

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, August 12, 1965.

The SPEAKER (Hon. L. G. Riches) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

The SPEAKER: I notice in the gallery a distinguished visitor in the person of Miss B. H. Maconachie, M.P., B.A., H.Dip.Ed., member of the Parliament of Northern Ireland. I am sure that it is the unanimous wish of honourable members that Miss Maconachie be given a seat on the floor of the House. At the express wish of the honourable the Premier and the honourable the Leader of the Opposition, I invite the honourable member for Burnside (the first lady member of the House of Assembly), and the honourable member for Barossa (the first Australian Labor Party lady member of this Chamber) to introduce Miss Maconachie, who will thereby become the first lady member ever to have been given a seat on the floor of our House as a distinguished visitor.

Miss Maconachie was escorted by Mrs. Steele and Mrs. Byrne to a seat on the floor of the House.

QUESTIONS

EGGS.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: My question concerns the scope of the authority of public relations officers appointed under the Council of Egg Marketing Authorities plan. Can the Minister of Agriculture say whether these officers have the right of free entry to poultry farms at all times?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Under the C.E.M.A. plan these two officers have been appointed to make inspections and, at the same time, to create goodwill amongst poultry farmers toward this important scheme. It is expected that the poultry farmers will be pleased to see these gentlemen come on to their properties, and I assure honourable members that at all times these officers will carry out their work courteously and promptly. They have been appointed to make sure that the C.E.M.A. plan works effectively.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: With great respect, I believe the Minister misunderstood the question I put to him. He replied that the relationship between the poultry farmers and the public relations officers would be one of mutual courtesy. As a poultry farmer on a modest scale, I know how reasonable poultry farmers are, and I am sure that the relationship between the public relations officers and them will

indeed be courteous. Can the Minister say whether public relations officers will have the legal right of free entry into poultry farms at any time?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I had no intention of misleading the honourable member in my reply to his earlier question, but I noticed that in the second question he asked something about these officers collecting the C.E.M.A. levy. They will not be collecting it; they will only be inspecting the properties. I will take up the legal aspect to see whether they have this legal right.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I have heard that numbers of truck loads of eggs from the Victorian Egg Board have been coming into South Australia from Victoria. I have not established whether or not that is correct, or whether it should or should not happen, but will the Minister of Agriculture get a statement from the Chairman of the South Australian Egg Board on whether it is correct and, if it is, the reasons for its being done?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Yes.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I refer to a press statement released by the Minister of Agriculture, which states:

The Minister of Agriculture (Hon. G. A. Bywaters, M.P.) said today that he had asked the Minister for Primary Industry (Hon. C. F. Adermann) to clarify the position regarding liability for payment of the C.E.M.A. levy by charitable institutions and other persons who do not sell or barter eggs. The Minister for Primary Industry had replied by telegram as follows:

It will be necessary for the administering authority to decide each case on its merits. As a generalization our view is that each State Board as the administering authority would not classify a charitable institution or an owner who does not sell or barter eggs as keeping hens for commercial purposes despite the fact that they may keep more than 20 hens. If the administering authority considers a particular case in these categories is leviable it will insist on returns and levy payments.

Mr. Bywaters said that he believed that exemptions will be granted to owners of poultry kept for exhibition purposes providing they do not sell or barter eggs. However, it would be necessary in all cases for owners with more than 20 hens to write to the S.A. Egg Board setting out the number of hens and the manner in which the eggs are used in order to claim exemption from the C.E.M.A. levy.

I also have a letter provided to me by Dr. Forbes, the Minister for the Army, which came from the Minister for Primary Industry, and which states:

My dear Minister, I refer to your personal representations of April 23 on behalf of Mrs. J. C. Dinning of Naracoorte, in respect of the poultry industry legislation currently before

Parliament. It will not be necessary to amend the legislation to meet Mrs. Dinning's requirements, as the legislation already provides that only commercial producers are to be subject to the levy. In the circumstances outlined by Mrs. Dinning, she cannot be considered a commercial poultry producer as she obviously will not be selling the produce of her hens.

The authorities have laid down that anyone who does not sell the produce from his hens or dispose of it commercially is exempt from the Act. Does the Minister of Agriculture still contend that a person keeping more than 20 hens has to furnish a return and claim an exemption, or does he accept the ruling given by the Minister for Primary Industry?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: There was no intention to express in my statement that they would have to furnish returns. The suggestion in the report was that for people to get an exemption they should notify the Egg Board, and then they would be given one if the board considered it was warranted. The suggestion of the Leader that they should furnish returns is not correct, but they should write to the board a simple letter asking that—

The Hon. Sir Thomas Playford: What is the reason for writing the letter if they are not taxable? Why do they have to write?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: That is something I took up with the Chairman of the board and he suggested it, and that is why I made the statement. People should write in and get a letter that they are not leviable, and that would be the exemption and acknowledgment that they did not intend to sell or barter eggs.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I should like to ask a supplementary question. What right has the Egg Board—

The SPEAKER: Order! I will see the Leader in due course. I try to see members in order, and I will not deny the Leader the opportunity to ask a question, but it would create a precedent if I allowed members to ask two or three questions at once.

Later:

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Will the Minister consider circulating a statement to the effect that persons not commercially disposing of eggs will not have to go to the trouble and expense of obtaining written permission to do something which they are perfectly free to do without that permission?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I understand that the only expense involved is a 5d. stamp and the only trouble a few lines written on a piece of paper. This, in itself, protects the person concerned, for if, say, an inspector came to a person's home and ascertained that

he owned more hens than the stipulated number, it could cause embarrassment and involve further correspondence. Because of this, I think it is reasonable to expect people to write a simple letter and to pay 5d. for a stamp. If anybody is in difficulty over the 5d., I shall undertake to pay it myself.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Can the Minister say whether, in the circumstances mentioned a little while ago by the Leader of the Opposition, a poultry farmer who has not applied in writing for an exemption, and consequently does not hold an exemption, is committing an offence and liable to prosecution, and, if he is, what the penalty is?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: As I understand it, the person concerned would not be selling or bartering eggs and therefore would not be committing any breach. Consequently, there would be no penalty. I understand that the purpose of the board's requesting that such a letter be written is to protect the person concerned against any further correspondence that might ensue because of his not having some evidence that he is exempt.

The Hon. B. H. Teusner: There is no legal obligation to make the application?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Not to my knowledge, anyway.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Minister has answered two questions this afternoon relating to exemptions under the C.E.M.A. plan. First, he suggested that it would be in the interests of the producer to hold a letter from the board to the effect that he was not leviable under the scheme, and he was generous enough to offer to pay the cost of the postage stamp if that was any embarrassment to the producer. In reply to the second question I understood him to agree that there was no legal liability to obtain such a letter but that again it would be in the interests of the producer to hold it. In view of his obvious concern for the welfare of these producers who would be exempt, is he concerned lest his inspectors shall be so aggressive in this matter that protection will be necessary?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I do not know whether the honourable member is being facetious in his question, because on every former occasion when I have answered questions in relation to the men who are employed for this purpose I have stressed the need for good public relations. To suggest that there was any thought along the line referred to by the honourable member I can only take as being facetious.

PORT BROUGHTON TO PORT PIRIE ROAD.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Education, representing the Minister of Roads, an answer to my question of July 29 last about the sealing of the Port Broughton to Port Pirie road?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: My colleague the Minister of Roads reports that it is not planned to construct a dual highway from Port Broughton through Crystal Brook to Port Pirie. The proposed route from Port Broughton to Port Pirie is along the Wallaroo to Port Pirie main road to the Port Broughton to Merriton main road, along this route for a short distance, and thence to Port Pirie *via* the Cocky's Crossing district road. This proposal has been submitted to the Port Pirie and Port Broughton councils and their agreement received.

DROUGHT RELIEF.

Mr. HEASLIP: Yesterday, in reply to a question about subsidies in respect of the carriage of store cattle from the drought-stricken areas, the Minister of Agriculture said:

The Government has not considered an all-embracing policy of subsidizing store cattle travelling to the market but the cases of people severely affected by the drought, who desire assistance in transporting stock to the market, or who have any other need (including that of remission of rents) would be considered on their merits.

One of the biggest problems that will follow the breaking of this drought will be the replacing of cattle in those areas and the maintaining of a meat supply to the people of South Australia. Because of rail freights and the cost of getting stock to the city market, far too many cattle are dying on properties today. Can the Minister say whether the Government will consider subsidizing the cost of carriage of store cattle to more plentiful pastures and thus keep alive those cattle which, unless there is some incentive to get them moved, will die?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: On my recent visit to the North of South Australia I was informed by many people that they had already reduced stocks to a bare minimum. They were people with years of experience in the North and, for the most part, they were large pastoral companies, some of them operating more than one property. They, in turn, have shifted their stock from property to property, to wherever the feed is. These people made no requests at all for any form of subsidy for the transport of stock, either for agistment or for store cattle coming down to

market. The situation as I saw it (and this was not put to Cabinet; it was the conclusion that I myself arrived at) was that the people who were possibly in poor circumstances because of the drought should apply for assistance, and these applications would be treated on their merits. I do not think the general taxpayer of South Australia would welcome assisting people who were, as I said yesterday, financially able to carry their own burden. The honourable member's question being slightly different from that raised previously, I shall consider this matter again and discuss it with my Cabinet colleagues.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Did the Minister see the report in the press four or five days ago that one station (Clifton Hill) reported that it had 4,000 stock which were in poor condition and which would either have to be shifted unprofitably or left to die soon. At present those stock would fetch barely enough to meet the cost of transporting them to the metropolitan area. It would be a tragedy for so many stock of this description to be allowed to die when they are so necessary if we are to supply at least our own meat market. As that report appears to be contrary to the information the Minister has received, will he check on the position?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I saw that article in the newspaper and the statement that this stock would bring about £15 each on the local market and the freight would be about £8 a head. I will check, as the Leader has suggested, to see whether this is correct and will bring down a further reply later.

