

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Tuesday, August 11, 1964.

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

LOAN ESTIMATES.

His Excellency the Governor's Deputy, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of the revenue and other moneys of the State as were required for all the purposes set out in the Loan Estimates for the financial year 1964-65 and the Public Purposes Loan Bill, 1964.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORTS.

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

Duplication of the Morgan-Whyalla Pipeline,

Elizabeth West High School,

Reconstruction of Smelters Wharf, Port Pirie,

South Road Primary School,

Outer Harbour Passenger Terminal,

Dental Hospital Additions,

Mount Burr Log Bandmill,

Christies Beach High School,

Salisbury East High School,

Brighton Boys Technical High School,

Millicent South Primary School,

Whyalla Far West Primary School,

Carlton Primary School,

Draper Primary School,

Hope Valley Primary School,

Kidman Park Primary School.

Ordered that reports be printed.

QUESTIONS.**HOUSING LOANS.**

Mr. FRANK WALSH: The Premier, in replying by letter to my recent question concerning housing loans from the State Bank, stated that an applicant is also advised that, if he should wish to proceed with the erection or purchase of his house with temporary finance, he should notify the bank in writing so that his application is not prejudiced. Could the Premier ask those independent banks that operate savings banks to make temporary loans available to such applicants at a rate of interest much less than that now being charged by finance companies?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I cannot answer a question on this topic as I have not inquired about it. Many people get

temporary finance until their loan application is approved. On the average, I think I deal with about 20 such cases a week. These cases must come to me ultimately to get approval because, under the housing loans legislation a person cannot get a loan unless he has no house, but by the time the application is to be approved he may have a house and then I have to grant him an exemption. Provided it is a genuine temporary finance case, there is not the slightest trouble in approval being granted. However, I shall inquire for the honourable member about the rate of interest charged. Some private builders selling houses charge a reasonable rate for the temporary finance they give.

RESERVOIRS.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: As a result of the recent rains, can the Minister of Works say whether there have been any appreciable intakes in the principal State reservoirs, particularly the Warren, South Para and Barossa reservoirs?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The latest figures are:

| Reservoir. | No. of Gallons. |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| Warren | 1,401,000,000 (full) |
| Barossa | 837,000,000 |
| South Para | 6,996,000,000 |

The capacity of the Barossa reservoir is 900,000,000 gallons, and that of the South Para reservoir 11,000,000,000 gallons. The metropolitan reservoirs are filling up well. Mount Bold is full; Myponga requires about another 1,000,000,000 gallons to fill it and Millbrook is almost full. The Millbrook reservoir has benefited from the rains at the weekend and is expected to be full soon.

SCHOOL CANTEENS.

Mr. HUTCHENS: In this morning's *Advertiser* appears an article headed "Canteens 'Must Pay for Power'", which states:

The Education Department has ruled that power used in all State school canteens must be paid for by school committees.

Further on, under the heading "Rate", the article states:

Headmasters had been informed that separate meters should be installed in school canteens and that school committees should bear the cost of power used.

Can the Minister of Education say on whose authority the ruling was given and at whose expense the meters will be installed at school canteens? Does the Minister consider that the compelling of school committees, school councils and canteen committees in this way will encourage the continuing operation of

these committees which, by their voluntary efforts, provide wholesome lunches at a reasonable price to scholars and in so doing raise tens of thousands of pounds a year that is used to assist the Education Department? Also, can the Minister say what will happen if a school committee defaults?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: Owing to the State's difficult budgetary position, the Director of Education, in common with the heads of other Government departments, has been obliged to observe strict economy in his departmental expenditure. One avenue of expenditure which he scrutinized was the subsidizing of school canteens. On the broad principle that all overhead costs in operating such school canteens (which are very profitable concerns), should be met from canteen receipts, the Director, after consultation with his principal officers, decided that these canteens should pay their own electricity and gas charges. The Director also justified his decision on the ground that lack of accountability might encourage irresponsibility, because he and the Auditor-General had been concerned over what appeared to be exorbitantly high power bills from some schools with canteens. When the Public Schools Committees' Association wrote to me in protest, I considered the whole matter and confirmed the Director's decision. The policy of the department is to subsidize pound-for-pound the capital cost of canteen buildings and their equipment and also to subsidize pound-for-pound the profits made by these canteens. Some time ago the member for Port Pirie (Mr. McKee) asked me what were the profits made last year by those high schools operating canteens and what were their credit balances. The total figures for 32 high schools are: profits for 1963, £22,631; credit balances (as at 31/12/63), £45,380. I have a detailed list of these profits and credit balances but, as it will take up too much time of the House for me to read this list, I ask leave to have it inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

CANTEENS IN HIGH SCHOOLS.

| High School. | Profit | | Credit Balance | |
|----------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | School Year, | | December 31, | |
| | 1963. | | 1963. | |
| Metropolitan— | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| Adelaide Boys . . . | 1,334 | 9 3 | 378 | 15 6 |
| Adelaide Girls . . . | 856 | 18 10 | 3,403 | 11 0 |
| Blackwood . . . | 186 | 11 10 | 322 | 11 5 |
| Brighton . . . | 776 | 1 4 | 2,398 | 6 4 |
| Campbelltown . . . | 1,283 | 15 0 | 966 | 6 7 |
| Elizabeth . . . | 419 | 3 11 | 1,080 | 0 0 |
| Enfield . . . | 1,050 | 8 11 | 500 | 0 0 |
| Findon . . . | 224 | 13 0 | 2,196 | 7 4 |

CANTEENS IN HIGH SCHOOLS—continued.

| High School. | Profit | | Credit Balance | |
|---------------------|--------------|-------|----------------|-------|
| | School Year, | | December 31, | |
| | 1963. | | 1963. | |
| Metropolitan— | £ | s. d. | £ | s. d. |
| Gilles Plains . . . | 778 | 16 4 | 226 | 12 11 |
| Henley . . . | 1,323 | 16 2 | 4,732 | 5 6 |
| Marion . . . | 1,818 | 0 0 | 1,406 | 0 0 |
| Norwood . . . | 750 | 0 0 | 1,800 | 0 0 |
| Plympton . . . | 1,091 | 15 6 | 1,652 | 9 2 |
| Seacombe . . . | 276 | 2 9 | 1,663 | 10 0 |
| Taperoo . . . | 1,022 | 0 0 | 81 | 12 3 |
| Unley . . . | 1,520 | 0 0 | 2,300 | 0 0 |
| Urrbrae Agric. . . | 780 | 16 2 | 1,009 | 4 9 |
| Woodville . . . | 588 | 11 1 | 9,195 | 13 3 |
| Country— | | | | |
| Birdwood . . . | 54 | 14 11 | 775 | 9 3 |
| Bordertown . . . | 213 | 16 7 | 223 | 14 0 |
| Gawler . . . | 211 | 8 11 | 658 | 7 3 |
| Glossop . . . | 232 | 18 0 | 1,417 | 16 6 |
| Heathfield . . . | 67 | 8 9 | 67 | 8 9 |
| Loxton . . . | 989 | 18 4 | 919 | 19 4 |
| Millicent . . . | 1,097 | 9 9 | 962 | 4 4 |
| Naracoorte . . . | 653 | 11 3 | 1,154 | 10 2 |
| Nuriootpa . . . | 330 | 17 0 | 340 | 16 4 |
| Penola . . . | 219 | 13 1 | 232 | 6 7 |
| Port Pirie . . . | 466 | 0 0 | 35 | 4 2 |
| Salisbury . . . | 402 | 16 6 | 2,081 | 11 1 |
| Waikerie . . . | 408 | 7 10 | 753 | 6 5 |
| Willunga . . . | 1,200 | 0 0 | 444 | 16 10 |
| Totals . . . | £22,631 | 1 0 | £45,380 | 17 0 |

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: These figures do not take into account the profits made and the credit balances held by technical high schools, area schools and primary schools which also operate canteens.

Mr. BYWATERS: The Murray Bridge High School is embarking on the provision of a school canteen, and the committee of that school, together with other committees, was disappointed to hear of the Minister's decision in this regard. During the course of our examination of the school canteen question it was suggested by an officer of the department that the subsidies now available for the erection of the buildings and the supply of the equipment might cease. Is it the intention of the department or the Government to withdraw those subsidies?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: No, it is not the intention of the Government to withdraw the subsidies on either the school buildings or the equipment. In fact, only yesterday afternoon Cabinet approved of a subsidy of £3,941 to the Norwood High School, that subsidy being a pound-for-pound subsidy on the cost of the building. Although it was recommended to me departmentally that we should withdraw the subsidy on profit-making equipment, I did not approve of the recommendation and therefore the subsidy stands.

BREATHALYSERS.

Mr. HARDING: I remind the Premier that last year I asked him a question about the recommendation by a New South Wales magistrate that Governments should introduce the breathalyser method of testing a driver's alcoholic content. Can the Premier say whether the Commissioner of Police in South Australia has investigated methods of testing with breathalysers in Victoria, and if he has, does he intend to introduce a similar scheme in this State?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I have a report from the Commissioner of Police, which states:

We have recently taken delivery of one breathalyser unit, and inquiries are being made into the use of similar units interstate and overseas. This information is being studied with a view to determining the best method of using such equipment here on a voluntary basis. A group of selected personnel have just returned after a course of special training in Victoria in the use of this and similar equipment. Before the instrument is used in the practical field we will probably introduce it by demonstrations to professional and police groups and present indications are that we may be in a position to commence this initial stage next month or early October. This will enable us to use the facilities in our new building which are important to the successful introduction of the equipment.

SUPERANNUATION.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: In view of the change in the value of money since the last amendment to the Superannuation Act, which I think was in 1961, can the Premier say whether the Government has considered an increase in pensions and other entitlements and, if so, does it intend to introduce legislation on this subject during the present session?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Government from time to time has made adjustments to that scheme, which adjustments would not apply to an ordinary insurance policy. The Government has no intention this year of making a general adjustment of the nature mentioned by the honourable member. However, a recent investigation of the superannuation accounts has revealed a surplus. The Superannuation Board has approved of a recommendation, which has been submitted to Cabinet, authorizing a Bill to be drafted to provide small increases for pensioners who have been receiving a pension for a considerable time but who have received no benefit from previous relief measures. That Bill will be presented in due course. The increases therein would not be substantial: I think the highest increase would equal $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of

the entitlement. The Bill should soon be available for honourable members to peruse and will be introduced as soon as possible.

FIREWORKS.

Mr. CASEY: Can the Premier say whether the Government intends, following representations by officers of the Municipal Association, to introduce legislation this session to provide for the discontinuance of Guy Fawkes night after November 5 this year and to encourage a "cracker" night to be held on Commonwealth Day instead, as applies in the Eastern States?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Recently I was in New South Wales when the "cracker" night so aptly referred to by the honourable member was held. There was just as much fuss then about the dislocation and minor injuries as we usually have here on November 5. Cabinet has considered this matter and is investigating with a view to amending the Local Government Act to provide for local government bodies to make their own regulations on this matter.

TORRENS RIVER BRIDGES.

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to a question I recently asked concerning the reconstruction of two bridges across the Torrens River?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague, the Minister of Roads, has informed me that the plans for the Hackney bridge are completed. Investigations with respect to lighting of the bridge and an adjoining intersection are still in hand. It is expected, however, that tenders will be called for the construction of the bridge in October, 1964. The existing bridge will remain and the new bridge will be constructed on the western side of the existing one, for one-way traffic on each bridge. Regarding Morphett Street and Victoria bridges, the consulting engineers, G. Maunsell & Partners, are and have been engaged in the preparation of preliminary bridge designs. It is expected that the preliminary designs will be submitted in October for confirmation prior to proceeding with the detailed design. This will be followed by the calling of tenders in June, 1965. At the same time, site investigations are proceeding to determine the foundations necessary to support the bridges. The boring and sampling are being executed by the Department of Mines and the testing of samples is being made by the Civil Engineering Department of the University of Adelaide. This stage of the investigations is well advanced.

MOUNT GAMBIER PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Mr. BURDON: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked some time ago regarding a new courthouse for Mount Gambier?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Director of the Public Buildings Department states that sketch plans have recently been completed and approved for the proposed new courthouse building at Mount Gambier. The courthouse building is to be erected adjacent to the proposed new office block, and due to the limited area available for the siting of these buildings it was considered desirable to defer the preparation of the working drawings for the office block until the full requirements for the courthouse were known. A request has recently been received from the Corporation of the City of Mount Gambier for a 10ft. strip of the Margaret Street frontage of the site for road-widening purposes. This request could affect the siting of the proposed buildings and must be investigated before further planning is carried out.

PORT ROAD.

Mr. RYAN: I recently sought information on Government policy concerning a freeway or any other alternative method of handling traffic on the Port Road. Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Roads, a reply to this question?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague, the Minister of Roads, has informed me that the Development Plan, as published by the Town Planning Committee, envisages that ultimately a freeway will be required along the Port Road, and this could be of the elevated type constructed in the present plantation of the Port Road. Accordingly, the suggestion to construct an overpass to handle the traffic at the intersection of the Old Port Road and the Port Road should not be proceeded with at present, as this could probably conflict with the ultimate freeway scheme. In any case, there are many other intersections in metropolitan Adelaide which handle a far greater traffic volume than that which is anticipated at the junction in question. For example, overpasses in the vicinity of Hindmarsh bridge, Keswick bridge and South Road and Anzac Highway intersection could be justified by reason of existing traffic volumes, delays and accidents. These intersections, just to name a few, would rate a higher priority for grade separation than the Old Port Road and Port Road intersection.

SHOWGROUNDS TRAFFIC.

Mr. HEASLIP: Recently in my district I was asked about the show-time rail service from North Terrace to the Showgrounds. I have been informed that this service has been discontinued, and, if that is so, it is a disservice to the country people who come to town and travel to the Royal Show by rail. Can the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Railways, say why this service has been discontinued?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I will get a report from the Minister of Railways and inform the honourable member.

PORT PIRIE OCCUPATION CENTRE.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to a question I asked last week regarding the establishment of a centre at Port Pirie for retarded children?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: Yes. Following the visit to Port Pirie of the Chief Psychologist (Mr. Piddington), he submitted a report dated July 30 to the Director of Education. The report states that there are eight children who are ready and suitable for such an occupation centre and that there are other children below school age who would be suitable for such a centre later. He also reported that the Town Clerk of Port Pirie showed him a site behind the Port Pirie hospital which could be available and suitable for such a centre. Alternatively, it is suggested that it would be quite possible to find a suitable site in the Risdon area not far from the proposed new technical high school. The Director has suggested as an alternative that it might well be possible to find a house which, if purchased, would be suitable for use as a home for the proposed occupation centre. Experience has shown, however, that the conversion of such a house is always costly and that it might well be preferable to obtain a site and to build for the purpose. I have authorized the Director to ensure that immediate steps are taken to obtain a suitable site for an occupation centre at Port Pirie, and, as soon as one has been obtained and the necessary building erected, an occupation centre will be established there.

SOUTH ROAD SCHOOL CROSSING.

Mr. LANGLEY: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Roads, an answer to my recent question concerning the installation of overhead-arm lighting on the South Road adjacent to the Black Forest Primary School?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague, the Minister of Roads, informs me that the problem of trying to provide greater attraction to the traffic lights in question is caused mainly by the road environment. A new form of crossing to try to improve this matter has been designed and is being installed on the Main North Road. However, as this new design requires a considerable amount of parking reduction adjacent to the crossing, it has been decided to test its effectiveness before modifying existing installations. Furthermore, the matter of motorists ignoring the traffic lights results from many factors, and installation of more lights at any given location can cause confusion and would not necessarily alleviate the problem.

BARMERA LAND.

Mr. CURREN: I have been discussing with the Minister of Lands several requests that have been forwarded from the Barmera area relating to the transfer of land and the closing of a road. Can the Minister say what action is being taken to meet the requests of the Homes for the Aged Committee at Barmera for an alternative site for cottage homes and of the Barmera Council and Community Centre for the resiting of James Terrace and other related matters?

The Hon. P. H. QUIRKE: Although allotments 133 and 134 in the town of Barmera have been reserved for use as land for Barmera Homes for the Aged for some time, a request has been made by the chairman of the committee for an alternative site. This involves park lands and other areas under the control of the District Council of Barmera. A meeting of departmental officers and the Clerk of the District Council will be held on August 18, to consider the several matters concerned, including an alternative site for Homes for the Aged. Regarding the resiting of James Terrace in the town of Barmera, the honourable member will appreciate the necessary ritual that concerns the resiting—the closing of roads, the opening of other roads and so on; this takes time. The request from the District Council of Barmera is now being considered and it is expected that a reply will be forwarded within a week or two.

GAWLER ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE.

Mr. CLARK: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question regarding tenders for the erection of an adult education centre at Gawler?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Director of the Public Buildings Department has informed me that tenders for the erection of an adult education centre at Gawler close today. Subject to a satisfactory tender being received, a recommendation for acceptance will be made shortly.

FLINDERS GUMS.

Mr. RICHES: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of July 30, 1964, regarding the ringbarking of gums in the Flinders Ranges?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have not yet received a report. As I am having my regular conference with the Engineer-in-Chief tomorrow morning I shall ascertain then whether he is ready to report on the matter.

SALT CREEK SCHOOL.

Mr. NANKIVELL: I ask the Minister of Education whether his department intends to transfer the Tilley Swamp School to a site at Salt Creek. If it does, will the school be completed by the commencement of the 1965 school year?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: The Education Department is negotiating for the purchase of an area of 3½ acres of land near Salt Creek for a school site. Present plans are to open the new school, which will be a timber frame building, at the beginning of the 1965 school year and to provide transport to Salt Creek for those children living between Tilley Swamp and Salt Creek.

RAILWAYS PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER.

Mr. HUTCHENS: I understand that the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Railways, has a reply to my recent question regarding the possible appointment of a public relations officer in the Railways Department.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague, the Minister of Railways, advises me that the Secretary to the Railways Commissioner is responsible for public relations, and he has staff to assist him in this function. It is not intended to create an additional position of Public Relations Officer. The department has joined with other Australian railway systems in a nation-wide publicity campaign, and in addition the department is awaiting a proposition from an advertising agency, specifically aimed at inducing the public to patronize the railway country passenger services,

PARLIAMENTARY BOOKLET.

Mrs. STEELE: Have you, Mr. Speaker, a reply to my question of June 10 regarding the publication of a cheaper version of the booklet *The Parliament of South Australia* to be made available to schoolchildren visiting Parliament House?

The SPEAKER: This question dealt with the matter of people interested enough to visit Parliament House to see the proceedings of Parliament being supplied with a brief explanation of Parliament in a cheaper edition that would inform them about the proceedings they were watching. This matter has been raised with Cabinet, but as yet I have not received a reply. I will raise it again with Cabinet and endeavour to obtain a reply for the honourable member.

NAILSWORTH TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

Mr. CUMBE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of August 5, 1964, regarding overcrowding at the Nailsworth Girls Technical High School?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: The Education Department is aware of the serious overcrowding at the Nailsworth Girls Technical High School. It was for this reason that the new Gepps Cross Technical High School, which will open in February next, is being built. It is thought that its opening will considerably reduce the first year intake at Nailsworth and that this will result in a progressive falling-off in second, third and fourth-year enrolments. It is expected that this will make possible a reduction in the number of wooden classrooms needed and thus increase the size of the playing area.

The desirability of obtaining additional land is constantly under notice. However, as the school is surrounded by occupied properties in a good state of repair, there appears to be little scope for increasing the size of the grounds. No consideration has been given to erecting a solid construction building to replace wooden classrooms. As already stated, it should be possible to remove at least some of these as enrolment decreases.

KEILIRA SCHOOL.

Mr. CORCORAN: On July 24, the Minister of Education forwarded to me a copy of a plan for toilets at the Keilira Primary School and I forwarded them to the school committee, which was very satisfied with them. It is anxious that the toilets be constructed, if possible, before the coming summer. In view of this, has the Minister of Education approved

of the construction of these toilets and, if he has, can he say when their construction is likely to commence?

The Hon. Sir BADEN PATTINSON: I have given Education Department approval, but at this stage I cannot say when the work will be commenced. No doubt an officer of the Education Department has already taken the matter up with the Public Buildings Department. I will try to obtain a firm date soon.

NARACOORTE TELEVISION STATION.

Mr. HARDING: A television station is now being built about 20 miles north of Naracoorte at a site known as The Gap. Can the Premier say what stage has been reached in the construction of this television station, and from which line electric power will be brought to this station?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I obtained the following information from the Postmaster-General's department and from the Electricity Trust:

The building for the T.V. repeater station has been completed on the site known as The Gap. This is one of a number of repeater stations in course of erection between Adelaide and Mount Gambier. A transmission line will be built to the T.V. repeater station. The line will run through Western Flat to the station. The building is completed at The Gap. It is expected that the series of repeater stations will be completed and equipped by the end of 1965.

NORTHERN ROAD.

Mr. CASEY: Can the Premier say whether discussions have been held between the State Government and the Commonwealth Government regarding the building of either a sealed or an all-weather road from Port Augusta to Alice Springs? If no discussions have been held, will the Premier suggest to the Commonwealth Government that an all-weather road from Port Augusta to Alice Springs be constructed?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Commissioner of Highways' report states:

As far as is known there has not been any discussion between the State and Commonwealth Governments on the construction of the Port Augusta to Alice Springs road. It has, however, been considered by the National Association of Australian State Road Authorities, being designated as a national route, and included in the Ten-Year 1964-74 Needs Survey prepared by the association. With the amount of funds available for roads at present, the construction of this road could not be contemplated. The distance is approximately 700 miles, and the total cost could reach £10,000,000 for an all-weather sealed road inclusive of bridging.

SPRINGBANK ROAD BRIDGE.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked last week about the widening of the service road immediately south of the new Springbank Road bridge?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague, the Minister of Roads, has informed me that the width of the service road on the southern side of the western approach to the Springbank Road bridge has been increased by 4ft. The matter has been given full consideration, and a further increase is impracticable consistent with the safety of traffic movements.

MARRABEL WATER SUPPLY.

