

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, August 4, 1966.

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

QUESTIONS

GAS.

Mr. HALL: In this morning's *Advertiser* the Premier is reported as saying that the Government intends to complete the gas pipeline from Gidgealpa-Moomba in time to coincide with the date of the Electricity Trust's initial requirement of natural gas. Can the Premier say whether negotiations for a price satisfactory both to the trust and to the suppliers of gas have been successful?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The straight-out answer is "No", but members are well aware that negotiations are proceeding. Whilst in Canberra in June, I presented a case to the Prime Minister and the Commonwealth Treasurer, but I was told that they required further information. Within a week of my return from that meeting a conference was arranged in my office with representatives of the companies, the trust, the Mines Department and me. It was then agreed that a comprehensive investigation should be made of the important matter of natural gas. Other meetings have been arranged but, since then, another important factor has had to be considered. Tests have proved that Moomba No. 1 has a flow of 5,500,000 cub. ft. a day and Moomba No. 2 a flow of over 8,000,000 cub. ft. a day. Following the feasibility study of known deposits (and known since January, 1964) at Gidgealpa, a similar study was undertaken at Moomba by the present Government. Because of the strike at Moomba Nos. 1 and 2 fields, the project has become further justified. Those strikes have necessitated a further investigation, the report on which is not yet to hand. I do not know when it will be completed. I assure the House that the present situation will make no difference to a grant from the Commonwealth Government. If the Commonwealth Government agrees to South Australia's representations on this important matter, it will not matter one iota whether or not provision is made in the Commonwealth Budget soon to be presented. We shall not have to wait until next year, as the member for Gumeracha has suggested, for the Loan Council to meet and to decide. When the report is to hand, it will be presented as soon

as possible thereafter to the Prime Minister with a view to ascertaining how far the Commonwealth Government will go towards helping this State finance the construction of a gas pipeline to Adelaide.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: My question, like that of the Leader's, arises out of the Premier's telecast last night, which I saw with some interest for the first time. I recollect that it was concerned exclusively with a gas pipeline and, interspersed with shots of the Premier himself, were scenes of people engaged in varying activities, the purport being that these scenes had something to do with the subject matter that the Premier was reading out at the time. One of the scenes was a drawing office, the inference being that those shown in the shot were engaged in the preparation of plans for a pipeline. I was told this morning that, in fact, the shot had nothing whatever to do with gas or a pipeline but that it was taken earlier this week in what is known as H Section (the hospital section) of the Public Buildings Department, on the eleventh floor of the National Mutual Building, and that those shown in the shot were engaged in drawing plans for the Strathmont Mental Hospital, a subject that was not even mentioned by the Premier in his telecast. As this is tantamount to misleading the people of South Australia—

Members interjecting:

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Well, if Government members do not take that seriously—

Mr. Ryan: Question!

Mr. MILLHOUSE:—perhaps they will take the next part seriously. As those shown in the shot very much resent being shown in a false situation, can the Premier say why this shot was included in his telecast and who was responsible for making this part of the film? Will the Premier give an undertaking to the House that he will not again wittingly or unwittingly mislead the people of the State in this way?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Because of the curiosity of the member for Mitcham, I am more than delighted to know that he probably has some under-cover advisers somewhere in the department. I do not know who they would be or what they would represent.

Mr. Millhouse: I hope there won't be a witch hunt, either.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: However, his mention of mental institutions leaves an element of doubt in my mind, because one of the Opposition's complaints is that we are not making sufficient provision for the mentally sick. If at any time I can make available any drawing that indicates the type of work involved in a project of this kind, I am prepared to make it available. I think the people realize that in any well regulated organization there would be the type of drawing of offices or accommodation that would give an idea of what would be involved. On the other hand, if the honourable member has some particular friends who do not desire to appear on television, I recommend that they be not associated with some other telecasts that appear from time to time. I am not sure whether the honourable member is involved in those television

programmes. While I, as Premier, am privileged to accept an invitation of the management of Television Channel ADS 7, I shall continue to do the best I can to advertise South Australia.

BAROSSA BUS SERVICE.

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Premier a report from the Minister of Transport in reply to my question of July 12 concerning the extension of the Barossa Line Coach Service from Seppeltsfield-Greenock to Nuriootpa?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The Minister of Transport took this matter up with the Chairman of the Transport Control Board who stated that Nuriootpa has the benefit of a frequent rail service to and from Adelaide, as follows:

Leave Nuriootpa:				
Monday to Friday	5.32 a.m.	6.55 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	3.56 p.m.
Saturday		6.55 a.m.	8.30 a.m.	5.45 p.m.
Sunday				6.00 p.m.
Leave Adelaide:				
Monday to Friday	8.42 a.m.	4.05 p.m.	5.05 p.m.	5.25 p.m.
Saturday	7.49 a.m.	12.25 p.m.		6.40 p.m.
Sunday				6.13 p.m.

The rail service appears to meet the present transport requirements of the area, and at this stage it is not considered that the operation of a bus service to Nuriootpa could be justified.

COPPER.

Mr. HUGHES: Has the Minister representing the Minister of Mines a reply to my recent question about the Western Mining Corporation situated in and around Moonta?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague reports that the Western Mining Corporation Limited, in association with Broken Hill South Limited and North Broken Hill Limited, is continuing its major copper exploration programme on Yorke Peninsula. Expenditure to date on this programme is about \$780,000, and the diamond drill footage now totals 42,135ft. in 50 drill holes. The exploration programme has covered an area from Port Broughton in the north to Maitland in the south, and eastwards to Ardrossan. The most encouraging results have been obtained in the area between Kadina and Moonta, where several fair copper intersections have been made in drill holes. Follow-up work is proceeding in the vicinity, but it is not yet known whether workable ore-bodies exist in this area.

CEDUNA COURT.

Mr. BOCKELBERG: Last year the Attorney-General agreed with me that the courtroom at Ceduna was of a very poor standard. For some years the Government has been considering combining the courtroom and other offices for Government instrumentalities at Ceduna. Can the Attorney-General say whether anything is being done about this matter and, if it is not, when is something likely to be done?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Plans have been prepared and approved, but when the work can be carried out depends on the availability of Loan funds. As I explained last night, on the lines "Hospital Buildings", "Police and Courthouse Buildings" and "Other Government Buildings", the previous Government by starting certain works had committed this Government to an expenditure for this financial year much larger than it ever undertook in this area. This makes it very difficult for this Government to commence new work. The Ceduna courthouse is next after the Mount Gambier courthouse on the priority list, and I assure the honourable member that as soon as Loan funds are available it will be provided for.

GLENGOWRIE HIGH SCHOOL.

Mr. HUDSON: In the Public Works Committee's report on what was to be called the Oaklands High School but is now to be called the Glengowrie High School it is stated that tenders could be called by the end of 1966 and the contract let in March or April, 1967. The report continues:

In this event the school would not be ready for occupation until the second half of 1968. It is likely, however, that Oaklands High School can be established in February, 1968, and housed for several months in a surplus primary school building near the intersection of Marion and Sturt Roads. This building will be occupied by Bedford Park Teachers College in 1967 but will be available for other uses by February, 1968. Provided that suitable transport can be arranged, this building could house the first-year students of Oaklands High School for most of 1968 with little other expenditure.

As a temporary arrangement such as that mentioned in the report is worth while avoiding, if possible, will the Minister of Education look into the question of planning ahead for this high school to see whether the date for calling tenders can be advanced so that the school can be ready for occupation by the beginning of 1968?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I shall be pleased to examine the matter.

NURIOOTPA COURT.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Because of the lack of sufficient accommodation, justice is being dispensed at the Nuriootpa courthouse under great difficulties. The court is in a room adjoining the local police officer's residence and serves not only as a courtroom but also as a general police office. I think the room is no more than about 12ft. by 13ft., and it is often overcrowded when court cases are heard there. Can the Attorney-General say whether consideration is being or has been given to making proper provision at Nuriootpa for a courthouse and, if so, when tenders are likely to be called for such a courthouse?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will make inquiries but I am not aware of any immediate plans for a courthouse at Nuriootpa. The honourable member is already getting a courthouse at Tanunda, so he is doing reasonably well in these circumstances. It will be ready, I think, in about six weeks' time. There are a number of places in the State where court facilities are used more often than at Nuriootpa and which are in a rather worse position than those at Nuriootpa at the moment. We are endeavouring to establish a list of priorities as quickly as possible to try to alleviate the worst of the

situations. As we have a backlog to catch up, we are trying to do this as quickly as we can. I cannot promise the honourable member at this stage of the proceedings that Nuriootpa looks like being frightfully high on the list.

ELECTRICIANS.

Mr. LANGLEY: Prior to asking a question of the Minister of Works, I seek leave to quote briefly from an article that appeared in the *Advertiser* of Saturday, July 30, concerning a weakness in the licensing of electrical workers and contractors under the Electrical Workers and Contractors Licensing Act:

The Bill made it an offence to cut a piece of flex even though there were no plug, light socket or electrical fitting at either end! It would have been necessary for a motorist to call in an electrician to change a sparkplug! The Bill would have allowed a person to build his own radiogram, but would have forbidden him to repair it!

