

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, August 29, 1963.

The SPEAKER (Hon. T. C. Stott) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

QUESTIONS.**BANK LOANS.**

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked on August 13 about the discontinuance of personal loans by the State Bank?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Chairman of the State Bank Board reports:

The State Bank has not discontinued the provision of personal loans for creditworthy customers, but it has somewhat altered its administrative procedure in the interests of economy both for itself and for its customers. The bank found that, although it was charging a rate of interest of 5½ per cent "flat", the heavy administrative cost of handling these small loans involving frequent repayments and high collection expenses through a special section made the procedure uneconomic. The section could have been made profitable if the bank had followed the policy which certain banks in other States have followed of bringing into the section larger loans made to farmers and business men for vehicles, machinery, and equipment, so charging them effectively much higher rates than for normal overdraft accommodation. This was not thought justified and it was therefore decided to handle the relatively small personal loans to creditworthy customers through the ordinary banking section and at ordinary overdraft rates. This, it is believed, will reduce the bank's costs and at the same time give the customers the benefit of lower interest rates.

RYCENA.

Mr. HARDING: I do not expect an immediate reply to my question, but hope that the Minister of Agriculture will be able to obtain an answer by next week. I refer to an item in this morning's news broadcast, which was as follows:

An Australian firm is hoping to gain important export markets throughout Asia, with wheat derivative which can be eaten like rice, but which the firm claims has a much higher nutritional content. A trial shipment of 50 tons of the new product—known as "Rycena"—will leave Sydney this week for Ceylon, in the wheat ship *Arna*. Manufacturers of the product told a news conference in Sydney today that they were confident of building up an Asian export market for 10,000 tons of Rycena each month, within the next year. Inquiries had been received already from many West African and Asian nations, including the Philippines, Pakistan, North and South Korea, Formosa and Hong Kong. Indonesia alone was interested in importing 100,000 tons of Rycena over five years.

Will the Minister ascertain whether this is one of the unexpected new industries that is coming to South Australia, and will he report further on the matter next week?

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

HOUSING.

Mr. BYWATERS: In his weekly telecast last evening the Premier forecast that, out of last year's Budget surplus, money would be made available for social housing—for indigent people and the like. As no accommodation has been provided for single people such as widows or people who have never married, can the Premier say whether by using this money flats could be made available for that type of person?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Under the Act that authorizes these payments, money is paid into a fund used to build houses for social purposes. The rent charged for these houses is £1 a week or one-sixth of the weekly income, and the whole of the rent is paid into the fund to erect more houses. No restriction is placed on the type of person who may occupy these houses: they may be married people, widows or single people. The Act is designed to assist people of limited means who have housing difficulties. This scheme usually applies to widows or deserted wives with children. It is a deplorable thing that in a civilized country such as this there are so many deserted families. Instances come before my notice almost every day of where the husband clears off and leaves his wife and two or three little children. It is deplorable that in a society such as ours we have no better method of seeing that a man takes some interest in the care of his children.

Mr. Jennings: We all have these cases brought to our notice every day.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Frankly, I do not know the answer. We can issue maintenance orders, but these people go from place to place and it is extremely difficult to trace them and to collect maintenance. Honourable members generally will realize that the case of a deserted wife with children must take precedence over an unmarried person or some other person without dependants. However, I will look at the problem raised by the honourable member as it applies to Murray Bridge.

DEAF-BLIND CHILDREN.

Mrs. STEELE: For some years the Advisory Panel for Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Children, of which I am privileged to be a

member, has been aware of the increasing incidence of deaf-blind children. We are aware that at present there are four children in the metropolitan area and two in the country who are so unfortunately handicapped and who are at present being taught by two devoted women. There is, however, no-one trained in the highly specialized teaching of deaf-blind children, and certain recommendations have been made to the Minister of Education with a view to remedying the position. As I understand that Cabinet has considered a recent recommendation, is the Minister able to inform the House of its decision?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: Yes. There are known to be six children in this State (and there may be more) who suffer from the dual handicap of deafness and blindness and for whom specialized teaching is required. Special classes for these children are being established at Gilles Street Primary School, and accommodation is expected to be ready at the commencement of the third term. In the meantime they are being taught in their homes. The Superintendent of Primary Schools (Mr. J. Whitburn) who is also Superintendent of Special Schools, has been in touch with other State Education Departments and has ascertained that there are no facilities in Australia for training teachers of such classes. Cabinet has therefore approved of Miss Beryl Payne, a skilled and experienced teacher of the deaf with some knowledge of teaching the blind, attending a course at the world renowned Perkins School for the Blind, Massachusetts, U.S.A. Miss Payne is at present senior assistant at the Woodville Speech and Hearing Centre. She will be absent from September 1 this year until the end of June, 1964. The Government will pay her full salary, her return fare and an amount to enable her to visit other institutes for the blind whilst in the United States. On her return Miss Payne will be able to impart her knowledge to other people and enable the Education Department to train its own teachers of deaf-blind children.

REPTILES.

Mr. HUTCHENS: A correspondent in this morning's press said he or she was horrified to witness a film of the unloading of pythons and other reptiles we are not accustomed to seeing in this State. The person was concerned that they might be discharged from what I understand is a private zoo, and be a danger to the public, as no doubt they would be if they

were let loose. Having read the comments, I was reminded of a discussion I had with people who are greatly interested in this matter and who expressed concern at the possibility of people (perhaps cranks) bringing reptiles here to the detriment of this State. Can the Premier say whether there is any control of reptiles? If there is not, will the Government take the necessary action to control them?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: These matters are strictly controlled by the Commonwealth Government, and the prohibition of animals and birds that can come to this State is rigidly enforced. The honourable member would find, if he tried to import any bird into Australia, that he would be completely debarred from importing it, except from New Zealand. He would not even be able to import eggs to improve poultry stock. There is a complete prohibition. For instance, he would find that he could not import an animal with a cloven hoof. I assure the honourable member that there is no need for public alarm in this regard. The Commonwealth Government strictly controls everything that comes in, and also its destination. Most importations are restricted to those for scientific purposes and to zoos, and are first received at quarantine areas.

ANGASTON SEWERAGE.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Can the Minister of Works indicate the cost of the recently constructed Angaston sewerage scheme, how many premises can be connected and how many have been connected to the mains?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Engineer-in-Chief reports:

All sewer construction work in connection with the Angaston sewerage scheme is now completed, except for road restoration which is in hand. The first sewers were available for use in October, 1962. Excluding the contribution from the S.A. Housing Trust, the sum of £121,960 has been expended to date on the sewerage scheme, which compares with the estimated cost of £131,890. Approximately 506 premises have been provided for, of which 175 have already been connected to the sewers.