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

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

All pipes and specials have been delivered to the site and it is anticipated that main-laying will commence about mid-September. Tenders have been called for the pumping plant and a recommendation will be made shortly. Delivery of the pumping plant is fourteen weeks from date of acceptance. Specifications have been prepared for a 30,000-gallon concrete tank and offers have been invited for its construction. It is expected that the whole scheme will be completed and in operation early next year.

MURRAY BRIDGE ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE.

Mr. BYWATERS: A building has been ready for almost three months for the Adult Education Centre at Murray Bridge. The only work required to complete the building is about two hours' plumbing. The administrative staff, hopelessly crowded in the present building, are anxious to move into the new one. Will the Minister of Works ascertain whether departmental plumbers can complete this work, or will he allow the adult education centre council to employ a plumber?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I will investigate the matter tomorrow to see whether it can be expedited.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Mr. HUTCHENS: Earlier this afternoon reports of the Public Works Committee were tabled and on a brief inquiry I ascertained that they were all interim reports. I am not reflecting on this committee, but can the Premier say whether the tabling of interim reports means that Parliament will be asked to allocate funds for projects on which a final report is not available?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I suppose that the honourable member could claim that that is correct. Most of these reports deal with school buildings, and the fact that the committee has furnished an interim report is evidence that these are straightforward propositions with no outstanding features. The committee is complying with the normal procedure and requirements. Every honourable member appreciates that a school building is now an urgent necessity and if it is of a normal design and if requirements of the school are demonstrated by evidence to the committee, an interim report is tabled to enable construction of the building to proceed. At this time of the year a large volume of business comes before the Public Works Committee. That is inevitable because the size of the loan programme is not known until June. Many projects are submitted to the committee and, after consideration, the general procedure is that if one has features with which the committee is not happy and wants further investigation, an interim report is not tabled. When the project is clear-cut the committee tables an interim report to enable that project to proceed.

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT BUILDING.

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about the completion and occupation of the building for the Highways Department at Walkerville?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague, the Minister of Roads, states that because of unavoidable delays the architects for the building extended the completion date for about three months. The work is now proceeding according to schedule, and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupation early in September.

KAPUNDA COPPER.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Has the Minister of Works a report on the results of the Mines Department survey of deposits of copper ore at Kapunda? Can he say whether private organizations have made representations for permission to mine the deposits?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Director of Mines states that preliminary geological and geophysical surveys over the Kapunda area have been completed and reports have been submitted. An application from a private exploration company (Mines Exploration Limited) for rights to carry out exploration in the area, has been granted. The company

will be carrying out geophysical and geochemical surveys in the near future with the object of locating targets for subsequent drilling.

SHEPHERDS HILL ROAD.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Has the Minister of Works an answer to the question I asked last week about rehabilitation of the Shepherds Hill Road?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: My colleague, the Minister of Roads, states that further information is now available regarding Shepherds Hill Road, a copy of which has been sent to the Mitcham council. The report states:

The Highways Department advises that plans for the reconstruction of Shepherds Hill Road between Cliff Street and Northcote Street have been held up on account of certain drainage works which will be necessary as part of the reconstruction and widening scheme. This involves the acquisition of easements through private property. Preliminary plans are now ready for inspection with the Mitcham council and the finalizing of details of construction. Subject to agreement being reached on the easements for the disposal of stormwaters, the work can then be put in hand as soon as the Mitcham council is in a position to carry out the works. The works manager of the Mitcham council has now advised that it will be possible for the council to commence the work early in October.

PORT PIRIE TECHNICAL SCHOOL.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to a question I asked last week concerning the erection of a new technical high school at Port Pirie?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Yesterday, Cabinet accepted tenders for this work which is to cost about £300,000. The contractor's time for completing the work is 66 weeks from the date of notification of acceptance of the tender. I do not intend to announce the name of the successful tenderer because he has probably not been notified of the position as yet, and it is always courtesy to notify him before such a matter appears in the press. However, I shall inform the honourable member privately of the tenderer's name, if he so desires.

QUESTION TIME.

The SPEAKER: I draw honourable members' attention to the time: it is 2.50 p.m. I think they will agree that question time has been carried out very expeditiously today. Indeed, I commend honourable members for their co-operation in asking questions without making long explanations. I commend Ministers, too, for their complete co-operation in this regard.

FRUIT CANNING.

Mr. HUTCHENS (on notice):

1. What was the actual loss incurred by the Government in financing Brookers (Australia) Limited?
2. What was the actual loss incurred in financing Foster Clark (S.A.) Limited?
3. What loss was incurred in the foreclosure on Foster Clark (S.A.) Limited?
4. What price was paid by Jon Products Limited for the former plant of Foster Clark (S.A.) Limited?
5. Did the price paid for plant include buildings?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The replies are:

1. None.
2. None in the course of financing, but see answer to 3.
3. The Government has met under its guarantee of the advance to Foster Clark (S.A.) Limited £200,000 in cash to the State Bank and £100,000 by way of cancellation of debt from the State Bank to the Government. At present the further deficiency to the bank, after taking into account funds in sight and costs of receivership, is about £140,000. Some further recoveries are probable from the Sydney subsidiary of the Foster Clark group, in respect of a debt of £200,000, and efforts are being made to secure some recovery on account of debts of about £104,000 by an English subsidiary to Foster Clark (S.A.) Limited, but these now seem most unlikely to cover fully the £140,000 further deficiency, and a further contribution by the Government under its guarantee appears unavoidable.
4. The agreed price for the purchase by Jon Preserving Co-operative Limited is £225,000, which includes plant and buildings other than a house on a separate site. The sales does not include stock, debtors, and miscellaneous minor investments, and does not involve the taking over of creditors.
5. See answer to 4.

HIRE-PURCHASE.

Mr. HUTCHENS (on notice):

1. What was the total outstanding hire-purchase debt in South Australia at June 30, 1964?
2. How many contracts were involved?
3. How many hire-purchase contracts were entered into during the year 1963-64, and what was the amount so involved?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: This information is not yet available.

HARBORS BOARD COMMISSIONERS.

Mr. RYAN (on notice):

1. Has a decision been made, relative to an increase in the number of Commissioners of the South Australian Harbors Board and the constitution of the new board, in accordance with the Minister's statement on October 22, 1963, *vide Hansard*, page 1182?

2. If so, what decision was made?

3. Was Mr. Vercò, whose period of office expired in February, 1964, reappointed?

4. If so, for what period?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The replies are:

1 and 2. No decision has been made to increase the number on the board.

3. Yes.

4. Five years.

SEAT BELTS.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): What steps are being taken to ensure compliance with the specifications for seat belt anchorages and for seat belts, made pursuant to section 162a of the Road Traffic Act, 1961-1963?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Since the regulations covering seat belts and anchorages were gazetted, officers of the Road Traffic Board have carried out the following investigations:

- (1) witnessed the testing of anchorages installed in one particular model of vehicle;
- (2) received one set of manufacturer's detailed drawings of anchorage installations;
- (3) received two detailed results of tests of seat belt anchorages on one make of vehicle from an independent test laboratory in the United States;
- (4) inspected seven makes (not models) of vehicles for proof of installation of anchorages in accordance with the specification;
- (5) currently inspecting seat belt assemblies with one suspect type of anchor undergoing tests at the Highways and Local Government testing laboratories;
- (6) negotiating with the Standards Association of Australia to try to obtain automatic checking on a national basis for both seat belt anchorages and seat belts. Standards of seat belts only are governed by the S.A.A. on a national basis and our legislation requires compliance with this standard.

All these investigations are being undertaken conjointly with the Victorian Traffic Commission, in respect to which similar legislation to South Australia is pending.

PORT PIRIE JUNCTION.

Mr. RICHES (on notice):

1. Has the attention of the Minister of Railways been drawn to the unsatisfactory accommodation for railway and bus passengers at Port Pirie Junction?

2. Is it proposed to renovate the refreshment rooms and provide accommodation for passengers who are required to wait for trains?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The replies are:

1. No.

2. The question of making alterations and providing up-to-date facilities at the Port Pirie Junction refreshment rooms has been discussed with the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner, and it was mutually agreed that in view of the imminence of the conversion to standard gauge of the Port Pirie to Broken Hill railway, and the probable extensive alterations in the layout of the Port Pirie yard in connection therewith, the expenditure involved in work on the refreshment rooms and the provision of lounge room accommodation was not warranted at the present time.

PORT PIRIE RAIL SERVICE.

Mr. RICHES (on notice):

1. Why have Bluebird railcars been taken off the Port Pirie to Adelaide run on recent Tuesdays?

2. Is it proposed to reinstate this service and, if so, when?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The replies are:

1. The reason why the 250-class railcars did not work the morning service, Port Pirie to Adelaide, on recent Tuesdays was because of abnormal withdrawals account mechanical attention. However, the normal 250-class service worked on Monday, August 3, to Port Pirie, and returned the following morning and, subject to normal availability, this working will continue.

2. *Vide* No. 1.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

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

(For wording of amendment see page 135.)
(Continued from August 6. Page 292.)

Mr. LAWN (Adelaide): Last Thursday I referred to the lifts in this building and the

Minister of Works took exception to my statements. I referred also to a letter written by the Minister wherein he complained that breakdowns were not being reported to his department every time they occurred. I pointed out that it was naturally beyond my comprehension to believe that the Public Buildings Department should expect members to go from here to Victoria Square to complain every time the lift door was left open. The Minister interjected to the effect, "Well, why don't you shut them." I do not know what he meant by that. I should like to know whether his department has delegated me—or whether you, Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Joint House Committee could inform me whether or not I have been delegated by the House Committee—to go around shutting the lift doors in Parliament House every time they are left open. I have not been notified on that score yet, but if any such request is to be made I shall simply say "Thanks" but decline the honour bestowed upon me.

Mr. Ryan: It would have to be a full-time duty.

Mr. LAWN: I consider that more important work is to be done.

Mr. Corcoran: I am sure the honourable member would make a good job of it if he had to do it.

Mr. LAWN: I could make a better job of it than the Minister does; he cannot keep the doors closed. Whilst I was speaking here last Thursday members of this Chamber brought me up to date (and brought the Minister up to date) by pointing out that the back lift was then out of order. When I came into the building at 9 o'clock on Friday morning, and until some time into the afternoon, the mechanics were working on the same lift because it was out of order, and the doors had not been left open. Mr. Speaker, I do not know whether you have more influence with the Minister than I have, but one thought has occurred to me: seeing that the Minister cannot manage the lifts in this building, I was wondering whether he would do better by removing the lifts and putting in escalators. I think the lifts, like this Government, need replacing completely: they have had it!

Mr. Ryan: Absolutely!

Mr. LAWN: Yesterday morning the front lift was not working. I do not know whether or not we will get any better service in this respect.

Until a few years ago the Government used to organize visits to various parts of the State.

The remarks of the member for Burnside (Mrs. Steele) in her speech—a travelogue discussion—reminded me that until a few years ago the Government used to organize such visits so that members could see what was going on in the State. I believe that those visits were a good thing, and I compliment the Government on arranging them. However, in recent times these visits have not eventuated. This year the Joint House Committee organized two interesting visits to other States, the first being to Western Australia, a visit that was well worth while. It was the first time I had had an opportunity of seeing what Perth, with its harbour and river, looked like. I met Western Australian people whom I found most hospitable. I had a really good time and I pay a tribute to the Joint House Committee, and particularly to the secretary, on the way in which the visit was arranged.

More interesting still was the visit we made to the Snowy Mountains to see the tremendous amount of work the Commonwealth Government, through the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority, is doing in the Snowy Mountains. Once again I must commend the Joint House Committee and the secretary for the work done on that occasion. Having been on a few such organized tours, I say without fear of contradiction that the trip to the Snowy Mountains was the best organized tour I have ever been on. One member of the Opposition who has travelled privately and on organized tours extensively within Australia and overseas also said it was the best organized tour he had ever been on. So, Mr. Speaker, I should like you and the House Committee, and particularly the secretary, to accept my thanks for the manner in which those visits were arranged. I hope that the incoming Government next year (which will be chosen from members on this side of the House) will commence organizing some of these visits to various parts of our State, particularly as we will have some new members then.

I was surprised and perturbed to read the statements made by the Minister of Education, as reported in this morning's *Advertiser* and referred to earlier today by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, regarding school canteens. I am forced to conclude that the decision of the Education Department to make school canteens pay for their electric light, power and gas is a result of pressure upon the Government by private enterprise; and secondly, it enables the Government to save on the subsidy which it would otherwise pay to these committees, because for every pound these school canteens

pay for electric light and power and gas the money they will be making on behalf of the school committee will be reduced, and therefore the Government will save money on the subsidy.

Mr. Clark: The cartoon in today's *News* deals with other forthcoming possible savings.

Mr. LAWN: I could suggest one saving the Government could well make, which I have advocated for years, and that is in the Electoral Department. I asked the Premier by way of a question what it cost the Government in printing and handling the special card for enrolment for the Legislative Council, and I received a set of figures that obviously related to the House of Assembly card, towards the cost of which some payment was obviously made by the Commonwealth Government. I should not expect the Commonwealth Government to make any payment to the State Government for the cost we incur in printing a special enrolment card for the Legislative Council and for the special staff which must be employed to check, type, and then recheck the names for enrolment for the Legislative Council. The Government could effect considerable savings in the Electoral Department by having one roll to cater for the House of Assembly and for the two Commonwealth Houses.

Mr. Clark: Would you suggest any change in the electoral districts?

Mr. LAWN: Definitely, and we will see to that next year. No matter how the districts are organized, there should be one roll. People who vote for the House of Assembly candidate in a district should also have the same right to vote for the Legislative Council, whether they are men or women and whether or not they own property.

Mr. McKee: That should be the democratic right.

Mr. LAWN: Yes. When I was speaking last week I referred to press statements regarding the successful treatment of arteriosclerosis in Kassel, Germany. I awaited some pronouncement from the Government on this question, and as it was not forthcoming I wrote to the Premier in January of this year. I will read this letter because I want honourable members to know what I wrote, and then they can judge for themselves whether or not I was playing politics. I certainly was not being political. The letter I received in reply from the Government contains a lie, and it could only have been written with the object of playing politics, although that was

the thought farthest from my mind in raising the subject. My letter to the Premier of January 15 states:

For some time past I have noticed references in the South Australian press to the effect that some of our citizens find it necessary to go to Europe for medical treatment, particularly in respect to arteriosclerosis. It has been stated in the press that the machine used in this treatment only costs approximately £100. Appeals have been made in the press for doctors to make themselves conversant with the use of the machine and import one, and it was instanced that a doctor, or doctors, who did this would soon reimburse themselves for the cost of the machine. On January 11 in the *Adelaide News* reference was again made to this matter by a Mr. Lang, of 10a Woolnough Road, Exeter (I understand that address has been changed to Semaphore). He mentioned that his wife has had to remain in Germany for treatment by this machine because similar treatment is not available here. Mr. Lang said in his statement, "Since I first mentioned this therapy just before Christmas, 73 people have come to see me personally and another 50 have written letters seeking advice. One Springfield woman has now joined my wife in Kassel, Germany, to receive the same treatment." He then sums up by saying, "With this number of people we could easily raise the £100 necessary for the machine—in fact 16 people have offered to buy the machine themselves—but we need a doctor to operate it." It would be very much appreciated not only by the people mentioned by Mr. Lang but by myself and many other people, if the Government would give favourable consideration to the purchase of at least two of these machines to be available at the Royal Adelaide and the Queen Elizabeth Hospitals, and to the training of sufficient doctors to operate same. The Government has in the past, with the Cobalt machine particularly, acted in a similar manner to what I have suggested herein, but I think the Cobalt machine cost considerably more than what would be involved in this particular case. In addition to the £200 for machines, the cost of freight, and possibly sending a couple of doctors to Europe to learn to work the machines, it would not cost very much in terms of money but apparently would be of untold benefit to our people. I sincerely trust that the Government will give favourable consideration to my request and that we can confidently look forward to an announcement from the Government to this effect in the very near future. Thanking you in anticipation.

I waited some months before sending that letter, hoping that the Government would make some announcement; therefore, I was not jumping in to get my name in the press or to play politics in any shape or form. I just wanted the people of South Australia to receive the best possible medical treatment. I did not hear any announcement by the Government and, of course, the Government has many opportunities for making announcements, such

as the Premier's use of Channel 7 every week, the Government's use of a radio station whenever it wants it, and also its use of the *Advertiser*. When I did not hear an announcement I asked the Government, in the last paragraph of my letter, to make one. I did not want to make the statement before the Premier had had an opportunity to do so. That was not my intention at all. All I did was to give the *News* a statement to the effect that I had sent a letter about this matter and, as far as I was concerned, that was the finish of any publicity from my point of view. In late January or early February Mrs. Lang, to whom I have referred, returned from Germany. Her husband organized a welcome home function for her. Representatives of the press were invited to meet this lady, and so was I. Because of this, I wrote to the Premier saying that I was attending this function and asking him if he could give me a reply to my letter. I received a reply, dated April 3, from the Chief Secretary on behalf of the Premier, as follows:

Dear Mr. Lawn,

I acknowledge your letter of April 2, 1964, and the prior correspondence in regard to the treatment of arteriosclerosis.

The treatment of this complaint by way of Regional Perfusion, or the introduction of oxygen into an artery to permit (temporary) improvement in the circulation, was evaluated at the Royal Adelaide Hospital some years ago and discarded.

To my amazement, I read the next line:

Following on representations made prior to your correspondence, the Medical Superintendent at the Royal Adelaide Hospital wrote to Dr. Muller in West Germany, seeking details of his treatment, as it was possible that further techniques may have been in use in Russia and Europe which were not as yet generally accepted into Western orthodox medicine. The Medical Superintendent has so far received no reply from Dr. Muller.

I have again taken up this matter with the Chief Secretary, who has arranged to forward your latest letter to the Medical Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, who no doubt would be willing to interview Mrs. Lang.

Yours faithfully,
(Sgd.) A. Lyell McEwin,
for Premier.

In June this year the Premier was good enough to let me look at the file of the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital dealing with the treatment of patients suffering from arteriosclerosis and containing a reference to a letter to Germany. The letter was signed by the Superintendent and dated February 2, 1964. My letter was dated January 15, 1964, yet the letter from the Minister of Health states:

Following on representations made prior to your correspondence—

The Minister of Health did not know that the press had ascertained the date of the letter sent to Doctor Muller. He overlooked the fact that possibly Doctor Muller was speaking to the patients in Kassel, Germany, of having received this correspondence. He overlooked the fact that the Premier might have let me peruse the file. There is no doubt that my letter was written on January 15 and, as a result, the Government asked the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital to get in touch with Doctor Muller. I made it clear that I did not want to play politics, but the Government has played politics. It was not before my letter that the Government wrote to Doctor Muller, but afterwards. There was a reason why Doctor Muller had not replied at that stage: he is a busy man. He has informed people from South Australia, who have gone to Germany to receive his treatment, that he is prepared to come to Australia or South Australia to tell doctors how to use this machine and obtain successful results. He told them (and I have since seen it in the press) that he had been to Canada and Brazil, where this method has been introduced, at the invitation of the appropriate organizations in those countries that are similar to the Australian Medical Institute in Australia. He has been invited to those countries to demonstrate the working of his machine.

I shall now refer to an article in the *News* about a statement by a doctor from the Adelaide university. I shall not read the whole article, but at one part it states that the doctor said:

Oxygen therapy certainly increases the blood flow, but it is now generally felt there are better ways of doing this with drugs.

Later he is quoted as saying:

I think the availability today of drugs, which do a better job, plus the presence of technical dangers with oxygen therapy are reasons why doctors here are not using oxygen therapy.

I will not refer to the rest of the article, but the doctor makes it clear that drugs are available in Australia. A constituent of the Leader read that article and wrote a letter to the doctor, as he is a sufferer from arteriosclerosis. In the letter, he says:

In view of your statement "I think the availability today of drugs which do a better job . . ." you will readily realize that if there are any such drugs available which would help me, I would be very happy indeed to have a prescription to obtain these with the object of getting relief if not a cure. Thanking you in anticipation.

A reply from the doctor dated February 11, 1964, states:

Dear (Blank),

While research is going on in various centres on drugs for use in arteriosclerosis and some have been found to be helpful in a few cases, the disease occurs in a number of forms and no drug has been shown to be effective in all of these, and certain manifestations of the condition have proved so far to be uninfluenced by any drugs. In people in whom the muscles of the legs are affected I have investigated a number of drugs in attempts to relieve the pain at rest and on walking and have so far not found any of the present available drugs to be effective. Without knowing the details of your particular condition, from what you say in your letter I am sure that Doctor (blank) is correct, and it is unlikely that any drug is yet available which is likely to improve your cramps and walking distance. This complaint is, I know, a very incapacitating one and I regret very much that I am unable to offer any assistance at this time.

The article in the *News* stated that plenty of drugs were available in Australia and people had no need to go to Germany for treatment. A constituent of the Leader of the Opposition writes to the doctor telling him that he is a patient and has been told by a doctor at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital that he would be throwing money down the drain by purchasing drugs. My own doctor has since told me that this doctor at the university claims that he was misrepresented in the press, but I have not seen a statement repudiating what was reported. Whether the doctor at the university made a mistake or whether the press deliberately misquoted him and misled the people of this State, I do not know. Obviously, people who have the disease are confused. In June of this year I asked the Premier to give me information about the letter I had sent him on January 15. At that time the Premier was good enough to let me peruse the file, and in reply to my question he said that he would arrange for me to interview the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The file contains the names of people who have travelled to Germany and returned after having been successfully treated with oxygen therapy, people who were told by local doctors that they could not be helped. The file contains several photographs of a lady showing the big toe on one foot affected by gangrene; the swollen legs and the intense pain that she was suffering. Several photos are included showing the lady after her return. The big toe had been amputated, the legs were back to normal size and she appeared to have lost her pain. When I interviewed the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital he told me at the outset that the treatment had been tried some years ago and doctors were satisfied that it was no good and that what was being

done here was just as good or better. I pointed out to him that the file showed that every person who had been to Germany had been successfully treated, and he did not deny that. He said that had these people remained here and continued receiving treatment they would have been as good today as they were by going to Germany. I asked him what treatment had been given to Mrs. Lang before she went to Germany, as she had said that she had two operations before going to Germany and both were unsuccessful. He told me that her treatment was injections and tablets. She has since said that she had two operations prior to going to Germany but was not given any injections or tablets to cure the disease. After she had had the two operations she saw another doctor at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital who told her that she would have to live with the disease as there was nothing that could be done for it, and that the doctors were giving her pain-killing and sleeping tablets, not injections. Doesn't this seem confusing to members?

