HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, February 3, 1966.

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 Mr. R. Alan Eagleson, member for the electoral district of Lakeshore in the Provincial Parliament of Ontario, Canada. I am sure that it is the unanimous wish of honourable members that our distinguished visitor be given a seat on the floor of the House, and accordingly I ask the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition to introduce Mr. Eagleson.

Mr. Eagleson was escorted by the Hon. Frank Walsh and Hon. Sir Thomas Playford to a seat on the floor of the House.

QUESTIONS

DOCTOR'S DISMISSAL.

Mrs. STEELE: Last night, after the rising of the House at about 11.30, in response to a telephone call I received during the evening, I went to a house at 8 Harrow Road, Tranmere, in which for the time being Dr. Gillis, well known to all members of this House, is at present residing with his wife and three children. I went through the house, which is devoid of furniture, and I saw where the three children and their parents slept on the floor, on mattresses supplied by friends and neighbours. I was taken through to the back garden, the purpose of my visit being to see for myself a large stack of furniture and household goods and chattels covered with tarpaulins bearing the name "Badenoch Transport Company" which had been placed in the back garden some time yesterday afternoon when Dr. and Mrs. Gillis and their family were at Christies Beach. I should be glad if the Premier would give some information that may in some way calm the disquiet and concern on the part of a number of honourable members of the House, as well as of the public, in connection with this matter. First, will he say under what authority the furniture, goods and chattels of Dr. Gillis were removed in November, 1965, from the house in Folland Avenue, Northfield, in which he was residing at the time? Secondly, was an inventory taken at the time the furniture was removed, and a copy of the inventory supplied to Dr. Gillis? Thirdly, were the furniture and goods returned yesterday with the knowledge and authority of the Government and, if they were, why was not the common courtesy of informing Dr. Gillis that they would be returned extended to him? Fourthly, can the Premier assure the House that everything taken has, in fact, been returned?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Although this matter does not come under my department, I am sure the Attorney-General will be able to supply information on the matter.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The authority for the removal of the goods and chattels from the premises formerly occupied by Dr. Gillis was given by the then Minister of Lands to take possession of the premises. Dr. Gillis had been asked to vacate them and had failed to do so, and the only way the premises could be repossessed was in accordance with the relevant provision of the Crown Lands Act. The goods were, to the knowledge of Dr. Gillis, removed and stored by Badenoch, and an inventory was then taken. Dr. Gillis was asked to get in touch with a clerk in my department so that the goods could be checked and taken to wherever Dr. Gillis wanted them taken. Instead of getting in touch with our department as requested, however, he went to the premises and, when it was sought that he should check the goods with officers of our department, he refused to co-operate. It was some time before we could discover where he was but, when we found out, he was written to and asked to get in touch with our department, so that arrangements might be made for the transfer of this property to wherever he desired. He did not reply; he did not get in touch with our department, and the Government has had to pay a considerable sum for the storage of the goods in the interim.

Eventually, when it was found that Dr. Gillis was not prepared to co-operate by accepting the goods and chattels, as well as his dog, arrangements were made for the delivery to his premises of the goods, of which the Government, in consequence of his actions, was the bailee. The goods were delivered to the premises, and Dr. Gillis was then asked when he came home whether he would like the goods moved into his premises at Government expense, but he refused to say "Yes" or "No". I understand that, in consequence, the goods, covered with tarpaulins at Government expense, have been left in the yard of the premises that he is at present occupying.

The Hon. Frank Walsh: How long did the Housing Trust hold a house for him?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: For a considerable period, until Dr. Gillis arranged to

go. All his household furniture and effects have been returned to him, and the careful inventory that was taken proves that to be the case. The Government is no longer the bailee in this matter and the responsibility for his family remaining where they are is that of Dr. Gillis alone.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I believe that members of the Government Party, as well as members of my Party, are concerned about the whole matter because, after all, the fact of this unfortunate case is that Dr. Gillis was expelled from the Government service without an inquiry being held, and the very method of his dismissal has done his professional standing irreparable harm. I do not believe any member would want any person to suffer a grievance. Dr. Gillis has often asked for a public inquiry (which he has not been granted) into his dismissal. He was ejected from the house he was occupying and is undoubtedly at present in distressed circumstances. I know that the Premier and other Ministers opposite would not desire this state of affairs to continue. I believe some action should be taken to alleviate the position of Dr. Gillis.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: Such as what? We have given him every possible consideration.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I was associated with Government, and I know the problems that arise in connection with a case of this type: a solution is not easy to find. However, the fact remains that there is much public disquiet. That applies to members of my own Party who, in common with other members of this House, no doubt, have been subjected to considerable correspondence on this matter. Will the Premier have the matter looked at, at least from a humanitarian point of view, to see whether there is some way of alleviating the distress and damage that undoubtedly has arisen because of this man's summary dismissal from the service of the Government?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I want it understood from the outset that we used every possible means at our disposal to prevail upon Dr. Gillis to carry out the work in the interests of the Crown that he should have carried out. It appears to me, on investigation, that Dr. Gillis, in the performance of certain work in his profession, misjudged his own position. The Government did everything in its power to rectify some of these matters. Unfortunately, Dr. Gillis has built a halo around himself. He certainly has not improved his position either publicly or otherwise. Far from him being co-operative, I consider him one of the most difficult persons with whom to reach a reasonable understanding. I do not want any long explanation from Dr. Gillis (and I know he can write most extensively), but I think the first thing he has to do is indicate to the Government in writing what he desires in the way of another position (if there is one available in Government circles), say what is in his mind, what he proposes, or what he would like us to consider. Until he can give us a lead on these things and on the type of service he could undertake in the interests of the State and of his own family, I do not think there is anything I can add to assist him. I think it is his responsibility to give us a lead as to where, in Government circles, we might be able to fit him in.

BRIGHTON WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. HUDSON: Residents of Brighton living in Bellevue Terrace, Wattle Avenue, Mannering Avenue, and Ivanhoe, Smith and King Streets have for a long time suffered from a most inadequate water supply. Some time ago I made representations to the Minister of Works in this matter, and I understand that he now has certain information for me. Can he give that information?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Following representations concerning poor water supply, made through the honourable member, and to the department by consumers in parts of Brighton, an investigation has been made and this has substantiated the complaints of the residents. I have therefore given approval for the laying of new mains of larger capacity to replace the existing old unlined and badly corroded pipes. The streets concerned are Wattle, Mannering, Ivanhoe, Smith and King Avenues, Bellevue Terrace and portion of the Esplanade, Brighton. The estimated cost is about £4,000, involving about 3,700ft. of new main. Additionally, about 1,000ft. of new main will be laid in Holder Road and another portion of the Esplanade, Brighton, to replace small mains and indirect services which have been proved incapable of providing adequate pressures. The estimated cost is £1,250.

ROAD TRANSPORT CONTROL.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: In a recent question, in which I said that I was concerned at the latest disclosures of the Minister of Transport, I asked whether the burden of making up railway deficits would fall principally

on people living at places between 25 and 150 miles from Adelaide. Has the Premier a reply?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: It is now intended that regulations fixing fees under the provisions of the Road and Railway Transport Act Amendment Bill will, except for some bulk commodities, permit journeys that are completely outside the 25-mile radius from the General Post Office, Adelaide, to be free from ton-mile charges. The only requirement would be the holding of a permit, which could be a yearly one at a cost of $2. This is a modification of the legislation, which was explained by the Minister of Transport in another place.

INDECENT PUBLICATIONS.

Mr. BURDON: On behalf of many of my constituents I wish to bring to the attention of the Attorney-General a copy of a publication which is circulating throughout the State and which can be described only as a very objectionable paper. I do not intend to name it, because the less publicity this or any such paper receives the better, but I will make a copy available for the Attorney-General to see whether a prosecution might be launched or other action taken to prohibit its sale. I believe we have reached a stage where action to prohibit the sale of lewd and suggestive articles should be taken. Will the Attorney-General take appropriate action?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If the honourable member will let me see the publication I shall have it examined.

HOSPITALS.

Mr. HALL: In this morning's *Advertiser* there are two reports dealing with hospitals in this State, one of which states that Cabinet has accepted tenders for two major contracts amounting to £3,600,000 for rebuilding at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The other is a report of a recommendation, forwarded to the Minister of Health and tabled in the House yesterday, that the State's second medical school should be established with a minimum of delay at the Flinders university. The report gives some detail and states that there is an urgent need for additional beds to meet the needs of the population, and for additional doctors to qualify in South Australia by 1975. Both projects are to cost millions of pounds. My constituents at Para Hills, however, are concerned that no visible start has been made on a hospital that has been promised for Modbury. Can the Premier say how this expenditure can be related to his promises, prior to the last elections, to begin building a 500-bed hospital in the Modbury district without delay?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The plan that was recommended to the previous Government (of which the honourable member was a member) contained sections of land that the present Government thought was unsuitable for the erection of a hospital at Modbury. Consequently, it was necessary for the Government to obtain other land but, because of the non-co-operation of the owners of that land, who I believe are prominent Adelaide businessmen, it was necessary to negotiate to acquire it. I believe we have now succeeded in doing that. Another factor associated with the building of this hospital is that this Government inherited legacies of projects that had been promised by the previous Government prior to our taking office, and we found it necessary to honour those obligations. Although it may not be in the policy speech, I said many times during the election campaign that, where public works had been promised by the previous Government or where they had been commenced, those works would proceed.

Mr. Ferguson: What about Giles Point?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Was that ever commenced?

Mr. Ferguson: It was promised.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I am not in the habit of making many promises, and I am not going to be drawn into the question of Giles Point. I remind the honourable member that he has had plenty to say and has had plenty of answers on this matter. Now that the Government has acquired the necessary land it will prepare plans and will try to carry out its policy as soon as it can arrange for the necessary finance, taking into account the money already pledged unbeknown to the Government when it took office. Because of the most unco-operative attitude of another place with respect to finance, this and other works may be delayed a little longer.

PLYMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Mr. BROOMHILL: The Plympton Primary School, which has been built for many years, badly needs renovation not only on the outside of the school but in the toilet blocks. Can the Minister of Education say whether his department is aware of these deficiencies and whether it intends to remedy them?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The department is aware of the position, and repairs and painting at the school have been approved at an

estimated cost of £7,359. I shall endeavour to obtain information about the rest of the honourable member's question.

AIR-CONDITIONING IN SCHOOLS.

Mr. HEASLIP: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked on January 25 about subsidizing the cost of air-conditioning equipment in northern schools, where the temperature is much higher than it is in the southern part of the State?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The Government policy on air cooling in schools is that refrigerated air-conditioning is not provided nor is it subsidized. In some Samcon buildings already erected it was provided on an experimental basis, but it is not intended to air-condition Samcon buildings in future except those in very hot localities. I explained that earlier to the honourable member. Evaporative air coolers, the type referred to by the honourable member, are subsidized in special localities approved by me. Each application is considered on its merits, but generally approvals are given for schools in the Far Northern and Upper Murray areas. The department meets the cost of electric power to operate the units and the cost of maintenance and replacement is also on a subsidy basis. Electric fans of the oscillating or gyrating type are available on subsidy to schools in all parts of the State, but no more than two fans are permitted in a room.

JERVOIS BRIDGE.

Mr. RYAN: I have often sought information about when tenders are to be called for, and work commenced, on the new Jervois bridge, the erection of which has been considered for about seven years. Will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Roads when tenders will be called for this work, as on the last occasion I asked for this information I was informed that they were to be called in February of this year and that the work was to commence in June?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall obtain a report as quickly as possible.

FIREBREAKS.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Many large reserved areas of National Parks are situated throughout the State. One of these is the Archibald Reserve, just east of Tintinara. At the time of the Land Settlement Committee's last inquiry into the out of hundreds area, the fire risk occasioned by this reserve was stressed by witnesses before the committee, and two different schools of thought prevailed on this point: Professor Cleland was concerned about fires getting into the area, whereas adjoining landholders were concerned about fires getting out of it. As I have received an inquiry from the fire-fighting organization in the district, can the Minister of Lands indicate the Government's policy on the construction of firebreaks around such reserves?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As the honourable member mentioned, a fairly large area is now reserved in this State, totalling almost 500,000 acres. It is the policy of the National Parks and Wild Life Reserve Commissioners eventually to fence and plough firebreaks one chain in width either side of the fence of all reserves in the State. As the honourable member may appreciate, this will require much finance, but when that finance becomes available the work will be done. I noticed a perfect example of this protection at Flinders Chase on Kangaroo Island during my recent visit there. However, I shall obtain a report and ascertain whether the commissioners have listed any priority in regard to the reserve the honourable member has referred to.

