

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Thursday, October 31, 1963.

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

QUESTIONS.**TOWN PLANNING.**

Mr. FRANK WALSH: This morning's *Advertiser* contains a report of information given by the Premier in his appearance on television channel ADS 7 last night, which I did not see. The Premier is reported as having said that the State Government would seek wide regulation-making powers to put into effect the recommendations of the Town Planning Committee, and that the regulations would be subject to disallowance by Parliament if it did not agree with them. I doubt whether regulations, even though they are subject to disallowance by Parliament, are the solution of this complicated problem. Parliament has already passed the following resolution:

That in the opinion of this House the report of the Town Planning Committee should be an interim development plan and that provision should be made for the lodging and consideration of objections and the co-ordination of the work of the local governing bodies to give effect to the plan as revised from time to time.

As the Premier apparently is able to get opinions to suit most cases—and I am not being personal when I say that—will he reconsider this matter in the light of what Parliament has already adopted and, if necessary, seek an opinion from the Crown Solicitor on how the resolution passed by this Parliament can be implemented?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The resolution of this Parliament, which was initiated by the Leader—to which fact he will be pleased to hear I graciously drew attention in my telecast—was to the effect that the development plan should be regarded as an interim plan, that an opportunity should be given for the lodging of objections to it, and that it should be altered from time to time. When the resolution was before the House, I pointed out that it had no legal effect. What the resolution did, or proposed to do—and the Government accepted it as doing this—was generally endorse the principles of the plan, but it reserved the right to implement and change it from time to time. It did not accept the plan outright and, when speaking to it, I said that some portions of the plan applicable to areas outside the metropolitan

area were, in my opinion, made by the committee without full knowledge of the areas concerned. Obviously we cannot pass legislation to give effect to a proposal that changes from time to time. If Parliament incorporates the plan in legislation, it cannot be altered from time to time except by amending legislation. It is intended to give to a regulation-making authority power to make regulations dealing with a specific matter, and I think that is the only way this matter can be proceeded with. One honourable member—I think in another place, although it may have been in this House—asked when it would be known where a freeway would be situated, as people wanted to take action and they did not want to erect buildings until they knew where it would be. As soon as the route of a freeway was determined, a regulation could be made showing where it would be and, if the regulation were not disallowed by Parliament, that would become the route of the freeway. This procedure would be subject to control by Parliament and active steps could be taken, whereas at present everything is bogged down because no active steps can be taken: steps can be taken only by legislation. The proposal I mentioned is, in the opinion of the Government, the best approach to the matter.

I am not sure of the answer to one question that arises. Normally, regulations operate on the date of assent by the Governor in Executive Council. I think that in this case, except for perhaps one class of regulation, there would be no need for a regulation to come into effect until it had lain on the table of the House for 14 sitting days. Although regulations normally come into effect immediately, in this case, where the interests and rights of so many people are concerned, probably regulations should not operate immediately but should follow the procedure of a local government regulation, which does not operate until it has lain on the table of the House for 14 sitting days. Probably that will have to be included in the regulation; it is being examined. A matter that might arise on which there would appear to be some difficulty is that if in the interim period between sittings of the House a land speculator decided to subdivide and sell land which, in the opinion of the Town Planner and the local government authority, should be set aside as a recreation area, although a regulation could be made to come into force 14 days after the House commenced sitting, in the meantime the land could be sold and subdivided and perhaps the building of houses could be commenced on

it. I assure the Leader that the Government desires to have a proposal which is entirely in accord with the desires of local government authorities on the one hand and which gives expression to the wishes of Parliament on the other. There will be no dictatorial or autocratic approach to this matter, but rather an effort to solve what I believe is a difficult problem. I assure the honourable member that when the legislation is introduced members on both sides will consider it to be constructive, and at least a step in the right direction.

GORGE ROAD.

Mr. CUMBE: In his telecast last evening the Premier reported on the Gorge Road. Can he say what is causing the delay in this work, how long the delay will be, and whether any extra cost is involved? Will the contractor be recompensed for the extra work necessary?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Heavy cuttings have to be made for the road and, unexpectedly and contrary to geologists' opinions, much rock faulting was found extending a distance into the hills. That meant that instead of having an even-grade road, the grading of the road had to be altered. The grade now has to be raised to eliminate some deeper cuttings. Further, public benches have to be provided so that any landslide in wet weather will not endanger the public. The matter is being closely examined by the engineers and other officers of the Highways Department, who have recommended that the road level should be altered and that benches should be provided. Consequently, original work undertaken by the contractor has to be altered. The bench work becomes more complicated and involves a new approach by the contractor. I am pleased to say that the new contract has been arranged and has been submitted to the Auditor-General, who has agreed to it. It has been approved by Cabinet and will indemnify the contractor for the additional expense involved. Some delay will be caused in the roadmaking, but I am assured that the new time for completion of the road will not delay the completion of the reservoir. It will not involve the Engineer-in-Chief in any problem regarding the reservoir construction, although some delay will occur in the road construction. The additional expense is an important matter. I understand it will be about £149,000, so it is an unfortunate occurrence. On the other hand, the site for the reservoir is such a good one and the road is so important (apart from

its being a tourist attraction) that neither project can be abandoned, and the only alternative is to make the alterations suggested. I believe the project will go ahead now and the reservoir will be completed on time.

FRUIT CANNING.

Mr. BYWATERS: Yesterday I drew the Premier's attention to the situation relating to fruit canning and said that the Customs and Excise Department had taken stock of the fruit being held by various canneries. I said that legislation had been passed by the Commonwealth Parliament, but in fact I had in mind the tabling of a report by the Customs and Excise Department. I understand that the legislation was passed yesterday by both Commonwealth Houses. It came into operation yesterday morning, so what I said was substantially correct. Has the Premier a reply to my question, because people are concerned as to who will pay the levy on the previously ordered stocks held by canneries?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: When I answered the question I had not heard of the passing of the legislation. A report from the Prices Commissioner states:

Inquiry has disclosed that under legislation passed by the Commonwealth Government, excise duty became payable on canned apricots, peaches and pears and any canned mixed fruits containing at least 55 per cent apricots, peaches or pears commencing as from October 30, 1963.

The excise duty will apply to all stocks of these canned fruits held by canneries at the commencement of business on October 30, including any stocks ordered in advance but not delivered. If any canned fruit had been paid for by the buyer prior to October 30, but was still held by the cannery at that date, then provision exists for the canner to increase his price to the buyer by an amount equivalent to the duty.

The duty will also apply to all stocks manufactured by canners on and after October 30.

The rates of duty payable are:

| Weight of contents per can. | Duty per dozen cans. |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| | s. d. |
| Not exceeding 5oz. | 3 |
| Exceeding 5oz. but not exceeding 11oz. | 6 |
| Exceeding 11oz. but not exceeding 17oz. | 1 0 |
| Exceeding 17oz. but not exceeding 24oz. | 1 6 |
| Exceeding 24oz. | 2 0 |
| And in addition for each 14oz. or part of 14oz. by which the contents exceed 31oz.—10d. per dozen cans duty is payable. | |

Although the whole matter is still at an early stage, it is understood that in charging canned fruits, canners will show the appropriate amount of duty as an additional item

on invoices. The canneries concerned will be licensed by the Customs Department and will pay the duty to that department. It is understood that the duty has been imposed as a means of assisting in the stabilization of the fruit canning industry, which has been experiencing a difficult period for some time. It is also understood that the proceeds from the duty will be utilized to assist the industry with export sales and markets.

PENOLA REPEATER STATION.

Mr. HARDING: An article in *The Pennant* (the Penola local newspaper) headed "Repeater Station at Coonawarra", states:

Tenders have been called for the construction of a repeater station at Coonawarra for the P.M.G. Department. The station similar in design to 5PA radio station will measure 26ft. x 40ft. and will be constructed of Mount Gambier stone. Plans on view at the post office and the district council office show the station will consist of a power plant room, equipment room and workshop. No allowance has been made for living quarters.

I understand that tenders have been accepted and the building commenced. Will the Premier obtain a full report covering the following information: (a) Will this repeater station have its own generating plant or will electricity be supplied by the franchise holder of Penola and the local districts? (b) Will the franchise holder be responsible for the erection and maintenance of the proposed powerline from Penola to Coonawarra? (c) Will the line become the property of the present franchise holder or will it be built to a standard to cope with the future expansion of the Coonawarra, Glenroy and Comaun districts?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: This matter normally comes under the control of the Commonwealth postal authorities. I know that the postal authorities have been pleased to obtain electricity supplies from the Electricity Trust in other areas. Usually before a station of this type is constructed approaches are made to the Electricity Trust to see whether it is possible for a service to be provided. In the circumstances I will not take this up with the Postmaster-General who has, I understand, other preoccupations at present, but I will ascertain whether the Chairman of the Electricity Trust has been approached on the matter. I believe that the trust probably has some information on it, and, if it has, that information will probably suffice for the honourable member's purpose. If it does not, I shall approach the Postmaster-General.

"GRACIOUS LIVING" COURSES.