There may be some misunderstanding on the part of ratepayers concerning the responsibility for the connection to the department's sewers. In order to clarify the position, I inform the honourable member that the department constructs sewer mains through the streets; it also provides for and constructs connections from the main to boundary of the owner's property. It is then the owner's responsibility

to make the connection from his house to that provided by the department at the boundary of his property. This sometimes leads to misunderstandings. Householders think that the department makes connections to the premises, but that is not correct. In the present instance the department has provided all the necessary connections to the boundaries of properties, and it now remains for rate-payers to make the connections from there.

MANUFACTURED EXPORTS.

Mr. CUMBE: I seek information regarding the export overseas of manufactured goods from South Australia. The Premier no doubt recalls that some time ago the Commonwealth Minister for Trade (Rt. Hon. J. McEwen) initiated an export drive to increase the volume of manufactured goods exported from Australia. To assist that scheme, a publicity campaign was waged and incentive schemes, such as payroll tax remissions, were introduced. As I have no recent information, can the Premier say whether there has been a significant increase in the export of manufactured goods from South Australia since the initiation of this export drive? If not, will he obtain the relevant information?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: As I have not the figures to show the position before and after the drive for purposes of comparison, I will see whether I can get them. On the general topic, I have been surprised at the variety of commodities manufactured in South Australia which are now finding acceptance on overseas markets. Some of these commodities are going even to North American and British markets. I have been surprised at the volume and variety of production now being accepted on overseas markets. I will get a report for the honourable member to see whether I can tell him the result of the publicity drive.

INSECTICIDES.

Mr. HUGHES: Has the Minister of Agriculture a reply to my question of August 14 as to whether there was any danger to residents living adjacent to where crops were being aerial sprayed with insecticides? I am very much interested in this matter from a health point of view. Has the Minister yet received a report?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The report has not yet come back, but I will see if I can get it for the honourable member next Tuesday.

WATERVALE WATER SCHEME.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: I understand that the Minister of Works has a reply to my recent question regarding the Watervale water scheme.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have a report from the Engineer-in-Chief stating that drilling operations at Watervale have been delayed because of the resignation of the Mines Department driller and other departmental work required urgently at Hawker and Happy Valley. However, drilling operations are due to resume today, and it is hoped that the bore will be completed and tested by the end of September.

MARREE ABATTOIRS.

Mr. CASEY: Some months ago there appeared an article in the local press under the heading "Abattoirs for Marree in Far North of State" and it was stated that the abattoirs were to be operated by a Victorian meat works known as the Wattle Glen Rendering Works Proprietary Limited. When I was in Melbourne several weeks ago I took the opportunity to contact the manager of the firm and told him that I was greatly interested in the project. However, at that time he was not sure just when his firm was coming to South Australia to build these rendering works. Has the Minister of Agriculture been communicated with by the manager? If so, has the firm applied for a slaughtering licence to operate in this State? If not, have the future prospects of its establishing works at Marree been discussed?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Although I have heard of the proposed abattoirs, to my knowledge no approach has been made to the department or to me personally.

PORT AUGUSTA TO WHYALLA RAILWAY.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent inquiry regarding the proposed railway between Port Augusta and Whyalla?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have received a report from my colleague, the Minister of Railways, who states that the construction of a railway from Port Augusta to Whyalla is a matter for consideration by the Minister for Shipping and Transport, because, if this railway were built, it would form part of the Commonwealth railways. He is unable to say whether the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner has prepared estimates or submitted a report to his Minister.

SCHOOL CROSSINGS.

Mr. LANGLEY: I understand that the Minister of Works has a reply to my recent question regarding school crossing signs.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Minister of Roads informs me that the speed limit of 15 miles an hour applies within 75ft. of a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of a school only when the flashing lights are in operation. If signs were erected at such crossings they would have to be covered or removed at all times when the flashing lights were not operating. This is a problem that has been considered at length by the Road Traffic Board. The installation of temporary speed limit signs is being investigated, but the showing of a speed limit sign during those hours when the speed limit is not applicable will result in confusion.

SCHOOL BUSES.

Mr. CURREN: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question regarding school bus transport to Glossop and Renmark?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: Bus contractors at Glossop and Renmark who are dissatisfied with their contract rates should apply for an increase in contract rate individually to the department stating the grounds of the application. Each application will then be considered on its merits by the Transport Contract Committee and the committee will submit its recommendation to me for decision.

TOTALIZATOR LICENCE.

Mr. FRED WALSH: Yesterday I asked the Premier a question regarding the reported intention of the South Australian Jockey Club to introduce a new system at its race meeting next Saturday by running a totalizator on the Victorian races with a 5s. unit, and what would be the effect of section 20 of the Lottery and Gaming Act. Has he now a reply?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Deputy Commissioner of Police reports that the totalizator operated by the S.A.J.C. at Morphettville caters for win and place, quinella and doubles betting. Tickets are issued for 2s. 6d. for the win and place section of the totalizator, as required by section 20 of the Lottery and Gaming Act, and the issue of tickets from the totalizator for multiples of 2s. 6d. is allowable under the proviso at the end of section 20.

Mr. FRED WALSH: The Premier's reply is not really an answer to the question I asked yesterday, and either the question was

misunderstood or it was not put properly to the Deputy Commissioner of Police. I understand the answer given this afternoon regarding section 20 of the Lottery and Gaming Act; in fact, I virtually quoted the section yesterday from memory. I do not oppose the South Australian Jockey Club's proposal, which is an innovation, but the object of the 2s. 6d. totalizator is to give the small bettor an opportunity to invest, whereas the club has seen fit to make the basic unit in this case 5s. and, in my opinion, as a layman, this is a contravention of section 20 of the Act. That is the question I wanted an opinion on. Yesterday I said:

I should like to know whether having a basic unit of 5s. for this totalizator to be run on the Victorian races will cut across the provisions of that section of the Act as regards the system and whether the Premier will have the matter investigated with a view to correcting the position if there is a prospective breach of the provisions of the legislation?

Will the Premier study that question?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I regret that I have not given the honourable member the information he wanted. The usual procedure in this type of question is to forward on to the department the *Hansard* proof of the proceedings in the House so that the person supplying the report knows all the remarks made. Evidently, the Deputy Commissioner did not appreciate the point the honourable member wanted cleared up, and I will now see that the question is submitted for a report.