CITRUS INDUSTRY ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE.

Mr. CURREN: Can the Minister of Agriculture announce the names of the grower representatives in the Citrus Industry Organization Committee, as much interest exists on the part of many of my constituents in this matter?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: In reply to the member for Ridley on Tuesday, I said that I expected to have that answer today. His Excellency the Governor, in Executive Council this morning, was pleased to appoint Rex George Coats of Waikerie and Henry George Katekar of Renmark to serve for two years on the committee (in compliance with the Act recently passed), and William Arnold Vogt of Mypolonga and Maxwell Thomas Pettman of Loxton North to serve on the committee for a period of one year. The committee will be called together at the earliest convenience of those concerned when the names of two further members will be submitted to it for the already selected members' concurrence. The honourable member may recall that, under the Act just passed, it is necessary for these two further members of the committee to be appointed in that way. I should like to say how pleased I was to see

such a fine group of people prepared to serve on the committee; there were 12 excellent nominees, which made my task in choosing the four names to present to the Governor somewhat difficult. However, I have followed what I considered was the right course, and I trust the decision will be acceptable to all concerned.

A number of people with some experience in commerce and industry have applied to serve on the committee and I trust that, with the committee's concurrence, those to be further appointed will be acceptable to the industry generally. On Monday and Tuesday next I shall be attending a meeting of the Agricultural Council in Sydney. The interest that has been displayed by people in the other States in regard to this matter has been outstanding. Each of the Ministers of Agriculture in the Eastern States has been sent a copy of the inquiry committee's report, and it is to be discussed in Sydney. In its report the committee suggested that the scheme should eventually be on a Commonwealth basis, hence the inclusion of the report on the council's agenda.

AIR-CONDITIONING IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE.

Mr. LAWN: As the Minister of Works is aware, this Chamber is air-conditioned, but the rest of the building (with the possible exception of the Legislative Council) is not. During the past 16 years that I have been a member of the House I have heard air-conditioning discussed by members, and I believe that on one occasion an examination was made of the plan of the building to see whether provision had originally been made for air-conditioning throughout the entire building. I point out that some rooms in which honourable members have to work or attend meetings are stifling on occasions, the general practice (with which I do not entirely disagree) being to keep all the windows locked. Can the Minister say whether the Government has any plans to extend air-conditioning to rooms not at present serviced?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: This morning, plans came to hand in respect of rooms approved for air-conditioning, including the rooms occupied by members of the *Hansard* staff (including typistes), the majority of the rooms on the eastern and western sides, and also a number of rooms on the northern side of the first floor. I believe that the work has been approved and will commence immediately the House rises. I intend to speak to the Speaker and to the President with a view to including a number of additional rooms while work is in progress, including that formerly occupied by the Leader of the Opposition (on the western side) and the room on the eastern side occupied by the Chairman of the Liberal and Country League Party in the Legislative Council, as well as the L.C.L. Party room. I hope, too, that the three rooms occupied by members' typistes will be included in the work.

LAKE ALBERT.

Mr. NANKIVELL: In an excellent reply to a question I asked last week, the Minister of Works supplied certain information regarding Lake Albert which would indicate that another 20 years could elapse before anything need be done about draining the lake. In the meantime, of course, irrigation will continue, and the areas concerned will expand. In view of this, will the Minister have a full inquiry undertaken into the movement of water into and out of Lake Albert to ascertain whether any possibility exists of retaining some balance of levels in the lake?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Like the honourable member, I am keenly interested in this matter, and appreciate the importance of irrigation and the associated industries in the area. The Director and Engineer-in-Chief, who is also concerned about the matter, appreciates the possible difficulties in the future. We discussed the matter on that basis and agreed that it was now necessary for a full investigation to be made as soon as possible so that we could warn people taking up irrigation areas of the problems they could face. An investigation must also be made to see whether anything can be done to assist those already engaged in rural pursuits along the borders of the lake.

GRAPES.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: In reply to earlier questions about the committee appointed to fix grape prices, the Premier told the member for Angas that the position with regard to the committee had been unsatisfactory, as no progress had been made. Will the Premier provide for the House the terms on which the committee was appointed? Also, will he tell members whether the full conditions applicable to the committee were submitted to the parties before they accepted membership on it? As this matter is of interest to all honourable members, will the Premier also make available any other relevant information? The report of the Royal Commission has been tabled this afternoon. As I understand only one copy

is available, although I believe the report has been duplicated, will the Premier have more copies made available for members interested in this matter?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I asked the member for Enfield to ascertain the position concerning the Royal Commission's report, and I understand that each member will be supplied with a copy if he wants one. As to the question of grape prices, I received a recommendation from the Chairman of the Royal Commission (Mr. Jeffery) that two representatives from the grapegrowers' organization, two representatives from the wine and brandy makers' organization and an independent chairman should meet to determine the prices of grapes from the coming vintage and to consider the types of grape in demand. This meeting was arranged. I do not have the complete details in front of me but I will supply them on Tuesday. However, the committee has met and the grapegrowers' organization has submitted a list of prices that it considers the wine and brandy makers should pay. I believe that the wine and brandy makers' organization has also submitted a list of prices it will be prepared to pay. Apparently there was complete disagreement by both parties on this question. I know that the grapegrowers' organization considered that, when it submitted its list, it should leave room for negotiation. It believed that, if some price on its list were a little high, it could then reduce the price, but that, if it submitted exactly the price it expected to receive, the price the wine and brandy makers' organization would pay would still be a little less than that. A letter was sent from the wine and brandy makers' organization to the committee stating that it was not prepared to negotiate further and that it would be up to the individual growers to approach the organization so that contracts could be made. I am not sure whether another organization, such as an agency, was also to enter into negotiations.

I told Cabinet that I had this information and intimated that (and I believe I stated this in the House this week) in the hope of trying to determine a reasonable approach on these matters I would ask the Minister of Agriculture to address a meeting of the representatives of the organizations concerned with the Prices Commissioner (Mr. Baker), the independent chairman of the committee. The Minister has accepted that responsibility and the meeting should take place in this building at 3.30 this afternoon. One of the representatives of the wine and brandy makers' organization is on holidays, and it was only late yesterday or early this morning that a substitute delegate arranged to attend on behalf of that organization so that the meeting could be held this afternoon. The purpose of the meeting is to find a common ground for the parties. On the one hand, grapegrowers must receive a certain price for their product or they will be unable to continue in the industry. On the other hand, the wine and brandy makers must get a return in order to keep going. However, we will not get anywhere if things continue as they have been going. I believe that on behalf of all members I can wish the Minister of Agriculture every success in trying to bring about a satisfactory result at the meeting. On Tuesday I will make a report available as to the terms of appointment of the committee.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

Mrs. STEELE: Has the Minister of Education, representing the Minister of Local Government, a reply to my question of February 1 regarding the recent appointment of a new Chairman of the Local Government Act Revision Committee?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: My colleague, the Minister of Local Government, informs me that on his recommendation Cabinet approved of and fully endorsed the appointment of Mr. K. T. Hockridge, Local Government officer attached to his personal department, as Chairman of the Local Government Act Revision Committee to replace Mr. K. L. Milne. Contrary to views held in some quarters, the previous chairman was selected not because he held the position of president of the Municipal Association of South Australia, but because of his known ability in and knowledge of local government affairs. As Chairman of the Local Government Act Revision Committee, he, with his committee, was charged with the task of reviewing and re-writing the Act. For the same reasons of ability and knowledge, Mr. Hockridge has been chosen to succeed Mr. Milne. As chairman, he is charged with the same responsibilities, and in this respect he is just as independent as any appointee to the post, whether he be from the Public Service or from private industry. The Minister is positive that the appointment is in the best interests of local government. My colleague points out that when the task of the committee has been completed, both Cabinet and all members of both Houses will have the opportunity of perusing and debating the

contents of the new Bill. At that time, members will have a chance to see if the committee, which is comprised of so many representatives of local government and local government associations, has adequately completed the task placed before it.

CADELL IRRIGATION.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Yesterday I asked the Minister of Irrigation whether he had obtained for me a report from his department concerning progress on work to rehabilitate the Cadell irrigation system. This matter has a history. By March last year negotiations had reached a point where the then Minister had given his approval, and after the change of Government the new Minister saw fit to ratify the decision. Will the Minister say what stage the work has reached?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The following report is to hand:

The contractor for installation of drains (R. M. Eastmond Ltd.) is moving towards completion of its contract. Final drawings of the proposed new caisson have been completed and draft specifications of the caisson and the necessary pumps and motors have been prepared. It is expected that tenders will be invited for the pumps and motors towards the end of this month, and for the construction of the caisson early in March. It is hoped that all works will be completed and that the new system will be in operation by the end of June, 1966.

AGINCOURT BORE SCHOOL.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: Can the Minister of Education now say when terms of reference will be sent to the Public Works Committee regarding the construction of the school at Agincourt Bore?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The Director of the Public Buildings Department has advised that it is expected sketch plans for this school will be completed in February, 1966. Following the completion of the sketch plans, an estimate of cost will be prepared. This work will take about two to three weeks. Reference to the Public Works Standing Committee is dependent on the estimated cost of the project. As soon as the cost is known, the project will be referred to the Education Department for approval, and for submission to the Government for reference to the Public Works Standing Committee, if required.

ADELAIDE RAILWAY STATION.

Mrs. STEELE: Has the Premier, representing the Minister of Transport, a reply to a question I asked last week about the Adelaide railway station?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Nothing was done by the previous Government to improve the appearance of the Adelaide railway station over a long period of years, and now this Government is expected to achieve it overnight. There are matters the Minister of Transport will discuss with the Railways Commissioner soon, as well as other matters concerning railway publicity and the appearance of the railway facilities. Obviously, nothing can be achieved in the short time before the Festival of Arts in March. What action is taken to improve the appearance of the building will depend on the outcome of discussions between the Minister and the Railways Commissioner, as well as on the availability of funds.

LOTTERY AND GAMING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (DECIMAL CURRENCY No. 2).

The Hon. FRANK WALSH (Premier and Treasurer) moved:

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the following resolution: That it is desirable to introduce a Bill for an Act to amend the Lottery and Gaming Act, 1936-1965.

Motion carried.

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

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

The principal object of this short Bill is to correct one of the amendments made in the Lottery and Gaming Act Amendment Act (No. 3) of last year. The amendment relates to the winning bets tax. By last year's Act a new subsection (3a) was inserted in section 44a of the principal Act, providing for the simplification of calculations and avoidance of dealings in copper coins. As stated in the second reading speech, it was accepted that the most practicable course would be for a bookmaker to calculate the amount chargeable with tax having regard to the amount to be paid out to the bettor in whole multiples of 5c. In other words, the tax would be calculated on the amount payable to the bettor to the nearest 5c. The tax would then be deducted and the balance given to the nearest 5c would be paid to the bettor. The Bill as introduced and finally passed contained an earlier draft of new subsection (3a) which does not in fact give effect to what was stated and intended. Clause 5 of the present Bill will rectify the anomaly by striking out subsection (3a) as

passed and substituting the correct draft. As I have said, subsection (3a) in its present form is unworkable, and the new text does, in fact, give effect to what was accepted by Parliament. The amendments made by clause 4 of the Bill are typographical.

I have discussed this matter with the Leader of the Opposition, and undoubtedly the Acting Leader has been informed of this. Because of the need to get this matter before another place so that it can be ratified as soon as possible (arrangements for which I understand have been made today), I ask honourable members to pass the Bill without delay.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN (Alexandra): The Leader of the Opposition is unavoidably absent, but I have discussed this matter with him. I support the second reading.

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

Later, the Bill was returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

DECIMAL CURRENCY ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH (Premier and Treasurer) moved:

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the following resolution: That it is desirable to introduce a Bill for an Act to amend the Decimal Currency Act, 1965.

Motion carried.

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

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

I thank members for assisting me to expedite this matter. The object of this short Bill is to remove any possible ambiguity concerning the commencement of the principal Act, clause 2 of which provides for one amendment to come into operation on the day of assent and the other amendments on February 14 of this year. To remove any ambiguity in the expression "other amendments" as used in section 2 (2), the Bill will provide that, except as provided in section 2 (1), the Act shall come into operation on February 14, 1966, thereby establishing a definite date for the commencement. The amendment is purely of a drafting nature. When the possible ambiguity was discovered the Bill had already been passed and it was too late to amend it. The Parliamentary Draftsman has indicated the need for this Bill to clarify the position. I understand that it will not be opposed, and as it has to go to another place before February 14 I appreciate the courtesy of the House in attending to it so rapidly.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN (Alexandra): After discussing this Bill with the Leader of the Opposition, I support it.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Clause 1 passed.