Mr. LAUCKE: An article in this morning's *Advertiser* about the proposed introduction of certain courses in Queensland schools states:

"Gracious living" courses for boys as well as girls are on the way in some Brisbane secondary schools. For many years denominational girls schools have provided lessons in deportment, etiquette and dancing, and in a few cases boys schools have provided dancing lessons. But, until this year, little has been done in the high schools in this field.

Now, at least one suburban high school is running a personality improvement course, as an extra-curricular item, for its girl students. It has been so successful that it will be offered to the boys as well in the next school year. The course, a series of lunch-hour lectures, is available in the final year.

Would the Minister of Education care to comment on this report, and does he contemplate any similar courses for our State schools?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: Unfortunately I did not read the article to which the honourable member has referred, but I am pleased to hear the good news of what is contemplated in Queensland. In fact, the South Australian Education Department is at present preparing what seems to be a similar course for use next year in selected high schools and technical high schools. I think it will do an immense amount of good. Perhaps I am speaking out of turn in saying this on the spur of the moment, but in my opinion a course such as this will do far more good for many boys and girls—perhaps the average boys and girls—than their struggling to attain proficiency in some of the highly academic subjects without much prospect of success. If I may say so, after a long and varied academic, professional and public career, I have known many clever, and even brilliant, men and women who have somehow failed to achieve their expected success in life because their dress has been careless, their appearance displeasing or their manners uncouth. I have known other people with a notable deficiency in natural gifts whose cultivated good manners and charming appearance have taken them further than their more gifted rivals. I believe that if this course can be extended to several of our high schools and technical high schools it will have a most beneficial effect in future.

SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES.

Mr. HUTCHENS: Following the resignation of the Supervisor of School Libraries several press reports from various people have alleged that advertisements for a person to fill the vacancy have appeared in other States but not in South Australia and that although properly qualified people are not difficult to obtain, the previous three resignations have proved that the work involved is too much for one person. Can the Minister of Education

say whether these allegations are factual and whether this position is likely to be filled soon?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: I have arranged a conference between the Public Service Commissioner, the Director of Education, the Principal Librarian of the Public Library and me for one day early next week. I do not think a day has been fixed, but the Public Service Commissioner has informed me that he is available almost every day next week. I hope that we shall be able to reach some finality on this vexed question that has caused me much worry for a long time. I think it is a problem capable of reasonably early and satisfactory solution.

GRAPE PRICES.

Mr. CURREN: The Premier's reply to my question yesterday about the Prices Commissioner's recommendations for wine grape prices was not satisfactory. I understand that the Premier has had consultations with the Prices Commissioner this morning. Has he any further information to add to yesterday's reply?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Yes. I am pleased to be able to announce that the first sentence of the Prices Commissioner's report is extremely accurate. His report states:

Your earlier reply as quoted to Mr. Curren above is quite accurate and in no way conflicts with the principle of the ability of winemakers to pay prices, in view of which no new principles are involved in recommending grape prices. The ability of winemakers to pay is a very broad statement and depends on many factors including:

1. level of profit earned each year by the industry and individual winemakers generally;
2. amount of the pay-out each year for the vintage and the ability to obtain the necessary finance from banking institutions;
3. storage difficulties in absorbing a large vintage and the cost of increasing storage facilities;
4. repercussions in subsequent years which an earlier large vintage may have on the industry;
5. the level of sales in the industry has a large bearing on the storage capacity and replacement requirements;
6. stocks of wine held determine to some extent the tonnage of grapes required both in total and in certain varieties;
7. the extent of price cutting on bulk wines, which is rife in the Eastern States, also tends to limit winemakers' ability to pay;
8. wine prices can only be increased if:
 - (a) volume of sales is not affected;
 - (b) increases do not lead to price cutting;

9. Increased costs incurred by the wine-maker besides those incurred on grapes—this year they include the marginal wage increase and the extra week's leave.

With regard to the guiding principles adopted in recommending wine grape prices, the Prices Commissioner's 1963 report, paragraph 7, which is headed "Effects of Size of Vintage on Prices" reads as follows:

Major factors taken into consideration in arriving at wine grape prices have been cost of production and the ability of the wine making industry to pay. However, the size of the vintage and its effect on the demand for wine grapes at the subsequent vintage together with the changing demand on some varieties are matters which call for close attention.

A number of copies of this report were supplied to wine grape grower organizations earlier in the year. The size of the vintage is one of the many factors which have a bearing on the ability of winemakers to pay prices. All of the factors concerned, including the size of the vintage, cannot be divorced from the ability to pay as they are interwoven, in view of which the principles adopted by the Prices Commissioner in recommending grape prices are basically the same from year to year.

BARLEY DELIVERIES.

Mr. HEASLIP: Last week I asked the Minister of Agriculture a question regarding the delivery of barley in bulk, particularly to the Port Pirie, Ardrossan and Wallaroo receipt centres. Has he a reply?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Chairman of the Australian Barley Board (Mr. A. G. Strickland) has submitted the following report, dated October 30:

At present there are no facilities at Port Pirie for receiving barley in bulk direct from growers. Today the board will be announcing that the following grades of barley will be received this season direct from growers in bulk:

1. At Ardrossan, No. 3 grade;
2. At Port Lincoln, No. 4 grade;
3. At Wallaroo, No. 4 grade.

The facilities at present will not allow for more than one grade of barley in bulk being received direct from growers, and have been so arranged to fit in with shipping arrangements at those ports.

Mr. HEASLIP: I thank the Minister for his reply. However, it appears from the answer given that no bulk barley will be received at the Port Pirie terminal, which is the most recently constructed and most modern in South Australia. Can he say why bulk deliveries, irrespective of grade, cannot be made there?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I shall have to refer the question to the Chairman of the Australian Barley Board. I will try to have an answer for the honourable member on the next day of sitting.

PORT PIRIE DEVELOPMENT.

Mr. McKEE: Last week the Premier, in reply to my question of last week regarding development at Port Pirie, said he would examine the position during the weekend and take some action this week. Can he report any progress in this matter?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I cannot go much further than I went last week. However, I sent the Under Treasurer to Canberra last Friday and he had some discussions with the Commonwealth Treasury officers as a result of which I have now submitted to the Prime Minister a new proposition based on those discussions. Whether it will be successful has yet to be seen. We have made a new approach, and I am not without some hope that it will be successful.

SOUTH-EAST ELECTRICITY
EXTENSIONS.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Last week I asked the Premier a question regarding electricity extensions from Keith to Naracoorte. Has he anything to report?

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

Country properties are supplied with electricity either by single wire earth return systems or by three-phase systems, but these local lines have only a limited range. It is necessary to have a larger transmission line available from which power may be taken to the various local systems. The particular transmission line referred to will primarily serve the Padthaway-Keppock area, but the trust is also considering whether it should be extended to supply power to Naracoorte or whether Naracoorte should be supplied from Mount Gambier. The trust is not yet in a position to say precisely when work on the transmission line can be started, but present indications are that it will be in about two years' time.

COCKBURN POWER SUPPLY.

Mr. CASEY. Some time ago I took up with the Premier the matter of supplying Cockburn in the north-east of the State with power from Broken Hill. Arrangements were made between the officers of the Electricity Trust and the Electricity Commission of Broken Hill and the figures for supplying a powerline to Cockburn were considered. Since that time the Commonwealth Government has announced that four micro-wave repeater stations will be erected on the north-east track between Peterborough and Broken Hill. I have already mentioned to the Premier the advisability of going ahead with this powerline from Broken

Hill to Cockburn, first, on account of the programmes of the Postmaster-General's Department and the Department of Works: they have to be assured of a supply of power to the micro-wave repeater stations within one month, otherwise they will have to call for tenders for their own plants. I understand the Premier has forwarded my information on to the Electricity Trust. It was more than a week ago that I called a meeting between the Commonwealth Department of Works, the P.M.G. and the South Australian Railways in order to get this work moving so that power could be supplied not only to Cockburn but also farther down the line to another micro-wave repeater station at McDonald's Hill, thereby supplying power to the small town of Olary. Unfortunately, the trust has not made any contact with Broken Hill. Will the Premier use his persuasive powers—which I know he has—with the trust to see if it could speed this work up? If a guarantee could be given that power could be made available to these micro-wave repeater stations before the end of November, the whole set-up in the north-east would be greatly improved to the great advantage of the people living in that area.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Yes.