TEA TREE GULLY SEWERAGE.

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to a question I asked on August 3 last about sewerage for Tea Tree Gully?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The Engineer-in-Chief states that, following recent discussions and inspections of the Tea Tree Gully area by departmental and district council officers, the district clerk promised to forward to the department plans showing the effluent drainage system in the Tea Tree Gully district. These plans, which have taken some time to prepare, were received only on August 4 and are now being examined by the departmental Sewer Design Engineer to ascertain how the effluent drainage scheme can be intercepted by the construction of departmental sewers. This is a major investigation and will take some time to finalize. Meanwhile, effluent flows have been diverted into the recently constructed sewers in the vicinity of Modbury, but

to extend branch mains beyond this involves the investigation and design of:

- (1) A complete sewerage scheme for the whole of the Tea Tree Gully district.
- (2) A detailed examination of the points where relief could be given to the council's effluent drains.
- (3) Estimates of cost, etc.

With the limited staff available, it will be at least six months before the investigations will be completed and a report submitted.

HOUSING TRUST RENTS.

Mr. CLARK: Recently, in the interests of my constituents, I sought information from the Premier, as Minister of Housing, regarding increases in the rents of Housing Trust flats. Has the Premier that information?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Whilst the Housing Trust has increased certain of its flat rents, many have not been altered and some have been decreased. Over the years, as additional flats have been constructed and costs and other charges have increased, the trust has built up a great variety of rents for flats. In addition, as flats have become vacant these have been let at rents more comparable with today's costs. The result of these two factors has been that the trust has had many rents for basically the same accommodation, and it was felt that this was both inefficient and unfair. In spite of the higher prices for more recent flats and the so-called vacancy rents, a recent investigation by both the trust and independently by the Auditor-General showed that the trust was actually losing money on its flats as a whole. Local government rates, water and sewer rates, costs of maintenance and other charges have increased steeply over recent years and, since these increases had not been passed on to many tenants, the trust found that its outgoings were exceeding its income from its flats. In its letter to the tenants explaining the new rent scales, the trust invited any tenant who had a particular difficulty in paying the new rent to contact the trust. Any undue hardship arising from the new rents will be considered sympathetically by the trust and all or part of the increase abated. The trust believes its new rental scale is still quite low for the accommodation provided and that most tenants affected accept the new rents as reasonable.

DECENTRALIZATION.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Recently, the Orange City Council in New South Wales organized a seminar on decentralization, which was attended by more than 50 city business

people and also by an industrialist and the New South Wales Minister for Decentralization and Development (Mr. Fuller). The Minister is reported to have said at this seminar that the Government, first, would establish a Rural Industrial Development Fund of £6,000,000, to be made available at the rate of £1,000,000 a year, and, secondly, would legislate to guarantee finance to help the establishment of approved industries in the country. Can the Premier say whether he will in due course have the New South Wales proposals investigated to see whether any matters of merit contained therein may be helpful in the Government's proposed dynamic drive for decentralization?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I did not see the article, but I shall be pleased to bring the matter before the Cabinet to see what can be done.

PARA HILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Mr. HALL: Unfortunately, a fire in a dual classroom at the Para Hills school this morning destroyed two classrooms and damaged to some extent a unit of four classrooms. I spoke of this school only last night in the debate on the Loan Estimates, and it is unfortunate that the fire has occurred, because much trouble has been experienced there concerning accommodation. I know that the Education Department will obviously do what it can to help solve the immediate problem resulting from the fire. Will the Minister of Education, if his opinion is required on any matters associated with the fire, give this matter his favourable consideration?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: It is most unfortunate that this fire occurred in view of the tremendous pressure on this particular school. I should like to inform the honourable member that the dual classroom (a timber block) was completely destroyed, and the nearby quadruple timber block was damaged to some extent, being singed by fire and damaged by water. The department has obtained the use of five classrooms in the newly completed infants school within 100 yards of the dual classroom destroyed: the classrooms are of solid construction and built on the same site. Five infants classes have been transferred to the solid construction building, and the primary classes from the burnt rooms have been transferred to the rooms vacated by the infants. All classes proceeded normally from about 11 a.m. today. I am informed from Police Headquarters that the fault appears to have occurred in the oil heating

system, possibly from a fractured pipe. There are no suspicious circumstances. The insurance assessors have been on the job, and a technical officer from the Public Buildings Department is to examine the situation. I assure the honourable member that I am having the suitability of oil heaters examined in view of what has occurred. The books lost are being replaced immediately at departmental expense, and any other losses will be assessed and made good.

RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST.

Mr. CURREN: On May 8 this year the Premier visited Renmark and discussed with the Renmark Irrigation Trust proposals to finance a new pumping plant, rising mains and channel rehabilitation. Can the Premier say whether any decision has been reached about these proposals?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Following the discussions referred to by the honourable member I arranged for the Auditor-General to confer with the Renmark Irrigation Trust, and to investigate and report to the Government. The Auditor-General subsequently submitted a report that was considered and approved by Cabinet. The recommendations in the Auditor-General's report are as follows:

(a) The existing accruing drainage loan of £175,000 be repaid over 40 years instead of 18 years as under the Act at present.

(b) That the Government finance the pumping station and rising mains, estimated to cost £560,000.

(c) That, based on the estimate in (b), and commencing in the year following completion of the pumping station and rising mains, the trust be required to repay £400,000 over 40 years with interest at 5 per cent.

(d) That the Government provide up to £500,000 on a pound-for-pound subsidy basis towards the cost of the channel rehabilitation and additional drainage. This sum would be provided over a period of at least 10 years, the Government only to match the amounts spent by the trust each year, but not exceeding the amount of £500,000.

The trust to be required (in conjunction with officers of the Engineering and Water Supply Department) to submit details of the plans of the new pumping plant and channel rehabilitation and drainage for approval.

The Auditor-General also reported that, in his opinion, with careful financial management the trust could meet the commitments that he outlined. He considered that whatever method of financing the trust adopted, temporarily increased charges would appear to be inevitable. An additional sum equal to £2 an acre would be required until completion of the scheme, although the manner of raising funds would be a matter for the trust itself.

I subsequently wrote to the Chairman of the Renmark Irrigation Trust advising him of the Auditor-General's recommendations and that Cabinet was prepared to approve the proposals outlined by the Auditor-General and would take the necessary statutory and other action to implement them upon receipt of advice from the trust that it was prepared to carry out the obligations that the scheme will impose on the trust. I have now been advised that the trust has considered the proposals and formally accepted them. Accordingly, the Government will now proceed to take the necessary action to implement this scheme.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

Mr. SHANNON: I think everyone was intrigued by the statement made by the Government recently that something would be done with that old relic of the past, the Adelaide Gaol. I draw the Government's attention also to the necessity, prior to the demolition of the Adelaide Gaol, to erect a new women's prison at Yatala, which has been recommended, and to obtain a new site for the erection of a new Government Printing Office, which is long overdue. Both these matters are important. Will the Premier say whether, in deciding what should be done with the site of the old Adelaide Gaol, these two matters will be given his close attention?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I am pleased to hear this information from the honourable member, who is also Chairman of the Public Works Committee. I assure him that the erection of a new women's prison will be proceeded with as soon as humanly possible. It was intended that this institution would be known as the Northfield Women's Rehabilitation Centre. It would be situated not far distant from—

Mr. Shannon: "Williams's farm", as they call it.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Although I cannot say that I would fall over backwards, I would do my utmost to foster a project for the long overdue Government Printing Office.

ISLINGTON SEWAGE FARM.

Mr. JENNINGS: I refer to an announcement made yesterday regarding the future use of the Islington sewage farm, and, as they know that I am vitally interested, I am deeply indebted to both the Premier and the Minister of Works for keeping me well informed on this matter. Can the Minister of Works supplement the information released last night,

and can he give the House the benefit of an exhibit that would show the plan more fully than we have been able to understand it so far?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: I intend to honour the promise I have made, and I have already supplied to the honourable member a copy of the report submitted by Mr. Fargher (Railways Commissioner), Mr. Jackman (Commissioner of Highways), and Mr. Dridan (Director and Engineer-in-Chief of the Engineering and Water Supply Department). The proposals outlined last night by the Premier are in accordance with the recommendations made by a committee comprising these men, in relation to areas that will be reserved for industry. Although the committee was limited in its references and could make recommendations only in regard to Government institutions, it went a little further than that and has made certain other recommendations. As this is a matter of great public interest I ask leave of the House to have the relevant plan exhibited in the Chamber.

Leave granted.

Mr. COUMBE: What is the expected date the Government will vacate the existing sewage farm and so make development of this area available for commencement? Will the Minister give me assurance that the provision for drainage of floodwaters as envisaged by the three councils (Prospect, Hindmarsh and Enfield) will be adequately catered for in this redevelopment plan?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: I think I failed to give a full reply to the honourable member for Enfield (Mr. Jennings) regarding one aspect. The committee investigating this matter set out an area for residential purposes. Since that time the Premier has announced the Cabinet decision to reserve 160 acres for future use by the Institute of Technology. I can tell the honourable member that I think the provision for drainage has been well attended to by the committee. It has provided for a drain alongside the proposed freeway, going right across the farm, for stormwater drainage. In addition, following a request from the Enfield council, the committee has made provision for a stormwater drain on a section of a proposed road that will meet up with Shillabeer Avenue in Croydon Park, going part way across the present farm, then moving across to Days Road, and running parallel along Days Road down to Junction Road; and starting at a point in from Junction Road there is provision for a stormwater drain to connect

up with the Enfield system. Although I am not sure of the date of commencement, I think it will be in 1966.