The Opposition used arguments against this safety and progressive legislation. Can the Minister of Works say whether these items were in the Bill and whether the cutting of flex and the licensing of motor mechanics was ever intended to stop a person building a radiogram?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: I am at a loss to understand the article referred to but I think it is an article written by some political vandal; I do not know. Of course, these points were never the intention of the Bill and were never written into it.

LANGHORNE CREEK BORES.

Mr. McANANEY: In today's newspaper a Langhorne Creek spokesman emphasizes the drop in the water table in the Langhorne Creek district. Last year the Mines Department recommended that no more bores be put in that area for gardening purposes until its investigations were completed. Will the Minister of Lands ascertain from his colleague the Minister of Mines how much progress has been made in these investigations?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes.

MURRAY RIVER SALINITY.

Mr. CURREN: Saline irrigation water has caused much concern to settlers in the Cooltong and Ral Ral Divisions of the Chaffey irrigation area in my district. Various means have been suggested for a short-term method of overcoming the problem, but none of these suggestions has proved practicable. I have mentioned several times in this House that the long-term solution to the salt water problem in this area is to erect a pumping

station to draw water directly from the river for the irrigation settlement. Can the Minister of Irrigation tell the House what investigations have been carried out and what action is contemplated by the department regarding this matter?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As the honourable member said, much concern has been expressed recently in the Upper Murray irrigated areas about the salinity of water, particularly in the Ral Ral and Cooltong Divisions of the Chaffey irrigation settlement because the water in that area is supplied from Ral Ral creek. I previously stated in the House and to the press that I believed short-term solutions to this problem could not be found and that, in fact, no guarantee of success could be given by engineers or other experts. I expressed the view that any effort directed towards this matter should be wholly and solely based on the long-term solution, which is a pumping station and rising mains from the river to serve this irrigation area. With regard to investigations that have taken place, I think that only yesterday I approved funds being made available to the engineer responsible to my department for this matter to carry out preliminary investigations to decide on a site for a pumping station, and to survey a route for the rising mains and pipeline that would lead to the irrigation area. Now that the funds have been made available for the work, I do not expect any great delay before the investigation is commenced.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: I have received an inquiry from a constituent of mine at Cadell about the possible effect of the Chowilla dam, when completed, on the salinity of the Murray River at Cadell. Will the Minister of Irrigation inquire of his department whether it has made any estimate of the likely condition of the river when the Chowilla dam is completed?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be pleased to do what the honourable member has requested. There is a theory—and probably he is aware of this—that, the larger the area from which evaporation takes place, the greater is the rate of evaporation and therefore the greater the deposit of salt left behind, and some people have expressed a fear that, because of the area that the Chowilla dam will cover, this is likely to increase salinity in the Murray River; but this has not been specifically proven. Naturally, it cannot be until the dam is functioning. However, I will have this specific matter looked at, although I am sure that

consideration would already have been given to it. I do know that the Engineer-in-Chief holds an opinion (I think I am correct in saying this) that salinity is due mainly to seepage back into the river from irrigated areas themselves, to a large extent, and that this can be rectified only by flushing out the river from time to time with water released from Lake Victoria. The result of this is to reduce the salinity in the river for a time and stabilize it; but I will take up the matter and see whether I can get a reply.

BARLEY.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: On June 21, I asked the Premier to ask Cabinet to consider guaranteeing the rail freight on barley to enable the Australian Barley Board to increase the first advance payment on barley. Has the Premier a reply?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: As I have no reply to the question, I will endeavour to make some inquiries to ascertain what is the position.

INSURANCE.

Mr. McKEE: A constituent of mine tells me that he bought a motor car under a hire-purchase contract over three years. In the first year he took out insurance to cover the sum owing on the vehicle, which practice he followed for the succeeding years, according to the sum owing on the vehicle. When he had an accident he found he was not fully covered, because, as I understand it, the insurance companies pay out only on the value of the car at the time of the accident. I am informed that most people who buy cars in this way are instructed by hire-purchase companies to take out a certain amount of insurance to cover them in the event of an accident. My constituent is concerned, as are most people, to find that insurance companies will accept premiums for any sums, but that in the event of an accident people find they are not protected. As this seems strange, will the Attorney-General comment on the matter and, if I give him the information I have, will he have the matter investigated?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I should be grateful for the information from the honourable member. Complaints of this kind have been forwarded in some cases previously, and they concern two matters which the Government is considering at the moment. The first is the creation of a Government insurance office which, in giving satisfactory policies, will compete in an area where decidedly unsatisfactory

practices are occasionally attendant upon the business transactions of people with those insurance houses. Also the University of Adelaide is conducting a research project into the whole area of credit sales and ancillary contracts to credit sales. As Professor Rogerson, who is directing this project, has asked for details of unsatisfactory practices in relation to credit sales transactions, I shall be pleased to forward this complaint to him.

Mrs. STEELE: I understand that the Premier has a reply to a question I asked on July 13 last about stamp duties on annual insurance premiums and the imposition of fire brigade charges by underwriters.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I have the following report:

The Fire Brigades Act provides that the cost of establishing and maintaining fire brigades within the area covered by the Act shall be borne as follows: two-ninths by the Government, subject to a variable limit which last year would have required a contribution of approximately \$30,000. Of the remainder, five-sevenths is payable by insurance companies engaged in fire insurance business and two-sevenths by local government authorities in the areas to which the Act applies. In fact, application of the formula limiting the Government contribution would give a result well below two-ninths of the total requirement of the Fire Brigades Board and for a number of years the contributions have been determined at: 16 per cent by the Government, 60 per cent by insurance companies, and 24 per cent by local authorities.

For last year the 16 per cent payable by the Government amounted to just under \$200,000, or more than six times its statutory obligation. The additional amount over that required by the Act is voted in the Estimates. There is no Governmental control at present on rates of insurance premiums, other than motor vehicle third party insurance premiums. Companies may, therefore, without any authority from the Government, increase premium rates generally to cover their commitments, or increase rates by prescribing additional premiums as surcharges to meet any particular cost.

The final question asked by the member for Burnside deals with the validity of insurance companies showing, as an addition to the premium, an amount to cover stamp duty. All insurance companies pay an annual licence fee in the form of a stamp duty calculated on net premiums received. They may recover these costs by inclusion of an appropriate amount in the premiums charged, without itemizing the elements making up the premium, as was the case in past years, or they may show this cost recovery as an addition, as in the practice now adopted, and as has been the practice in other States for some years. The policy of insurance is not subject to stamp duty. It is specifically exempted by exemption No. 4 under "Agreement" in the Second Schedule of the Stamp Duties Act.

RAILWAYS PUBLIC RELATIONS.

Mrs. STEELE: Has the Premier an answer to my question of July 7 about the appointment of a public relations officer for the South Australian Railways Department?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: It is the aim of the Minister of Transport and the South Australian Railways that relations between the general public and the Railways Department should be harmonious and that the services which the department can provide should be continually brought under the notice of the public. Contacts between the department and both the travelling public and shippers take place daily in many places and at many levels within the railway service, and public relations are established and maintained through these contacts. The Minister and the Commissioner are concerned that these contacts shall always be effective in nature to promote the departmental aim. Officers and employees concerned represent the front line of public relations activities, and the appointment of a public relations officer could only support the effort expended in that direction. Inquiries have been conducted for some time into the need for the appointment of a public relations officer for the South Australian Railways Department and if these inquiries show that such an appointment will contribute substantially to the benefit of the railway service, it is the intention of the Minister and the Commissioner that such an appointment will be made.

MOUNT GAMBIER HOSPITAL.

Mr. BURDON: Has the Premier an answer to my question of July 21 about the provision of a geriatric centre at Mount Gambier Hospital?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The Secretary of the Boandik Lodge has been informed that the Government regrets that no funds can be made available for this project until 1967-68.

PORT LINCOLN SCHOOL.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Can the Minister of Education say what action has been taken with relation to the acquisition of a suitable site for a third primary school at Port Lincoln?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The Education Department has been trying for some time to find a suitable site for a third primary school at Port Lincoln. Early this year, a site inspection by the Public Buildings Department revealed that a most suitable area had been

transferred recently from the South Australian Housing Trust to a private person. Subsequently approval was given to negotiate for this 10-acre site from the new owner. A valuation is at present being obtained from the Land Board and is expected to be received by the Education Department this week. Further negotiations will then be opened for purchase of the land.

CADELL PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Has the Minister of Works an answer to my recent question about work to be done at the Cadell Primary School?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: I have obtained the following information from the Director, Public Buildings Department:

It is assumed that the proposed work referred to by the honourable member is for paving and fencing which has been requested at the Cadell Primary School. This is the only work currently referred to this department for attention. Because of the large number of requests for similar work at other schools, and having regard to the availability of funds, it will not be possible for the department to undertake all the work required. In these circumstances, a careful review is being undertaken of all current requests and future commitments. These matters and the priorities to be allotted to various works will be discussed with the Education Department. The commencement of the work at Cadell is subject to such review and the availability of funds, and it is not possible at present to indicate when this work will commence.