TEAL FLAT.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: My question, which is directed to the Premier, concerns water storages on the River Murray. It is expected that the Chowilla dam, when completed, will have sufficient capacity to supply the State's requirements for some years, but it is not unreasonable to assume that it will be necessary to build additional storages on the River Murray in due course; a site at Teal Flat has been mooted. As this site could affect the Cadell irrigation settlement, which is in my district, will the Premier say whether plans are being made at present for a dam at Teal Flat?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The quantity of additional water that the State is assured of receiving under the proposals accepted by the House last night is much more than the honourable member has suggested in his question. I have never checked the figures precisely, but the Engineer-in-Chief informs me that the Chowilla dam will mean that South Australia can maintain, with adequate water, a population of 2,000,000 people and another 50,000 acres of intense irrigation areas. In other words, we can almost duplicate our present population and almost double our present irrigation areas on the River Murray. Obviously, this figure indicates that the

Chowilla dam will probably meet the requirements of this State for about 25 years, and I believe it will take at least 25 years to reach the type of development for which the dam will provide. Not only will the Chowilla dam be constructed as additional storage but, as members will remember from the schedule passed last night, the quantity of water to be provided to South Australia under the agreement in time of drought (which has always been a controlling factor) will be five-fifteenths of the available water instead of the three-thirteenths that has been available before. Not only is there to be more water, but our share of it in dry periods will be greatly increased. The answer to the question is that the Chowilla dam is of such size and will provide such a large quantity of additional water that no proposals are proceeding at present in relation to Teal Flat. However, I should be wrong if I gave the honourable member or the House the impression that the Chowilla dam would be the ultimate end of the necessity for water conservation in this State. Obviously it will not, and undoubtedly the Teal Flat project will go ahead; it will be necessary as this State develops. However, I think that is so far ahead that it will not worry present landholders. I go further and say that the proposal mentioned by the member for Onkaparinga (Mr. Shannon) last night, which has been considered by the Government on several occasions, will ultimately go ahead: steps will ultimately be taken to drain Lake Albert, to restore riparian rights to the present occupiers of the area by putting in channels on graded levels, and to supply them with water. A large area of land—not necessarily very fertile, but nevertheless profitable to use—can be reclaimed. The sealing-off of Lake Albert would save as much water from evaporation as we are at present using in the metropolitan area.

In order of priority, the Chowilla dam is undoubtedly the best proposal for this State: it is the biggest, and it gives not only an increased quantity of water but also an increased quota. The Teal Flat proposal would, I think, be ranked by the Engineer-in-Chief as the next important, not only because of its size but because of its location, it being in a position on the river that enables it to be used by areas downstream from Murray Bridge, including the reclaimed areas. However, I have no doubt that ultimately—perhaps in 40 years—the Lake Albert scheme will not only have many possibilities but be extremely attractive; but it is not necessary now, and there is no suggestion

that it will be constructed. Regarding the Teal Flat dam, steps will be taken to see that there is no alienation of land belonging to the Government that will be affected, and I have not the slightest doubt that in due course some other Parliament will be acting as we acted last night: approving of a major project there.

COFFIN BAY.

Mr. LOVEDAY: Will the Premier say whether the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited has decided to commence work on the deposits of sand at Coffin Bay with a view to using the lime contained in that sand? If it has, what arrangements are being made about the transport and shipment of the material; will extra employment result; and, if it will, will the Housing Trust build more houses at Port Lincoln?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I understand that the B.H.P. Company still has an interest in the area, that it has been inquiring, and that it has been considering the advisability of this step, but I believe that no firm decision has been made, although the company approached the Government on several occasions concerning various features. I believe that to a certain extent we are in direct competition with Portland, as the Victorian Government has been trying to sponsor a project there. One matter that is causing my Government and the Minister of Marine considerable concern is that under Victorian laws, the Victorian Government charges wharfage duties on all importations over the wharves into that State but does not charge wharfage on goods passing outward over the wharves. That system is designed to minimize competition from other States. I do not presume to say that the Victorian law goes so far as to infringe section 92 of the Commonwealth Constitution, but it means that anybody in Victoria can export to South Australia over the wharves free of wharfage, whereas anybody exporting goods from South Australia to Victoria has to pay double wharfage to get the goods into that State. Although that does not infringe section 92, it comes perilously close to doing so. Because of the free outward wharfage at Portland we have a problem as regards competitive operations in this State. I cannot take the matter further at present.

SERVICE STATIONS.

Mr. TAPPING: On October 8 I asked the Premier whether he had a report regarding the demolition of houses for service stations. I understand he has that report now.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I undertook to obtain the information about the oil companies' agreement which had been in operation for some years but which terminated when new companies operated, and in particular on the number of service outlets in the metropolitan area. The Prices Commissioner reports that the following are the number of retail petrol outlets or service stations that have been operating in the metropolitan area as at the following dates: June 30, 1959, 483; June 30, 1960, 514; June 30, 1961, 570; June 30, 1962, 589; June 30, 1963, 646. I do not have the number of additional motor car registrations during those years to see whether the ratio of cars to service stations has increased. If the honourable member is interested I shall obtain that information for the same dates. Obviously a considerable increase in car registrations has occurred, which would account for some increase in the number of service stations. I shall check to see what has been the ultimate effect.

AUTISTIC CHILDREN.

Mrs. STEELE: Recently, I received from the mother of an autistic child, a letter which makes sad reading. It states:

Autistic children are emotionally withdrawn children who are usually of normal intelligence, but, for one reason or another, have become withdrawn and can give the impression of being severely mentally retarded. In past times they were treated as mentally retarded children, and there are, I understand, a number of adult autistic children in Minda Home. The Education Department has helped to the extent of allowing some of these children to attend occupation centres where they are expected to fit into a group of mentally retarded children. The autistic children are more demanding, and need quite different treatment from that which the occupation centres can give them at present, if they are to make any improvement . . . However, the thing that causes me most concern and, I think, will concern all compassionate people, is the thought of the children who are neither in an occupation centre, Suneden, or Minda Home, but are living a backyard existence, having been excluded from other centres because of their seeming unmanageableness, when all that has been needed is correct training. I believe that this must be one of the few totally ignored groups of neglected children—for they are, and must be neglected, without trained help. This is one class of child that the most devoted parent cannot help.

The Education Department has pioneered classes for various categories of children suffering from physical and mental disabilities, and in this specialized field of education it has established a reputation and record of which we can all be proud. Will the Minister of

Education call for a report from the Senior Psychologist with a view to considering whether classes could be established to help these unfortunate children? I can supply the Minister with the letter and further particulars.

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: Yes, I shall be pleased to do so. The honourable member in concluding her question said that she could supply me with the letter. She could, I believe, supply me with her knowledge and assistance, because I think few people in South Australia have a greater knowledge of this subject than has the honourable member for Burnside. I shall be pleased to discuss the matter with the Chief Psychologist and other specialists in the department, and also with the honourable member.

FREE BUS PLAN.

Mr. FRED WALSH: I understand the Premier has a reply to the question I asked yesterday about the free bus plan sponsored by some city stores.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Crown Solicitor reports:

When I gave my opinion of September 5, 1963, I had not noticed the definition of "motor omnibus" in section 5 of the Municipal Tramways Trust Act. "Motor omnibus" is there defined as meaning "any motor vehicle . . . which plies for hire for the purpose of carrying passengers at separate and distinct fares for each passenger, and not in consideration of a lump sum paid for the use of the vehicle." Applying this definition to section 30 of the Act, it is clear that the buses used in connection with free bus services, on the system outlined in the minute of the General Manager of the trust dated September 25, 1963, would not be "motor omabuses" within the meaning of that section, and therefore the section would not operate to prevent the services being carried on.

Mr. Fred Walsh: I asked about insurance in my original question.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I will have that matter examined for the honourable member.

TRAFFIC PROSECUTIONS.

Mr. LAWN: On August 9 a driver was arrested on the Anzac Highway for travelling at 50 miles an hour and was fined £5 with £2 costs in the police court. One of the justices who heard the case said that he felt that the penalty was very light. Earlier this year a constituent of mine met with an accident in a collision between two cars near Gawler; his wife was killed and he sustained injuries requiring 47 stitches and was in the Gawler hospital for some time. A few days ago the other driver was prosecuted in the

court on two charges, driving without due care and not giving way to the vehicle on the right. Upon the driver's pleading guilty, I understand that the police withdrew the charge of driving without due care, and for the other offence he was fined £10 with £2 costs. If these cases are compared, there seems to be a grave anomaly in the law or in its administration. Has the Premier's attention been directed to this matter and has he a report concerning it?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: In anticipation of a question by the honourable member on this matter, I obtained a report yesterday. Evidently my secretary thought that the honourable member saw it and so removed it from my bag.

Mr. Lawn: I told you that I would ask the question today, as I had omitted to do so yesterday.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I do not think I have it with me now, but I will check in my papers. If I cannot find it I will see that it is available next Tuesday. However, I should say that it is normal for the police to lay two charges relating to the one offence. The member for Norwood would confirm this. If the first charge is dismissed on some technicality, the second is proceeded with. If the person is convicted on the first charge, which is usually the major charge, the minor charge is automatically withdrawn.

Mr. Lawn: On this occasion it was the reverse.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I am merely stating the normal procedure. I have noticed that sometimes more than two charges are laid for the one offence. If the first charge is not proven, the second charge is proceeded with. The less important charges are usually withdrawn if a conviction is secured on the first charge. I will get the docket for the honourable member. If he is not satisfied then, he can ask a further question and have the matter ventilated here.

PORT AUGUSTA GAOL.

Mr. RICHES: Can the Minister of Works say what progress has been made with the proposed rebuilding of the Port Augusta gaol and when the work is likely to commence?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: It has been suggested to me that the honourable member should not be unduly anxious about this matter because the gaol will be ready in ample time for his needs. However, I am not able to supply the information he seeks but I will bring it down next Tuesday.