MOUNT GAMBIER MEDICAL OFFICER.

Mr. BURDON: I understand that tenders are being called for additions to the Mount Gambier Hospital for a resident medical officer. Does the Government intend to appoint such an officer and, if so, when is this appointment expected to be made?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I shall have to get the information for the honourable member and I will inform him as soon as possible.

MOUNT BARKER PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Mr. SHANNON: I have received a letter from the Mount Barker Primary School Committee enclosing a copy of the letter it has written to the Director of Education asking whether a new primary school is to be built at Mount Barker. I know that the Minister of Education is aware of the existence of a very old school there with classrooms inadequate for present-day educational needs. Can the Minister say when the new primary school will

be completed on that site and whether the old site can be used as a playing area?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: At present I cannot supply the answer. In view of a statement the honourable member made last week—and, I think, repeated this week—it occurs to me that it might be a good idea to try out at Mount Barker the experiment that Mr. Allan—a highly competent officer of the Public Buildings Department who was formerly Principal Architect for Schools—spent almost a year on: a prototype for a new type of school that is a cross between a solid construction and a prefabricated school. I know that my colleague, the Minister of Works, was highly appreciative of it. However, I do not want to commit him, and I cannot commit myself. I know that the honourable member, in his capacity as Chairman of the Public Works Committee, was also impressed, and as he has offered the Mount Barker school as a volunteer, it seems to me that if Mr. Pearson, Mr. Shannon and I enter into a triple alliance we may be able to do something for the benefit of this State in general and the honourable member's district in particular.

LIBERAL AND COUNTRY PARTY.

Mr. LAWN: Since 1950 until this session members opposite have always referred to their Party as the Liberal and Country League but, latterly, they have referred to it as the Liberal and Country Party. Can the Premier say whether the reason for the change is because of the many displays of disunity in the Government Party this year and whether it is with the object of conveying the impression that the Party is a united Party?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: It arises merely out of the increasing popularity of the Party.

CIGARETTE MACHINES.

Mr. JENNINGS: Recently I asked the Premier a question about complaints made to me by retail storekeepers concerning home cigarette vending machines. Since then I believe that at the Premier's request the Prices Commissioner has made an investigation. Has the Premier further information?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I have not yet received the Prices Commissioner's report, but as soon as it is available I will notify the honourable member. I am indebted to the honourable member for supplying me with some supplementary information on this subject to enable the Prices Commissioner to make a report more quickly than he could if he had to get the information elsewhere.

BREAD PRICES.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Will the Premier inquire into the question of bread prices, particularly bread delivery charges? I understand that a charge is applied to each loaf of bread delivered, so the charge is lower to a childless couple who get perhaps a half loaf of bread every other day than to a couple with, say, four children who get a bigger quantity daily. Will the Premier investigate to see whether the delivery charge could not be removed from the bread and applied to the delivery to each customer, including shopkeepers and delicatessens?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Government received an application for an alteration to the price of bread. It was claimed that the margin was not sufficient to cover the retailers' added costs incurred since the last prices order was made. Bread prices are subject to recommendation from a committee which, from memory, comprises three consumer representatives and three industry representatives. This matter was referred to the committee and a recommendation obtained. I have approved of the recommendation and an order to be published in the weekend newspapers will be effective as from Monday next. I ask the Leader to wait until he sees the order to determine whether it adequately covers the points he has raised. If it does not, and he asks a further question next week, I will obtain further information from the Prices Commissioner.

NARACOORTE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY.

Mr. HARDING: In his weekly broadcast last night the Premier said that electricity would be taken to Naracoorte via Keith. Farmers in that district will be delighted with the news. Can the Premier elaborate on his statement, particularly concerning the route of the line?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I cannot elaborate much on the statement. I have seen a rough plan of the route of the line and, speaking from memory, I believe that it goes not via Bordertown, but more directly to Naracoorte. My knowledge of that part of the State leads me to think that it goes via Padthaway. I will get the information for the honourable member.

ROLLING STOCK.

Mr. RYAN: During the Loan Estimates debate I raised the question of the provision of new trucks for handling the cereal crop in the Port Lincoln Division during the forthcoming season. Can the Minister of Works

say whether this question has been investigated and, if it has, what is the result of the investigation?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The matter has been investigated. My colleague, the Minister of Railways, informs me that the only provision on the 1963-64 Loan Estimates for rolling stock for the Port Lincoln Division is for four diesel-electric locomotives and a proportion of employees' sleeping vans. However, work is proceeding on the conversion of 34 class "OCN" bogie waggons to class "OGN" waggons suitable for the handling of bulk grain. The expenditure on this project will be a debit to the department's working provision. It is intended also to place in good repair a number of four-wheel waggons at present on the Peterborough Division. These will be transferred to the Port Lincoln Division to help in the movement of superphosphates.

TREES.

Mrs. STEELE: Earlier this session I addressed a question to the Premier regarding the possibility of setting up a committee to advise on the removal or preservation of trees. Has the Premier an answer?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Minister of Roads reports:

In accordance with existing Acts, trees cannot be removed from a road reserve unless their removal is approved either by the district council or the Minister, depending on whether the trees are on a district road or main road respectively. On district roads, the matter is decided in full council after investigations have been made by that body, which should consider fully whether or not it is necessary to remove such trees. On main roads, the request for the removal emanates from the district council, and every request is fully investigated by officers of the Highways Department and a report forwarded to the Minister to assist him in making a decision. These procedures appear to be working satisfactorily at present.

OCCUPATION CENTRE.

Mr. BYWATERS: On July 30 I asked the Minister of Education whether he would investigate the possibility of establishing an occupation centre for mentally retarded children at Murray Bridge, and I drew the Minister's attention to a property that was available and on offer to the department. I was particularly pleased at the prompt action taken in this matter by the Minister and the department. Unfortunately, a house like this does not remain on offer very long, and in fact another person has made an offer for the house.

Will the Minister inform me of the present situation and ensure that the department does not miss out on this property?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: Following on the honourable member's question and statement on July 30, I arranged for a visit to be made to Murray Bridge by an Assistant Superintendent of Primary Schools, a Design Architect of the Public Buildings Department, and the Chief Psychologist, and all three agreed that, with certain alterations and additions, the building would be suitable for such a centre. Accordingly, I have approved the department's taking appropriate action to purchase the house and four acres of land in Cypress Avenue, Murray Bridge, and I understand that an officer from the Public Buildings Department will shortly make a valuation. I have also approved the establishment of an occupation centre in Murray Bridge, such centre to be established as early as possible in the first term of next year.