Mr. Coumbe: Would it be June, 1966?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Yes, I think that is the proposed date on which it is hoped to vacate the farm and hand it over for the proposed redevelopment.

SCHOOL FOOD.

Mr. QUIRKE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of August 5 regarding food supplied by school canteens?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The investigation sought by the honourable member would present a number of difficulties, as school canteens are conducted by parents' organizations. I believe that a more useful way of protecting children's teeth would be to cultivate an appreciation on the part of parents. I can assure the honourable member that my department and I have no desire to be put in the position of dictating to the parents concerned what should be done in the canteens which they are responsible for running. I have recently had correspondence with the President of the Australian Dental Association, and I informed him that I agreed to the association's making a direct approach to the parents' organizations concerned with school canteens, and that I would consider for publication in the *Education Gazette* any article on the subject of children's dental health which the association might choose to submit.

KESWICK BRIDGE.

Mr. LAWN: Has the Minister of Education, representing the Minister of Roads, a reply to my question of August 6 regarding the rebuilding of the Keswick bridge?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: My colleague reports:

The plans for the reconstruction and widening of Keswick bridge on Anzac Highway are almost completed. Following the driving of a test pile, the Chief Engineer of the South Australian Railways expressed concern that the vibration caused by pile driving affected the railway signalling equipment at the bridge. It has, therefore, been arranged that another test pile be driven closer to the signalling equipment than the previous one to ascertain if serious damage to the signalling equipment could be caused by driving the permanent foundation piles. It is expected that this will be undertaken within two or three weeks. Afterwards it can be determined whether the department can call tenders for the construction of the bridge or whether there will be some delay whilst the Railways Department makes other arrangements with respect to its signalling equipment.

BROKEN HILL ROAD.

Mr. CASEY: Recently many accidents have occurred in the section of the Broken Hill road between Peterborough and Oodlawirra. One accident was caused through material being placed in the centre of the road with no illuminated sign to indicate a detour around the section that was being built up. In the past, signs have been placed on the side of the road, but they should have been in the centre alongside the material. Will the Minister of Education ask his colleague, the Minister of Roads, to ascertain whether in future, where this road is being constructed, suitable illuminated signs can be placed in a position where motorists can see them?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I will take up this matter with my colleague.

SPEECH BY VICE-CONSUL.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: My question arises out of a question I asked the Minister of Education last Thursday about a talk given by the United States Vice-Consul at the Enfield High School. Although the Minister, in the course of his reply, said that if the U.S. Vice-Consul did not speak on the matter on which he originally intended to speak then that was his own affair, I respectfully disagree with that. I am fortified in my opinion by remarks made by Mr. Stewart Cockburn in a news commentary last night. I now repeat one of my previous questions: Does the Minister know or has he made inquiries to find out at whose instigation the change of subject from American policy in Vietnam to the framework of American Government was made?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I can only reiterate that if the U.S. Vice-Consul changed the subject of his address then it had nothing to do with me or with the Education Department. It is not my responsibility to investigate why the U.S. Vice-Consul changed the nature of his address. As I told the honourable member previously, I informed Mr. Linehan that the U.S. Vice-Consul could proceed as he wished in his address to the students of that school. I do not consider that it is necessary for me to go beyond that. I reiterate what I said previously.

TOWN PLANNING.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: Last week I directed a question to the Premier, in the absence of the Attorney-General, about regulations made under the Town Planning Act. The Premier promised to refer the question to the Attorney-General. Has he a reply?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Not yet, but I shall try to get an answer for the honourable member by next Tuesday.

UNLEY TRAFFIC LIGHTS.

Mr. LANGLEY: Recently, in the Address in Reply debate, I mentioned a large new shopping area in the course of construction opposite the Unley council chambers. As the Unley Road is a main highway, and only schools and main intersections have traffic lights, many pedestrians have much trouble at present crossing the road near the main shops. As this new shopping centre is in the heart of Unley and the safety of shoppers will be greatly helped with lights, will the Minister of Education, representing the Minister of Local Government, investigate whether pedestrian lights are to be installed to coincide with the opening, and whether plans are already in hand for their installation?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: Yes.

MILK REFRIGERATION.

Mr. McANANEY: I have asked the Minister of Agriculture several times about milk refrigeration. New suppliers to the Jervois milk factory in my area, which picks up milk twice a day, are required to put in refrigerated milk tanks, which is an additional expense to them. I have also asked about the Milk Board requiring new installations for refrigeration to comply with regulation N46. Over a number of years in New South Wales and Victoria more flexible regulations have worked effectively. The Minister told me that he was meeting people last Friday week and that he would inform me of the developments from that meeting. Has he any comments?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Yes; I promised that I would let the honourable member know at the first opportunity, and this is it. Representatives of the Jervois milk factory, the South Australian Farmers Union and the Myponga co-operative called on me at my office last Friday week. We had a lengthy discussion on the overall future of standardization, which I understand is necessary for the benefit of consumers of whole milk. The discussion was quite amicable, although there was a difference of opinion, of course, between the Jervois factory and the Farmers Union. Although on that occasion the discussions were conducted in a friendly atmosphere, it was suggested at the conclusion of the deputation that both firms should get together and discuss the matter on their own and then come back to me with further thought on it. I take it

that that will be done, and as soon as I have anything from them I will inform the honourable member.

Mr. McANANEY: The Minister of Agriculture has said that he is obtaining some reports from Victoria in regard to milk refrigeration. Has he received them, and can he say what investigations departmental officers or Milk Board officials have made into the bulk milk systems operating in New South Wales and Victoria?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I have had no further correspondence from Victoria on this matter. However, I will take up the second part of the honourable member's question with the Chairman of the Milk Board to see what has taken place.

BOOL LAGOON SCHOOL.

Mr. RODDA: This morning the headmistress at the Bool Lagoon school was informed that the school would close at the end of this school term, which I understand will be in three weeks' time. The present teacher, Miss Hunt, will be required to transfer to the teaching staff of one of the Naracoorte primary schools, and the students at Bool Lagoon will be transported to Naracoorte by the existing school bus system. Some peculiar aspects are associated with this school in that Miss Hunt, who is not a young person by any means, has gone to considerable trouble to set herself up in her own home at Bool Lagoon, which is about 20 miles, I think, from Naracoorte. It will be of some inconvenience for her at her stage of life to transfer to Naracoorte. I understand that the parents of the students at Bool Lagoon are anxious that the school be retained. Therefore, will the Minister of Education, in the event of the school having to be closed, consider having it kept open until the end of this school year for the students' sake, and will he consider reviewing the request from the parents at Bool Lagoon to retain the school?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The honourable member was kind enough to tell me of this situation earlier today. I shall be happy to consider the two requests he has made. However, I should like to point out several things for the benefit of the honourable member when he speaks to the parents on this question. I understand that at present only seven children attend the school and that six attended it some time ago. On May 3, 1965, the head teacher was informed that the Acting Superintendent of Rural Schools had noticed the very small enrolment, that it was causing concern,

and that it was probable that the school would be closed, so this is not sudden action so far as the head teacher is concerned. The Acting Superintendent offered to discuss the whole problem with her if she happened to be in Adelaide during the vacation. She said in reply she would not be in Adelaide at that time.

May I say that, from an educational point of view, it would be far better for these children to go to Naracoorte, because the advantages of being in a larger school are many, and because the school bus goes past the door to Naracoorte. The head teacher in question has been offered a post at any other single-teacher school if she cares to go to such a school, or she can go to a post in the Naracoorte school. I raise those points for the information of the honourable member.

EVERGREEN MEMORIAL PARK.

Mr. LAWN: Today I have been handed some literature that has been distributed on behalf of Evergreen Memorial Park Ltd. Coloured photographs in this literature depict graveyards, and among much other printed matter there is a reference to the bitter experience of those who unfortunately had to inter loved ones in graveyards where abound broken and fallen masonry, weeds, tin cans and bottles, general neglect and squalor. The brochure says:

Compare the squalor photographs with those depicting the dignity and beauty of Evergreen Memorial Park, and ask our consultant to show you further evidence of the "Night as to Day" comparisons, when he visits you.

I understand that this consultant is calling on aged people in the metropolitan area and that pressure is being applied on them that if they do not purchase allotments for their burial they will be left without any places in which to be buried, or buried in places such as are depicted, among broken bottles, squalor and general neglect. Will the Attorney-General have the affairs of Evergreen Memorial Park Limited investigated to see that people are not "steam rolled" into purchasing these plots?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I thank the honourable member for his question. This matter has caused concern for some time, and this is by no means the first complaint we have had about this particular group of people. As things stand, door-to-door approaches of this kind are generally under review, and I shall be making some submissions to Cabinet concerning them later this session.

BLASTING.

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Premier obtained a reply from the Minister of Mines to a question I asked on August 3 about quarry blasting on the fringe of Tea Tree Gully?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The Minister of Mines states that the Mines Department has investigated complaints regarding blasting at the Tea Tree Gully quarry. Tests have shown that the ground vibration from the quarry blasting is within the safe limits, but noise and air concussion vary widely and cause annoyance. Further test work is being planned for this and other quarries and it is hoped that with careful planning the noise and blast effects can be kept to an acceptable minimum. In 1957 the height of quarry faces was, by regulation under the Mines and Works Inspection Act, restricted to 65ft., and this regulation is still in force. However, in the intervening years the quarry companies have found that faces with lesser heights have been safer and more economical. The majority have quarry faces 30ft. to 40ft. in height. At Tea Tree Gully the faces were, it is understood, planned for 50ft. They have been worked up to the maximum of 65ft. but are now of a general height of 25ft.

At most quarries, holes are bored top to toe—that is, for the full depth of the face—and the charge of explosive in the hole increases with the depth of the hole (more strictly, with the amount of rock to be blasted out). About 12 months ago the company accepted a suggestion from the Inspector of Mines and Quarries and cut all faces to 25ft. in height. This was done so that the charge of explosive to each hole would be reduced. Several cases have been investigated by the department in which people have been endangered and in which superficial damage has been caused to houses by flying stone from quarry blasts. In these cases action has been taken to prevent a recurrence. No evidence has been found of damage to houses caused by air concussion or ground vibration.