RESERVE BANK BUILDING.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Yesterday when I asked a question about the type of material to be used in the Reserve Bank building the Premier suggested that I supply him with information regarding local materials and prices. I have received the following information from Tillet Masonry Limited:

Our company, Tillet Masonry Limited, a member of Concrete Industries (Australia) Limited, approximately two years ago, re-opened an existing white marble quarry at Angaston and have met with very little success in competing with Italian white marble, which is being used extensively throughout Australia in the facing of public and commercial buildings. Previously, before our company opened this quarry, Angaston marble was quarried in very small quantities mainly due to lack of capital, which thus meant an architect or builder had very little confidence in a large contract being carried out to schedule.

Firstly, before purchasing heavy quarry equipment and carrying out extensive site and over-burden expense, Tillet Masonry Limited already knowing of the vast amount of imported white marble being used through Australia, decided to have core holes bored at the quarry to determine quality and depth of marble. This was carried out by the Department of Mines and proved conclusively that enormous quantities and more important, that the stone formation was extremely large which of course is needed for dimension stone. Secondly, tests were carried out by the Department of Supply, comparing Italian white marble and Angaston white marble for durability properties. This test also proved conclusively that Angaston marble was superior to Italian white.

After receiving these reports our company have purchased heavy earth-moving equipment and also installed at the quarry a stiff leg derrick crane reported to be the largest of this type in South Australia. This quarry although not in full production yet, mainly because of further plant to be installed, is proceeding to quarry blocks for stock purpose. Copies of these two tests have been submitted to the Commonwealth Works Department architects and at this stage it does appear they intend to use Angaston white marble for facing certain sections of the new Reserve Bank, Adelaide.

Several other large buildings being erected through Australia are using imported white marble and our company has been given very little consideration to supply in local material. Several of these buildings are Commonwealth. Angaston marble can be supplied by our company to other stone companies in blocks or sawn slabs at a price considerably below that of Italian white marble. Besides operating the Angaston quarries our company also quarries a brownish granite named "Sienna" situated close to a country town, Sedan, approximately 80 miles north of Adelaide, also a black granite quarry situated at Black Hill, about 70 miles north of Adelaide.

It appears that some Angaston white marble will be used for facing certain sections of the

new Reserve Bank building. I should be pleased, in view of the further information supplied, if the Premier would investigate this matter with a view to having Angaston marble used in this building.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Yes, I shall be pleased to do so. I will advise the honourable member as soon as I have heard from Dr. Coombs.

FILM ADVERTISING.

Mrs. STEELE: From time to time questions are asked in this House about the standard of film advertising, and for a time following these questions the standard improves. However, in this week's press have appeared advertisements which are, to put it mildly, in very bad taste. Will the Premier ask the Chief Secretary to take up this matter with the film interests in this State to ensure that future advertisements are not so offensive to human dignity?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Yes. This matter has been causing the Chief Secretary and the Inspector of Places of Public Entertainment much concern. What the honourable member has said is correct: after complaints have been made the advertising for some weeks afterwards is in good taste and not offensive to anybody's sense of propriety, but gradually, as the warning wears off, the undesirable advertising starts to creep in again. I believe that probably we will eventually have to take legislative action in this matter to give the Government additional powers.

Mr. Hutchens: Didn't the Chief Inspector recently recommend that?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I do not remember seeing a recommendation of the Chief Inspector. The control goes further than, for instance, the control that has been authorized by this Parliament, I think under the Police Offences Act, regarding literature. In many instances the type of advertising referred to could not be regarded as obscene. Nevertheless, as the honourable member correctly put it, it is in extremely bad taste to say the least. It is not necessarily salacious advertising, but it can be undesirable for other reasons. That is one problem that arises. I will bring the honourable member's question to the notice of the Chief Secretary, and I am certain that Mr. Turner will take appropriate action immediately.

MOUNT GAMBIER CROSSING.

Mr. BURDON: I was informed that at about 7.15 yesterday morning the Bluebird train leaving Mount Gambier was involved in a rail accident with a motor car at the Commercial Street West crossing. Fortunately, the driver of the vehicle is expected to recover. This crossing has long been considered dangerous by Mount Gambier people. Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Railways to consider installing warning devices at this crossing?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I will refer the question to my colleague, the Minister of Railways, for a report.

GOODWOOD SUBWAY.

Mr. LANGLEY: During the winter the subway at Goodwood was often feet deep in water, and on several occasions police vehicles stood by to warn motorists of the need for caution while the waters were subsiding. Recently, water flowing from the bottom of the subway has caused holes to appear in the road. As this subway is important to buses and motors carrying people on their way to earn their livelihood, will the Minister ask his colleague, the Minister of Roads, to investigate the reason for this continuous flow of water and to see whether the position can be rectified soon?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I will ask my colleague, the Minister of Roads, for a report.

SPEAKER'S CASTING VOTES.

Mr. LAWN: In your reply to my question yesterday, Mr. Speaker, you said, concerning the *status quo* that there was not much difference in whether a Bill was defeated on the second or the third reading, because the *status quo* remained. Do I understand correctly that impartial Speakers maintain the *status quo* and that you intend in future to follow precedent in this regard?

The SPEAKER: Is the member for Adelaide reflecting on the Chair?

Mr. LAWN: That depends, of course, on your answer. I am seeking information.

The SPEAKER: Is the honourable member reflecting on the Chair?

Mr. LAWN: That depends on your reply, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member is out of order in reflecting on the Chair and on any rulings given from the Chair.

Mr. LAWN: I say you can just give any ruling you like.

MONASH AND GLOSSOP WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. CURREN: Some time ago I asked the Minister of Lands a question about the renewal of the water supply for the township of Monash. Has the Minister any information on that project and also on the Glossop town water supply?

The Hon. P. H. QUIRKE: Further to information supplied on October 22, I can now say that an estimate has been prepared by the engineers and I have approved an expenditure of £7,300 to enable the following works to be put in hand forthwith:

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| 1. Town of Monash. | £ |
| (a) Erection of 3,000-gall. squatter's tank on 30-ft. stand | 600 |
| (b) Installation of a 60-gall. per min. electric pump | 300 |
| (c) Replacing 60 chains of 6in. R.C. main with 6in. x 400ft. head asbestos cement main . . | 3,600 |
| (d) Installation of chlorination plant | 1,400 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 5,900 |
| 2. Town of Glossop. | |
| Installation of chlorination plant | 1,400 |
| | <hr/> |
| | £7,300 |

Until recently funds were not available for these works but, as some Loan funds previously allocated for other approved works will not be required this financial year, it is now possible to carry out the abovementioned projects.

PORT PIRIE WEST SCHOOL.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to a question I asked yesterday about a kerbing and drainage scheme for the Port Pirie West Primary School?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The licensed surveyor who was instructed by the department to draw the designs has completed his work and estimates, the department is checking them, and the submission will be coming to me for approval within a day or two, after which tenders will be called immediately.

POLICE ACTION.

Mr. LOVEDAY: In August, when speaking in the Address in Reply debate, the member for Norwood (Mr. Dunstan) referred to a complaint made to him by the parents of a youth on Eyre Peninsula. The honourable member gave the House full details and called for an investigation by the Government. As this matter affects constituents in my district,

I should like the honourable member to say whether the investigation has been carried out and what was the result.

The SPEAKER: Does the honourable member wish to reply?

Mr. DUNSTAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I have certain information that I think should be given to the House. When I raised this matter during the Address in Reply debate, I pointed out that evidence had been given in a preliminary inquiry in a case in which a lad had been charged with attempted carnal knowledge of a girl on Eyre Peninsula. The evidence disclosed that a detailed confession had been obtained from the youth and the girl, that this confession was completely disproved by medical evidence of the girl's condition, and that the allegation made in the evidence was that these confessions, which were false, had been obtained by having the youth and the girl questioned separately and by falsely making representations to the one that the other had confessed. I asked for an immediate investigation, and next day the Commissioner of Police announced that he would order an immediate investigation, but I have not heard from the Commissioner of Police what the results of his investigation were. However, I have heard from the parents of the youth and of the girl concerned, who came to see me here in some perturbation and who have now, together with certain other people, signed a series of statutory declarations, the contents of which I think I should inform the House about, as they affect this matter.

The SPEAKER: Order! Before the honourable member takes this matter further, I point out that this is rather a serious matter. If there are statutory declarations, I think the honourable member should have the leave of the House to make these statutory declarations known to the House. Does the honourable member seek leave?

Mr. DUNSTAN: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

Leave granted.

Mr. DUNSTAN: The father of the girl swears that, on a date subsequent to the matter of a charge against the boy and the girl being raised in this House, he was interviewed by Superintendent Lenton and Detective-Sergeant O'Malley at Whyalla. He said that they read over to him statements they said were obtained by police regarding the charge at Port Lincoln. His declaration continues:

I told them I knew nothing about the matter and that my daughter had not seen (the boy) to speak to after the charge had been laid. The officers stated to me that they wanted to remove the smear from the Police Force. They arranged to see my wife and daughter at my home that night.