NORTH ADELAIDE MAINS.

Mr. COUMBE: I understand that the Engineering and Water Supply Department desires shortly to completely re-lay larger, new mains in parts of North Adelaide, and particularly right around Wellington Square. Will the Minister of Works ascertain when this work is likely to be carried out?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Yes.

MAINTENANCE.

Mr. CURREN: Last week I was approached by a migrant woman who has been in Australia for eight years. About 3½ years ago she was deserted by her husband and left with four young children to bring up. This woman has been receiving assistance from the Children's Welfare Department, and a short while ago she received a letter, dated August 7, as follows:

Your renewal application for relief is acknowledged and the contents noted. Before any further assistance can be granted by this office it will be necessary to forward a medical certificate stating that you are not pregnant.

That letter was signed by the Secretary. Can the Premier, representing the Chief Secretary, say what inquiries are made before a notice of this sort is sent to an applicant for relief, or whether it is standard practice, when a renewal application is forwarded, for such a notice to be sent out?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: If the honourable member will give me the papers in his possession I shall inquire and inform him of the position.

TIME CLOCKS.

Mr. LANGLEY: As time clocks are used extensively in the heating of water at off-peak times, and as they have a special rating, will the Premier ascertain whether it is compulsory to install them in houses?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I will get the information for the honourable member.

FRUIT FLY.

Mr. CASEY: Yesterday we heard excellent speeches by members of both sides of the House on the Fruit Fly (Compensation) Bill. Fruit fly control is most important in this State, particularly the fruit fly road block in my area. It is one of my special responsibilities to ensure that this block operates as it should, and also that other precautions are taken, particularly in Broken Hill. These measures are taken to prevent the fruit fly from entering this State. Will the Minister of Agriculture arrange for appropriate measures to be taken at Broken Hill to prevent the bringing of fruit fly into this State? I suggest that effective posters could be placed in the Pioneer Tours office in that city, telling travellers that it is not advisable for them to bring fruit into South Australia. Perhaps the Ansett Airways and Pioneer Tours offices in Adelaide could be visited by a member of the department, and a talk given to bus drivers explaining the seriousness of the position and the need for interstate passengers to hand their fruit to the control blocks.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will examine the suggestions and give a considered reply as soon as possible.

ABATTOIRS EXPENDITURE.

Mr. HUGHES: In yesterday's *News* and again in this morning's *Advertiser* appears a statement by the Chairman of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board (Mr. Waterhouse) concerning the expenditure of £50,000 at the abattoirs. Can the Minister of Agriculture say what work will be carried out and why this money is being spent?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I am unable to make a detailed statement on this matter, but I will obtain the information for the honourable member. The alterations are principally designed (and there is no harm in my saying this) to ensure the utmost cleanliness in the preparation of meat, particularly for the export market, as the need for extra care is becoming more evident every day. The abattoirs at Gepps Cross already have a high

standard, but will lead the rest of Australia in killing standards when the new services operate.

BREATHALYSERS.

Mr. HARDING: I refer to my previous questions, and ask the Premier can he say what interest the Government and the Police Force have in breathalyser tests?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Commissioner of Police reports:

The breathalyser is a photo-cell/chemical device for scientifically testing the percentage of alcohol in the breath of a person. The procedure for carrying out tests is routine and comparatively simple, and the results which can be ascertained quickly are of a very definite nature. The apparatus produces a similar result to a blood-alcohol test by merely blowing into a tube instead of having a sample of blood taken, sent to a laboratory and analysed. Breathalysers are standard equipment in use by Police Departments in America and a number of other countries and the resultant tests are accepted by the courts. The result of a breathalyser test is an adjunct to other evidence in "driving under the influence" cases, as is the result of a blood-alcohol test.

Victorian police have 14 breathalysers in use in Melbourne and the larger country towns. The accuracy of these instruments has been proved beyond doubt and the full details of tests carried out have been published. The system is working well in Victoria and breathalysers have been used there in 477 instances in 1961, 992 instances in 1962, and in 508 instances for the six months of 1963. The Crimes (Breath Test Evidence) Act was passed in Victoria in 1961, and section 4 (a) of that Act states:

Where a member of the Police Force believes on reasonable grounds that a person has been while driving a motor car or while in charge of a motor car within the meaning of section 82 of the Motor Car Act, 1958, under the influence of intoxicating liquor to such an extent as to be incapable of having proper control of the motor car he may require that person to furnish a sufficient sample of his breath for analysis by a breath analysing instrument and that person shall, subject to the provisions of paragraph (b) of this subsection, furnish a sample of his breath by exhaling directly into the instrument.

Similar legislation applies in various countries, while in others the driving licence is issued on the understanding that any person who operates a motor vehicle is deemed to have given his consent to a chemical test of his breath, blood, urine or saliva, for the purpose of determining the alcoholic content of his blood, provided that such test is administered at the direction of a police officer having reasonable grounds to believe such person to have been driving under the influence of alcohol. In every instance, this type of legislation has been enacted because, all too often, the intoxicated driver endangers the lives and limbs of other people.

A distinct advantage in the breathalyser is that within minutes the result is known and if a person, who appears to be affected by alcohol, obtains a very low reading on the instrument, it is obvious that he is not intoxicated but requires urgent medical attention. He would be taken to hospital immediately, whereas with the blood test the result would not be known until the next day and this delay in his receiving medical attention could be serious. Provision has been made on the Estimates for the purchase of a breathalyser, and if this is approved, the instrument will be demonstrated to prove its efficiency before being put into use by the South Australian Police Department.

PALMER-SEDAN WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. BYWATERS: On July 31 I asked the Minister of Works a question, following one by the member for Angas, relating to the Palmer-Sedan water supply, and requested that the people at Milendella be told whether they would go on to the separate scheme or be included in the larger scheme as had formerly been suggested. Has the Minister further information?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I do not have the report with me. I will remind the Engineer-in-Chief of this matter, and ask for a report.

MURRAY BRIDGE SEWERAGE.

Mr. BYWATERS: Can the Minister of Works ascertain for me the priority of sewerage for the township of Murray Bridge?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I will inquire and bring down a report for the honourable member.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION: PARTY MEMBERSHIP.