Mr. Bywaters: It must be disconcerting to the people concerned!

Mr. LAWN: Obviously they cannot understand what is going on, particularly when contradictory statements are made. They know they are not receiving treatment. The people at the welcome-home party showed me photographs of Mrs. Lang and told me what she was like before she went away. Her face was drawn, as it would be if she were suffering intense pain. I saw the lady early in February: she was moving about the house like a two-year-old, and from that day to this she has not seen a doctor in this State, except the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital. In my letter to the Premier on the second occasion telling him I was going to meet the lady on her return and asking for a reply to my letter of January 15, I asked him could this lady be interviewed. Possibly I used the wrong word because I should have asked the Premier to arrange for this woman to be medically examined. Obviously the doctors to do that would have been the doctors who treated her before she went away. Instead she was interviewed by the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, but not examined. She said that the doctor congratulated her on her looks, and that was all.

Mr. Ryan: What would be the actual cost of the treatment (excluding transport to and from Germany) that this woman may have received in Germany?

Mr. LAWN: I would not have the faintest idea. The only treatment given here by doctors is an operation. I assume that this would be costly, but I do not know the cost. The Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital agreed with me that the leading doctor, who does these operations, is at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. This doctor told me in 1962 that only 40 per cent of the operations were successful. The people who have the operation have to have one on each leg, a four-hour operation, and that would be expensive. Only two out of five operations are successful, which means that 40 per cent are all right and 60 per cent are not. Honourable members will recall a public servant who worked in this building for many years and who, because of this complaint, had to retire in 1959. No doctor could then prescribe any treatment other than amputation, and he naturally refused to allow doctors to take his legs off.

Mr. Ryan: Did the woman you mentioned give any indication as to the percentage of success through the machine treatment?

Mr. LAWN: I have read much correspondence from Dr. Muller in Germany on this subject to the effect that all treatments have been successful, with the exception of cases that were too far advanced, that is, where gangrene had developed. However, apart from the gangrenous cases the correspondents claimed 100 per cent success.

Mr. Ryan: Would it not be a better proposition to send someone from here to investigate the position in Germany?

Mr. LAWN: I suggested that to the Premier but what I now suggest is this: in view of my investigations throughout this year (and I have not finished interviewing the medical profession yet) I have been forced to conclude that the Government should invite Dr. Muller to come to South Australia. In fact, if I were in control I should communicate with other Governments and, if they concurred, I should then invite Dr. Muller to visit all the States. The cost would be much cheaper in the long run and we could let the doctor demonstrate to our doctors his machine and method of treatment. As far as this State is concerned it might cost a little more to bring him here than to send two doctors away, but if he did visit us he could, of course, demonstrate to many more doctors his method of treatment of arteriosclerosis.

I mentioned just now that the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital described the method of treatment here as one of injections

and tablets. I discussed this with my own doctor and then telephoned a doctor at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, making an appointment to see him. This was my third visit, for I had been there in 1961 and 1962. During the course of my interviews both the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the doctor at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital have been most courteous, frank and willing to discuss any aspect of this complaint that I raised with them. They described the drugs that were used, as well as the methods of treatment in the past and their opinions as to the best method of treatment today. At the Queen Elizabeth Hospital three weeks ago, following my interview with the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, I was told that what I had learned at the Royal Adelaide Hospital was the method of treatment in only a few cases. In other words, that doctor doubted whether injections and tablets were much good. That was shock No. 1. He did not finish with shocks there, however. I referred to the machine being used by Dr. Muller in Kassel, Germany, and to my utter amazement he said, "I have a couple here that I have been using for some time." In spite of this, I have been appealing to the Government to bring out a couple of machines, one for the Royal Adelaide Hospital and one for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. I have had an interview with the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital but have always been discouraged about using the machine. The people to whom I have appealed have not wanted to introduce such a machine and have said that it was of no use.

Mr. Ryan: Those machines might have been the doctor's private property.

Mr. LAWN: I assumed they were his own equipment. At the doctor's invitation I examined a machine; it contained two arms on the side and one across the top as well as various other fittings. A tube led from the machine into the patient's arteries. The doctor told me that he used the machine for treating cancer in the leg; if a patient suffered from a cancer in the region of the knee he projected this plastic tube into the artery in the thigh. He told me the name of a radium drug that was used in the leg. The doctor also told me that he could apply oxygen to the affected area. Then to my amazement he told me that the machine was made in South Australia, and I have since learned that it is made at Beaumont. I have no doubt that these machines are similar to the one used by Dr. Muller. They are

being used for the treatment of cancer in the leg but our doctors do not consider them suitable for treating arteriosclerosis. All I can say is that they are being used successfully in Germany.

We are told by doctors that injections and tablets are a better form of treatment than the machine. Indeed, a doctor who actually has the machine and who is the best man in South Australia to treat this complaint, says that the main form of treatment is by operation, and in a few instances by injections and tablets. I am speaking on behalf of hundreds of people in this State who suffer from this disease, as well as people who will become sufferers in the future. I want the Government to see that this treatment is made available.

Mr. Bywaters: Has the honourable member any idea as to the percentage of people with this disease?

Mr. LAWN: No, but I think I referred to it at one stage in my letter to the Premier. Within a few days of the announcement of this Semaphore lady's visit to Germany, 73 people had contacted her husband personally and another 50 had written letters.

Mr. Bywaters: That would represent only a percentage?

Mr. LAWN: Yes, there would be those who would not have done anything about it. Last Wednesday afternoon or evening I was called to the lobby in this building to see one of my constituents from Mile End. I could see that he was in pain, and he asked me whether I could supply any information concerning the machine I have mentioned and when such treatment was likely to become available. He was practically pleading for me to tell him that I had good news but, unfortunately, that was not the case. The man said that he was never without pain and that there were no drugs that any doctor could prescribe to relieve that pain. However, I am told by the Superintendent of the Royal Adelaide Hospital that this complaint can be cured or at least treated, just as well as it is done in Germany, by using injections and tablets. Mr. Lang, who called to see me one day last week, told me he had just received a letter from a person in Sydney who had read about the successful treatment of Mr. Lang's wife, and he had described how he himself had received this treatment in Kassel, Germany, 10 years ago. He had come back from Russia with "frozen" legs and had never had any trouble since. Furthermore, he stated that

he had to be subjected to medical examination by the immigration authorities overseas before being accepted as a migrant—and he passed that examination.

Mr. Bywaters: That speaks for itself.

Mr. LAWN: Yes. Mr. Lang told me about this chap saying that he came from Russia with "frozen" legs, and that reminds me of some of the literature from Dr. Muller that I have read stating that people had come to him with frozen legs and that this treatment had successfully cured them. Now there is a case in Sydney today.

I do not wish to unduly criticize our doctors here, particularly as I could not possibly complain about the way they have received me and the way they have discussed the matter; they have been open, frank and honest, and I have not the slightest doubt that they are sincere. However, I do want to say that among the members of the Australian Medical Association in South Australia there are two theories concerning arteriosclerosis. Some doctors believe in the cholestrol theory, while others say there is nothing in it. I will not say who the doctors are, but some doctors in their early forties believe in this cholestrol theory, which means that they advise people not to take animal fats; they say the people should eat no fatty meat or cheese and only very little milk and butter, and that cooking should be done in peanut oil or chefol. Then another doctor, who has equally as good a knowledge, will say that there is nothing in that. It will be seen that even our doctors here cannot agree among themselves. Mr. Speaker, in concluding this particular subject I feel satisfied—unfortunately, I have to say this—that I have to tell these people in South Australia who suffer from arteriosclerosis, all their relatives and friends, and all the people in our State who have the welfare of the sick and needy at heart, that they will have to vote No. 1 for all the Australian Labor Party candidates in the next March elections before there will be any possibility of the Government of this State giving the people medical care as good as they can obtain in other parts of the world. I think I have proved conclusively to the people that they are not receiving the best medical care from this Government. Not only are the machines available here, but they are made here in South Australia. All that the doctors have to do is familiarize themselves with the method of treatment and they will be able to use these machines. I have no

doubt that our doctors could use the machines with just as great success as Dr. Muller is achieving with his machines in Germany.

I come now to the remarks of the member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse) in this debate. The honourable member, speaking to the amendment, said:

Well, what do we find if we look at all the six capital cities since the base year of 1953? The honourable member then quoted the consumer price index for June of this year. The honourable member is supposed to be a barrister; I understand he has now been sacked, but he used to be with the firm of Baker, McEwin, Millhouse and Wright.

Mr. Ryan: He was not the "Millhouse", was he?

Mr. LAWN: No, it was his father or uncle. The Mr. Wright in that firm—Mr. S. C. G. Wright—is now a judge of the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission. I have given evidence in that court and been cross-examined by Mr. Wright, and I have appeared in the court in opposition to him. I found Mr. Wright an honest man, a decent

opponent in the courts, and a capable advocate. He would not get up in any court and use one set of figures, because he would know they did not prove a thing. The set of figures submitted by the member for Mitcham simply proved South Australia had the lowest cost of living. The member for Port Pirie (Mr. McKee) and I immediately interjected and said that South Australia had the lowest basic wage. So what does it all mean? Mr. Wright would know that when one submits a table of figures one has to submit another set of figures to make a comparison, and this is what the honourable member could have done, had it suited his purpose, of course. Mr. Wright would not have made the statement the member for Mitcham made, and consequently he would not have found it necessary to submit figures, but if Mr. Wright were in the position that I am in now he would do what I propose to do. Mr. Speaker, I have here the full consumer price index figures for the Australian capital cities, and I ask leave to have them incorporated in *Hansard* without the necessity for my reading them.

Leave granted.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX.

YEAR 1952-53 = 100.0.

| | June, 1963. | June, 1964. | Increase. | Basic Wage. |
|---|-------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| | | | | £ s. d. |
| Sydney | 123.7 | 125.8 | 2.1 | 15 15 0 |
| Melbourne | 126.4 | 128.3 | 1.9 | 15 7 0 |
| Brisbane | 127.9 | 130.2 | 2.3 | 14 10 0 |
| Adelaide | 122.5 | 125.1 | 2.6 | 15 3 0 |
| Perth | 122.8 | 125.3 | 2.5 | 15 8 0 |
| Hobart | 128.2 | 130.1 | 1.9 | 15 14 0 |
| Average of six capital cities | 124.9 | 127.0 | 2.1 | 15 8 0 |

Mr. LAWN: The figures set out in the third column of that statement are the only figures referred to by the member for Mitcham. I have set out in the first column the capital cities, and in the second column I have set out the consumer price index figures as at June, 1963, which show that in Adelaide in June, 1963, the figure was 122.5 and in June, 1964, it was 125.1. This means that for the 12 months the consumer price index, or, in other words, prices in South Australia over the period from July 1, 1963, to June 30, 1964, increased by 2.6 per cent.

Mr. Ryan: Isn't that the period that is covered by our amendment?

Mr. LAWN: Yes, and I am coming to that. The fourth column of my statement shows that the increase in Sydney for that period was

2.1; in Melbourne it was 1.9; in Brisbane, 2.3; in Adelaide, 2.6; in Hobart, 1.9; and the average of the six capital cities increase was 2.1.

Mr. Ryan: Adelaide was the highest in Australia.

Mr. LAWN: This set of figures proves that prices increased more in South Australia during the past 12 months than they did in any other State. Therefore, the figures quoted by the honourable member do not reflect the position at all. All that he did was to prove that South Australia has the lowest basic wage in the Commonwealth. On the other hand, my set of figures has proved that South Australia has had the highest increase. The member for Mitcham said:

Now how on earth members opposite can say that an increase of 1.3 in this State in the last quarter is an upward spiral of prices and an inflationary cost of living, I do not know.

The Opposition did not say that. Referring to the statement made by the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Mitcham said:

It is just not an accurate statement.

Mr. Frank Walsh: I should like him to prove it.

Mr. LAWN: He comes from a long line of bachelors. The honourable member does not understand the amendment. The member for Torrens (Mr. Coumbe) when he spoke admitted that he did not understand the amendment. That is recorded in *Hansard*. The amendment states:

2a. We express regret at the failure of Your Excellency's advisers to make any reference to the upward spiral of prices and the inflationary cost of living.

2b. We desire to inform Your Excellency that in the opinion of this House, a committee of five (comprising the Deputy President of the Industrial Court and Public Service Arbitrator (Judge L. H. Williams), as Chairman; the Auditor-General (Mr. G. H. P. Jeffery); the Prices Commissioner (Mr. E. A. Murphy); one member nominated by the Trades and Labor Council and one member nominated by the Chamber of Manufactures) should be appointed to inquire into all aspects of price increases in South Australia since July 1, 1963, and to report to this House on Tuesday, October 6. The figures I have quoted are from the Commonwealth Statistician and show that since July 1, 1963, (as stated in our amendment) South Australia has shown the greatest increase in prices. The member for Mitcham said that that statement by the Leader was not accurate. In effect, he is saying that the Commonwealth Statistician is not compiling accurate figures. The member for Mitcham said:

There just has not been this great increase of prices of which the Opposition is trying to complain.

Whom should we believe: the Commonwealth Statistician or the member for Mitcham? The honourable member further said:

I do not know whether the Leader blames the State Government for the basic wage judgment or for not dealing with it specifically in His Excellency's Speech.

Mr. Millhouse: I still don't know.

Mr. LAWN: There are many things I have already said that the honourable member does not know. I do not know how the honourable member got into the firm of solicitors that he was with. However, I understand that he has now been sacked and is on his own. The honourable member said:

The judgment was delivered only one day before the Speech was made in another place and printed and laid on the table of this House, so the Government did not have much time to deal with that aspect.

What aspect is the honourable member talking about: about the increase in the basic wage, I suppose. It is necessary to guess what he means.

Mr. Millhouse: We are not referring to the basic wage at all.

Mr. LAWN: Apparently the honourable member was not in the Chamber when I read the amendment.

Mr. Millhouse: Apparently I had to guess what the Leader meant.

Mr. LAWN: The honourable member said that the Government did not have much time. It has been in power for about 30 years and, in any event, since July, 1963, and yet it has not had time to write His Excellency's Speech! The honourable member might be right. I have been told that this Speech was the same as one previously delivered by Sir Robert George. The honourable member may be right when he says that the Government did not have time to write the Speech; it may have been looking after T.A.B. or working out its policy speech. When the member for Mitcham said that the Government had not had time, the member for Stuart (Mr. Riches) interjected:

But you know costs had gone up before the judgment was delivered.

That is what the Opposition is saying in its amendment. If honourable members remember, the last cost of living report in this State was that the cost had gone up 4s. for the three months prior to the judgment of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court. In 1953, the Arbitration Court stopped its quarterly adjustments of wages up and down according to whether the cost of living went up or down. Before 1953 wages were adjusted upwards or downwards every quarter. In its application to the Commonwealth Commission this year, the Australian Council of Trade Unions said that there would be a need for a 20s. increase in the basic wage to bring it up to date in 1964 with what it would have been if there had not been any interruption in the quarterly basic wage adjustments. In effect, had the quarterly adjustments been made to the cost of living since 1953, the wage would have been increased by 20s. The A.C.T.U. added that to give the wage earner some share of the national productivity, which has increased since 1953, the increase in the basic wage should be 52s. and that is what it asked for. With the increase of 20s., the court has only

brought the wage to what it would have been allowing for cost of living increases since 1953.

Mr. Shannon: Half the court.

Mr. LAWN: The member of Onkaparinga has at last caught up with that. The member for Mitcham said that in his speech (and he is now supported by the honourable member for Onkaparinga). The member for Mitcham said:

In the decision two of the judges, including the Chief Judge, opted for a rise of 20s. and the other two opted for a rise of 10s. In other words, there was almost as completely a split of opinion as one could imagine between men who are judicial officers and who should have a grasp of economics. It is disturbing that in a commission such as this two members can say there should be a 10s. rise, another two members can say there should be a 20s. rise, and the decision can be made simply on the weight of the opinion of the Chief Judge. This comes from a man who claims to be a barrister and who claims to be a member of Parliament.

Mr. Frank Walsh: He comes from a long line of barristers.

Mr. LAWN: And from a long line of bachelors, too. He knows that every time a jury goes out and takes a vote, except where the law provides differently, a majority of one prevails. He knows that where three judges sit on a bench the majority prevails and where there are four, whichever side the Chief Judge votes against is out-voted unless three judges vote against him. The honourable member has been here for a few years now and has never protested about what happens in a court of law with regard to the voting of judge and jury. He accepts it; but on this occasion, because it meant a wage increase, he is against it. I am not so sure that his analysis of the voting was correct. However, if what he said is correct, it is happening every day of the week in every court of Australia. It happens in the High Court, not only the Arbitration Court, and I have not heard the honourable member say a word against it.

Mr. Millhouse: You are exaggerating a bit.

Mr. LAWN: Compare this state of affairs with what happened in an election year—1962. The Party that ultimately won in this House did not rely on the casting vote of someone. However, the people said in no uncertain terms what Government they wanted. They voted my Party in by thousands and thousands and returned 19 members compared with 17 on the other side of the House.

Mr. Ryan: It was not a three to two vote!

Mr. LAWN: No, it was a greater majority than that. We came in here with a majority

of 19 to 17, and yet the other Party still holds office. In the court it was two to two and the decision of the Chief Judge as President outweighed the other two. We have 19 members to 17 members and no-one should criticize the voting of the Arbitration Commission.

Mr. Shannon: If you cannot govern with 19 members to 17 as you now complain, then you never deserve to govern!

Mr. Millhouse: That is a good one to answer.

Mr. LAWN: If the brain-box of the member for Onkaparinga were filled with gunpowder there would not be enough to blow off the top of his head.

Mr. Shannon: Go to the zoo and fill the lion's head with that one. It should blow his head off.

Mr. LAWN: The member for Mitcham says that the voting is not something with which we are competent to deal. In this House we should be competent to deal with a similar situation, and yet I have never heard the member for Mitcham protest.

Mr. Ryan: Which way did Mr. Wright the judge, who was a member of the honourable member's firm, vote?

Mr. Millhouse: He was not a member.

Mr. LAWN: I doubt whether he was a member of that bench. I am disappointed to learn that a person coming into that firm following Mr. Wright's leaving to accept the appointment on the Commonwealth bench should make such a stupid statement in this House, particularly as he has not recently entered that firm but has been there some years. I support the amendment as moved by the Leader, and hope that next year we will be able to correct the position by changing the Government.

Mr. LAUCKE (Barossa): Mr. Acting Speaker, I have much pleasure in supporting the motion as originally submitted. At once I warmly congratulate the member for Eyre (Mr. Bockelberg) on the excellence of his speech when moving the motion and the member for Stirling (Mr. McAnaney) on his good contribution to this debate when seconding it. It is obvious that the member for Eyre has a deep and justifiable pride in the area he represents in particular and for the whole of the West Coast in general. The development of the West Coast provides one of the sagas in this State's history. It is as outstanding an instance of pioneering as anywhere in this State—an area in comparative isolation from the metropolis, earlier not blessed with water supplies and requiring cartage of water with

definite difficulties—and the spirit shown by those pioneers on the West Coast is something of which the whole State can be proud, as it is now proud of the contributions being made to the State's economy by this important part of the State. In congratulating the member for Eyre I pay my tribute to the area he represents and to other members from that part of the State. The development of the West Coast provides one of the finest instances of bank support of any part of the State. The State Bank did a great job on the West Coast in accepting responsibility at a time when the pioneers were up against it, and this confidence in the area has been fully justified as it is now one of the soundest areas in the State.

The honourable member for Stirling made a really sterling contribution to this debate. He is one from whom we shall hear much more original thought and, in his own words, "invincible individuality". I liked that reply to an interjection because it sums up this gentleman, as I have known him through the years.

The Hon. Sir Baden Pattinson: It is typical of what all Liberals possess.

Mr. LAUCKE: Absolutely, and it is common to members on this side of the House who have been individualistic without any fear of anything untoward politically happening to them within the Party when they show individuality. The 75th anniversary of this Chamber was referred to by His Excellency when he opened this session of Parliament. On looking up *Hansard* I found the first Address in Reply debate on June 11, 1889, was couched in similar terms and thoughts as today's. It is different in one aspect. Paragraph (3) of the first Address in Reply stated:

We are gratified to hear that it is expected that the revenue for the current year will suffice to meet all requirements.

They must have been the good old days.

Mr. Coumbe: How much was that?

Mr. Shannon: I think there are a few noughts missing!

Mr. LAUCKE: I did not check on the actual amount. The Premier-Treasurer of the day evidently had less demands made on him than his grandson, our present Premier, has today. I believe that it is unique in Commonwealth Parliamentary history to have gentlemen of one family of identical name each earning Royal recognition in his own right for public services rendered, and each in his generation being Treasurer and, with it, holding office as Premier. I pay a tribute to this great family to which South Australia will always have reason to be grateful.

Regarding the retention of old procedures, it is three-quarters of a century since the then member for Victoria (as then constituted) moved for the adoption of the Address in Reply. It was Mr. John J. Osman, seconded by Mr. Gould, member for West Torrens, and presented to His Excellency, the Right Honourable Algernon Hawkins Thomond, Earl of Kentore, in the office then entitled Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Province of South Australia. The same ceremonial applies today as then: The same dress of Speaker and officers of the House. I hope these things will always be retained. When the late Hon. Archie Cameron was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives he immediately resumed ceremonial dress and certain procedures which had, under his predecessor, been discarded. The effect, I understand, in Parliament was an immediate uplifting of the dignity and decorum of the House. While in the world about us "the old order changeth and giveth place to new", it would indeed be a day of retrogression if we were to discontinue time-honoured practices. I say this today because it is the 75th anniversary of the opening of this Chamber and our present high standing of Parliament in this State is, in many ways, the result of the retention of old traditional procedures. I join with fellow members in expressing appreciation of and admiration for the superb manner in which His Excellency the Governor and Lady Bastyan represent Her Gracious Majesty in South Australia. I desire to join in the expression of joy at the birth of a third son to Her Majesty and in expressing felicitations to Their Royal Highnesses the Princess Alexandra and the Duchess of Kent on the recent births of their children. I should like also to take the opportunity to pay my respects to the memories of the four former members who passed away during last year. Each of them has left very honourable impressions in the history of these Houses, and each served the State well indeed. I should like to say how sorry I am at the illnesses of two excellent members of this House, the members for Semaphore (Mr. Tapping) and West Torrens (Mr. Fred Walsh) and to wish both of them speedy recoveries. I congratulate Mr. Walsh on the honour conferred upon him by Her Majesty earlier this year.