The mother declares that, since the information was laid in this matter, she has spoken on many occasions to the girl, who has always denied any impropriety between her and the boy. The mother is satisfied that the girl told the truth. Her declaration continues:

After this matter had been raised in Parliament three police officers arranged to come to our home one evening. I believe their names to be Superintendent Lenton, Detective-Sergeant O'Malley and Policewoman Moffatt. They badgered (the girl) and me for some time saying that in fact—

The boy's name is then mentioned, but I will not give his name at this stage, although it will be available to members.

—had interfered with (the girl) and that she was telling lies. (The girl) insisted that she had told the truth in her evidence in the court. At one stage when (her) attention had wandered one of the police officers sprang a question at (her) about how many times (the boy) had interfered with her and she said "Twice". When it was repeated what had been asked she said she had not been listening and had not understood what was being asked and that in fact he had not interfered with her at all. The police officers then became angry and said that (she) was lying and that we would have trouble with her. The police officers asked me to sign a statement that the police at Port Lincoln had treated us well and another statement reflecting on Mr. Dunstan, M.P. I agreed to sign a statement that Policewoman Moffatt had treated us well but refused to sign a similar statement concerning Detective McEachern or to sign a statement concerning Mr. Dunstan. I received a further visit from police officers next morning, when I was again told that I would have trouble with (the girl). I object to the treatment by the police set forth above and I brought (the girl) to Adelaide to see Messrs. Loveday and Dunstan Ms.P. concerning the matter.

The statutory declaration of the girl is that she gave evidence at the preliminary hearing of an information, that her evidence was truthful, and that the boy had never had carnal knowledge of her and had not attempted to have it. Her declaration continues:

The reason for my statement to the police that he had done so was that I was told by the police that he had confessed to having carnal knowledge of me and I gave my statement to the police reading from the answers on what I understood to be a paper containing a statement he had made. Prior to my making that statement I denied that (he) had carnal knowledge of me and although that denial was true the police refused to believe me. After

this matter had been raised in Parliament three members of the Police Force came to my home one evening—two men and a woman. They all endeavoured to get me to change the evidence which I had given to the court. They said I was a bad girl and a liar and that my parents would have trouble with me in the future.

The boy concerned made a long declaration in which he stated that he was charged with having carnal knowledge of this girl but that he had not done so and that he had not attempted to do so. He then set forth in some detail his memory of his questioning by Detective McEachern at the Port Lincoln Police Station. From the way it is set forth some duress clearly was used against him. He refers to two assaults—not blatant assaults, but assaults nevertheless—and he was told that the girl had confessed. He said he was induced to make this statement and that practically all the details of the statement were put into his mouth by the detective. His statement continues:

After the report was made out I was shown or asked to read it and to my knowledge I didn't sign it. I asked the penalty for this thing and was assured in my particular case it would consist of a possible bond and a small to medium fine. He said that if I pleaded guilty to the charge (the girl's) name need not be entered into it which was one of the reasons for making such a foolish and stupid statement. The statement I made in the station was untrue and was induced by the means I have set forth above. Since this matter has been raised in Parliament I have been approached by police but have refused to speak with them.

The boy's father made a declaration that he objected to the way in which the lad had been dealt with by the police, that after the matter was raised in Parliament police approached him to interview him, and that he had refused to speak to them and had advised his son and another boy who had been at the police station at the time also to refuse to speak to them. His declaration continues:

After police had seen me I was told by (one of the boys) who was present at Port Lincoln Police Station on the night my son was arrested that he had been told by police to tell me that if I didn't stop any public objection about what had occurred "they would throw the book at me".

Peter McGowan made a declaration. It refers to the occasion when he was at Port Lincoln Police Station with the youth and this girl. His declaration continues:

After the police had finished questioning Ross Ives I was told to go into the office. I went in and sat down and Detective McEachern grabbed my hair and said he hated guys like me at that time of the morning.

While I was making my statement I was sworn at and hit across the side of the face several times and my lip started to bleed. Detective McEachern asked what I knew about the girl (referring to Margaret Anstey). I said I knew nothing about her, which was the truth. He again belted me across the face and swore at me and said I did know something about her.

Since this matter has been raised in Parliament I have been interviewed by police on several occasions. The officers concerned were Detective McEachern. I was asked to change the story set forth above by Detective McEachern. I refused to do so. I was told by Detective McEachern to tell Mr. Ives that if he did not stop this business they would throw the book at him and I did tell Mr. Ives.

The papers should be tabled and made public documents.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member can only table the reports by leave of the House.

Mr. DUNSTAN: I ask for leave.

The SPEAKER: That the honourable member have leave to table these documents?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: On the question of tabling the reports I have no objection, but I point out that if these declarations are tabled they become the property of the House and cannot be examined. I believe that if the honourable member made the documents available for printing in *Hansard* and available to the Government, they could be investigated, and probably that would serve his purpose much better. If they are tabled they become the property of the House and cannot be removed or examined.

Mr. DUNSTAN: I am prepared to comply with the Premier's suggestion, and ask leave for these documents to be incorporated in *Hansard* in full without my reading them.

The SPEAKER: That is rather an unusual procedure and, at the moment, I doubt whether it comes within the scope of Standing Orders and whether it is within the jurisdiction of the House to do what the Premier suggests. I am prepared to leave the decision in the hands of the House. I understand the honourable member is prepared to comply with the suggestion made by the Premier that rather than the reports being tabled they be made available to be incorporated in *Hansard*.

Mr. DUNSTAN: Yes.

The SPEAKER: Do you wish to proceed in that way?

Mr. DUNSTAN: Yes.

The SPEAKER: The decision is in the hands of the House. The question is that the honourable member have leave to incorporate the statutory declarations in *Hansard*.

Leave granted.

STATUTORY DECLARATIONS.

I, Miriam Caroline Anstey of 16 Rudall Avenue, Whyalla, home duties, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am the mother of Margaret Joy Anstey.

2. I gave evidence in the Whyalla Police Court on the hearing of the preliminary inquiry into an information against Edwin Ross Ives.

3. Since that information was laid I have on many occasions spoken to Margaret concerning this matter and she has always denied to me that there had been any impropriety between her and Edwin Ross Ives and I am satisfied she has told me the truth.

4. After this matter had been raised in Parliament three police officers arranged to come to our home one evening. I believe their names to be Superintendent Lenton, Detective Sergeant O'Malley and Policewoman Moffatt. They badgered Margaret and me for some time saying that in fact Ross Ives had interfered with Margaret and that she was telling lies. Margaret insisted that she had told the truth in her evidence in the court. At one stage when Margaret's attention had wandered one of the police officers sprang a question at Margaret about how many times Ross had interfered with her and she said "Twice". When it was repeated what had been asked she said she had not been listening and had not understood what was being asked and that in fact he had not interfered with her at all. The police officers then became angry and said that Margaret was lying and that we would have trouble with her.

5. The police officers asked me to sign a statement that the police at Port Lincoln had treated us well and another statement reflecting on Mr. Dunstan, M.P. I agreed to sign a statement that Policewoman Moffatt had treated us well but refused to sign a similar statement concerning Detective McEachern or to sign a statement concerning Mr. Dunstan.

6. I received a further visit from police officers next morning when I was again told that I would have trouble with Margaret.

7. I object to the treatment by the police set forth above and I brought Margaret to Adelaide to see Messrs. Loveday and Dunstan Ms.P. concerning the matter.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act, 1936.

(Sgd.) M. C. ANSTEY.

Declared and subscribed at Whyalla in the State of South Australia this 18th day of October, 1963 before me:

(Sgd.) F. R. FERRY, A Justice of the Peace in and for the State of South Australia.

I, Joseph Daniel Anstey of 16 Rudall Avenue, Whyalla, boilermaker assistant, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am the father of Margaret Joy Anstey and the husband of Miriam Caroline Anstey.

2. On a date subsequent to the matter of a charge against Edwin Ross Ives for attempted carnal knowledge of my daughter having been raised in Parliament, I was interviewed by Superintendent Lenton and Detective-Sergeant

O'Malley at Whyalla. They read over to me some statements they said were those obtained by police in respect of the charge at Port Lincoln. I told them I knew nothing about the matter and that my daughter had not seen Ross Ives to speak to after the charge had been laid. The officers stated to me that they wanted to remove the smear from the Police Force. They arranged to see my wife and daughter at my home that night.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act, 1936.

(Sgd.) J. D. ANSTEY.

Declared and subscribed at Whyalla in the State of South Australia this 18th day of October, 1963 before me:

(Sgd.) F. R. FERRY, A Justice of the Peace in and for the State of South Australia.

I, Margaret Joy Anstey, of 16 Rudall Avenue, Whyalla, Student do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I gave evidence at the preliminary hearing of an information against Edwin Ross Ives at the Police Court at Whyalla on the 5th day of June 1963 and that evidence was truthful.

2. Edwin Ross Ives has never had carnal knowledge of me nor has he attempted to do so.

3. The reason for my statement to the police that he had done so was that I was told by the police that he had confessed to having carnal knowledge of me and I gave my statement to the police reading from the answers on what I understood to be a paper containing a statement he had made. Prior to my making that statement I denied that Ross had carnal knowledge of me and although that denial was true the police refused to believe me.