BLUE LAKE EXPRESS.

Mr. RODDA: The matter of sleeping accommodation on the Blue Lake Express that travels to the South-East has been raised in the House many times. I do not wish to seem uncharitable in drawing the House's attention to this matter, because this train, as old as it may be, has provided a good service to the people of this State. Although I understand that it is planned to construct new sleeping cars for use on the train in the future, last year the Minister of Transport made corridor cars available for sitting-up passengers which was appreciated. However, as a falling-off seems to have occurred in people using the train's sleeping accommodation, will the Premier take up with the Minister of Transport the possibility of transferring more modern sleeping accommodation to the train before the new sleeping cars are available?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I shall take up the matter with the Minister of Transport.

GILES POINT.

Mr. FERGUSON: During the Address in Reply debate I said that the erection of a terminal silo at Giles Point before bulk handling facilities were completed would be of little use to producers. This applied, of course, only to harbour facilities. Does the Minister of Marine consider that the early erection of the terminal silo at Giles Point would create an incentive for the Government to provide Loan money to commence constructing bulk loading facilities as soon as possible?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: As I have previously said, Giles Point has been gazetted as a terminal port. I believe the building of the silos would clinch the deal, as the people there concerned with bulk handling would desire port facilities at the earliest possible date. The erection of the silos would considerably help my department to get the necessary Loan money when it was available to commence the work. I am pleased to say that I have had discussions with representatives of the Harbors Board who, fully appreciating the urgency of the matter, will undertake to do the work as soon as possible. I am sure the board would be delighted to see the silos going ahead.

The SPEAKER: I draw the attention of honourable members to the fact that questions seeking expressions of opinion are listed as inadmissible.

METROPOLITAN DRAINAGE.

Mr. COUMBE: The Minister of Lands may recall that earlier this year I asked a question about a proposal to establish a metropolitan drainage authority, in reply to which he said that the Government was considering introducing legislation. Will the Minister ascertain from the Minister of Roads when such legislation is likely to be introduced?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall contact my colleague on this matter and try to ascertain approximately when the legislation will be introduced.

TORRENS WEIRS.

Mr. CASEY: For some years now, travelling by rail north of the city, I have noticed just outside the Adelaide railway station an area between the Torrens weir and the Hindmarsh bridge that would admirably lend itself to storing water. I think that much water could be stored in this area if a weir were constructed near the Hindmarsh bridge. The Adelaide City Council, having beautified much

of the area, uses water from the Torrens River on surrounding gardens and on the Adelaide Oval.

Mr. Quirke: And on the Botanic Garden.

Mr. CASEY: Yes. I believe that, as South Australia has water problems, the conservation of water in this area would be of infinite value not only to the Government but also to the Adelaide City Council. Will the Minister of Works therefore investigate this matter and ascertain whether recommendations by his department could not be made, either to the Government or to the city council, with a view to constructing a weir near the Hindmarsh bridge to conserve much water that is at present wasted?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The area concerned comes under the jurisdiction of the Adelaide City Council. The council has constructed two weirs between the Torrens lake and the Hindmarsh bridge. In my most recent conversation with the City Engineer I was told that water is pumped from various parts of the Torrens River (including water at the weirs) for the entire northern, western and southern park lands. The engineer has assured me that the council has ample water from these catchment areas for all the water required during the summer months. I agree with the honourable member that it is necessary to conserve all the water we can, but I point out that water from the area concerned would be available only to the Adelaide City Council, and that, while the council has sufficient water to meet its present requirements, it is hardly likely that it would spend much money on a scheme to conserve water that it might not use.

WANILLA-EDILLILIE WATER SUPPLY.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Has the Minister of Works further information regarding the Wanilla-Edillilie water supply about which I asked last week?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The Director and Engineer-in-Chief will soon be submitting his report on the scheme, which has been prepared to supply water to the soldier settlement area at Wanilla, but, as mentioned previously, the scheme will require reference to and investigation by the Public Works Committee. Subject to a favourable report by the Committee and subsequent approval by Cabinet, the project has been tentatively included in the department's five-year Loan works programme for commencement in the 1968-69 financial year. This is the scheme

about which Brigadier Eastick asked for a report, and in which much interest has been shown by the honourable member and the department.

HOLDEN HILL SEWERAGE.

Mrs. BYRNE: Certain streets have been excluded from the approved scheme to sewer an area at Holden Hill, bounded by Valiant, Lyons and Grand Junction Roads and the Hope Valley Reservoir, which is expected to be sewered by November or December this year. Can the Minister of Works say why certain streets have been excluded from the scheme and will he consider their inclusion in the scheme already approved?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The Director and Engineer-in-Chief reports:

Graham Avenue, Malcolm Avenue, portion of The Parade and portion of Southern Terrace were not included in the original scheme because there was insufficient development in the area. This still applies to Graham Avenue and the part of The Parade between Graham Avenue and The Parkway. The section of The Parade between Graham Avenue and Malcolm Avenue drains to Southern Terrace, through a future South Australian Housing Trust subdivision on section 2058 to Lyons Road. This also will be considered when sufficient development has taken place, including building on the Housing Trust subdivision. The proposed freeway also complicates this area at this stage.

Regarding Waninga Drive, Karinga Avenue and Cornish Terrace, this north-eastern corner of the area cannot be drained back to the Valiant Road or Lyons Road systems and must be taken to the north to Grand Junction Road. Because of undeveloped land, this is again uneconomical.

ABORIGINAL OFFENCES.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: On July 26, the Attorney-General answered questions concerning offences committed by Aborigines in the Far North Police Division (I think it is No. 17.) My last question to him related to the details of the total offences, which is the term he used, committed by Aborigines. He had merely given particulars of offences in which liquor was involved and total offences. The Minister undertook to have this information by last Tuesday and I presume he has it now. Can he give the details of the offences committed?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It may take a little time for me to give this analysis to the House and I shall do my best not to weary members. The information regarding Oodnadatta is as follows:

CHARGE.	MONTH.							
	Nov., 1965.	Dec., 1965.	Jan., 1966.	Feb., 1966.	March, 1966.	April, 1966.	May, 1966.	June, 1966.
Drunkenness	11	15	13	11	7	13	24	4
Assault	2	3	2	3	1	—	—	2
Unlawfully on premises	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Disorderly behaviour	8	7	5	7	—	2	11	4
Indecent language	1	1	1	1	2	—	—	—
Unlawful possession	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Wilful damage	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive language	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fighting	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—

In November, 22 Aborigines, including nine women, committed 26 offences. On the matter of whether there were multiple offences in one complaint the analysis shows:

Month.	Number of Aborigines.	Number of women included.	Offences committed.
November, 1965	22	9	26
December, 1965	22	8	28
January, 1966	19	9	22
February, 1966	20	12	22
March, 1966	12	3	14
April, 1966	13	5	16
May, 1966	33	8	35
June, 1966	10	3	10

The honourable member will see that there were few cases of multiple counts. The following is the information regarding Port Augusta:

MONTH	CHARGE.
May, 1964	1 maintenance, 1 murder.
June, 1964	2 carnal knowledge, 1 failing to give account, 1 fraud other than false pretences.
August, 1964	1 assault and robbery, 1 receiving, 1 failing to obey orders of Superintendent.
November, 1964	1 breach of Education Act.
December, 1964	1 no licence.
January, 1965	1 escaping legal custody, 1 interfering with motor vehicle, 1 receiving.
February, 1965	1 indecent assault.
April, 1965	1 urinating in a public place.
May, 1965	1 driving without due care, 1 no driver's licence, 1 permitting unlicensed driver to drive, 1 false pretences.
June, 1965	1 no driver's licence, 1 indecent behaviour, 5 gambling on reserve.
July, 1965	1 breach of bond.
August, 1965	1 urinating in public place, 1 neglected child.
September, 1965	1 mental defective, 1 driving without licence, 1 failing to answer questions.
October, 1965	1 false name, 3 begging alms, 1 failing to notify change of address, 1 no driver's licence, 1 exploding fireworks.
November, 1965	1 no licence.
December, 1965	2 failing to send child to school, 1 fighting in public place, 1 interfering with motor vehicle, 1 no driver's licence, 1 driving without due care, 1 false name.
January, 1966	1 begging alms, 2 carnal knowledge, 1 mental defective, 1 undue noise.
February, 1966	1 mental defective, 1 neglected child, 2 shop-breaking with intent, 1 indecent behaviour.
March, 1966	2 no driver's licence, 1 permit no licence, 1 manner dangerous, 2 undue noise, 1 driving contrary to defect notice.
April, 1966	1 mental defective, 1 speed limit, 1 discharging firearm to injure, frighten or annoy, 1 offensive language.
May, 1966	1 no driver's licence.
June, 1966	1 offensive language.

The information regarding Ceduna is as follows:

Month.	Charge.
November, 1964	1 driving under influence, 1 absent from work.
January, 1965	2 absent from work.

