic process for extracting and processing the metal beryllium. Beryllium, a light metal with great resistance to heat, is used in nuclear reactors and space missiles. The Director of the A.M.D.L. in Adelaide (Dr. L. W. Coffer) said yesterday the extraction and production of beryllium from the mineral beryl was expensive. It was hoped that the laboratories could develop a cheaper and more efficient method than that used in the U.S. and the U.K.

Can the Premier say whether the Australian Mineral Development Laboratories have carried out this investigation and, if so, what their

findings are? Can he also say whether the mining of beryl is controlled by the Government in South Australia, and whether the Government pays a reward for the discovery of the mineral beryl?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I should be extremely doubtful if the laboratories have yet completed their investigations in this matter. I should not be surprised if such an inquiry took a year, or even two years, to complete. The answer to the second part of the question is, "Not unless the mining is in some area reserved from the Mining Act." The answer to the third question is, "No".

#### BREAKFAST FOOD MANUFACTURE.

Mr. DUNSTAN: I have been informed by the Federal Secretary of the Manufacturing Grocers Employees' Federation that a factory in my district belonging to a breakfast food company has been taken over by a foreign-owned company. This factory has operated at St. Peters for over 40 years, employing a number of employees, but apparently it is now to be closed down and used only as a storing place for breakfast foods manufactured outside the State. I believe the company does not intend to continue manufacturing breakfast foods in my district. Naturally enough, with some streets in my district having 30 per cent of the residents unemployed, this causes me grave concern. I understand this matter was brought to the Premier's notice some time ago. Has he been able to investigate it and is any Government action deemed possible?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The honourable member did not mention the name of the firm concerned, but from the address and particulars given I believe I can say that this matter was brought to my notice and I carefully considered it. The Government has no power to restrain a company from entering into a transaction of this description, but I have written to the chairman of directors pointing out that this proposal is against the policy of every State Government and of the Commonwealth Government. I asked him to reconsider the matter and although I have not had a reply I have no doubt that the terms of the letter will at least ensure that it received some consideration.

#### RAILWAY PARCELS OFFICE.

Mr. BYWATERS: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Railways, a reply to the question I asked recently relating to the Murray Bridge railway parcels office?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague the Minister of Railways has informed me that alterations to the Murray Bridge parcels office have been approved and it is expected that the work will be undertaken in the near future.

#### ABORIGINAL RESERVE.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Can the Minister of Works say whether, in the development of a cattle station on the aboriginal reserve in the north-western corner of my electorate, it is intended, apart from training aborigines to look after cattle, that the aborigines should be trained in the management and administration of the venture?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The purpose of the station is to use it in every way possible for the education and training of natives, both in their work as stockmen and foremen and, if possible, in the work of management if they qualify for that more advanced training. I have, right from the outset in considering this project, made it quite clear to the Aborigines Department that it is the Government's wish that a minimum number of white personnel should be employed on and reside in the station area, because we should use natives in whatever capacity possible on the positive side of their education even if we take some risks. At present we have only two white people, with their families, on the station—the superintendent and the stock overseer. I hope we can restrict the number of white people to the minimum and employ natives to the maximum in every capacity.

#### PETERBOROUGH-QUORN RAILWAY.

Mr. CASEY: Has the Minister of Works obtained a report yet on the Peterborough-Quorn railway line?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have received the following report from my colleague, the Minister of Railways:

The Railways Commissioner advises that he is not contemplating making any submission in respect of the closure of the Peterborough to Quorn line in the near future.

#### BERRI FERRY.

Mr. KING: Will the Minister of Works ask his colleague, the Minister of Roads, if he will consider stationing a spare ferry at Berri and constructing a ferry landing at Berri in anticipation of a larger ferry being made available when the Blanchetown bridge is completed so that the present congestion at the Berri ferry can be eased and the spare ferry taken away as required for servicing ferries in other parts?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I will ask my colleague for a report on that matter.

#### LAND TAX ASSESSMENT.

Mr. RALSTON: In July, 1960, the new land tax assessment became effective, subject, of course, to right of appeal. In the municipality of Mount Gambier, as elsewhere in the State, many appeals against the assessment were lodged. This year the city council adopted the assessment as a basis of rating, and a rate was decided upon. Since then many rate-payers have approached me regarding these appeals lodged six to eight months ago, which have not been finalized. Can the Treasurer indicate when those appeals are likely to be reviewed and possibly finalized? If not, can he obtain a report for me?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I will obtain a report. The period for appeals has not yet expired. The last report I had from the Commissioner did not show that there was a large number of appeals; it was a small number considering the nature of the assessment and the fact that the assessment comes only once every five years. Because of that, there appears to be quite a big change in one year whereas, of course, the change has taken place over five years. I will, however, inform the honourable member when the appeals will be considered by the tribunal.

#### CONCESSION FARES.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked on July 25 about concession fares for pensioners?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I have a full report on this matter. Concession rates apply in the metropolitan area for travel upon rail and Tramways Trust vehicles outside peak hours to the following: (1) Old age, invalid, and widow pensioners receiving pensions from the Social Services Department, including those pensioners' wives who receive a special wife's allowance. (2) Those persons dealt with by the Repatriation Department who are aged service pensioners, permanently unemployable service pensioners and tuberculosis service pensioners not in receipt of a tuberculosis allowance, including the wives of permanently unemployable and tuberculosis service pensioners not in receipt of a tuberculosis allowance who receive a wife's allowance or pension. (3) Those Repatriation Department pensioners who are dependent parents of deceased servicemen and who receive maximum pensions under Repatriation Regulations 32 and 34, or who receive pensions under Regulation

34AA. The repatriation pensioners entitled to this concession travel are in categories equivalent to those covered by Social Services Department pensions.

Concession country travel by rail involves the availability at half price of two country rail trips a year to country pensioners, but not between December 16 and January 15, or on special trains. Those eligible are country pensioners who hold medical entitlement cards issued by the Department of Social Services, or such pensioners' dependent wives who receive a pension or a wife's allowance. The possession of a motor car does not automatically exclude a country pensioner from the concession provided he holds a medical entitlement card. Travel during Easter and the Show period is not excluded except on special or guaranteed trains.

Free travel on both rail and Tramways Trust vehicles is accorded to totally and permanently incapacitated ex-servicemen, totally and temporarily incapacitated ex-servicemen, totally blind, and legless ex-servicemen, as well as other blind persons and the escorts of blind persons.

I have no doubt that honourable members get many questions from their constituents about eligibility for these concessions and, as the matter is somewhat involved, may I suggest that you, Mr. Speaker, authorize the printing of several thousand copies of this report so that members will be able to have copies in their possession to give to their constituents when necessary to explain who are eligible for concession fares.

The SPEAKER: I shall be happy to accede to that request.

Mr. RICHES: Has the Premier yet received any reply from the Commonwealth authorities whether they are prepared to grant concession fares to pensioners on Commonwealth Railways, as are granted by the State?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: My impression is that I have not received any reply from the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner. I wrote a considerable time ago and I have no recollection of any reply coming to my notice. I believe that I would have remembered if a reply had come to hand. Immediately, a copy would have been sent to the honourable member, so I assume I have not yet received a reply. However, I will make sure by checking up.

#### MYER EMPORIUM EMPLOYEES.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: I have received information that the personnel manager of the Myer Emporium (S.A.), held a similar position with Charles Birks & Co., now known as David Jones, and that during the short period he has been with the Myer Emporium he has dismissed certain employees at a minute's notice. He was acquainted with a list of names of persons who were employed by the Myer Emporium and who desired to be engaged by David Jones when its new building was completed. Whether by virtue of his office as personnel manager he knew these things, I do not know. Can the Premier say whether this amounts to victimization and whether it could be linked up with any section of the Industrial Code?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I cannot throw any light on this matter. I know none of the circumstances and I am not in a position to verify them. If the person concerned has any particular grievance and communicates with me setting out categorically in print what wrong he considers has been done to him I will see whether it constitutes any breach of any law.

#### LANGHORNE CREEK TO WELLINGTON ROAD.

Mr. JENKINS: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Roads, a reply to my recent question regarding the sealing of the Langhorne Creek to Wellington Road?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Commissioner of Highways has informed my colleague that there are no plans for the sealing of the Langhorne Creek-Wellington section. Traffic on this road is 80 vehicles a day, and the volume has remained practically stationary over the past five years. It is therefore not regarded as having a very high priority with respect to other works. As to the extension of the sealing through Langhorne Creek, this cannot be recommended at present, as the district council is fully engaged on the reconstruction of the Woodchester-Callington section. In view of the traffic count, there does not appear to be any great justification for this extension at present. As to the Ashbourne-Double Bridges section, land acquisition is in hand, but has not yet been finalized. However, some realignment work will be started by the district council during the current financial year, but the work will not be at a stage where sealing will be possible during this year.

**RODWELL BRIDGE.**

Mr. JENKINS: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Roads, a reply to my recent question regarding the replacement of the Rodwell Bridge, near Woodchester?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague has been informed by the Commissioner of Highways that the construction of Rodwell Bridge is included in this year's programme. It is anticipated that tenders will be called towards the end of 1961.

**HIRE-PURCHASE LEGISLATION.**

Mr. RYAN: Has the Minister of Education, representing the Attorney-General, a reply to my questions of June 20 and 21 regarding an alteration to the Hire-Purchase Agreements Act in view of evasions that were taking place. Yesterday, while I was shopping in my district, I saw a shop with a notice measuring about 18in. high hanging across the main entrance with the words "No deposit on all articles in this shop." In view of the evasions taking place, is it the Government's intention to amend the Act?

The Hon. B. PATTINSON: Conferences are still being held between Attorneys-General of the States and the Commonwealth and I understand that a further one is to be held towards the end of the week. I will once again refer the question to my colleague and advise the honourable member in due course of the present position.

**NANGWARRY POST OFFICE.**

Mr. HARDING: Can the Minister of Forests say whether a site has yet been chosen for the proposed post office at Nangwarry; and has any move been made by the Commonwealth Government to start the building, or does the Minister know when a start is likely?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will get a report.

**FREE FERRY CROSSINGS.**

Mr. BYWATERS: Has the Premier a reply to my question of July 25 regarding the date when free ferry crossings over the Murray will come into operation?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The following report has been received from the Commissioner of Highways:

Free ferry crossings will operate from 1/11/61. The various councils will continue to control and manage ferry services. Some lease agreements between the councils and ferrymen expired on 30/6/61. These have been extended to November 1, 1961. Other lease agreements would have expired in 1962. These will now terminate on November 1, 1961. From

that date new leases will operate. Except for administrative costs incurred by the councils the Highways Department will reimburse to the councils the cost of providing and maintaining the ferry services.

**QUALITY OF IRRIGATION WATER.**

Mr. KING: Recently the Public Works Committee recommended the drainage of 800 acres in the Ral Ral division of the Chaffey irrigation area at an estimated cost of £137,000. Can the chairman of the committee say whether it has considered the necessity for putting a regulator on Lake Merreti and also desnagging Hunchee Creek, which supplies water for the Ral Ral division? Evidence was given to the committee during a recent meeting at Renmark.

Mr. SHANNON (Chairman, Public Works Standing Committee): The matter was thoroughly investigated by the committee, which was impressed with the necessity to improve the quality of the water used for irrigation in the Ral Ral division. To do what should be done, obviously there will have to be some desnagging of the Hunchee Creek and a reinstatement of the weir at Lake Merreti to give an opportunity for higher river water to be impounded at the appropriate time and used later for irrigation purposes. My committee was well aware of the problem that had arisen, not only in the Ral Ral division but in other divisions along the river, because of the quality of water that occasionally has to be used. It is aware that where possible the water should be improved by reducing the salt content for irrigation purposes. The committee was well advised by, and I am sure will accept, the evidence of local settlers, particularly Mr. Wood, who has had much to do with this area, and who was good enough to accompany us on our inspection of the Lake Merreti area and to explain what had been done there in the past. What he said had a lot of merit, and I assure the honourable member that when the committee writes its final report this facet of the problem will be considered. The cost of clearing Hunchee Creek and putting in a lock at Lake Merreti again will be only a few thousand pounds, and I consider that it should be considered by the department as I think the committee will recommend this work to deal with the Ral Ral division seepage problem.

**ABATTOIRS SLAUGHTERING.**

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Agriculture a reply to a question I asked on August 2 concerning slaughtering facilities for the general public at the metropolitan abattoirs?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The regulations made under the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Act require delivery of slaughtered meat to a butcher's shop. It is not permissible to take delivery of carcasses at the board's premises. The general public, therefore, can have stock slaughtered at the abattoirs only through the agency of the butcher.

**MURRAY BRIDGE ROAD BRIDGE.**

Mr. BYWATERS: Has the Minister of Works obtained a report from the Minister of Roads about painting the road bridge at Murray Bridge?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have been informed by the Minister of Roads that tenders for painting the bridge over the River Murray at Murray Bridge were called on July 14, 1961. Tenders will close on August 15, 1961.

**PERIODICAL TICKETS**

Mr. TAPPING (on notice): Will the Municipal Tramways Trust consider restoring the use of periodical concession tickets?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The General Manager of the Municipal Tramways Trust reports:

The Trust has no plans for restoring periodical concession tickets in the foreseeable future. Monthly tickets were introduced in 1929 and were eliminated in 1959 due to the fact that their popularity had declined to such an extent that in 1959 their value represented but 1.4 per cent of traffic revenue and the cost of issuing them had become disproportionately high for the small use being made of them by the public. Some years before these tickets were abolished, we established an additional selling point at the Tourist Bureau, King William Street, the better to meet public convenience, but this move failed to arrest the drift in their sale. Generally speaking, this type of ticket is not used in public road passenger services in Australia.

**PENSIONERS' HOMES.**

Mr. TAPPING (on notice): Is it the intention of the Housing Trust to construct pensioners' homes in either the Largs North or Semaphore South area as a consequence of reclamation work being done at present?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Chairman of the South Australian Housing Trust reports that the trust intends to construct cottage flats for such as pensioners at Draper in the Largs North area.

**RAILWAY FLASHING LIGHTS.**

Mr. RALSTON (on notice): How many railway road crossings are equipped with flashing lights—

- (a) within the metropolitan area;
- (b) within municipal areas outside the metropolitan area; and
- (c) within district council areas?

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

- (a) Forty-six.
- (b) Six.
- (c) Twenty-two.

**COURT BUILDING.**

Mr. Jennings for Mr. RYAN (on notice):

1. What is the annual rental of the premises formerly the property of the National Bank at 9 Divett Street, Port Adelaide, now used as Port Adelaide Court No. 3?
2. What amount was expended for alterations and additions to the building?
3. What is the period of the lease of these premises?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The replies are:

1. Annual rental—£1,880 per annum.
2. Alterations and additions—amount expended £1,980.
3. Property leased from October 3, 1960, for a period of five years with right of renewal.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT.**

The SPEAKER laid on the table the interim report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works on:

- Port Lincoln Hospital Additions,
- Drainage of Ral Ral Division of Chaffey Irrigation Area,
- Airdale Primary School,
- Brahma Primary School,
- Vale Park Primary School,
- Beefacres Primary School,
- Elizabeth West Primary School,
- Mansfield Park Primary School Additions,
- Newton Primary School,
- Tonsley Park Primary School,
- Findon High School Additions,
- Mitcham High School (Daws Road),
- Flinders High School (Underdale),
- Marion High School Additions,
- Modbury High School,
- Kidman Park Boys Technical High School,
- Mitcham Girls Technical High School Additions,
- Port Pirie Technical High School,
- Port Augusta Gaol Re-Building,
- Brighton Primary School Additions,

Whyalla North-West Primary School,  
 Port Lincoln High School Additions,  
 Cummins Area School,  
 Geranium Area School,  
 Kangaroo Inn Area School and  
 Duplication of Morgan to Whyalla Pipeline.  
 Ordered to be printed.

#### 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 August 3. Page 268.)

Mr. LOVEDAY (Whyalla): In supporting the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, as amended, I pay a personal tribute to the honourable Frank Condon, whose sterling services to Parliament and the Australian Labor Party over many years will always be remembered by members of this House. I congratulate the member for Frome on his excellent maiden speech. I am sure we shall hear equally good speeches from him in the future and that he will be in the House for a long time. A valuable contribution was made by the member for Torrens, who stressed the importance of water in the Australian economy. I, too, think that the development of Australia will be determined largely by the quantity of water available throughout this continent. No doubt it is a factor controlling our development.

Regarding the amendment so ably dealt with by our Leader and the member for Adelaide, I shall deal for a few moments with the arguments advanced by the member for Mitcham, who drew attention to the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission's judgment and said that when a manufacturer from the United States or the United Kingdom was thinking about coming to Australia he naturally chose to establish his works either near Melbourne or near Sydney, and that the very fact of coming to South Australia at all was to him a measure of decentralization. He went on to say that had the application by the employers (which was supported by the Government) to have the basic wage for Adelaide fixed at 90 per cent of that for Sydney been successful, that would have been some inducement to manufacturers to come to this State. This definition of decentralization is certainly peculiar. I always believed that when we discussed decentralization in this House we were concerned with decentralizing industry from Adelaide to the country, not with bringing industry from Melbourne or Sydney to Adelaide.

Mr. Bywaters: He referred to Adelaide as a bush town, did he?

Mr. LOVEDAY: Presumably. He went on to say:

It would in fact have been an inducement towards decentralization. And, of course, exactly the same thing is true of the application to make the differential between the city and country in this State 12s. instead of the former 3s.

We have never heard a more fallacious argument about decentralization than that. Obviously, if country wages were reduced, in accordance with the application by employers and by the Government, there would be a drift from the country to the city. Until recently there was a tremendous turnover in employees working in Whyalla, particularly in the Broken Hill Proprietary Company's shipyard, whenever they saw an opportunity to obtain higher wages in other States. There is not the slightest doubt that if we try to produce decentralization by reducing wages in the country (or in the city for that matter) compared with those in other States, we shall certainly lose the most skilled of our employees. I can see no reason for supposing that the application by the employers and the Government in this way would have hastened decentralization. It is also worth noting that if the application had been successful the purchasing power of the people would have decreased and the unemployment position made even worse. It would have resulted in people leaving the State to work elsewhere where better wages were available.

We were treated to two speeches on Communism by the members for Gouger and Mitcham. The speech by the member for Enfield was a particularly apt rejoinder to them, but there are one or two matters that I want to mention. The member for Gouger said that the Australian Labor Party should take positive action on trade union elections. Comparatively recent statements by Commonwealth Liberal leaders were to the effect that trade unions should be separated from the political influence of the A.L.P. I can only conclude that this is another of those incredible contradictions that the honourable member refers to frequently, and I suggest that he consult with the Prime Minister about Liberal Party policy on this question. In the interests of Australia as a whole the member for Gouger professes great concern for the future of the A.L.P. and the trade union movement, but at the same time he tries to link members on this side of the House with Communism. Even if his professions were sincere it is



unlikely that they would be regarded as such on this side, for the good reason that this line of attack has been common Liberal propaganda for many years past. In fact, it has been the Liberal stock-in-trade prior to every Commonwealth election. It is interesting to note that these remarks have come when we shall have a Commonwealth election in the near future.

We would not be likely to pay much attention to an attack that has to be bolstered by quotations from the *News Weekly*, a D.L.P. paper, the pages of which are constantly full of attacks on A.L.P. members. Some members in this House have had many years of experience of Communist action in connection with trade unions and it is remarkable that we have to listen to a tirade from a man with no union experience at all, and who demonstrated a little later in an interjection that he had only a foggy notion of what constituted private enterprise. If he wants to busy himself on this question, let him go to Port Adelaide and talk to the Liberals.

Mr. Ryan: I don't want him down there.