Clause 2—"Incorporation."

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Can the Premier say whether the principal Act has been assented to, and if it has, when?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH (Premier and Treasurer): It was somewhat delayed, but it was assented to on January 31, 1966, and we have moved as quickly as possible to introduce this Bill today.

Clause passed.

Clause 3 and title passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

Later, the Bill was returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BILL.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Attorney-General) moved:

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the following resolution: That it is desirable to introduce a Bill for an Act relating to the planning and development of land within the State; to repeal the Town Planning Act, 1929-1963 and to enact other provisions in lieu thereof; and for other purposes.

Motion carried.

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

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill gives effect to a major feature of the Government's election policy. The Australian Labor Party told the people of South Australia that under a Labor Government there would be effective town planning in South Australia, that it would be possible to put into effect the recommendations of the Town Planning Committee with regard to metropolitan Adelaide, and that town planning would operate throughout the State. The Bill gives effect to this. I pay a tribute to the many organizations which have concerned themselves with town planning and have made submissions to the Government on the form this legislation should take. I refer particularly to the Municipal Association, the Town and Country Planning Association, and the South Australian

Division of the Institute of Planners, as well as to the architects and town planning groups throughout the State. I pay a particular tribute to the two men responsible for the preparation of this Bill. The Town Planner of South Australia (Mr. S. B. Hart) is a man dedicated to his work and accorded throughout the community a great respect for whatever he does. He has made a valuable contribution in his submissions on this Bill. I also wish to pay a tribute to the draftsman responsible for the Bill. Mr. Ludovici has been responsible for much of the complicated legislation introduced this session, and I think that when members read the Bill no greater tribute could be paid to the draftsman than to see how he has managed to give effect to the submissions that have been made to the Government, and to introduce into the Bill in clear and simple terms the best of planning provisions throughout this country. The Bill is designed to secure the orderly and economic use and development of land within the State. It repeals the existing Town Planning Act which has become an extremely difficult piece of legislation to administer and to amend satisfactorily. Before proceeding to deal with the clauses of the Bill, I would like briefly to outline the history of town planning legislation in this State in order to make honourable members aware of the sequence of events that have led to the introduction of this Bill.

In 1916 a Bill for an Act relating to the planning and development of land for urban, suburban, and rural purposes and to make further provision for regulating the use of such land for building and other purposes, passed the House of Assembly; but the country was at war and the Bill was laid aside. The Bill was largely the work of C. C. Reade, the first Government Town Planner in South Australia. In 1917, the first Australian Town Planning and Housing Conference and Exhibition was held in Adelaide. This was followed by Australia-wide agitation for town planning legislation. At this time, the subdivision of land in South Australia was controlled by the then Municipal Corporations Act, the District Councils Act, and the Control of Subdivision of Land Act, 1917.

A further Town Planning and Development Bill was subsequently passed and became law in 1920. It was the first Act of its kind in Australia, and South Australia was widely acclaimed for its leadership in this important field. In those days, South Australia was in the vanguard of planning in this century in Australia; it was carrying on in the heritage of Colonel Light. Unfortunately, members will see from the history that I shall give that that did not continue. South Australia is now behind every other State in town planning provisions. I hope this measure will put us once more in the vanguard. The Town Planning and Development Act, 1920, provided for the establishment of a separate Town Planning Department to deal with any matters in connection with town planning and housing, the permanent head of the department being the Government Town Planner appointed by the Governor. The duties of the Government Town Planner included the planning of new towns and extensions to existing towns, replanning existing towns, the planning of public open spaces and industrial areas, the planning of settlements in rural areas, and issuing reports or bulletins relating to town planning. The Act introduced the present system of controlling land subdivision jointly by the Government Town Planner and councils. An annual report had to be submitted to the Minister and laid before both Houses of Parliament.

The Act provided for the establishment of a Central Advisory Board of Town Planning, and for the appointment of town planning committees by councils. Some of these committees are still active today. Amending Bills were introduced in 1923, 1924 and 1925 but were not proceeded with and the Act was finally repealed in 1929 by the Town Planning Act, 1929, which also repealed the Control of Subdivision of Land Act, 1917. In many respects, the Town Planning Act, 1929, was a poor reflection on its predecessor, but it is still the basic Act relating to town planning in this State. The separate Town Planning Department created by the 1920 Act was abolished, the Town Planner becoming an officer of the Department of the Registrar-General of Deeds. The sections relating to planning new towns, recreation areas, etc., were entirely deleted; and whilst the Act was called a Town Planning Act, it dealt mainly with the control of land subdivision in a rudimentary manner.

The Act set out to control the cutting up of large and small areas of vacant land, and applied mainly to plans which subdivided land into allotments intended to be used for residences, shops, factories and other like premises. The subdivision of land for agricultural purposes remained subject to the Municipal Corporations Act and the District Councils Act. These two Acts were later repealed by the Local Government Act, 1934. An honorary committee was appointed by the Government in June, 1951, to "ascertain what steps should

be taken to provide a co-ordinated plan of development for the metropolitan area''. Following the report of this committee in July, 1952, an amending Bill passed the House of Assembly in 1954, but lapsed in the Legislative Council. A further amending Bill was passed in 1955. This Act provided for a Town Planning Committee to replace the former appeal board and, with few exceptions, to be responsible for the functions previously within the province of the Town Planner with regard to the subdivision of land. The Act further charged the committee with the preparation of a development plan for the metropolitan area of Adelaide, the first measure dealing with town planning in the wider sense since the repeal of the 1920 Act.

In 1956, a further amending Act provided for the registration of easements in favour of the Minister of Works and councils and enacted provisions similar to those which prior to the Local Government Act, 1934, were contained in the Municipal Corporations and District Council Acts relating to the subdivision of agricultural land. The amendment Act of 1957 transferred the control of land subdivision back from the Town Planning Committee to the Town Planner, the committee continuing to deal with appeals against decisions of the Town Planner or councils. The Act also contained provisions relating to the road-making powers of councils in subdivisions, and the subdivision of agricultural land. The amendment Act of 1955 had also provided the Town Planning Committee with its second major function, that of preparing a plan to show how the metropolitan area should develop in the future. In preparing the plan, the committee had to consider the probable future development of the metropolitan area, the provision of public transport, adequacy of highways, provision of open spaces such as parks and sports grounds, zoning of industrial districts and the subdivision of land in relation to the economic provision of public services. The committee also had to consider any other general matters to ensure that the metropolitan area would develop in a manner in the best interests of the community.

The development plan and report were submitted by the committee to the then Attorney-General and laid before both Houses of Parliament in October, 1962. An amendment to the Town Planning Act followed in 1963. The amendment Act of 1963 enables the committee to recommend to the Minister amendments to the report, thus ensuring that long range planning of the metropolitan area is kept under constant review. The Act also enables the plan to be implemented by regulation. The committee can recommend to the Minister regulations on any matter referred to in the report after consulting the councils concerned. A further provision of the 1963 Act required the committee to call for and consider objections to the report within 12 months of the passing of the Act. The committee has submitted to the Government a report on the objections received, and this has been made public. At the end of its report on objections, the committee points out that the development plan and report should be maintained continuously as a statement of policy for guiding the development of metropolitan Adelaide and the following extract from page 294 of the committee's major report of 1962 further explains the committee's views on the status of the development plan:

> The recommendations for implementing the development plan do not involve the actual approval of the plan contained in this report. The recommendations concern the administrative machinery which is needed to guide the future development of the metropolitan area. Once the machinery is established, the plan provides the basis for the administrative steps which follow.

The committee also states in its report on objections that ''the effective implementation of several aspects of the development plan requires stronger powers''. The present position regarding town planning is that we have a Town Planning Committee with two functions: (1) to act as a planning committee for the metropolitan area of Adelaide; and (2) to hear and determine appeals against refusals by the Town Planner or councils to approve plans of subdivision or re-subdivision. The duties of the Town Planner are also two-fold; he acts as, first, Chairman of the Town Planning Committee; and is also, secondly, the approving authority for the subdivision and resubdivision of land throughout the State in conjunction with councils, excluding the City of Adelaide.

The Town Planner is an officer of the Registrar-General of Deeds Department, but is responsible directly to the Minister for the administration of the Town Planning Act. The Town Planner and his staff comprise that branch of the Public Service now known as the South Australian State Planning Office.

For many years, representations have been made concerning the need for a complete revision of our town planning legislation. There has been a growing public awareness that mounting congestion, inconvenience and

ugliness do not necessarily have to be accepted as our metropolitan area and country towns grow. New houses, factories, shops and schools are continually being constructed and existing buildings pulled down and replaced by new ones. Intelligent guidance of this continuing activity in accordance with a predetermined policy or plan, can secure for the future a far more efficient and acceptable pattern of development for healthy community living.

With proper planning, factories and houses can be kept separate, costly measures to combat traffic congestion can be avoided, co-ordination of public services can be achieved and adequate well-sited facilities for employment, recreation, education and shopping can be secured. A development plan and its associated regulations are the basis for securing the co-ordination and guidance of development as it occurs. The development plan would comprise a map (defining zones for industry, commerce and residences, and showing land reserved for public purposes such as highways, schools and public open space) and an explanatory report. The development plan and its report set out the broad policy, and the regulations give the powers necessary to control private development. Positive powers of land acquisition are also needed to promote development for public purposes in accordance with the development plan.

The present Town Planning Act has provided for a development plan for the metropolitan area only, but it is significant that 29 councils in the country have sought advice from the Town Planner on the future development of their towns. There is thus a need to look beyond the metropolitan area and to establish a State Planning Authority with the task of examining and planning the future development of our regions and towns throughout the State. Such an authority should have the necessary positive financial and legal powers to acquire land and secure its proper development. It should also be the channel for securing consistency and continuity in the framing and execution of State and local policies with respect to the use and development of land.

A satisfactory urban environment cannot be achieved without the acceptance by the community of some degree of legal restriction on the use and development of land, but it is essential that in a democratic society every individual who feels aggrieved by any administrative decision should have a right of appeal to an independent appeal body. Members will remember that objections that were raised to the regulations that were recently brought into force under the existing town planning legislation to control land subdivision largely concentrated around the fact that appeals from a decision of the Town Planner went to the Town Planning Committee of which the Town Planner was chairman. It is essential to provide that an appeal should not be from Caesar to Caesar but to an independent appeal body on any administrative decision.

At present the Town Planner, as Chairman of the Town Planning Committee, hears appeals against his own decisions on certain subdivision applications. The lack of criticism of the decisions reached by the committee is a tribute to the complete impartiality shown by the chairman, but it is clearly a most invidious position that Parliament has given to a public servant. Legislation is therefore needed to establish an independent Planning Appeal Board. Other requirements demanding urgent legislative change can be summarized as follows:

(1) The status of the Town Planning Committee's development plan and report on the metropolitan area of Adelaide, 1962, needs to be clarified and given statutory recognition.
(2) The powers needed to implement the committee's proposals should be strengthened and made effective.
(3) The regulation-making powers given in the Town Planning Act Amendment Act, 1963, need clarification, particularly in relation to zoning and the reservation of land for future acquisition by public authorities.
(4) A more effective control of land subdivision in relation to the availability of public services should be secured.
(5) The procedure relating to the control of land subdivision should be simplified and made more effective.
(6) It is essential that land disposed of by long term lease should comply with normal subdivision requirements.

Members representing country districts may well know of the kind of development that has gone on particularly along the borders of the Murray River, on the banks of which there has been a cutting up of long-term leases that have previously not been subject to town planning approval. The undesirable kind of development that has taken place in certain areas needs to be stopped.

Following announcements that a new Bill was to be prepared, various bodies have made submissions to the Government, including the Municipal Association of South Australia, the Australian Planning Institute (Adelaide Division), individual councils, the South Australian Local Government Engineers Group, and others.

All the submissions have been carefully considered, and I wish to express my appreciation for the work and time involved in their preparation.

I will now proceed to deal with the clauses of the Bill. Part I, which deals with preliminary matters, consists of clauses 1 to 5. Clause 1 provides that the Act shall come into operation on a day to be fixed by proclamation. This will enable the necessary appointments to be made and other administrative action to be taken before the Bill becomes law. Clause 2 describes the arrangement of the Bill. Clause 3 provides that the existing Town Planning Act and the amending Acts specified in the schedule are repealed. However, the present regulations made under the repealed Act will continue in force, and provision is made for dealing with transitional administrative matters including current appeals to the Town Planning Committee. Clause 4 provides that the Act applies throughout the State except where otherwise expressly stated. Clause 5 contains the definitions necessary for the purposes of the Bill, and it also clarifies the meaning of the word "deposit" in relation to the depositing of plans of subdivision in the Lands Titles Registration Office.