These are breaches of reserve regulations. The table continues:

March, 1965	1 escape custody, 1 loitering, 1 offensive behaviour.
April, 1965	1 refusing to work, 1 absent from work.
May, 1965	1 one headlight, 1 no brakes.
September, 1965	1 murder.
November, 1965	1 fail to maintain, 1 interfere with motor vehicle, 1 unlawfully wear R.S.L. badge, 1 assault police, 2 solicit for prostitution, 1 offensive behaviour.
December, 1965	1 mental defective.
January, 1966	1 give false name, 1 discharge firearm to injure, frighten or annoy.
February, 1966	1 neglected child, 1 hinder police, 1 interfere with motor vehicle.
March, 1966	1 offensive behaviour, 1 escape legal custody, 1 assault police, 1 urinate in public place.
April, 1966	1 motor vehicle offence, 2 forge and utter.
May, 1966	1 beg alms, 2 escape legal custody, 2 assault police.
June, 1966	3 motor vehicle offences.

COURT REPORTING.

Mr. HUDSON: I understand that during the recent Trig Beach murder trial the proceedings were taken down by shorthand reporters. The August issue of *Public Service* had this to say about the comments of Justice Roma Mitchell:

Her Honour declared: "At this stage I would like to say—and I am sure all counsel will join with me in saying it—that we are very grateful to Mr. Peterson who, under the direction of the Master, has made provision for shorthand writers to take this evidence. For many years we have had typists taking evidence in this court and it has been very efficient—because we have been fortunate in having an efficient set of stenographers—but it has become like the horse and buggy days in a long trial. I have made an estimate and you may be relieved to hear that I think we have saved about three days so far, through having this evidence taken in shorthand rather than on a type-writer."

Will the Attorney-General say whether the procedure adopted in this particular case was a trial procedure or whether it was a forerunner to an overall change from typists to shorthand reporters?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Special arrangements were made for this particular case because of its nature, length and complexity. Last year an inter-departmental committee was established to examine matters relating to the training of shorthand writers and stenographers for the court, the Government Reporting Department and other departments that want to make records, and to examine various differing proposals for taking

evidence in the courts. It has been very difficult to recruit sufficient people able to do the stenographic work of the court. The committee has recommended that courses be established in machine shorthand. The difficulty of individual shorthand lies in the fact that usually only the person taking the shorthand notes can transcribe the shorthand, whereas with machine shorthand it is quite possible for one person to take the matter down and for somebody else to transcribe it. It is hoped that eventually the courts will be staffed by people trained in machine shorthand. At the moment, the question of providing machines and courses of training is in the hands of the Public Service Commissioner, and it has been referred to the Education Department to see how courses may be set up.

PARADISE SEWERAGE.

Mrs. STEELE: An item and a picture in this afternoon's issue of the *News* show the plight of people whose houses, because they are without sewer connections, are crumbling away in the Paradise district, where plans to sewer the area have been continually deferred. The Town Clerk of Campbelltown has today advised me of the receipt of a letter from the Minister of Works in which the Minister advises that construction of this scheme will commence early in 1967-68 and that actual sewer reticulation, as distinct from the main trunk sewer, will commence in 1967-68. The

Minister goes on to say that it is the department's intention to commence construction work in August, 1967, and to continue the work at a maximum rate consistent with the funds available.

The words "early in 1967-68" did not appear in previous correspondence, and the council was pleased that the Minister had at last tied down the commencement of this scheme to August, 1967. However, there is some doubt in my mind, and in the minds of the Campbelltown Council and the residents concerned, about the district to which this actually refers. It is known that before the area lying between Gorge Road and the Torrens River (the area highlighted in this afternoon's paper) can be sewered, sewerage projects in the district represented by the member for Enfield must be initiated. Will the Minister of Works therefore ask the Director and Engineer-in-Chief for a detailed programme of the works so that all concerned may be fully informed on this matter?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: I shall be prepared to do that and, if it pleases the honourable member, to arrange for her to go to the department to look at the plans. I do not promise to print and send out plans (I think the honourable member would appreciate the difficulty this would cause us) but if she desires I shall make arrangements so that she can be shown exactly on the map where the work is to be done. She will then be able to report to her constituents. In addition, I shall obtain a full report and give it in the House when the honourable member desires it.

PENSIONERS.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Premier a reply to my question of July 28 about country pensioners who travel long distances to Adelaide to obtain spectacles and dentures?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Pensioners who receive Commonwealth social service benefits are at all times permitted rail travel at about half rate, whatever the purpose of their travel. Those travelling to the nearest hospital capable of giving them appropriate treatment can in many circumstances obtain refunds of fares paid. However, these latter arrangements for refunds do not extend to travel for purposes of securing spectacles and dentures, and at the present time it does not appear practicable to recommend the extension sought, beyond the availability of half fares by rail.

FERTILIZERS.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Will the Minister of Lands inquire of the Minister of Agriculture about the tests the Agriculture Department has made on the use of ammonium base fertilizers on wine grape vines, on whether any results have been obtained from their use, and on what the department's recommendations are regarding the use of these fertilizers on wine grapes?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes.

YORKE PENINSULA WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. FERGUSON: Last week I asked the Minister of Works a question about a water supply from the Carribie Basin on the southern portion of Yorke Peninsula and he gave a report concerning investigations into the basin. I then asked him if the basin was suitable for development, and he said he would obtain a report. Has he now obtained that report?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Following the honourable member's further question on this matter, I obtained the following report from the Director and Engineer-in-Chief to supplement the information supplied by the Minister of Mines:

From the statement given by the Minister of Mines, it is apparent that the Carribie Basin will be suitable for limited development, and that a small area in southern Yorke Peninsula could be supplied from this basin. As soon as the report is received from the Mines Department an investigation will be made and a scheme prepared for the development of the Carribie Basin.

LYNDOCH PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Mrs. BYRNE: Following a visit to the Lyndoch Primary School last December, I wrote to the Minister of Education asking the Education Department to consider replacing three existing heating units in three classrooms which were ineffective and smoked, by gas, electric or oil fires. On March 31 this year, the Minister advised me that, subject to funds being approved, arrangements would be made to install new heaters. Can the Minister inform me whether this work has been undertaken?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I will make the necessary inquiries and report back to the honourable member.

SEMI-TRAILERS.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: My question concerns the driving of semi-trailers. My attention has been drawn by a medical practitioner to the danger to drivers of semi-trailers when the cabin of their vehicle is invaded by fumes from the engine. As it is a danger to them, it will

also be a danger to other road users. Will the Premier ask his colleague, the Minister of Transport, whether this matter has been considered by the Government and, if so, whether it is proposed to take any action to make certain that fumes are not able to invade the cabins of semi-trailers?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I will take up the matter with my colleague the Minister of Transport.

MINI MOKE.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Has the Premier a reply to a question I asked on July 28 about classifying the Mini Moke as a commercial vehicle for the purposes of registration and sales tax exemption?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Yes; I have a reply, and with it an interesting picture gallery. Had I known beforehand that the gallery was so nice, I would have included it last night on another matter. The Registrar of Motor Vehicles reports:

The Motor Vehicles Act describes a commercial motor vehicle as a vehicle constructed or adapted solely or mainly for the carriage of goods. In my opinion, the Mini Moke does not fit this description. This view is confirmed by the manufacturer's claim that it is an all-purpose vehicle, and not for a particular purpose as has been suggested. It is true that in many cases owners use the vehicle for carriage of goods as well as persons, but this also applies to other vehicles such as station waggons, which are not classed as commercial vehicles.

If the Moke were classed as a commercial vehicle, the higher registration fee would no doubt cause complaints from non-primary producers. The manufacturer classes it as a suitable vehicle for the sportsman and private owner, as well as for those engaged in commerce and industry. Many are being sold to people in urban areas. Overseas, the Moke is manufactured with rear seats, making it clearly a passenger vehicle, and I do not think the mere removal of the rear seats by the Australian company prior to the sale makes it a commercial vehicle. I would mention that if the Moke were registered as a commercial vehicle the saving to the primary producer would be \$5 per annum, whereas all other owners would have to pay \$1 extra.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: On July 19 I asked the Premier a question about the pay of members of the Public Service when on continuous Citizen Military Forces duty, the purport of the question being that their civilian pay should be given to them, as well as their army pay, during that period. The Premier said that he would obtain further information and let me know. He has not, in fact, let me know. As over a fortnight has elapsed since I asked

the question, I am wondering whether he is extending to me the usual courtesy of letting me know when he has a reply. Can the Premier say whether he has an answer, and, if perchance he has not, whether he will expedite the matter and have a reply for me early next week?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The answer is "No". Because this question, like all other questions of the honourable member, is most urgent, I will do the best I can.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBS DRAINAGE.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH (Premier and Treasurer): I ask leave to make a statement concerning the south-western suburbs drainage scheme.