CHIEF AGRONOMIST.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Will the Minister of Agriculture say whether it is correct that Mr. Tiver (Chief Agronomist of the Agriculture Department) has resigned?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I regret that the information is correct and that Mr. Tiver will terminate his services with the Agriculture Department on August 31. This is a severe blow to the department and to me, because Mr.

Tiver's services have been held in very high regard throughout South Australia. His particular interest in the small seeds production in the South-East has been outstanding and the success of this venture has been due mainly to his untiring efforts. His decision was not taken lightly. He spoke to me, but he was committed before I had had a chance to speak to him so there was no opportunity for me to try to change his mind. It was, I think, with much regret and some uncertainty that he took this step, and we can do nothing but wish him success in his new position.

ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL.

Mr. CLARK: From private conversations I have had with the Minister of Education, I believe he has been concerned about not achieving target dates for extensions of schools and new schools. I am worried about the position obtaining at the Elizabeth High School. As it has grown into a big school, a new wing was supposed to have been completed at the beginning of February. I cannot blame the Minister for the delay, because the project was planned well before his time. However, this school is still waiting for the new wing; it is badly in need of more space, and the children are working under cramped conditions. Members of the school staff were further disturbed this week because, when at last they thought they were getting somewhere, most of the workmen seemed to have left the job. Will the Minister have investigations made with a view to expediting the completion of this wing so that it can be ready for occupation as soon as possible?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I shall be pleased to do that. I assure the honourable member that the Minister of Works and I are concerned about completing future school-buildings by the target date, and we are doing our best to achieve that end. Of course, the best schemes go wrong at times because of circumstances beyond the control of the Ministers concerned.

SALISBURY COURTHOUSE.

Mr. HALL: The Attorney-General is aware that yesterday justices of the peace refused to sit in the Salisbury Local Court, giving as their reason (and rightly so) the inadequacy of the space set aside for court hearings there. In a press statement the Attorney-General attributed this state of affairs to past Government deficiencies. This is, indeed, debatable when one realizes how quickly the area is developing. However, whatever the reasons, a great need exists for new court facilities at

Salisbury. I am not sure whether the Attorney-General has actually stated or merely suggested that the Salisbury court may have to move temporarily to Elizabeth, but this matter has concerned the residents in the southern part (at least) of the Salisbury council area. I have had fears expressed to me by Para Hills residents that such a move may eventually lead to the loss of a court at Salisbury. Will the Attorney-General endeavour to obtain temporary court premises at Salisbury, pending the building of a permanent structure there?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The situation at the Salisbury courthouse is one of long-standing need. In fact, I remember appearing in the present premises some years ago, and they were as unsatisfactory then as they are now. When I assumed office I found that there had been requests to my predecessor for something to be done about this for some considerable period but that no action had been taken.

Mr. Clark: The Minister was soon reminded of this matter again.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I was. I received a deputation from Salisbury of local government authorities and some justices. They put to me the advisability of recommending the building of new courthouse buildings in Salisbury itself. Of course, that would have to be something of a long-range plan, and as a result I have had investigations made as to the place where it would be best to put additional courthouse facilities to cope with the growing population in this whole area. Consequently, a proposal is currently being examined by the Public Buildings Department for the provision of courthouse premises in the southern part of the local government area of the city of Salisbury.

The honourable member will appreciate that those premises cannot be built overnight. Plans must be prepared and submitted to the Public Works Committee, and then tenders called and a contract let; and at the rate we have been able to do this previously it will be some time before there can be relief for the Salisbury court. I told the deputation that, if it could find satisfactory alternative permanent accommodation in Salisbury (that is, accommodation in which the courthouse did not have to be specially set up on every occasion there was a court there), I would seek to move the court. I would not be at all satisfied to have the court officers required to cart court furniture, typewriters and other items about to set up a temporary courthouse on court days in some building used for other purposes. This is a most unsatisfactory procedure, and I said

I was not willing to do something of that kind. I said that if the deputation gave me some alternative I should seek to take it, but I have had no satisfactory alternative suggested to me at any stage.

What I said to the press concerning the moving of the court at the moment was that, if justices refused to sit in that court, I should have no alternative but to move the court to the nearest courthouse, which is at Elizabeth. That courthouse is sometimes overtaxed, although the Government intends to call tenders for extensions to it as soon as possible. Since making the statement to the press, I have consulted the magistrate in charge of the Country and Suburban Courts Department and he has assured me that he will staff the next sitting of the Salisbury court with a magistrate, and we will examine the position thereafter.

TIMBER.

Mr. CURREN: I noticed a report in the *Murray Pioneer* of July 29 concerning a meeting of Region 5 of the Murray Valley Development League held at Barmera on Tuesday, July 27. The report stated that the Hon. C. R. Story, M.L.C., Mr. G. O'H. Giles, M.H.R., the Hon. T. C. Stott and I would be requested to press for the appointment of a permanent officer of the Woods and Forests Department to be stationed in the Upper Murray area. At the recent meeting of the Upper Murray Local Government Association the following resolution was carried:

That the Woods and Forests Department be requested to take a more active interest in the preservation and rejuvenation of natural timbers in the reserve under its control at Woolenooke Bend and give due consideration to the cancelling of all grazing licences at the site.

Will the Minister of Forests have these two related matters investigated, and report to the House?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I will take up this matter with the Conservator of Forests and get a report.

PORT LINCOLN CIRCUIT COURT.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: As the Attorney-General is no doubt aware, one proposal made by the Industries Development Special Committee, which brought in its report on decentralization a few years ago, was that a circuit court of the Supreme Court should be held at Port Lincoln. Knowing the Government's desire to encourage decentralization, I ask the Attorney-General whether he has considered this recommendation of that committee and, if he has, whether he intends to act on it?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have not, as yet, considered this recommendation. It has not so far arisen in the discussions that I have had, either with the Judges or with the Master. However, the honourable member having raised the question, I shall certainly take it up.

BOARDING ALLOWANCES.

Mr. CASEY: Some time ago in this House I asked the previous Minister of Education to take up with the Commonwealth authorities the anomaly that exists in the Far North of this State, that many children are attending school at Alice Springs who actually live in South Australia, just this side of the border. In these circumstances the parents are not entitled to a boarding allowance whilst their children attend school at Alice Springs. Will the Minister of Education take up this matter with the Commonwealth authorities to see whether some consideration cannot be given to the circumstances existing in the Far North so that those people can be treated as are their counterparts further south who can claim boarding allowances?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I shall be pleased to do that.

NURIOOTPA HIGH SCHOOL.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Has the Minister of Education any information about matters relating to the Nuriootpa High School that were brought to his notice by a deputation introduced to him last Wednesday?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: Arrangements have been made for Mr. Stock (Principal Engineer of the Public Buildings Department) and Mr. Thompson (Assistant Superintendent of High Schools) to visit the school on Monday next, August 16, and these officers will meet Mr. Van Velsen, Mr. Boehm and the headmaster for discussions on the spot. Plans for the new additions in solid construction are approaching completion.

PORT PIRIE TRADE SCHOOL.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to a question I asked on July 29 last about automotive workshops at the Port Pirie Trade School?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The Director, Public Buildings Department, reports that, following two unsatisfactory calls for tenders for the above work, approval was obtained on May 13, 1965, to seek private offers from contractors specializing in the supply and erection of steel-framed structures. Subsequent negotiations with private contractors revealed that it was desirable to revise the specification to

allow the individual specialized contractors to offer their own particular type of structure. The specification has been revised and offers are currently being sought with a closing date of August 24, 1965. Subject to a satisfactory offer being received, an early recommendation for acceptance will be made with a view to expediting the work.

WIRRABARA FOREST.

Mr. HEASLIP: The Wirrabara forest is in the watershed of the Rocky River. Over the past few years cape tulip has become prevalent in that area of forest lands. Last year I took the matter up with the predecessor of the present Minister of Forests and action was taken throughout that forest area to eradicate this cape tulip, which is going down Ippinitchie Creek, which flows into the Rocky River, which, in turn, flows into the Broughton River. The result of this has been that nearly down to the Broughton River cape tulip is now growing. The people there can be penalized for not eradicating it, but they cannot do so if the headwaters (Government land) are allowed to be infested. Will the Minister of Forests take this up with his department to see that proper action is again taken this year, because this is the time to spray cape tulip in the Wirrabara forest areas?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Yes.

KAPUNDA COUNCIL.

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Education, representing the Minister of Local Government, a reply to a question I asked yesterday about the severance of portion of Ward 8 from the District Council of Kapunda?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: My colleague the Minister of Local Government has advised me that a petition from ratepayers was received during the term of the previous Government asking that portion of Ward 8 of the district of Kapunda be severed therefrom and annexed to the district of Angaston. A counter-petition was received from the district of Kapunda. As some of the ratepayers who signed the original petition also supported the council's counter-petition, the Minister has acceded to a request from the District Council of Kapunda to conduct a secret ballot of ratepayers similar to the ballot conducted by the previous Minister of Local Government at Taylorville in the Waikerie-Morgan area. The result of this ballot will assist my colleague in reaching a recommendation for consideration by Cabinet. The ballot will close on September 10, and a decision will be made shortly thereafter.

TAILEM BEND TO KEITH WATER SCHEME.