Part II of the Bill, which deals with administration, consists of clauses 6 to 27. Division 1 consists of clauses 6 and 7, and deals with the Director and Deputy Director of Planning. The officers at present holding the positions of Town Planner and Deputy Town Planner are to be called the Director and Deputy Director of Planning. The title of Town Planner has given rise to confusion regarding this officer's status and duties, and the new title conforms with the general practice now prevalent in the Public Service. Clause 7 enables the Deputy Director of Planning to perform the functions of the Director during the absence of the Director.

Division 2 of Part II consists of clauses 8 to 18, and deals with the State Planning Authority. Clause 8 establishes the State Planning Authority. The authority will take over some of the functions of the Town Planning Committee, which will cease to exist. The authority's membership is based on the need to obtain co-ordination by those authorities responsible for developing towns and cities in the State and those bodies responsible for controlling private development. Such co-ordination is becoming more difficult to achieve with the increasing complexity and gathering momentum of city development. The authority will consist of nine members. The Director of Planning will be chairman, and the Director of the Engineering and Water Supply Department, the Commissioner of Highways and the Surveyor-General will be members of the authority. The Governor will appoint five other members representative of the South Australian Housing Trust, the City of Adelaide, the Municipal Association of South Australia, the Local Government Association of South Australia Incorporated and a joint representative of the South Australian Chamber of Manufactures and the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce.

Clause 9 enables the Governor to remove a member of the authority from office for reasons specified and clause 10 refers to vacancies. Clause 11 provides that the authority shall have a common seal and describes the manner in which the authority shall conduct its meetings. Clause 12 enables the Deputy Director of Planning to act as chairman of the authority during the Director's absence. Clause 13 provides that any vacancy in the office of a member or any defect in a member's appointment will not render any act of the authority invalid. Clause 14 enables fees to be paid to the members of the authority. Clause 15 provides that acceptance by a person of office as a member of the authority shall not be a bar to his holding any other office, but a member of Parliament will not be eligible for appointment as a member of the authority. Clause 16 provides for the appointment of a secretary to the authority who shall be subject to the Public Service Act.

Clause 17 enables the authority to make use of the staff of the South Australian State Planning Office and of councils and other statutory bodies and, subject to the appropriate Minister's consent, to make use of officers of other departments of the Public Service. The general powers of the authority are contained in clause 18. The authority is charged with the responsibility of promoting and co-ordinating the planning of regions and towns, and the orderly development and use of land within the State. The authority may report to the Minister on any proposals relating to the use, development or redevelopment of any land, it may carry out research into problems associated with the planning of regions and towns, and issue reports and bulletins. The authority may establish committees, which may or may not include members of the authority, to advise on such matters as may be referred to them by the authority. Thus the authority could establish committees to advise it on various matters

related to the future development of the State, for example, regional development committees, joint committees representative of municipalities and their adjoining district councils, or specialist committees dealing with particular subjects such as traffic and transport, redevelopment, or tree preservation.

Division 3 of Part II consists of clauses 19 to 27, and deals with the Planning Appeal Board. It is proposed to replace the present Town Planning Committee, so far as its appellate functions are concerned, by an independent Planning Appeal Board. Clause 19 provides that the board shall consist of three members appointed by the Governor. The membership is designed to ensure that the rights of the individual are safeguarded, that local government is represented, and that the technical aspects of any appeal are fully considered. The chairman is to be a local court judge, a magistrate or a legal practitioner; one member is to be selected from a panel of names chosen jointly by the Municipal Association of South Australia and the Local Government Association of South Australia Incorporated; and the third member is to be selected from a panel chosen by the governing body of the Adelaide Division of the Australian Planning Institute Incorporated. The Australian Planning Institute is the body representing the planning profession in Australia, and nominates representatives for the National Capital Planning Committee in Canberra, and also for the State Planning Authority of New South Wales.

Clauses 20 to 25 deal with administrative matters relating to the board. Clause 26 provides for the hearing and determination by the board of appeals against decisions of the authority, the Director, or any council. The board may confirm the decision appealed against or give such directions as the board thinks fit to the authority, the Director or the council, who shall give effect to the determination. The determination of the board is final and not subject to further appeal. The board may publish its decisions. Clause 27 provides that the board may determine each appeal, having regard to all relevant matters, including the provisions of any authorized development plan (which I will deal with later), the health, safety and convenience of the community within the locality within which the site of the appeal is situated, the economic and other advantages and disadvantages (if any) to the community of developing the locality within which the appeal site is situated, and the amenities of the locality within which the appeal site is situated. "Amenity" is defined in clause 3, and means that quality or condition in the locality which contributes to its pleasantness and harmony, and to its better enjoyment.

Part III of the Bill, which deals with planning areas and development plans, consists of clauses 28 to 35. Division 1 consists of clauses 28 and 29, and deals with planning areas. Clause 28 provides that, on the recommendation of the authority, the Governor may by proclamation declare any part of the State to be a planning area. The boundaries of a planning area may be amended by a subsequent proclamation, and, before making any recommendation, the authority must consult the council or councils concerned. Clause 29 provides that as soon as practicable after the proclamation of a planning area, the authority must examine the planning area and make an assessment of its future development, having regard to the various matters which are listed in that clause. These include studies of traffic and transport, the adequacy of open spaces, the zoning of districts for residential, commercial or other uses, the need for redevelopment, the suitability of land for subdivision in relation to the availability of public services, and studies of any other matters which are necessary to ensure that the physical, social and economic development of the planning area might proceed in the best interests of the community. It will be seen that clause 29 is based upon the terms of reference given to the Town Planning Committee in the repealed Act, in relation to the metropolitan area. The metropolitan planning area is defined in clause 5 of the Bill, and includes that part of the State which is included in the Town Planning Committee's report on the metropolitan area of Adelaide, 1962.

Division 2 consists of clauses 30 to 35, and deals with development plans. After making the examination of the planning area, the authority shall prepare a development plan indicating, generally, the measures that in the opinion of the authority are necessary or desirable for providing for the most suitable development of the planning area (clause 30). The term "development plan" by definition includes an accompanying report. The authority must consult every council within the planning area and every other authority responsible for the provision of public services. When the development plan has been prepared, the authority must give public notice that the development plan is open to public inspection for a period of at least one month, and permit written representations to be submitted. After

receipt and consideration of the representations, the authority may amend the development plan as it thinks fit. The authority will then submit the development plan to the Minister, together with a summary of the representations (if any), and a statement describing the action taken or recommended by the authority regarding each representation (clause 31). The Minister then considers the development plan (clause 32) and forwards the documents to the Governor, who may then decide to proceed with the development plan without alteration, or to proceed with the development plan as modified by such alterations as he considers necessary, or to refer the development plan back to the authority for further consideration; or the Governor may decide not to proceed with the development plan.

Where the Governor decides to proceed with the development plan, he may by proclamation declare the development plan to be an authorized development plan (clause 33). This clause also sets out the procedure to be followed if the Governor refers the development plan back to the authority. Clause 34 provides that the authority shall supply a copy of any authorized development plan to every council concerned, and the authorized development plan must then be made available for inspection by any member of the public during ordinary office hours. Clause 35 enables the authority to review any authorized development plan or prepare supplementary development plans for any part of the planning area, and the same procedure of public exhibition, consideration of representations and submission to the Minister, applies. The metropolitan area of Adelaide development plan referred to in the Town Planning Committee's report on the metropolitan area of Adelaide, 1962, becomes an authorized development plan, by definition, in clause 5.

Part IV of the Bill, which deals with the implementation of authorized development plans, consists of clauses 36 to 39. Clause 36 provides that the authority or the appropriate council or councils may recommend the making of regulations to give effect to the objectives of an authorized development plan. The regulations are to be called planning regulations, and will bind the Crown. The list of items for which planning regulations may be made is contained in subclause (4) and includes those items listed in section 28a of the repealed Act and other items which it has been found necessary to include in the regulation-making power. The principal items for which planning regulations may be made include zoning, the reservation of land for future acquisition by public authorities, the control of development along main highways, the preservation of buildings or sites of architectural, historical or scientific interest, the preservation of trees, the control of advertisement hoardings, securing improvement of the appearance of ruinous or dilapidated buildings or land, the provision of adequate space for car parking and the loading and unloading of vehicles when new building takes place, and facilitating the redevelopment of substandard areas. The authority may delegate all or any of its powers under a planning regulation to the council or councils of the area concerned.

It is appropriate at this point to explain the procedure envisaged by planning regulations relating to the reservation of land for future acquisition by a public authority. The satisfactory development of a city depends on the use of some land for public purposes, such as roads, schools and open spaces, therefore it is necessary that land for essential public purposes is available when and where it is needed. In a rapidly growing metropolitan area, public authorities may not have money to acquire in one short period all the land needed for a number of years ahead; consequently, if land is not bought or reserved well ahead of requirements, an authority is faced with buying land which has already been built on, or "making do" with less suitable sites. The repealed Act enables the Town Planning Committee to recommend regulations for reserving land for future acquisition by an appropriate authority. The committee has prepared draft regulations concerning the reservation of land for open spaces. The regulations provide for the definition of the land on a plan, and require the owner to obtain consent for any development of the land. If permission to develop the land is refused, then the owner can require that the land be purchased by the authority for whom the land is reserved. These regulations are at present being circulated pursuant to section 28a. Clause 36 deals extensively with the procedure involved, and the term "acquiring authority" is defined in clause 5 as the person or body specified in the planning regulation in whom the power is vested to acquire the reserved land. Clause 36 (11) provides that the Registrar-General shall make certain entries on the certificate of title if land is reserved, and subclause (12) provides that whilst the land is reserved it is assessed for tax or rates having regard to the use to which the land is put at the relevant time. Clause 36 (13) provides that a planning regulation shall prevail

over any by-law made by a council which is inconsistent with the provisions of the planning regulation. Clause 37 safeguards the existing use of any land or building.

Clause 38 deals with the procedure for making planning regulations. Both the authority and the council or councils concerned may recommend regulations. Before the recommendation is submitted to the Minister, public notice must be given that the proposed recommendation is available for inspection for a period of at least one month, and any person may lodge objections to the proposed recommendation. The authority or the council shall afford each person who has lodged an objection the opportunity to appear personally or by counsel before the authority or council and be heard in support of the objection. The authority or the council, when making the recommendation to the Minister, must forward a statement containing a summary of the objections and a description of the action, if any, taken or recommended by the authority or the council regarding each objection. Before the authority makes a recommendation, it must consult every council concerned, and a summary of the comments made by the council must be forwarded to the Minister with the recommendation. When a council recommends a planning regulation to the Minister, the Minister must refer the regulation to the authority for report, and if the authority reports that the recommendation is not in accordance with the objects of the authorized development plan, the Minister shall not proceed further with the council's recommendation. Thus, the Bill ensures the closest liaison between the authority and local government but does give local government the opportunity of proceeding with the implementation of detailed plans, which is a marked improvement on the provisions contained in the repealed Act and should be welcomed by local government. Clause 39 provides that the Acts Interpretation Act applies in relation to every planning regulation made under Part IV.

Part V, which deals with interim development control within the metropolitan planning area, consists of clauses 40 to 42. Clause 40 provides that the provisions of this Part do not limit the application of any other provisions of the Act. Under clause 41, the Governor may, on the recommendation of the authority, by proclamation declare that any land within the metropolitan planning area shall be subject to the provisions of the section for a period not exceeding three years. The Governor may make subsequent proclamations following the expiration of the three-year period, or may declare that land already proclaimed shall not be subject to the section. Where any land is subject to the section, no person shall change the existing use of any land or any buildings, or construct or alter any buildings without the consent of the authority. Maintenance and other routine work being carried out by public authorities is exempted from this provision. Before granting or refusing its consent, the authority shall have regard to the provisions of the metropolitan development plan and also the health, safety and convenience of the community, the economic and other advantages and disadvantages of the proposed development to the community, and the amenities of the locality within which the proposed development is situated.