Leave granted.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: Last week, I think, I gave information about this important matter. Subsequently, I consulted the honourable member for Onkaparinga (Mr. Shannon), Chairman of the Public Works Committee, and obtained a report from him. I obtained this report so that there will not be misapprehension or misrepresentation on this matter. The honourable member, in his capacity as Chairman of that committee, reports:

Out of moneys provided by Parliament and pursuant to the South-Western Suburbs Drainage Act, 1959, the Minister of Local Government is empowered to carry out works for the prevention and control of flooding in the south-western suburbs of the metropolitan area. A scheme was formulated and the Public Works Standing Committee recommended a section entitled "Stage 1" to be completed over a period of eight years and comprising:

Drainage works	\$3,677,200
River Sturt works	\$640,000
Total	\$4,317,200

The Government was to be responsible for half the cost and the municipal and district councils within the area of the scheme were to be responsible for the other half in agreed proportions. When the committee recommended Stage 1 it pointed out that it was realized that as the scheme progressed some amendments of the design would almost certainly be necessary and the constructing authority would then have the opportunity of taking into consideration the suggestions submitted by the local governing bodies. At March 31, 1966, the Government had expended about \$2,500,000 including \$465,000 for the first nine months of the last financial year. A large proportion of the recommended scheme had been completed, but as a result of further intensive investigation during recent years, it has become necessary to plan for a higher rate of flow of water.

In providing adequate facilities, but at a reasonable cost, the designing engineers have been faced with several complex problems—the major difficulty in the Sturt River is caused by flash floods rather than by sustained run-off; the maximum flow into the Patawalonga is anticipated at 9,000 cusecs but the existing lock structure is designed for 6,000 cusecs; further difficulties arise from high tides and westerly winds and the capacity of the Patawalonga basin. However, departmental officers consider the problems can be resolved.

In February, 1966, the West Torrens corporation made substantial alternative suggestions, but pleaded insufficient staff to make necessary calculations. The committee considered these proposals should be thoroughly investigated, and they were referred to the Assistant Design Engineer in the Highways and Local Government Department.

The committee also co-opted the assistance of the Engineer for Irrigation and Drainage to advise on the basis of apportionment of costs of the Sturt River works, because they were estimated to be such a large proportion of the overall cost. The Sturt River works in the original Stage 1 recommended by the committee were estimated to cost 14.8 per cent of the total cost whereas the new proposals for the Sturt River are estimated to cost 47.5 per cent of the total. Changes of such magnitude could conceivably alter the basis of apportionment of costs. Even with the use of computers, it must be realized that the problems involved have absorbed much time in carrying out the necessary calculations. Last month, departmental officers gave evidence to the committee and this week will be tendering further evidence on the possibility of a separate ponding basin as additional protection for land concerned in the West Torrens corporation area.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORTS.

The SPEAKER laid on the table the following reports by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence:

Agincourt Bore Area School,
Port Lincoln Tuna Berth,
Department of Chemistry and Medico-
Legal Institute Building.

Ordered that reports be printed.

LOTTERY AND GAMING 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 Lottery and Gaming Act, 1936-1966, so as to provide for off-course betting by means of totalizators and the payment of stamp duty on the takings of such totalizators, 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. FRANK WALSH: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Its main purpose is to give effect to the resolution passed in the House of Assembly on October 20, 1965, that a Bill should be introduced by the Government to make provision for off-course betting on totalizators similar to the scheme in operation in Victoria. Following this resolution the Government conducted a comprehensive investigation into the schemes and operation of off-course totalizator betting in Victoria and other States and the feasibility of adopting a scheme of off-course totalizator betting in South Australia. After carefully weighing all the relevant factors, the Government is of the opinion that the scheme of off-course betting on totalizators in operation in Victoria could be suitably adapted for use in South Australia and that this Bill, which is substantially based on that scheme, provides the fairest and most practical scheme for adoption in this State. The scheme envisaged by this Bill includes a number of associated matters, provision for which is essential to ensure the successful operation of off-course totalizator betting in this State.

Clauses 1 to 4 need no explanation. Clause 5 amends section 4 of the principal Act, which contains the definitions necessary for the purposes of the Act. The clause adds the following new definitions:

“the Fund”, which is an account to be established in the Treasury which shall be earmarked for the purposes of public hospitals as defined in new section 31s; and

“the Totalizator Agency Board”, which is to be constituted under new Part IIIa as enacted by clause 8.

I draw particular attention to paragraph (c) of this clause, which widens the definition of “totalizator” to include a totalizator pool scheme conducted by the Totalizator Agency Board to be established under the new Part IIIa.

Clause 6 repeals and re-enacts section 28 of the principal Act, which deals with the mode of dealing with moneys paid into a totalizator used by a club. Under the existing section every club using a totalizator is required to deduct 12½ per cent of the moneys paid into the totalizator in respect of each race and pay out the balance by way of dividends, but it shall not be necessary to include in any such payment any fraction of 5c in respect of each unit of 50c comprised in any totalizator ticket. The section goes on to provide that the club

holding the amount of such unpaid fractions on any day may use the same on that day to increase any dividend that is less than the amount staked to an amount not exceeding the amount staked, and any balance of such unpaid fractions must be paid by the club to charitable purposes. The section also provides that of the 12½ per cent deducted by the club it must pay stamp duty charged under the Stamp Duties Act in respect of totalizator takings, and the balance of the 12½ per cent may be retained by the club for its use and benefit.

The section, as re-enacted by clause 6, provides that the provisions of the existing section will apply until the appointed day (which will be the day on which off-course totalizator betting commences). From the appointed day, however, each club using a totalizator shall deduct 14 per cent of the moneys invested on the totalizator (otherwise than through the agency of the Totalizator Agency Board), and the balance is to be used for the payment of dividends excluding fractions of 5c. After careful consideration it has been decided that in order to ensure the successful operation of off-course totalizator betting it would be essential to make the deduction of 14 per cent from all investments on the totalizator, both on-course and off-course. In New South Wales and Victoria the deduction is 12½ per cent; in Queensland it is 13½ per cent for the metropolitan area and 15 per cent elsewhere; whilst in Western Australia it is 15 per cent.

The new section then provides that the amount derived by reason of the non-payment of fractions after the appointed day is to be paid into a Dividends Adjustment Account, which shall be established and maintained in the Treasury. This account will be utilized for guaranteeing the repayment to a bettor of the amount of his stake where the ordinary dividend will amount to less than the amount staked, except in the case of dead heats when the ordinary dividend will be declared and paid. Any surplus moneys in the Dividends Adjustment Account will be paid into the fund and earmarked for public hospitals. It is expected that the operation of the Dividends Adjustment Account will permit a more simplified and practical arrangement from that at present operating, to guarantee a winning return at least equal to the stake.

Of the 14 per cent deducted by a club under this new section the club is required to pay necessary stamp duty, and the balance of the 14 per cent shall be applied by the club as follows:

- (a) Where the balance represents any part of the 14 per cent which is deducted by a club from moneys invested on the totalizator in respect of any race conducted by the club before the expiration of three years after the appointed day, the club may retain it for its use and benefit.
- (b) Where the balance represents any part of the 14 per cent which is deducted by a club from moneys invested on the totalizator in respect of any race conducted by the club on or after the expiration of three years after the appointed day, the club shall pay into the fund an amount equal to 1¼ per cent of the moneys invested in respect of that race on the totalizator at the racecourse, and the remainder of that balance may be retained by the club for its use and benefit.

The Government has taken the firm view that, apart from any temporary arrangement which may be appropriate whilst the new scheme is being developed, the additional 1¼ per cent deduction from on-course totalizator pools beyond the 12½ per cent deduction under the Act as now in force should be used for the benefit of hospitals and not be permanently available to the clubs.

However, it is recognized that during the earlier stages the clubs' net additional revenues from off-course totalizators will be rather lower than could be expected later and, moreover, that it is desirable that the clubs undertake special expenditures upon on-course totalizator installations, facilities and information services in order to give considerably improved service to the public. Accordingly, it has been decided to provide that the extra 1¼ per cent may be retained by the clubs for a period of three years. However, the retention of this proportion for that period should, it is considered, be understood to be conditional upon the clubs carrying out the requisite improvements to totalizator facilities on their courses. Clause 7 makes a consequential amendment to section 29 of the principal Act arising from the provisions of subsection (9) of new section 28, as re-enacted by clause 6. Clause 8 enacts a new Part IIIA, consisting of new sections 31a to 31v, which deals with off-course betting on totalizators. New section 31a contains the definitions appropriate to the new Part.

New section 31b provides for the establishment of the South Australian Totalizator Agency Board as a body corporate with the

usual powers of such a body. The board is to consist of eight members appointed by the Governor, of whom the Chairman will be appointed on the recommendation of the Minister, and the other members on the nomination of various racing and trotting organizations in the State. Under subsection (5) of this section the Minister is required to consult with such bodies representing racing and trotting interests as he thinks fit before making a recommendation for the appointment of the Chairman. Under subsection (6) the nominee of the Country Trotting Clubs Association must reside more than 20 miles from the General Post Office. Under subsections (7) and (8) one nominee of the Country Racing Clubs Association must reside north of and more than 30 miles from the General Post Office, while the other nominee of that association must reside south of and more than 30 miles from the General Post Office. Provision has been made in subsection (10) for the appointment of a deputy to act for a member who is unable to attend to the business of the board for any period of or exceeding three months.