4. After this matter had been raised in Parliament three members of the Police Force came to my home one evening—two men and a woman. They all endeavoured to get me to change the evidence which I had given to the court. They said I was a bad girl and a liar and that my parents would have trouble with me in the future.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act, 1936.

(Sgd.) M. J. ANSTEY.

Declared and subscribed at Whyalla in the State of South Australia this 18th day of October, 1963, before me:

(Sgd.) F. R. FERRY, A Justice of the Peace in and for the State of South Australia.

I Frederick Charles Ives of Cleve, Garage Proprietor, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am the father of Edwin Ross Ives.

2. I object strongly to the way in which police have dealt with my son concerning an allegation that he had carnal knowledge of Margaret Joy Anstey.

3. After this matter was raised in Parliament police approached me to interview me, but I refused to speak to them and I have advised my son and John Matthieson also to refuse to speak to them.

4. After police had seen me I was told by Peter McGowan, one of the boys who was present at Port Lincoln Police Station on the night my son was arrested that he had been told by police to tell me that if I didn't stop any public objection about what had occurred "they would throw the book at me".

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act, 1936.

(Sgd.) F. C. IVES.

Declared and subscribed at Cleve in the State of South Australia this 22nd day of October, 1963, before me:

(Sgd.) O. K. FAUSON, A Justice of the Peace in and for the State of South Australia.

I, Peter McGowan of Port Lincoln, Mechanic, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. On the occasion Edwin Ross Ives was charged with attempted carnal knowledge of Margaret Joy Anstey I was at Port Lincoln Police Station.

2. After the police had finished questioning Ross Ives I was told to go into the office. I went in and sat down and Detective McEachern grabbed my hair and said he hated guys like me at that time of the morning.

3. While I was making my statement I was sworn at and hit across the side of the face several times and my lip started to bleed. Detective McEachern asked what I knew about the girl (referring to Margaret Anstey). I said I knew nothing about her, which was the truth. He again belted me across the face and swore at me and said I did know something about her.

4. Since this matter has been raised in Parliament I have been interviewed by police on several occasions. The officers concerned were Detective McEachern.

5. I was asked to change the story set forth above by Detective McEachern. I refused to do so.

6. I was told by Detective McEachern to tell Mr. Ives that if he did not stop this business they would throw the book at him and I did tell Mr. Ives.

And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act, 1936.

(Sgd.) P. B. MCGOWAN.

Declared and subscribed at Cleve in the State of South Australia, this 19th day of October, 1963, before me:

(Sgd.) O. K. FAUSON, A Justice of the Peace in and for the State of South Australia.

Mr. DUNSTAN: I have a further matter to bring before the House in consequence of what I have just related. I move:

That Standing Orders be so far suspended as to enable me to move forthwith: That in

the opinion of this House a commission of inquiry should be appointed to inquire into the action of Detective McEachern and other police officers relating to the matter mentioned in certain statutory declarations of Miriam Caroline Anstey, Joseph Daniel Anstey, Margaret Joy Anstey, Edwin Ross Ives, Frederick Charles Ives and Peter McGowan.

The SPEAKER: The question is that the motion to suspend Standing Orders to enable the honourable member to move a motion without notice be agreed to.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I do not support the motion. In the first place, the statutory declarations have been presented to the House now, and honourable members have not had an opportunity to study them. Secondly, I have heard that certain legal proceedings are pending in this matter, and if the matter is to be decided in a court, obviously the court should not be hampered in considering certain matters by an inquiry taking place in this House at the same time. If the honourable member cares to give notice of moving this motion on Tuesday next, I shall, by that time, have been able to check on the allegations he is making against the police, will have had an opportunity to hear the other side of the case and will be able to present it. I will also see whether legal proceedings are pending, and I promise that the House can use Government time to consider this matter. I do not want to put off consideration of it by the House, and I do not wish honourable members' private time to be monopolized by it. If the honourable member gives notice for Tuesday next I will provide for a couple of hours so that the House may consider whether a committee should be appointed. If legal proceedings are pending, then this should be dealt with according to law in the usual way. Under the circumstances, I suggest that the honourable member give notice of his motion for Tuesday next rather than suspend Standing Orders, which could only mean that he would put a case and the Government would ask for an adjournment in any event.

The SPEAKER: The question before the Chair is the motion that Standing Orders be suspended to enable the honourable member to move a motion without notice.

Mr. DUNSTAN: Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER: The honourable member cannot speak.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition cannot speak to this motion. There being an objection to the honourable member's having a suspension of Standing Orders, the House must divide.

The division bells having rung:

The SPEAKER: The member for Norwood has sought leave to suspend Standing Orders to enable him to move a motion without notice. The question before the Chair is that Standing Orders be so suspended. The Ayes will pass to the right of the Chair and the Noes to the left. I appoint the member for Norwood teller for the Ayes and the Treasurer teller for the Noes.

Mr. DUNSTAN: Mr. Speaker, I want to vote "No".

The SPEAKER: Standing Orders provide that once a motion to suspend Standing Orders has been moved and seconded, if any objection is raised the House must immediately divide. There can be no discussion once an objection has been raised. That is the position under Standing Orders: a division must be called. However, I will give the honourable member the opportunity to inform me whether he wants to avoid the division.

Mr. DUNSTAN: Mr. Speaker, I ask that the division be called off.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member is in order in so requesting. A division can be called off, but only in circumstances such as have arisen. The question is that the honourable member have leave to withdraw the division call.

Leave granted.

Mr. DUNSTAN: I appreciate the opportunity that has been given to me by the Premier and the promise he has made. I therefore give notice that on Tuesday I shall move the motion that is now in your hands, Mr. Speaker.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL (POLES AND RATES).

Returned from the Legislative Council with amendments.

RAMCO HEIGHTS IRRIGATION AREA BILL.

The Hon. P. H. QUIRKE (Minister of Irrigation) moved:

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the following resolution: That it is desirable to introduce a Bill for an Act to provide for the establishment of a private irrigation area called the Ramco Heights irrigation area near Ramco on the River Murray and for other purposes.

Motion carried.

Resolution agreed to in Committee and adopted by the House. Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Hon. P. H. QUIRKE: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Its general purpose is to facilitate the establishment of a private irrigation area (to be called the Ramco Heights irrigation area) near Ramco on the River Murray. A newly-formed company, Ramco Heights Proprietary Limited, which will be the board of management of the new area, has drawn the Government's attention to the long and complex legal procedure necessary to establish private irrigation areas and, in particular, to enable the land which will be comprised therein to be surrendered by the present lessees and vested in the company by way of land grant. The company has requested that a special Act be passed providing for a more expeditious procedure. The Government has agreed to this request and this Bill is introduced accordingly. With irrigation areas time is of great value, and this more expeditious method has been devised so that the land can be cleared and prepared sufficiently early for planting next year. The land which will be comprised in the private irrigation area is at present held under Crown leases. (Particulars of the lessees and the leasehold land which, for the most part, is in the Waikerie irrigation area are set out in the schedule to the Bill.)

Clause 2 deals with interpretation and clause 3 is designed to ensure that the privileges conferred on the company will relate only to legal form and procedure as distinct from exemptions from substantive law. The principal provision is in clause 4, which facilitates the issue of certificates of title in the name of the company for the land concerned, without following the lengthy procedure required under the existing law.

The steps that would be necessary to convert the leases to land grants in the normal manner (the Minister of Lands having already given his approval) are:

- (a) transfer of the leases to the company;
- (b) issue of a miscellaneous lease to the company;
- (c) surrender of the miscellaneous lease followed by an agreement for sale and purchase;
- (d) exchange of the agreement for a Treasury receipt;
- (e) exchange of the Treasury receipt for a land grant.

The minimum total time estimated for these steps is 12 months. With the utmost dispatch, the time could possibly be reduced to eight months, but there is no way by which the time could be further reduced.

The Bill obviates the foregoing procedure and replaces it with a simple and expeditious

procedure under which the Registrar-General may take the last step (issue of the land grant) at once, if he is satisfied as to the discharge of encumbrances, questions of survey and other matters specified in clause 4 (4). That subclause empowers the Land Board to determine the purchase price payable to the Crown by way of compensation for its loss of ownership. Upon the issue of a certificate of title, where applicable, the land is excised from the Government irrigation area (subclause (5)). Where part only of land comprised in a lease is vested in the company, the Land Board and the Minister concerned are empowered (clause 5) to make appropriate adjustments and alterations to the lease. Clause 6 provides that, upon the issue of a certificate of title, the land therein is immediately constituted as a private irrigation area under the Irrigation on Private Property Act. This avoids the necessity of following the normal procedure under the Act, which is regarded as difficult to apply where many owners are involved.

Clause 7 enables the private irrigation area to be combined with the adjacent Golden Heights irrigation area as a single irrigation area upon petition by the two boards of management. This will make for the more efficient administration thereof. In the case of the Golden Heights irrigation area, it was necessary for the Minister to take encumbrances from owners to protect the Government's interests in the event of drainage or seepage of waters to the adjacent Government irrigation area. Clause 8 obviates the necessity of this by providing that the board administering the combined area shall be required to undertake such drainage works as the Minister may require, and that, upon failure to do so, the Minister may undertake the work and recover the cost thereof from the board.