Mr. NANKIVELL: On July 23 last the Minister of Agriculture and I attended a meeting at Coonalpyn of the Central Water Scheme Committee. At that meeting, through the kind offices of the Engineer-in-Chief, were the two district engineers concerned with the Tailem Bend to Keith water scheme. The question there arose of the possible routes for subsidiary mains from this scheme. The officers in question advised the people concerned that they were then currently considering the feasibility of certain propositions that had been submitted to them by the Design Branch of the Engineering and Water Supply Department. I think honourable members are aware that this Central Water Scheme Committee has done a tremendous amount of work to assist the department in obtaining information from those people concerned with having water supplied to them. In view of that, can the Minister of Works say whether it would now be possible, at this stage, if the maps have been completed showing the proposed routes of these subsidiary mains, for this committee to be provided with copies of them so that it could have them for reference in the preparation of the future petitions that will have to be lodged in seeking a water supply from this source?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: First, I am sure that the honourable member and the Minister of Agriculture are in accord on this, that the Central Water Scheme Committee has done a remarkable job not only in the interests of the people of that area but also in the interests of the State generally, because it has gone to great lengths to see that the work is done, not only effectively (which, of course, is the department's desire), but also as economically as possible. I know that the maps and plans are being prepared. I will make inquiries to see what I can do to make them available to both the honourable member and the Minister of Agriculture in order that they, in turn, will be able to make them available to that committee.

COUNTRY SEWERAGE.

Mr. QUIRKE: As the Minister of Works knows, many country towns are on a priority list for sewerage installations, but it seems to me that with the growth of the city it is going to be a Kathleen Mavourneen proposition for many country places. Many district councils and corporate towns are considering the advisability of putting in effluent drainage pipes.

Each individual household or business premises would have its own septic tank, and these are highly effective installations. However, it is the effluent that causes the trouble, and if a simple drainage pipeline was put in to take it away then those towns would be catered for until such time as full deep drainage could be installed, if that was necessary. Councils are concerned about the source of money for such installations, and many would have to extend their borrowing powers to such an extent that it would absorb the whole of their borrowing powers based upon rates. I know that special facilities are open to them by other means, but great expense would be involved. Can the Minister of Works say whether the Government would consider the possibility of making special loans available to local government bodies for this specific purpose, so that all doubts about whether they could proceed with these installations would be removed?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Expressing a personal view, I am deeply sympathetic to the councils. Undoubtedly, as the honourable member has said, there is some delay in getting around to sewerage all the country towns. Priorities have been worked out, and we are making every endeavour to observe them. However, this question affects the Treasury to some degree, and accordingly I will take the matter up with the Premier and Treasurer and bring down a considered reply.

SHEARERS.

Mr. RODDA: Some concern has been expressed throughout the State about the availability of shearers to meet the needs of the wool industry. I know that schools have been held throughout the State to train shearers, and just recently I made available 300 wethers for this purpose. However, most of the students who attend these schools are farmers' sons. As there seems to be a shortage in the shearing industry, can the Minister of Agriculture say whether his Government has any plans to watch this facet of the industry in order to ensure that in future sufficient shearers will be available to meet the industry's needs?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I thank the honourable member for his question. I will ascertain the situation and bring down a considered reply.

WATER RECREATIONAL AREAS COMMITTEE.

Mr. HALL: Several months ago the Minister of Lands announced the formation of the

Water Recreational Areas Committee. Since then I have not seen much reference to the committee, although I assume that its formation is going ahead. I am concerned about a particular area in my district which involves both the foreshore and an area immediately adjacent to it north of the Port Gawler beach which is being mined for its shellgrit supplies. Many hundreds of thousands of tons of shellgrit is being mined there and used for useful purposes in gardens and industry. However, the resultant damage to the foreshore is considerable, and although this area of beach is not used by thousands or even hundreds of people at this stage, the damage being done is destroying for all foreseeable time an area of beach which may be of considerable importance in future years to the recreation of people living north of Adelaide. I have referred this problem to the Minister of Mines in another place, as yet without reply. Can the Minister say whether this problem, which concerns many facets (including mining, recreation, and tenure of land), would come within the province of the committee?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: This committee has met with wide acclaim from people all over the State. The setting up of the committee has had the publicity it rightly deserves, and I understand that a statement issued by me on its early stages will appear in tomorrow's newspaper. The committee has met and it intends to make a wide coverage of this particular field, because of the important nature of its investigations. Of course, the problem will take some time to solve, but this is a start in the right direction. The specific problem the honourable member has mentioned will be referred to this committee, and he will then be advised in due course whether the powers of the committee extend to his problem. I assure him that the committee is interested in every facet of recreation.

PENOLA COURTHOUSE.

Mr. RODDA: I refer to Penola and the need for a courthouse at that centre. The facilities that are used at present are in the police station, and this is most inconvenient as witnesses and other people often have to queue outside in the rain or take cover in motor cars. I understand that sufficient space for a courthouse is available on the police premises. As the Attorney-General will know, Penola is a busy centre, for it serves Kalangadoo, Nangwarry, Coonawarra, and surrounding districts. I understand that magistrates' cases are heard at Naracoorte or Mount Gambier (and Penola is situated 30 miles from each of these major

centres), and that some 40 police cases are heard each month at Penola. Will the Attorney-General favourably consider the claim for a courthouse at Penola?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will certainly have the matter examined and inform the honourable member.

CADELL IRRIGATION.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Can the Minister of Irrigation give me some information on progress being made towards the rehabilitation of the Cadell irrigation settlement?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I can only give a progress report on this matter, as the honourable member was informed earlier that tenders had been called. Tenders have now closed, and they are in the course of being examined. I am hoping that the successful tenderer will be announced in the near future.

RHYNIE SCHOOL.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: My question concerns the Rhynie school, which has been suffering several hardships including lack of a permanent water reticulation scheme, the poor condition of repair of the house, and the fact that the toilets had been condemned by the local health officer several years ago. Even though the school has only a small student enrolment, and a large primary school is only three miles distant, most of the parents of the Rhynie children have asked that the school be kept open. Naturally the parents are anxious that the work be done at the school as quickly as possible. Can the Minister of Works give me a progress report on this matter?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The report from the Public Buildings Department on the Rhynie school residence and toilet blocks is as follows:

On December 9, 1964, this department forwarded sketch plans and an estimate of cost for proposed alterations to the school residence and the erection of a new toilet block at the school at Rhynie to the Education Department for consideration and comment on the proposals. The scheme included the provision of new toilet facilities within the residence, general improvements to laundry, bathroom and the installation of a hot water system at the residence, the erection of a solid construction toilet block and provision of a septic system at the school.

On January 25, 1965, advice was received from the Education Department that the proposals complied with their requirements and requested that the work be carried out. Approval of funds was then obtained and action taken to prepare detailed plans and specifications to enable tenders to be called for the work.

On April 13, 1965, advice was received from the Education Department that a deputation had been received from the Rhynie school committee and as a result of this deputation, which was introduced by Mr. J. S. Freebairn, M.P., it was desired that the cost of the proposed solid construction toilet block at the school be reduced by using an alternative form of construction. The deputation was informed that any change in the design of the toilet block at that stage would delay commencement of the project. The department has investigated an alternative design for the toilet block and it is now proposed to use timber-frame construction and a plan has been prepared and specifications are now nearing completion. It is not proposed to vary the original proposals for improvements to the residence. It is anticipated that tenders will be called towards the end of this month for the erection of the toilet blocks and septic system at the school and the improvements to the residence.

I (and I am sure my colleague, the Minister of Education) express appreciation to the committee and to the honourable member for the reasonable attitude they have taken in regard to this project.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: JUDGE'S RETIREMENT.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Attorney-General): I ask leave to make a statement. Leave granted.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have to inform the House that His Excellency the Governor in Executive Council today accepted the resignation of the Hon. Sir Herbert Mayo, Senior Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court, as from June 30 next. Sir Herbert will relinquish duty at the Supreme Court at the end of the sittings that finish just prior to the December vacation of the Supreme Court, and will go on leave as from January 1 next until the date of his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Herbert brought to his office great intellectual ability, integrity and assiduity, and treated all who appear before him with unflinching fairness and courtesy. He has a great record of public service to the people of this State and is justly held in high affection and regard by all members of the bar, and I am sure that all members of the House would wish to join the Government on this occasion in the expression of its high regard for Sir Herbert's service to the people of this State.

Honourable members: Hear, hear!

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD (Leader of the Opposition): I ask leave to make a few comments on the Attorney-General's statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I should like to be associated with the Attorney-General's tribute to this very great gentleman. Everyone in South Australia recognizes the high quality of the service that we have had from our judiciary, and I am sure that every member of this House agrees with me. I pay a tribute to the work that Sir Herbert has done for many years in the interests of justice and fair play, and in the interests of this State. I associate myself and my Party with the tribute that has been paid to Sir Herbert, and express the hope that he will have many happy years of retirement.

TRAVELLING STOCK RESERVE: HUNDRED OF WALLOWAY.

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS (Minister of Lands): I move:

That the portion of the travelling stock reserve, south of section 294, hundred of Walloway, and now numbered sections 340 and 341, hundred of Walloway, shown on the plan laid before Parliament on November 12, 1963, be resumed in terms of section 136 of the Pastoral Act, 1936-1960, for the purpose of being dealt with as Crown lands.

The portion of land proposed to be resumed contains an area of 6 acres 1 rood 13 perches, and is adjacent to Orroroo, on the travelling stock reserve between Orroroo and Wilmington. It is separated by the Pekina Creek from the main stock route. The resumption of this small area is not expected to interfere with the requirements of travelling stock, as modern methods of transport have reduced the need for wide stock routes. The District Council of Orroroo is seeking this small area for purposes of a swimming pool and for the site of a bore that has supplied water to the town of Orroroo. The Pastoral Board sees no objection to the proposal that this small area be resumed and made available to the District Council of Orroroo for the purpose of a swimming pool. In view of these circumstances, I ask members to support the motion.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD secured the adjournment of the debate.

LOAN ESTIMATES.

In Committee.

(Continued from August 11. Page 987.)