New section 31c deals with the tenure of office of members. Provision has been made for the first eight members to hold office until August 31, 1970, but all other appointments will be for a term of three years. New section 31d provides that the Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the board at which he is present but in the absence of the Chairman and the Chairman's deputy from a meeting the members present at the meeting may elect a chairman for that meeting. The section also provides that five members constitute a quorum and at any meeting of the board the decision of the majority of the members present shall be the decision of the board and the Chairman shall have a deliberative vote and, in case of an equality of votes, a casting vote as well. New section 31e deals with the common seal of the board; new section 31f provides that the members shall be entitled to receive remuneration and allowances from the funds of the board at such rates as are fixed by the board with the approval of the Minister. New section 31g requires the board, not later than September 30 in each year, to furnish the Minister with a report on its operations during the year ending on June 30 of that year. The board must also keep full and proper accounts of all its financial transactions and have its accounts audited annually by an auditor approved by the Treasurer. The Minister is required to table before Parliament each annual report of the board.

New section 31h empowers the board to appoint such officers, employees and agents as it thinks fit, establish offices, branches and agencies, etc., but provides that no office, branch or agency shall be established or operated by the board unless the location and premises thereof have first been approved in writing by the Minister who, before granting or refusing such approval, must have regard to the proximity of the proposed office, branch or agency to places of public worship, schools, licensed premises and other relevant matters. This provision has the advantage of providing the Government with control over the establishment of agencies by the board and in particular would provide a safeguard against the indiscriminate establishment of agencies. It will also enable the Government to exercise adequate control over the establishment of any agency at Port Pirie and in exercising such control the Government will have regard to the wishes of the people of that town as well as to social and economic factors. New section 31ha empowers the board to make, vary and terminate agreements with licensed racing and trotting clubs to make totalizators used by the clubs available for off-course totalizator betting, etc.

New section 31j empowers the board to conduct off-course totalizator betting on any event held in Australia or New Zealand and for that purpose to conduct an off-course totalizator or, by arrangement with a licensed racing or trotting club, as agent for that club, to make use of the totalizator used by that club for off-course betting. The section goes on to declare that the conduct of off-course totalizators and off-course totalizator betting by the board in accordance with the Act and the doing of anything incidental or ancillary thereto will be lawful. New section 31k prohibits betting by any minor with the board and provides as the penalty for a breach of this provision \$20 for a first offence and a minimum of \$10 and a maximum of \$100 for a subsequent offence. The board is required to affix a copy of this provision in a conspicuous place in each office, branch or agency in which off-course totalizator betting is being conducted. The section also requires the board to pay into the hospitals fund any moneys which, but for this section, would be payable to a minor in respect of any bet made by him with the board.

New section 31ka contains provisions designed to prevent members of the public from loitering in the vicinity of any office, branch or agency of the board and to discourage persons from remaining at these places except for the purpose of making a bet or collecting a

dividend. New section 31m provides that the board must not accept a bet from any person unless the person pays for the bet in cash or has established a credit account with the board. A credit account may be established for any amount not less than \$2. The section also provides that no dividend in respect of any bet made with the board is to be paid on the day on which the event on which the bet is made is determined, unless the person who made the bet has a credit account with the board in which case the dividend may be credited to that credit account at any time after the dividend is declared.

New section 31n provides that the board must deduct 14 per cent of all off-course totalizator investments made with the board, whether those investments are made with the board as agent for a club using a totalizator, or whether the board itself is conducting an off-course totalizator. However, a distinction is drawn between the disposal of moneys invested with the board on a totalizator used by a club and moneys invested with the board on a totalizator conducted by the board itself. In the latter case the board will, after making the deduction of 14 per cent, pay the balance out by way of dividends except fractions of 5c in respect of any dividend. These fractions will be dealt with in exactly the same way as fractions derived from a totalizator conducted by a club, as provided by subsections (4) and (5) of section 28, and as re-enacted by clause 6 of this Bill. In the case of moneys invested with the board on a totalizator used by a club, however, the board will be acting as the agent of the club and those moneys will be treated as if they had been paid into that totalizator, and the board must account to the club for the same accordingly.

New section 31na deals with the calculation and payment of dividends where off-course betting is conducted on a totalizator used by a club. In such a case, the following will apply:

- (a) all dividends shall be calculated, declared and paid and all fractions shall be determined and dealt with as if all moneys invested with the board on events on which the totalizator is operating were invested directly on the totalizator;
- (b) the club will pay all dividends in respect of bets made directly on the totalizator;
- (c) the board will pay the same dividends as the club in respect of bets made with the board on the totalizator and

any such dividend when paid shall be deemed to have been paid by the board as agent of the club; and

- (d) the board and the club must exchange such information and make such financial adjustments out of moneys available for the payment of dividends and fractions as are necessary for the purpose of giving effect to the foregoing paragraphs.

New section 31nb empowers the board to pay any dividend to any person who, in the board's opinion, has made a valid claim thereto within six months after the day on which it became payable. Subsection (3) requires the board to pay all unclaimed dividends into the fund and subsection (4) authorizes the Treasurer to meet late claims for dividends. New section 31p deals with the disposal of the 14 per cent deducted by the board under paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of new section 31n. The amount deducted is to be applied, first, in payment of the stamp duty as provided in the amendment to the Stamp Duties Act made by clause 12 of the Bill; secondly, in payment of the board's administration and operating expenses; thirdly, in amortization of the board's establishment and capital expenses; fourthly, in payments, subject to Ministerial approval, to various bodies for the promotion of racing and trotting; and finally, in periodical payments to participating clubs. The money available for the periodical payments to participating clubs will first be divided into two parts bearing the same ratio to each other as the amount invested with the board on racing bears to the amount invested with the board on trotting events and these parts will be distributed among racing clubs and trotting clubs on such basis as the board recommends and the Minister approves.

New section 31q imposes on the board its liability to pay stamp duty on the amount invested with the board by way of off-course totalizator betting, but this liability is subject to the rebate provided for in new section 31r. By way of explanation it is also provided that a club will not be charged any stamp duty on amounts invested with the board on a totalizator conducted by the club. The stamp duty paid by the board will be paid into the fund and earmarked for public hospitals. New section 31r provides that the stamp duty payable by the board shall be subject to a rebate of four twenty-firsts of the amount thereof until the Minister declares that the rebate shall cease or be reduced. The purpose of

this rebate is to make available a reasonable measure of funds for capital expenditure particularly in the early stages of the scheme, and this provision is parallel with similar provisions made in other States.

New section 31s provides for the disposal of moneys in the fund. The section earmarks all moneys in the fund [after meeting the payments to be made under section 31nb (4) and new section 44c as enacted by clause 11] for the provision, maintenance, development and improvement of public hospitals as defined in subsection (2) of new section 31s. The supervisory control over appropriation of moneys to be used in this fashion out of the fund is to be retained by Parliament, as a provision is included that payments shall be subject to such appropriations for the purpose as Parliament may from time to time determine. It is intended that adequate provision be set out in the annual estimates of expenditure presented to Parliament.

New section 31t deals with certain offences with respect to off-course totalizator betting. The provisions of this section are self-explanatory. New section 31u empowers the board, with the approval of the Minister, to make rules (not inconsistent with the principal Act or the regulations). New section 31v empowers the Governor, on the recommendation of the Minister or the board, to make regulations.

Section 44a of the principal Act deals with the imposition of the tax on winning bets and section 44b provides, inter alia, that the clubs are entitled to a share of moneys derived from that tax. Clauses 9 and 10 amend those sections respectively so as to provide that on a day to be fixed by proclamation not earlier than 12 months before the commencement of off-course totalizator betting and not later than 13 months after such commencement, the tax on winning bets, so far as it is payable in respect of the punter's stake, will be eliminated and, when the tax on the punter's stake is so eliminated, the clubs will cease to share in the moneys derived from the winning bets tax, which will then be payable only on a punter's winnings exclusive of his stake.

Clause 11 enacts a new section 44c, which provides in effect that, before the expiration of 12 months after the elimination of the winning bets tax on the punter's stake, the Treasurer is to pay out of the fund to each club that received a share of the winning bets tax one-half of the amount it received as its share of that tax during the period of 12 months last preceding the elimination of tax from the punter's stake. After that payment

the clubs will receive no further assistance from the winning bets tax.

Clause 12 amends the Stamp Duties Act so as to impose on the Totalizator Agency Board, subject to the rebate provided for in new section 31r as enacted by clause 8, a duty of 5½ per cent (which is the rate paid on the larger pools conducted by on-course totalizators) of the amount invested with the board by way of off-course totalizator betting on any day.

Mr. HALL secured the adjournment of the debate.

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BILL.

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

That the Planning and Development Bill, 1966, be restored to the Notice Paper as a lapsed Bill pursuant to section 57 of the Constitution Act, 1934-1965.

Motion carried.

NURSES REGISTRATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Second reading.