The contents of His Excellency's Speech emphasize the degree of development achieved in South Australia. It is obvious that the foundations of our economy have been well and truly laid. We can now talk in figures

that were undreamed of 20 years ago. These foundations must be the springboard from which we go to greater things, and so we can, if we continue to have in this State the same commonsense and down-to-earth administration in Government that we have had in the years past until now. It seems that some members of this place regard buoyancy of economy and profits as something to be condemned or to be ashamed of. I wonder just how well-off the people of this State would be were we to have an economy that allowed bankruptcies left right and centre as well as lack of profits. There would then be no opportunities for employment and no revenues to governments to provide the necessary services that are the rights of the people. We have to have business—primary, secondary and professional—which brings in profits to those who work in them. If we do not have the situation where people can receive a reward for their efforts, then there is no hope for the future growth of an economy. However, for the present time we have full confidence in South Australia's position. I refer to a telling paragraph in His Excellency's Speech, namely, paragraph 19 which states:

The employment position in South Australia continues to be very satisfactory, there being more vacancies available for males than persons registered for employment. As in 1962, the rate of increase of people in civilian employment was higher than the average for the whole of the Commonwealth. There was a 25 per cent increase in the number of new apprentices

I regard this as the most impartial and most expressive proof of the overall economic well-being of our State. When we couple this irrefutable statement with the fact that South Australia is attracting a greater proportion of newcomers to its shores than any other State, it is silly to condemn such a state of affairs. I pay a tribute to the members of the Government who have done and are doing an excellent job in directing the affairs of this State, affording a climate of confidence within the community which is enabling us to go ahead and achieve higher living standards, more opportunities for advancement, and the facility to expand in our various avocations or interests. We are enjoying the results of good government, because we can cancel out all the beneficial effects of a benign providence. Good seasons have prevailed in all the States; all States have had the same number of opportunities, but we in South Australia have the undeniable fact of good government.

I refer now to the egg industry. As I see it, we have come to the parting of the ways, so

far as the maintenance of orderly marketing procedures, as now exist, are concerned. An impossible situation has been reached. The individual State Egg Board system is just not good enough. We have the spectacle of a portion only of the egg producers in the Commonwealth playing the game so far as stabilization is concerned. A decreasing number of producers are being called upon to provide the necessary funds for maintaining stability within the industry. These loyalists, as I call them, that is, those who adhere to the principles of stabilization as we now have the system, pay levies to their State boards and provide an umbrella for those who do nothing at all in the way of monetary assistance to stabilization and who evade levies by trading in other States. I do not object to such trading, because it is necessary and desirable, but the results of its excessive and unwarranted movements are wasteful and must finally be borne by the producers. I have no time for the person who takes parasitical advantage of his fellows. Therefore, if there is to be rationalization or stabilization of the industry it must be with all producers subscribing to a system, except, of course, those who are legally excluded through keeping only a minimum number of birds. A State set-up has all the disadvantages of allowing producers to evade their obligation to pay levies. The pre-requisite to a rationalization plan must be through participation by all States, with a central authority co-ordinating State activities, as is the case with the wheat stabilization plan. The wheat industry possesses a pattern in regard to overall controlling, with a central point—a head office in Melbourne—and with State boards, each having a superintendent. Policy, however, is determined by the head office, thus ensuring uniformity throughout the States. That is a system that has meant much to the grower and I am sure that aspect will have to be adopted in the egg industry, and possibly other industries as well.

Mr. Harding: That is the only system that will work with marketing.

Mr. LAUCKE: Yes. If we were to have this all-Australian set-up, the following advantages would be evident: (1) the avoidance of unnecessary interstate movement of eggs; (2) the equitable shouldering by all qualified producers of the costs incidental to ensuring a rationalized industry. The cost of each producer, when divided by a greater number, is naturally reduced. At present levies are 5d. a dozen; they were 6d. for a long time. Taking it as 6d. a dozen, on the basis of 12

dozen eggs per hen per year (which is a small number, but which is the figure taken, I understand, in commercial egg production as the reasonable return in a flock lay), 6s. per bird per year is now being paid by the "loyalists" towards an orderly marketing scheme. If the "loyalists" represent 30 or 40 per cent of all producers, then the 6s. must be a lesser figure in an overall viewing in the whole of Australia, with all producers contributing, excluding those legally exempted from paying levies. I feel that the word "tax" being applied to levies in some instances these days is rather placing a different perspective on proposals now being considered than should be placed on them. A levy exists now for a certain desirable purpose, and a levy will exist in a system as proposed by a certain authority; but it is a levy, and not a tax.

The plan which I have hinted at is the plan of the Council of Egg Marketing Authorities of Australia. This council comprises members of the various State Egg Boards, and is therefore predominantly a producer board. The council has made extensive investigations into the industry and has made certain proposals for rationalization. In my opinion, this plan is the most constructive yet conceived; it may have weaknesses, but to my knowledge no better or alternative plan has been put up by those not favouring it. In these circumstances, I believe that the proposals must be considered and maybe, with some variation, put into practice.

The egg industry stabilization plan as proposed by the Council of Egg Marketing Authorities envisages the equalization of returns to egg producers from domestic and export sales in order that losses incurred from exports may be shared equitably by all commercial egg producers. The plan requires the concurrence of all State Governments, as I have said, in a similar fashion to the concurrence required by State Governments to wheat stabilization. In short, therefore, the council's plan calls for legislation by the Commonwealth for a levy on commercial laying fowls. The money thus collected will be paid into a fund from which the Commonwealth Government will remit to each State an amount equal to the loss sustained by that State from its sale of egg surpluses. The levy to be collected will replace the equalization levy deducted at present by the State Boards. It would be reasonable to expect that the levy, plus administrative charges, would be no greater,

and possibly less, than the average overall deductions now made by the State Boards. When I say "possibly less", I do so because of the participation in the scheme by all commercial producers, not just some of them, as now applies. I understand that in its deliberations to arrive at a satisfactory Commonwealth plan for stabilization, the council has reached agreement on the following points which are deemed to be vital to the success of the plan:

- (1) There shall be a minimum price throughout the Commonwealth for egg pulp sold for use in Australia. This price would be fixed by the council for each pulp year. Honouring this one agreement should benefit the poultry farmers of Australia by a considerable amount.
- (2) Agreement on the principle of fixing minimum prices for all egg products has been reached.
- (3) Certification of pulp sales by auditors of State Boards, one to the other, has been agreed subject to the agreement of the Auditors-General concerned.
- (4) The council has recognized the necessity for reasonable similarity in the prices for shell eggs on the Australian market, and will maintain frequent consultation thereon to ensure no price incentive is given for trading outside the boards.
- (5) Agreement has been reached on the desirability for uniformity throughout the Commonwealth of grade of eggs and quality of eggs.
- (6) Subject to the implementation of these proposals, no State marketing authority will sell the commodity for which it is responsible in another State except as mutually agreed between the State Boards.
- (7) Each State marketing authority would be charged with the need to have adequate supplies of eggs available within the respective State.

As I said earlier, these proposals are the most constructive I have yet seen regarding the egg industry. The system as we have it now is not working as it should, and if we have nothing better offered or proposed than this particular plan, then I believe we should consider adopting this approach to ensure stability within the industry without in any way causing a huge increase in production, because supply and

demand would still apply were this scheme to come in, as supply and demand now governs price levels.

Mr. Hall: Do you believe the producer, in the time of shortage should be levied to support the production in time of plenty?

Mr. LAUCKE: No. I think the honourable member's query is very soundly based. The imposition of a high levy at a time of egg shortage in certain parts of the year does not encourage the production of eggs at the right time of the year, and therefore I feel that the amount of levy could possibly be altered at certain times of the year to ensure that those producers who go out of their way to produce eggs when they are most in demand should not be penalized by the over-production of eggs in the glut time of the year.

Mr. Millhouse: You would agree that supply and demand is the best governor of price levels?

Mr. LAUCKE: Supply and demand does govern price levels, and the old law of supply and demand is always an effective means of arriving at a price. However, certain industries need minimum prices and certain conditions applicable to them which will ensure a return, within reason, to the producer. Basically, supply and demand does operate today and is the best form of arriving at a price, provided free supply and demand conditions are operating.

Mr. Jennings: You can't train the hens properly, that's the trouble.

Mr. LAUCKE: Mr. Acting Speaker, in the grape industry about 170,000 tons of grapes is used in Australia each year for the manufacture of wine and brandy. The annual intake of the past three years has been 180,000 tons, which is 10,000 tons in excess of requirement of our wineries' set-up in Australia. With recent plantings now coming into bearing, the annual surplus of 10,000 tons for the past three years could be 20,000 tons for the next three years, so the position is being aggravated with increasing production and a static ability to handle a given number of tons of grapes. We need more outlets for our products from the vineyards, and if we do not have these outlets or some system to take up the surplus, then chaos could eventuate in the grapegrowing and wine-making industries.

Mr. Hutchens: Why do people in Great Britain complain about the inability to obtain our wines?

Mr. LAUCKE: Australian wines are now on the English market, and sales there are

being followed up very keenly by both co-operative and proprietary companies from Australia.

Mr. Frank Walsh: Under how many labels?

Mr. LAUCKE: Under a great number of labels. Each co-operative has its own label, and there could well be a major weakness in that system. I believe that the South African approach to their export wines is an excellent one. In a modified way it might well be that Australia could do something similar in placing its excess production. I personally should not advocate an overriding system of one-brand sales of wine overseas to the exclusion of already established proprietary company brands or co-operative company brands on overseas markets. It is a matter of a surplus of 10,000 tons a year for the past three years, and a surplus of 20,000 tons anticipated in the next three years. Grapes are not like barley and wheat crops, subject to the vagaries of the weather. One can, particularly in the irrigated areas, assess the tonnage that a given area will produce in a given year, so that we have the knowledge and ability to produce a pre-determined quantity in the viticulture industry in a way that one cannot in cereal growing. If we can forecast what surpluses there will be in a given vintage and provision were made to take the surplus juice production into an organization to be set up, to be processed and sold by this organization to be set up, if it were set up, it could handle the excess production of the whole of Australia. At Loxton last week an interesting convention was held, which produced constructive suggestions, the main one being—

Mr. Clark: Was this a convention of growers?

Mr. LAUCKE: Yes. It was sponsored by the Federal Grapegrowers Council and was the first national convention of wine grapegrowers ever held in Australia. Its major decision, to which I refer, is:

To ask the Commonwealth Government to assist in the establishment of State winegrape marketing boards and an overriding Federal organization to register vineyards, control and recommend plantings of wine grapes, and control the intake of dried vine fruits into wineries.

That is a very constructive suggestion.

Mr. Clark: Would the attitude of the wine-makers be the same?

Mr. LAUCKE: I believe that all winemakers, either co-operative or proprietary organizations, are concerned about the uncertainty of the conditions now prevailing. An approach to the

industry that would enable surplus production to be economically taken up in some way would relieve individual wineries (again, either co-operative or proprietary) of the worries they now have of endeavouring to take in more than they can economically cater for from the point of view of both finance and storage capacity. Supposing they could say, "We will be able to process X tons of grapes this year." When all the estimates were brought together, the grower organizations would be able to work out how many tons of excess grapes there would be in a given vintage. The total vintage could be pressed at the various wineries throughout the country, and the crush arising from the surplus tonnage sent to a central point for the production of one type of wine (possibly fortified) or brandy. That would relieve the individual winemaker of the worries he now has. I pay a tribute to the way the co-operative and proprietary companies have met the challenge to the stability of the industry this year by taking in grapes to the utmost of their ability. The storages were bulging and their bank accounts were probably the opposite at the end of the vintage. They did a magnificent job in ensuring that not one bunch was lost during the year.

The co-operative formed by the growers, which took in 1,604 tons of grapes to a winery at Morphett Vale, was an emergency outlet for excess production. That saved the day in the end. There were 1,604 tons of grapes transported from the river areas, from the Barossa Valley, some from the Clare district and some from the south, into this emergency pool.

Mr. Casey: Is this surplus likely to increase in the years to come?

Mr. LAUCKE: Yes, because, unless there is some orderly approach to the planting and the usage of grapes, including dual-purpose grapes, with facilities for drying sultanas and gordos, which should be dried to a greater extent than they are at present—

Mr. Casey: Aren't most of the wineries growing more of their own grapes to a larger extent, thus causing a surplus?

Mr. LAUCKE: That is one factor. It is true that many vigneron are planting and even garnering at present fruit from their own acreages, particularly in the Murray irrigation areas. It is part of the overall picture of an increasing production of grapes, with a rise in local markets for wines and brandies. In 1962-63, 12,500,000 gallons of wine was consumed in Australia, and about 13,000,000 gallons is expected to be consumed this year.

Brandy showed a 7.5 per cent increase in consumption for the year 1962-63, and the trend is continuing with an increased consumption in the current year for brandy. Last year 795,000 gallons of proof brandy was sold.

Mr. Shannon: One aspect of this surplus wine with which we are all concerned is its final disposal. I take it it will not prejudice the normal trade in Australia?

Mr. LAUCKE: The surplus production to which I refer would mean no undue pressure on the local market; surplus wine production would not be sold on the local market. It would mean that the distribution of wines under their present labels would continue as at present. It would, however, relieve us of that real threat of excess production that could depress local prices. There is as big a threat to the industry of grapegrowing and wine-making through unduly low-priced products as there is to any other industry.

Mr. Shannon: We appreciate that. What about the financing of it?

Mr. LAUCKE: That would be required. At present, to this emergency co-operative created at Morphett Vale 182 growers delivered grapes. The suppliers have received so far only £5 a ton, which is sufficient to cover their picking and carting of those grapes. That grape juice will be developed into brandy and it will be two years before it is saleable. I understand there will be no payments to the suppliers until that produce is sold. It is interesting to note that the South African wine industry, now over 300 years old, experienced difficulties similar to those we are now experiencing. They struck their major difficulties in about 1917. In 1899 phylloxera struck in the Cape Province of South Africa and wiped out the vineyards. This led to a shortage of grapes for some years but, by the planting of new phylloxera-resistant stock, by 1917 there was such a production of grapes that the very conditions that apply to our industry today, when we have this dangerous surplus with the possibility that it will increase from year to year lest there be some outlet for it, led to the formation of the Co-operative Winegrowers Association of South Africa. This organization's Boer name was Ko-operatieve Wynbouwers Vereniging Van Zuid-Afrika. In 1917, the main object of the formation of that organization was to so direct, control and regulate the sale and disposal by its members of their produce as to secure or tend to secure for them a continuously adequate return. This organization now markets all of South Africa's

wines throughout the world. It is doing a great job, and there is a rather close parallel between the situation in Australia and the situation that applies even now in South Africa.

Mr. Freebairn: Has production in South Africa increased very much since 1917?

Mr. LAUCKE: I do not think so; I think it has remained static. However, there has been no difficulty in disposing of the production. I wish again to refer to the urgent need for consideration to be given to the extension of trunk sewer mains to the Tea Tree Gully area. I am very pleased with the expedition with which trunk sewer mains have been taken to the Para Hills and Modbury areas following the recommendation made by the Public Works Committee in 1962 that sewer mains to cost £484,000 and water mains to cost £262,000 be constructed to the Modbury district and that they be capable of extension to Tea Tree Gully and Golden Grove in due time. Most of that work has been done, but with the very great and rapid growth of population in the Tea Tree Gully area sewerage has become a really major problem. The local council has done a magnificent job in providing localized schemes, collecting effluent into ponds, and providing filtration plants, but because of the sheer weight of population growth in the district I exhort the Government to give every consideration to supplying trunk sewers to Tea Tree Gully as quickly as may be possible. The need is there for them, and if they are not installed in time to meet the critical demands of the area health problems may arise. All the effluent from that area will go to the new Bolivar treatment works, and I think this has been one of the inhibiting factors in having trunk mains in certain areas, but the present system is inadequate to handle the volume that will come down from those areas which the honourable member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) and I have the honour to represent.

I pay a tribute to the Emergency Fire Services for the magnificent job they have done throughout the State. These voluntary organizations are promoting a responsible interest by young men to work for the good of the community. The amount of voluntary work done by these volunteers is worthy of the highest commendation. Councils that sponsor and support the local branches in various towns are to be commended for their assistance. I consider that the money that has been spent by councils in providing equipment and facilities, in most instances with the co-operation and advice of the Director of the Emergency Fire Services, Mr. Fred Kerr, has been wisely

spent. The subsidies receivable by councils for their assistance to these units have been greatly appreciated, but, when I look at the Victorian figures of what is being made available to these services in that State by insurance companies and by the Government in subsidies, I should like to see greater contributions made to this excellent system of fire prevention and control in South Australia. It is hard to assess the value of property, crops and other assets saved from fire by this organization.

Mr. Coumbe: And lives, too.

Mr. LAUCKE: Yes, lives have also been saved by the service. I think this organization should have the most generous assistance from the Government and insurance companies. Complaints have been made by some councils about the difficulty experienced in matching up to the need for paying a full amount for any equipment before they can obtain the Government subsidy. I should like the Minister of Agriculture to consider enabling councils to receive their portions from the Government as soon as the goods are purchased. At present councils pay for units, send in the receipts to the committee, I understand, and payment is then made against that proof of payment.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: Often special arrangements are made to meet a council's needs.

Mr. LAUCKE: I am pleased to hear that. In conclusion, I wish to refer to a most enjoyable evening held at Tanunda on Saturday on the occasion of a five-choir choral festival. I pay a tribute to the adult education centres that organized this excellent festival, at which five choirs sang together. The festival had to be heard to be believed—in its beauty, in the presentation of the songs, and so on. I know that the member for Gawler (Mr. Clark) enjoyed a similar concert held the previous evening at Gawler. I commend the Premier on his proposal to make available certain moneys to promote choir work in South Australia through competition. I have pleasure in supporting the motion as originally moved.

Mr. CASEY (Frome): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply and also the amendment moved by the Leader, which has been so ably supported by members of the Opposition. I join with other members in expressing regret at the death of former members. I did not know Sir Shirley Jeffries, but from what I have heard he was a man of high ideals and outstanding ability. Having known Sir Walter Duncan, Mr. Bill Jenkins and Senator Critchley, I am pleased to have

been associated with them. They worked with outstanding zeal and devotion for the betterment of the people they represented.

All members of the House should be indebted to the member for Whyalla (Mr. Loveday) for his detailed analysis of the Road Maintenance (Contribution) Act, which is causing Government members much embarrassment. I say, as I said last year, that this legislation was introduced hastily by a panic-stricken Government to prevent the cartage of ore from Broken Hill to Port Pirie by road. This was substantiated by a Minister when speaking to a group of hostile primary producers at Port Lincoln a short time ago. Although the member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) represents an area in which reside many primary producers, he did not say even one syllable when this measure was before the House. Nor did the member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip). Now, these members see fit to try to belittle members of the Opposition who have at least tried to protect the primary producer. When I speak in this House, I speak on behalf of my constituents.

Mr. Heaslip: Were you opposed to this legislation?

Mr. CASEY: I supported the Bill. I expect members, whether on this side of the House or the other, to air their views on a measure while it is being debated, not six months later. Having listened to the member for Gouger, I believe that he is unable to convince himself, let alone the Government, of any capabilities he may have to back his own judgment, and I am grateful to the *Hansard* staff for interpreting his speech, as I had much difficulty in following his mumbo-jumbo. The matter of protection for primary producers in this State was ably covered by the member for Whyalla. I previously said that New South Wales and Victoria provided legislation for the protection of primary producers, but I now find that I was incorrect about New South Wales and I apologize to members opposite if I misled them. I am concerned about the cartage of wool to Port Adelaide because it concerns my constituents. I do not know any sheep station owner in my district who carts his own wool to Port Adelaide.

Mr. Heaslip: My brother does, and he lives in your district.

Mr. CASEY: Some small property owners in my district do cart a few bales occasionally and they usually back-load with scrap metal.

Mr. Heaslip: My brother does not back-load and he carts many bales of wool from his property to Port Adelaide.

Mr. CASEY: I believe that uniformity on many matters should be the aim of State Governments in co-operation with the Commonwealth. I point out to the member for Gouger that if such an item dealing with uniformity did not appear on the Labor Party platform, then I would be one of the first to see that it did appear. It is necessary only to look at the present railway system in Australia to realize what an adverse effect the change of gauge has had, and is still having on our economy. This change of gauge was caused by a lack of co-operation and foresight by some State Governments. Surely we can learn by these mistakes, be more realistic in our approach, and plan accordingly in these matters.

Let us examine the accomplishments of uniformity in the Common Market countries of Europe. I do not know whether the member for Rocky River has ever heard of the Common Market—

Mr. Heaslip: I have heard of uniformity.

Mr. CASEY: —which has been in operation in Europe for at least six years. Briefly, these countries aim to have a unified transportation system, a single policy of power and co-ordinated tax and labour laws. These are just a few of their aims. This is what I classify as uniformity. It appears to me that if these things are possible where there are tremendous obstacles, such as language, customs, and the memories of two world wars, they should be easier for Australia to achieve. It should not be hard for State Governments to get together to discuss problems that affect all States and arrive at a solution which can be uniformly adopted and which would undoubtedly assure greater efficiency within Government departments. I only hope that there is a more positive approach in this regard in the future.