Grand total, £36,964,000.

Mr. HUDSON (Glenelg): In concluding my remarks last night on the first line of these Estimates, I was developing a general point of criticism of the Leader of the Opposition, namely, that

when criticizing the Loan Estimates as prepared by the Treasurer he was being completely irresponsible and making points purely for Party political purposes, or he simply could not add up. He criticized various items on the grounds that the amounts provided were not adequate, and at one stage he said:

The inescapable fact is that the money provided by the Treasurer is not sufficient, and this applies to every line of the Estimates.

He was saying that the Treasurer did not provide sufficient money for the whole field of the Estimates. He wanted to increase the amount provided on every line. At the same time as saying this he was criticizing the Government for relying so much on the internal funds of the Electricity Trust and the Housing Trust. He also criticized the Government for what he described as a raid on the Highways Fund. He would have us believe that what the Treasurer should have done was to reduce the reliance placed on the internal funds of the Electricity Trust and the Housing Trust and provide more money out of Loan funds. He would also have the Treasurer not take £620,000 from the Highways Fund. He cannot have it both ways. He cannot say that we must provide more for every line and at the same time reduce our source of finance.

Mr. Jennings: What do you mean, he can't? He did!

Mr. HUDSON: I think the Leader is feeling the strain after 27 years as Treasurer and of having to make the Estimates balance during those years. His new-found freedom as Leader has gone to his head, as he does not have to balance them now. It is clear that the pattern of financing the total Electricity Trust programme this year is in line with what occurred in previous years. This year £3,000,000 out of the total £12,000,000 programme is provided from Loan funds, which is 25 per cent. In past years less than 25 per cent of the trust's programme has been financed from Loan funds. In 1961-62, £2,300,000 was provided from Loan funds out of a total programme of £9,554,000, which is less than 25 per cent. In 1960-61, £2,000,000 out of an £8,000,000 programme was provided, 25 per cent. What has happened this year is completely in line with what has happened in previous years. The honourable member for Burra agreed with me last night that the procedure of requiring the trust to finance a considerable portion of its programme from its internal funds was started by the present Leader of the Opposition.

Previous Loan Estimates show that this increased reliance on the internal funds of the trust was demanded after 1956-57. In that year, £5,500,000 was allotted to the trust from Loan funds, but there was a progressive reduction from that year to £2,000,000 in 1958-59. Since then the trust has financed more and more of its total programme from internal funds, and the practice has been continued in this year's Loan Estimates. It is completely consistent with fostering the maximum possible development throughout the State. If this had not been done, we would have been accused (and justly, too) of restricting development. We have provided this year a bigger programme for the trust than has ever been provided in any year under the previous Government. The total programme amounts to £12,000,000 and the Treasurer should be congratulated on having done this.

I now examine the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition about the Housing Trust. He made some rather wild statements, and said that the trust's programme had been diminished. This is a complete reversal of the truth. As the Leader well knew, the trust's programme has been increased from £13,400,000 to £14,040,000. He implied that, because less money was provided for factories and shops this year than had been provided last year (£430,000 instead of £950,000), the trust's total programme had been reduced. The honourable member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) attempted to make the same point, but it is incorrect.

Mr. Jennings: Little Sir Echo!

Mr. HUDSON: Yes. The trust's programme for factories and shops is highly variable from year to year, and the Leader is aware of this. It is only common sense: in some years the trust has to provide more shops and factory sites than in other years, and a quick check of the Estimates in previous years confirms this. In 1964-65, £950,000 was provided for factories and shops; in 1963-64, it was £300,000—that is, less than is provided this year; in 1962-63 it was £498,000, only slightly more than is to be provided this year. Surely the Leader was well aware of these figures when he spoke. The only conclusion we could draw from his remarks was that he was playing politics and attempting to secure a headline or two in a friendly newspaper. He failed to mention that the amount provided this year, £430,000, was greater than the £300,000 provided two years ago.

Honourable members opposite will be well advised to make a close study of what the

Government intends to do this year in building houses in areas outside the metropolitan area, Elizabeth and Salisbury. The Housing Trust excludes Elizabeth and Salisbury from the metropolitan area, regarding it as non-metropolitan and a form of decentralization. This year, 1,229 houses are to be commenced in localities outside the metropolitan area, Elizabeth and Salisbury: last year the total was 994. At June 30 this year, 914 houses were under construction outside the metropolitan area, Elizabeth and Salisbury, compared with 506 at June 30, 1964. It is clear that the Government is planning to build more houses in the rural areas of the State than did the previous Government. It deserves every credit for this, and Opposition members who suggest that the Government is not paying attention to rural areas are flying completely in the face of the facts. If we consider the larger country towns, and compare what is proposed to be done this year with what was done last year, we find that at Barmera 18 houses are to be commenced this year compared with 10 last year; at Christies Beach 220 this year compared with 150 last year; and at Berri 18 compared with 15. The member for Albert (Mr. Nankivell) will be pleased that at Bordertown nine houses are to be commenced this year compared with four last year.

Mr. Nankivell: It is still not enough.

Mr. HUDSON: How loudly did the honourable member say that when previous Loan Estimates were introduced?

Mr. Nankivell: I have been saying it all the time.

Mr. HUDSON: At Keith, eight houses are to be commenced this year compared with four last year.

Mr. Nankivell: Still not enough.

Mr. HUDSON: Even the member for Ridley is looked after, as 24 houses are to be commenced this year at Loxton as against 11 last year. At Millicent, 70 will be commenced this year compared with 40 last year; at Mount Gambier, 40 this year compared with 40 last year; at Murray Bridge, 51 this year and 12 last year; at Naracoorte, 13 this year and 9 last year; at Port Augusta—the Leader of the Opposition would say this was non-rural—28 this year and 40 last year; at Port Lincoln, 16 this year and 15 last year; at Port Pirie, 44 this year and two last year; at Renmark, 18 this year and 10 last year; at Waikerie, 10 this year and 4 last year; and at Whyalla, 564 this year and 520 last year.

Mr. Nankivell: Are they rental houses or sale houses?

Mr. HUDSON: That is not stated; the table is of the total number of houses to be commenced in country areas, and it does not distinguish between rental houses and sale houses. The total number to be commenced this year is 235 greater than the number proposed to be commenced last year and shown in the Loan Estimates introduced last year by the present Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Nankivell: That is all worked out in advance.

Mr. HUDSON: I doubt it. It is intended that these houses will be commenced this year, and that can be done only because of the provision the Government has made in the Loan Estimates for housing and the Housing Trust. This provision was criticized by the Leader, who was trying to suggest that we were providing less for housing. However, the fact is that we are providing more, and that more will be done in country areas than has been done in the past.

It is true (and this again is obvious) that over the years there has been a tendency to increase the reliance placed on the internal funds of the Housing Trust. It is simply not true that we are running down reserves when we place increased reliance on those funds. They come from repayments from house sales and from deposits, and as a result of the increased activities of the trust over the years it is natural to expect that the level of these funds will increase. It would be ridiculous for a Government, responsible as this Government is for the overall development of the State, not to place increased reliance on these internal funds. As I have explained, we have placed increased reliance on the internal funds of both the Housing Trust and the Electricity Trust. We have required the Highways Fund to return a sum that was previously allowed to it, and I am sure the criticism the Leader of the Opposition made of that was made not because he did not think it should be done but simply because he was peeved that he had not thought of doing it while he was Treasurer.

Mr. Jennings: He tried to do that; he admitted it.

Mr. HUDSON: I see. I wish to refer now to South Australia's quota of the Loan Council allocation. This was referred to with great glee by the Leader of the Opposition, with support from another of his ardent followers, the member for Mitcham. This is what the Leader said:

Again, that is a legacy of the previous Government. The previous Government over many years has worked hard to have this State's share of Loan funds increased. The quota is 13.7 per cent.

Mr. Millhouse: It is 13.71.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: All the Treasurer had to do to obtain that 13.71 per cent was to say, "I want the quota."

Mr. Shannon: "I want what the previous Government has established."

I did some checking, and had to rely on the figures provided by the Leader when he was Treasurer; I had to refer to his explanation of previous Loan Estimates. I am prepared to admit that this is not a very reliable source, but it is the best I can get. I discovered that this magic figure of 13.71 per cent, which the member for Mitcham, the Leader and the member for Onkaparinga took great pleasure in saying that they had established when in office, was lower than it was a few years ago—that they had established the figure of 13.71 per cent as a result of a previous higher figure being reduced. For example, in 1956-57 South Australia's share was 13.76 per cent. It stayed at that level for a few years, and in 1961-62 it rose to 13.81 per cent. In 1962-63 it was again 13.81 per cent, and in 1963-64 it was reduced to 13.71 per cent. I looked up the speech made by the present Leader of the Opposition in 1963 when he introduced the Loan Estimates for that year to see if he mentioned that South Australia's percentage share had been reduced from 13.81 per cent to 13.71 per cent, but he did not mention it. Obviously enough, he kept it quiet. All he said was:

For 1963-64 the Australian Loan Council, at its meeting in June, 1963, adopted a total new borrowing programme of £272,000,000, an increase of £22,000,000 over the original programme of £250,000,000 for 1962-63, and an increase of £17,000,000 over the 1962-63 programme as supplemented by £5,000,000 in February, 1963. This was the largest annual increase adopted by the Council for many years and is evidence of the success of State Ministers in convincing the Commonwealth that the maintenance of employment, and the provision of essential State public works, were dependent upon a more liberal programme.