Mr. LOVEDAY: He may be able to do some good. It is interesting to see what the Port Adelaide Liberals did in the 1955 Commonwealth elections. Mr. A. V. Thompson, M.H.R. said recently in the Commonwealth Parliament:

I had no Liberal Party or Democratic Labor Party opponent. On that occasion there was only one part of my electorate in which the Liberals enjoyed a greater majority than I did but in that part where I had only a Communist candidate—it was in an elite area in which the Liberal Party enjoyed a strong vote—the Communist candidate was given more of the Liberal votes than I obtained.

In the Senate election the D.L.P. candidate received 2,656 votes, the Liberal candidate 9,391 and the A.L.P. candidate 24,783. The Communist candidate secured a mere 731 votes. In the House of Representatives election the A.L.P. candidate polled 32,813. The only other candidate was a well-known Communist, Mr. Symon, and he secured 5,918. That shows conclusively that over 5,000 of the Liberals in Port Adelaide preferred to vote for the Communist rather than the A.L.P. candidate. In addition to that, an outstanding number made their vote informal rather than cast a vote.

I pass on to the matter of unemployment. We have a report in today's *Advertiser* of a rather remarkable speech by the Prime Minister in connection with unemployment.

He said that the real trouble in the Australian economy was not the credit squeeze, but the lack of confidence amongst the public. This morning an unemployed man told me that he had gone down the street with a pocketful of confidence in view of the report in the newspaper, but unfortunately no-one would accept it as legal tender. He had been out of work for a while and had none of that necessary money to pass over the counter, but he still had confidence, strange to say. However, no-one would accept it as legal tender. The press report of the Prime Minister's speech said:

This Government's economic policy has worked. It has produced the most magnificent results. It has saved our international balances.

I am sure that will be a great comfort to the 112,000 people or more who are unemployed today. We are developing a new look on full employment. The Menzies Government no longer calls it full employment. It talks about a high level of employment, which gives the matter quite a new look. Under the Reserve Bank Act the bank is charged with a policy of maintaining full employment as well as current stability, not merely a high level of employment. The stop and go policy of the Menzies Government since last November is a sorry history of miscalculation. For some months now I have saved a number of newspaper cuttings regarding the credit squeeze and it is interesting to note how some of the statements made in the earlier stages of this squeeze read today. It certainly makes interesting and revealing reading. A leader in the *Advertiser* of February 14 said:

Admittedly Mr. Menzies was not very precise when he said he did not expect a "substantial amount of unemployment" in Australia . . . According to an unofficial report soon after restraints were applied the Government estimated that its measures could result in about 7,000 men being displaced in the industries concerned.

A mere 7,000, and the figure has steadily grown until today there are more than 112,000 people unemployed and registered. The article went on to say:

Official figures released in Canberra yesterday support Mr. Menzies' view that there is no cause for alarm in the present situation.

Mr. Bywaters: Evidently he is not one of the unemployed.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Definitely not. On February 16 the *News* contained an article by Sir Douglas Copland. Of course, Sir Douglas may be one of those theoretical professors whom the Prime Minister dismisses so cavalierly according

to today's *Advertiser*, but I have always had a high respect for Sir Douglas Copland, and he said that this was not an appropriate occasion for dampening down enterprise, but that on the contrary the Government should be concerned primarily with measures intended to step up the rate of growth. In his article he pointed out the lack of a plan for adequate investment for the public sector in the economy, and said that more young people would be coming on to the labour market in the years to come.

Then, on June 21, we had the Navy Minister (Senator Gorton) telling us that our economy would soon be on the sunny side of the slope—from the end of next month (July). Another miscalculation! He said, "We are just about at the peak of our troubles."

Mr. Quirke: It is the wrong slope.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Yes, the slippery slope. That was on June 21; yet, curiously enough, on June 30 the *Advertiser* told us that 100 more men were laid off by General Motors-Holdens. It is curious that on almost every occasion that some Liberal leader has told us that everything would soon be right—that everything in the garden would be lovely—a few days hence we have had a notice that somebody will lay off a few more people. On the same day, the Adelaide correspondent of the Italian language newspaper said that about 20 per cent of the Italian work force in Adelaide was unemployed. On July 27, the *Sydney Morning Herald's* financial editor said:

Some time back, they used to provide bread and circuses when they wanted to distract the idle street mobs from seditious thought.

The article is headed, "Don't Let Me Hear You Not Singing." You see, you have to sing and tell yourself that you have ample confidence. That will be the solution. "Go on spending as usual," says the Prime Minister; "All that is lacking is confidence," says the Federal Treasurer; "A return of public confidence would clear the way for the recovery of the economy," says the spokesman for industry and commerce. This reminds one of the small boys whistling in the dark. On the same page as that which carries such cynical remarks and all this free advice, five reports of company operations show increased profits. These companies include one of those poor hire-purchase companies that, according to the member for Gouger, have been more or less ruined. One of those reports was of Esanda, whose profit jumped by 50.7 per cent. This was on July 27—quite recently. Although hardships are

being suffered by the unemployed, there does not seem to be much wrong with the profit side of industry.

I come now to an extract from a South Australian newspaper that I feel inadvertently, and perhaps without due thought, revealed what is really in the minds of many people in business. This editorial, published some four or five weeks ago, states:

For many years employers, particularly those in smaller industries and businesses, have been longing for the day when they can call a man into the office and tell him that if he is not prepared to start on time, if he is not prepared to do a full day's work, then somebody can be found to take over. Some years ago a prominent Australian remarked that what this country needed to get the utmost production was the threat of unemployment and employers must be deriving satisfaction from the fact that at long last they now hold in their hand a weapon that they thought would never come back—the fear of dismissal for not doing the right thing.

It is most unfortunate that this is apparently still the mid-Victorian thinking of present-day people. It shows that some people are simply not keeping up with world developments, and if people imagine that this attitude may solve the present problem they are well off the mark.

In the June issue of the *Federated Chamber of Commerce of Western Australia* it is reported that Mr. C. C. Verco, president of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, stated:

While the present degree of unemployment is higher than experienced for some years it still does not give cause for undue alarm, and the Prime Minister's statement makes it clear that the Government will maintain a close watch to see that any further serious deterioration does not develop.

There is not the slightest doubt, in my opinion, that the true position of unemployment is being concealed not only in the figures that we are getting but also in the way in which those figures are presented. It is the custom now to talk of unemployment always in terms of percentages, and there is a good reason for that. When one says that the total unemployment is only 2.5 per cent or three per cent, it is a small figure and one dismisses it from one's mind if one is not unemployed; but if a statement shows that at least 112,000 are unemployed and that those people are getting only a little more than £6 a week on which to make do, that is a different picture altogether. It is then a human picture, in terms of fact.

The Prime Minister is fond of telling us that unemployment is only, say, 2.5 per cent whereas in Canada it is 10 per cent and in the United States of America 12 per cent, or

whatever it happens to be; but we do not hear of the terrific distress in the U.S.A. or Canada that accompanies those figures. We should look a little further at the question of how the position is put to the people. A report in the *Advertiser*, under date-line "Canberra, June 25", states that unemployment benefits were costing the Commonwealth Government nearly £200,000 a week. The emphasis was what it cost the Commonwealth Government: there was no mention about what the cost was to the unemployed. It is interesting to see just what the cost was to the unemployed. Assuming that the average wage-earner would be earning about £20 a week, it is easy to see that the unemployed are losing £2,000,000 a week in wages, and this does not in any way account for the loss by those people on part time, those who are no longer working overtime, or those who are not registered. It is, therefore, safe to say that the people out of work today are losing at least £2,000,000 a week, even after allowing for their receipt of unemployment benefits worth £200,000 or slightly more a week.

It is interesting to look at this, too, in terms of value of production lost. In 1958-59 the added value per person in secondary industries to the product which they were making was about £700 a year. We can certainly say that another £2,000,000 a week is being lost in added value of production which would have been achieved had those people been working. In other words, Australia is losing £4,000,000 a week because of unemployment. What would have been said if this unemployment and loss had been caused by a widespread strike? Statements would have been made that it was a Communist conspiracy to destroy the economy, but similar results have been achieved by other means that were supposed to save the economy. We hear no condemnation such as we would have heard had this result been achieved by a widespread strike. When there is a strike we see headlines concerning the wages lost by strikers—so many thousands of pounds a week. We do not, however, see headlines today about the wages the unemployed are losing because of this situation. In other words, there is a concerted attempt to hide the facts.

Let us consider the position of an unemployed person receiving relief. Unemployed benefits are £6 2s. 6d. a week, child endowment for one child is £1 5s. a week, and the permissible income to qualify for benefits is £2 a week, so a person may receive £9 7s. 6d. a week. Assuming that with reasonable economy and

skill the purchase and preparation of food costs £7 10s. a week, £1 17s. 6d. remains for rent and accommodation charges, clothing, gas, light and fuel, fares, medical expenses and sundries, not to mention hire-purchase commitments. A good case exists for an immediate increase of unemployment benefits to afford these people some relief in their struggle. That would certainly provide extra purchasing power and do something to return the economy to a sound footing.

Regarding the relationship of this situation to immigration, Mr. Holt's drastic economic measures of November, 1960, were made at a time when there was an approximate balance between the number of unemployed and the number of job vacancies. It was said that the fear of overseas reserves being depleted prompted the Government measures but now one-third of the unemployed are migrants. It is interesting to notice, when considering what happened at Bonegilla, that the men who rioted were roundly and soundly condemned for their action, but although I do not justify their taking the law into their own hands, I point out what one visitor to the Bonegilla camp found shortly after the riots. He was shown a booklet, thousands of copies of which were issued in Europe entitled *Kennen Sie Australien*. That booklet was issued at immigration information centres in Germany and Austria and at other places to people wishing to come to Australia. Paragraph 96 of the booklet, which was printed in 1960, stated that Australia had the world's highest rate of employment. It has been suggested that the riots were suddenly inspired by an agitator, but this visitor pointed out that two notices were placed on the fence of the camp in plain view for two days and the presence of these was noticed according to a statement that appeared in the *Border Morning Mail* of June 11. The incidents at the camp did not occur until July 17 so the authorities knew perfectly well what was simmering.

No doubt good reason existed for the feeling rampant throughout the camp. The subsequent severe curtailment of our immigration programme, a programme initiated and commenced by a Labor Government, is one of the most serious setbacks suffered in the development of this country. Nothing can destroy a migration programme as effectively as the return of disgruntled migrants to their homeland. This is a direct result of the measures taken by the Menzies Government in November, 1960. A few weeks ago I had to listen to an address by Mr. Paul McGuire who said that we should

ignore the unemployment situation in Australia and proceed with an increased migration programme. I often wonder whether any people who advocate such a policy understand what it means to have disgruntled migrants returning from this country to their homeland; there could be no worse advertisement and yet, during the speech by the member for Port Pirie, we heard an interjection by the honourable member for Eyre that "a lot of these blokes should have been shot during the last war." I am amazed at the thinking of some people.

Mr. Clark: Is that correct?

Mr. LOVEDAY: It appears in *Hansard* and I repeat that I am amazed at the thinking of some people. I found from a report in the *Bulletin* of July 8 that some jobless German migrants are busy filling in forms sent to them by an employment agency in Frankfurt in West Germany. The agency states that if these people have the right qualifications they may obtain full employment with West German firms, which will pay their fares from Australia to Germany. This agency is engaged in recruiting outside Germany workers for the hungry German industry and agriculture and it is doing a brisk business. I believe that this country has a far better future than West Germany provided we take intelligent action for its development.

Mr. Jenkins: The honourable member is doing a pretty good job to break down the confidence of the people.

Mr. LOVEDAY: The honourable member does not seem to realize that you cannot get development by hiding the facts. The fact that these things are being hidden by our Government is a bad advertisement. On July 25 an article in the *News* drew attention to a statement made by Professor Borrie (Professor of Demography at the University of Canberra). The professor drew attention to the increase of 56,000 in the Australian born labour force this year. That increase will leap to 70,000 in 1962, to 73,000 in 1963, and will reach a peak of 74,000 in 1964. An idea still seems to be abroad that, if these facts are hidden, somehow or other we can escape the consequences; but we cannot escape them and it is far better to face the issue and do the right thing in an attempt to solve our problem.

Apart from the problem of our overseas balances, it appears that the salient feature of our economy is, first of all, its instability arising from the present methods of financing purchases of the tremendous flow of

goods coming from our secondary industries, and this feature is not peculiar to Australia. We have reached a position, in common with many other countries, where the purchasing power of the workers is not sufficient to buy the goods coming off the production line. The ever increasing productive powers of secondary industry force it to seek ever new ways of getting its products over into the consumers' hands. Industry is resorting to high pressure salesmanship, high pressure advertising all the time, and the only way in which those products are being got over into the consumers' hands is by extending the time payment structure, a structure made up in various ways but having the same characteristics, no matter under what heading it goes.

Industry is finding the need to generate increased consumer demand all the time, and much of that consumer demand is certainly not real demand in the sense that people think of it first. They have the ideas put into their heads by the tremendous power of advertising. We are seeing a tremendous campaign of planned obsolescence of secondary industry production, and planned obsolescence is largely planned waste. We have a tremendous advertising campaign, for example, to sell a new car with a different tail fin. Mechanically, it is no better than its predecessor, but it has a different tail fin and, in order to keep that industry moving, that particular tail fin has to be pushed upon the consumer. That illustration could be repeated in many directions.

If we can solve the problem of sending a man into space to orbit the globe, as has just been done, surely a problem of this nature is not beyond solution by us. Why is it that no concerted move is made to solve the problem of getting the products of industry into the hands of the consumers without building up an ever increasing debt structure? The answer is that the building of that debt structure is too profitable for business. Too many people are making large profits out of present-day arrangements. Until we adopt a different viewpoint on these matters and realize how they are wrecking our economy, we shall make no progress.

Mr. Shannon: You have not answered the question of how you can buy things without money.

Mr. LOVEDAY: The only way in which the hire-purchase debt structure can continue is by reducing the deposits and lengthening the terms. Surely that is no solution at all. Sooner or later it must reach saturation point.

Mr. Shannon: What do you do then?

Mr. LOVEDAY: I suggest that the honourable member read a book called *The Affluent Society* by Mr. Galbraith, who points out clearly and logically the inevitable end that the hire-purchase structure will reach. He will find there a careful and well reasoned analysis of the whole position.

Mr. Shannon: We are waiting for your answer.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Unlike the honourable member, I do not profess to be an expert on everything any more than any other member of Parliament can be but, if we can see something in regard to policy that we think needs altering, this is the place to say so, and we should be saying so.

Mr. Shannon: It is all words—nothing in it!

Mr. LOVEDAY: Of course, I could say the same about some of the speeches of the honourable member if he wants to get personal.

Mr. Shannon: It is just plain words.

Mr. LOVEDAY: The honourable member gets very sensitive about these matters.

Mr. Shannon: Not a bit!

Mr. LOVEDAY: Of course, in this country we still have some room for expansion in this direction because our total hire-purchase loans now represent about 6 per cent of personal incomes after tax, whereas in the United States of America 15 per cent of incomes after tax is taken by time payment systems. But I do not think we should gather much comfort from that because in the United States I believe one goes round with a credit card (provided one is credit-worthy, of course) and gets everything on time payment—funerals, holidays, and almost every other conceivable thing. It is worth noting in what direction the United States is heading. There was an article in a recent issue of *Time*, which I believe the member for Onkaparinga would agree is quite a reliable magazine.

Mr. Shannon: That is problematical; it sometimes contains tripe, too.

Mr. LOVEDAY: In this particular issue of *Time* it is pointed out that including current unemployed the total unproductive labour force of the war economy (it is termed "the war economy" in this article in America) would total about 15,000,000 out of a total national work force of nearly 70,000,000, and in the next decade the labour force will grow by 20 per cent, or 13,500,000. To keep

unemployment where it is now, the United States will have to create 1,000,000 new jobs each year. In the past year it has been creating new jobs at the rate of 694,000 a year. The article points out that the National Planning Association calculates that, if the United States' growth rate continues until 1965 (only four years hence) at its recent rate, the result will be 13 per cent of the labour force unemployed. We are proceeding along the same path and I think it is time we had a close look at it and tried to find a solution to this predicament.

I wish now to pass to one or two matters affecting my electorate directly and to refer to the problems of development in a new area that is expanding fast at Whyalla. I have already said that Sir Douglas Copland pointed to the need for great investment in the public sector and I have said here previously that investment in the public sector is being depleted of funds, that the investment there is insufficient. This is becoming apparent in Whyalla where local expansion is taking place. When Radium Hill and Leigh Creek were developed by the State, the development of the roads, footpaths, kerbing, and so forth was carried out by the State Government and was not paid for by the people who went to live there. The same thing occurred at Woomera. In Elizabeth land was sold in order to meet developmental costs. Those places were all examples of the fact that in new development today local rates are insufficient to meet its needs.

In Whyalla development is taking place in which most of the houses are being built by the Housing Trust, which has accepted the responsibilities of subdivider under the Town Planning Act, but only to the extent that it will seal a road to a maximum width of 22ft. in front of its own properties, and provide the necessary kerbings, water tables and footpaths. The cost for properties outside that category has to be met by the commission or by the Lands Department, if and where that department has such property.

Recently at Whyalla an area containing 429 ratable properties had a road construction programme, including kerbings, water tables and footpaths, of £143,000 of which the Town Commission's share was £30,000. It was reported in this morning's *Advertiser* that a rate of 2s. in the pound, with a £15 minimum, was struck for that area. The rate income to be derived therefrom will be little more than sufficient to meet the interest and principal on the loan of £30,000 for that area spread over

10 years. In other words, the commission will have virtually no revenue for other purposes from that area for 10 years. The same applies to two similar areas, and the commission's total responsibility in respect of the three areas will be about £50,000, but the total rate revenue therefrom is just over £10,000 at 2s. in the pound with a minimum of £15. Where main roads, exceeding 22 feet in width, had to be constructed, the extra cost had to be borne by the commission. It is obviously uneconomic not to do the work as a straight-out job initially. It is unwise to leave dirt strips or unfinished sections. The problems of financing development in a rapidly expanding area are particularly heavy for councils and cannot be met from rate revenue.

Mr. Riches: Where will it find its contribution to hospitals?

Mr. LOVEDAY: That contribution could not be found. In this particular instance the Government is not prepared to meet the commission's desire by providing a public hospital when expansions have to be made to the present hospital. The cost of those expansions was estimated originally at at least £750,000, but by deleting one storey and cutting out some other conveniences that were to be installed, the estimated cost has been reduced to £660,000, of which the local residents are expected to find £220,000.

Mr. Shannon: I do not suppose there is a town in South Australia that has had such cheap hospital arrangements as Whyalla.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Keeping strictly to the point, I emphasize that it is impossible to find £220,000 from an industrial town with a population of about 12,000. If the honourable member can show me how that can be done, I shall be delighted.

Mr. Shannon: No other country town has had such cheap hospitalization as Whyalla.

Mr. LOVEDAY: I am not discussing the cheapness of the hospitalization.

Mr. Shannon: Whyalla has had a marvellous go.

Mr. LOVEDAY: That is beside the point. Under existing circumstances it is impossible to find £220,000 from an industrial town of that size.

Mr. Dunnage: Why don't they impose a realistic rate? Why don't they put the rates up a bit more?

Mr. LOVEDAY: If the honourable member wants to see people leave a town, he is advocating the right way to go about it.

Mr. Dunnage: Why is the rate down to 2s.? Why not put it up more?

Mr. LOVEDAY: Can the honourable member tell me any other place where the rate is 2s. on unimproved land values?

Mr. Dunnage: I cannot tell you, but why don't they put the rate up?

Mr. LOVEDAY: What rate?

Mr. Dunnage: Forget it if you are going to adopt that attitude.

Mr. LOVEDAY: The honourable member doesn't understand . . .

Mr. Dunnage: I don't understand anything about local government: anything at all.

Mr. LOVEDAY: When the honourable member has finished I will continue. The honourable member does not understand that the hospital has nothing to do with the local government body and therefore no rate is struck.