The Hon. FRANK WALSH (Premier and Treasurer): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Its object is to amend the Nurses Registration Act, 1920-1966, to make it clear that all registered psychiatric and mental deficiency nurses shall have a right to vote at elections for a nomination of a member of the Nurses Board whether they are members of the Royal Australian Nursing Federation or not. In the amending legislation which was passed during the last session it was provided in the amendment to section 5 of the principal Act that—

Five shall be nominated by the Royal Australian Nursing Federation (S.A. Branch)—

- (a) one of whom shall be a registered psychiatric nurse or registered mental deficiency nurse elected by members who are registered psychiatric nurses or registered mental deficiency nurses, as the case may require; and

(b) . . .

This means that only registered psychiatric and mental deficiency nurses who are members of the federation shall have the right to vote at an election. This was never the intention. It was intended that all registered psychiatric and mental deficiency nurses should have the right to vote. The effect of the provision as it stands is that only 17 registered psychiatric and mental deficiency nurses are entitled to vote out of a total of over 300 such registered nurses.

The present proposed amendment, without in any way increasing the number of members

to the Nurses Board, splits up the existing paragraph dealing with nominations by the federation into two separate paragraphs as provided in clause 3 of the Bill. The amendment has the effect of ensuring that all registered psychiatric and mental deficiency nurses shall have the right to vote for the nomination of one of their number to the Nurses Board in an election conducted under regulations made in pursuance of section 44 of the Act. A consequential amendment is made to section 44 of the principal Act and this appears in clause 4 of the Bill. I commend this Bill for the consideration of honourable members.

Mrs. STEELE secured the adjournment of the debate.

SUPERANNUATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from July 27. Page 722.)

Mr. COUMBE (Torrens): I do not oppose this Bill, but I wish to comment briefly on one or two features. First, the Bill appears to have been introduced at the request of members of the Public Service and more particularly at the request of the Public Service Association. Its principal object is to provide that a male member of the Public Service may elect to retire at the age of 60 instead of 65 and a female at 55 instead of 60. This provision is being written into the principal Act so that public servants may either remain in the Public Service until the present retiring age or retire five years sooner: it will be entirely up to the public servant to make up his own mind. As far as I know, this is based mainly on the provisions presently applying in the Commonwealth Public Service. So that the new provisions will apply on an actuarial basis, provision is made in the Bill to enable public servants who wish to retire at the earlier ages to elect to pay greater contributions or, if they are of an age that makes it financially impossible for them to do this, to pay a lump sum into the fund so that on retirement they may obtain the maximum amount of benefit.

Provision is also made for 10 years' service before a pension can be obtained, which is necessary for people transferring from the Public Service of another State or the Commonwealth. These provisions are all accepted by the Opposition, because they have been asked for and they appear to be reasonable. I do not know how many public servants will avail themselves of this opportunity to retire at the earlier ages, but I do not think it will be a

significant number. This will depend entirely on the individual's own financial position and to some extent on the financial climate prevailing in the State at the time of retirement. However, public servants are to be given an option, which is the purpose of the Bill. There is no indication in either the Minister's second reading explanation or the Bill itself about whether the Bill will cost the State or the community anything, but a simple calculation indicates that it is likely to cost the community an increased sum. I should like the Treasurer, either in closing the second reading debate or in Committee, to say how much it will cost.

The Public Service superannuation scheme is different from the normal mercantile or industrial superannuation schemes. In the normal scheme in industry or commerce the contributor pays his dues and the employer matches them. These are usually paid into either a special trust fund or a trust fund administered by an insurance company so that at the time of retirement the applicant receives the full benefit either in a lump sum or by means of a pension. However, in the Public Service it is done a little differently. There is a fund, which is made up entirely of contributors' periodical contributions and which attracts considerable interest. It can be seen from the last available report of the Superannuation Board (for the year ended June 30, 1965) that the fund attracted about \$2,000,000 in interest. This is the fund that goes to build up the pension paid to public servants on retirement but, as we all know, the Government is obliged under the Act to contribute in the ratio of 70 to 30 to support the pensions paid, but it does not pay anything into the fund. The report shows that for the year ended June 30, 1965, pensions amounting to almost \$4,000,000 were paid, the Government's contribution being \$2,822,000, the fund's contribution being \$1,096,000, and other sundries being \$52,000.

In practice, the board makes a recommendation to the Treasurer each year and he provides in the Budget for the amount recommended by the authority to meet pensions. In the 1964-65 financial year the Treasurer paid \$2,822,000 towards pensions, which represented 70 per cent of the total pensions paid to pensioners or their dependants. It can be seen that this is a slightly different principle from that which normally applies in business practice. This Bill will mean that in future the Treasurer will have to meet a greater contribution towards pensions. Under the existing legislation, if a male retires at 65 and lives

until he is 80, the Government pays 70 per cent of the pension he receives for 15 years. If the same person retired at 60 years of age, the Government would be obliged to pay for 20 years. So the Treasurer in this case would be obliged to pay towards an extra five years' pension to that person. We must remember, of course, that the contributor is paying his fair share and full dues by increased contributions, so that the fund is complete and actuarially sound in that respect, but the Treasurer will be obliged to find an increased amount each year. This was not mentioned in the second reading explanation. If the Treasurer can, during the Committee stages, indicate what this is likely to cost the State, it will be appreciated. I do not know whether it is even possible to estimate this but, if some approximation could be given, it would be useful. As I have said, no objection is raised to the Bill but I point out this particular facet.

The Government may save a little in another way. These days, long service leave applies in nearly all cases. If a person retires at 60 years of age, he will be entitled to a certain amount of long service leave. If he works until he is 65, it is normal to expect that during the last five years of his service (by which time he has generally acquired some seniority) he will get promotion. Even if he got no promotion, by annual increments or by increases in salaries to public servants he would be expected to rise to a higher salary. He would retire upon that salary and it would affect his long service leave accordingly. Perhaps this is only a flea-bite but some public servants may think twice about retiring at the age of 60 if they realize that, if they do, the Government may make a slight monetary gain. The principle of the Bill is accepted. I support the second reading.

Mr. HEASLIP secured the adjournment of the debate.

ABORIGINAL LANDS TRUST BILL.

In Committee.

(Continued from August 2. Page 813.)

Clause 7—"Casual vacancies."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Does the Minister think that the wording "twenty shillings in the pound" should still be used or would those amounts be better expressed in cents and dollars?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Minister of Aboriginal Affairs): They would probably be better expressed in cents and dollars. On the other hand, it is to be read as cents and

dollars anyway under the decimal currency Acts. I do not know that there is much point in submitting amendments on that at this stage of the proceedings.

Clause passed.

Clauses 8 and 9 passed.

Clause 10—"Meetings and quorum."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Subclause (3) states:

No meeting of the trust shall be held in the absence of the Secretary . . .

Of course, the Secretary is the Director of Aboriginal Affairs. What is the reason for this provision?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Initially, the officers of the department will be doing work for the trust. At some later stage it is likely that the trust will have some officers of its own, but there is power under the Bill for me to place the officers of the department at the disposal of the trust; and that will be done in the early stages. It is essential, in these circumstances, that the Secretary of the trust, who is the Public Service head of that department, be there at that time when the trust is taking decisions on how his officers are to be disposed. It is the only way in which we can work it.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: This subclause means that, when the trust has appointed officers of its own, the legislation will have to come back to Parliament to be amended in order to give full effect to the operations of the trust.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No; that is not so. When it has got officers of its own, it is provided for. At this stage of the proceedings it is essential that the Secretary of the trust be there. What is more, in the initial stages, again, it will be moneys for which I am directly responsible that will be voted by the trust board. It is essential that I have there an officer directly responsible to me. I am not required to be at meetings of the trust board. Also, there are numbers of things to be done by the trust board that can be done eventually subject only to my consent, including the provision of moneys for technical assistance, and so forth. As these are out of moneys voted by Parliament, it is necessary that we have a Public Service officer at meetings of the trust board. For all these reasons it is plain that we need the Secretary there, as he is the Public Service head of the department who has been put at the disposal of the trust board. This is a sensible procedure. He does not get a vote, so there is no question of his over-riding the trust board; but for essential

liaison purposes he must be there or, if he cannot be there, somebody else must be there in his place.

Clause passed.

Clauses 11 to 13 passed.

Clause 14—"Secretary."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Does the operation of clause 14 and clause 10 mean that the Director of Aboriginal Affairs must at all times be present at meetings of the Aboriginal Lands Trust and that no alteration of that situation can take place without further amendment of the Act?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes. In a formal meeting of the trust board a formal decision of any kind can take place only if the Director is there, or, if he is absent, if some member of the department designated in his place is there.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: There seems to be some conflict between clause 10 and clause 14. Clause 10 provides that in the absence of the Director another officer may be appointed in his place. Clause 14 says directly that the Director shall be the Secretary of the trust. I think there should be a qualification in the clause to conform to the proviso in clause 10. Perhaps the Minister might insert the words "Subject to clause 10", or something like that.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot agree that there is any conflict. Clause 14 constitutes the Director as the Secretary to the trust. The clause stands by itself: he, not anybody else, is the Secretary. Clause 10 requires that the Secretary or, in his absence, some person designated in his place, shall be at every meeting of the trust board. It does not mean that if the Director is absent he is not the Secretary. He still is the Secretary. There is no conflict.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Under clause 10 the Secretary can be replaced by another person, but in this clause he is not replaceable.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Clause 10 does not say that the Secretary is replaced. It simply states:

No meeting of the trust shall be held in the absence of the Secretary or, in the event of his illness or inability to act, in the absence of an officer of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs appointed by the Minister to act in his place. The Director is still the Secretary and there can be no difficulty.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I visualize (and I hope the Minister looks forward to it) the day when the trust, which is intended to be composed of people of Aboriginal blood, will be able to run its own affairs. The clause

constitutes an embargo to this, unless the Secretary is himself an Aboriginal.