I assure the member for Rocky River that I am greatly concerned with the railways in my district for many reasons. First, the line in my district is the best revenue-producing line in the State, and at least one of the best in the Commonwealth. For 1962-63, the revenue derived from the cartage of ore from Broken Hill to Port Pirie was £2,869,324, and the total ore carried was 804,097 tons. In 1963-64, the tonnage has increased. This figure has been released by the Railways Commissioner, but the actual revenue figure has not been released and, therefore, I cannot quote it. Secondly, the railways have served primary producers in this State,

particularly during the 1959 drought, by the speedy transportation of stock to other States. During the drought period, I often heard people say, "Thank God for the railways." Did not the Chairman of the Bulk Handling co-operative commend the railways for expeditiously handling our record wheat harvest last year? Farmers tried to criticize the Railways Department but the department proved it was quite capable of carting every bushel it was expected to cart.

Mr. Heaslip: It could not!

Mr. CASEY: It did it, too. The Minister of Lands can support my remarks because he was present at a meeting at Jamestown early this year or late last year when it was fully explained.

Mr. Heaslip: The railways did not do it.

Mr. CASEY: The honourable member should ask the Minister of Lands whether the department did it or not. I shall quote from a booklet, *Railways of Australia Network*. These excerpts support me in what I am trying to tell members opposite, particularly the member for Rocky River:

Railways show to best advantage in the mass volume movement of men and materials by land-based transport. Certainly on long hauls they remain the quickest and most economical and least demanding of manpower resources.

Mr. Heaslip: Get down to facts.

Mr. CASEY: The booklet further states:

From the defence standpoint a strong integrated railway system insulated by friendly territory is vital to Australian interests.

What does the member for Rocky River want to do? He wants to give the whole of the railways away!

Mr. Heaslip: They did not cart the wheat. You should know that.

Mr. CASEY: Another passage in the same booklet came from a report in a New South Wales paper, and states:

We can take encouragement from the enterprise of the men controlling the railway industry. It is only right that everyone should have an interest in this national business as we are all personal shareholders.

In these times no Government can afford to overlook past mistakes if it is to remain progressive, and for that reason every consideration should be given to our road and rail transportation systems. It is interesting to note that in South Australia over 50 per cent of our beef cattle and 27 per cent of the cattle in South Australia are to be found in the Far North. These figures are perhaps

outdated because they are for 1959-60, but I do not think they would vary considerably from today's figures.

Mr. Jennings: Ask the member for Mitcham.

Mr. CASEY: The North-East of the State, which I represent, provides the greatest percentage of far northern cattle marketed in this State and two roads serving this area are the Birdsville and Strzelecki tracks. Road transport is playing an ever-increasing role in transporting cattle to the railhead in these areas, but today the road transport of fat cattle on the Strzelecki track is at a standstill due to the shocking state of sections of that road. Store cattle are transported up the track but only because there is no alternative. It is a matter of either moving them by road transport, because they would never make the journey on hoof, or letting them die. I have a report which states:

Lyndhurst Siding (which to all intents and purposes is regarded as the beginning of the Strzelecki track) to Mount Lyndhurst is about 30 miles and the road is in bad order.

This, no doubt, can be borne out by the Minister of Lands and the member for Mitcham, who, I understand, is interested in this part of the country. The report goes on:

The first portion to Avondale, a sheep property, is very good, but the balance is rough, uneven and covered with potholes which make travelling slow, and rough on transports and stock. Most of this part needs a coat of gravel filling which would last longer than grading loose dirt into these places. Mount Lyndhurst to The Knob Well, about 35 miles, is good to the Frome Creek.

I have been up that track and agree wholeheartedly. The report continues:

From there on it is cutting up very badly and requires a good solid filling of heavy clay or gravel.

I remember that on this particular section I drove into three pot holes about 2ft. deep, so situated that it was impossible to miss them. The report then states that the road from The Knob Well to Murnpeowie is about 35 miles and that it is first class. That is not quite correct. I travelled over it after the report had gone in, and this portion had had 40 points of rain and it was anything but first class. I became bogged on three occasions.

Mr. Heaslip: Whose report is this?

Mr. CASEY: I was going to mention it at the end of my remarks. It also states:

At present there is a two-man gang grading on this portion; even so there are patches which cut up and should be filled in with gravel.

The SPEAKER: There is too much audible conversation.

Mr. CASEY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The report continues:

From Murnpeowie to The Cobbler sand hills, about 65 miles: at present getting graded, and in very good order: like the rest of the roads needs the bad cut up patches filled in.

From The Cobbler to Merty Well, about 70 miles: this road is in a terrific mess, cut up and dug out in large holes, and will be a big job to put back in order. This road when first put down was a credit to the Engineering and Water Supply Department, but no-one was left on the road to maintain it and keep the cut up places, if caught in time, filled in. From Merty Well to Innamincka, about 80 miles; the road is very good with only a few bad spots to fix up.

Mr. Heaslip: I am not interested in the report. I want facts.

Mr. CASEY: The honourable member is not interested in the report! He is not interested in many things to my way of thinking. The report states:

Innamincka to Patchiewarra, 35 miles: A lot of water-courses on this stony portion and creeks, gutters and crossings need repairing. Most of this stretch is very good. Patchiewarra to Cordilla Downs (around the outside road 76 miles): This road requires grading and a few crossings cut down, otherwise it is mostly good.

This comprehensive report was compiled by the manager of Murnpeowie Station. He travels the road many times a year and is an authority on that part of the country. I thank him for his report and agree wholeheartedly with it. Perhaps the member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse) will agree when I say that we really have to go into this country to appreciate the conditions. I see that the honourable member is nodding his head, so he must be in agreement. I can appreciate the Minister's statement, because on my first trip back from the Birdsville track I completely wrecked the differential on my car. Recently, coming back from the Strzelecki track, the entire steering column underneath the car just collapsed.

Mr. Ryan: Didn't the Premier say this road was pretty good?

Mr. CASEY: I have asked the Premier many questions and he has always informed me that these roads are the best they have ever been.

Mr. Millhouse: That could be so, too.

Mr. CASEY: I agree with the honourable member. I remember travelling on these tracks before the war, and in those days they were certainly only tracks.

Mr. Ryan: Are they any better now?

Mr. CASEY: I do not think they are.

Mr. Heaslip: We did not travel as fast in those days.

Mr. CASEY: No, but we still cannot travel fast on these tracks today. I was travelling at an average of about 25 miles an hour for most of my journey, because the corrugations were almost three inches deep. I do not know whether or not the member for Rocky River has travelled over such roads as that. If he is so interested in my remarks he has only to let me know, and the next time he is going that way I shall be happy to take him along. He will be able to help me dig out of the bull-dust, and we will rough it up a little. At present these beef roads are under the jurisdiction of the Engineering and Water Supply Department; in fact, they have always been so. On several occasions in this House (and no doubt the Minister of Works knows about this) I have brought them to the notice of honourable members, and the Minister in particular. I have tried to offer constructive criticism, namely, to place the Birdsville and Strzelecki tracks under the control of the Highways Department. My reason for advocating this is that I believe that it would help immeasurably when negotiating with the Commonwealth Government for grants for beef roads. I do not know whether the Premier or Minister of Works would agree with that statement, but recently, during a discussion with a Government Senator of this State, I was asked what I thought about this matter and I expressed the same view as I express now. The Senator agreed wholeheartedly with me, and confirmed my theory that if the Minister of Roads were to have jurisdiction over these tracks he would carry more weight than the Engineering and Water Supply Department carries when dealing with Commonwealth Ministers. Whether that is true or not I do not know, but perhaps the Minister can enlighten me on that point. In addition, the Highways Department has more engineers and technical men at its disposal than has the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

Mr. McKee: That is, for roadmaking.

Mr. CASEY: Yes. At present the beef cattle roads in South Australia extend from Kenmore Park and Everard Ranges stations in the North-West to Oodnadatta. That is a particularly important road also. I have already informed the Minister that it is maintained by a gang working from Oodnadatta with only two graders at its disposal, one of which is more out of service than in service. That gang patrols 1,000 miles of road. I

do not think it is humanly possible to maintain roads that are so vital to South Australia with such a limited amount of equipment available. Another gang maintains the Birdsville track from Marree. That is a competent gang of men and it has done a reasonably good job but, there again, the distance involved is so tremendous that the amount of men and machinery available cannot maintain the track effectively. A similar case applies to the Strzelecki track. I will say that the roads east of Burra that have been constructed by the Engineering and Water Supply Department under the foremanship of Mr. Baker are really first-class. There was some suggestion that these roads be put under the control of the Highways Department but I do not see the point in that. I commend the Engineering and Water Supply Department for the work that is being done in that area. I cannot speak highly enough of the job those men have done.

Mr. Clark: Would the honourable member approve of those roads being controlled by the Minister of Roads.

Mr. CASEY: I maintain that all roads in South Australia should be under one body, namely, the Minister of Roads. That is the case in other States, which have their Main Roads Boards.

Mr. Millhouse: What about council roads in metropolitan areas?

Mr. CASEY: That would be different again. I am speaking about main roads in general. I have a detailed plan that I should be only too happy to make available to the Minister of Works. I know that he and his departmental officers are keen to see this plan. It indicates the type of construction being carried out in south-west Queensland. Earlier this year I travelled over the Birdsville track to Birdsville. I did not stop there but continued on to Bidourie, which is 150 miles north of Birdsville, where I met members of the Diamantina Shire Council. During my stay at Bidourie I discussed this matter with these gentlemen and I was particularly impressed by the way in which they were prepared to attack their road problems.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: Did they tell you what shire rates they paid on their land?

Mr. CASEY: No. I also visited the road construction gang's headquarters and travelled by Land Rover over 60 miles of newly-constructed road. The country between Bidourie and Birdsville is sandhill country, very similar to the country south of Birdsville. If members opposite want to know what that country looks

like, I suggest they have a talk with the member for Mitcham.

Mr. Millhouse: Better still, go and see it themselves.

Mr. CASEY: I made some inquiries and I saw the actual work being carried out. I see no reason whatever why a similar plan could not be put into operation on both our Strzelecki and Birdsville tracks and also the main road to the north from the boundary of the local government areas just north of Hawker. The latter is only a flat graded road. I asked what it cost the Queensland authorities to construct those roads, and I was told that the cost was about £300 a mile. Of course, they get a Commonwealth Government grant for the beef roads, and I understand that the State Government finances the project pound-for-pound.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: There are rates in that area.

Mr. CASEY: Yes; that is how that area becomes a shire council area. I cannot say exactly what those rates are. I think this is a very important matter for this State. As I pointed out earlier, cattle are vital to this State and they could come here, but at present many of them are going up to Queensland and across to the East Coast. Some people will say that they are offering higher prices there, but I do not think that is the answer to it. I saw the Alligator Creek meatworks at Townsville during the war; it was a big show then, and I understand it has been improved since. I believe that the Queensland authorities are more interested in big bullocks, whereas we in South Australia more or less go for the handy weight trade. I do not hear anything to the contrary from members opposite, most of whom are primary producers, so I gather that what I have said is correct. Those meatworks have been improved, and the Queensland Government is going ahead so quickly with good road construction in that area that soon we shall have no hope whatever of getting cattle out of that area. Most of the cattle cannot come down the Strzelecki today because they get buffeted to such a degree that when they arrive at the markets they are so badly bruised that butchers will not handle them. These northern cattle cannot be held: once they come down they have to be slaughtered, because otherwise they lose weight very quickly on account of the difference in feed conditions. Recently a consignment came down from that area and the cattle were so badly bruised they could not be used for human consumption. Perhaps not all of each beast was wasted; but the consignors were advised not to send any more cattle down.

This is the sort of thing that could happen with cattle from that top end of South Australia. At present cattle are being sent to Quilpie, which is a railhead in south-western Queensland. Quilpie to Windorah is 150 miles, and three-quarters of that road is already bituminized. The Queensland authorities are spending £350,000 on the road from Boulia to Mount Isa. This road, which is to be bituminized, is being constructed now.

Mr. Hall. Are Queensland beef prices comparable with ours?

Mr. CASEY: I do not know what their beef prices are now, but when I was in Queensland early this year their cuts of meat in the shops were about the same price as they are in Adelaide today. Therefore, I do not think there is any great disparity in prices.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: We haven't got anything to compare, either.

Mr. CASEY: Road construction from Birdsville to Bidourie is going ahead, and the road from Bidourie to Windorah will go ahead in the future. Incidentally, Windorah is another railhead. If those roads are constructed soon, we shall most decidedly lose not only cattle which could come into South Australia from south-western Queensland but our cattle from the top half of South Australia. I recommend to the Government, first, that the Birdsville and Strzelecki tracks be placed under the control of the Minister of Roads and maintained by the Highways Department. Secondly, I suggest that a ground survey be made of both the Birdsville and the Strzelecki tracks. I believe that if such a ground survey were made a considerable distance could be saved, for the survey could determine the best route for an all-weather road.

I recommend also that two gangs be stationed permanently in the Birdsville track area, one at Marree and the other at Birdsville, and that two gangs (one stationed at Leigh Creek and one at Innamincka) be set aside for the construction of the Strzelecki track. Most important, modern workshops should be made available at Leigh Creek for the maintenance of road equipment. Today we have the unhappy position that all the equipment belonging to the Engineering and Water Supply Department that is operating in the Far North has to be brought all the way down to Crystal Brook, a distance of many hundreds of miles, for maintenance. It seems absolutely fantastic that this state of affairs should exist.

Mr. McKee: It is centralization.

Mr. CASEY: Crystal Brook is very close to the member for Port Pirie's area. If anything goes wrong with the graders as far north as Oodnadatta they have to be brought down to Crystal Brook for maintenance. The Electricity Trust has wonderful workshops at Leigh Creek to service its equipment and there is no reason why such workshops could not be made available for servicing the equipment used in that area on road construction. Leigh Creek has everything one could want, and, as well as recognizing that it has supplies of water and power, we should recognize that it is preferable to settle people in an existing town.

I want to refer to a matter the member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse) raised in his speech last week. I believe he was acting rather melodramatically when he said:

I have been told (and I am able to believe it) that this is the driest country in the world where man is attempting to make permanent habitation.

Let me assure him that the country he referred to is subject to droughts for long periods. Unfortunately, the area in places is drought-stricken now, but when he says it is the "driest country in the world" he is stretching things a little too far. However, both Cooper Creek and the Diamantina River play an important part in this area, particularly on the Strzelecki and Birdsville tracks. Both rivers are slow-moving when in flood, and because of the flatness of the country the water spreads out, depending on the size of the flood, sometimes to a width of 20, 30 or even 40 miles. I flew over Cooper Creek last year and saw water spread over thousands of square miles. To me it was a truly magnificent sight. It is important for station properties along these rivers to have a river frontage. I commend the Pastoral Board—Mr. Johnson, Mr. Steve Reid and Mr. Gordon Buchanan—for seeing the possibilities of a river frontage in these areas.

When I returned I, too, mentioned the importance of this to these people. They saw fit to recommend it to the Minister who, I am happy to say, has taken appropriate action to ensure that stations in the areas bordering Cooper Creek now have a river frontage. I stress the importance of that because the country is susceptible to frequent droughts, but nature comes to the rescue and brings down the Cooper Creek in flood so that after a few months we have an enormous body of feed in the flooded area. That is when we get a quick fattening of stock there. The honourable member not only said that this was the driest country in the world but added "where

man is attempting to make permanent habitation". Let me assure him that all families who live on properties in the Far North have permanent homes, and lovely homes at that.

Mr. Millhouse: You are deliberately missing the point.

Mr. CASEY: They would compare favourably with some homes in our more expensive suburbs. I am amazed that the honourable member did not notice them on his tour.

Mr. Millhouse: I did.

Mr. CASEY: Perhaps the honourable member was awe-struck and held spellbound by the vastness of the interior. I understand it was his first taste of the outback so he can be excused, for that reason. Paragraph 8 of the Governor's Speech deals with the value of minerals produced in this State. An important thing for South Australia (and I hope I have not beaten the Premier to the gun on this occasion) is this. I understand that on Balcanoona Station, 50 miles east of Copley, the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited is interested in mining a considerable deposit of magnesite. I have gathered some information on magnesite. It appears that it has a two-fold use and the B.H.P. Company is interested in it because it can be used at temperatures between 1,450 degrees and 1,500 degrees centigrade. The *Mining Review* for the half year ended June 30, 1958, stated:

This is used almost entirely in the metallurgical field, particularly where basic slags are produced in furnaces at high temperatures. This deposit on Balcanoona Station is estimated to have a reserve of 3,500,000 cubic yards. The report also states:

Unless faulting has dislocated the continuation of the bed, probable reserves outside the area mapped may be many times this figure.

Mr. McKee: Who found it?

Mr. CASEY: I could not say, but I have great hopes for this outback area of South Australia. I believe there is an untold wealth of mineral deposits there, waiting only for somebody to really develop them. Every year something different comes up. A number of mining deposits in that area have been discovered. For example, we found talc deposits in an area a little further north, out from Mount Lyndhurst on the Strzelecki track. They are particularly rich deposits of talc. Members have mentioned on many occasions (but I have not because I do not believe it should be mentioned here) the Gidgealpa gas find. It is nation-rocking at the moment, with the shares popping up and down like a yo-yo, but the area has a great potential for minerals.

Paragraph 17 of His Excellency's Speech deals with the Department of Aboriginal Affairs. I commend both the department and the Minister on the work done. I hope that work will continue as it has been done in my area over the past 12 months. I have repeatedly agitated in this House for housing for Aborigines at centres like Copley, Beltana and even Marree. At these centres except Beltana, where, apparently, the Department of Aboriginal Affairs has not seen fit to build any, a number of houses have been built for aboriginal families. On every one of my visits to the area I have made a point of seeing whether the people have been happy and contented in their new surroundings. I am pleased to say that they are, and I think this is a great asset not only to the Aborigines but to this State as a whole. We can look forward to assimilating these people, and the only way to do this is bring them in and house them. We need welfare officers, whom I believe are available. Mr. Weightman, the officer in charge of aboriginal affairs in Port Augusta, wrote to me and asked me to accompany him on a tour of these particular areas at my convenience, and I thanked him for his co-operation. I am sure that, with officers of the calibre of Mr. Weightman in the department, much good will be done.

I pay my respects to the late Mr. Jack Whitburn, of the Education Department. This fine gentleman was also a member of the Aborigines Protection Board, and I know he was vitally interested in aboriginal welfare. I had many talks about this problem with him and suggested many things, many of which have borne fruit. I give full marks to him, and I am sure the Education Department will be very hard-pressed to replace him. I turn now to paragraph 9, in which His Excellency said:

My Government has continued its active policy in connection with water supplies.

Unfortunately, the Minister of Works is not here at the moment.

The Hon. Sir Baden Pattinson: He will read what you say. Every word of the Address in Reply debate is read by the appropriate Ministers and the heads of their departments.

Mr. CASEY: Thank you, Mr. Minister. My remarks will relate to the township of Terowie. We all know that in four or five years the gauge standardization between Broken Hill and Port Pirie will be completed and that the 5ft. 3in. gauge will be extended from its present terminal at Terowie to Peterborough.

Terowie will become a through station, and one has only to look at other through stations in South Australia to see how small they are. Terowie has a stable population, apart from railway employees. However, unfortunately the railway employees are a considerable proportion of the population, and when the broad gauge extends to Peterborough these people will move there and many houses at Terowie will become vacant. Some of these are of stone construction, some are prefabricated, and others are of timber and asbestos. I have taken a census of the buildings at Terowie and have found that over 50 houses will be vacated when the standardization programme is completed. The railway barracks is a substantial brick and freestone building consisting of a large kitchen, an even larger mess-room 21ft. x 21ft., 16 bedrooms, a washroom with three or four handbasins, a bathroom, three toilets with septic tanks, and a large underground tank of about 10,000 gallons. I believe this building could be utilized, because it will not be of any use to the Railways Department. There is also the refreshment room consisting of kitchens, double dining rooms each of about 25ft. x 25ft., two bathrooms, a lounge, two smaller rooms suitable for pantries, a cellar, six bedrooms, wash-house, and an underground tank. I think that building could also be utilized.

According to His Excellency's Speech, the Government has continued its active policy in connection with water supply. For the last 18 months I have been advocating to the Minister of Works a permanent water supply for Terowie. This matter was raised in this House before I became a member, and I know from the files that it was practically clear-cut. As the Minister of Lands, who was then the member for Burra, knows, the pipeline was to go from Belalie North across country to Terowie. For reasons that I shall not give here, this did not eventuate, and ever since the people of Terowie have been advocating a permanent water supply. I have brought this matter before the Minister of Works on several occasions, and I am still awaiting a reply. I think the most feasible way to supply Terowie with water is by means of a reticulation main to the Gumbowie reservoir from Peterborough. This reservoir comes under the jurisdiction of the Railways Department, which owns the pipeline to Terowie.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: What is the length of that pipeline?

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Mr. CASEY: About seven miles. Of course, the Railways Department does not require it now because it is using diesel locomotives. This reservoir is in a poor catchment area. I live not far from it and I know that my dams have not filled for the last 10 years, but they did before the war. I do not know why; it must be the changing of the seasonal pattern.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: It has been the change of pattern from Jamestown to that area.

Mr. CASEY: We are not getting as much run-off as we did before the war. It would not cost much to supply Terowie with a permanent water supply. I have approached an organization to see if the buildings at Terowie could be utilized, and an approach may be made to the Government. We know there is an urgency for housing for aged people. We have a ready-made town with an adequate rail service to Adelaide and a good shopping centre, if they wish to go there. It is the responsibility of the Government to look into the matter.

Mr. Riches: Would it be possible for migrants waiting at Gepps Cross to go there?

Mr. CASEY: It could be.

Mr. Loveday: What work would there be for them?

Mr. CASEY: That is the problem.

Mr. Nankivell: Would it be too hot for them?

Mr. CASEY: I do not think it is particularly hot there. I would rather spend summer in the north than in the south, possibly because I am acclimatized, but I think the heat is clearer. Where houses are ready, I do not think they should be dismantled and taken elsewhere. They should be left there and perhaps it could become a centre for old-age couples. Some of the places could be used by single people.

Mr. Nankivell: Would not they require them for accommodation at Peterborough?