He was beefing about his great success as one of the State Ministers in convincing the Commonwealth Government, yet his success that year consisted in South Australia's share of the total Loan allocation being reduced from 13.81 per cent to 13.71 per cent! I think I have said enough to establish at this stage that the Leader of the Opposition in particular has been putting forward in this Chamber a completely phoney argument. He has been trying to suggest that what his Government did in the past was magnificent; trying to suggest that the Treasurer's allocation this year on every line of the Estimates was

inadequate; trying to suggest that certain sources of finance should not be used; trying to ignore that part of previous history where his own performance as Treasurer has proved inadequate; trying simply to score political points, and failing to give credit where credit is due; failing to recognize that the Treasurer should be congratulated on presenting to this Parliament Loan Estimates that maintain the Loan programme in the face of serious financial stringency imposed on the Loan Council by the Commonwealth Government. For that, I believe the Treasurer should be heartily congratulated by all honourable members.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN (Alexandra): One line on the Loan Estimates that has been regrettably reduced this year is the allocation to the Harbors Board for fishing havens, which has been halved from £42,000 last year to £21,000 this year. It contains only one project of any size, namely, the Edithburgh project. The State's fishing industry desperately needs financial assistance, for our coastline, in relation to the population, is one of the longest to be found anywhere, and is far from hospitable. Natural harbours are not easy to find, and the fishing industry is characteristically an in-shore undertaking. Although the situation may have changed slightly over the years, for the most part the South Australian industry employs a smaller type of boat than may be used elsewhere. Our boats are certainly not as big as the trawlers to be found in the North Sea. Their skippers often own only the one vessel, and it is not a case of the large group investment that we find in other parts of the world. Assistance is needed in providing artificial harbours along our coastline, and this State has achieved an outstanding record on this score in the past.

Consequent on an amendment to the Fisheries Act during the 1940's, the Fisheries Department has been able to plan certain projects which, with the Governor's assent, have been implemented by the Minister of Works. Much good work has been undertaken in the past. Lake Butler, at Robe, has been opened as a small-boat harbour, completely transforming the safety aspect of fishing in that area. Part of Port MacDonnell has been set aside to provide amenities for beaching boats. At Beachport and many other places slipways have been provided, including one at Port Lincoln which would probably be the most effective slip of its kind in Australia. Assistance to the fishing industry at Port Lincoln has been spectacular, and it has been envied by fishermen

in other parts of Australia. Many of our tuna vessels go to the South Coast of New South Wales towards the end of the calendar year and later return to local waters accompanied by New South Wales boats. At one particular time the New South Wales fishing industry resented South Australian fishermen patrolling its waters.

This, of course, was unwarranted, because the two fishing grounds complemented each other, and it was impossible for tuna boats to fish in both States at the same time of the year. Pressure was put on the New South Wales Government by local fishermen to relieve the competition (as they viewed it) of South Australian boats. Of course, the New South Wales fishermen began to realize then that stopping South Australian boats from using their waters might have certain repercussions, but they said, "How will we compete with South Australia, when our Government does so little for our industry compared with what is being done in South Australia?" They outlined the assistance given to the South Australian industry, and this assistance must be continued. This is no time to reduce the line on the Estimates relating to construction works for the fishing industry. Expansion is necessary, but the line on the Estimates means that the industry, in effect, will miss a year in its development, and will be severely set back.

An undeniable need exists for fishing havens in certain parts of South Australia. In the Ceduna-Thevenard area proper unloading facilities for the considerable fishing activities there are required. Safer moorings are needed, too, for they are at present exposed to the weather. Whilst the swell in the area does not seriously affect waters close to the shore, the wind conditions make mooring difficult and dangerous at times, and boats occasionally break away, suffering serious damage. A slipway is also needed in that area, for which plans have been drawn up but not yet implemented. These items of construction have certainly not been included on the Estimates now before us, and the industry in the Ceduna-Thevenard area will therefore be hampered for at least a year in its development. A new and larger fisheries research vessel is also badly needed. No-one would expect this to be provided this year, but its provision should be investigated. The present fisheries research vessel has been with the department for many years. I think it was obtained from Tasmania. It is a sound vessel, and used to be called the *Weerutta*.

At one time some serious tragedies occurred in the Port Lincoln area. I refer particularly

to the loss of the *Lincoln Star*, but another vessel was lost in similar calamitous circumstances. At the time the *Lincoln Star* was lost the men on the fisheries research vessel spent much time in heavy seas looking for survivors. The weather was bad and it was dangerous work. As a result of the wonderful effort put forward by these men it was decided that it was time to ensure that the vessel was completely seaworthy. The Harbors Board stripped it completely, reballasted it, and resurveyed it from every seagoing aspect. The ship was so largely altered that the men decided that they would like a new name for it, and it was renamed *Investigator*. It has done much valuable work in South Australian waters and is still doing valuable work. However, it is a wooden vessel and is not suitable for work on the continental shelf, although it is well suited for work close to shore. Accordingly a bigger and better ship is needed that will be more comfortable in rough weather, and capable of going out greater distances and staying at sea. This project is being examined at the moment, but again nothing has come forward. I could not say whether it should have come forward this year but I should certainly have expected to hear about it because, until further research is carried out into the industry, there will be obstacles in the way of its progress.

The tuna industry has made remarkable progress since it began. In the few years since there has been fishing for tuna in South Australian waters, production has been built up from nothing to quite a large figure. I do not have the complete figures but the tuna industry began in about 1953-54, when there was 12,000 lb. caught, and since then it has grown quickly. The beginning of the tuna industry in its present form was the adoption of pole fishing techniques used on the other side of the world, particularly in Californian waters. Pole fishing was taken on by the pioneer fishermen (who are still in the industry) with considerable help from the Government of the day. These techniques were developed and, as one would expect with the Australian ingenuity, they caught on quickly, and many other boats have taken up this type of fishing. The tuna catch has now reached the stage where South Australia dominates the tuna production, and more than half the tuna caught in Australia is caught in South Australian waters. In 1964-65, 5,215 tons of tuna was caught whereas in 1963-64, 6,063 tons was caught. That is a slight decrease, partly owing to weather conditions. In the latter part of the summer the weather

is extremely important because if calm conditions prevail during May tuna fishing often continues, and that is when records are broken.

This year the season finished rather sharply. In 1963-64, there were 21 tuna fishing boats, and in 1964-65 there were 25. This number is likely to increase as there is increasing investment in the tuna industry all the time. The State has financed this industry to quite a large extent through assistance in the provision of vessels. It has been recognized that the tuna caught are not mature fish. A really mature tuna weighs well over 100 lb., even 200 lb., but the pole fishing techniques are not catching fish of this size. This is partly because the big fish do not bite, and seem to stay in deeper water. The South Australian industry does not know much about catching the big ones.

Mr. Jennings: Not much is known about the haunts and habits of tuna.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Not much information is available on where the tuna come from or where they go at the end of the season; in other words, a tremendous need exists for further research. The Japanese have established the long lining techniques. It could be said that the Japanese can put it over any other nation in the world as a fishing nation.

Mr. Shannon: Except for the Peruvians.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: At one stage the Peruvians overtook the Japanese, but there is no doubt that the Japanese would be among the best fishing nations in the world. Australia is particularly small as a fishing nation, but there is scope for expanding the industry considerably if the necessary research is carried out. I do not suggest that a long lining industry is feasible at present. Much capital and knowledge would be needed for this. I should think that if Australia is to have a future in long lining techniques it is a good way off. However, it will not come any closer if the necessary research is not carried out. This is why a bigger vessel that can visit the continental shelf and sail 100 miles away from the coastline is so urgently needed.

A trawling project in the Great Australian Bight was financed by the Commonwealth. Unfortunately it was never carried out in quite the way it should have been. The Commonwealth put much money into this project, probably more than it expected to. The finance came from the proceeds of the sale of a whaling station. The Commonwealth formed a company and told it to get on with the work, catch fish and see whether it could

make it pay. The result was that not enough research was carried out during voyages when the trawler was working. Quite good hauls of fish were made at times, but they were not enough to keep the industry going and a profit was never made. Eventually it failed because the Commonwealth said, "We have had enough of this." It sold the boat at a considerable loss and the fact that scientists had not been working on that vessel at the time of the trawling meant that there was insufficient research, and the knowledge that cost so much to obtain at the time is now lost because the opportunity for full research was not given. So we had an opportunity there through this Commonwealth venture that was not fully taken advantage of, and the only real result of the trawling industry's activities in the Bight is to give it a bad name rather than leave the question open. But thoughtful people will realize that trawling is not necessarily a dud project for South Australian waters; it may well succeed. This is no time to slow up on our fishing industry or on projects for improving it. It is imperative to get on with the programme of building a deep-sea vessel that can carry out the research so badly needed.

I have two other points concerning my own district. During the last half of February (in other words, some 10 days or so before the last election) Kangaroo Island was treated to a burst of oratory the like of which it has probably not experienced in its history. It was quite remarkable and it caught the imagination of the Kangaroo Islanders. I should like now to read the headlines that appeared at the time in the *Kangaroo Island Courier* of February 25. They are as follows:

Labor Makes Promises for Island:
Abattoirs, Freight Subsidies.

That is all in big black type. Then follows this report:

Promises for the development of the Island were made by the Leader of the Labor Party (Mr. Frank Walsh) at election meetings at Parndana and Kingscote. There were good attendances at both meetings. Mr. Walsh promised if elected: to proceed immediately with the construction of the reservoir at Middle River; to take immediate steps to establish a combined abattoirs and freezing works as soon as sufficient water is available; to subsidize freight to and from the Island. Mr. Walsh drew attention to the difficulties of Kangaroo Island residents regarding exorbitant freight rates and said he saw no reason why this undue hardship should be inflicted on Islanders. A Labor Government would subsidize freight rates to and from the mainland. Island freights would then be on an equal basis with other parts of South Australia.