Under clause 9 the board may lay pipes under roads to further its irrigation scheme, without restriction in the case of land within its irrigation area or, in the case of land outside that area, subject to any conditions thought fit by the Commissioner of Highways or the district council district of Waikerie, as the case may require. In accordance with Joint Standing Orders the Bill should be referred to a Select Committee for investigation and report.

Mr. CURREN (Chaffey): I support the second reading. As stated by the Minister, it is necessary that the Bill be referred to a

Select Committee, and that being so I will reserve my comments for the committee.

Bill read a second time and referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. P. H. Quirke, Messrs. Casey, Curren and Nankivell, and the Hon. B. H. Teusner; the committee to have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, and to report on November 12.

RIVER MURRAY WATERS AGREEMENT SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from October 29. Page 1288.)

Mr. FRANK WALSH (Leader of the Opposition): This is a Bill for an Act to ratify and approve an agreement entered into between the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth and the Premiers of the States of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia regarding the waters of the Darling River stored at Menindee in New South Wales. I have perused the schedule containing the signatures, the first being that of the Right Hon. Robert G. Menzies—

Mr. Millhouse: That is a good signature.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Then follows the signature of the Premier of New South Wales (Robert J. Heffron).

Mr. Millhouse: That is not quite so good.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Then follow the signatures of Henry E. Bolte and T. Playford. It is provided that the agreement is subject to ratification by the Parliaments of the Commonwealth of Australia and of the States of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, and that it shall come into effect when so ratified. This Bill is important to this State, particularly as it is complementary to the Bill passed yesterday concerning the construction of the Chowilla dam. I support the second reading and trust that the Bill will pass through its remaining stages without delay.

Bill read a second time and taken through its remaining stages.

LICENSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from October 30. Page 1379.)

Mr. FRANK WALSH (Leader of the Opposition): As this Bill has not been printed, I ask leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

HECTORVILLE CHILDREN'S HOME.

Consideration in Committee of Legislative Council's resolution.

(Continued from October 29. Page 1297.)

(For wording of resolution, see page 557).

Mr. FRANK WALSH (Leader of the Opposition): This resolution, which comes from another place, needs the approval of this House. Its main purpose is to make greater provision for certain children to be accommodated in a home to be erected at Hectorville. The most important feature of the matter is the cost of the land. The Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department has already offered £6,000 for less than two acres of land to have a sufficient area on which to build the home, but the owner is asking for £15,000, which seems out of all proportion. This resolution will at least give the department the right to negotiate further and, if necessary, acquire the land.

Although I am sure all members consider it is desirable to acquire this land, I think most were somewhat shocked at a report that appeared in the paper yesterday of a report issued by the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department. This shows that, because of the lack of parental control, some young girls were involved in prostitution during 1962-63. People outside the department must be concerned about this matter. The report states:

Although many children, particularly girls, are committed to institutions following sexual misconduct, the majority have very little real knowledge of sexual matters.

Parents have an obligation to their children, and I am concerned about how far they are endeavouring to guide those children; it is the responsibility of every parent to guide the children. Apart from this, however, many teenagers should exercise a little self-discipline in relation to their morals. Much publicity is given to the bad behaviour of teenagers but, when they do something in the interests of the community or achieve something in secondary education, that is hardly mentioned. I think much could be achieved by the exercise of self-discipline amongst people in this age-group. A Supreme Court judge has made certain statements, which I believe he had good reason to make. In explaining the new establishment, the Minister said:

This will replace the present Glandore Children's Home, the buildings of which will then be used for boys intermediate in type between those who are neglected and those who need reformatory training.

At Glandore are three types of children—those who are committed as a result of misdemeanours, such as not attending school; neglected children; and those whose health has been affected, although they are not physically disabled. This institution has always been used to some extent as a type of remand home for lads who have been committed to the custody and control of the Children's Welfare Department and who, at times, come from country areas for dental treatment and for other reasons. Building activity has commenced on the land at the Glandore home. The new building will be used as a remand home for males and females and as a type of security block under the complete control and administration of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department. Other parts of it will care for some of the cases I have already mentioned, and not necessarily those that need to be accommodated at Magill. The Hectorville home will help house those who have made mistakes, or who need further discipline and tutoring to become useful citizens.

I am concerned that increasing numbers need attention in these places. The Chairman of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board stated that, in 1962-63, 955 children were placed under official control—an increase of 10 per cent on the previous year. As the population grows we can expect an increase, but 10 per cent is disturbing. The increase will be cumulative and the 10 per cent will grow quickly, so that an increasing number of children will have to be taken care of. If parents have been unable to provide for their domestic requirements and the children have become a secondary consideration, this is a blot on our way of living. Perhaps it is not much good offering advice, but we should be willing to accept our responsibilities. If the basic wage does not provide enough for a married couple with children then the wealth of this country should be better distributed, so that the mother can remain at home and take care of the normal domestic needs and tutoring of the children from their infancy until they reach an age of understanding. It is not a happy picture. I believe that the children of this country are worth a greater effort to ensure that they receive the care and attention that is their right. Perhaps the answer is that there should be more parental control of children. Many married couples desire a family but are denied the blessing of children. They would happily accept the responsibility of parenthood. When are we going to realize that we

should encourage parents to accept the responsibility for the care and attention of their children? Many suburbs are short of playing fields and open spaces where children can enjoy themselves. These play areas enable children to play and mix with other children, but the advantages of doing this are denied many children because of the lack of open spaces. Some people will always make mistakes however good they try to be, but perhaps it is a fault of our social system that we do not provide a family with an income that will allow the mother to remain at home and take care of the children. Something should be done to encourage a standard of sanity and thus help these children who do not have sufficient discipline and who cannot control themselves. I support the resolution because, unfortunately, it is necessary to have land upon which to erect more buildings to house these unfortunate children. I hope that we shall soon reach the stage where we will have more buildings than will be needed within the next five years.

Mrs. STEELE (Burnside): I support the resolution and commend the motives behind the Government's desire to have the power to acquire land for the purpose of establishing a home for neglected boys on a site within the boundaries of my district. With a greater population, the number of children who come under the care of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department is increasing, though it is sad to reflect that this home is necessary for the purpose for which it is to be established. The type of home envisaged is ample justification for the new concept of child care that was initiated a few years ago by the department: cottage homes where small groups of either girls or boys were cared for by cottage mothers. The land the Government desires to acquire will be used for building a home for this specific purpose. Hitherto the department has purchased and converted old homes at Glenelg, St. Peters and North Adelaide. Now, however, the department has built a home of several cottages with a cottage mother in charge. When this scheme was first mooted concern was expressed that, in obtaining the right type of person to act as a cottage mother, demands would be made that would not be made were the person employed by a private organization. However, this doubt has not been borne out. When I asked the Chairman of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board about the difficulty of obtaining staff he informed me that the department experienced no difficulty, and that the staff

was employed on the basis that in an emergency they would be on duty for 24 hours of the day. The staff is eligible for three days off each fortnight. More than one cottage mother is employed so that the staff can be off duty at various times during the day.

One reason for procuring this additional land is to enable sufficient space to be provided. I understand that the Government already holds 8½ acres and that this block will bring the total area to 10 acres. When I heard the price that was being asked for this land I inquired locally to ascertain the current value of land, and discovered that it was between £3,000 and £3,500 an acre. If my arithmetic is correct, 1½ acres at the maximum price of £3,500 would cost £4,900. I believe that in offering £6,000 for this small block the Government has been most generous. It is beyond my comprehension how the owners could ask for £15,000.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: They worked on the basis that there was no harm in asking.

Mrs. STEELE: Apparently. It was interesting to notice in the 1962 report of the Children's Welfare Board reference in one place to the establishment of this home at Hectorville and, in another place, to a new home at Newland Park. I know this site, and it is not in Hectorville. If members are conversant with last year's telethon appeal they will know the location of the "House of Hope" on Montacute Road. This home is opposite that house, and it is certainly not in Hectorville, which is in another part of the Campbelltown municipality and some distance from the site that the Government seeks to purchase. It may be that Newland Park was the name given to this property by the previous owners, but to my knowledge Newland Park is in the central part of Burnside. Obviously there is some confusion about the location of this home, so to set the records straight and to save the Government from an embarrassing situation when the actual sale proceeds, I move:

In the resolution to strike out "at Hectorville" and insert in lieu thereof "on section 2054, hundred of Adelaide, county of Adelaide and adjacent areas".

Amendment carried; resolution as amended agreed to.

RURAL ADVANCES GUARANTEE BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from October 24. Page 1252.)

Mr. FRANK WALSH (Leader of the Opposition): I have examined the Bill and the report dealing with this very simple

measure giving the Treasurer power to guarantee the repayment of loans obtained by an approved primary producer from a lending institution, and I consider clause 3 to be the most important for it lays down the detailed terms and conditions under which the Treasurer may grant a guarantee. Included is the provision that there must be a certificate from the Land Board that the amount being paid for the land is not greater than the productive capacity of the land and that the borrower has the ability and experience to conduct the business. Further, the advance must not exceed 85 per cent of the value of the land.