Mr. CASEY: Train crews have their barracks at Peterborough and operate from Adelaide.

Mr. Nankivell: In other words, it is surplus housing.

Mr. CASEY: Yes. I hope the Government will pursue its policy, as set out in paragraph 19 of the Governor's Speech, in connection with water supplies and soon make available a permanent water supply for Terowie.

Mr. JENNINGS (Enfield): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply in the form in which it is proposed to be amended. The amendment is all that makes the motion worthy of adoption or consideration by the House. I wish to be associated with the expressions of congratulation and condolence already made. It is not necessary for me to repeat what has been said, certainly not in the way it was done by the member for Barossa (Mr. Laucke) this afternoon. I remember that when the honourable member first came into this House he said he was a traditionalist and no doubt he believes he has to go down the whole line in congratulating everybody, however remotely they may have been associated with the adoption of the Address in Reply. However, apart from having to listen to him, I do not mind his doing it. I am sorry that two of the members who are voluntarily retiring at the end of this session are not here this afternoon. I refer to the member for West Torrens (Mr. Fred Walsh) and the member for Semaphore (Mr. Tapping), both of whom are sick at the moment. I sincerely hope that before the end of the session they will be able to take their places here before their distinguished careers end. I am sure nobody would agree with me more than the other retiring member (Mr. Harding) who fortunately is present today.

I am afraid that a close scrutiny of the Governor's Speech is not rewarding, even to the most astute and assiduous student. Most of it is taken up with references to Government projects, many of which have been featured in Governors' Speeches for several years. As most, if not all, important Government works take many years to complete, they are mentioned every year in the Governor's Speech whilst under the course of construction. They are written up in the Speech in a way that is designed to lead the people each year to believe that they are something new. Indeed, their publicity value lasts even much longer than this, because these projects are usually talked about for many years before they are commenced. Of course, they are talked about on numerous occasions, both inside and outside the House. They get an airing in the Governor's Speech every year and frequently bob up in the horror section on television on Wednesday nights. The Government gets Party propaganda from the Governor's Speech and I sincerely believe that it is unfortunate that the Government's advisors (or advisor would be more correct in this case) have not

a better sense of propriety than to use the Governor of this State as a vehicle for purely Party propaganda.

The SPEAKER: I think that the honourable member is beyond the Standing Orders in referring to the Governor in that way.

Mr. JENNINGS: Very well, Sir. It makes it worse when most of the things the Governor has to say, which are written out for him, are not only usually Party propaganda, but are also misleading propaganda. Of course, I have been referring only to those projects that do progress, however slow that progress might be to eventual fruition. However, it is an entirely different story when we look at all the grandiose schemes which for years have been featured in the Governor's Speech and nowhere else; schemes which, after they have served their publicity purpose, are discarded into the limbo of the lost and are never heard of again. I am sure that all honourable members of this House (even those who have been here for only a relatively short time) can remember numerous projects that have been enumerated in the Governor's Speech and after a brief period—during which they are mentioned here, there and everywhere according to what by-elections are being contested—are quietly discarded and after a while not heard of again. To support this, it is only necessary to refer to such projects as the atomic power station, the deep-sea ports and the railways electrification schemes and many more of the schemes of melancholy memory.

Mr. Frank Walsh: I visited the Cape Jaffa deep-sea port.

Mr. JENNINGS: I am sure that the Leader was much impressed by the progress at that deep-sea port at Cape Jaffa. As far as the legislative programme outlined in the Governor's Speech is concerned, we shall have to wait and see just how accurate the forecast is and make up our minds when and if the legislation is presented. It has been noticeable in the past that many important Bills that have received no mention whatsoever in the Speech have been introduced without any prior notice in the closing stages of a session.

[Sitting suspended from 6 to 7.30 p.m.]

Mr. JENNINGS: Before the dinner adjournment I was dealing with the Governor's Speech. I had just started dealing with it and had almost finished dealing with it. This year I notice that, although the Speech lasted 45 minutes, that part of it dealing with the

Government's legislative intentions for the ensuing year occupied only eight minutes, the remaining 37 minutes being taken up with self-praise of the Government. The only other thing that the Governor mentioned in his Speech was the usual annual reference to the season. This is done by blaming droughts, floods and fires, where they have occurred, for any shortcomings the Government may have evidenced over the year, while on the other hand, somehow implying that if the season has been a bountiful one the Government deserves full credit for that. I understand (and I am sure all members agree) that there is nothing unusual about this and that a similar reference is made every year in the Governor's Speech. That was about all, except that the Governor's Speech stated that the Housing Trust this year expected to build about 3,000 houses. I am not going deeply into this but I point out that in the year 1960-61 it had built 3,314 houses: in 1961-62 3,258: in 1962-63, 2,882: and in 1963-64, 2,858. Over the last four years a progressive decline has occurred in the number of houses built by the trust and, as stated by the Leader, this has occurred during a period of tremendously increasing population in the State.

The realization over the last few years about the number of houses to be built has fallen short of what was intended at the beginning of the year, and this year it appears that when the figures are complete at the end of the year there will probably be fewer than the 2,858 completed last year. However, even if the 3,000 houses were built it would still be 314 houses less than were built in 1960-61 and this, as we have said, despite the tremendously and rapidly increasing population.

The most important omission from the Governor's Speech is the one which this House can adequately rectify by carrying the amendment moved by the Leader. We all know, to our sorrow and alarm, that there has been recently a spiralling of prices unprecedented since the first burst of wild inflation that took place shortly after the present Commonwealth Government took office in 1949. That was when it went about in a most peculiar fashion its election promises to put value back into the pound. The price increases we are now suffering have been unusually brutal in their severity and universal in their application, with the inevitable consequence that they fall by far most heavily on the great majority of people in the State who are least able to bear them. This particularly applies to

pensioners and people on superannuation pensions. We talk about people on fixed incomes, but that includes wage-earners, too. What is more, this wild orgy of exploitation going on at present shows no sign of abating. One price rise seems to cause another. One rise is used as an excuse for the next one, until we are completely caught in a vicious circle and we cannot see where it will end. This drastically depresses living standards of the community, and it is also undermining the general economy of the country. It serves only the very few people in the community who enjoy a completely disproportionate influence in manipulating the monetary affairs of the nation and who, when it suits them, can consolidate the higher price level at a certain standard whenever they choose by establishing conditions that will result in unemployment being used once again to taper off the price rise.

There is nothing unusual about this. It is the way governments of the type we know now have always let the economy of the country run itself, because they do not run it: they let it run itself, and that is the way that they prefer it to be run. The conservative governments only at the best of times will make some grudging gesture of concession to public opinion to preserve their own political survival in matters of this nature. It is extremely unfortunate that the South Australian Government not only is the victim of price inflation, but has recently condoned it and, by example, actually encouraged it. Not only has this Government condoned price inflation, but at this moment the Right Honourable Harold Holt is probably doing something similar. We have seen in this State (I am talking of this State only now) Government and semi-governmental institutions leading the band in recent price rises, thereby contributing to the vicious circle instead of trying to halt it—this despite the fact that we have in this State maintained a price-fixing authority which unfortunately has been allowed to degenerate into near worthlessness. The member for Mitcham would agree with me to some extent there. He would agree that it is near worthless; he might go even further and say that it is worthless. I have said it has been allowed to degenerate into near worthlessness, and he has said that it is worthless and not likely to be anything else.

The Prices Act in this State, although it certainly has not been used in the way it can be, nevertheless if it were used to the

full extent of its powers, would be a valuable weapon against inflation, as it sometimes has been in the past. This is far from the complete answer, as I realize, and I shall have more to say on that later. I believe that, ineffectual as it is at the moment, the price control legislation will be carried for another 12 months, and, when we have a different Administration next year—an Administration sympathetic to genuine price control—that legislation will be of great benefit to us. We hear, and we hear it every day from every side, that the sudden upsurge in prices is a direct result of the recent £1 a week rise in the basic wage. Nothing can be further from the truth than this. This argument is being used as an excuse to satisfy those people who can increase prices whenever they like. I refer to the people who themselves control the prices of goods that can be bought only by people who have the wherewithal to purchase the goods. The price for labour, which is the only commodity the worker has to sell, as we know, is rigidly fixed and only infrequently reviewed. Even when it is reviewed it is done only at great expense to the trades union movement, which, of course, the members of the unions have to fund. In actual fact, the recent judgment delivered by the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission stated (and we have heard various aspects of this judgment referred to in the debate):

In this case in arriving at our decision we have looked at movements in the economy since 1961, including price movements and productivity movements; we have considered the present state of the economy and the future to the extent that it is predictable A consideration of all of the indicators must lead to the conclusion that in all its aspects the Australian economy is at present buoyant. Confirmation of this general conclusion is given by a survey of industrial trends in Australia published on March 15, 1964, by the Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia and the Bank of New South Wales. The survey which was conducted in the two weeks ended March 11, 1964, "covered the experience since last November of over 340 companies which formed a representative weighted sample of Australian manufacturing industry" When this is linked with the highly satisfactory conditions of our rural industries we are able to conclude that the economy is sound with every indication that it will continue to remain sound We think that the Commission would not be fixing a basic wage which was just and reasonable if it did not act on the present state of the economy which is expanding and buoyant with no positive sign of inflation, although there is an upward tendency in some prices As we have noted the Reserve Bank is watchful about inflation and we would assume that other authorities will be equally watchful.

There I think the court was slightly over-optimistic, because it has already become manifest that other authorities have not been watchful. The judgment continued:

In these circumstances . . . there can be no real dispute that the basic wage should be significantly increased. Bearing in mind all we have said, we conclude that a just and reasonable increase to the male basic wage would be an amount of 20s. a week.

After a wealth of evidence had been submitted and sifted a majority of the court was satisfied not only that the economy could stand the increase but that it would be extremely unfair not to grant the increase of 20s. a week. It is clear, I think, if we study another matter directly associated with this, that the court really acted conservatively. We find that the 20s. granted is exactly the figure arrived at if we add the increases in the C series index from September, 1953 (when quarterly cost of living adjustments were suspended) and the new consumer price index rises from June, 1961, until December last year. When we do this we get, as I said, exactly the 20s. which the court has granted. Therefore, in actual fact all we have got from that time through this 20s. a week rise is what we would have got if the adjustments had been maintained throughout the whole period, and nothing more.

The trade unions asked for that 20s. plus 32s., which they claimed could be justified by increased productivity in the meantime and other relevant factors, but instead of the 52s., which was the total claimed, only 20s., which can be accounted for by these cost of living increases in the meantime, was granted. So I think we can say that the judgment of the court was nothing more than conservative in this matter.

Mr. Clark: I think everyone will admit that, really.

Mr. JENNINGS: Members will recall that in the part of the judgment I quoted the President said that no undue inflationary pressure was evident, but he admitted that there were some examples of price rises. It is extremely interesting to look at the position in South Australia as disclosed by the consumer price index released by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics on July 20 last, covering the period up to June 30 last, which is surely before any effect whatsoever of the 20s. a week basic wage rise could have told on the economy. These figures in themselves are eloquent justification for the Leader of the Opposition's amendment, which we are all supporting, and which I sincerely hope will be carried by this House. The Leader's

amendment calls for an inquiry into all aspects of price increases since July 1, 1963, the beginning of the last financial year.

Various figures have been mentioned in this debate as emanating from official publications. Some, I think, go to show that, whilst figures do not lie, liars can figure. Others are based on no proper premise whatsoever. But if we look at the figures from the source that I have quoted we will see that the increase in South Australia for the quarter ended June, 1963, was .5 per cent, whereas the average increase of the other capital cities was .3 per cent; for the quarter ended September South Australia had a .2 per cent increase, and the average of the six cities was the same; and for the quarter ended December the increase for South Australia and for the other capital cities was —0.1 per cent. In March, 1964, South Australia was up .7 per cent and the other six States .6 per cent. As at June 30 in this financial year, in South Australia there was an increase of 1.3 per cent, and the average increase for all the other States was 1 per cent. It is obvious that for the last year and three months South Australia has had a greater increase for every quarter than the average of all the other States, except for two quarters when the rise was equal to the average rise of all other States. In addition to this, the worst increase by far in any single State for the last 15 months was the one in South Australia for the quarter just concluded.

The member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse) said that our Prices Act was ineffective. I give him credit here for his consistency: he has always said it, but I do not agree with him. The honourable member believes there should be no controls or compulsion at all, except, of course, compulsory military training and compulsory seat belts; but, apart from that, he does not believe in any form of control or compulsion. He believes we should be as free as the birds in the air, but the birds in the air are not always free, although they do fly, when they meet a blizzard, just as we are not free when we meet an economic blizzard, as we are doing today. I do not believe we can reach proper price stability unless we have uniform price control throughout the Commonwealth, together with other features of economic balance—capital issues control, hire-purchase legislation, some kind of permanent arrangement for the use of tariffs, and many other monetary weapons.

Mr. Frank Walsh: And control of interest.

Mr. JENNINGS: Certainly. All those things I believe are necessary to provide a

stable but sensibly expanding economy and to avoid the booms and busts that have plagued us for many years.

I turn now to another important topic. Most honourable members will agree with me when I draw attention to the fact that all members at some time or another, particularly in the metropolitan area or in the inner rural electoral districts over the last five or six years, perhaps even longer, have experienced much trouble in their districts from faulty house construction. This has worried me for a long time. People contract for a house to be built, which is probably the most important single investment they ever make in their lives, and frequently they are left in dire straits as a result. I do not know the reason, but I have heard it said that in South Australia the land is not suitable for the type of building we believe is traditional in this State. I have noticed that even the Housing Trust frequently has to be called to order for what we can say is nothing less than substandard building. There is one thing about the Housing Trust, though; whilst it usually denies this for a while, if a good enough case can be made out, it will put it right. Unfortunately, however, the same cannot be said for many private builders. It is also unfortunate that a great many people who contract to have houses built do not take proper steps to ensure that they are protected against dishonest or inefficient builders, and the consequence of this is that they come to us with complaints, frequently they take up the matter with lawyers, and frequently they get nowhere.

Mr. Lawn: Could it be the result of the substandard Government?

Mr. JENNINGS: I think probably everything follows from that. I wish to mention to the House two cases that have come to my notice recently, and I emphasize that these are only two out of probably dozens I have had in the last few months. The only difference between these cases and others is that these people have had architects' reports about the buildings that I can read out. I do not doubt that the others are equally serious, or are possibly more serious, but I have no evidence to indicate their seriousness. Both these houses are in about the northern perimeter of my district and I should be vastly surprised if the member for Barossa (Mr. Laucke) had not found similar things going on in his district, which adjoins mine, and if the member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) had not found similar difficulties in Para Hills. Although I do not want

to weary the House unduly, I shall read out the relevant sections of these architects' reports. The first report states:

The house is built on sloping land. The footings are concrete and presumably reinforced; of minimum depth 12in. below material ground line and 15in. in width as required minimum in the Building Act, Second Schedule Part V Paragraph 56. The footings support a cement brick-veneer construction, 4in. cement brick inner leaf, 3in. stud work above floor level with gypsum board or vertical tongue and groove board linings.

I do not think there is any need to go on further with the description of the house. I come now to the complaints:

Complaint 1. The north-west corner of the house exhibits cracks in the substructure extending through the footings and the inner leaf plinth below floor level.

Complaint 2. The painting throughout the house, windowsills, sashes, frames, etc., shows signs of inexpert joinery repairs which catch the light and are now peeling the paint. Defective loose knots have fallen out of the woodwork since painting, leaving holes in some instances.

Complaint 3. The septic tank system had I understand been broken and condemned by the Health Department after inspection requiring considerable extensions and improvements on the part of the plumber and it is still faulty! Here are some further reports on these complaints by the architects:

Complaint 1. The cracks exist. I feel they are largely caused by complaint 3 (which is the septic tank system being condemned) and the decoration, tiling and plastering, etc., directly caused by the cracking of the footing.

Complaint 2. The painting is extremely thin. One coat on priming, and the knots and defects show through. This is typical subcontract or "pay-and-get-out" building. Without any specification there cannot be much redress. The building owner gets as little as can safely be done to trick the eye at the time of buying the house.

That is a report of the architect. He said this is typical subcontract, pay-and-get-out building. He then deals with a complaint about the septic tank as follows:

Complaint 3. The septic tank and drainage system generally is such as to cause any self-respecting plumber to bite his nails. It now consists of not one but three tanks, taking up the whole of the backyard. The third tank needs pumping every second day and the garage ceiling has been broken up by the subcontractor who did this extra work. The sewer rim immediately behind the lavatory pan where it meets the urine has been broken away at sometime during the past seven months. Naturally, the raw faeces deposited on the earth caused Health Department Inspector to condemn the whole system and to cause repairs to be done.

The repairs were undertaken at the contractor's expense and they included—cementing the joists, relaying the drainage rim, sealing

off the dead end and back filling the soil in the 4ft. alleyway between kitchen door on the west and the adjoining owner's fence on boundary line. On the effluent side—two extra tanks have been placed to control the discharge of effluent into the neighbour's property on the low side.

There will be complaints from the neighbour very soon, I should say. The report continues: It seems that either—

(a) the system is working backwards, that is to say, taking in ground water from a strata below ground into the tank—
or the pipes and thence into the bank.

(b) the soakage trench is blocked.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: In other words, it is not very good.

Mr. JENNINGS: That is so. The report continues:

Since water wells up throughout most of the lower part of the block it could be having some effect on the lower (N.W.) corner of the house footings, i.e., making the clay soft and allowing the concrete to subside. This theory is further borne out by the fact that a crack occurs where marked CRACK on the accompanying diagrammatic sketch.

I realize that the sketch cannot be incorporated in *Hansard* and I cannot hold it up and exhibit it to honourable members, but they are welcome to examine this architect's report and I will make it available to them. The report continues:

The owner has dug a trench to expose the footings at this point and two defects are visible. The concrete of which the footings is composed is of a very poor consistency—cellular in structure (I suggest by accident) rather than design as elsewhere it is dense. The proper grading of aggregate has not been used, whilst the coarse aggregate is strong enough there are no coarse sharp sands or fine aggregate as should be the case in the well-designed dense concrete. In the sample which I hold there is very little cement present. However, some authority must have sanctioned the concrete and reinforcement of the footings. Local council should have inspected—what have they to say?

The steps at the top of the footings do not have any corresponding step in the bottom of the footing—at a point 30-40in. left or right of the set down. The footing therefore jumps from 12-15in. deep without relief. The crack is at this point. West of the crack the walling above is not in contact with the top of the footing for a distance of three to four feet by an amount 1/4in. or thereabouts. The owner says he can place a hacksaw blade right through. The wall now "arches" over this distance but it will eventually crack. It points to lack of sheer reinforcement (ligatures or ties) in the reinforcement of the footings. Who approved the reinforcement? At this stage it does not seem necessary to cut into the footings to discover the facts but it can be done without much trouble.

The wall tiling over the sink, cornices, lower mouldings, etc., has been broken away within the kitchen as a direct result of this subsidence of the north-west corner and will need the services of various of the sub-contractors, namely, carpenter, labourer, tiler, plasterer, painter trades, who may be difficult to get hold of certainly not the job of the building owner.

I do not think I need go any further with that report. There are about two foolscap pages of complaints that I have not mentioned, but I think I have read enough to show honourable members the kind of speculative building that is going on today and causing so much grave concern to young people who are buying the first and probably the last house that they will ever buy. I have another interesting report concerning a different builder, but it deals with much the same area. The wife of the owner of this house has gone to great trouble, and hopes to get some justice, but I am afraid that she is really right back where she started. First, she takes the matter up with the Master Builders' Association of South Australia. We all acknowledge that this association does a good job in controlling and disciplining its members. On numerous occasions I have taken up matters with it and, generally speaking, it ensures that the builder is brought into line, in order to preserve the good name of the industry. However, I have found on many more occasions that the builder about whom complaints are made is the one who will not be a member of the association. Here we have what I can only describe as a most peculiar situation. I shall read a letter from the Master Builders' Association to the lady concerned. She always thought that she was dealing with Orlit Limited. The association wrote to her in reply to her complaint and said:

Although we are aware that a relationship existed between Orlit Limited and Newton Limited the latter company are not members of our association. This, combined with the fact that you purchased a speculatively built home after due inspection inevitably creates a situation in which we regrettably can have no form of jurisdiction.

Newton Limited was the firm she was actually dealing with; so that the respectable firm of Orlit Limited was a member of the association but the kindred firm associated with it was not a member. Therefore, the association can do nothing about it. Obviously Newton Limited, not Orlit Limited, did the building.

Mr. Loveday: Would that be the right hand or the left hand?

Mr. Riches: The voice of one and the hand of the other.

Mr. JENNINGS: I shall read briefly from the architect's report about this building, which is a new one. This architect is not quite so long-winded, but nevertheless much to the point. He states:

The roof is faulty for the material used; the pitch being too low: the end laps insufficient; corrugations do not marry correctly: spacing of purlins is too far apart; and the gauge of iron too light for purlin spacing. It cannot be effectively repaired by re-using the existing material. If a more suitable material such as Lysaght's "Spandek" or "Kiplock" roof decking is used the pitch need not be altered. The second-hand materials used (the galvanized sheets) are not good but the only ill-effects would be a shorter life than with new.

I think that is an important consideration in a house!

Mr. Loveday: It would leak sooner.

Mr. JENNINGS: The report continues:

Gutters to eaves are necessary to direct storm water away from the building.

Mr. Clark: Weren't there any gutters there?

Mr. JENNINGS: It doesn't sound like it. The report continues:

There is no permanent damage to any insulation material used, but ceilings show water stains and it is not always certain that these can be obliterated successfully. There is no other damage noticeable but the roof design is consistent with the poor finish and quality of workmanship in the building, especially the lack of proper internal linings to framework under windows and elsewhere.

Some attempt has been made to re-nail the iron in places, and the old roofing nail holes soldered up, but the roof needs a more competent and efficient way of overcoming the trouble. We consider the most effective way to cure the defects would be to remove the whole of the existing roof and replace it with another type. The actual cost of this work would be offset to some slight extent by the value of the secondhand material removed from the roof, provided it is carefully removed.