Mr. Dunnage: I am not talking about the hospital: I am talking about the rate.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Well, I was talking about the hospital. The rates have been advanced as much as is practicable.

Mr. Dunnage: That was the answer, and it has taken you all this time to give it.

Mr. LOVEDAY: I had already said that.

Mr. Dunnage: I was listening, and did not hear you say it.

Mr. Bywaters: Perhaps the honourable member did not have sufficient intelligence to understand.

Mr. LOVEDAY: I was under the impression that by giving some figures showing the financial problems that have to be met by councils in rapidly expanding areas it might prove of value to members, but obviously some members do not want to hear the facts in that regard.

Mr. Dunnage: How silly can you be! What about the problems they have in Marion? They are far greater than yours and they do not get any help.

Mr. Casey: Come up the north to Cockburn: that is where they have problems.

The SPEAKER: Order! There are too many interjections.

Mr. LOVEDAY: I am grateful to the Minister of Education for his interest in and consideration of a request to establish an occupation centre at Whyalla for retarded children. I hope the move in that direction will proceed quickly so that the parents of the

children concerned will get some relief. I should also like the Minister to consider the matter raised in the *News Review* session of July 26 at which it was reported that the Queensland Teachers' Union had requested the Queensland Government to introduce 5½ years as the minimum age for children commencing in primary schools. This request followed a test over a period made by Professor Schonell of the Queensland University, who is well-known for his text books on the teaching of reading. Professor Schonell pointed out, first, that children entering schools at 5½ years were more mature and able to cope with the work happily at all ages; secondly, that the younger children, under 5½ years, slipped back in their work at grade IV; thirdly, that they found work increasingly difficult from grade IV onwards to the secondary schools; and fourthly, that they lost ground at secondary school and seldom completed the secondary school course. His conclusion was that there was a wastage of students because of discouragement through their immaturity and their not being able to cope with their work. I should like the Minister carefully to consider that report, because I feel sure he would find it supported in many directions by teachers who have had considerable experience with Grade I; and it could be that it has some bearing on the failure of many University students.

I appreciate the appointment by the Aborigines Department of an officer at Coober Pedy and consider it is a worthwhile step. I have suggested for some time than an officer from the department should be appointed both at Coober Pedy and Andamooka, and hope that in the not far distant future an officer will also be appointed to Andamooka. I believe that the employment of such trained officers is a very important step where aborigines are gathered together, as they are in quite considerable numbers at these two opal fields. Such an appointment is absolutely necessary to improve the conditions of the aborigines and assist them in moving toward our form of society. It is not desirable that these officers should have any punitive powers, but they should be highly trained welfare officers to assist the aborigines in the directions suggested.

The training of young aboriginal men for this class of work is very desirable. This would be a positive step, which would show our real faith in the programme of assimilation, and I am certain that if the Government sought the right class of young aborigines,

some could be found with the aptitude and ability to qualify for this type of job. I am not suggesting that we should lower the standards just to obtain such officers, but I believe that with the right selection we could find the right men who could acquire the desired qualifications. I offer this suggestion to the Minister because this is something, as far as I know, that has not been attempted in any direction in the handling of aborigines in this State. There should be a pursuit of that policy, not only at Andamooka and Coober Pedy, but in other places where there are numbers of aborigines, and this would be of great value indeed. I have much pleasure in supporting the adoption of the Address in Reply as amended.

Mr. TAPPING (Semaphore): I support the amendment to the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, and commend the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Frank Walsh) for his fine exposition on behalf of the Australian Labor Party. I believe it could be said with certainty that he did an excellent job in his oration and because of the material he submitted to the House. I heartily congratulate him.

I join with other honourable members in extending a cordial welcome to His Excellency the Governor and Lady Bastyan. I was particularly impressed with the manner in which His Excellency delivered his Speech in opening Parliament. It was most commanding and was the best delivery by a Governor during the number of years I have been a member of Parliament. In his short association with the people of South Australia he has certainly endeared himself to them and Lady Bastyan has also proved her worth, and I feel certain that she will be just as capable and dignified as His Excellency.

A few weeks ago His Excellency visited Port Adelaide, I understand at the invitation of a Minister of the Crown. It was regrettable on that occasion that neither the member for Port Adelaide (Mr. Ryan) nor myself as member for Semaphore, whose territory he traversed, were invited. I am not concerned about being left out of these things, but it was an affront to His Excellency. To make matters worse, a fortnight ago His Excellency once again visited Port Adelaide at the invitation of the Port Adelaide Corporation, and again the member for the district and I were not invited. One remembers the occasion when we entertained Sir Edric at a dinner at Parliament House only a few weeks after his

arrival, and at that gathering he emphasized that it was his fervent desire to mingle with the members of the respective districts as soon as possible. It was indeed an insult to the members of the district not to be invited to those gatherings. Such things should not occur. After all, His Excellency is very closely associated with the State Parliament and when it is a question of his visiting the electorates, politics must be cast aside to enable him to meet the people.

Mr. Bywaters: It was an affront to the people you represent.

Mr. TAPPING: Yes. I pay a tribute to the memory of the late Hon. F. J. Condon. It could be said that he was one of the best-loved men in politics in South Australia for as many years as we can remember. He had a very modest manner and he was loved by the sporting fraternity of this land. Employers respected him, and in his approach to them on behalf of employees in the milling industry, whom he represented for so many years, he obtained excellent results. Members of the Federated Millers and Mill Employees Union considered him almost indispensable in fighting for their cause.

After his demise I was approached by the editor of *The Messenger*, which circulates in Port Adelaide and Semaphore, and asked to make some comment concerning Mr. Condon. I concluded my comments by saying that the Hon. Frank Condon was a Christian and a democrat. That is about the highest tribute one can pay to any person in this fair land. I knew him particularly well, because I was with him almost every day. He often accompanied me in my car to Adelaide and on return, and we chatted about many things. I knew how enthusiastic he was about the progress of South Australia, in which he played a noble part. Everyone, irrespective of Party, admired him for the part he played, and which he did so well. He certainly satisfied his desire—to die in harness.

I join with other honourable members in commending the new member for Frome (Mr. Casey), who, I consider, made a worthwhile contribution in his maiden speech. He has impressed us early in his political career with his ability, sincerity and desire to serve not only the people of Frome, but the people of the State, and I wish him a long career in this House. It can be said without hesitation that he has a very difficult task to perform in endeavouring to emulate the excellent services rendered by the late Leader of the Opposition,

Mr. Michael O'Halloran, who represented Frome for so many years. I believe that as time progresses Mr. Casey will prove himself worthy, and I know that his efforts will be appreciated by the people living in Frome.

I now wish to refer to an aspect of hospital accounts, particularly those of pensioners, in South Australia. The authorities have been reasonably kind to pensioners faced with what might appear to be tremendous bills and have dealt with them in accordance with what might be termed a means test. However, an improvement could be made. Many pensioners have waited on me and on other members, and it is common for them to have bills for £90, £100, or £105. This is frightening to them, as they can never pay that much. They are sent to hospital to cure their ills and pains, yet on discharge they are sent accounts that are often big enough to affect them so much that they must go back to hospital for further treatment. When patients are taken to the Royal Adelaide Hospital or the Queen Elizabeth Hospital they are asked if they are pensioners and, if they are, the clerk puts that information on a questionnaire. I think it would be better if the hospital authorities sent pensioners a form to complete and return before sending out an account. The reverse procedure is being followed and is adversely affecting pensioners. I urge the Government to ask the Hospitals Department to send out to pensioners a questionnaire or means test form, to be completed and returned before an account is sent out by the department.

Most members must be concerned at the recent loss of life at sea that is happening all too frequently around the coast of South Australia. At the end of February this year seven men lost their lives off the West Coast in a cutter named the *Lincoln Star*. I pay a tribute to all the people who desired to assist in an effort to save the lives of these men or to find the bodies or the wreckage; everyone who was able to do so lent a hand. A day after this accident three men who went out in a bondwood dinghy off Outer Harbour lost their lives when an unexpected storm arose. Their bodies were never recovered. I am pleased to say that a committee was formed in my district to do something for their families, who were not entitled to Workmen's Compensation. Even though the fund was launched simultaneously with Operation Heart Beat, the committee raised £814 to be shared among the three families. The result could have been better, of course, but the money will do a lot to help these families to pay off debts, and give them a fresh



start. I pay a tribute particularly to employees of the Electricity Trust in various parts of the State, who conducted competitions and badge days. There was a fine response from employees at Hilton and the trust's office, which proves that these men, who worked for the trust at Osborne, and their families were highly regarded by their fellow workers.

Loss of life in this manner is happening all too frequently in this State. In New South Wales there is a rescue organization to deal with such matters. I wrote to Mr. Heffron, the Premier of New South Wales, who sent details of how this organization works. It is pleasing to know that the recognized rescue organization in that State is conducted on a voluntary basis; because of that, it should commend itself more than ever to members of this House. There is nothing fantastic about the system there; it merely meets periodically to co-ordinate the various aspects of life-saving and the preservation of life. To give an idea of how we need something of this type, I shall now refer to a letter written by Mr. George Cameron to the Editor of the *Advertiser* on April 11. I understand that Mr. Cameron is a respected citizen of Ceduna and is able to suggest how we can improve rescue work and avoid loss of life in the manner I have indicated. He said:

The conduct of the recent search for the tuna boat *Lincoln Star* demands that a thorough investigation be made of the State and Commonwealth arrangements for such emergencies. For, despite the well-meant efforts of those involved in the organization of the search, it was not efficiently prosecuted until 72 hours after the vessel was overdue at its home port. It could well be that by then it was too late to search.

Radio contact was made with the vessel at 4.30 p.m. on February 27 and again at 6.30 p.m. The boat was having engine trouble and its position on the continental shelf was known within 30 miles. The *Lincoln Star* did not arrive in port as expected at 10 o'clock next morning. Later that day an alert was declared and the police were notified. A request for an air search was made but this did not begin until after mid-day the next day, Wednesday. Efforts were made to arrange for a twin-engined DC3 aircraft, stationed at Ceduna on Government business, to join in the search, but permission to use this aircraft was not received by daylight next day. It arrived several hours late.

It is essential that a search and rescue organization worthy of its name should be set up on a Commonwealth-wide basis immediately. The Department of Civil Aviation has such an organization for use when aircraft are lost, and carries out practice runs every year. A similar plan should be arranged immediately between State and Commonwealth authorities.

I was impressed with the simplicity of the New South Wales scheme and, in consequence, sent on the letter from the New South Wales Premier to our Premier suggesting that we seriously consider adopting a scheme whereby we would have a rescue organization available so that the necessary machinery could be put into operation so as to preserve human life. After some weeks I received a letter from our Premier saying that he had sent my letter on to the Chief Secretary, who in turn had referred the matter to the Commissioner of Police. I will read some extracts from the reply I received dated May 30, 1961. The first states:

I refer to your letter of May 9, 1961, in regard to rescue organization. I referred the matter to the honourable the Chief Secretary, who has now supplied me with the following report from the Commissioner of Police:

From recent experiences in searches of this nature in this State we are satisfied with the co-operation received from other resources. The eastern States are more fortunate than South Australia in the use of aircraft in that there is a wider variety and it is more readily available.

I concede that because of its size New South Wales has more aircraft available, but I object to the following statement by the Police Commissioner:

It is not always possible to obtain aircraft for search and rescue purposes free of charge in this State.

I think that is where the letter breaks down. If we are to consider cost in connection with rescue operations we are placing the value of human lives at a very low level. I commend the Commissioner for being frank, if he thinks that way, but he missed the important point. If an aircraft is required it should be the duty of the authorities to supply one *gratis*.

Mr. Fred Walsh: They do it in other States

Mr. TAPPING: Yes. South Australia should immediately commit herself to the use of an aeroplane needed when there is an effort to save human lives. In New South Wales there is a close liaison between life-saving bodies, yachting clubs, the Air Force and the harbours authority. They all play an important part in the attempt to save human lives. I do not accuse anyone for past events in South Australia because even if we had had an organization available the same thing could have happened, but we have always a duty to try to save lives. The Commissioner of Police continues:

The following personnel and equipment are available in this department for emergency operations:—

The Cliff Rescue Squad consists of 18 members trained in the use of ropes and tackle to assist in the recovery of persons

below cliffs or in mine shafts. The available equipment includes a Bedford truck permanently loaded with tools, stretchers, helmets, rope ladders, winch and lamps. The Aqualung Squad comprises six members and another three reserves specially selected and trained with a view to recovering bodies and/or stolen property from the docks or rivers and in some cases from the sea. Personnel are equipped . . .

The Flying Squad of 14 members trained in map reading and in the use of compasses and walkie talkie apparatus are provided with a Land Rover station waggon . . . Police craft available in the metropolitan area are as follows: *Archie Badenoch*—45ft. launch, together with a 10ft. bondwood dinghy at Outer Harbour; *Sea Hawk*—25ft. launch at Port Adelaide; *William Fisk*—18ft. launch together with a 10ft. bondwood dinghy and trailer at Glenelg; a 15ft. fibre-glass boat together with trailer at the River Torrens.

Dogs trained by Commonwealth police at the Weapons Research Establishment, Salisbury, are made available to this department to assist in searches for lost persons.

Mr. Fred Walsh: What about the D. J. Newland boat?

Mr. TAPPING: It is not mentioned. Continuing:

The Volunteer Sea Rescue Squad is a group of civilian enthusiasts who have offered 10 launches and the services of the respective crews to the department in any sea emergency. In South Australia we have the resources and people who are willing to play their part in an emergency, but there seems to be no co-operation in the matter. I hope the Government will call a meeting of all people concerned so as to organize a combined effort to be available when the need arises, as undoubtedly it will arise because in our waters we have frequent storms. Let us have a rescue organization that will endeavour to combat this difficulty. We should act in order to eliminate future fatalities in adjacent sea waters. I now refer to a news broadcast from station 5CL on July 1, 1961. I obtained from the Australian Broadcasting Commission a copy of what was said because over the air I could not grasp the significance. It states:

The South Australian Government is to be asked whether aircraft can be made more speedily available for sea searches. The general manager of the South Australian Fishermen's Co-operative Limited said today that his organization would raise the matter probably with the Marine and Fisheries Departments. Safcol would also ask if there could be closer liaison between Government departments at such times.

That is the crux of the matter. We should have liaison when the emergency arises. I know from firsthand knowledge that there has

been much delay by the people concerned when an emergency has arisen. I blame no-one, but the police, the harbour authorities and other people each have a different viewpoint and, because of that, valuable time is lost. Let us try to do something worthwhile in this matter. There would be no additional cost to the Government. Everything would be done on a voluntary basis. All organizations would be happy to help in a voluntary way.

Mr. Jennings: You want them to co-ordinate?

Mr. TAPPING: Yes. Now I come to the matter of kleptomaniacs and drug addicts. Sometime ago prominence was given to the case of an old lady in South Australia who was put in gaol because of her continued larceny—thieving from shops. In fact, that lady was 74 years of age and had spent 33 years in gaol, for shop lifting in particular. Social workers say that the placing of this type of person in gaol does more harm than good. Treatment by a psychologist or a psychiatrist in a special institution is needed.

Mr. Fred Walsh: Cut out the psychologist.

Mr. TAPPING: Then let us speak about a psychiatrist. This lady has a fine husband and two excellent sons. I will not disclose her name, but the case came before the court some time ago. I have received telephone calls and letters from various social workers telling me that the point I make is very sound. Amongst those telephone calls was one from Mr. Bond, who some years ago played a big part in prosecutions in the Port Adelaide Police Court and carried out his duties with much understanding of and feeling for those in trouble. He knew all about this case, and he told me that any attempt we could make in this House to improve matters, for not only this woman but for others in the same category, would benefit the social structure of South Australia.

I claim that the authorities should note this case, because even though it may be isolated at the moment, others will occur. We should adopt a policy whereby psychiatrists could give specialist attention to such people in a special home. The atmosphere of gaol is appalling, and only makes matters worse. The same thing applies to the drug addict. I recently read that a man charged in the Adelaide Police Court had been gaoled five times because of his continual taking of drugs. Once he was released from gaol and, when followed by the police, was seen to go to the parklands and retrieve some drugs he had left there under a bush before going to gaol.

Those people cannot help themselves, and gaol is not the answer. I hope the Government will heed my appeal because it is supported by most reasonable people. We cannot blame the police or the magistrates, for the law provides this penalty and this is the natural consequence. I suggest that we revise the appropriate legislation to enable psychiatrists, under these circumstances, to render special aid to those people. I emphasize that the police throughout have been kind and humane to this woman of whom I spoke. Religious organizations, too, have played their part, but the position is not improving and therefore we must meet it by providing specialist treatment.

I now refer to what I class as rackets in South Australia. For the last two or three years certain people from other States, as well as some from within our own State, have tended to sell shares and interests in projects which have no hope of success from the start and which prove worthless. Some members may say, "Well, if they offer 20 per cent, which is not reasonable, then the people ought to wake up to themselves." However, I believe that it is our duty to guard the interests of the people and to stop this sort of racket. This first came under my notice when I was approached some months ago by one of my constituents. This man and his wife invested £500 in vending machines and were told by the dynamic salesman at the time that they could expect a dividend of 20 per cent within a few months. Anyone knows that if it had been a tangible 20 per cent, those with the big money would have taken all that was available and not left it to the small people. That is common sense.

Thousands and thousands of pounds was taken from the pockets of these people—I say "taken" and I mean "taken"—when their investment failed. In this case the husband and wife were saving assiduously to pay a deposit on a house. They were living in an emergency house at Taperoo, and they decided that it would be better if they could buy a house for themselves and become independent—a commendable thought. They therefore speculated the whole £500 in order to earn a 20 per cent dividend, and they lost the lot. I hope this matter will be taken up with the Attorney-General in an effort to see that the legislation is amended or some appropriate legislation introduced to protect the people of this State.

Another racket equally as bad, if not worse, is a venture that was started in the Barossa Valley in 1958. This venture is known as the

Barossa Valley Olive Plantations Limited. The brochure that was provided speaks of "gold", and the whole venture looks very attractive on paper. A constituent of mine from Largs Bay, along with others, was approached to invest in this organization, and it seemed to attract him so much that in 1958 he speculated £550. After he had received a few dividends in respect of plantings of vines between the olive plantations, the venture apparently failed. It concerns me—and, I think, other members—to know that when this project was launched in 1958 some big business people in South Australia, who no doubt had invested money, took their places on the board of directors. The *Sunday Mail* of February 15 and other newspapers about that time carried propaganda for this venture. The *Sunday Mail* carried the headline "Big Barossa Plan. South Australian olives as £1m. industry", and stated:

A new South Australian primary industry aimed at saving Australia more than £1,000,000 a year in imports is being launched in the Barossa Valley.

We find that the original directors were Mr. W. H. Dring (company director), Mr. S. E. Antonas (wool scourer), Mr. A. E. Trim (company director), and Mr. K. J. Powell, a well-known real estate man in South Australia. Any person who read that brochure would say that, because these men were at the head of affairs, it must be a pretty sound investment, and no doubt, because of that, some were enticed to put their money into the common pool. After it was found that the organization was not going satisfactorily, Mr. Dring, Mr. Trim and Mr. Powell withdrew from the company.

In a letter to the Attorney-General some months ago I expressed my concern at this racket and asked him to inquire into the matter. I ascertained that the police were already investigating this company. I am still awaiting a reply from the Attorney-General. I maintain that when thousands of pounds are involved, the longer we leave the matter the worse it is for the investor. It is time I was given some information about what the police have found in this matter. Whatever they have found, those who have invested have received little in return, so it is a very poor show and a bad advertisement for South Australia, particularly for the Barossa Valley which we claim to be the show place of the State.

Mr. Lawn: When did you take it up with the Attorney-General?