The authority may grant its consent subject to conditions, and there is a right of appeal to the Planning Appeal Board against any refusal by the authority or any condition attached to a consent. Clause 42 ensures that the control of land subdivision within the metropolitan planning area is related to the provisions of the authorized development plan, and provides that the Director shall refer applications for approval to plans of subdivision to the authority for report if the land is situated within certain prescribed localities. The prescribed localities are the industrial zones, the hills face zone, and rural zone shown on the Town Planning Committee's Development Plan, 1962. If the authority reports to the Director that the plan of subdivision does not conform to the purpose, aims and objectives of the metropolitan development plan or to the planning regulations (if any) relating to that plan, the Director shall refuse to approve the plan of subdivision. There is a right of appeal to the board against such a decision. Thus clause 41 is designed to ensure control of the use and development of land within the metropolitan planning area while the necessary planning regulations are being made, and clause 42 ensures that land subdivision is adequately controlled in relation to the metropolitan development plan. Rights of appeal are applicable in both cases.

Part VI, which deals with the control of land subdivision, consists of clauses 43 to 62. Clause 43 provides that Part VI shall not apply to the city of Adelaide, nor to any Crown lands or land used for primary production which is subject to an agreement, lease or licence granted by the Crown. Clause 44 provides that land shall not be sold, transferred, or mortgaged except as an allotment

nor shall any contract of sale or agreement for sale and purchase of land be entered into other than as an allotment. No land may be leased other than as an allotment for a term exceeding five years without the approval of the Director. The term "allotment" is defined in clause 5, and limits the control of land subdivision to the division of any land into areas of 20 acres or less. An allotment is virtually a defined lot of an approved or a recognized plan. Clause 45 relates to the approval by the Director of plans of subdivision and plans of re-subdivision. These two terms are defined in clause 5. A plan of subdivision means a plan dividing land into more than five allotments of 20 acres or less in extent or into one or more of such allotments, and showing a proposed new road or reserve for public use. A plan of re-subdivision means any plan creating five allotments or less. It may also show a proposed road widening.

Where a plan of subdivision has been deposited in the Lands Titles Registration Office or a plan of re-subdivision has been approved, the Registrar-General is required, under clause 46, to make appropriate entries on every certificate of title effected. Clause 47 enables the Registrar-General to refuse to register dealings with land unless an appropriate plan of subdivision has been deposited or a plan of re-subdivision approved. When any plan of subdivision or re-subdivision has been accepted by the Registrar-General, any road or reserve shown on the plan vests in the council of the area without compensation by virtue of clause 48, and such a road becomes a public road. This provision exists in section 14 of the repealed Act. Clause 49 lists the grounds upon which the Director or a council may refuse approval to a plan. The grounds are similar to those included in the current Control of Land Subdivision regulations, but the opportunity has been taken to make amendments arising from the 15th report of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation, 1965. Clause 50 enables further grounds of refusal by the Director or council to be prescribed by regulation.

Clause 51 deals with control by councils over the construction of roads in new subdivisions. The repealed Act originally gave control over road making to municipalities only, but the amendment Act of 1957 extended the powers to those district councils which chose to take advantage of them. At present, the road-making control is exercised by 115 councils throughout the State, whose population represents 96 per cent of the State population. The clause therefore enables all councils to exercise discretionary powers relating to the construction of roads in new subdivisions. The clause enables a council to refuse approval to a plan of subdivision unless the council is satisfied that the roadway of every proposed street has, to a width of at least 24ft., been adequately formed, paved, and sealed with bitumen, and all necessary bridges and underground drains constructed in accordance with recognized engineering design practice and in a manner satisfactory to the council. The construction must be in conformity with detailed construction plans and specifications signed by a prescribed engineer, and submitted to and approved by the council prior to the commencement of work.

Councils may also, if they wish, withhold approval to a plan of subdivision if the water-tables, kerbs, or footpaths of every proposed road have not been constructed in a manner satisfactory to the council. A council may withhold approval if the applicant has not made binding arrangements satisfactory to the council that the work will be carried out or completed at the cost of the applicant, and within such time as may be specified by the council. "Prescribed engineer" means a person who is a corporate member of the Institution of Engineers, Australia, or the holder of qualifications which exempt him from the associate membership examination of the institution, and who practises the profession of engineer.

Clause 52 lists further grounds upon which the Director may refuse approval to any plan of subdivision or plan of re-subdivision. If, in the opinion of the Director of the Engineering and Water Supply Department, the requirements of the Minister of Works for the provision of water supply and sewerage services to every allotment have not been met or cannot be met, the Director may refuse approval. Provision is also made for the setting aside of 10 per cent of the land being subdivided for reserve purposes where more than 20 new allotments are being created. If the plan shows 20 allotments or less and if 10 per cent of the land is not shown as reserves, the owner may choose to pay into a fund administered by the authority a sum of 100 dollars for each allotment if the land is situated in the metropolitan planning area, or 40 dollars for each allotment if the land is situated elsewhere in the State. This alternative financial contribution only applies to allotments which are two acres or less in extent. Considerable

attention has been given to these provisions relating to the setting aside of lands for reserves in subdivisions.

It is considered that the long-term interests of local government will best be served by obtaining land rather than money in lieu of reserves, therefore the option to contribute money does not apply where more than 20 new allotments are being created. Many councils have expressed concern that the person creating only a small number of allotments does not contribute towards open spaces. Even if one new allotment is being created, a new family will be housed, making an increased demand on open spaces. Thus, when small areas are being subdivided, it would be impracticable to obtain very small pieces of land for reserves, and a direct contribution of money into a central fund is considered to be the most equitable, simplest and quickest way of providing for the open space. An alternative proposal for contribution of money based on valuation of the land was considered by the Government but rejected, as it would involve long administrative procedures and difficulties of valuation.

The Director may also refuse approval to any plan if the development of the land is considered to be premature having regard to the availability of public services and community facilities, the number of allotments already created in the vicinity, or any proposals contained in any authorized development plan. Approval may likewise be refused if the proposal is likely to interfere with the natural features and general character of the locality or if the subdivision would create undue erosion. The Director may also refuse approval if an existing road has not been widened sufficiently to meet future needs. This provision was one of the matters considered and discussed by the Subordinate Legislation Committee when examining the control of land subdivision regulations at present operative. Since 1930 the regulations have given a wide power to the Town Planner to request road widenings to be set aside in plans of subdivision or re-subdivision. The Bill prescribes the limits to which the Director may go in requesting road widening, and these are based on the current practice which has been operating for several years.

When land is being subdivided, the maximum road widening which may be requested is 50ft. This width provides sufficient land for a service road alongside an existing highway. If land is being re-subdivided, that is, into five allotments or less, then the maximum road widening that the Director may request is related to the overall width of the street fronting the proposed allotments. The maximum widening is to be such as to make the total width of the street 50ft., which is the usual width required for a residential street. Thus, if a person is creating new allotments facing an existing back alley or very narrow street, then he must provide some land to help increase the width of the street to that normal for a residential area. The amount of land that the Director may request for visibility purposes on a corner allotment is limited to 250 sq. ft. Any land set aside on a plan for road widening purposes is shown as road, and vests in the council without payment of compensation under clause 48. When land is subdivided fronting the sea-coast, a lakeside or bank of a river, clause 53 enables a reserve to be obtained at least 100ft. in width along the frontage, and ensures that the rear of any allotment shall not abut such a reserve. The Director may dispense with or modify these requirements if he thinks fit.

Clause 54 provides that there shall be an appeal to the Planning Appeal Board against any decision of the Director or a council to refuse approval to any plan. Clause 55 deals with easements in favour of the Minister of Works or a council shown on plans of subdivision, and is similar to section 14a of the repealed Act. Clause 56 provides that persons having any interest in the land shown on any plan should signify their consent in writing on the plan. Clause 57 enables the Director to require any plan submitted as a plan of re-subdivision to be prepared and dealt with as a plan of subdivision. This is similar to section 17 of the repealed Act. Clause 58 enables the Director to approve a plan of re-subdivision, subject to conditions relating to mortgages, consolidations and other matters. Clause 59 provides for a penalty for dividing land otherwise than in accordance with an approved plan. Clause 60 gives the Registrar-General power to correct errors existing in any plan in the Lands Titles Registration Office or the General Registry Office.

Clause 61 enables any person to apply for a proclamation declaring that his land shall not be divided into allotments or used for any purpose not in keeping with its character as an open space. Whilst proclamation applies, the land is assessed for tax or rates having regard to the existing use of the land. The clause is similar to section 29 of the repealed Act, but a new provision is included concerning the revocation of proclamations. This enables the taxing and rating authorities to recoup the amount of tax or rates that would have been paid if the proclamation had not been made,

when the proclamation is revoked. About 3,516 acres was subject to proclamations under section 29 of the repealed Act at December 31, 1965, but no proclamations had been revoked under that Act. Clause 62 is a general regulation-making power relating to the control of land subdivision.

Part VII of the Bill, which deals with land acquisition and special provisions relating to compensation, consists of clauses 63 to 70. Clause 63 gives the authority power to acquire land, either by agreement or compulsorily, with the approval of the Minister. The authority may then develop the land for any purpose proposed under any authorized development plan or planning regulation. The authority may sell or dispose of the land with the approval of the Minister. All moneys derived by the authority from the disposal of land are to be paid into the fund referred to in Part VIII of the Bill. This power of the authority to acquire land and secure its development is a positive measure to assist in implementing authorized development plans and planning regulations, and will be particularly important in relation to re-development. Clause 64 enables compensation to be paid for losses arising out of the operation of a planning regulation which reserves land for future acquisition by a public authority. The effect of reserving land for future acquisition may cause a reduction in the price an owner is able to obtain for his property when it is offered for sale. The owner is able to obtain as compensation not more than the difference between the value of the land as affected by the reservation and the value of the land as not so affected.

A procedure for determining disputed claims for compensation is contained in clauses 65 and 66. Clause 67 concerns the action that may be instituted by the claimant against the acquiring authority in the courts; clause 68 enables compensation paid to be taken into account when the land is subsequently acquired; and clause 69 enables compensation to be paid if the authority refuses consent to the alteration or destruction of any building or site of architectural, historical or scientific interest, or the cutting down or destruction of any trees. The authority may, with the approval of the Minister, either by agreement or compulsorily, acquire the land on which the buildings or the trees are situated, together with adjoining land which the authority considers necessary for the purpose of preserving the character of the buildings or the land. Clause 70 provides that compensation in respect of any matter shall be payable only once, and no further compensation in respect of the same matter may be claimed under any other enactment.

Part VIII of the Bill, which deals with financial provisions, consists of clauses 71 to 74. Clause 71 states that moneys required for the purposes of the Act shall be paid out of moneys provided by Parliament. A fund to be known as the planning and development fund is to be established in the Treasury under clause 72. There shall be paid into the fund moneys made available by the Treasurer out of appropriations authorized by Parliament, moneys derived by the authority from the sale or disposal of land, moneys received by the authority arising from the payment of money in lieu of land for reserves under clause 52, and all moneys raised by loan. The Treasurer may make advances to the authority from moneys appropriated by Parliament on such terms and conditions as he thinks fit. Clause 73 enables the authority, with the approval of the Minister and the concurrence of the Treasurer, to borrow money and mortgage any property vested in the authority as security for any loan. The clause also enables the Treasurer to guarantee the repayment of any loan made to the authority for the purposes of its functions and duties. Clause 74 enables the authority to use the fund, *inter alia,* for the acquisition and development of any land, for the payment of compensation, for the payment of rates, taxes and other charges, for the transfer to any reserve for the repayment of moneys advanced to or borrowed by the authority, for the payment of principal, interest and expenses in respect of moneys borrowed or for the maintenance of property owned by the authority.

Part IX, which deals with miscellaneous matters, consists of clauses 75 to 80. Clause 75 deals with the submission of annual reports to the Minister (for laying before Parliament) by the authority, the Director and the Chairman of the Planning Appeal Board. Clause 76 enables the Director with the approval of the Minister to prepare plans, reports and do other work (not being surveying) for any person, and to charge fees which are approved by the Minister. All moneys collected by the Director are to be paid into the general revenue of the State. The clause is similar to section 7 of the repealed Act. Clause 77 gives any member of the authority or of the Planning Appeal Board and the Director and authorized persons power to inspect land and premises. Clause 78 enables regulations to

be made for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions and objects of the Act. Clause 79 makes provision for continuing offences against the Act and clause 80 states that proceedings for offences against the Act shall be disposed of summarily. The schedule lists the Acts repealed; these are the Town Planning Act, 1929 and the amendment Acts of 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1963.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN secured the adjournment of the debate.

SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBS (SUPPLEMENTARY) DRAINAGE BILL.

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY (Minister of Education) moved:

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the following resolution: That it is desirable to introduce a Bill for an Act to make further provision for the prevention and control of flooding in the south-western suburbs of the metropolitan area, for the authorization of the construction and operation of works in connection therewith and for other purposes.