The last line of the architect's report states:

We will make a further examination of the house after the next rains have occurred.

These two reports (and they are only two out of dozens I have received over the last year or so) show clearly that an urgent need exists in this State for a much more rigorous control over building. I believe a need exists for a proper standard of tradesmanship. I was interested in some points raised recently by an honourable member in another place, who was talking about the apprentices in the building trade. He said:

The position is much clearer when one looks at the apprentice figures in relation to the building trades. I have taken out three of

these trades to illustrate the position—brick-laying, carpentry and joinery, and plumbing and gas-fitting. In 1959 (for bricklaying) there were eight new apprentices; in 1961, 16; in 1962, nine and in 1963, 10. In the carpentry and joinery trade in 1959 there were 118 apprentices; in 1960, 119; in 1961, 128; in 1962, 98; and in 1963, 138. In 1959 there were 87 new apprentices in the plumbing and gas-fitting trade; in 1960, 76; in 1961, 72; in 1962, 70; and in 1963, 91.

The honourable member quoted from a report that showed that the supply of tradesmen in the building industry had for many years been maintained through a considerable amount of upgrading of some semi-skilled persons who had had little normal training. He went on to say, as I have been saying recently:

If that is the case, it is no wonder that people are complaining daily about the decrease in skill of many people employed in the building industry.

I believe that a need may exist for many more apprentices in the building industry to ensure an adequate supply of properly skilled tradesmen in this industry. Further, I believe it is essential that we should have some form of registration of builders throughout the State, not only a form of registration of builders where their abilities are considered but a form where their finance or financial backing is considered. I have known many cases, and I am sure many honourable members have known such cases, where people enter into a contract with a builder who probably started off as a semi-skilled worker in the industry and who upgraded himself to a tradesman; he says, "There is not much in this; I will branch out and make a fortune," but oversteps himself and goes bankrupt, and the people having houses built by him lose everything.

Mr. Bywaters: He might have a dozen houses under construction.

Mr. JENNINGS: That frequently happens. There should be some kind of registration or licensing of builders in this State as I have outlined. Not many matters are more important than this. People should be adequately protected in the biggest single investment of their lives.

In the time remaining that I intend to detain the House I have two matters to mention. I congratulate the mover and seconder of the motion. The member for Eyre treated the House to one of his usual scintillating and diverting speeches. I was most impressed by the member for Stirling. If there is one thing that I like better than another in public life it is a man who keeps his promises, and this the honourable member certainly did when

he lived up to the undertaking given in his maiden speech to always be offensively himself. I do not think that there is much more worthwhile that has been said in this debate to reply to. On the other hand, if I sought to reply to all of the inanities I should be here all night, and we do not want that.

The member for Gouger talked about the Constitution Bill that was lost last session. That Bill provided for an enlarged Cabinet. I assure the honourable member that the result on this legislation will be the same on this occasion. Opposition members have often made it clear, and particularly in that debate, that under the present circumstances we will not agree to an increase in the size of the Cabinet. I know that the honourable member, like many of his colleagues, has a mote in his eye, but he will be disappointed for a long time, because the size of the Cabinet will be increased next year together with the size of Parliament. The member for Gouger, however, will certainly not be a candidate for that Cabinet.

Recently I read something that might be relevant to the constitution of the Cabinet in South Australia. This is an extract from a speech made by Mr. Joe Gullett, a former Liberal Party whip in the Commonwealth Parliament. This address was made at a meeting of the Australian Institute of Political Affairs in Canberra recently. Mr. Gullett was speaking here of the Prime Minister and I think his remarks would be relevant to the situation in this House. He said:

It is very difficult to quarrel with him as an individual and you do not get much change out of it when you do.

Mr. Gullett knows that, for he resigned his seat as he could not get any change out of quarrelling with the Prime Minister. He continued:

It followed therefore that the Menzies Government is 90 per cent Menzies.

We can go 10 per cent better than that here. Mr. Gullett continued:

I have always thought that we are extremely lucky to have this gifted and high-principled man, even though by virtue of his very gifts themselves lesser men are even less than they might be. It must be said, too, that he has undoubtedly foisted upon the public some extraordinarily second rate people. I should think we need not worry about any increase in the size of Cabinet for the time being. I believe there has always been only one member of the Cabinet in South Australia, and whilst he has had to do something along the

lines that Mr. Menzies has apparently had to do, nevertheless that does not in itself justify an increase in the size of the Cabinet at this stage.

During this debate there has been some talk about members interfering in the districts of other members. This discussion, I believe, was provoked when the Premier took rather strong exception to a question asked by my honourable friend from Port Pirie (Mr. McKee) concerning the district of Flinders, occupied by the Minister of Works. The member for Port Pirie made it abundantly clear why he asked this question, but the Premier did not see fit to accept that explanation and, as I say, appeared to take great umbrage at it, probably because he was sitting beside the Minister who is the member for that district; and I noticed the Minister rather preened himself as much as to say, "I am certainly being protected by my chief." But I would not think he could depend on that forever. We know how ruthless the Premier can be. We know, for example, that he would not worry about dumping the Minister of Works any more than he worried about dumping the former Speaker when it suited him, and we know that in any consideration of new Ministers—and here is where the members for Torrens, Barossa and others might become interested in this subject—he would not worry any more about considering one of them on their merits than he was when he walked into the Party room and said that so and so was the new Minister of Lands only recently.

Whilst there was some controversy about this question where the member for Port Pirie went into another member's district, I noticed there was nothing like the same offence taken when we heard about these beaches and beef roads that suddenly materialized in Mitcham. I realize that this discussion is over, and it is dead as far as I am concerned; it is only my rather circuitous way of getting around to saying that my colleague the member for Murray and the member for Burnside were very interested in a very important part of my district, too. I know that the member for Murray was interested because he is extremely interested in the National Fitness Council, and the member for Burnside is also interested in sporting activities and pleasure resorts and so on. I am referring, of course, to the sewage farm, which has undoubtedly made its presence felt in this debate just as much as it makes its presence felt in the northern suburbs on a hot night. In this, sir, I agree with my friend

the member for Torrens (Mr. Coumbe), who from a district point of view is just as interested in the matter as I am, that some very early consideration should be given (whether it is by a committee as suggested by him or by some other means) to letting us know what the future of this very valuable piece of land is to be. This information is necessary because a lot of drainage works are being very badly affected, I think because of the fact that the appropriate authorities as yet cannot get proper information from the Government as to what its intentions are regarding the sewage farm. Also, I should like to see some information given as quickly as possible so that we all will know how this land is going to be used and so that speculators can be very quickly dissuaded from getting themselves mixed up in it.

I was interested in the fact that the member for Mitcham chided members on this side of the House for not addressing themselves sufficiently to the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition. Apparently, the member for Mitcham had not been paying proper attention, because he followed almost immediately the member for Murray (Mr. Bywaters) who devoted much of his time to the amendment. The member for Port Pirie (Mr. McKee) followed the member for Mitcham, and he, too, dealt fairly extensively with the amendment. Surely the member for Mitcham should have admitted that the Leader in moving the amendment dealt extensively and effectively with it, too.

I understand that what the member for Mitcham might have been concerned about, and was trying to mislead the House about, was the fact that the member for Whyalla (Mr. Loveday), who spoke in the debate much earlier than he had intended to, did not mention the amendment at all. This was because he had undertaken on behalf of the Party to deal with the one specific subject in which he was vitally interested. He had been to the public meeting concerned with this matter and had also made an exhaustive study of it. That is why he did not deal with the amendment.

Mr. Ryan: Some of it concerned his own district.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, and that is why the member for Whyalla did not deal with the amendment. It was peculiar to hear the member for Mitcham, when he got on with his speech and away from the Strzelecki track and the beaches in his district, deal only briefly and extremely ineffectively with the amendment, which I believe will be carried.

It is not the first time that this Party has endeavoured to amend an Address in Reply, but we have never succeeded. Seeing the honest and interested faces in front of me, I believe that this time there will be some converts, so I have much pleasure in supporting the motion as proposed to be amended.

Mr. NANKIVELL (Albert): I shall make no attempt to speak at such length as my eloquent predecessor. I am afraid I am not competent to express the histrionics that he is able to bring forth on such occasions, but I shall speak on one aspect of His Excellency's Speech. I have the full consent of the member for Millicent (Mr. Corcoran) in so doing. I am pleased and honoured that the people of Albert have been fortunate enough to have three visits from His Excellency the Governor. It is proper for me to say that, in making the arrangements for these excursions of His Excellency into my electoral district, I appreciated the co-operation I received from his Private Secretary, Major-General Symes, who has since retired. I wish him well in his retirement and welcome his successor, Brig. Wearne.

I join honourable members in saying how much I regret the reason for the absence of two honourable members opposite, the member for Semaphore (Mr. Tapping) and the member for West Torrens (Mr. Fred Walsh). I join, too, in expressing sympathy to the families of the late Sir Walter Duncan, the late Sir Shirley Jeffries, and the late Mr. William Wilfred Jenkins. Bill Jenkins was my predecessor as Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Land Settlement. He was an able chairman and meticulous in carrying out his duties. This was exemplified by the fact that he brought in his last report and saw it tabled only a matter of days before he went into hospital. That was typical of the man. I welcome his successor, the new member for Stirling (Mr. McAnaney), and congratulate him on his speech seconding the motion.

Paragraph 7 of His Excellency's Speech mentions the Rural Advances Guarantee Act. As honourable members will recall, when that Bill was introduced members on both sides poured as much cold water on it as possible. The member for Frome (Mr. Casey) said it was nothing but political window dressing, and he finished his speech by saying that he supported the wording of the Bill but, so far as he was concerned, it was not worth the paper it was written on. He, like the member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip) and other people who

raised objections to this Bill, made statements that were completely unfounded.

Since this Bill has been proclaimed in February of this year, 77 applications have been received. Of these, 31 have been processed by the committee and 27 have been approved. These have involved a total guarantee of £313,247, of which the State Bank has advanced £253,587 and the Savings Bank £59,660. On the recommendation of the committee, two applications were referred back for recommitment, two were rejected by the committee, and 14 were rejected on other grounds before they reached the committee. It is interesting that the objections to these particular applications have been on the ground that they were too small and, in one case, the application was rejected by the committee on the same grounds.

The committee has been most concerned in its inquiries to see that these applications have measured up. Much time has gone into considering each application, and I express my gratitude to the members of the committee for their co-operation, because on several occasions, to expedite the applications, they have sat from 10 a.m. until 4.45 p.m., with a luncheon adjournment. Nobody can say that the committee has been responsible for delaying any of these applications. Every case has been analysed and discussed fully and no approval has been given unless every member has been satisfied that the proposal has been completely sound.

Much criticism has been made about the activities of this committee. There was a time when it did not have many references before it, but I should like to put the record straight by saying that, since the reference relating to the development of counties Buckingham and Chandos to the committee in January, 1963, it has met on 25 occasions, seven of which have been on that particular reference. So far it has met 12 times in considering the Bool Lagoon drainage reference, and six times at considerable length in considering the Rural Advances Guarantee Act. I should like to pursue two matters arising from those inquiries; one is the delay in opening up counties Buckingham and Chandos for settlement, and the other is the disposal of drainage waters from the Eastern Division of the South-Eastern Drainage Scheme. The delay in relation to counties Buckingham and Chandos appears to be due to the inability of the departments concerned to carry out the direction of the committee, in that they have been

unable to undertake the necessary soil utilization surveys and the lands surveys recommended by the committee.

Another problem that arises out of the development of this land is in relation to the cost incurred. A conservative estimate of the cost to bring each of the blocks into full production as recommended in the committee's report and to stock them is about £10,000. These blocks are of up to 4,000 or 5,000 acres, and only about 70 or 80 properties are concerned. In other words, an expenditure of about £750,000 could be involved in bringing this country into full production. Admittedly there are places where land has been brought into production for much less but, as a consequence, the productivity has been reduced. Instead of its being capable of carrying two sheep to the acre, as is the lucerne country to the south, this country to the north, developed with primrose and veldt grass, on the evidence given, is not capable of carrying more than quarter of a sheep to the acre. One wonders, in these circumstances, whether it would be really advantageous to permit this sort of development to take place because the land can be brought into a much higher state of productivity.

It was the fear of poor techniques, inadequate supervision and the lack of necessary capital that prompted my recent cautious statement in the press concerning the opening up of this area. One or two ways can be suggested to overcome the problem. The first would be the provision of special funds for the development of this land, either through the State Bank or by some arrangement being made with the development bank; and the second would be the admitting of invested capital from private investors and insurance firms in order to develop the country satisfactorily. There is room for private consultants to be invited or co-opted to advise on the opening up of this country, first, by the preparation of the necessary soil utilization maps and then to arrange for and oversee the necessary development in order to ensure that the work is carried out properly, efficiently and safely. Of course, it could be done by setting up a special branch of the Department of Agriculture. However there are several people extremely competent to undertake this work. They have had years of successful experience in carrying out developmental and supervisory work. The Government should consider whether or not these people are prepared to undertake this work on its behalf.

I also referred to the disposal of the drainage water on the Eastern Division of the South-East. Prior to the Bool Lagoon inquiry, I read the evidence from the 1923 report of the South-Eastern Drainage Commission when a Royal Commission was set up to inquire into all aspects of drainage proposals including the original Monerieff plan. It recommended the new Stewart plan, which has been the plan on which all subsequent drainage has been evolved. I read the 1948, 1949, 1955 and 1957 reports on south-eastern drainage and development, and after all this I am left with one impression: the only thought given was to removing the water from the country as cheaply and speedily as possible. However, it has not been done cheaply. It has involved an estimated cost to the Eastern and Western Divisions of about £4,750,000 although I have been informed that the estimate for the Eastern Division could be considerably less than that originally recommended. Of course, all along fears have been expressed about the possibility of over-drainage, but no thought seems to have been given to making use of the water that has been drained off. Perhaps this was not important then, but today, when the future expansion and development of the State can be limited by water, this drainage water should be better used than just left to run into the sea at the nearest convenient point.

Mr. Harding: Where would you put it?

Mr. NANKIVELL: I shall explain that to the member for Victoria (Mr. Harding) in a moment. I am interested in this matter for two reasons: first, from the point of view of the State and, secondly, (and more particularly in this instance) as it directly concerns the district of Albert. From the district's point of view the situation could become critical because Bakers Range drain has now been intercepted by the new drain M. Previously Reedy Creek was intercepted by the Blackford drain. The intention is to construct a main to Keith and the work is in progress, but Keith is about 80 miles from Taillem Bend and a long main is required. The area to which I refer in the hundreds of Bonney, Glyde, Santo, Colbatch, Field, Messent, McNamara, Neville, Wells, Petherick and Richards—the group in the south-west corner of my district, which is the floodwater country—is also a long way from the main. These hundreds, most of which are now developed or in a state of development, have in the past enjoyed a limited water supply suitable for stock purposes, and on this assumption development has proceeded.

Now we find the water quality deteriorating and ultimately it will deteriorate over the whole area, as has been pointed out in the report of Mr. O'Driscoll, Bulletin 35 of the Mines Department on the Hydrology of the Murray Basin Province in South Australia. Most of the country to which I refer had its groundwaters fed from swamps that were being fed by a regular inflow of water from Bakers Range drain and Reedy Creek. Regarding drainage and water supply the report states:

Bakers Range drain brings water from a considerable area to the south and south-east into and across the hundred of Petherick, the water continuing right across the hundred of Wells, another area where good stock-quality water should be obtainable.

People have noted this and have developed the country. The Mines Department report indicates that good water should be obtainable in this area. The report continues:

The line of flow is continued across the hundred of Messent as a series of shallow swamp flats in an interdune corridor. The hundred of Neville is traversed by a similar corridor along which floodwaters move northward from the hundred of Duffield, being joined by overflow past Kercoonda H.S. from the Bakers Range discharge in the hundred of Wells. This line of swamps continues northwards through the hundred of Santo almost to the boundary of the hundred of Glyde. It will be apparent from the above that the hundreds of Glyde, Field and Colebatch and part of the hundreds of McNamara and Richards comprise the only area, outside the pressure-water area, where northward-moving floodwaters are not at intervals available for recharging the shallow groundwater. Because of the effects of evaporation, this floodwater percolating downwards from the shallow swamps is not always of the very highest quality, but it is sufficiently good to provide stock-quality water in the rocks below. The upper surface of the groundwater has a very slight gradient towards the sea, but movement in that direction must be extremely slow.

The report recounts investigations by the C.S.I.R.O. in the area into whether or not groundwaters are replenished by percolation downward, and it was established by the findings that the basins were not replenished by downward percolation of water, but were replenished by movements of groundwaters from the south towards the north. The report continues:

The importance of the swamps and low-lying flats in other hundreds, and their influence on the occurrence of usable shallow groundwater is emphasized by these investigations. Because of the rather unusual topographical configuration of the country both in county Cardwell and the counties adjacent to the southward, the floodwaters collecting in the narrow and elongated flats between the various

major dunes are passed northwards for long distances instead of westward to the sea. Bakers Range drain brings water from as far south at the Kalangadoo-Glencoe area, the discharge traversing two intervening counties and much of a third between before finally dissipating itself in the flats in the hundred of Messent.

This report makes a pertinent point, for it goes on to say:

In such circumstances the advisability of spending money to divert the drainage waters from their present discharge areas seems open to doubt.

Of course, as a matter of expediency, we have been trying to get the water off the land as quickly as possible so that it can be brought into production, but there are areas in hundreds such as Neville, Petherick, Wells and Colebatch where it can clearly be established that stock water supplies have been dependent upon over-landing water, which has now been prevented from moving north-west by the construction of intercepting drains. This should leave no doubt that the fears I am expressing are real and not fictional. There are ways of overcoming the problems of providing water for this area. One way, of course, would be to go to the expense of extending mains. I have not been able to get any information on the work intended this year on the Taillem Bend to Keith main, but the pipes are along the road.

Mr. Bywaters: That is in the *News* today.

Mr. NANKIVELL: I thank the honourable member. I have not read the *News* yet but, as I say, I have seen the pipes along the road, so I presume the work to be done will bring Murray water into this country. One other way to bring water to this area would be to make a re-assessment of the original Eastern Division drainage proposals. This would be somewhat belated, because the major construction of the Eastern Division drain M is almost completed, but it is still not too late to divert most of this water to the north-west along the Bakers Range drain to Alfs Flat. The levels record would show not only that it could be successfully carried into Alfs Flat but that it would not be impossible to bring the water into the lake near Meningie.

Mr. Harding: Why is the regulator to be situated at the Bakers Range crossing?

Mr. NANKIVELL: It will ultimately be able to divert some of the water, but it remains to be seen how well it is regulated, because it is much simpler to send the water into the sea along drain M while that drain can take it. The levels show that a fall of about 220ft. occurs between Kalangadoo and

Lake Albert, which is enough to provide for the drainage of the water. The drain is already constructed to a point just north of Lucindale. From there it meanders, but is diverted along its course and prevented from meandering too far by the cut-ins through some of the sandhills.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: That is not reliable.

Mr. NANKIVELL: I am suggesting that although it may not have been reliable in the past it could be made reliable. The drain was considered by the South-Eastern Drainage Board when it examined the Eastern Division drainage scheme, and assessed the size of drain required. The size of drain required would necessitate construction for some miles north of Lucindale and comparable with the drain recommended by the Land Settlement Committee for construction at the entrance of Mosquito Creek into Bool Lagoon. It is a drain capable of taking some 3,000 cusecs of flow. That is a large volume of water, but when one stops to think that it is proposed to pond Bool Lagoon, which will hold about 20,000 acre feet of water, except for evaporation (which water could be diverted up Bakers Range drain) this proposition is not so impracticable, nor does it mean in those circumstances that the Bakers Range drain would be as unreliable as the Minister of Works has indicated.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: Bool Lagoon originally drained into the Bakers Range drain.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Yes, and so does Naracoorte Creek and all the overflow from drains B and C. I am well aware of that. We must remember that this water meandered: it was not directed. By the construction of a drain we will direct it and not allow it to spread out. Originally, not all of this water got into Bakers Range drain: much of it never got there.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke. It trickled along one side of the range.

Mr. NANKIVELL: That is true.

Mr. Harding: For how many miles along the drain was there limestone subsoil for it to percolate into?

Mr. NANKIVELL: Percolation is a wonderful thing. This is another point in favour of the project: it will enable the re-charging of these basins, which are now being drawn on fairly extensively for irrigation purposes. It percolates down, so at least we are achieving something by getting water to the Bakers Range drain, which I do not think is the present intention.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: I don't think you would ever have security for the country once there was a pull on this water. You would still need the pipeline from Taillem Bend.

Mr. NANKIVELL: That is an interesting point. I am pleased to have the Minister of Lands' support in this matter, because if this project will not hold water, perhaps he will help me persuade the Minister of Works that this other work is vital to the development of the country, as there is no other means of assuring an adequate water supply.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: I think I am rather more interested in the honourable member's proposed drain.

Mr. NANKIVELL: I appreciate the Minister's support. The front bench seems to be in disagreement on a matter, which honourable members opposite claim never happens. If water were diverted up there and a little work was done on this drain in order to ensure that water did move up there, it would ensure temporarily the ground water supplies of the people in that district, and put some water into Alfs Flat, the top of which is now a wild life reserve. I can think of nothing better than to have a nice pondage of water in a wild life reserve.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: I have seen it when you could float the *Queen Mary* in it.

Mr. NANKIVELL: It could not be done now. Perhaps it might be thought that I am flying kites by saying that if such a drain were constructed it would be possible to divert water into Lake Albert and in that way supplement the River Murray waters, instead of having to draw from them to put water into this country. I am certain that if I have overlooked anything regarding these drainage proposals the member for Millicent (Mr. Corcoran), who has not yet spoken, will be able to pick up the points I have missed, or elaborate where I have not done so. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply as originally moved.