Mr. TAPPING: I think early in May. A fortnight ago today I asked the Minister of

Education for a report on this matter and, in all fairness to the Minister, I point out that he had not received from his colleague the report I desired. It is desirable to bring in legislation urgently to make certain that some of these companies show their *bona fides* and provide some guarantee to protect the investors. The cases that have come under my notice concern those who can ill-afford to lose money. I suppose £4,000 or £5,000 is only a drop in the ocean to some people, but for a man who has put his life savings into the bank to help his future it is a terrific impact.

I refer now to the South Australian mental institutions and pay a tribute to Dr. Birch who recently retired from the Hospitals Department. I have not, during my long public life, met another man who made such a sacrifice as did Dr. Birch for the people for whom he was fighting or, generally, for the people of South Australia. Dr. Birch had a disability that made his task harder than it would have been for a physically fit person. Several years ago three or four of my colleagues and I inspected Parkside at the invitation of Dr. Birch. Naturally, in a place like that, one may be disappointed at some of the conditions, but allowance must be made for the type of inmate and the nature of the illness.

Dr. Birch joined Parkside as a medico in 1928 and he told us that when he first started his work there he felt certain that he could not put up with the job for more than a few weeks. However, he learnt to love the work, knowing that it was a noble cause, and he remained there until his recent retirement. Dr. Birch was awarded the C.B.E. in 1950 and he richly deserved that recognition for the work he performed so well. Dr. Cramond has been appointed to succeed Dr. Birch and I wish him well in the difficult task that confronts him if he is to emulate the work of Dr. Birch. I believe that Dr. Cramond will make a success of the work with the wonderful staff available to him.

In recent years I have been able to observe the conditions at some of these institutions, particularly at Parkside. During the last year some inmates have been released from the institution because modern attention and drugs have effected miraculous results. I know of two men from my district who were in Parkside for 20 years, but they are now living in the community and receiving attention. Their living at home is proving a boon to their families.

Some inmates of Parkside are being released each day from 8 a.m. until 5.30 p.m. and almost 18 per cent of the inmates can now be released periodically for a day or for a week-end. Members must feel proud of the progress made at these institutions and I compliment Dr. Birch and his noble staff on the way they have carried out a most uncongenial job. Recently I asked the Treasurer whether the inmates of these institutions were eligible to receive the age pension and I was amazed to find that none qualified. I concede that 80 per cent may have no use for a pension, but if that is so the money should be handed to the State Government by the Commonwealth Government because mental matters are a national concern.

Mr. Lawn: They should be.

Mr. TAPPING: The Treasurer said that the Government tried some years ago to achieve this end, but did not succeed. The Treasurer also said that mental institutions in Queensland were approved by the Commonwealth Government. Why the discrimination? If an institution is approved, the State receives some recompense and, according to records I obtained from the library, the cost of administering Parkside is about £1,000,000 a year. The Commonwealth Government now subsidizes the State on the basis of one-third of its capital expenditure, but that is not sufficient. In this connection I refer once more to patients whose condition has improved immeasurably. A lady who has been released recently asked me about a pension. She told me that she received no money on her release: she was bereft of any finance and was dependent on society. I believe it is dangerous and immoral to release patients from that institution without money and, whenever possible, members should express themselves not only for the benefit of people in the institutions, but to improve South Australia's financial status because £1,000,000 could be used for many purposes.

The member for Port Adelaide, who often refers to the Jervois bridge, asked a question concerning it this afternoon. It may be of interest to note that the bridge was opened in 1876.

Mr. Ryan: That means that it is worn out now.

Mr. TAPPING: It should be worn out after that period of use. I have a press cutting which bears out the contention propounded by the member for Port Adelaide that the bridge has long since been worn out. This article

appeared in a local newspaper sometime ago and it is headed "Luxury Travel". The article states:

There was a time when you could get a drink while travelling on our buses. It was, of course, in the "good old days".

This article was supplied to the press by the late Mr. W. T. Edwards, who was at one time the chairman of the Waterside Workers' Federation. Mr. Edwards found it in an old newspaper. The article continues:

The four-in-hand buses plied between Port Adelaide and Semaphore and always pulled up at the old Club House Hotel to allow passengers to have a refresher. But when the old wooden bridge across the river was replaced by the present iron structure in 1876, the advent of trains through the main street sounded the death knell of buses, and no longer were passengers enabled to get a drink in transit. The hotel is still there on the Port Adelaide side of Jervois bridge. But today's buses are as bad as the trains. They won't stop either.

The condition of the bridge is causing much concern in that area. The reply of the Minister of Works to the member for Port Adelaide indicates that the Highways Department is seriously considering reducing the load limit on the bridge. Motor traffic is not allowed to exceed 15 miles an hour and loads are limited to five tons. If the Commissioner of Highways is talking of reducing the five ton limit to two or three tons that proves that danger attaches to using the bridge. I hope the Government will treat this matter as urgent and carry on with its plans.

In 1955 Mr. Richmond (then Commissioner of Highways) said that the Birkenhead bridge, which was completed in 1940, could reach saturation point by 1958-59. If a new Jervois bridge of four lanes is built, it does appear that it will reach saturation point in 1980. Mr. Richmond in those days said that the Birkenhead bridge would reach saturation point in 1958 or 1959, and it is now 1961. Because of the tremendous progress of industry on LeFevre Peninsula and the huge housing development in that area, the Birkenhead bridge is receiving harsh punishment. If the Jervois bridge is eventually condemned, as I fear it will be, an even greater burden will be put upon the Birkenhead bridge, which would be a tragedy, so this is an important matter.

I know that the Public Works Standing Committee has considered all angles of it and I commend it for that, but urgency should be the order of the day and we should see that we have another Jervois bridge as soon as possible. The Public Works Standing Committee's proposal of a causeway from the Old Port Road to Bower

Road is commendable because it will take at least 45 per cent of the traffic normally going round the Black Diamond corner into Commercial Road. That will be quite a link, but I fear that as a consequence it may be said later by the authorities that, because the causeway was built first, the new Jervois bridge might be a matter for 20 or 30 years hence. Considering the activity on the peninsula, with building at Semaphore (and particularly at South Semaphore), a causeway is imperative; and so is a new Jervois bridge.

Mr. Shannon: Evidence taken has already disclosed that three crossings are needed now, and that soon four crossings will be needed.

Mr. TAPPING: It was not very long ago, as the honourable member knows, that Mr. Hart, the Town Planner of South Australia, in giving evidence before the Public Works Standing Committee, said that in his opinion in not many years to come four river crossings would be warranted. I think a tunnel is the answer. The Public Works Standing Committee decided that there would be a Jervois bridge and that it would be a fixed bridge, for two reasons: first, it thought it would be wrong to hold up traffic (a realistic view) and, secondly, the economic aspect. The committee having recommended a fixed bridge, the Harbors Board objected that it would be deprived of the waterway between the Jervois and railway bridges, so it came back again to the committee, and the position is now different. To have an opening bridge for an important arterial road like that would be a retrograde step.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: Wouldn't it harm Port Adelaide to lose some navigable water?

Mr. TAPPING: No. There is some talk of having no water up in the upper reaches but of having an inlet from Semaphore South, the water coming in from there.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: That would not be useful for shipping.

Mr. TAPPING: No, not now. The river south of the railway bridge is used only by little boats, by dinghies. The railway bridge is a low bridge.

Mr. Ryan: Only when the tide is up.

Mr. TAPPING: When the tide is up you can walk over the bridge. As I was saying, a tunnel is most commendable because it would not impede traffic at all but, when a bridge is opening frequently, as the Birkenhead bridge is, transport is held up, workers are delayed going to work or lunch, and commerce is held up, which means loss of money. If

the proposal is practicable, as suggested by the gentlemen at the university, I hope that the cost will not frighten the Public Works Standing Committee, because the solution is a tunnel with a free flow of traffic and no impediment to commerce or people generally. I hope that the Ministers concerned will seriously consider the matters raised by my colleagues and me. If any relief could be given in respect of the suggestions I have made, I should much appreciate it. I support the motion as amended.

Mr. HUGHES (Walleroo): I support the motion for the Address in Reply in its amended form. I am beginning to wonder what has happened to the Government because last Thursday the Opposition provided two speakers, one after the other, and now it appears that we are expected to carry the debate all the afternoon. We have heard on various occasions that some people in the State do not know that the Government exists. If they were here this afternoon, they would have some foundation for saying such a thing.

Mr. Clark: Perhaps members opposite have been told to shut up.

Mr. HUGHES: That may be so. I join with previous speakers in congratulating the mover and seconder of the motion, the member for Torrens (Mr. Coumbe) and the member for Chaffey (Mr. King) respectively, on (I must be fair) their excellent contributions to the debate.

I desire at this juncture to express my regret at the passing of Viscount Dunrossil, the Governor-General of this Commonwealth, and extend my deepest sympathy to his widow and family. The late Governor-General spoke up courageously in high places for the rights of the people of Australia. Those of us who were privileged to hear him at a dinner tendered in his honour in the dining room of this House will remember that he was resolute when it came to matters of principle. Here was a man, white-haired, tall and erect as he passed through the throngs of people while carrying out the high and distinguished office of Governor-General, who in less than 12 months had won the implicit confidence of the Australian nation. In the short span of time he was here among us, he had grown very fond of the Australian people and their way of life.

Speaking at the opening of the Australian Citizenship Convention at Canberra in January of this year, he said:

Canberra has, of recent years, become a great place for national conventions. These are all-important to different interests, but I know

none more important than this, which is considering the very stuff of which any nation is made—its people. Wherever I have gone, I have been gladdened to observe the beauty and vigour of Australian children.

He made his mark on the Commonwealth of Australia and his name will be perpetuated among those who gave their all.

I also join with previous speakers in expressing my regret at the untimely passing of Mr. Condon, Leader of the Opposition in another place. The late Mr. Condon gave sterling service to the State of South Australia, chiefly as an advocate for better living conditions for the underprivileged. His sound judgment was always highly respected. In paying a tribute to our late member for the magnificent work performed over many years as a member of the Public Works Standing Committee, I remember the great sacrifice of Mrs. Condon in giving up her home life for the progress of the State. I was pleased to hear the member for Onkaparinga (Mr. Shannon) refer to the service that Mrs. Condon had given in supporting Mr. Condon over many years. In carrying out his responsible position as a member of the Public Works Committee for 31 years he had to be away from home frequently. This, of necessity, imposed an added burden on Mrs. Condon. She proudly bore that burden, accepting it as her share of the responsibility in aiding the successful functioning of this State's public works. Too often the sacrifices made by members' wives are overlooked, and I was pleased to hear the Chairman of the Public Works Committee recognize Mrs. Condon's role.

I, too, am happy to welcome His Excellency and Lady Bastyan to South Australia. In the short time His Excellency has been here he has proved most competent and has been eager to meet as many South Australians as possible. He has already won the affection of the people. He has expressed the desire to visit the country, especially the outback parts of the State, to meet the people and to understand their problems. Judging by his brilliant speech at the dinner on his arrival in South Australia, we shall benefit from his wide experience. I wish His Excellency and his gracious Lady a happy and profitable sojourn here as representatives of Her Majesty the Queen.

I intended to speak on this debate last week, and if I had I should have wished our colleague, Mr. Hutchens, a pleasant trip as this State's representative of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. We have every confidence in his ability to represent us

with credit to himself and with honour to those who selected him. We know that he will uphold the traditions of this great country and maintain the standard set by those entrusted with similar responsibilities.

I am sure that all members will agree that Education Week was an outstanding success. In my district parents were able to see students at work and were able to watch the teaching of French, English, geography, mathematics, science, typewriting and art. There were demonstrations of physics and chemistry at Kadina; essay and poster competitions were held throughout the district; one school presented a review of the district's history; and opportunities were available for adult education to be prominently displayed to the public and for its advantages in this age of automation to be revealed. A feast of music provided by 500 children from the North Yorke Peninsula schools was enjoyed by all who heard it.

What many people have only read about became reality on Saturday, December 10 last. The most disastrous fire in the history of Yorke Peninsula swept the country from Kadina to near Arthurton, taking everything in its path. It was a sight impossible to describe. Fields of standing wheat, barley and oat crops resembled fallow paddocks after the fire had passed on. Flames rolled many feet over the top of the crops, terrifying owners, as, with a strong northerly wind, it approached their land and homesteads. The fire started at Kadina and burnt its way down the peninsula, and, when the wind turned about 4 p.m., came back to Kadina in a triangular path. Had the wind not turned, the fire would have continued or until it met the sea on the opposite coast to where it began. When the fire returned it ran right up to the town and for a time Kadina was in danger. The wind was so strong that the fire rolled over wide roads, taking everything before it. Thousands of bags of wheat, barley and oats, miles of fencing, thousands of tons of baled hay, hundreds of acres of feed, scores of out-buildings and sheds went in the fire.

Considering the huge area burnt out, the loss of machinery was not as great as one would have expected. This, I think, was largely because of the prompt action of owners and helpers in dragging machines into fallow paddocks wherever possible. It was estimated that 50,000 acres of the best cereal land was burnt out, with a loss of £500,000. Individual grain losses were as high as 5,000 bags. One producer lost 3,000 bags of wheat, 1,400 bags of

barley, 400 bags of oats, plus hundreds of acres of feed. Another lost all his sheds, two drills, two combines, a truck, a tractor, a new car, a caravan, baled hay and his crop. Another lost 2,300 bags of wheat, some sheds, part of his home, all his baled hay and standing crop, and he didn't have 10 square yards of feed left on his property for his 500 sheep. Only the week before he had paid hundreds of pounds to have his hay baled and stacked in a new shed. I could go on giving details of losses.

When disaster strikes, the spirit of the real Australian comes to the rescue. The following day, assistance poured in with offers of fodder and agistment. The response to an appeal to help fight the fire was magnificent and men from all walks of life came. The wonderful work performed by the emergency fire units from near and far saved many homes and valuable livestock. To see the number of privately owned water tanks and pumps put into operation showed that primary producers are undoubtedly conscious of the need to provide some form of emergency fire-fighting equipment on their own properties. Fortunately, there was no loss of human life, though some fire-fighters were shockingly burnt in trying to prevent the blaze from sweeping over the entire peninsula. Several men were hospital cases, some serious: one was rushed to Adelaide. He needed constant attention for several days from highly skilled surgeons, and is still visiting surgeons regularly. Had it not been for the well-trained men attached to the fire-fighting units, and the fire precaution measures adopted by the primary producers prior to summer, it could have been a different story to tell as to loss of human life and livestock. An approach was made to the Government for assistance to rebuild the miles of burnt out fencing, but this was refused. I maintain that some form of a national disaster fund should be established and subsidized by the Government, so that when disaster strikes (as it did during the recent fire), sufferers can be compensated without feeling that they are accepting charity.

In contrast to the disaster that struck my district was the recent successful Moonta copper centenary celebrations. I intend to speak about the Moonta mines in the early days because of the great amount of wealth they produced and because that wealth assisted this State over an economic crisis. Australia's mineral resources supply a large part of the needs of the present population, including the requirements of the growing manufacturing

industries, and provide a number of valuable commodities for export. Present indications are that Mother Earth is well endowed with minerals to provide for a growing country. I feel sure that further exploration will result in providing valuable resources for future generations. Our two main deficiencies are oil and phosphorus. The discovery of oil and phosphate rock in large quantities would give this country a stimulus not experienced since the finding of copper at Moonta and Wallaroo Mines. I believe that intensified exploration will reveal new copper lodes in the Wallaroo district.

The father of mining on Yorke Peninsula was Captain William Walker Hughes (later Sir William Walker Hughes). In 1860 the only Europeans on the peninsula were Captain Hughes, a retired sea captain, his family and a few shepherds. He had leased about 1,000 acres as a sheep run. He had noticed strains of copper along the shores of the gulf and was convinced that copper must exist in the area; so his shepherds had been instructed to keep their eyes open for any traces of this ore. It was on December 17, 1859, that one of his shepherds noticed signs of copper on the top of a wombat hole. I think it would be a good thing if a few more wombats were bred and let loose in my district!

Mr. Quirke: We have only dingbats!

Mr. HUGHES: I think I mentioned in this House last year that our university students were enjoying the generosity of the early pioneers from the Wallaroo district. Among Sir William Walter's benefactions was a gift of £20,000 to help establish a university in Adelaide, and, as the *Centenary Booklet* states, perhaps it is not too much to claim that the Adelaide University owed its origin to Moonta copper. If we were to assess that £20,000 on today's money values, it would be worth in the vicinity of £100,000. Descendants of those sturdy self-reliant pioneers, known as "Cousin Jacks", have come to the front in every field of human endeavour. The first Director of Education was a Moonta school boy. Moonta gave Australia three Premiers, namely, the Hons. John Verran, R. S. Richards (who later became Administrator of Nauru), and John Seadden, and two knights. Sir Walter Young and Sir Richard Williams were born at Moonta, and a third, Sir William Sowden, spent his formative years there.

The Moonta Copper Mining Company before amalgamation in 1889 produced £5,396,146 worth of copper and distributed £1,168,000 to shareholders, becoming the first mining

company in Australia to pay more than £1,000,000 in dividends. The South Australian Department of Mines has stated that ore production from the field totalled 6,250,000 tons, yielding approximately 330,000 tons of copper valued at £20,592,630. At the time the Moonta mines were operating the colony of South Australia was declining and was hard hit by droughts and low prices, and there were grave doubts about the future. But the rich Moonta lodes changed all that. Oswald Pryor, that world renowned cartoonist, stated publicly at Moonta during the recent celebrations, "We have it on the good authority of a former Premier of South Australia, the Rt. Hon. C. C. Kingston, that Moonta saved the colony of South Australia from bankruptcy." It would be a good thing if some of the young Government members, when applauding what has been achieved in this State, realised that it had been achieved at a price, namely, the price of human life.

I do not wish to take away from the Premier the kudos that belongs to him for his part over the years, but people should remember that many men died at an early age from disease resulting in winning the wealth from Mother Earth—wealth which later put South Australia on a sound financial footing and wealth which provided opportunities for the State to expand.

From their inception, the Moonta mines were worked without the need for capital, because the phenomenal richness of the valuable lodes discovered supplied the necessary funds. The mover of the motion, Mr. Coumbe, in his speech advocated the need to pursue research into the desalination of salt water. When I first came into this House I had private talks with the late Sir Malcolm McIntosh concerning the possibilities of the desalination of salt water and his opinion was that it would be necessary and economical within the next few years. It is rather interesting to note in a short booklet published by the Mines Department on mineral information (and that is where I have procured my information) that water was always a serious problem on Yorke Peninsula in the early days. The townships of Moonta, Kadina and Wallaroo were without water for 30 years. A population of up to 30,000 people was dependent on rain water supplies and on distilled water from the mine distillate plants.

Mr. Riches: What is the population now?

Mr. HUGHES: Between 6,000 and 7,000. These plants produced up to 3,000 gallons a day. After rains, water was often scooped up



from pools in the roadway, so it is not surprising that typhoid was common and infant mortality high. I mention these things so that members will be aware of the disabilities associated with helping this State to progress. I have been informed by old miners that there is still thousands of tons of copper underground in the Wallaroo district waiting to be claimed. There lies a challenge for some enterprising Government or company to accept.

The Mines Department confirms my claims in its information booklet by stating:

It is an interesting reflection that basement rocks do not outcrop anywhere in the Wallaroo-Moonta Mines district, nor did any of the copper lodes. It was only by chance that fragments of copper ore were brought to the surface. There are vast areas of Yorke Peninsula where basement rocks of the ancient crystalline complexes are concealed under a relatively thin mantle of recent sediments. It is a challenge to the geologist and to the mining engineer to locate mineral deposits which undoubtedly exist in such rocks.

It is not beyond the realm of possibility, then, that future mines of the magnitude of the Wallaroo-Moonta field may again contribute generously to South Australia's mineral wealth. Officers attached to the Mines Department must think worthwhile minerals are still available on Yorke Peninsula otherwise they would not have concluded their booklet with what I have just quoted.