Mr. Merton (the candidate) said that the Middle River water supply, officially opened by the Minister of Works (the Hon. G. G. Pearson) in October, was at present dry, and Kingscote water once again is coming from the Cygnet River. He maintained that the reservoir should have been built before this to ensure the continued supply of good water to Kingscote and the Parndana township. Mr. Merton said if elected he will take up the following points: permanent doctor; resident dentist; community toilets and ablution blocks at beach resorts and camping areas; improved tourist facilities and a more direct passenger service by modern transport either from American River or Penneshaw. The Deputy Chairman of the Kingscote Council, Mr. E. L. Wheaton, chaired the meeting. Speakers were: Mr. Frank Walsh, M.P., Leader State Parliamentary Labor Party; Mr. J. J. Jennings, M.P., A.L.P. member for Enfield; and Mr. Des Merton.

Mr. Jennings: We gave you a fright, too.

Mr. Shannon: They haven't got over it over there.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: These headlines caught the imagination of the people on Kangaroo Island. When I arrived on the island a few days later, many people were still laughing about it. Some said to me, "It's a pity they didn't learn something about the island before they came." Nevertheless, these promises, being so big, were taken notice of. After the election I thought, "Perhaps it is no good immediately ringing up and saying to the Government, 'Now get on with it', but I should wait a little while and give the Government time to settle down and then ask it what it intends to do about implementing its promises."

The first result of my inquiry was a shock. I asked the Premier about this reported statement of his, that the Labor Government would subsidize freight rates to and from Kangaroo Island. The Premier replied that this was the first time that his attention had been drawn to this statement appearing in the *Kangaroo Island Courier*. He continued:

During the election campaign on Kangaroo Island, I did mention that I would inquire into freight rates. However, it is not correct, as indicated in the report referred to, that I stated that I would subsidize freight rates to and from Kangaroo Island.

I am quite prepared to and do accept the Premier's statement that he was apparently misquoted and that, as he says, he had not seen the report. I accept that, as he has said it, but I do not accept that it is ethical on the part of the Labor Party to allow that report to stand when the paper was sold some eight days before the election. I do not accept that that is in any way an ethical procedure. If a state-

ment was made in the election campaign headlined in such a way it should have been in some way qualified or attention should have been drawn to it by the candidate or the organizer of the Australian Labor Party. I am not necessarily criticizing Mr. Walsh (the then Leader of the Opposition) for this. He was busy going all over the State at the time but, if the A.L.P. uses these tactics again, that Party will find that it will have much less attention paid to it than in the past.

Mr. Shannon: You can't cry wolf twice.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: No; you can try it but it will not have the same effect. We have heard in this House again and again since the election statements read out from the official policy speech, and we have had a chance to compare them with the rather inadequate performance of the Government since the election. But, to my mind, this is a blatant case of unethical practice on the part of the Labor Party. The principals of that Party ought to look into its publicity in previous campaigns to ensure some degree of truth and sincerity in what is published in the press. If they are misquoted, as the Premier was, surely it is up to someone to put the record straight before an election. If they do not do that, then naturally they will hear some complaints afterwards. Whether or not that matters to them I do not know. It is unnecessary for anybody to say, "This was only a small report; how could anybody notice this?" The report I have referred to was on the front page of that paper and nobody could possibly have failed to notice it, nor was anybody meant to fail to notice it.

Mr. Jennings: We had well-attended meetings over there.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I heard a lot about the honourable member over there. Apparently, he was very amusing. I have not quite worked out whether he was amusing because he meant to be or because they were laughing at him.

Mr. Jennings: No, they were laughing with me, and I did not even mention your name.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The fact is that the previous Opposition did, as I say, catch the imagination of the islanders with their wild promises. Fortunately, the people on the island have not fallen for these tactics, and I can assure the Opposition that they will be much more careful in future when they hear what promises are offered to them. I still do not know whether freight costs will be subsidized. All I know is that the Treasurer states that he did not say what he was quoted

as saying. However, apart from that matter there are other things in the report which I think might need more attention than they have had. For instance, much criticism was made about the action of the previous Minister of Works in opening the water supply before the reservoir was built. The action was a particularly wise one, and it was taken by the Government in response to requests from the island to get Middle River water laid on to Kingscote at the earliest possible moment. The reason for that is that normally Middle River runs for most of the year, and in some years it will run for the whole of the summer, too. The result is that good, fresh water will be available even whilst the reservoir is being built. Therefore, it was quite a prudent thing for the Government to do and no-one on the island complained except the Labor Party candidate, and he complained not at the time but only just prior to the election.

It is stated in this report that a Labor Government would proceed immediately with the construction of the reservoir at Middle River. Now, that is a funny thing. The previous Government at the time was engaged in preparing plans and specifications for this reservoir, and of course this is a very necessary action before a reservoir is built. I was at pains to explain that whilst the actual work was not being undertaken the plans and specifications (although not specifications in the final sense of the word) were being worked on. I also pointed out that when our Government had set out to install this water scheme Cabinet had given the go-ahead to the Minister of Works to work on it right through until it was finished. I am not suggesting that the new Government has ordered any back-pedalling in this matter, but I am saying that the allocation of a mere £70,000 for the construction of this reservoir makes strange reading alongside "proceeding immediately with the construction of the reservoir". The £70,000 is explained by the Treasurer in these words:

The amount of £70,000 is provided for further work on the Kangaroo Island Middle River scheme, which consists of laying a main from Middle River to Kingscote and the construction of a dam, tanks, and a pumping station.

The main, incidentally, was laid by the previous Government, so "further work", in the words of the present Treasurer, is to my mind not the same as "immediately proceeding with it". Nothing has yet happened at the site, and water is pumped from a small hole in the Middle River when water is available. We

have been plagued with frequent dry years lately, and this present winter is still not what could be called a wet winter on Kangaroo Island.

Mr. Clark: The rainfall varies greatly on the island.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: It does vary, but not greatly. A typical rainfall variation is from 18in. at Kingscote to probably 28in. in the south-west corner of the island.

Mr. Clark: I think that is surprising, considering the size of the island.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The variation in rainfall is much more pronounced, for example, between Aldinga and Meadows, a distance of only 20 miles as the crow flies; it would be vastly greater there than on Kangaroo Island.

Mr. Millhouse: What would be the variation?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Meadows would get 34in. and Aldinga probably 25in. or 26in., and that would be over a distance of only a few miles. The rainfall at Willunga and Hope Forest, only about eight miles apart, varies by a considerable amount. In any case, the Middle River is on the north coast of Kangaroo Island. We know that we get dry summers and dry winters, too, but Middle River often runs right through a summer, and it is feasible that there will be fresh water there for years before it dries up again. On the other hand, it could dry up in the next few summers. In the meantime, the best possible use is being made of the water. Until we get this reservoir, there can be no major expansion of water supplies on the island, and that is an important factor because many farms between the reservoir and Kingscote, and south and east of Kingscote, will require water in due course. In fact, the American River area (a tourist centre that is still growing in importance) will also require water, and it is almost certain that the only water that will be available will be provided from that Middle River scheme. Therefore, I urge the Government to proceed as quickly as possible with the work on this reservoir. I know that the Minister of Works is interested in the project. I make no particular criticism of the work he is doing, but I do point out that the contrast between the allocation of £70,000 and the statement in the newspaper is rather too marked for me to swallow lightly.

I now refer to the need for schools in the still growing areas beyond the southern boundary of the metropolitan area as defined in 1954 (which seems to be the popular definition at the moment) by the previous Government.

This area is growing rapidly in population, and schools are urgently needed. Three schools are required. One is needed to supplement the old Reynella school. Plans have been prepared for a new school at Reynella South, and a sizable amount is on the present Loan Estimates. I am gratified to know that the work will proceed. The Minister is well aware of the need for that school. The old school at Reynella is overcrowded and on a small block of land; it was built for a much smaller population than it is at present serving. In addition, the high school at Christies Beach will be the first high school built between the metropolitan area and Willunga. It is to be proceeded with, and that, too, will be welcomed at the earliest possible moment. Yet another school is badly needed in the locality. I refer to the one to replace the present Morphett Vale school, which is of fairly ancient vintage. It is on a small block of land, and in the more spacious days when no-one lived close to the school there was much paddock room for the children and playing area did not seem to matter so much. However, the population increase has been such that the building in the school yard has made conditions uncomfortable. I know that the Minister will treat as urgent the provision of a school at Morphett Vale at the earliest possible moment. Funds are not allocated on the Estimates this year, but I am very pleased that there is a reference to a primary school at Reynella South and a high school at Christies Beach. I point out that delay in the erection of both schools should be avoided as far as possible because of the crowded conditions I have mentioned.

I now wish to deal with the provision of sewerage in country areas, which matter was referred to by the honourable member for Burra this afternoon. Many areas between the Onkaparinga River and Adelaide are now

suburban in character, but sewerage has not been provided there and, apparently, there is not much likelihood that it will be for many years. I do not know the complete answer to this, and I do not suggest that there is an easy answer in regard to providing more money. However, I draw attention to the problem, because bad soil conditions in such a suburban area invariably give trouble in connection with sewerage. Some places are particularly bad for drainage, while others, although heavily built on, are adequately drained. Nevertheless, the drainage is so bad in some places that it constitutes a real problem. In other parts of Australia the matter is dealt with by other means than an all-out sewerage system; the collection and so on is far less adequate than it is with a proper system. Although it is hard to foresee the prospects of sewerage facilities in those areas, the problem is serious. I shall be speaking to the Minister of Works about sewerage in the area in question as soon as possible.

To sum up, I make an urgent plea for heavier Loan expenditure on the fishing industry (rather than halving it) and for the provision of a new research vessel for that industry. There is also a need to complete soon the Middle River reservoir on Kangaroo Island. Another urgent matter is the provision of a third school in the Morphett Vale, Reynella and Christies Beach area. It must follow closely the commencement of work on the other two schools. The provision of sewerage is necessary in areas that, although once regarded as country areas, are now suburban. They are much less attractive to people because of the absence of sewerage.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 4.56 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, August 17, at 2 p.m.