Mr. CLARK (Gawler): I support the motion as amended. With other members I associate myself with the messages of sympathy concerning members who have passed on and former members who died recently. Those members were Sir Shirley Jeffries, Sir Walter Duncan, our old friend Mr. Bill Jenkins, and former Senator John Critchley. When I mention Sir Shirley Jeffries I am reminded of my entry to this House when I arrived as a stranger in a strange land. I had met the Honourable Sir Shirley Jeffries only once

before, when he came to my classroom at Gawler where I was teaching. The rumour at that time was that, when Sir Shirley Jeffries, who was a fine Minister of Education, entered a classroom, he had a habit of looking around to see whether it held any notable pictures and, if it did, he would ask questions about them. My class at that time (the Minister of Education will shudder when he hears this) consisted of 80 boys and girls in grade 7, but that was back in the bad old days. The most prominent picture in the classroom was one of Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-on-Avon, and I made certain that my class knew everything about that. When Sir Shirley obliged by asking questions about that picture he was pleased with the replies he received, and so was I. When I came to this House, apart from the natural rejoicing of my colleagues at the addition to their flock, Sir Shirley was one of the first to congratulate me. He kindly said he thought the addition of a former teacher to this place might be of some benefit. I do not know whether it has been of benefit or not, but that is one outstanding memory I have of Sir Shirley Jeffries. He was a fine gentleman both inside and outside of this Chamber.

I support the remarks of other members with regard to those whom we know will be leaving this year. I refer to Mr. Harding (member for Victoria), Mr. Fred Walsh (member for West Torrens), and Mr. Harold Tapping (member for Semaphore). I regret that the latter two have been in poor health, but I understand that Mr. Walsh will be back next week and I hope that Mr. Tapping will be with us before long.

Let me offer my condolences in advance to those who may lose their seat at the next election. I am not going to nominate anybody for that fate, for that would be wishful thinking. I have heard forecasts made previously in this Chamber of members who would not be with us on the next occasion, but those forecasts are often incorrect. I will not say much about the remarks of other members in this debate. I think it preferable to make my own speech. I read the speeches of the mover and seconder of the motion in *Hansard*. I thought they read particularly well there, and I suppose that is important. If I may say it without seeming unkind, they could have been better read in this place. I have read the opening speech of His Excellency the Governor when this session began. I did not find it exciting. I do not think there is much to enthuse over in the Speech, and if this

contains all the Government's plans for this session, it should be a record short session. I know that some of the members would welcome that.

I wish to speak mainly on district matters. I think I have said this before in this Chamber: if we confined ourselves in our speeches, when we virtually had a free hand, to district matters and looked after district matters thoroughly, South Australia would be looked after, at least by its members in the House of Assembly, pretty well.

Paragraph 9 of His Excellency's Speech refers briefly to sewerage. Honourable members who have been in this Chamber for some time with me know that over the years I have constantly referred to and agitated for a sewerage scheme for the town of Gawler. Unfortunately, I can see no reference to it here and Gawler still anxiously awaits a sewerage scheme. I have agitated for it ever since I entered this House in 1952, as did my predecessor, the late Mr. Les Duncan. At times it looked as though it was comparatively close at hand while at other times it has looked farther off than ever. After all, that is 12 years' agitation from me, without success, and I think most honourable members would be surprised if I did not raise the matter again.

I refer to the most recent information on the matter but shall not go back to 1952; I will merely go back to 1961. On August 10, 1961, I asked this question of the Minister of Works:

Towards the end of last year, following comments I made in the House with reference to a sewerage scheme for Gawler, the Minister of Works was kind enough to send me a note dated November 11 saying that he hoped that in about six months proposals for an expanded scheme would be forwarded to the Public Works Committee for consideration. Will the Minister obtain a report on this matter and inform me what progress has been made?

The Minister of course said "Yes". That was a long six months since November, 1960. On August 24 of the same year the Minister replied to my question as follows:

The sewerage of Gawler was referred to the Public Works Committee some years ago, but the committee's inquiry was adjourned pending the adoption of the Bolivar sewage treatment works and the construction of the Elizabeth trunk sewers. Now that these are approved, the scheme for Gawler has been resuscitated and the proposals will be ready for resubmission to the Public Works Committee within a few months.

In my usual patient manner, I appreciated the reasons given for the delay and was delighted to hear the Minister speak of the

resuscitation of the sewerage scheme for Gawler. But this resuscitation, as honourable members can see, was made just three years ago, and I started to wonder whether I really knew what the word "resuscitation" meant. I checked with the dictionary (I did not go to the library to look at any big dictionaries but I looked at a dictionary that I had at hand) and found, as I thought it meant, that "'Resuscitate' means revive; return, restore to life". "Restore to life" was the meaning I wanted to see given to the statement made by the Minister on this occasion but, apparently, the resuscitation has not as yet been successful, even after three years. I still want to revive the patient; I do not want him to drown in good intentions unfulfilled. So again I bring before this House the matter of sewerage for Gawler, which I believe is most urgent. I hope to prove that my belief is correct.

On August 13, 1963 (we are, of course, getting close to this year now) in reply to a further question on the same theme the Minister of Works replied (this was again to a question seeking information on sewerage for Gawler):

As it is some time since I saw the docket relating to the proposed scheme for Gawler, I will call for the docket and bring myself up to date on the matter.

This he did. On October 1, 1963, he gave me this answer:

The Engineer-in-Chief has reported that a sewerage scheme has been designed for Gawler and that estimates of costs have been taken out, financial statements are in the course of preparation, and when these are completed a report will be forwarded for the consideration of the Minister. As the estimates of the cost exceeds £100,000, the scheme will have to be submitted to the Public Works Committee if Cabinet thinks fit.

I ask members to note those words because, although I am almost certain that this matter is ready, it has not yet come to the Public Works Committee, and as a member of that committee I am in a position to know that. Although I cannot guarantee this, it appears likely that Cabinet has not yet seen fit to submit it or that it has had to delay it, and I should like to know why. As far as I can see, there are two alternatives, the first of which is that we cannot afford to do the work because of lack of funds. This afternoon we heard the Minister of Education in reply to a question say something about Budgetary stringency, and apparently the Government cannot do this job either because of lack of funds or because it is not considered necessary or urgent work.

I do not claim to be an authority on whether the Government can afford to do this work, but I have heard recently that a chill wind indeed has been blowing through many Government departments. I do claim, however, to be an authority on whether the scheme is necessary or not; I know it is necessary and urgent, and I hope to offer some proof of that. Last year I received a report from the Gawler Local Board of Health that was specially drawn up by the Health Officer for Gawler after a great deal of work. As I wanted to bring this before the House, I made an attempt in Committee, when we were dealing with a line vaguely related to sewerage, to read some of it. Unfortunately, the Chairman of Committees (yourself, Sir), although kind enough to allow me to continue for a few minutes, rightly called me to order. However, on this occasion I shall be completely in order in pursuing the matter. This was a special report—I emphasize that—of the Gawler Local Board of Health. It was called for because councillors of the Gawler corporation were concerned at the situation at the time, which had been gravely aggravated by the excessively wet winter. I know the report was drawn up 12 months ago, but the situation has not improved at all; in fact, I think it has worsened.

I shall quote this report to prove that the case for sewerage for Gawler must receive Government attention as soon as possible. On October 7, 1963, Mr. G. L. Carmody, Health Inspector, Local Board of Health, Gawler, made this report, and some of the matters contained in it will astound members, who will find it hard to believe that such conditions are allowed to exist. Every word of this report, of course, is guaranteed to be true. It reads as follows:

During the last two months I have inspected septic tank installations in practically every street in the Gawler corporation area. In almost every street the same situation is occurring, the soakage well is overflowing. The occupiers of the homes in the affected areas are using a great variety of ways and means in fighting the problem. Ejector pumps, hand pumps and even buckets are used, and in one street the effluent is merely siphoned out of the soakage wells into a gully on the other side of the road.

I have interviewed many people throughout the town. Most are doing everything in their power to keep the effluent in their own properties, but in many instances this is literally impossible, and then we have the all too-common sight of black, evil smelling offensive liquids running down the water-table. From the public health point of view, the matter falls into two main categories:

(a) Where effluent free from pathogenic organisms has to be pumped out regularly, *e.g.*, daily or weekly. An overflowing soakage well presents a very real problem and certainly affects the mental health of the people. Families with small children are understandably concerned; the back yards are not fit places for small children to play in; mosquitoes thrive in such conditions; friction is caused among neighbours when effluent seeps in next door, and many people realize that they are liable to be prosecuted if they allow the effluent to discharge into the street. All this is extremely worrying to people in the Gawler area.

(b) Where soakage wells are overflowing continuously; the septic tanks are not working properly, and as a result raw sewage containing many solid particles is discharging on to the ground.

This is an unpleasant matter. The report continues:

In cases where raw sewage is being pumped out, this constitutes a positive danger to public health. I have seen evidence of extensive fly breeding in areas adjacent to soakage wells where small particles of solids are being ejected. The fly has been rightly called public enemy No. 1, when it comes to the transmission of diseases, and especially with summer approaching. Large areas of Gawler are unsuitable for septic tank systems because of the impervious nature of the soil; in some parts of the town, however, there are deep layers of porous sand, which may allow effluent to reach subterranean water supplies.

Of course, there is an added and different danger there. The report continues:

The following are some specific streets or areas in Gawler, which have very poor soakage, and where in many instances the yards of houses develop into sodden, sponge-like areas unless given constant attention.

I wish to quote just a few of these streets to give honourable members some idea of what is going on and of the need for a sewage system. The member for Murray (Mr. Bywaters) who, as well as having the honour of representing the district of Murray in this House also had the honour of being born in Gawler, will appreciate the significance of some of these streets because he knows them well. The report continues:

1. Jane Street, Willaston. A very poor soakage area. The subsoil is of limestone-clay mixture. Of the 12 houses inspected, 11 found it necessary to eject or pump their wells out, mostly three or four times a week.

The inspection referred to was done by the health inspector. The report continues:

A number have installed varying lengths of perforated pipes, but this usually only gives temporary relief.

The following is a high area:

2. Lyndoch Road and East Terrace, Gawler East: Another very poor soakage area; solid rock appears just below the surface. Eight out of 10 houses were having trouble.

I want honourable members to pay particular attention to the following:

The hospital in this area has an electric pump, operating practically full time, discharging the effluent into cultivated ground.

I am sure that all honourable members would regret that a large hospital would be forced to such expedients.

3. Gozzard Street, Gawler East: A very bad soakage area; effluent is being siphoned out from wells in a number of premises. In Coombe Street, Gawler East, extremely poor soakage area effluent being pumped on to farmlands adjoining the South Para river by means of rubber hoses placed across the street.

Honourable members will note that all sorts of expedients, some rather peculiar, are taken and desperate efforts are being made by people trying to solve the problem in their own way because they are not getting any assistance. The report continues:

4. In Jane Street, Lyndoch Road, Gozzard Street and Coombe Street the fall of the land is to the front thus considerably decreasing the amount of land available for soakage purposes.

5. Duck Flat Housing Trust area, Gawler West, including Marsh Avenue, Lynch Avenue, Richards Avenue, Rice Avenue, etc.: This area has more effluent disposal problems than any other in the corporation area.

This area is really in the river flood plains and in the past it was a real river flood area but is not so much nowadays. The report continues:

This is a densely populated area and the majority of the houses have very small back yards. The wells of two out of every three houses inspected have to be pumped out at least once a week, and on many occasions a highly unpleasant odour is noticeable by just walking along the street.

6. Ey Grove, May Terrace, Housing Trust area, Gawler West: Similar conditions exist here; at least half the wells have to be emptied regularly.

7. Murray Street, Gawler: Even in the main street the problem exists, a number of shops going to great expense to provide suitable effluent disposal facilities, and only meeting with moderate success.

Mr. McAnaney: How do they dispose of it?

Mr. CLARK: It is an enormous problem and the effluent is disposed of in a multitude of ways.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: Much has to be carted away.

Mr. CLARK: Yes. The report continues:

8. Other areas and streets: Some of the other areas inspected which are having many difficulties include Cowan Street, Church Hill, Hill Street, First Street and Third Street, Gawler South, and the railway station. This report mainly concerns the adverse effect on the average family living in the town. Mention has not been made of the effect on industries, but it should be added that:

(1) Timer Fashions Ltd., employing about 7 males and 180 females has been forced to install soakage wells, bore holes and perforated pipes on the banks of the South Para River to dispose of the effluent from its clothing factory.

(2) National Tyre Service has also made use of the South Para River banks in the same way.

I know the member for Onkaparinga, who is Chairman of the Public Works Committee, will be interested in the next firm. The report continues:

(3) The S.A. Farmers Union Butter Factory has an extensive ponding system on park lands on the banks of the South Para River. From the foregoing it may be seen that the health and comfort of the citizens of Gawler is being seriously affected by the poor soakage conditions: the situation is indeed becoming untenable. The only solution is for Gawler to be connected to the Engineering and Water Supply Department sewer mains.

Mr. Ryan: The whole show stinks!

Mr. CLARK: My friend, the member for Port Adelaide, has made some reference to the show stinking. I believe that it does and the same words could be applied to the attitude of the Government about sewerage for Gawler. Before leaving this matter I want to stress the Health Officer's conclusion that the only solution is for Gawler to be connected to the Engineering and Water Supply Department sewer main.

The Hon. P. H. Quirke: The intentions are good.

Mr. CLARK: I am afraid the Minister of Lands has had some experience of good intentions. There is no doubt that the intentions are good but one gets tired of waiting for good intentions to be fulfilled, and that is what I am stressing today. I have not read the report of the health inspector because it is couched in beautiful prose or because it makes pleasant reading or listening. I am repeating it only to stress the fact—and I ask the Government that every effort be made in this direction—that Gawler should be seweraged as soon as possible. This is a lovely town and we citizens of Gawler do not see why such a town should be exposed to the risk of pollution.

Mr. Lawn: Didn't the Premier promise at your by-election that he would sewer Gawler?

The SPEAKER: Order! the honourable member for Gawler.

Mr. CLARK: The year 1952 is 12 years ago. I remember that the Premier did promise almost everything at that by-election but I would have to check on what the honourable member suggests. I can remember that he promised a deep-sea port for Smithfield, and there could have been promises with regard to sewerage. However, I most seriously ask the Government that every effort be made to bring the plans for Gawler sewerage before the Public Works Committee as soon as possible.

I should like now to refer to Elizabeth. I notice that the member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) said that some members on this side of the House were continually asking for things, but he then went on to ask for a number of things himself, which is, of course, only the right and proper way to do things. Therefore, I shall ask for something now. It has been noticeable over the last 12 months or so that many members on both sides have been saying that Elizabeth is now a part of the metropolitan area. Perhaps it is, but if it has become a suburb of Adelaide, which I frankly hope it has not, why can it not be treated as such?

Mr. Hutchens: Its population would place it in the metropolitan area for electoral purposes.

Mr. CLARK: Yes, but why is it that Elizabeth cannot be treated as part of the metropolitan area when it comes to securing travelling facilities such as are obtainable in the metropolitan area? Why cannot people at Elizabeth get a bus service between the city and Elizabeth, which citizens of Elizabeth and I have been seeking for years? We do not consider that the train service is inadequate; in fact, the service from Adelaide to Elizabeth and Gawler is a good one these days. I used to have a good deal to say about it in my early days in this House, but I have no complaints now. I do not know whether that is due to my efforts or not. I should like to take some credit for it, for I would be silly if I did not. However, if honourable members look at Elizabeth—and I am sure most of them have at least visited it at some stage—they will find that it is a scattered town indeed. Parts of it are miles away from the railway station. This, Sir, is not by accident but by design; and the design of the town is good: I am not criticizing it for one moment. However, at present this design does not lend itself to convenient travelling, and most of the residents work away from Elizabeth itself.

I admit that we were told in the early stages of its establishment (and, indeed, even before I came into this Chamber) that Elizabeth would never become simply a dormitory town, with people working in the metropolitan area. Although I am happy to say that it has not become a dormitory town completely, a reliable estimate is that at least 75 per cent of the people who live in the town do not work there. A very large percentage of the people who work away from Elizabeth have to catch a bus to get to the train, that is, if the bus runs to suit them, and most frequently it does not. Then they have to catch a bus at the other end, which means that they are paying three fares, and as honourable members will know (as the general public certainly knows) fares are not getting any cheaper. In other words, these people, because they happen by accident to live in a desirable part of Elizabeth (and most of them that are some distance from the train do), lose money and time.

Mr. Shannon: That is the important thing: they lose too much time.

Mr. CLARK: I am glad the honourable member agrees with me. It is a pleasure to stand up here and find members agreeing with me, because I am most sincere in what I am saying. Many people in Elizabeth who cannot really afford it are forced into a position of having to buy a car. Because of the very fact that these people need a quick and convenient method of transport they have had to purchase cars, and dozens of them have come to me when they have got into difficulties because they could not keep up the payments.

I know that every member in this House is most anxious for our railways to get as much patronage as possible. The effect of people living in awkward positions in Elizabeth and thereby being forced into buying cars is that not only is a man who owns a car travelling in that car to his work in the city but he is taking carloads of mates, and that is going on in dozens of instances. Those people could well be travelling on the railways or on some other form of Government transport, and therefore that revenue is being lost altogether.

Mr. Bywaters: I remember when the railways ran a bus to Gawler.

Mr. CLARK: I can, too. When I was a boy I lived at a place called Gawler Blocks, as did the member for Murray at one stage. Evidently it is a very notable place.

Mr. Jennings: That was a horse-drawn bus, was it?

Mr. CLARK: No, it was not so very long ago. It was back in the 1920's when that bus ran to Gawler. We have been raising this matter of a bus service for a number of years, and each time we have brought it before the Premier or anyone else (because we have tried almost everybody) we have been told that the time is not ripe. I do not know whether any other members have had that reply in answer to a question, but I certainly have. Back in April 1961, I took up the matter with the Premier following the refusal, on that occasion, of the Transport Control Board to license a bus service between Adelaide and Elizabeth, and in his reply the Premier quoted the Chairman of the board as saying:

My board will continue to keep this matter under review, but it does not consider that the present time is appropriate.

Since then it has not been appropriate to do it. Following the letter I received from the Premier, a large public meeting was held at Elizabeth, and also I introduced a deputation to the Premier a few weeks later. Once more it was stressed that the people of Elizabeth desired some type of bus service between Elizabeth and the metropolitan area. One member of the deputation was Mr. Frank O'Sullivan, at present the first mayor of Elizabeth; another was the Rev. Howell Witt, a prominent clergyman; and the other was a lady whose name I must confess I have forgotten, ungentlemanly though it is for me to say so. The reply was exactly the same as we had previously received from the Premier. He was nice, polite and courteous to us, and he said "No" in one of the nicest ways I have ever heard him say it. He again stressed the fact that it would affect the railways and advised us to wait and see. We are still waiting but not seeing much.

Recently (this was before the Salisbury and Elizabeth councils became separate entities) they wrote to the Premier stressing the matter, asking for the question of buses to be considered again, and requesting his support. The Premier replied (and by this time they had become separate council areas) telling them that he believed there was a "considerable division of opinion on this issue". I do not know about that, but I can assure the House that every Elizabeth councillor supported the request, and still does. In fact, I understand that at its meeting last night the council again sought support from the Premier for a bus service. As I have mentioned earlier, surely it is not

uncommon for suburban areas to have both bus and train services, thus giving a complete service.

Members can think of examples of that without much difficulty. In Elizabeth the population is getting larger every day, but the idea is apparently to maintain the status quo for as long as possible. We have had experience of this for a long time. As members know, there was the agitation in Elizabeth and Salisbury for severance, which was strongly opposed, particularly by the Chairman of the Housing Trust (Mr. Cartledge). He gave evidence against it in the strongest possible terms, and then suddenly there was an about turn. Within 12 months he was strongly in favour of the area being divided into two council areas. I am praying that there will be a sudden change of heart or front, as there was on the severance issue. When I was in Western Australia earlier in the year I noticed, as other honourable members must have noticed, how that State was in some areas successfully co-ordinating road and rail services under one department. I see no reason why it cannot be done here.

Mr. Riches: You are forgetting that Elizabeth is in the country and that you do not get those services in the country.

Mr. CLARK: The peculiar thing is that Elizabeth is classed as being sometimes in the country and sometimes in the metropolitan area. We are rather uncertain what it is.

Mr. Loveday: Why is that?

Mr. CLARK: Frankly, I don't know. It appears to me, as it will to honourable members if they stop to think about it, that a bus service along the Main North Drive is inevitable. After all, this would assist people travelling in Elizabeth, and there is an enormous amount of subdivision going on along that road. Members may be surprised to know that the subdivision and building in the Salisbury area is just as great as in the Elizabeth area. This makes it inevitable that the sooner it be allowed to happen and not prevented from happening the better it will be. While speaking of Elizabeth, I quote from a

letter I received recently from the Secretary of the Elizabeth Grove Progress Association and, although the letter comes from the association, it represents the general opinion in Elizabeth. I agree with it. It deals with a completely absurd situation that is allowed to exist in Elizabeth. It states:

At a recent meeting of the Elizabeth Grove Progress Association, strong protests were made regarding the complete lack of overhead lighting on that section of the Main North Road passing through Elizabeth; also the failure to operate the traffic signals at busy intersections on their normal cycle for twenty-four hours a day.

Members generally may not be aware (although the Minister is probably aware of it) that during the day the normal coloured lights operate for "stop" and "go", but at night there is an amber flashing light, where formerly were "give way" signs, operating all the time. That may mean something to the people who habitually travel along that road, to people who live round about and to people from Victoria where, I believe, they have a similar method of operation, but it does not mean a thing to a person who does not know the area. The letter continues:

This Association feels that these two factors on a six-lane highway through the middle of a large otherwise well-lit town constitutes a very serious traffic hazard—especially on wet nights. It is our urgent request therefor that immediate action be taken—if necessary through legislation—to find an early solution to these problems. The Main North Road has developed into an important State highway and we feel that the provision of adequate lighting should receive high priority as a Government responsibility. This letter reflects the opinions not only of this Association but also of a large section of the ratepayers of the Corporation of Elizabeth.

I know that it does that, and I appeal to the Government to investigate this matter and if possible, give some assistance. The situation with regard to the lights is not only chaotic: in the minds of most people it is also idiotic. I ask leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted: debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 9.39 the House adjourned until Wednesday, August 12, at 2 p.m.