Motion carried.

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

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Its object, as the long title indicates, is to make further provision for the prevention and control of flooding in the south-western suburbs of the metropolitan area and for authorization of the construction and maintenance of works in connection therewith. This Bill, which is modelled on the South-Western Suburbs Drainage Act, 1959, is concerned with the construction and maintenance of Drain No. 10, in the council areas of Marion and Brighton. This drain will carry floodwaters along Seacombe Road (from a point near Diagonal Road) thence along Brighton Road and Young Street to the sea. The proposed construction of this drain is a continuation of the general scheme to prevent and control floodwaters in the south-western suburbs of the metropolitan area.

Stage I of this scheme as authorized by the South-Western Suburbs Dranage Act, 1959, consisting of Drains Nos. 2, 4, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 19, 21, 22 and 23 is now in the course of construction and about half the work has been completed. The construction of the proposed Drain No. 10 was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works by virtue of the Metropolitan Drainage Works (Investigation) Act, 1962. The committee has inquired into the questions referred to it and by its report dated October 5, 1965, recommended its construction at an estimated cost of $420,000. It reported fully as to how the work should be financed and, on the assumption that the councils concerned should pay half of the capital cost, what should be the share of each council and how each share should be paid. The committee suggested in paragraph 5 of its report that the administration of the Act should be committed to the Minister of Local Government.

Part II (clause 6) authorizes the Minister to construct Drain No. 10 as proposed in the committee's report for the purposes of flood prevention and control. Ancillary powers are conferred by clauses 4 and 5 (acquisition of land and easements), clause 13 (calling for tenders), clause 14 (general powers), clause 17 (delegation of powers), clause 18 (disposal of surplus land and property), and clause 24 (indemnity of Minister against certain claims).

Part III of the Bill concerns the provision of finance by Marion and Brighton councils. It provides, generally, that these councils shall pay one-half of the total cost of the works with interest, the payment to be spread over a period of 53 years commencing after the Government has expended $200,000. The percentages payable by the two councils are set out in clause 7 (2). The rate of interest is to be 5¼ per centum until the works are completed, after which interest will be at the rate to be struck by reference to the long term loan money rates during the period of construction, subject, however, to a variation every 10 years. The modes of payment and rate of interest are set out in clauses 8 to 11 inclusive. They are based on the Parliamentary committee's report. The annual payments by councils will, of course, be adjusted both at the time of the completion of the works and at the 10-yearly periods which have been mentioned, so as to take account not only of the actual total cost when it is known but also of the variation in interest rates as well as variation in costs attributable to unknown amounts of compensation (clause 16).

Clause 12 deals with maintenance. Each council will be directly responsible for the maintenance of drains in its area. This provision, like the rest of the provisions of the Bill, are based upon the committee's report. Clauses 20 to 23 inclusive are of a general nature covering such matters as remedies for

non-payment by councils, penalties for obstruction of construction of works, making of regulations and summary disposal of offences. Clause 25 is inserted to make it clear that the construction of works authorized by this Act in no way is to interfere with the construction of works authorized under the South-Western Suburbs Drainage Act, 1959, which, for purposes of construction, will be read with the present proposed legislation. This Bill, being of a hybrid nature, will need to be referred to a Select Committee. I commend it for consideration of honourable members.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham): I had intended to seek the adjournment of this debate, but I notice (and the Minister has told us) that it is a hybrid Bill and that it has to go to a Select Committee. Therefore, I shall not hold up the second reading. I merely indicate that I support the second reading of the Bill.

Bill read a second time and referred to a Select Committee consisting of Messrs. Hudson, Langley and Rodda, Mrs. Steele, and the Hon. R. R. Loveday; the committee to have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to adjourn from place to place; the committee to report on February 17.

APPRENTICES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY (Minister of Education) moved:

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the following resolution: That it is desirable to introduce a Bill for an Act to amend the Apprentices Act, 1950.

Motion carried.

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

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Great concern has been felt in many quarters that the continuing shortage of skilled tradesmen is retarding the rate of development of Australia. In recent years there has been a greater percentage increase in the number of persons employed in South Australia than there has been in Australia generally, so that this shortage of skilled labour has had a very real impact in South Australia. The only measure of this shortage is that contained in the statistics of the Commonwealth Employment Service which, although they do not show the full situation, have indicated that there are many times more vacancies for skilled tradesmen than there are skilled persons available for employment. In a young country like Australia, which is struggling to capture export markets for its secondary industry, the effective training of its work force is of paramount importance.

Much consideration has, therefore, been given both within the State as well as on a national level to ways in which the supply of skilled tradesmen through the apprenticeship system may be increased. Honourable members will recall that in 1958 the Honourable M. R. O'Halloran, M.P., who was then the Leader of the Opposition, introduced into this House a Bill to amend the Apprentices Act, and the present Premier in 1962 introduced another Bill also seeking to make what were considered to be vital amendments to that Act. Although both of those Bills were defeated on the second reading, the then Premier on the first occasion promised that the Apprentices Board would be asked to report on the matters raised in the Bill, and in 1962 he expressed approval of some, but not all, of the amendments sought. The Apprentices Board did, in fact, submit its report to the then Minister of Education and recommended many alterations to the Act. Despite this, the Act has remained unchanged since 1950. The Government considers that it is timely that these recommendations should now be given effect to. The Government considers that the Act as at present framed is inadequate, for it fails to provide for the proper supervision necessary for the training of apprentices. Although there is an Apprentices Board constituted under the Act, the board has power only to recommend certain action, and even if such action is in the interests of apprentices and employer alike, it does not have the power to implement its recommendations.

Among the proposed amendments are the replacement of the present board with an Apprenticeship Commission which will be given power to take positive action in apprenticeship matters. One of its powers will be to approve of employers who may employ apprentices, and no employer will be permitted to take any apprentice in any trade unless he is an approved employer. This will ensure that the standard of training required, the equipment available for training, the methods used, and the qualifications of persons who are training apprentices, will be satisfactory. Since being elected to office last year, the Government has given further consideration to the amendments necessary to this Act, and many of the proposals give effect to recommendations made

some years ago by the Apprentices Board, on which the employers and the trade unions had equal representation. Other matters included in the Bill result from an inquiry made in 1963-64 by the Secretary for Labour and Industry and the Superintendent of Technical Schools.

Another of the main effects of this Bill is to give far more emphasis to the industrial side of the employment of apprentices than has been given in the past. The Apprentices Act, as it now stands, deals to a large extent with the training to be given to an apprentice, either in a trade or technical school or by correspondence. The Government considers that more emphasis should be given to the industrial aspects associated with the employment of apprentices. Action was taken last year to commit the administration of this Act to the Minister of Labour and Industry instead of the Minister of Education, who was formerly responsible for it. The Government considers that this is more appropriate; it is in line with the practice adopted in all other States in Australia, in the United Kingdom, United States of America and in New Zealand. I come now to a detailed explanation of the principal amendments proposed by the Bill as they appear in individual clauses.

Clause 5 deletes Part II of the principal Act, under which Part the Apprentices Board and various trade committees were established, and replaces it with entirely new administrative provisions. By the new section 6 an Apprenticeship Commission will be established with a full-time Chairman to be appointed by the Governor, and five part-time members, two of whom will be appointed on the nomination of the United Trades and Labor Council of South Australia, two on the nomination of employer organizations, and the other member will be nominated by the Minister of Education. This means that there will be two Government nominees (including the Chairman), two nominees from the trade unions, and two nominees from the employers. The commission will therefore be a truly tripartite body instead of the present advisory board, which has four Government nominees but only two union and two employer members. New sections 7 to 12 deal with the terms and conditions of appointment of the Chairman, members and Secretary, quorum for, and proceedings of the commission.

The powers of the commission are outlined in new section 13 of the Act, and it will be seen that these powers are much wider than those which the present Apprentices Board was given. The commission will have power to determine rather than recommend most of the matters within its jurisdiction: the main exception to this is that the commission will recommend to the Minister of Education matters relating to the training and instruction given in trade or technical schools. By new section 14, the Minister must appoint advisory trade committees in respect of every trade, but he may appoint a committee in respect of a group of related trades. The Chairman of the Apprenticeship Commission is *ex officio* chairman of each such committee. These committees will be, as their name implies, the advisory bodies to the commission. Their appointment will enable advice to be given within each trade or group of trades by representatives of unions or employers actively engaged in those trades.

By clause 6 an amendment is made to section 16 of the principal Act and authorizes the making of a proclamation to make it mandatory that in any trade in respect of which a proclamation is made, minors can only be employed under an indenture of apprenticeship. This is provided for in some Commonwealth awards and ensures that in important trades, such as, for example, electricians, it will not be possible to employ boys as improvers and so avoid the obligation of having them attend trade schools for instruction to supplement the instruction that they receive from their employer. An important amendment is made by clause 7 which amends section 18 of the principal Act. At present apprentices are required to attend trade schools for four hours a week in the employer's time and two hours a week of an evening in their own time. The Labor Party has considered for many years that there is no valid reason why an apprentice should be required to attend trade schools during his leisure time, and so clause 7 accordingly provides that apprentices shall attend trade or technical school during working hours for eight hours each week that the school is open for instruction.

The Government realizes that this cannot be implemented immediately because additional accommodation and facilities will be needed in the trade and technical schools. The new subsection (4) of section 18 of the principal Act will therefore operate on dates to be proclaimed and the dates will, no doubt, vary from trade to trade. Clauses 8 and 15, which amend section 19 and section 25 respectively of the principal Act, require an apprentice to pass the appropriate examinations and complete his indentures to the

satisfaction of the commission. At the present time an apprentice can simply serve his time, but not pass in any trade school examination; his indenture of apprenticeship is regarded as having been completed at the expiration of the period for which it is made.

Clause 9 inserts new sections 19a and 19b in the principal Act. Section 19a enables the commission to require an apprentice, who has failed to reach the required standard after his third year, to attend a technical school outside working hours. A penalty is provided for a contravention of this provision. Apprentices in main country districts where trade schools have been established are now required to attend the trade school where there is an appropriate course conducted. This is similar to the situation in the metropolitan area. However, there are some trades where, because of the small number of apprentices, no classes are conducted for that trade in the school, and the new section 19b will require apprentices in such cases to undertake correspondence courses.

The Government is of the opinion that apprentices who are required to take a correspondence course because they live in country districts, where it is not possible for them to attend a trade school, should be granted four hours time off in working hours each week to permit them to carry on the theoretical or practical work of the correspondence course which they are required to undertake in the first three years of their apprenticeship. Clause 11, which amends section 21 of the principal Act, gives effect to these proposals; again, this will operate from a date to be proclaimed and the date may vary between trades. Provision is also made in this clause to empower the commission to direct an apprentice who has failed to reach the prescribed standard on the completion of his third year of apprenticeship to continue his correspondence course outside working hours, and also to direct an apprentice to whom section 20 applies to attend a technical school or class of instruction at a place away from his place of residence or work, and in such a case the employer shall reimburse the accommodation expenses of the apprentice if he does not himself provide the apprentice with accommodation. Penalties are provided for any contravention of these provisions.

Clause 12, which amends section 22 of the principal Act (and various other clauses in the Bill), increases penalties to amounts recommended by the Apprentices Board some years ago; the present penalties (as low as 5s. in some cases) are unreal in today's conditions.

Clause 13, which amends section 23 of the principal Act is inserted to ensure that when an apprentice works overtime for his employer, any time in that week during which he has attended trade school will be regarded as time worked for the purpose of calculating overtime payments. The conducting of examinations of apprentices either of those who attend technical schools or those who receive tuition by correspondence, is the responsibility of the Education Department, and accordingly clause 14 amends section 25 of the Act by providing that apprentices shall sit for examinations when required by the Superintendent of Technical Schools. Clause 16 amends section 26 of the principal Act and enables the commission to determine the term of any indenture in any particular trade so long as such term does not exceed five years.

By clause 17 a new section 26a is inserted in the principal Act. This will give power to the Apprenticeship Commission to approve of an employer and in future an employer will not be able to employ an apprentice unless the commission has approved of him and is satisfied that his place of employment conforms to standards required by the commission. This was one of the matters which was included in the Bill introduced in 1958, to which I referred earlier, and in the discussions which later took place on the Apprentices Board on this matter and also with representatives of employers organizations, no objection was raised to this proposal by the employers, provided that any employer who was already employing an apprentice was automatically approved. Provision has been made in subsection (2) of this new section 26a that any employer who at present is employing an apprentice will be regarded as being an approved employer. Further, because some employers may have had an apprentice who recently completed his indenture, but have not yet engaged another apprentice to take his place, provision is made that any employer who has since January 1, 1965, employed an apprentice, but who may not have one today, shall also be regarded as being an approved employer.