Earlier I mentioned that there was a challenge for an enterprising Government or company to accept. One company has accepted the challenge, as can be seen from the following statement in the *People's Weekly* of June 30 last:

When a geophysical aerial survey of the copper belt of Moonta and district was made in 1952, a few of the residents ridiculed the idea. "How can they expect to find new mineralized areas flying over the district at such a speed?" was a remark often heard. From the magnetic-aerial survey, maps were made and results studied. Parts of the area surveyed in 1952 were interesting enough to continue with modern ground geophysical prospecting. Western Mining Corporation Limited of Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, has sent a party of experts to Moonta in intention to locate the precious red metal. The company has its headquarters in Ellen Street. The company is not interested in any of the old workings, but is concentrating on a huge area south of Moonta, known on the map as Tiparra. The latest electronic equipment from Canada is being employed in the search. It is stated that the new device will help to determine and estimate any areas of mineralization or copper lodes, if any, existing south of Moonta. Two parties are engaged in the search, which will cost a considerable sum of money. Some local men are also employed. The fact that the

Western Mining Corporation Limited is prepared to spend a considerable sum of money in yet another search for copper is indeed very encouraging.

Our district has produced some of the finest copper that ever reached the world's market. On January 19 of this year I contacted the Mines Department requesting its assistance in carrying out a survey in a certain locality north of Wallaroo. I did this because certain information had been made available to the Mayor of Wallaroo (Mr. Allen) and myself that would give the Government a lead on where a copper lode of vast proportion was thought to exist, and I received the following reply of January 31 from the Minister of Mines (Sir Lyell McEwin):

In regard to your letter of January 19, 1961 to the Director of Mines, I wish to advise that I have requested the director to arrange an investigation as speedily as possible, subject, of course, to other departmental commitments. The director will contact you and Mr. Bennett shortly to arrange details. Thank you for the interest you are displaying in bringing this matter to the attention of the Mines Department.

It is now six months since I received that reply, and I am still waiting for the director to contact me. The Mayor has requested me to contact the Western Mining Corporation to ask it to have a look at the area, but I have refrained from doing so because of the promise of the Minister of Mines that an investigation would be carried out. It was found that the composition of the Wallaroo Mines ores had the advantage over the Moonta ores of being an easier smelting problem, and it also admitted of the recovery of its sulphur contents (as sulphuric acids) in greater quantities. A metallurgist, who was a great friend of mine and who did much research on local ores, gave me these figures (which must be considered approximate) on the relative constitution of local ores:

	Moonta.	Wallaroo.
Copper . . . . .	3	3
Iron . . . . .	4.5	7
Sulphur . . . . .	3.5	6
Silica . . . . .	68.5	58
Alumina . . . . .	13	13
Lime . . . . .	2	5
Magnesia . . . . .	3	6

These remarks have referred to deep mining, but initially, if strong lodes are found to exist, ore of much higher values from shallow depths are almost certain to be obtained, as was experienced in the opening of lodes in this district in the past. This condition would afford high and quick returns at lessened costs, and should supply the means to provide capital for vigorous further development and plant.

An interesting point is that gold exists fairly generally in the copper ores of the district and follows the copper fairly readily in concentration and smelting operations. This was shown in the operations of the Moonta mining scheme (1933-36) where the copper concentrated, approximately 30 per cent copper, actually realized about 2 dwts. per ton.

Nickel is also a minor metal accompanying copper in local ores. Notwithstanding its comparatively low percentage, its importance in industry merits attention and presents possibilities of economic value, if mining and smelting in the district could be established on a large scale.

Sulphuric acid was referred to previously and with careful consideration in adoption of methods of smelting large quantities could be economically produced. This opens the question of the establishment of a local chemistry industry, as with the common salt obtainable from the lower peninsula, or from the Lochiel district. Being near the sea, as we are, by adopting methods similar to those practised by the Imperial Chemical Industries of Australia and New Zealand Ltd. the possibilities are great, and already careful consideration is being given to this matter by a local resident.

Another interesting point to be considered, should a revival of copper mining be realized in a sufficiently large way, is the establishment of methods and plant for dealing with the copper produced, viz., in the manufacture of wire, tubes, bronzes, etc. There could be carbonate of copper, verdigris and sulphate (blue stone). The position then arises in connection with nickel in two forms, base metal and chemical nickel. There is also a fair percentage of potash in the residues at Moonta Mines.

Molybdenite exists in minor quantities. With the revival of the mining industry in Wallaroo district, which is long overdue, must be considered the metallurgical and chemical aspect arising from the recovery of the marketable products sought. Because it may be expected that mining proper will be conducted in more than one part of the district, it would appear to be a sound policy that, after the primary operations on mining and probably of concentration, have been effected, in their respective locality, the intermediate products should be dealt with at a common centre for the recovery of final values. These could be shipped from that centre, or could be utilised in manufacturing directly on the spot the many products possible to the non-ferrous industry.

The chief value would, of course, be the copper, and "Wallaroo brand" was recognized throughout the metal world as a remarkably fine metal. It was capable of successfully meeting all specifications for every purpose to which copper can be applied, with the one exception of high electrical conductivity. This factor is only one among the many factors to be considered, and when are realized the numerous instances in which this factor is not essential "Wallaroo" copper commands a wide field of usefulness.

The Wallaroo refined product contained a low percentage of nickel in the form of a natural alloy, and under the correct heat treatment in process it gives excellent results in rolling and drawing. The gold and silver values are also appreciable and could, with suitable treatment, be recovered with economy. All the nickel present in the initial ores does not get into the refined copper produced, and the amount thus remaining would be recovered as metal, or, if desirable, in some chemical form such as ammonium nickel sulphate, copper sulphate and carbonate, etc. The gangue of the material mined contains a percentage of potassiums and, although no previous effort has been made to recover that valuable element, it is believed that the treatment of the residues from the concentration process would be made to yield, economically, potassic compound.

The advantages to be gained from a mining point of view, in addition to serving State and National interests, would be of assistance in solving the growing labour problems, and according to statements in this debate they are growing. Apparently unemployment is much worse than we have been led to believe, otherwise the Commonwealth Attorney-General would not have made the admission that unemployment, because of the credit squeeze, was larger than the Commonwealth Government could truly have foreseen. In other words, his Government had created a field of unemployment. He made no apology for it; he knew there would be some dislocation, but did not know how much. He knows now, yet he had the audacity to state that he agreed that the credit squeeze would be over by Christmas, but he did not mention which Christmas.

His Government put the country into this mess and now he blames the people, the very people whom he and his colleagues helped, through their blundering, to become unemployed. He said that basically what was stopping the recovery was that people were not spending normally. Firstly, the people are told to tighten their belts, and, when it is

discovered that a grave mistake has been made, those responsible try to sidestep the issue and attach the blame to those who have already felt the impact by telling them to get out and spend their money.

Mr. Lawn: How can the unemployed spend normally?

Mr. HUGHES: How can they spend normally when they are not receiving any money to spend? "Get out and spend your money," he said. What money are they getting to go out and spend? In a growing State like South Australia, over 9,000 unemployed is almost a calamity. What has been done about it? What is going to be done about it? Some time ago when the New South Wales Labor Premier wanted to hold a Premiers' Conference to discuss the problem, no-one appeared to be interested; it was said that the time was inopportune, and the result has been that the unemployment position has worsened. Can we assume that as a result of the non-co-operation of other State Premiers, including our own Premier, the unemployment position has worsened because the call came from a Labor Premier?

Mr. Loveday: It has something to do with it.

Mr. HUGHES: I believe that if the call from Mr. Heffron had been responded to in the first place we would have been making considerable and balanced progress instead of only at this late stage starting to tackle this major problem of unemployment. There is not a shadow of doubt that the State Government has been aware of the serious position and has merely put off the evil day in the hope that the problem would solve itself. However, I hope, for the sake of the people, that the Government will have the courage to back up the statements it has made from time to time that this State leads the way in all matters concerning the welfare of the people. I do know that this State Government led the way in making available a Treasury official to prepare evidence and to appear before the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission in an attempt to bring about a differential in the basic wage for Adelaide of 90 per cent of the Sydney basic wage, and that it linked hands with big business in an endeavour to reduce the living standards of the worker in this State. That was done at a time when this State was experiencing one of the best seasonal outlooks in its history; in fact, as stated in paragraph 5 of the Governor's Speech, it proved to be one of the best seasons ever experienced in the State. Yet here we

are, six months later, experiencing the worst economic crisis since pre-war days. I shudder to think what would happen if we experienced a series of lean years such as we had in the thirties. The member for Gouger last week laboured the point of cheaper electricity to country areas. I was pleased to hear this from a member whose district adjoins my own.

Mr. Fred Walsh: The Premier wasn't!

Mr. HUGHES: I know he was not pleased about it. I am pleased to know that at last the member for Gouger, young as he is, is beginning to see the light and to appreciate how we can progress in this State. He is beginning to see the wisdom of what the Labor Party has been advocating over the years. I was pleased also to see that he had the courage to stand up and make those comments. He is to be congratulated for it.

Mr. Riches: Will he vote for the amendment?

Mr. HUGHES: I hope he has principles and that he will do so. The honourable member claims that he has principles, but time will tell. He will rise higher in my estimation if he makes the same comments to his Party as he made in this House last week. Many arguments have been advanced in an endeavour to make our Government aware that the drift of rural population to suburban areas was serious and that it demanded a thorough investigation into the cause and effect on country areas. Like the member for Gouger, I say that cheaper electricity and concessions on rail freight are two things that can help in competitive markets. Over the years it has been stressed by responsible people that the establishment of suitable industries adaptable to particular areas was necessary and imperative to relieve the serious drift of young people, bred and reared as country youth, to the city, and to bring to the parents a measure of security and well-being. The burden of the present insecurity is inevitably borne by the parents. Children may reach the Intermediate or Leaving standard in their own area; hundreds do so each year. The parents, after shouldering the burden, find there is no position of any kind available for the maturing of the talents that have become apparent to the boy or girl gaining his or her certificate. We then see the sorry and heart-breaking position of the breaking up of a family unit, built up in most instances laboriously and by self-denial by loving and responsible parents so that the son or daughter can have the opportunity of a career.

Executives of industry today select only those who have the qualifications of Leaving and most certainly of Intermediate standard. In consequence, the youths who have attained these standards are compelled to leave home and be away from parental control. What effect has this drift on country areas? Youth is always the citizen of tomorrow but its birthplace is denied the services that would certainly be forthcoming on its reaching maturity and helping to make the town a worthy place to live in. The burden of guiding the destiny of country areas is borne by older folk with no hope of ever seeing younger men or women take over: virility and fresh thinking are absent. Leadership from the selected is not apparent.

The city or urban areas are the richer and the rural areas are the poorer. The country areas have become the nurseries for the city. Because of the rapidly growing population thought must be given to the planning of a second major port to relieve the congestion at Port Adelaide. A port such as Wallaroo should be considered because of its central position and because it is a recognized outlet for the export of grain. In the event of another world conflict, this port could become the relief centre for Port Adelaide.

Mr. Millhouse: What do you think are the chances of another world conflict?

Mr. HUGHES: I am giving my ideas of what could happen if another conflict occurred but I sincerely hope that does not happen. Industries could be built near the port. Employment in both primary and secondary industries must be provided in the country regardless of Party political interests, which must be disregarded, if we are to give effect to a sound policy for the future and the permanent welfare of South Australia.

All sound political thought is against the continued increase in metropolitan population and the concentration of industries in the metropolitan area. The Government ought to be able to see that, in the interests of the State's progress and stability, we must disperse our population and that can be done only by making amenities available in country areas. The Government says this costs money, but the cost would pale into insignificance compared with what has been spent in the metropolitan area to provide amenities for its increasing population.

Recently I led a deputation to the Minister of Marine requesting that the berths and channels at Wallaroo should be deepened. The

deputation, which was favourably received, found that the Minister for some time had been concerned about Wallaroo and several other parts of the State. Since its favourable reception by the Minister I asked a question on this point and no doubt members heard the Minister say last week that the proposed deepening of the berths had been investigated but the department had to wait until summer before it could prick the bottom of the sea bed to determine whether another channel could be worked in. Wallaroo exists largely on and around this port and it is a matter of some concern to interested persons that over the last year or so Wallaroo has become inadequate for modern ships.

Mr. Heaslip: Doesn't the honourable member think that the primary producers' outlook is important too?

Mr. HUGHES: Yes, it counts and I respect the views of the primary producer. I will continue to look after my district and the member can look after his. Wallaroo is essentially a tramp ship port and the main cargoes are wheat, barley and phosphate rock, and all these cargoes, being low cost commodities, must be handled in large quantities to achieve minimum shipping freights. Most of the cargoes are shipped in vessels specifically chartered to carry full cargoes of that commodity. For decades Wallaroo has been able to adequately handle all vessels carrying full grain cargoes and discharging full phosphate cargoes. It has, over the years, achieved a considerable reputation amongst crews and ship-owners for its comparatively low shipping costs. It is a long established fact that the stevedoring and allied costs in this port are often as much as 3s. a ton less than those at larger ports. Wallaroo has served the State well by handling huge tonnages of cargo—up to 500,000 tons a year—at the most economic rates and in this way it has helped greatly to bring maximum returns to primary producers for their products.

With the sudden swing by ship owners from tramp vessels to vessels of 10,000 to 14,000 ton class Wallaroo is no longer adequate to fully load many ships and that was why the deputation approached the Minister of Marine. If the public were to get the same reception from other Cabinet members as we always receive from the Minister of Marine I believe Wallaroo would be happy. Since October, 1959, of eight vessels that have entered the port to load full barley cargoes six have been unable to complete their cargoes because of insufficient

depth of water. The draught when fully loaded of these six ships varied between 29ft. and 30ft. 6in. In addition to these barley shipments, the motor vessel *Milora* twice brought cargoes of rock phosphate from Nauru and on each occasion it deliberately underloaded by 1,000 tons to enter the port.

Obviously, the deputation did not approach the Minister just because it thought that the port was not deep enough: it had a genuine case. We hope that by next year the work will be considerably under way. Much could be said about the Wallaroo port to prove to primary producers that it is an asset to them as well as to the people who work it. I have pleasure in supporting the amended motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

Mr. FRED WALSH (West Torrens): I support the amended motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. Before proceeding with my remarks, I join with other members in congratulating the Governor and wishing him happiness and a pleasant time during his sojourn in South Australia. I now refer to the passing of our late respected colleague and Leader in the Legislative Council, the Honourable Frank Condon. For many years (I suppose for longer than anybody in this Parliament) was I associated with him. In the early days of the trade union movement when we were fighting for better conditions of employment, I was closely associated with him, particularly in the early 1920's. I always found Frank Condon honest, most sincere and sparing of no effort to further the interests of the people of whom he was so fond and whom he represented so well. It was indeed pleasing for us to hear members on the Government side express their views and opinions on the late Frank Condon. No man better served the Labor movement in this State than he.

Much has been said in this debate about many matters relating to industrial problems, about which I shall have something to say later rather as a supplement to what has already been said by members on this side of the House. However, before proceeding, I feel it incumbent on me to refer to the speech of the member for Gouger (Mr. Hall). In the many years I have been in this House, I do not think I have heard a more low-down and paltry speech in its condemnation of, and attack upon, certain members of the Labor Party, and the Party in general. The honourable member for Wallaroo (Mr. Hughes) congratulated and applauded the member a few moments ago.

Mr. Hughes: On one point.

Mr. FRED WALSH: I am glad to hear the honourable member say "on one point". Strangely enough, on that point Mr. Hall was at variance with the Premier in his reference to the Electricity Trust. I do not think the member for Gouger would get any plaudits from this side of the House for his remarks about the association of the Australian Labor Party with the Communist Party. He spoke of being honoured by the approval of the Public Works Committee of the project of the Engineering and Water Supply Department to establish in his district a treatment plant for Adelaide sewage. I could not suggest a better representative for an area of that kind.

I should like to quote some of the honourable member's remarks. He made many quotations from booklets, etc., that he had read or had had handed to him at different times linking up the Australian Labor Party with unity tickets in elections. I inform him and everybody on the other side of this House that the Labor Party has nothing to do with unity tickets. In fact, we stand for non-interference with the internal affairs of trade unions. True, many of us are associated with trade unions, and have been for the best part of our lives. We know the internal workings of the trade unions and I for one would object strongly to any political interference with the affairs of the trade unions. I have expressed that view more than once, and have taken that stand both inside and outside our Party. To link up the A.L.P. with unity tickets is what the honourable member endeavoured to do. He quoted from an interpretation by the Victorian Secretary of the A.L.P. at that time (Mr. J. Tripovich) who 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 honourable member then went on to quote from an article which said that the operational word was "deceived". Mr. Tripovich went out of his way to explain that it was a deception on the part of those who used the unity ticket. True, at different times some names of members of the A.L.P. have appeared on unity tickets, but not with their approval.

Mr. Jennings: They might not have known anything about it.

Mr. FRED WALSH: In South Australia, on various occasions our names have appeared on tickets for elections in the Trades and Labour Council and other bodies, but without the knowledge and consent of the member concerned. Some may say he should repudiate

it, but I have walked into a room in the Trades Hall and been handed a ticket with my name on, but I was not a party to it and would not be a party to it. I was powerless, however, to do anything at that stage, and that could apply to many members.

The honourable member then spoke of the fact that, as the Labor Party does not nominate any person for any particular office in a trade union, we are virtually leaving an open field for a Communist candidate, but I cannot imagine anything more stupid than to suggest such a thing. As I have said before, we do not, and have no right to, interfere in trade union ballots because in some unions (probably in most) are members of all parties.

Mr. Lawn: Even some Liberals!

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yes. I know such members. One was a steward in a union in the district of the honourable member for Barossa (Mr. Laucke), and a good steward he was; but he was a member of the Liberal Party in Tanunda. He was never questioned about that. He had his rights; I knew of his membership because he told me. He was a good representative and played his part as a trade union representative. So I say there are all sections of membership of trade unions and to suggest that because an A.L.P. candidate does not run for a particular office we are leaving an open field for the Communists is just too stupid. There is nothing to prevent any individual member from nominating at any time in any union. If he studies the position at all, he knows, if there is anything wrong with the election, anything corrupt or anything suspected of being corrupt, he has the right to take the matter to the courts. That right was given him by a Labor Government and some people have availed themselves of it.

Mr. Hall's attack on a Labor Party candidate for the next Senate elections was one of the most despicable I have heard in this House. He had to refer back to 1948 to resurrect an incident that no doubt will be publicized at the appropriate time. Mr. Hall suggested in his remarks that Mr. Cavanagh was a member of the Communist Party, and he sought support for that claim from certain quotations, but I will lay him 2 to 1 whatever he is prepared to donate to the Children's Hospital that he cannot prove Mr. Cavanagh was ever a member of that Party. He deliberately recalled that Mr. Cavanagh, along with others, was refused permission to visit Woomera in 1948. Although he now associates Mr. Cavanagh with the Labor Party, I remind him

that a Labor Government was in office in 1948 and that it was Mr. Dedman, then Minister for Defence, who insisted that the security laws should be rigidly observed. Mr. Cavanagh is a militant trade unionist. No man has fought harder for better conditions for his union members or in seeing that their awards are policed. No man has taken employers to the court more often than he has, and won.

Mr. Clark: That's the part that rankles.

Mr. FRED WALSH: True, and that is why the Premier would not accept him as a member of a deputation that waited on him regarding emergency housing. Mr. Cavanagh raised the storm over those houses. He persistently agitated for their removal and I believe that he was primarily responsible for the action taken. He had the support of the Labor Party, the Trades and Labor Council and everybody who was concerned about the danger to human life involved in the occupancy of those houses. When those houses were erected they were needed and served a good purpose, but they were left too long and became a danger. One has only to examine those in Mansfield Park, Largs North, and in my electorate to realize that they are not fit for human occupation. It was decidedly unfair of Mr. Hall to attack Mr. Cavanagh just because he is an opponent of the Liberal Party at the next elections. That must have been his aim, because I could not imagine his referring back to 1948 otherwise.