Mr. McKEE (Port Pirie): I ask leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. McKEE: In this morning's *Advertiser* appears the report of a statement alleged to have been made by me, which reads:

Several bakeries had complained to him of varying prices charged by the S.A. Egg Board for egg pulp, Mr. McKee, L.C.P. said . . .

I make this explanation in view of the statement by the Premier when speaking on the Constitution Act Amendment Bill. He told the honourable member for Enfield, in reply to an interjection regarding a suitable appointment as Premier, that he was looking around and that, if a suitable volunteer opposite were interested, he might be able to make a deal with that member. I know that the member for Enfield cannot be bought, and

this also applies to all honourable members on this side. I make this explanation in case someone may get the wrong idea. Further, there would be little value in joining a Government that had only a few months left in office.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD (Premier and Treasurer): I ask leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: When delivering my second reading explanation yesterday on the Constitution Act Amendment Bill regarding the appointment of an additional Minister, I said that if there were a suitable volunteer opposite I might be able to make a deal with him. I meant to say "acceptable" volunteer.

TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVE: HUNDRED OF MANNANARIE.

The Hon. P. H. QUIRKE (Minister of Lands): I move:

That the travelling stock reserve in the hundred of Mannanarie, shown on the plan laid before Parliament on October 30, 1962, be resumed in terms of Section 136 of the Pastoral Act, 1936-1960, for the purpose of being dealt with as Crown lands.

The reserve in question contains approximately 1,100 acres and runs in a south-easterly direction from Yatina to the vicinity of Yongala. The District Council of Jamestown has asked that the reserve be resumed and allocated to adjoining landholders because it is no longer needed for travelling stock, but has become a harbour for straying and "loafing" stock, as well as being a breeding ground for noxious weeds. Both the council and the Government are involved in expense in dealing with noxious weeds, which could be more effectively controlled if the land were allotted. The council considers that a two or three-chain road would adequately meet the needs of *bona fide* travelling stock, but asks that a portion of the reserve on which there is water, adjacent to sections 196 and 200, be excluded from the resumption and retained as a camping ground for such stock.

The views of the Stockowners' Association have been sought, and it has advised its agreement with the proposal, except that it considers that the portion of the reserve adjacent to sections 201 and 202 should be retained as a camping ground in addition to the portion proposed by the council. The Weeds Advisory Committee has also been consulted and has expressed the opinion that the infestations of noxious weeds

would be confined if the land were included in normal farm rotations. The Pastoral Board has investigated all aspects of the proposal and has recommended that action be taken for resumption of the whole of the reserve in the hundred of Mannanarie, and that in the event of this resumption being approved, consideration be given to the question of dedication of an area adjacent to sections 196, 200, 201 and 202 as a camping ground for stock. I therefore ask that members agree to the motion.

Mr. CASEY (Frome): I support the motion because there are many stock routes in South Australia that have been resumed and are not used today. No doubt, other stock routes will be incorporated into the property of adjoining landholders in future. Whereas I can agree in most cases that it is advisable to incorporate these stock routes in this way, there are occasions when it is not advisable at this time for land to be handed back to adjoining landholders. However, that depends on circumstances.

In this particular case where there are small holdings, it is no advantage to have a large travelling stock route when only small numbers of sheep are being moved. It is for that reason that it is advisable for this land to be taken up by adjoining landholders. As the Minister pointed out, the Pastoral Board and the Stockowners' Association consider that sections 196, 200, 201 and 202 should be excluded from the resumption and retained as a camping ground for such stock. On occasions one is confronted at one time or another with travelling stock, and I do think that provision should be made when resuming this type of land for the possibility at some future time for stock travelling along that route to have space where they can be camped for the night. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Motion carried.

TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVE: HUNDREDS OF DAVENPORT, WOOLUNDUNGA AND WINNINOWIE.

The Hon. P. H. QUIRKE (Minister of Lands): I move:

That the travelling stock reserve in the hundreds of Davenport, Woolundunga and Winninowie, shown on the plan laid before Parliament on June 12, 1963, be resumed in terms of section 136 of the Pastoral Act, 1936-1960, for the purpose of being dealt with as Crown lands.

The stock route in question comprises approximately 2,345 acres and runs in a general south-easterly and southerly direction from about

one mile south of Stirling North to about five miles south of Nectar Brook railway siding. With modern methods of transport the need for the side stock routes provided in the past is disappearing. This particular stock route obviously is no longer needed for the use of *bona fide* travelling stock, as inspections have shown that for many years substantial portions have been fenced in by adjoining landholders, although they have had no authority to do this. Requests have been received from other landholders who wish to lease other portions of the reserve. The Pastoral Board considers that the time is opportune to resume this reserve so that the land may be leased to the holders of adjacent land.

The question has been referred to the District Council of Wilmington and to the Stockowners' Association, and both bodies support the Pastoral Board's proposal. The council draws attention to the menace of loitering stock, many of which have been found to be severely infested with lice and other vermin, and also quotes instances of persons, holding very little land, who have purchased sheep to be run on the stock route. In view of these circumstances, I ask members to support the motion.

Mr. CASEY (Frome): I have much pleasure in supporting this motion.

Motion carried.

TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVE: OODNADATTA.

The Hon. P. H. QUIRKE (Minister of Lands): I move:

That the portion of the reserve for travelling stock and teamsters, adjacent to the town of Oodnadatta, north Out of Hundreds, shown on the plan laid before Parliament on June 12, 1963, be resumed in terms of section 136 of the Pastoral Act, for the purpose of being dealt with as Crown lands.

The Education Department requires a site for a head teacher's residence at Oodnadatta. The only available town allotment is unsuitable, and, after examination of the locality, the department has indicated that a site between the police reserve and allotment 92 held by the Presbyterian Church, would meet its requirements. This land, area 1 acre 8 perches, is portion of a reserve for travelling stock and teamsters. Because of its location, the area could be resumed without detriment to the travelling stock reserve, and divided into three blocks, one of which could be made available to the Education Department as desired. The Pastoral Board has recommended that action be

taken to resume the whole area of 1 acre 8 perches, and the Stockowners' Association, which has been consulted, supports the proposal. In view of the circumstances, I ask members to approve of the motion.

Mr. CASEY (Frome): I have much pleasure in supporting this motion. If the Minister wants to resume all the land in the Oodnadatta area I shall be only too pleased to agree, because Oodnadatta could do with a few more residents. I commend the area to members from both sides, particularly if they are interested in the subdivision of land, because plenty of land is available there.