Clause 18 amends section 27 of the principal Act and requires every indenture of apprenticeship and every transfer of an indenture to be signed within 28 days of the commencement or transfer, as the case may be, of the apprenticeship. There is no such provision at present. This is a defect in the present Act, which was acknowledged by the present Leader of the Opposition in 1962. This clause will

also require copies of every indenture to be lodged with the Chairman of the commission, instead of the Chief Inspector of Factories, and for the Chairman to advise the organizations that nominate members of the commission of the names, etc., of all new apprentices. Further, it provides that the approval of the commission will be required in each case before an indenture can be cancelled. This will enable investigations to be made into the reasons for cancellation and, it is hoped, will reduce the number of indentures that are terminated before the period of apprenticeship has been completed. For some years the number of indentures which have been cancelled have represented approximately 10 per cent of the yearly intake.

The maximum age for apprentices will be increased from 21 to 23 years by clause 19 which accordingly amends section 28 of the principal Act; this again is a matter to which the Leader of the Opposition indicated his assent in 1962. The amendments made by clauses 20, 21, 22, 26 and 27 are consequential on other amendments or increase penalties. The Government proposes that inspectors of the Department of Labour and Industry will be appointed as inspectors under this Act. There is no need for any additional inspectors to be appointed as the inspectors of that department regularly visit places where apprentices are employed. Clause 21 repeals section 30 of the principal Act. This section is no longer necessary, having regard to the new powers conferred on the commission. Clause 23 repeals section 32 of the principal Act for the same reasons. The probationary period for an apprenticeship is reduced from six months to three months by clause 24 which amends section 33 of the principal Act; this is the period prescribed in most awards of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission and is considered a sufficiently long period of probation. Clause 28 makes an amendment to section 38 of the principal Act to simplify prosecution procedures for non-attendance at trade schools.

The Government considers that the proposals contained in this Bill are of vital importance to the State. Although the number of young people who have commenced indentures of apprenticeship in recent years have increased quite remarkably (the intake for the year ended June 30, 1965, was 17 per cent in excess of that for two years previously) the great shortage of tradesmen still continues. With the rapidly increasing industrialization of this State it is essential to our future progress that many more young people who are leaving school should be encouraged to see the advantages that apprenticeships offer and should realize the prospects that they will have when they are trained as tradesmen. With the appointment of an Apprenticeship Commission with a full-time chairman the Government intends that the commission will undertake a vigorous promotional campaign to bring to the notice of young people the advantages that apprenticeships offer. The training of our young people is a matter of concern, and one in which the support and assistance of the trade unions as well as of employers is necessary. For that reason they have been given equal representation on the new Apprenticeship Commission, and the Government anticipates that this support and assistance will be forthcoming.

Mr. COUMBE secured the adjournment of the debate.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND CONTRACTORS LICENSING BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from February 2. Page 3756.)

Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham): I support the principle of the licensing of electricians. I may say that I have supported that principle for a long time. I do so on two main grounds: first, I believe that every occupation or profession is entitled, if it so desires, to raise its status and standards, and I do not believe that that can be done in the case of electricians, without some system of licensing. The second ground has already been mentioned, namely, the safety aspect. Having said I support the principle of licensing electricians, I have said about all I can say in favour of the Bill. I believe that, in any system of licensing, the control exercised by statute should be restricted to control of work done for a fee or reward; I do not believe that people should be debarred from doing their own work, as this Bill would debar them.

On the other hand, if they are prepared to pay for work to be done, then I believe they are entitled to expect that it will be done properly. I am sure that every honourable member agrees that safety is a most important matter, but let me point out to the Minister of Works that if there is too much restriction on those who can do electrical work, then he will surely defeat his object altogether. One of two things will happen: either people will delay the maintenance and repair of appliances in the house, and go on using them, even though they are in an unsafe condition (if it is too

difficult or too expensive for them to get licensed help)—

Mr. Langley: They may kill themselves.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Delaying repairs defeats the object of making things safer in this field. Rather than go to the expense of having work done properly, people will tend to use plug adaptors or "Christmas trees" (as they are known), and that will lead to a danger of overloading circuits or wiring.

Mr. Freebairn: The member for Unley cannot understand that.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I think he could if he tried. I do not think that in the interests of his Party he has tried very hard. Either circuits will be overloaded or people will break the law and continue to do jobs for themselves. I am sure that even the member for Unley will agree that licensing will not of itself cut out poor workmanship, use of defective materials or equipment, or the occasional and much to be regretted case of negligent work being done.

Mr. Langley: It will be a deterrent, won't it?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I don't know that of itself it will even be a deterrent. That depends on what form of licensing we are to have, and unhappily the Bill does not tell us anything at all about that. I have here a comparison between three States, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia (based on population) of fatal accidents caused by electric current between the years 1960 and 1963. The figures are as follows:

State.	Percentage of Population.	Proportion of Deaths. Per cent.
1960—South Australia	9.2	8.3
New South Wales	37.3	40.5
Queensland	14.1	20.2
1961—South Australia	9.3	7
New South Wales	37.3	33.7
Queensland	14.4	14
1962—South Australia	9.3	9.7
New South Wales	37.2	38.9
Queensland	14.3	13.9
1963—South Australia	9.3	9.3
New South Wales	37.1	40.2
Queensland	14.3	17.5

Therefore, the States where there are systems of licensing have an appreciably higher rate of death from this cause than has South Australia. As is obvious from my contingent notice of motion, I will oppose the Bill in its present form. With great respect to the Minister, the Bill has too many deficiencies for it to be amended in Committee. I believe the Bill should be withdrawn and redrafted. I do not blame the Parliamentary Draftsman for one moment for the way the Bill was presented to the House. I suspect that he had an extremely difficult job in getting his instructions because, from looking at the Bill and from what we have heard, there has obviously been a tremendous divergence of opinion concerning policy amongst members of the Labor Party. I am not sure that my motion will succeed because I know that the Government has already brushed off some approaches made to it by bodies and persons interested in the Bill. In his second reading explanation the Minister said (and I think the member for Unley said something about this) that he had the support of the Electrical Contractors Association for the Bill. Of course, that is just not so.

Mr. Langley: It is so; I am a member of it and I know it is so.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: When was it submitted to the association?

Mr. Langley: I have been in contact with the association and it is quite happy.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I shall quote from a letter from the Electrical Contractors Association of South Australia Incorporated, addressed to me and dated October 15, which states:

Re Bill for licensing of electrical personnel. In relation to the Bill presented in Parliament on October 12 dealing with the licensing of electrical workers and electrical contractors the first knowledge of the content of this Bill which came to the Electrical Contractors Association of South Australia Incorporated was per medium of the Premier's weekly speech over television and in subsequent radio news and daily press items. On more than one occasion reference was made to the support of the Government's action from both the employee organization (Electrical Trades Union) and the employer organization (Electrical Contractors Association). In the early stages of the new Government's career—

I suppose that was after March 6 last year—

a strong rumour prevailed to the effect that legislation would be introduced to license electrical personnel in South Australia. My association took steps to make available to those concerned its 30 years' experience of endeavour to have such legislation introduced in South Australia. However, at no time was the association approached by the Government for any such help. At a later stage, when we were informed through a reliable source that investigations were going on not only in this State but in other States, for details concerning such legislation, a representative

of the association contacted certain personnel of the Electricity Trust who we believed were empowered to make such investigations. This was done to ascertain the nature of any such legislation. We were informed that the subject could not be discussed. Our President (Mr. K. A. Rawson) recently approached the Minister of Works (Mr. Hutchens) and informed him of the association's experience in its investigations over the past years, investigations extending into every State of Australia and some oversea countries. He offered to give any assistance required in making any such legislation thoroughly workable and acceptable to all interests. However, this offer was not taken up and the Bill now before the House came as a shock to us. Whilst its content is broadly condoned and supported there are some gross anomalies contained in the draft which are not acceptable to the contracting industry in Australia. It must be stated, however, that one of our members, Mr. Gil Langley, M.P., offered to convey any wishes in regard to licensing to the Government. We felt confident, however, that formal discussions would take place on this subject prior to the final presentation.

Mr. Langley: They had the opportunity.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: That is rather a different interjection from the one the honourable member made before I read the letter—that the association was satisfied.

Mr. Langley: They are satisfied to have it come before Parliament. They are only using you as a puppet.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: They are entitled to get in touch with me as a member of Parliament, I presume. I hope the member for Unley does not resent their doing so. I have been in touch with the association over many years on this matter, long before this Government came into this, and I indicated that I personally approved of a policy of licensing electricians. Let me leave out the detailed points made in this four-page letter and skip now to the final paragraph of the letter, which states:

The Electrical Contractors Association and its members are not only concerned with the content and implication of the proposed legislation but also introduction of legislation compatible with similar Acts throughout the Commonwealth, with the ultimate view in mind to have uniformity and equality of electrical operation throughout the land, and accordingly my executive is willing and anxious to assist in the formulation of good legislation.

Sir, that is an offer which, as set out in the letter, has not been taken up by the Government, even though the name of the association has been used from time to time as one of the bodies supporting the Bill.

The Hon. C. D. Hutchens: They were told the door was open to them.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: It is a very different story now from the one which is set out in that letter and which has been repeated to me from time to time since the middle of October by members of the association. I know that not only has that association been in touch with the Government but the Wireless Institute of Australia has also been in touch with the Government, and I will have something to say about its representations in a few moments. Before we go on to that, may I say that I think this Bill has only two significant clauses—one near the beginning and one near the end. All the other provisions in the Bill are mere surplusage that means very little, if anything at all. The only two clauses that have any significance are clause 2, dealing with definitions, and clause 12, the regulation-making power. The rest need not have been put in the Bill at all, for all the good and all the effect they are going to have.

However, let us deal with the various clauses. There are a few things I want to say, if I may, about the second clause, the clause containing the definitions. The definition of "electrical installation" appears at the bottom of page 1 and goes well down on page 2 of the Bill. This definition, as the Minister knows, is so wide as to include every piece of electrical equipment that one can think of. This term includes every appliance, etc., which is intended or designed or adapted for the purpose of using or consuming, or is used, intended, designed, or adapted for the purpose of carrying or transmitting electricity at an operating voltage in excess of 40 volts. Why 40 volts was included nobody knows, but 40 was the magic number. It is not, I think, of much significance: 32 is the usual low voltage mentioned, and it is certainly the voltage set out in the Standards Association of Australia wiring rules.

Mr. Hall: Many 32-volt lighting plants are supplied by a 40-volt generator.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Maybe that is the reason for it, and I am grateful to the member for Gouger for letting me know. My point is that the definition of "electrical appliance" is so wide as to cover every type and every piece of electrical equipment. It will cover, for example, a transistor radio that is adapted to run off the mains, and it will cover a home lighting set which is usually, I understand, of 32 volts but

which can be made to supply 240 volts alternating current by connecting an inverter. It can cover a piece of flex, however long or however short. It covers spark plugs, which I understand take (if that is the technical term) many thousands of volts. It covers, of course, all sorts of electronic equipment, because electronic equipment (so I am told by those who are expert in the technical aspect of this matter) is electrical equipment with valves or transistors in it, so by definition all electronic equipment is covered in this definition.

Strangely enough (and I have already mentioned 40 volts), there is no mention as to whether this is A.C. or D.C., and that, too, I understand, is something that is of significance. As there is a difference between A.C. and D.C., why has the Minister not put that in here? Mr. Speaker, there are many such points that can be picked up in the definition of this matter. Why the Government, in introducing the Bill, did not stick either exactly or closely to the definition set out in the S.A.A. wiring rules I do not know, but in fact, as I have said, the definition is so wide as to include everything—and, of course, not only everything but wherever it is situated, which of course brings in the motor car electrical system, and so on.

Let us move on to the next significant definition, that of "electrical work". Now, "electrical work" is defined here, but it is defined so as not to include work in relation to the following:

(*a*) the manufacture of any electrical installation or the assembling thereof in the course of or in connection with its manufacture for the purpose of producing a new article; or

(*b*) the oiling, greasing, cleaning or painting of any electrical installation.

First, I ask the Minister what he means by a new article. Does he mean an article made up of new materials, or does he mean an article different in kind from the articles that make it up, something that has been made perhaps from secondhand parts? Which is the correct interpretation of the phrase "a new article"? Is it something brand new, or something different from the articles with which it is made?