(Sitting suspended from 6 to 7.30 p.m.)

Mr. FRED WALSH: I intend to tell members, and anyone who may care to read *Hansard* subsequently, about the Communist Party in relation to the Australian Labor Party. This could not be better explained than my reading a ruling I gave at the 1945 Federal Conference of the Australian Labor Party, at which I was president. A question had been asked at the conference concerning members of the Labor Party associating with members of the Communist Party as representatives of the Labor Party, and my ruling was:

No member of the Labor Party in any State of Australia can officially represent the Party on the platform of a Labor demonstration or function at which Communists are officially represented. This does not debar Australian Labor Party union officials from attending industrial gatherings, such as the Australian Council of Trade Unions Congress.

That ruling was not questioned and it still stands, and any member who offends against it can be dealt with under the rules of the Australian Labor Party. I should like to refer

to a question asked by Mr. Hall, member for Gouger, I think last week, regarding the teaching of anti-Communism in schools. I suggest why not include the evils of capitalism, because of these two extremes it is very hard to say which is the worse.

Mr. Heaslip: You would not link capitalism with Communism, would you?

Mr. FRED WALSH: I do not know that I would not. If I may advise the honourable member, Communism as it exists in Russia is purely a system of state capitalism. It is not Socialism as any Socialist would understand it.

Mr. Heaslip: It is world domination.

Mr. FRED WALSH: It will become world domination if we do not wake up to ourselves and take steps to combat it; and that includes the honourable member as well as anyone else.

Mr. Heaslip: You say that Communism is the same as capitalism?

Mr. FRED WALSH: I say there is no difference between extreme Communism and extreme capitalism. A manifesto of the Communist Party was recently published in the press wherein they set out among other things that within the next nine years the working hours of workers in Russia would be reduced from the present 41 to 36 or 34. Let me advise members opposite that the objective of the A.L.P. and the industrial movement is for a 35-hour week by that time, if not before.

Mr. Heaslip: So you are in line with Communism?

Mr. FRED WALSH: Just fancy a member with the honourable member's experience making such a statement! It is obvious that his experience has not taught him much, otherwise he would not have made that statement.

Mr. Heaslip: That is what you are saying.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Are you trying to link me up with Communism? I do not suppose there is a bigger opponent of Communism in the State Labor movement than I am. If the member continues as he is now, he will never learn. It is obvious that that manifesto was Communist propaganda, in the first instance to satisfy the people within Russia's own borders and those within the Communist bloc; and also to influence those countries that have recently become independent. Unfortunately, many of those countries that have become independent in recent years are being led by people trained in leadership in Moscow.

Those who talk of a continuance of capitalism as we knew it before World War II are oblivious of the trends taking place all over the free world

without referring to any particular action of our own Government, the trend is right away from private enterprise as we knew it in the early part of the century. In my opinion we have done more by our methods of colonial development to create hostility by coloured people against white people than anything I could suggest. They do not operate under free trade as it is known. People who exercise their intelligence are starting to appreciate the dangers that are accruing from past policies and are trying to modify them. If one goes to any part of the free world one will see the changes that have taken place. There is definitely no trend towards capitalism as we knew it in the early years of the century, but it is just the opposite. I believe a system must be thought out under which all peoples of the world can be accepted and that is a system in between the two I have mentioned. Just what it will be called remains for time to tell. I am concerned with the contributions made from time to time by members opposite, particularly at election time, linking my Party with the Communist Party.

Mr. Bywaters: In New South Wales did not the Communist Party give second preferences to the L.C.L.?

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yes, and it has done it more than once. As a matter of fact, at the last State elections there was an ex-member of the Communist Party handing out Liberal tickets in my district. I believe he saw fit to apply to join the Liberal Party in the meantime, but credit must be given to that Party in that it rejected the application.

Mr. Hall: It cuts both ways. You had one of our members as a candidate.

Mr. FRED WALSH: That is quite possible, and it is possible that we shall have more, because they have seen the light and found out that the Labor Party has a better policy than that of the Liberal Party—something they can subscribe to with all sincerity and conscientiousness. Do not be surprised if we have more members of the Liberal Party, because we select members of our Party whom we believe to be the best candidates.

Mr. Dunnage: The member for Frome is not a bad type of chap. You had a good candidate; we gave him to you.

Mr. FRED WALSH: That was kind of you, but you did your damndest to defeat him! Unless we do what I suggest we cannot expect coloured people to accept us as we want them to accept us, because hostility has been bred in them through the years because of the

foolish policies forced upon them without their having any right or opportunity to oppose those policies.

Mr. Heaslip: You do not suggest that can be changed overnight, do you?

Mr. FRED WALSH: No, not overnight.

Mr. Heaslip: We are doing it gradually.

Mr. FRED WALSH: I do not think Australia is doing any harm, but we have to live down what has been done by generations before us.

Mr. Heaslip: You are not going back to the dark ages now, are you?

Mr. FRED WALSH: Of course, we must go back. I have heard other members mention the 11th and 12th centuries when making comparisons.

Mr. Heaslip: Isn't Australia doing much good for the colonies?

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yes, but that applies to all sections of the community and all political Parties. I shall now deal with the amendment to the motion. I subscribe to the statement made by the Leader of the Opposition in what was one of the best speeches I have heard him make in this House. It was the first time he had spoken on an Address in Reply as Leader of the Opposition, and he was applauded by every member of my Party and I believe his speech was accepted by many opposite, not because of what he said but because of the way he made his submission. The Government stands condemned for its actions on the application by employers, particularly the differential between the Sydney and Adelaide basic wages. I do not wish to go into all the details covered by previous speakers; I compliment the member for Adelaide, whose speech was made so well that it left little to add. Despite attempts by the Premier and others to deny that the Government sent anyone before the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission to support the application by employers, members have only to read what Mr. Wells said when appearances were being taken to realize that the Premier's denial is wrong. Mr. Wells said he was supporting the employer's application, and it was only after the matter was raised by members of my Party that the Government took action, I believe, to see that Mr. Wells did not proceed along those lines. That is the position despite the smile, if I may call it such, on the face of the Minister of Agriculture. I am presuming that, of course, because Mr. Wells back-pedalled.

Mr. Seaman (Under Treasurer) gave evidence in support of the application but, although the commission did not reject that evidence out of hand, the commissioners did not accept it, and he was at variance with the Premier. I shall now read extracts from the decision, as has been done by other speakers. Incidentally, the member for Mitcham criticized the Leader of the Opposition for the quotations he gave in support of his amendment; he said the Leader took only those parts of the judgment that suited his purpose. Don't we all do that? Doesn't the member for Mitcham do that? He repeatedly quoted from the judgment, but he took only those parts that favoured the line he was taking. It is a question of tactics in debate and we are all guilty of it, but that does not make it necessarily right or wrong; we must still prove our case. The member for Mitcham quoted the following passage from the *Industrial Information Bulletin*:

The case for the applicants having been completed, counsel for the South Australian Government, which intervened, informed the commission that the South Australian Government neither supported nor opposed the application in relation to country differentials and it would make no submissions in relation to the matter.

That was in relation to country differentials—3s. in the country as against the metropolitan area. How could this Government possibly take any action that would contravene something which, like previous Liberal and Labor Governments, it had accepted as its policy: that there should be no differentiation between the country and metropolitan area? An amendment to the Industrial Code introduced by the Premier in 1948 provided for the acceptance of the Commonwealth basic wage for Adelaide as the living wage for South Australia, and that practice continued, with increases and decreases according to fluctuation in the cost of living as declared by the Commonwealth Statistician from time to time, until 1953, when wages were pegged. The Commonwealth basic wage has remained static except for increases granted by the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission from time to time on applications by employees despite opposition by employers and, in some cases, certain Liberal Governments, particularly the Commonwealth Government. The *Industrial Information Bulletin* also contained the following statement from the transcript of the case:

Counsel for the South Australian private employers and the counsel for the South Australian Government supported the submission



made on behalf of the Queensland Chamber of Manufactures.

Naturally, this was opposed by the unions. I shall now read a special reference about the alleged prosperity and development of this State since the 1940's. Counsel for the employers mentioned in respect of the capacity of South Australian industry to pay the increased wages flowing from the flat increases granted in the basic wage since 1953. The article continues:

He said that these disabilities adversely affected the profitability of industry in South Australia and its ability to compete successfully with industry in New South Wales and Victoria. He claimed that the order of industrial growth in South Australia had been very high in the 1940's compared with other States but there had been a relative decline in the industrial growth in South Australia since the early 1950's. This had coincided with a squeezing of the South Australian wage differential, which was contrary to the relative change in capacity to pay.

That contradicts entirely the statement that South Australia had developed more than any other State. We on this side have pointed out from time to time that other States have developed as much as, if not more than, South Australia. Travellers to other States have seen what has taken place there.

Mr. Heaslip: Don't you want South Australia to develop and go ahead?

Mr. FRED WALSH: No-one wants it more than I do, but not at the expense of the wage-earner.

Mr. Heaslip: You do not want people to work for nothing.

Mr. FRED WALSH: We want the workers to have a reasonable standard of living. We do not want to break it down, but, if possible, improve it. Government members should realize that other States are not standing still, and that they have their share of the progress. I commend Mr. Coumbe for his speech, but do not support all that he said.

Mr. Lawn: It was propaganda.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yes. He referred to a number of projects that the Government had put into effect or had proposed. It would have been better for him to say that they had come about because of departmental recommendations. No-one would credit the Premier with thinking out all those projects.

Mr. Lawn: He founded Leigh Creek. Didn't he put the coal there?

Mr. FRED WALSH: He is shrewd enough and has enough common sense to accept advice from the people who can give it. These recommendations would have come irrespective of which Government, Liberal or Labor, was in office. Government members should be wiser in handing out praise. They should remember the people who are thinking about the needs of the State. I do not care whether it is the employer or the employee who gives evidence regarding the economy of the State, but it should stop there so that the commission can judge the position more accurately, instead of having to consider political motives. I do not want to indulge in repetition, and I could speak for some time about the judgment and parts of the submissions made to the commission, but it would be a waste of time. However, I want to refer to the matter of increases in wages. In the official publication of the Victorian Chamber of Manufactures an article under the heading "In Industry Today" says that increases in wages increase demand, and an increased demand means a larger production, thereby lowering the cost per unit of output. That is the attitude of the Victorian manufacturers to increases in wages.

Mr. Heaslip: That is for the home market.

Mr. FRED WALSH: When we consider markets we have to remember the places to which the goods will go. Members will say that we cannot compete with Asian countries because of our higher costs of production. Should we lower these costs by lowering the standard of living in order to compete with countries with a lower standard of living?

Mr. Heaslip: We could increase production.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yes, but in the last decade production has increased and statisticians' figures prove that. There is one aspect that has not been mentioned, and in that regard I quote the following press report about the judgment:

"We have come to the conclusion that the basic wage we now fix takes into account increases in productivity up to June 1960. That being so, we anticipate that in the absence of special circumstances the next review of the basic wage will be a review only of the money wage and not the real wage; in other words, only a consideration of price movements. We anticipate that we will not be required to review the real basic wage for some three years." The judges said that once the question of prices was dealt with a review of the economy generally, and in particular of productivity increases, could more properly take place every three or four years. "If our anticipation is correct, the only issue in next year's proceedings will be whether the money wage

should be adjusted in accordance with any change in the consumer price index", they added. "The onus will be on the party opposing such an application to show it should not be made".

Since the suspension of quarterly adjustments I have been of the opinion—and I have expressed it inside our movement, if I have not done so in this Chamber, and I think I have—that the commission would ultimately return to automatic adjustments on a periodical basis. I said I thought it may be a six-monthly basis. I believe that if the commission had accepted the employees' application for the restoration of quarterly adjustments and put it on a six-monthly basis, such a move would have been acceptable to all parties, because the employers' main objection at the time was that the adjustments were so frequent that it involved them in no end of bookkeeping and therefore considerable expense. Apart from the opposition to the automatic adjustments resulting in increases, I think that what I have stated was their main objection.

I believe that if an adjustment on a six-monthly basis had been determined by the commission we would not have had the ado we have had over the last few years since the suspension of quarterly adjustments. However, there has been a change from the C series index figures to the consumer price index. Over a period I do not think that it would make much difference. Economists would be better able to express a view on that than I would, but my knowledge of the trend of change in prices from time to time over the years leads me to believe that over a period there would be little difference. True, there will not be those violent fluctuations caused, for example, by the rise in the price of potatoes. That is virtually eliminated. I do not agree with the commission in respect of the three-yearly or four-yearly application for a variation or review of the basic wage—the real basic wage—because it must be accepted that there could be a considerable improvement in the productivity of the country within a far shorter period than that, and other circumstances could arise that would justify an increase in the real basic wage. I believe there will be applications more frequently than every four years. However, that is the commission's view, and it must be considered. Then we have the Prime Minister's view. Members opposite, who belong to the same Party as the Prime Minister, say they believe in arbitration, and the Prime Minister from time to time has said that the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission is

there to determine these things. Concerning the Prime Minister's comments, the *Advertiser* of August 1 stated:

The Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies) today attacked any system of fixing wages on a price index. Opening the conference of the N.S.W. Farmers' and Settlers' Association, he said that if the system were followed the tendency would be for a wage increase every year. "One aspect of the recent basic wage inquiry troubles me greatly", Mr. Menzies said. "The decision seems to contemplate an annual adjustment of the basic wage on the basis of changes in the consumer price index".

That is what I previously said. The report continued:

"With great respect to the Federal Arbitration Commission, I don't like this business of adjusting wages on the basis of an index figure." Mr. Menzies said the consumer price index always responded to the cost level.

Why shouldn't it, and why should he object to that? He set up the commission; he separated the court from the commission by his own action, or by his Government's action, so why does he not accept the position? Although we disagree from time to time on the commission's judgments, I believe that the judges are sincere, honest, and conscientious men, and that they would not do anything that would in any way damage the economy of this country. I think that they are at least as competent to judge the submissions and evidence put before them from time to time as is Mr. Menzies or anybody in his Government. I maintain that it ill becomes the Prime Minister to express such views, because it gives the impression to the workers in the community, who are directly affected by the commission's decisions, that the Prime Minister is endeavouring to influence the commission. I do not suppose the Prime Minister will admit that, but that is how it appears. I believe those same gentlemen are strong enough to stand up to even Mr. Menzies.

The recent judgment gave a 12s. increase in the basic wage. Many employees in this State have been enjoying what are known as over-award payments, because employers, for reasons best known to themselves, have seen fit to make such payments. However, both the Chamber of Manufactures and the Employers' Federation took advantage of a comment in the commission's judgment that employers were not necessarily bound to pay the 12s. increase where over-award payments were being made. I am pleased to say that most employers in this State have not acceded to the request or followed the advice of the Employers' Federation or the Chamber of Manufactures but are continuing to pay that

over-award wage. True, as a result of this two or three industrial disputes have been created and not finally settled, but I hope that they will be settled and I have reason to believe that they will be. It ill becomes employers' organizations to take such a stand. If the economy was bad and business was bad all round, it would be another matter, but I would not accept it even then because certain things other than the prosperity of an industry lead an employer to give his employee certain amounts over and above the award rates.

Mr. Heaslip: Some employees produce more than others.

Mr. FRED WALSH: If we took that attitude it would mean that we would look around our establishment and say, "Well, Bill Brown, you are getting on in years; you are not able to earn what you once did; we have younger men who are able to earn more than you, so you must go." If we accept it on the basis implied by the member for Rocky River in his interjection, we would have no-one over 40 or 45 years of age working in industry.

Mr. Heaslip: He would still be on a basic wage.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yes, but his employer would not pay over-award rates unless the employee earned them or there was some other benefit accruing to the advantage of the employer. The member for Barossa spoke of stop-gap jobs and there is nothing wrong with that suggestion because anything that creates employment must be accepted as well-meaning and having the interests of the working people at heart. The *News* of July 12, 1961, contained an article on stop-gap jobs, which stated:

Manufacturers had welcomed a stop-gap job plan aimed at stimulating wage circulation, managing director of Woolworth's, Mr. Theo Kelly, said today. Mr. Kelly said the plan was designed to help restore normal production until business revived later in the year. Under Mr. Kelly's plan, Woolworth's will buy goods at cost and retail them with only their selling costs added. The plan will enable idle machines to be worked and full-time jobs to be restored. Mr. Kelly said that neither Woolworth's nor the manufacturers would profit directly from the scheme. "But neither are we losing by it, and it must stimulate business by putting more money into circulation," he added.

That is different from the statement made by the Prime Minister that was referred to by the member for Whyalla. If employers and manufacturers grasped that idea and gave effect to it that would greatly stimulate employment because every man out of work helps to put another man out of work, but every man

employed helps to put another man back into work, thus benefiting the whole community. We know that the amendment will not be carried, but the Opposition has moved it to express its view.

Mr. Lawn: The member for Barossa believes in arbitration.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yes, and I believe he is conscientious in his belief. Unemployment has been dealt with extensively by all members who have spoken. The Treasurer told us that he wrote to the Premier of New South Wales, Mr. Heffron, asking him to convene a conference, but Mr. Heffron had written previously to the Prime Minister asking him to convene a conference for the purpose of discussing ways of attacking the unemployment problem. The attempt by the Treasurer, although somewhat belated and whether successful or not, will help, but credit for the idea of a conference must be given to the Premier of New South Wales. I am sure that I speak for every member when I say that we sincerely hope that the Treasurer is successful and that something may come of his request because some benefit may result to people who would otherwise continue to suffer an affliction similar to that suffered in the 1930's, but probably not to the same degree.

Unemployment does not grow on us overnight. It develops, and anyone who studies international trends knows that for the last 18 months the trend has been towards recession. The principal country to be examined when studying those trends is the United States of America, which for over 18 months has had about 5,000,000 unemployed people. One reason why the Labor movement in the United States of America backed Mr. Kennedy for the Presidency was that he promised to do something to relieve that position. We all know that he is faced with certain difficulties and if the position is studied closely we find that many factors contribute to an economic recession. In this country, and in other parts of the free world outside Europe, a boom period was enjoyed after the last war similar to that enjoyed after the first war until the smash came in the 1920's. It then started in America and drifted through the world.

In the years following the first world war it was not necessary to correct the same destruction because Germany and the mid-European countries were left virtually intact and as soon as the war was over, had it not been for internal troubles, they would have developed as much as any other country. Let us compare that with the position after the last war. The economy

and manufacturing life of Germany and Japan was then entirely smashed and reduced to ruins and that destruction created markets because there was no production in those countries and in the mid-European countries. They did not possess resources and but for Marshall Aid and the financial aid received by them after the war it is questionable whether they would ever have regained the ground they have regained.

I was in Berlin and West Germany in 1947 and saw that the whole country had been reduced to ruins. The area covered by the Essen works—an area as big as Adelaide—was a mass of tangled iron and broken locomotives and the same position was evident in Berlin which was a mass of rubble. However, in 1954, the picture was different. Members would find it hard to believe that a country could be built up in that short time.

Mr. Harding: How many hours a week do they work?

Mr. FRED WALSH: I do not know the answer to that any more than does the honourable member, but it is true that the workers of Germany, in order to build up the economy of their country, made considerable sacrifices and it is to their credit that they built up the economy of their country as they did. The point is that out of the aid that country received from the United States of America in particular, and from Great Britain to a lesser extent, it has been able to build up its economy and extend its manufacturing capacity until it is now our greatest competitor in world markets. We must appreciate that point.

Mr. Heaslip: Did they do that on a 40-hour week or on a 35-hour week?

Mr. Dunnage: He would not know the answer.