Mr. Clark: Would it be suitable as a holiday resort?

Mr. CASEY: I suppose I could suggest that the Premier might establish a resort at Oodnadatta for members of Parliament, because the area enjoys plenty of warm sunshine.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: And flies.

Motion carried.

HEALTH ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

REAL PROPERTY ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

BUSINESS AGENTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

FRUIT FLY (COMPENSATION) BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

CITY OF WHYALLA COMMISSION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 27. Page 665.)

Mr. LOVEDAY (Whyalla): I understand that this is a hybrid Bill and must be referred to a Select Committee. In those circumstances, can the debate be adjourned?

The SPEAKER: If the honourable member wants to speak further he may ask leave to continue his remarks.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Then I ask leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted.

The SPEAKER: The adjourned debate be made an order of the day for—

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD (Premier and Treasurer): Mr. Speaker, may I ask a question on procedure? I understand that on the passing of the second reading the Bill must be referred to a Select Committee. I think that the honourable member may have been under a misapprehension. The Select Committee is appointed after the second reading, and in those circumstances the honourable member may wish to conclude his remarks now.

The SPEAKER: I rule that under Joint Standing Orders this Bill, because it confers a special privilege, is a hybrid Bill. The Premier is correct in saying that after the second reading the Bill must be referred to a Select Committee, and if the member for Whyalla wishes to continue his remarks now in order that the Bill may pass the second reading stage, I rule that he is in order in doing so. Does the honourable member wish to do that?

Mr. LOVEDAY: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I had thought that the procedure was the other way around. I have much pleasure in supporting the Bill, which is necessary in order that an arrangement that has already been proceeding in the past shall continue for the development of Whyalla. This arrangement has been between the South Australian Housing Trust and the City of Whyalla Commission to enable the construction or drainage of streets, roads and footways in the newly developed areas of Whyalla. I think that this is a classic example of local government having insufficient revenue to finance the development of a fast expanding area. The commission has already extended its borrowing powers almost to the limit for the purpose of carrying out ordinary works and undertakings. These borrowing powers are limited on the assessment of the local government body itself. In fact, the commission has borrowing powers limited to about £104,000, and it has already borrowed about £95,000 for this purpose. This has been necessary, even with the assistance of the arrangement hitherto operating between the Housing Trust and the commission. Under that arrangement the trust has been pre-paying rates so that the commission could get on with the work of constructing roads and footpaths in the new areas.

May I say that without the construction of roads and footpaths either slightly ahead or concurrently with the construction of houses the area would be virtually unlivable, because it would rapidly become a dust bowl, and no doubt the people simply would not remain in

the area. Therefore, this is a most necessary Bill to make acceptable to the Crown Solicitor (who has ruled that what is being done is not quite in order) the old arrangement that is being carried on and to enable that arrangement to be continued in the future. The commission is responsible for the repayment of any moneys that come into its hands through the Housing Trust for the construction of roads, for which the commission is responsible, and these repayments are spread over a period. This arrangement enables all roads and footpaths to be constructed concurrently with the housing development, which has been a tremendous benefit in enabling this important expansion to continue satisfactorily to all concerned. Therefore, I have much pleasure in supporting the Bill.

Bill read a second time and referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. Freebairn, Loveday, McKee, Nankivell and Ryan; the Committee to have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, and to report on Tuesday, September 17.

EXPLOSIVES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 27. Page 664.)

Mr. CORCORAN (Millicent): The second reading explanation sets out clearly the proposed amendments to the principal Act. In the main they concern the power of the Minister to acquire land to serve as a reserve for the storage of explosives. It is most necessary that the Minister have the power in this case so that he may control any activities that are likely to occur within an area where explosives may be stored. This is necessary in the interests of public safety.

I am surprised that the occasion has not arisen before when this acquisition has been necessary. Clause 5, which is unrelated to the arrangements concerning the acquisition of land, in fact gives more power to the Harbors Board regarding ships carrying explosives. Previously, any ship carrying more than the prescribed quantity of explosives (which according to the principal Act is 25 lb. of gunpowder or 5 lb. of explosives in other forms) was not allowed to enter port except to discharge explosives. The power now given to the board will allow it under certain conditions, as it thinks fit, to permit ships to enter port in order to shelter from adverse weather, to seek medical assistance for crew members, or for any other reason the board deems fit. I think

this is a necessary measure. I see nothing objectionable in the amendments contained in this Bill, therefore I have much pleasure in supporting it.

Bill read a second time and taken through Committee without amendment. Committee's report adopted.

AGED CITIZENS CLUBS (SUBSIDIES) BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 27. Page 664.)

Mr. McKEE (Port Pirie): I give my full support to this Bill. The only thing wrong with it is that it is many years too late. In 1959 when I first came into this House, I asked the Premier to provide financial assistance to the Age Pensioners League at Port Pirie to build a recreation centre, but he said that the Government could not subsidize this type of local recreation facility. This is an opportune time to introduce such a Bill, as no doubt the Government considers it has political value. When we were unable to obtain Government assistance we went ahead and erected a building by raising money locally. The pensioners did most of the work, and I commend those people who worked on the building, particularly Mrs. Benn, the then president, and Miss Schultz. They worked a concrete mixer and used a hammer, saw and paint brushes with the competence of tradesmen and I congratulate them on their fine effort. Today the senior citizens of Port Pirie have one of the finest recreation centres in the State and they can thank the Port Pirie people for that. The hall is fitted with all the facilities required for such a club. Since the completion of the centre, membership has doubled. The building of these clubs, where required, will brighten the lives of thousands of our senior citizens and help them fight loneliness. The provision of these clubs is the Government's obligation: they should not be regarded as charity. We owe these people much, as they helped develop Australia and many fought in two world wars. We owe them this assistance which will enable them to enjoy the evening of their lives.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER (Angas): I support the Bill, which empowers the Treasurer to pay up to £3,000 to any council, body or institute recommended by the council, to purchase land with or without buildings. However, the Treasurer must first satisfy himself that the land will be used exclusively for the purpose of a club for the physical and mental recreation of aged citizens; secondly, the

council will contribute a sum equal to the Government's contribution towards the cost of such buildings or land. I am mindful that some years ago South Australia was to the fore in subsidizing the building of houses for the aged, and this is a further advance in providing clubs for aged citizens. We are, in this case, somewhat behind other States with our efforts, and I applaud this belated measure. In Western Australia and Victoria clubs for aged citizens have been subsidized for some years. Nevertheless, the experience gained in the other States, in Great Britain, and in other countries, demonstrated that the provision of clubs for aged persons was one of the best ways to deal with the present problem of aged citizens.