Mr. Jennings: Why don't you wait until we get into Committee?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I am giving the Minister a chance to put right any glaring errors before we get to the Committee stage. Let me make another observation on this matter. This definition of "electrical work", because of the exclusion that it contains, means that a private individual who is an enthusiast in these matters could make for himself, for example, a hi-fi gramophone or any sort of electrical equipment. He could make it, but he could then not touch it to service it. Now that, of course, is absolutely absurd, but that is the situation that will obtain under this definition. I have already referred to electronics. Now this is pretty serious. A friend of mine, an engineer in a large electrical manufacturing establishment, tells me that he has under him radio technicians, people who do a part-time course, spread over a number of years, at the Institute of Technology. They are not classed as electricians, and they are not (the member for Semaphore will know this) members of the Electrical Trades Union, but they will be caught by this Bill.

Mr. Hurst: That is a question that cannot be answered or a statement made. You would have to get the names and addresses.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: If that is the only defence of the honourable member, we will pass on. This man tells me it will interfere with the training of apprentices not only in this place but everywhere. He says that apprentices do the simpler repair jobs on equipment in the factory, but this equipment can be plugged into the mains so that under this Bill they cannot do so. How is the training of apprentices to be carried out under the terms of this Bill? This is something not covered by its terms and something which I suggest to the Minister should have been covered before the Bill was introduced. Several people in the electrical engineering department at the university are most perturbed about this Bill because it does not provide for them. What will be the position as to experiments carried out in universities? No doubt the Minister will say that under clause 3 the Governor can exempt anything he likes, and so he can: there is no limit. That is all very well, but I assure the Minister it will lead to a flock of proclamations if this is to be observed to the letter, because there are field stations that move about the State from place to place. How will they be covered? We all know, because we have had approaches made to us, that this Bill, by virtue of the definitions, will cover radio amateurs. The Government has refused to do anything about radio hams, although approaches have been made to it.

Mr. Jennings: I wish we could do something about political hams.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The member for Enfield takes refuge behind his dark glasses, but I hope his ears are open because I want him to listen to this letter, which was addressed to the member for Unley by a Mr. P. M. Williams, who lives in my district. He is connected with the Wireless Institute of Australia. In a letter dated October 13, he states:

Dear Mr. Langley—Bill for Licensing Electrical Workmen—I am writing to ask that in the above Bill you arrange that licensed radio amateurs be exempted from the Act inasmuch as they will be permitted to construct and experiment with their own transmitting and receiving equipment. There are about 500 radio amateurs in South Australia, all of whom have passed a written three-hour examination of quite a high technical standard, and it is considered that the proposed Bill, although not intended to make amateur radio illegal, could do so if specific exemption is not stated. An article in this morning's *Advertiser* refers to the limited provision for television repairmen to work on receiving equipment, and this causes us to ask for similar provisions for radio amateurs. I wish to suggest that the correct machinery would be to make a provision under the Act and not require a special electrical licence, as most amateurs are not interested in house wiring and do not work on radio equipment for monetary gain. Should you consider a licence necessary then it should be issued without charge, as it is necessary already for the amateur to pay an annual fee to the Commonwealth.

A nice constitutional point arises whether it is necessary for a radio amateur already licensed by the Commonwealth Government to take out a licence issued by the State Government. The letter continues:

Amateur radio stations are inspected by Commonwealth radio inspectors from time to time (in fact, these officers have access to the stations at any time) to ensure that the station is being operated in accordance with the Posts and Telegraphs Act and regulations, and special emphasis is placed on the safety of the installation. It would be reassuring if you would write to the Secretary of the Wireless Institute of Australia intimating that the radio amateurs will be unaffected by or specifically exempted from the provisions of the licensing Bill. This would enable the institute to notify all amateurs in its weekly broadcast of news to members on Sunday morning that they will have nothing to fear from the proposed Act, and will make it unnecessary for each amateur to write to his local member, as many propose to do.

What was the result of the approach to the member for Unley? Only oral answer after his mentioning the matter to the Minister who said that the Bill would go through in its existing form.

Mr. Langley: That's not correct.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Maybe the member for Unley can tell us what the answer given was. Certainly, no action was taken to meet any objections stated in that letter.

Mr. Shannon: In other words, there is nothing on the file to show that we shall have an amendment.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Nothing at all, and I point out that about four months has elapsed since the Bill was introduced. In addition, I presume all members received a letter from the Wireless Institute of Australia, following that up. I do not intend to quote the whole of the letter but the following are the three most important paragraphs, because they make better than I could another point that is germane to the debate:

Another matter for concern is the effect of the proposed legislation on many hundreds of people of all ages and in many walks of life who are interested in the construction of and experimenting with equipment such as hi-fi and stereo amplifiers, radio receivers, electronic organs, electrically controlled models, tape recorders, photographic timers, etc. This institute has many associate members who are interested in these matters, and many are studying with the intention of becoming licensed amateur radio operators. In addition, there are many students at the university and high schools constructing and experimenting with radio and electrical equipment.

Mr. Jennings: You've been through that once.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: This is hurting the member for Enfield.

Mr. Jennings: No, it's boring me.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I suppose the honourable member received the same letter. It continues:

It should be pointed out that this is an electronic age with an ever-increasing demand for technicians, and every encouragement should be given to the youth of today to become electronically minded.

This is so; yet the Bill, because of the width of its terms will prevent experimentation. Leaving the definition clause (and there is much more I could say about its unsatisfactory terms), let us look at clauses 4 and 5 of the Bill. The member for Unley spoke on this at some length, and welcomed the establishment of a committee. All I can remember about his speech now is that he said it ought to be a practical committee, whatever a practical

committee is. However, I point out to him that, if he likes to look at clauses 4 and 5 particularly, he will find that this committee is a subordinate body that will have little, if anything, to do at all, because the supreme control in this matter is put in the hands of the Electricity Trust of South Australia. Clause 4 (1) provides that "this Act shall be administered by the trust"; clause 5 provides, "Powers of the trust. Subject to this Act the trust may be . . .", and then it deals with all the things the trust may do with regard to licensing. We do not know what it will do or what its policy will be, because none of these things is contained in the Bill. We do not even in this Bill lay down the principles that should guide the trust in its administration of the Act.

Mr. Hurst: Was there anything in the Electricity Trust Bill your Government introduced that laid this down?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: This Government, when trying to defend some of its own rotten Bills, is trying to draw a red herring across the trail by referring to something done by the previous Government. I do not know why the members of the present Government feel they can be justified in what they do by what was done by the previous Government. Why can't they defend their own legislation in the terms in which it is being introduced into this place?

Let us now go to clause 7 (1) (*a*), which prevents a person from doing work for himself. I believe there should be a prohibition only on doing it for payment or reward. Clause 7 (2), which is the worst subclause of the lot, stops a person (I interpret it literally, and that is how it must be interpreted) plugging in or turning on any appliance. Let me read it:

No person shall, except with the consent of an electricity supply undertaking—

and no method is laid down for the signification of that consent by an electricity supply undertaking; however, it has to be signified—

(a) make any connection with wires or by other means between an electrical installation and a source of electrical energy generated or supplied by that undertaking.

Surely it is elementary that, when a person plugs in an appliance or turns a switch, he is in fact making a connection between an electrical installation and a source of electrical energy because does not the power flow when a circuit is completed? I ask the member for Unley—but he does not know.

Mr. Langley: I am not interjecting; I am not permitted to.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Power flows when a circuit is completed, but this states that one cannot complete a circuit without the consent of an electricity supply undertaking. That is an absurd situation.

Mr. Hurst: You are making only half-statements.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Luckily, this is not all my own work; this is something that has been told me by people who are far more expert in this field than I am, but I defy the member for Semaphore to defend this provision and say that I am wrong in saying that, when one turns a switch, one does not complete a circuit—because one does. I never welcomed the election of the member for Unley to this place but, as this Bill is drafted in this form, it may be good to have him here because he will probably be the only person authorized to turn on these lights.

The Hon. Sir Thomas Playford: Can he turn them off, too?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: No; one does not have to get consent to turn them off. This is an absurdity and I cannot believe that the Minister was aware of it when he introduced the Bill in this form. If a person is to comply with this literally, he has to telephone the Electricity Trust every time he wants to turn a switch.

The Hon. Sir Thomas Playford: Probably this provision was put in by the member for Unley to ensure his stay here.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Perhaps that is the reason for it, but I hope it does not stay in the Bill in its present form. Clause 9 contains exemptions and much of the policy of the Bill. I do not know why it has been done by the Government in the form of a double negative ("it shall not be unlawful" to do these things), but that is how it is worded. I turn now to subclause (2), which is a let-out that allows anyone to replace a lamp or a fuse. We know that the Government fought hard with the Trades Hall to be allowed even to put in this subclause. It would be going too far, even for the Government, to stop people changing fuses. I am certain that the Trades Hall has an interest in this matter:

certainly one union has a guernsey. The excuse given for allowing people to change fuses is that this is not as dangerous as other things, but if a woman (and some men too) liked to put a hairpin across the fuse instead of wire, it would be far more dangerous than many other things.

Subclause (3) allows an officer or an employee of an electricity supply undertaking to perform or carry out personally any electrical work in the course of his employment or duties as such officer or employee, but apparently not otherwise. A neighbour of mine, a very dear friend, is an engineer in the Electricity Trust. He has a workshop, and my own son spends much of his time there messing about with Mr. Tom, as he calls him. Apparently Mr. Tom is not to be allowed to carry on in his workshop doing electrical things to amuse himself and keep his property right up to the minute, yet he will be able to do these things when working for the Electricity Trust. That is absurd.

Mr. Rodda: The Government is very keen on steadying down these Toms?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes. There are several other things that I shall not labour at the moment, but some of them are just as absurd as those I have already referred to. One matter of policy is that the Bill provides for electrical contractors' licences and electrical workers' licences, but if one looks closely (the contractors' association has done this, I point out for the benefit of the member for Unley) very little benefit is to be obtained under the Bill from seeking an electrical contractor's licence at all, as an electrical worker can do nearly everything.

Mr. Langley: Shouldn't he be able to do that? He is licensed for that.

The Hon. Sir Thomas Playford: The contractor may not be a member of the union!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: That is so, but an electrical worker can do practically anything. I should like to say a few words about this committee—this practical committee, as the member for Unley hopes it will be. This is just a farce, because clauses 10 and 11 add up to absolutely nothing. They are quite hollow. Let us look at some of the subclauses. Clause 10 (14) provides:

> The trust shall provide such accommodation, staff and other assistance to the committee as the trust considers necessary.

It is not "as the committee requires" or "as the committee wants": it is what the trust sees fit to give. This is not as bad as clause 11 (1), which provides:

> The functions of the committee shall be—
> (*a*) to exercise any authority, powers, duties or functions delegated to it under this Act;

The only other reference to these functions, etc., is in clause 4 (3), which provides:

> For the purpose of the administration of this Act the trust may delegate any of its authority, powers, duties or functions under this Act to any officer or employee of the trust, or to the committee established under section 10 of this Act.

In any case, that is nullified by clause 11 (3), which provides:

> The trust shall not be bound to accept any advice given or recommendations made by the committee.

Therefore, in fact, there are no powers at all given to this much vaunted committee to be established pursuant to the Bill.

The Hon. Sir Thomas Playford: It had to go into the Bill.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes, as a bit of window dressing. This committee is a farce. Clause 12, the regulation-making provision, is as wide as the world, as can be seen when one looks through the various things on which the Governor may make regulations. In fact, all the Bill does, when it is boiled down, is to give absolute control to the Electricity Trust not only to administer licensing but to lay down policy as well. No guide to policy is laid down in the Bill. This is typical of much legislation we have had this session. It is another case of handing over authority to a body outside Parliament.

Mr. Coumbe: It is Executive control.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes. The Bill ends up with a nasty little clause, clause 13, which reverses the onus of proof. I have not referred to all the matters in the Bill that I think are defective. I have referred only to the most important. The Bill has had a checkered career since it was introduced. It has been on again and off again. When it was put on the bottom of the Notice Paper before Christmas I did not think we would hear any more about it, which would have been the best thing that could have happened for the people of South Australia. However, as it is one of the few Bills the Minister has introduced I suppose he is keen to see what happens to it. It is a bad Bill, not because it

aims at licensing (which I support) but because of the way this will be carried out. The Bill could not possibly work; not only can it not be policed but, because of the way the clauses have been framed, they cannot work. I hope that the House will support my motion. I move:

To strike out all the words after "that" with a view to inserting the following words: the Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to provide for a workable system of licensing.

Mr. BURDON secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.41 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, February 8, at 2 p.m.