Mr. FRED WALSH: I would know because the chances are that if the employees were not covered by awards the employers in this country would be working them considerably longer than 40 hours a week.

Mr. Heaslip: Did they do it on a 35-hour or 40-hour week?

Mr. FRED WALSH: In England they are working a 44-hour week.

Mr. Heaslip: But England is in trouble. I am talking about West Germany and Japan.

Mr. FRED WALSH: I said before, when replying to the member for Victoria (Mr. Harding) that I did not know the exact hours

they were working. There were no prescribed arbitration conditions at all; only agreements between the unions and the employers.

Mr. Heaslip: They are both over 40 hours a week.

Mr. FRED WALSH: That is a safe bet. They are working in the United States 40 hours a week.

Mr. Heaslip: But in the United States there are many unemployed.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Five million unemployed.

Mr. Heaslip: Are you proud of that?

Mr. FRED WALSH: I have nothing to do with the United States. I did not help build up their economic position, their dominating position in the world today. I claim no credit for that and, therefore, have no reason to be proud of it, any more than I am proud of many other things in the United States that one could condemn. At the 1935 conference of the International Labor Organization in Geneva, which I attended, the only employers' representatives there to support the 40-hour week were from the United States and Italy. But the convention was carried with the support of the Government's delegates. Sir Frederick Stewart, who died only a week or two ago, one of the big employers in New South Wales, was a Government delegate who spoke strongly in support of it. I can show honourable members his speech if they want to see it. So we do not all follow the line that the member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip) follows in respect of workers' conditions or hours of labour.

I want to get back to my earlier point, that we find ourselves in a position in the free world today that is really no fault of our own, in the real sense of the word; that has been thrust upon us by conditions that have occurred overseas. The responsibility of any Government, be it Labor or Liberal, is to find employment or else sustain the people of its country to the best of its ability. That is its responsibility. If private enterprise cannot do it, it falls more heavily on the Government. Even the Prime Minister's speech reported this morning is one condemning private enterprise in some subtle sort of way.

Mr. McKee: He told them they were howlers.

Mr. FRED WALSH: He could not have been referring to the workers when he made that speech. He was referring to his own

people. I dare say if the member for Rocky River had been there, the Prime Minister could have pointed a finger at him. What we produce in 40 hours is far more than we produced in 48 hours.

Mr. McKee: Balance-sheets prove that.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Statistics prove it. I do not want to go on, like Tennyson's brook. I have spoken longer than I intended to. We have to consider the implications of automation. That is one factor aggravating the position in America, and it will aggravate the position here as time passes. That is why I believe that Governments, employers and employees should get together on a non-Party basis to try to work out some scheme whereby we shall be able to combat the ill-effects of automation. Nobody wants to stop progress. Everybody wants to enjoy the benefits that automation will bring, but we do not want such ill-effects from it that people will suffer from its introduction.

On Thursday, the Treasurer will be introducing the Loan Estimates. We on this side of the House look forward to them. The Loan Estimates will, we hope, be the means of creating considerable employment.

Mr. Lawn: We hope so.

Mr. FRED WALSH: We sincerely hope so. A thought for the Treasurer when he submits his Budget to this House later on is that it is more dangerous to have a deficit in jobs than it is to have a deficit in the Budget.

Mr. NICHOLSON (Light): I rise this evening to speak to, and in support of, the Address in Reply. With other members of this House, I take this opportunity of congratulating Sir Edric and Lady Bastyan on their high appointments as the Queen's representatives in South Australia. I was particularly interested in the remark made by Sir Edric on the day of his swearing-in when he referred to his desire to get to know the people of South Australia, particularly in the country. It is indeed pleasing to know that at this early stage he has travelled to two of the farthest corners of the State—Port Augusta and Mount Gambier. That is an indication of his desire to get to know not only the people of the State but also the conditions prevailing in South Australia. Having travelled to the two extremes (and by "the extremes" I mean the present conditions in the north and in the south), he will at this stage have acquired a pretty good knowledge

of what South Australia has to contend with in the way of variations in its productive capacity.

I join with members of this House and the people of South Australia in wishing Sir Edric and Lady Bastyan well, and that they will enjoy their stay here. We know that they will live up to their high office and fill it with distinction. I hope that they are blessed with good health while they are in South Australia.

I join with other members in regretting the death of Mr. Frank Condon. I have not been a member for long, but it was my privilege to be associated with him. I found him to be a thorough gentleman. I was out of this State when he died, but I was particularly interested in a press report on his death which stated that he was always willing to lend a helping hand to a new member. That is how I found him. I regret his passing and acknowledge that his death is a loss to this Parliament, to the Labor Party, and especially to his family.

I congratulate the mover of the motion, the member for Torrens, and the seconder, the member for Chaffey. The mover mentioned some of the problems confronting South Australia, and he is to be commended on his forethought in referring to the serious problem we shall have in future of providing sufficient water for our citizens. I congratulate him on his analysis of the process of desalination, and for stressing the need for it. We cannot talk too lightly of this problem that will face us if our population continues to increase as it has. I recently toured Queensland. I would not mind being the Queensland Minister of Works because he would have no problems as there are rivers every few miles. South Australia has only two sources of supply—the River Murray and the sky, but unfortunately we cannot rely greatly on what comes from the sky. It will be necessary for us to seek other means of supplying water. Worthy of mention was the member for Gouger's note that we, as users of water, can play our part in conserving it in many ways. The member for Chaffey instanced what could be done in the Murray Valley and I congratulate him on the thought he devoted to the subject and the details he presented.

I realize that education has advanced considerably in the last 20 years and that the Minister of Education, the Cabinet and the Government have been faced with the problem of providing sufficient buildings, teachers, equipment and requirements to keep pace with educating our rapidly growing population.

The Education Department provides a small travelling allowance for students residing outside a radius of three miles from a school. However, there are 15 to 20 families in my electorate living in such circumstances (in relation to transport and the position of the school) that they have to decide whether to convey their children to school for this small allowance, or keep them home and arrange for their private tuition. These families are primary producers, and we want all the production we can get if we are to maintain our balance of payments overseas, because our secondary industries cannot compete. I believe that the Education Department should consider easing the regulations to enable these families (and I know there are families in other electorates similarly situated) to enjoy the same educational facilities enjoyed by 99 per cent of our population. I appeal to the Minister to adopt a more realistic approach to the hardships of these unfortunate people.

The Highways Department is grading the sides of bitumen roads in some areas which I consider is one of the best means of preventing the spread of fires. The position could be further improved if the area were extended to 8ft. or 10ft. on either side of the roads. This practice could be applied not only to the main roads, but to other roads, although in some cases it would not be practicable in parts of the hills. This would remove one of the greatest hazards with which we are faced. I should also like the department to encourage councils to play their part in grading the sides of roads. Members will agree that many fires are started by people throwing out cigarette butts from cars.

I am concerned about the spread of child delinquency in many parts of the State. I believe that vagrancy and hooliganism have got out of hand. I have been so concerned that I studied figures relating to cases heard by the Juvenile Court from 1957 until 1960. In 1957 the number was 1,626, in 1958 it was 1,658, in 1959 the number had increased by 254 to 1,912 and in the following year had increased by 317 to 2,229. The increase in the last two years was alarming. The percentage increase in 1959 compared with 1957 was about 15 and in 1960 about 16. That should concern every honourable member and every citizen. Although there had been an increase of 16 per cent in the number of cases heard before the court in 1960, the actual increase in population was only 3 per cent. Therefore, there was no relationship between those increases. I realize that much

has been done to combat the menace, and I suppose almost as much as was possible. The Police Department, including the Women Police, are to be commended for what they are doing and what they have achieved in overcoming the activities of bodgies and widgees in the last three or four years. We also have the Children's Welfare Department, the Magill Reformatory and the various denominations playing a big part. Every church has its band of social workers who get out among the young people and visit their homes, trying to influence them to keep on the right road. The Department of Agriculture is also playing its part by establishing Rural Youth Clubs. However, despite the efforts of these various organizations, during the last two years we have had increases of 15 and 16 per cent in the number of court cases compared with 1957. It is alarming and disastrous. If we do not do something, the people of the State will lose their status and respect.

Mr. Hughes: Don't give us that!

Mr. NICHOLSON: It is serious, especially if we get a repetition of these increases. I cannot say what the answer is. It could be that the legislation should be amended. I know that members on both sides of the House have homes and families in their districts in which moral conditions are extremely bad. Isn't there something that we can do to lift these people? I feel that this is one of the most serious problems facing us today and that it is our duty to do something so that our people can retain the respect they have enjoyed in the past.

The Governor's Speech in opening this session gave a good lead on what members would have before them in the Loan Estimates and Budget. Although no figures were given the Speech contained a good supply of ingredients for this State to continue the progress and stability it has enjoyed for many years. If members consider the Speech they will agree that it is a good prescription excellently prescribed by an able doctor, excellently put by Sir Edrie Bastyan, and about to be consumed by the people of South Australia. I support the motion.

Mr. CLARK (Gawler): First, I wish to congratulate the member for Light. I, like every member, know through experience that making a maiden speech is not always easy, and I believe that the honourable member acquitted himself creditably. This debate on the Address in Reply has been most interesting, and I have

heard other members comment in the same vein. All members know that that is not always the case, but I believe many speakers were possibly infected by His Excellency's Speech. As some members have plainly said, it was one of the best delivered and most interesting Speeches by a Governor in South Australia in opening Parliament. I am not reflecting for one moment on speeches given by any other Governor, but this year's Speech was given in a most interesting and bright fashion. There was no nodding of heads, and I believe it did a great deal of good for the debate that followed. Let me offer all the other congratulations deemed necessary in the Address in Reply debate.

I mean that most sincerely, but we often find that reiteration of such congratulations tends to detract from their importance and meaning; however, I most sincerely offer them. On Sunday last the Clerk of Parliaments (Mr. Ivor Ball) and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Hutchens) left Adelaide to attend the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in the United Kingdom. I think all members will agree that both these men have rendered signal service to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Australia. Mr. Ball's name is a by-word for hospitality and kindness to visiting members from other States and overseas. Mr. Hutchens has acted as a steward and marshal on many occasions and has proved of great assistance. I know they will represent us ably overseas, and I wish them well. My only regret is that I was not able to wish them that before they left.

I sincerely congratulate the member for Frome. When we mention the district of Frome, the name of our late Leader (Mr. Mick O'Halloran) comes to mind. In making his maiden speech, the member for Frome naturally made us think of the man whose district he now represents, and it was with a great deal of pleasure that we were able to enjoy the able and honest speech made by the new member for the district. Indeed, it was all the more effective because, in view of some of the tactics known to have been used in the by-election at which he was elected, he could have made a bitter speech, but did not. I congratulate my friend, wish him well, and I am sure he will be here for a long time and that his influence will be felt for many years.

Mr. Millhouse: He is only here for this session.

Mr. CLARK: I think I heard a voice crying in the wilderness. I had jotted down some-

thing to mention later but, because of the interjection, it may be as well to mention it now. The member for Barossa made one statement that could be prophetic. I shall quote his words, as I think they relate to the half-hearted interjection of the member for Mitcham.

Mr. Millhouse: It was not half-hearted; I just lost my voice.

Mr. CLARK: It sounded half-hearted, but if the honourable member is suffering from some complaint of the tonsils I sympathize with him. The member for Barossa said:

I confidently anticipate that, in spite of dark horses, Frome will be represented by a Government supporter next year.

Thousands in our dictator-ridden State will, I am sure, join with him and hope that he is right. I did not intend to mention that now, but perhaps it was a suitable time to do it.

I want to refer particularly to the untimely passing of our friend, the Hon. Frank Condon. Much has been said regarding his death. Members on both sides deeply feel his passing and realize that it has left an empty place in the Chamber which he adorned for so long, in his Party, his union, his home and in our hearts, which will be hard to fill. I pay a great tribute to our late friend.

The Governor's Speech was about the same as usual, but possibly more harmless than usual. That may be because this is a pre-election session and possibly the idea was to let sleeping dogs lie for a while, even though they may have an uneasy rest. Apparently the next election is to be once again fought under Playford rules. The electors in my district are rightly entitled to three members, but they are allowed only one—myself. Recently I drew the Premier's attention to this fact. I do not know whether he had noticed it before. I gave him some figures as at June 1. They may not be correct now, but they are accurate enough to serve the purpose. I said that at that date the electoral district of Gawler had 17,916 voters, and that in my opinion and the opinion of people in the district and elsewhere in the State this was far too many. I said that the next two country electorates in numerical strength were Mount Gambier with 8,908 voters and Stuart with 7,931. Added together these two gave a total of 16,839, so the electors of Gawler outnumber by 1,077 the sum of the electors in the two other country districts. I asked the Premier in a polite and nice manner, as I thought, if he were prepared to do

anything about it. He said that the question involved Government policy and that he would have to examine it and give me an answer in due course. It must certainly be a matter of Government policy. Never was there a truer statement. Obviously, without such a policy the Government would be changed. I am still awaiting a reply "in due course." Of course, I only asked the question two months ago and often questions take much longer than that to be answered, particularly when they deal with a matter of Government policy. It could well be that I will get no answer at all. I am not optimistic about getting an answer before the next State election.

Mr. Loveday: I didn't think you were hopeful.

Mr. CLARK: Whether or not I am hopeful, it is an injustice that one electoral district, supposed to be a country district, should have an enormous over-abundance of voters. Without looking at other districts, and I know that many of them have anomalies where the electoral situation could be worse than in Gawler, the position makes manifest the great need for an adjustment in electoral boundaries. When such an adjustment is made, let us trust that it will be made under democratic rules and not Playford rules. Our whole electoral system is obviously and completely "unsynonymous," if there is such a word, with democracy as we are supposed to know it. I hope the time is not far distant when a fair and reasonable adjustment of our electoral boundaries will be made.

When I hear a Governor's Speech the first thing I do is to look for a reference to country sewerage. On this occasion there was one, which rather pleased me. It said:

My Government continues to expand and improve water and sewerage facilities in both metropolitan and country areas.

From that I thought the coming of sewerage to Gawler would be a little closer. On November 9 last, following some comments I made in this House, once again praying as I have done on many occasions previously that sewerage facilities would be brought to Gawler as soon as possible, the Minister of Works sent me a note reading:

The Engineer-in-Chief reports that further consideration of the sewerage of Gawler had been delayed pending a decision on the proposed sewage treatment works at Bolivar. Now that this has been settled the scheme for Gawler is being reviewed so as to provide for the construction of a trunk sewer from the industrial area at Elizabeth West north-west to Gawler. In a few months it is expected to

complete the revised scheme for the sewerage of Gawler to provide for the old town and also its developing outer areas. The proposals for the expanded scheme will then be resubmitted to the Public Works Standing Committee which suspended its inquiries into this scheme pending the completion of the department's planning. However, with staff shortages and other urgent sewerage design work in hand it will be about six months before this information, with the necessary revised estimates, can be submitted.

It is more than six months since I received this note from the Minister. I do not complain about that for we must allow a few months' grace, but I hope that before long the matter will be submitted to the Public Works Committee. Only a week or so ago I received a letter from the Town Clerk of the Corporation of Gawler asking me to do all I can to obtain sewerage for the town of Gawler. The note is interesting, because it gives me an opportunity to make a kindly remark about a member opposite. The corporation's letter said:

The council has resolved that you and Mr. C. Laucke be notified of its concern at the delay in providing a sewerage scheme for the town of Gawler. In many parts of Gawler the residents are continually having trouble in the disposing of effluent from their septic tanks and in the construction of new dwelling-houses, owners, though compelled by law, are reluctant to install such systems in unsuitable areas. We should be appreciative if you would kindly do all in your power to obtain a sewerage scheme for this town.

I am afraid the council possibly over-estimates my ability. However, it is nice to think that they have faith in me. The letter continued:

The council considers that its claims for high priority in the installation of the scheme are fully justified, and many letters as well as evidence to a special Government committee have substantiated the urgent need for such a scheme.

Mr. Speaker, members may wonder, wrongly, why the member for Barossa (Mr. Laucke) was mentioned in that letter. I point out that his district comes right into Gawler and, indeed, I think one street of railway cottages is represented by him. I have the opportunity now of paying a tribute to the member for Barossa for his kindly action in forwarding a reply to the council's letter. In his reply the honourable member said that he would do all he could, and he mentioned, very nicely, that the member for Gawler, both in the House and elsewhere, had done everything possible to help Gawler obtain a sewerage scheme. It is nice occasionally to find that the ordinary common decencies of man to man contact are not forgotten in the hurly-burly of politics. I



hope that before long this scheme will be submitted to the Public Works Committee for the committee to take evidence and decide whether or not the scheme is necessary.

Mr. Riches: Do the Gawler people know the cost?

Mr. CLARK: I think they do; at least, they have some idea of it. We know the cost will be great, but we most sincerely believe that the benefits that will accrue from it will largely compensate for that cost. I offer my sincere thanks to the Housing Trust for the work it has done in my district. I have heard some members complain about it at times, but I have at all times received every assistance from the trust. The trust's pensioners' houses—I think it calls them cottage homes—have been of great benefit indeed in Gawler and in other parts of the district. I know a number of pensioners—worthy people—who would make very good use indeed of these houses if a few more could be built. I believe they have proved of immense value to the State, and particularly to old people and those in necessitous circumstances who, for a very reasonable rental, obtain a comfortable house to live in.

Paragraph 30 of His Excellency's Speech says a Bill to amend the Land Tax Act will be introduced. I am happy to note this, because over the last six or eight months dozens of constituents have visited me at my home and complained about their land tax. I have advised them to appeal. No doubt other members have received similar complaints. The district of Gawler is particularly affected because it contains so much land that is considered ripe for development—land that might be subdivided. We therefore find that these properties have been assessed much higher than previously. I trust that the legislation that is to come before us will alleviate this problem.

It is usual in a debate such as this to refer to some speeches made by other members. As I said earlier, I believe the standard of the debate on this occasion has been particularly high. Even if we cannot agree with everything said by other members, we can at least, if we use our judgment, be aware that a certain speech is a good one from a particular point of view. The member for Torrens (Mr. Coumbe), who moved the motion, to my way of thinking was over fulsome in his praise. Indeed, he gave paeans of praise and panegyric almost as fulsome as the types of obituaries we see in certain newspapers. Unfortunately,

fulsome praise such as this becomes wearisome after a time, and it appeared to me that even the honourable member became weary of himself long before he had concluded his speech. It is certain that, if he did not, many others in the Chamber did. The speech was nicely delivered, but, after all, so are many television advertisements, and when we hear them repeated so often even the best of them becomes wearisome.

The member for Chaffey (Mr. King), who seconded the motion, delivered one of the best speeches I have heard from him in this House. Unfortunately, his voice was troubling him, but between two or three of us we did our best to see that he got his message over. I enjoyed his speech. Earlier in my speech I quoted an instance of the member for Barossa's courtesy. I say with great respect and sincerity that I have always believed that the keynote of his character is that he respects the other fellow's point of view. Therefore, along with many other members, not only on this side of the House, I was disappointed to hear him say that our amendment to the Address in Reply, "coming from responsible men," nauseated him. He unaccountably referred to a similar motion at the time of the Frome by-election as a political stunt. I find it hard to believe that the honourable member really believed that. Surely he realizes that the opinions stated in our amendment, which I most heartily support, represent now—the same as they did at the time of the Frome by-election—the considered and sincere opinions, after much thought, not only of the members of the Parliamentary Labor Party, but of many thousands of people outside this House. The member for Barossa made a prophesy regarding Frome, and I trust that prophesy will be fulfilled.