It is appropriate that the Land Board should certify that an appropriate price is being paid for the land and that the person concerned is sufficiently experienced to conduct the business. I must admit that I am more concerned with the incoming occupier than with the outgoing occupier, and I favour the adoption of the Land Board's valuation. A reasonable safeguard is provided. The Director of Agriculture or some other responsible person nominated by the Minister of Agriculture must also report that the land is adequate to maintain the applicant and his family, and the Parliamentary Committee on Land Settlement must recommend the guarantee. We have some competent persons on that committee, and I doubt whether the Treasurer would refuse anything that that committee recommended. The terms and conditions of the bank loan must be to the satisfaction of the Treasurer.

The Treasurer's name appears in this measure so often that there is room for hardly anything else. However, we can put up with it on this occasion. The Treasurer has told us the story of the time he was flying over America. He came back from that trip full of enthusiasm, and I hope that enthusiasm will still prevail and that we will see more settlers on the land. If the owners of some of the very good land in large estates in good rainfall areas made some available for settlement it would offer much greater inducement to people to go on the land.

Mr. Shannon: What is the clause that excludes that land? Is this just one of your airy-fairies?

Mr. FRANK WALSH: I believe there is much good land in high rainfall areas that could come within the ambit of this legislation if the owners would make it available.

Mr. Heaslip: This Bill does not set out to do that.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: Perhaps the member for Rocky River will tell the House all about it later on. I am telling the House what I think. I am concerned about a fair deal for people.

Mr. Heaslip: This Bill has nothing to do with the acquisition of land.

Mr. FRANK WALSH: I never said it did. I maintain that much valuable land in good rainfall areas is not being used today as it should be and that it would lend itself to closer settlement. If some of that land were available the Land Board probably would be only too pleased to value it and settle people on it. It can be seen that, before a person obtains a guarantee, his application must satisfy very stringent requirements of the Treasurer, and there is no certainty that primary producers will be able to obtain guarantees under this legislation very easily.

In my view, there is already legislation on the Statute Book which could have been used by the Government to make these worthy guarantees in the past if it had so desired. For instance, there is the Land Settlement Act (which empowers the Land Settlement Committee to make investigations and recommendations), the Loans to Producers Act and the Advances to Settlers Act (which empower the State Bank to make advances to primary producers under certain terms and conditions), and the Industries Development Act, which empowers the Treasurer to guarantee the loans of persons engaged in industry. Therefore, I believe the Government already has the power to guarantee advances. Under this Bill the Treasurer may make guarantees and, of course, the converse applies that he may not be prepared to make guarantees. However, if this Bill was instrumental in only one primary producer being assisted in his establishment, my support for the second reading would be achieved, because Labor policy is quite definite that adequate assistance should be given to all primary producers.

Mr. NANKIVELL (Albert): I commend the Government for bringing in this Bill. At the outset, I should like to reply to the comments of the Leader of the Opposition. He referred to the Advances to Settlers Act and the Loans to Producers Act as being means whereby the Government could have made finance available for such a proposition as land purchase. I point out that although it can be done in both those instances the Government has to find the money out of Loan money or, in the case of the Loans to Producers Act, by authorizing the State Bank to borrow money

under semi-governmental borrowing. The intention of this Bill is to guarantee any bank or any person defined in the definition of "bank" in clause 2. That definition states:

Any other person or body, whether incorporated or not, approved by the Treasurer as an authorized lender for the purposes of this Act, either generally or in any particular case, on the recommendation of the committee.

In other words, it can be the State Bank, the Savings Bank or any other body coming within that definition. It could be even a private individual who was willing to lend money under the terms of clause 3 (2) (f) (i). Therefore, the Government is not required to do any more than guarantee the loan. The provisions of this Bill fill a long-evident gap in the field of farm finance. For many years, as you, Mr. Speaker, are aware, it has been virtually impossible to borrow adequate money for the purchase of a farm property. The State Bank has functioned to a limited degree. So far as I know, that bank has not refused any acceptable applicant, provided he could find the additional money required over and above the 60 per cent of the bank's valuation that it was prepared to advance.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: The State Bank has been restricted in its lending by the sum it can allocate to this form of advance.

Mr. NANKIVELL: That is so. The South Australian Savings Bank has also lent money for the purchase of farms. Both of these instrumentalities lend on a 25-year or 30-year term. Other institutions lend money, but mostly it is on short terms that are not acceptable, whereas the State Bank and the South Australian Savings Bank are prepared to lend on long terms. The State Bank has the restriction I mentioned, and the Savings Bank has the added restriction that it is prepared to lend only £10,000 on any land.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: What about the Commonwealth Development Bank of Australia?

Mr. NANKIVELL: Until recently it has lent money only for the development of properties. A change of policy in the last six or eight months has enabled that bank to advance money for the purchase of undeveloped or semi-developed land; in other words, it can provide capital for purchase as well as development. However, here we find some restrictions that prevent the ordinary person from borrowing money—namely, the terms and conditions upon which money can be borrowed from that bank. It charges 6½ per cent interest, it wants half-yearly payments, and it will not give any longer than a 20-year term, except under extraordinary conditions; most loans are

restricted to 15 years. The capital and interest payments, especially in the first two or three years, make it virtually impossible for a young person to take advantage of a loan. The money is there mainly for people who are well established and who, in many instances, are well able to help themselves.

The Bill contains several provisions; the Leader has drawn attention to some. It deals with the functions of the Land Settlement Committee and, although I do not complain about these, they are fairly limited. This committee has three functions. The first is that of recommending other banks. The banks referred to are the State Bank and the South Australian Savings Bank, but other bodies, instrumentalities or corporate bodies can be recommended as bankers. The second is a machinery provision that the committee is to approve on behalf of Parliament the recommendation of an applicant to the Treasurer for a guarantee. Thirdly, where the Land Board recommends a deferment of interest for more than two years or of capital payments for more than three years, the matter is referred to the committee for report and recommendation. As I see it, these are the three functions of the committee set out in the Bill.

The Bill sets out to protect the lender in every way. The lender is guaranteed 100 per cent; he is even guaranteed for any costs incurred in collecting outstanding loans, interest, or any other expenses. Therefore, there is some inducement for people to take advantage of this Bill to lend on farm purchases. The chief stumbling block, as pointed out by the Leader and by other people, is the problem of land valuation. The Bill sets out the procedure, but not clearly. I think the procedure will be that first the applicant, having a property in mind, will go to a bank and will ask for assistance to purchase the property. The bank will look at his application and give him a form (which I assume will be set out in the regulations). The form will then be submitted to the Treasurer, who will refer the matter to the Land Board, first for a valuation certificate and a report on the land, and then for a report on the suitability of the applicant. The next move will be for the property to be referred to the Agriculture Department for report, and the function of the department will be to report on whether the land is or will be adequate to maintain the applicant and his family after all the reasonable costs and expenses in connection with the conduct of the farm and the repayment of the loan and interest thereon have been met.

I think there is some need for an amendment to be made to this Bill. I suggest that consideration be given to allowing a panel of valuers that could be recommended by the South Australian Branch of the Commonwealth Institute of Valuers to have properties referred to it in cases of dispute, because I can see that many valuations will be turned down. The first deferment will mean that the application will be turned down at that point. If there were some recourse to an outside valuer, that valuer's report could be considered by the committee when considering other reports submitted by the Land Board and the Agriculture Department. After all, I think the crux of the matter hinges on whether or not in the view of the Agriculture Department the land is adequate to maintain the applicant and his family and whether he is able to meet the costs incurred in the conduct of the business and the repayments of loan and interest thereon. I think that, if the Agriculture Department on due consideration considered that the farmer was still able to meet these requirements, that could be considered by the committee in making its recommendations.

No provision is made for provisional finance, as is done in relation to the purchase of a house. A man might find a farm to purchase and apply, and the bank might say that it could not accept his application because it had no funds available to assist him to purchase the farm. Provision could be made for him to obtain private finance or an overdraft as bridging finance until money was available from the bank, as is done in relation to the purchase of houses. Also, in the purchase of a house, people are able to pay over and above the valuation if they wish. In other words, if by some private means they can arrange finance over and above the valuation, they are not prevented from purchasing a house under any of the house purchase agreements that I know of. I believe that this is another provision that could be considered, as it may assist in cases where there is a deadlock over the valuation, with a small amount involved, where the person may be able to borrow privately or obtain it by other means. I believe that consideration should be given in such cases and the applicant should not be debarred merely because the initial valuation does not come within the valuation placed on the property by the Land Board. I shall reserve further comment on this Bill until it reaches Committee.

Mr. LOVEDAY secured the adjournment of the debate.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT AMENDMENT
BILL (GENERAL).

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT AMEND-
MENT BILL.

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

LAND SETTLEMENT ACT AMENDMENT
BILL.

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 4.55 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, November 5, at 2 p.m.