I commend the Old People's Welfare Council of South Australia Incorporated, an organization that has done much (and is still doing much) to promote the welfare of aged citizens. The chairman of the council is Sir Stanton Hicks, who has been active in this organization for many years. In the promotion of the welfare of the aged citizens, this council has played an important part in the establishment of senior citizens clubs in this State, particularly in the metropolitan area. I understand that such clubs operate in Henley and Grange, Walkerville, Woodville, Beulah Park, Hindmarsh, West Torrens, Joslin, Norwood, and in other areas. It is laudable that there should be a growing enthusiasm by municipal councils to establish such clubs, particularly in recent years. As Sir Stanton Hicks said on one occasion, "the setting up of a club has been one of the most satisfying things we have done." He also said that the senior citizens represent the veterans of the living army that helped establish our present community. I heartily agree, and add that their industry, labour and the rates and taxes they paid in the past have been responsible, in no small measure, for the creation of so many flourishing districts and communities in this State enjoying at present amenities unknown several decades ago. Such clubs as these will prove a boon to our ageing citizens, allowing them to gather in congenial circumstances. Not only will members be able to enjoy the fellowship of persons in their own age group but, as a result of the establishment and maintenance of these clubs, their physical and mental health will improve greatly. This is apparent from statements by persons closely associated with existing clubs. I refer to a statement made by Mr. Strange (President of the Henley and Grange Senior Citizens Club)

who said that the club was a great boon to its members, and it has greatly benefited and improved the physical and mental health of many of them. Mr. Crisp (Secretary of the Walkerville Senior Citizens Club) has spoken of the great improvement in health of many members since they joined the club. Mr. Biddle (President of the Woodville Senior Citizens Club) spoke in the highest terms of the friendship and companionship members have enjoyed, and Mrs. Winter (President of the Beulah Park Elderly Citizens Club) referred to the great improvement in health of many members since joining the club. Mr. Phillips, spokesman for the West Torrens Senior Citizens Club (Cowandilla Branch), said it was a bright and enterprising club, like so many others in the State, and he considered that great benefit to members' health had been achieved through the companionship and happiness enjoyed there.

So, Mr. Speaker, it is undoubtedly true that those with experience with these clubs have received great benefits, including improvement in mental health. Because of this, we can be certain of the value of these clubs. This Government, by introducing this legislation, will make it possible to provide the means to improve the lives of our elderly citizens, who have played such an important part in the development of the State. I have much pleasure in supporting the Bill.

Mr. BYWATERS (Murray): I support the Bill and commend the Government for doing something worth while toward the State's progress. Mr. Teusner referred to the fact that other States have had a similar system for some time, and I know that it has been well-accepted there. Mr. McKee in his remarks referred to the occasion when he asked for such legislation to be introduced to assist Port Pirie and I am sure that he was echoing the sentiments of most honourable members. It will be of particular value in our larger country towns. The member for Angas referred to the work done by Sir Stanton Hicks. This gentleman has been a tower of strength in helping elderly people. Although no longer a young man, he has worked untiringly to bring about better conditions for elderly people and has been ably assisted by Mr. Cate, secretary of the South Australian organization. Its annual meeting will be held tonight. Much has been achieved by it in fostering the community effort of senior citizens.

Undoubtedly, we owe a debt to these people, as they are among the pioneers who have done so much not only for the State, but for

Australia. Because of this, many have had to suffer low wages and poor living standards. The present generation will never really appreciate some of the hardships they went through in the early days, including depressions. Many were several years without employment, at the same time trying to bring up a family on the dole. They had no chance to accumulate any wealth for their old age. Now, many have been placed in the position where at this stage of life they are enjoying some security under the social services scheme. They are at least able to enjoy the necessities of life.

These senior citizens clubs, formed throughout the State and in other States, have proved a godsend to them, because one of the tragedies of life is the loss of a lifelong partner. They may have been together in married life for 40 or 50 years and the time comes when only one is left; it is then that real loneliness sets in, because someone has been lost who cannot be replaced. At this time of life they are generally set in their ways and are not prepared to embark on new activities. With these clubs they can get together with others with similar interests, and thus have a common bond. People are much more able to enjoy life in a community rather than in a lonely state. I think that this venture of setting up clubs throughout the State has been worthwhile and has proved of undoubted benefit to those who are members.

In the last 12 months or so one of these clubs was established at Murray Bridge and it now has more than 100 members. Undoubtedly, they are now enjoying life because they are able to gather with people of their own age and with a similar outlook. At the moment the Murray Bridge club is using a public hall for its meetings, but with the assistance of the local council, which is sympathetic towards its aims, it will be able to build its own club rooms, which will enable its members to enjoy companionship. It is better for them to have this opportunity now rather than at some time in the future.

It will be of marked benefit for clubs to be able to get £3,000 from the Government and a similar sum from the council, to enable them to provide comfortable premises where the members may gather to enjoy a cup of tea, a chat, or a game of cards, or to look at television, which they cannot afford in their own homes. Members will have the opportunity, on a roster system, to look after premises set up by their council, and to go there at any time of the day most days of the week. I commend the

Government for introducing the Bill and trust that councils will avail themselves of the opportunity to wholeheartedly support the move which will be encouraged by this Bill. I support the second reading.

Mr. HUGHES (Walleroo): It is a great joy for me to be able to associate myself with the remarks of previous speakers and to congratulate the Government on its initiative in introducing this long overdue legislation. It was intimated that some time ago the Government was approached to permit the establishment of clubs for senior citizens. I realize that any Government has limited funds available for such ventures, but I am glad that South Australia is now able to allocate money for the purposes specified in the Bill. The first announcement regarding the financing of aged citizens clubs was made by the Premier in his telecast on May 1. I did not witness the telecast but I have been told that many viewers believed that all they had to do was to approach the Treasury for money to be made immediately available. I represent several elderly people who were overjoyed with the Premier's announcement. The *Advertiser* of May 2 reported that the Premier said that the Government had approved the preparation of a Bill to provide subsidies for the establishment of senior citizens clubs in South Australia because of the conspicuous success such clubs had enjoyed in other States. They had been favourably reported upon by South Australian medical authorities and he thought the time was opportune for their establishment here. Many doctors welcome this legislation with open arms because they believe that this boost to the social life of elderly people is conducive to good health. One doctor at Wallaroo, who is most interested in the welfare of elderly folk, has manifested his interest practically and recently he made a substantial donation to their welfare. He is loved by the elderly people at Wallaroo. He has frequently worked for them free of charge. He is to be commended and he is highly delighted with the proposal contained in this Bill.