The member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) made a speech that was saddening to not only the members on this side of the House, but to many of his colleagues as well. I am afraid that the honourable member is gradually increasing his reputation for irresponsibility in this Chamber. Frankly, I thought that when the honourable member asked a question about Communism he had possibly reached the pinnacle of his peculiar type of fame. Members will probably recall that he asked the Minister of Education whether he would introduce into the school curriculum carefully defined lessons on the evils of Communism. I certainly hold no brief for Communism; I think all honourable members will realize that. In fact, I referred to this matter in my maiden

speech in this House on July 29, 1952. Members would possibly find it an interesting exercise to look back over the years to their maiden speeches and read them, if they could stand reading them. Most members, in the light of their following experience in the House, realize that they said many things that they would not say today particularly in a maiden speech when virtually immune from interjection. However, I stand heartily behind the words I spoke about Communism then because I feel just as strongly today on that subject. I said:

I am firm in my opposition to the outworn political doctrines which I believe are ruining the nation. I believe in Party government; I believe it is our only bulwark against Fascism, Capitalism and Communism. Unfortunately, we still have Communism with us. I hate and detest the godless dogmas of this faith. I believe it is a doctrine of decay and atheism.

I still believe that and the member for Gouger might be pardoned if I advocated teaching in our schools in opposition to Communism. I should also expect him to expect me to advocate teaching regarding the evils of Capitalism or even of Playfordism because all these things are prominent. Other people have different ideas and in our schools we have the children of thousands of parents who possess a variety of political ideas. Who am I and who is the member for Gouger that we should attempt to force our beliefs down the throats of unsuspecting children through school lessons?

Mr. RICHES: That is a Communist tactic.

Mr. CLARK: Yes, it is. I shall comment later on the new course of instruction on social studies that the Minister of Education was prepared to place in our hands. The member for Gouger will then realize that there is some scope in that course for attaining the aim he was seeking although no one in his wildest dreams would try to do what he was attempting to do. The member for Gouger made an astonishing speech: I say "speech" for the want of a better word because, after a promising start about equalizing Electricity Trust charges, on which he came to the correct conclusion after working on wrong premises in the first place, his speech degenerated into an even more absurd diatribe against Communism than the one resorted to in his question to the Minister of Education. Honourable members must have noticed, when that question was asked, that the Minister found it hard to hide the fact that it worried him. He was not anxious to answer it.

I was pleased this afternoon to hear the member for West Torrens deal with some charges that the member for Gouger attempted

to make. I should like the member for Gouger to tell us who did his research because it was obviously not coming "off the cuff" as if it were something familiar to him. The astonishing thing was that none of us had previously noticed the member's great concern for the interests of the Labor Party. I had not noticed that interest before but I thank the member for his concern and assure him that it is something we can do without because he must know that the Australian Labor Party has members who fought Communism in the unions before he was born. Some of those men are members of this House and of another place. We appreciate the difficulties but we doubt whether the papers quoted by the honourable member help much. The *Bulletin*, which was once the "Bushman's Bible," was a wonderful paper, but the *News Weekly* is not. I doubt whether either of those papers or the member for Gouger with his profound and professed knowledge of economic theories could tell us anything helpful about this. I believe most of us unfortunately, by bothering to reply, have possibly given undue value to the member's speech but some things cannot be heard in silence.

I commend the speech made by the Leader of the Opposition because it was thoughtful, constructive and sincere and, to a large extent, in the true O'Halloran tradition. That statement, coming from me who thought most highly of our late Leader, is the highest compliment I can pay. Many subjects have been raised in part or at length in this debate and we have heard much about unemployment, which is probably more in our minds than any other subject. Unemployment has had a serious impact in my electorate. It is always a hardship but even more so when it comes to a district to which many new people have come from overseas in the last few months or years and in which they are endeavouring to establish a new home and begin a new life.

This problem is not common to me but I believe that there is, unfortunately, more than a fair share of it in my district. Almost every day people visit me and telephone me because they are suffering the rigours of unemployment. This is a hopeless business and most men who come to me have a twofold mission: firstly, hoping that there is some way of obtaining employment; and, secondly, asking if I know of any way to help them obtain relief for the time being from their hire-purchase commitments.

The difficult part of the unemployment problem is that it is hard for most members

to be unable to tell a chap, "I will get you a job." If it is obvious that the unemployed man is the type of citizen you can act for, there is usually some opportunity of getting relief for him from hire-purchase obligations which were entered into when he was employed, but which have become a grievous factor of tremendous worry to him when out of work. What can be done about it?

Mr. RICHES: Have they been getting relief in those cases?

Mr. CLARK: I have been able to obtain a temporary moratorium for a few weeks or months for some. Many people who sell goods on hire-purchase are not particularly anxious to repossess them unless they have to do so. I have been agreeably surprised at the amount of success I have managed to achieve in some cases. It depends, of course, largely on the way in which such people have kept up payments in the past.

The thought has come to my mind, brought there by the fact that it is possible in some cases to make such arrangements, that the time is almost ripe for some general moratorium to be given to those who, because of unemployment, are in a desperate position. I have wondered what is the attitude of the greatest landlord in South Australia, the Housing Trust, which must at the moment be running into some cases of people experiencing serious hardships in paying rent. As I have very few people coming to me with complaints about this, I feel that the Housing Trust must be at least giving them "a break". I have had come to me one or two cases of difficulty in paying rent but usually I have found that the difficulty has been caused by other reasons than lack of employment.

I was impressed by the member for Burra (Mr. Quirke) when he referred to the amazingly arrogant remark of the Commonwealth Attorney-General that the Government had come out of the squeeze well. I think the member for Burra aptly described that type of remark. Obviously, it would make anyone think that the only concern of the honourable gentleman was that the Government was his sole concern and that the people did not matter very much. One could be pardoned for thinking, particularly if unemployed and desperately in need of a job, "Well, what sort of people are we governed by?"

I remind the member for Gouger (Mr. Hall), if he needs any reminding, that such conditions as have unfortunately and admittedly been deliberately fostered in this State

by the Commonwealth Government at the moment (and he knows what type of Government it is) do more than anything else to foster and strengthen the hold of Communism because, after all, when that gaunt grey wolf of unemployment and hunger is lurking through the country, he is the fellow who obtains more converts to Communism than anything else because, as we know, Communism has flourished in countries where social conditions were bad, where anything was better than what the people had, where the existing conditions were so bad that people were prepared to turn to anything that offered the slightest sign of relief.

Unemployment is our greatest problem at the moment. We are led to believe, if we can follow the words of the right honourable the Prime Minister, that 1962 will be a great year for all of us, a prosperous year in every way, but that is not very much satisfaction to the men and women who at the moment are trying to keep a family together, pay their rent and meet their commitments, who are purchasing houses, motor cars and household articles, whose job has suddenly gone, and whose commitments that seemed so easy to meet are now beyond their capabilities.

To come to one or two more mundane matters, which I trust will have some interest, I was astounded to read a recent speech by an honourable gentleman in another place. He was not very complimentary about the work of the members of one of our Parliamentary committees, the Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation. He accused this committee more than once of having bees in its bonnet. All I can say is that I was a member of that committee for many years and I can be certain that, if that committee has any bees in its bonnet, they are bees that produce genuine honey. This committee is one of the most hard working of all the Parliamentary committees, and I refute the slurs on it. It is my considered opinion that it does an enormous amount of work and saves members of this Chamber and of the other place much work by reading and going through documents. It should be commended for what it does. I do not like to see these slurs on a committee that endeavours to do its job to the best of its ability and is, I believe, the most underpaid of all Parliamentary committees for the work it does.

Turning to education, I first have a word on pound for pound subsidies. We have always been told that the Government of South Australia is particularly generous in pound for

pound subsidies. Let me take this opportunity of doing what I have heard the Minister of Education do on a number of occasions (and I have completely agreed with him)—congratulate the people of South Australia on the amount of money raised by them over the years for various school activities. I meant to look up the Minister's report and check on the amount, if it was there (it probably was), but much good is done for the schools and the parents themselves, because they obtain much personal satisfaction from doing things for the schools that their children attend. We have been told on many occasions that South Australia gives an enormous amount in subsidies. I am afraid that one reason why we give such a lot (though not all, by any means) is that there are some things that should be paid for by the department and not subsidized at all.

One or two things have come to my notice during the last few months. Going about amongst the schools as I have the opportunity of doing again by virtue of my being a member of the Public Works Committee, I have been perturbed to see the expedients that have to be used in some schools for changing rooms for sports and athletics. In one particular school that I went to, the committee and the parents had worked hard, raised some thousands of pounds and were hoping to get that amount subsidized—which I think they will, provided the scheme is not too high-flown. Serious consideration should be given to making some rooms or place available that could handily be used as a changing room. I know that in some cases blinds are pulled down and the children strip off in a darkened room, but I do not think that is the best sort of thing for that purpose.

We should have more thought about canteens. I know that these things are subsidized. I have asked a question this session, and the member for Port Adelaide (Mr. Ryan) has also shown much interest in the matter. We have gradually got to the stage where canteens are becoming almost a necessity in our schools. The people of the district and the schools desire them, and so do the children. Not only that: although articles are usually provided reasonably to the children, a handy amount of money can be raised for the school funds through them. Particularly in new schools that type of room which is not used completely before the numbers have grown large enough to fill the school can be used as a canteen; but it is not so easy if expensive equipment is installed in such a room and later it is found

that the room may have to be vacated for its originally planned use as a classroom. I ask the Minister to try to evolve some scheme to assist in this regard.

Recently I drew the Minister's attention to the need for emergency first-aid kits in our schools. These at present are subsidized. The Minister wrote to me as follows:

I refer to the question which you asked me in the House on June 21 concerning first-aid emergency equipment for schools. I now have to advise that the present policy of the Education Department is to supply first-aid kits free to schools with woodwork, sheetmetal and domestic science centres, but to supply such kits to all other schools on a subsidy basis. This policy was confirmed by the honourable the Treasurer on February 8, 1956 when he stated that "the provision of first-aid kits for schools is admirably catered for under the subsidy scheme and I see no reason at this juncture why the present system should be changed". Further investigations have not revealed any relevant reason for changing this policy at present.

It seems absurd to me that first-aid kits should be supplied free to woodwork, sheetmetal and domestic science centres but not to other schools. Obviously, it is considered that accidents are more likely to occur in centres where manual training is being given, but from my experience, when I was associated with the Education Department, most accidents at schools are not serious but comprise bruises, abrasions, sprains and the like.

Mr. Jennings: In the playground.

Mr. CLARK: Yes, and the teacher has to run to get something to repair the damage. In fact I did many peculiar things myself in this regard. I pulled numerous teeth and became expert. I remember on one occasion trying the risky experiment of removing a piece of steel from a boy's eye with a magnet: to my amazement it worked. I believe that first-aid kits should be provided free to schools simply because the children are at the school and not at home. If that argument does not hold water I appeal to the department to at least try to provide for possible accidents to teachers. It would not be costly for the department to provide free kits, and it should do so.

At one time I could easily count the number of schools in my district and could visit them all within a day or two, but with the development of Elizabeth and Salisbury I have to study the *Education Gazette* to calculate the number, and even then I can be wrong because additional schools could have been built in the meantime. Much work is involved in preparing

the surrounds of new schools and the organizations associated with the schools in my district are doing everything possible to beautify the schools and to give them the appearance of long-established schools.

Elizabeth ultimately will be a huge and planned city, but at present it has only one railway line and much of the area is some miles distant from the railway station. In the last 12 months there has been a big agitation for a bus service. Various progress associations, the sub-branch of the Australian Labor Party (and these sub-branches are always active for the good of a district), and the ratepayers' association (which has done an excellent job in this area) have all been anxious to obtain the benefits of a bus service. The climax to this agitation was a public meeting a few months ago following the rejection of a request to the Transport Control Board for a bus service to the town. This was a well-attended public meeting, possibly the biggest held in the area. I was astonished at the interest. It was decided by a vote that a deputation should wait on the Premier to seek to convince him that the claim was just.

The deputation was carefully selected and comprised people of standing in the district. It included Mr. Frank O'Sullivan, a councillor and the employment officer for the district, the Reverend Howell Witt, of the Anglican community, and Mrs. Lourens, representing the women of the area. The deputation was unsuccessful. The Premier was not prepared to use any influence mainly because a bus service would compete with the railways. He told us that he would keep the matter under review, but considered that the time was not opportune to introduce a bus service. Most residents in the area believe that a bus service is vital now. Elizabeth is growing away from the railway line towards the foothills, and there are such suburbs as Elizabeth East, Elizabeth Park, Elizabeth Vale, Elizabeth Heights and Elizabeth Downs. Some residents of these areas have to travel more than two miles to catch a train to work. Local buses do their best to cater for these people, but it must be remembered that when one has to pay the additional expense of a bus fare to the railway station as well as the rail fare, it makes the cost of transport to and from work rather heavy. Indeed, some people pay as much as 9s. a week for the bus service to the railway station. Some members may say that 9s. is not very much. In the main, the people in this area are new settlers in a new land

who, to a large extent, have sunk all they have in the purchase of a home and household goods. Even an additional amount of 4s. or 5s. a week is not always easy for these people to find. I am not reflecting on the proprietors of the bus services, as in the main they are doing a good job. Under present circumstances, as a result of inflation, no train fares are very cheap. At the moment a large percentage of the people living in the area do not work in the area itself, but travel to Adelaide, Islington and various other suburbs to their employment. The bus fare is a very heavy burden even when one is working, and even more so if one is looking for employment.

Mr. Riches: Is there any reason why the railways should not operate a bus service?

Mr. CLARK: We have been told that competition with the railways in this area is most undesirable. Many people travel to work in private cars. Mates get together and use the one car, with the result that the railways are losing revenue. Many people use the train only when they cannot get a lift in a car. I am told that in some instances people living some distance from the railway line do not go to work in bad weather. The Housing Trust is now concentrating on Elizabeth West, the area on the west side of the railway line. I have been told that the number of people who will eventually live here is 30,000, and this area is adjacent to the railway line. They will not be seeking buses to go to and from the railway station and will be happy to use the railway because it is reasonably close to them. I am certain that the development here will be rapid and this should offset any loss in railway revenue that could be caused by the inauguration of a bus service. As Mr. Riches interjected, is it not possible for the railways to run buses to assist the people and thus supplement the railway service?

The railway line is a long way from the foothills where so much of the development has taken place. It is a long way from the area that has been subdivided into small blocks, which are closer to the main North Road. I believe that these people are entitled to some assistance. Is there any real reason why the railways cannot run buses? The existing bus services are run on short routes in the area and the owners would be only too happy to supply a service to the railway, but they are not permitted to do so. Buses are permitted to run to serve the new settlement known as Para Hills Estate. I should not like members to think that I begrudge the people living there a

service simply because they are not in my district but in the district of Gouger. Parts of Elizabeth are farther from the railway line than is Para Hills Estate, which was developed by private enterprise, and the people there are provided with a bus service and yet the outer suburbs of Elizabeth, developed by the Housing Trust, cannot obtain such a service; and no one would claim that the Housing Trust is private enterprise.

We have been told that the buses would undercut the Railways Department. I do not think that is likely, because the Transport Control Board would see that that did not happen. If buses were introduced, those using them would have to pay only the one fare. A few months ago when there was a railway strike buses were licensed for the day to carry passengers to Adelaide and the people were charged 3s. each way. I heard no complaints from the passengers I spoke of about the fare, but now that I have made a statement publicly here I may get some. Apparently, the people thought that the fare was fair and reasonable. I see no reason why it is not possible either now or in the future for a main road bus service to run to Gawler. That was the case when I was a boy. I am not attempting to take custom from the Railways Department. As I mentioned earlier, there has been intensive development on each side of the road almost right through, and to many of the people it would be much more convenient to have a bus service to travel to the city rather than have to travel to the railway.

Many people have been forced into buying cars which they cannot afford because there is no other convenient means of transport when they are a good distance from the railway. To the many new citizens in this area, any easement of their heavy commitments would be an enormous benefit. I believe that even if a bus service were introduced the large majority of the people with access to the railway would travel by the railway because this service would provide a quicker journey to the city than buses. The people who would use the bus service are those who have no satisfactory access to a railway station or would want to travel from one intermediate station to another—say, from Elizabeth to Gepps Cross, or Salisbury Heights to Para Hills. People with access to the Main North Road who live outside the built up areas of Elizabeth, Salisbury and so on would be provided with a necessary service. Some of these people live between two and four miles from the railway station and they genuinely

need a service. Those who do not appreciate my remarks should take a drive into this area in the early morning or early afternoon to see what is going on in relation to transport. I am not complaining about the railway service, which at the moment is excellent for those who can get to it conveniently.

Mr. Jennings: But it only runs along the railway lines.

Mr. CLARK: That is so, and much of the subdivided land is far away from the railway line. If this area is to be fully developed (as we all hope it will) and if it is to continue to attract potential home purchasers (which it must) a bus service must be introduced. People in the area are most concerned about this matter, and I hope the Government will reconsider its decision soon and that it will be possible to give this additional service.

In the last fortnight or so I have been most interested to look through the new course of instruction on social studies that the Minister of Education was kind enough to give us. I have always been interested in the teaching of social studies, and I believe this is a full and interesting course. I was pleased to read in the foreword written by the Director of Education these words:

It is hoped that these revised courses will give teachers fresh stimulus and guidance so that the treatment of social studies will be flexible and effective.

The important words in such a study are that it should be flexible and effective.

Mr. Quirke: Do you know the most effective thing to me? It was that I should take the course myself.

Mr. CLARK: Members who have studied it will find it worth reading, as it will give some appreciation of the work being done. I was most interested in a few sentences on page 91 which, although they came near the end of the book, were in a sense an introduction, for the benefit of teachers, to some remarks on the course. These sentences were:

It seeks to foster in children the ability to think clearly about social problems, to lead them to understand the functioning of the community in which they live, and to appreciate that there are communities similar to or different from their own. It recognizes that social study is the study of the people—what they are like, where they live, the work they do, the problems they have to face, and the way in which they organize their lives. It recognizes the importance of establishing links with the past, yet places particular emphasis on the contemporary scene.

Of course, it is not an easy job to guide children in the ability to think clearly about social problems. I think the member for Gouger would agree with me—and I think the Minister in his reply to the honourable member had this in mind—that if we can manage to give children the ability to think clearly about social problems we will have achieved something for them that a good many adults and, if I may say so with due deference, some members of Parliament may not have acquired.

Mr. Quirke: Some of them? Most of them!

Mr. CLARK: The honourable member corrects me. I hesitated to say that, but he said it. What a worthy aim it is! I am pleased also to see that the work of the United Nations Organization and its kindred and allied organizations is stressed in the course of social studies in upper grades. I was most interested in the course for grade 7, the upper grade in primary schools, as for many years I had the job of doing that work and teaching that grade. I was particularly interested in the section devoted to the story of Parliament, beginning with individual conduct, passing on to the functions of local government, then to the beginnings of Parliament, then to some outstanding Parliamentary landmarks—not just the old hackneyed landmarks—then to landmarks on the road to democracy, then to something about our voting system and finally to the workings and functions of our State and Commonwealth Parliaments.

Mr. Jennings: What about the gerrymander?

Mr. CLARK: It did not mention that. I noted that visits of children to Parliament House and of members of Parliament to schools were suggested as part of the course. Many members have been doing a great deal of that for some time, of course, and I believe it has been of great help, not only to the children but to the members themselves. I believe all this is good. I believe it has always been good, but it is of particular advantage now with the influx of newcomers from other countries, European in particular, where Parliamentary and Government systems are so different from ours. In fact, some of these people have come from places—totalitarian States and the like—where voting rights and so on are almost unknown. I believe that this type of course, given by impartial teachers, is possibly the best answer to subversive elements in our midst.

If we try to show boys and girls (as a good teacher will do if he bases his course on the information supplied in this book, for which I commend the committee that drew it up) the struggle for democracy, slow and painful as it has been, and if we try to show its advantages, surely as they grow up these children will be much less inclined to be influenced by such undemocratic ideologies as we see in some countries. I support the motion as amended.

Mr. RYAN secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

At 10.09 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, August 9, 1961, at 2 p.m.