I have attended several meetings of invalid and age pensioners. One of the things that this legislation will accomplish is to destroy the present segregation of elderly people. In most country districts and in many parts of the metropolitan area pensioners meet together, but other senior citizens—retired people—do not attend. When aged citizens clubs are established all senior citizens will be able to meet together to enjoy each other's company. Elderly people enjoy being together.

They sing songs, present items, and return to their homes happy.

Mr. Ryan: Do they tell stories?

Mr. HUGHES: Yes, but perhaps not of the type the honourable member is accustomed to telling.

Mr. Ryan: I do not like your insinuation.

Mr. HUGHES: I know the type of stories the honourable member tells because recently I accompanied him on a trip to the north of this State. I assure members that he has some good stories to tell. Incidentally, he also learned some good stories in the north. Each Christmas, parties are held for senior citizens in the towns of Wallaroo, Kadina and Moonta, to which all people over 60 years of age are invited. They respond in force because they enjoy meeting together. They talk over old times and re-live past experiences.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: They would be worth listening to at Moonta.

Mr. HUGHES: They are. I am pleased that it is intended to advance money for equipment as well as for club buildings, and that there is no hard and fast rule that the subsidy must come from a local council: it may come from a body approved by a council. I am aware of the good work done by Apex, Rotary and other organizations for elderly people, and this provision will enable more to be done for elderly people than has ever been done before. Last year an annual rally was held at Kadina, and 4,000 people met together in the Kadina square. It was one of the greatest gatherings that I have ever been privileged to address and be associated with. I was able to witness the great joy in the hearts of elderly people in being able to meet together. When this Bill is proclaimed it will allow people from all over the State to get together in their own individual clubs. The clubs will not be set up for just one section of the people, such as pensioners: all the senior citizens will be welcome. I am pleased that at last a measure such as this has been introduced, and I commend it to the House.

Mrs. STEELE (Burnside): Obviously, the introduction of this Bill has given pleasure to every member of this House. I am sure that we are all delighted that support is being given to the aged citizens in our community. This is obviously, too, something with which we are all fairly closely associated, because these clubs are established throughout the metropolitan area and in country districts. We have all had some experience personally in visiting these clubs and being associated with their members.

I have several such clubs in my area, and I am always delighted on the occasions I go there to see the zest for living that the members of these clubs show. I think one important thing with aged people, as it is perhaps with people who are handicapped, is that we should let them run their own clubs and provide their own entertainment, pleasures and occupations. When that is done the organizations are far more successful than those somebody else sets up and runs for them. That is the position with the aged citizens clubs that I have visited. In one club in my district the members last year organized a tour of the Eastern States; they chartered a bus and went off for three days; all the arrangements were made in Melbourne so that they could stay overnight at one of the hotels; and on their return they all told me most excitedly that they had had a wonderful time, that they were just longing for the next occasion, and that they were saving up their money to make another trip.

As we all know, local government bodies in most instances have been associated with these clubs from the beginning and have given them tremendous support. That is the position in all parts of the State, and I consider it is only right and proper that the Government should now also support this worthy movement by making a pound-for-pound subsidy possible. I have been very much interested in these clubs all the years—and I can say that now, almost—that I have been in Parliament. I have been in touch with Sir Stanton Hicks more than once and have spoken in this House more than once on this very subject. I have here a letter that I received from Sir Stanton in which he explained the work of the Old People's Welfare Council. This council is the co-ordinating body representing 48 charitable organizations, and its aim is the establishment of these elderly citizens clubs. In his letter he said:

The cost of the first three years of the Old People's Welfare Council was defrayed by the Adelaide Rotary Club, and since then that club, together with private supporters, has sustained the council's activities to date.

He was referring there to the discussions I have had with the Premier to see whether the Government would introduce a Bill to make possible what we are now seeing come to fruition. That body was then seeking a subsidy. Sir Stanton went on:

The council is not seeking and never has sought Government aid for its own activities. These activities are confined to locating concentrations of elderly citizens where the need for preventive social action is pressing, and to presenting the case to the local government

authority. Elderly citizens clubs are the basic solution sponsored by the Old People's Welfare Council which assists the municipalities by mobilizing local assistance from Apex and Rotary Clubs, Junior Red Cross, R.S.L., etc. The administrative cost of this is the salary of a part-time retired member of Legacy, together with printing, postage and stationery.

He went on to say:

Government aid is sought in the form of a subsidy of capital cost of clubs and of maintenance, within clearly defined financial limits. Such subsidy would go to municipalities, not to the Old People's Welfare Council.

I cannot help feeling that one of the most grateful people in the community—at present he is overseas—will be Sir Stanton Hicks, who has long been the driving force behind this organization. When he received word of the fact that the Government was now going to introduce a Bill for this purpose he would have been very delighted indeed. With those few remarks, I have very much pleasure in supporting this Bill.

Mr. LANGLEY (Unley): I readily support the Bill. In the district of Unley there are many men's clubs, including the Veterans' Club on Unley Road, the Jeannie Hackett Club in Parkside, and the Walter Hackett Club in Goodwood. Except on very special days, these clubs are used expressly by men folk. Recently there has been formed in the Unley district the Unley Elderly Citizens Club. This club, which has a large membership of both sexes, meets once a week. I know that that club will

grow and grow and that at some stage a new building will be required, and now that the club can expect help from the Government, that will be possible.

An elderly citizens club will be formed soon in the Goodwood area, where a small building is available at present. I am sure that the time will come when additions will be required to meet the needs of these elderly people. Having seen the functioning of these clubs I know the pleasure they afford; the people who attend enjoy very happy afternoons there, and this adds much to these people's days. The help given by the Government to any council to further the happiness of these people is very gratifying, and I am sure that those people and the councils will be delighted to hear that this legislation has been introduced. I agree with the member for Port Pirie (Mr. McKee) that this legislation is belated: many similar clubs could have been helped years ago. As many people in the future will benefit from this legislation, I have much pleasure in supporting it.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Clause 1 passed.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 4.10 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, September 3, at 2 p.m.