The D. A. Dunstan: I hope that will be the position.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I hope that such a person will become the Director, because then the matter will resolve itself, but possibly it will be a long time before we reach that point. It could well be that there would be a person suitable to be Secretary without having the qualifications to be the Director. At present there is no problem, but five years from now, or in even less time, it may be necessary to modify the provision.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I would like to see, as soon as possible, the Director himself an Aboriginal. In my view it is essential to retain the position where the Director is the Secretary of the trust, because its work is so closely associated with departmental administration. Let us take the position of a manned reserve being transferred to the trust. The trust may want to proceed with a developmental programme with the department's technical and welfare officers being used in that development. It would be absurd to have a separate meeting of the trust board without having present the officer of the department who must dispose these officers. He must be there at the time the decision is made, because otherwise the left hand would not know what the right hand was doing. We had a long discussion about this and decided that from an administrative point of view it was sufficient that the officer should be there at the time it considered the developmental matter; otherwise, the board could get into all sorts of difficulties. Although the Secretary attends the meeting, he does not have a vote. He will be there to give advice. He will not be able to over-ride the decisions made about areas coming under this Act. There will be a similar position when the reserve council regulations are promulgated, and the councils have rights in respect of permits and the like. They are now inviting the Superintendent of the reserve to sit in at their meetings because they know perfectly well that in making decisions they need his advice about effective administration. Administratively it cannot work any other way.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I think that instead of resolving difficulties this situation will create them. I can see the Minister's intention and I appreciate his point of view, but in actual practice the Director will be in attendance as Secretary, but whose officer will he be? Will he be the Secretary of the trust or the Director of the department—in other

words, the Minister's representative? Divergence if not conflict of opinion will arise on matters before the trust. Will the Director, who is responsible to the Minister, say to the trust, "Well, the Minister cannot allow this; I know that this matter you are considering won't meet with his approval because of certain reasons"? One reason could be associated with finance, for which the Minister is responsible. Undoubtedly most of the matters will involve the disposal of finance. The trust might require the services of departmental officers for a certain purpose, but to an extent to which the Director could not agree. He would know the Minister could not agree. Will the trust be completely autonomous? Will the Director, when sitting in at meetings of the trust, be the Secretary, or what responsibility will he have? Obviously there will be difficulties.

Clause passed.

Clause 15 passed.

Clause 16—"Power to transfer lands to trust."

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: I move:

In subclause (1) after "require" to insert:

Provided further that no such proclamation shall be made in respect of the North-West Reserve as defined in the proclamation of His Excellency the Governor on the thirteenth day of February, one thousand nine hundred and sixty-four as land reserved for Aborigines, unless both Houses of Parliament, during the same or different sessions of any Parliament, have resolved that such proclamation should be made.

This is not an unreasonable provision and I hope the Minister will accept it. I have no knowledge of reserves where the more sophisticated Aborigines are located, but I believe they could say whether they wanted their reserve to be controlled or not by the trust. However, it may be some time before a determination can be made by Aborigines on the North-West Reserve, as they travel over a large area, often going into the Northern Territory and Western Australia. This reserve is unique in that its purpose is to preserve for Aborigines an area sufficiently large for a hunting ground. The Minister said that a feature of the Bill was to protect reserves and the Aborigines in them. As an analogy to this amendment, at present a travelling stock reserve cannot be interfered with unless a resolution is passed by both Houses of Parliament. This provision has not detracted from the successful

operation of the Act: before the resolution is passed all interested persons are consulted. The North-West Reserve covers an enormous area, and this amendment deals with one of the few rights preserved for Aborigines. The amendment safeguards this area and overcomes the criticism that the reserve might be controlled by the trust without first obtaining the views of the Aborigines affected. If it is accepted, it will remove one of the doubts I have about the Bill.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I regret that I cannot accept the amendment, as I do not think that it does anything like the honourable member suggests it does: that is, preserve inviolate the North-West Reserve. In fact, it puts an obstacle in the way of getting protection for the reserve, which it does not now have, and which it was not given by the previous Government. The honourable member may recall that, in fact, nickel prospecting rights in respect of this area were granted by the previous Government. Aborigines do not like that. They desire to know that they have protected rights to these minerals. The honourable member's amendment preserves a situation by which a Government, administratively, can secretly dispose of minerals on the North-West Reserve. In fact, they have been disposed of in the past, and we wish to have, as soon as possible, a situation where, after full consultation with the people on the reserve, that cannot be done to them, and where what happened in Western Australia cannot happen.

If the amendment is passed, a resolution of both Houses will be required before protection for the North-West Reserve can arise from an administrative act by the Government to do the same sort of thing as Western Australia has done to its Central Reserve, namely, to excise an area and give it away to a nickel company. The Aborigines interested in this matter will be gravely disturbed if this largest area of reserve in South Australia is taken out of the general purview of the trust's arrangements. They will be wondering whether mining organizations, being a little interested in the matter, will not wish to see it under the trust so that the Aborigines have mineral rights and not the Crown. I cannot accept the amendment because I think it would give rise to grave and justifiable disquiet on the part of Aborigines. I cannot agree that, by putting the reserve under the trust, Aborigines will be deprived of rights in this area because, under the trust, the disposal of Aboriginal reserves in the way they have been disposed of by other Governments in Australia, and the

granting of mineral rights too easily to people other than Aborigines, could not take place. They can take place in the present circumstances.

The honourable member's amendment is designed to maintain present administrative arrangements and not the protective arrangements provided under the trust. In my view, the amendment does precisely the opposite to giving the protection to the North-West Reserve that this legislation is designed to provide. The honourable member's fears that the North-West Reserve will be given to the trust without proper consultation with people on the reserve, so that they will not know fully what is taking place, will not occur. I have already given an assurance on the processes through which we shall go before the reserve council makes a recommendation to the Government. I assure the honourable member there is no question at all of disposing easily or shallowly of the rights of the people on the North-West Reserve. The fullest consultation will be given to those people before any move is made to place these lands under the trust to give the protection that this Bill is designed to give.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I support the amendment. We have no reason to assume that the North-West Reserve will come under the trust. The Minister himself does not know, although we have little doubt that it eventually will come under the trust. However, we do not know the way in which Aborigines, whether they live in the area or not, use and traverse the reserve. We do not know how they are to be informed of the trust's arrangements. We know the trust will have power to lease the reserve and to do all manner of things. I see no reason why Parliament should not have a say in this matter. The amendment to provide for resolutions by the two Houses is a reasonable safeguard against the future. Should Parliament decide that the existing provision is being unwisely used, it has no power to raise the matter. Stock routes are dealt with by resolution of the two Houses, so what is wrong with a similar provision in this case? The North-West Reserve could be harmed if badly managed and, although I have no particular prescription as to how it should be managed, I know that many people on the reserve will have no knowledge for years to come of what the trust is actually doing. Parliament should retain some power to consider the matter further.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: If the Minister is concerned about the minerals

that may be discovered on the North-West Reserve, he can easily have the rights to those minerals protected, but that is not what the Minister wishes at all. He desires to take out of the Aboriginal Affairs Act the prohibition on disposing of reserves. This Bill enables the trust to dispose of, exchange, lease or mortgage properties but, of course, the Minister cannot at present alienate the reserve from the purposes for which it has been established. This Bill enables the reserve to be alienated, which is the reason why I believe Parliament should know what is happening. The trust is appointed by the Governor. The three representatives appointed by the Governor will have no land or council attachment. I do not object to many of the powers given to the trust but I strenuously oppose the power to dispose of the reserves by selling, leasing or exchanging them.

I am not concerned about the benefit of any mineral rights going to the trust but I object to the Aborigines having their only hunting ground taken from them, as the clauses of the Bill provide. The Minister has said that he desires to have certain land at Port Lincoln disposed of, and he can do that if he wishes. However, the North-West Reserve has been established with due regard to our obligations to the Aborigines. This Bill should include provisions prohibiting disposal, such as those contained in other legislation.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: Why don't you read what is in the Bill?

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Bill gives the Minister a unique opportunity to consult himself. The Bill was hastily adjourned last session because the Minister had not been able to consult the nomadic tribes, and he has not been able to answer questions in this debate for the same reason. If this Bill is passed in its present form, the area that is now the North-West Reserve will be cut up for cattle stations within five years. The whole object is to enable the Minister to dispose of the reserve or to lease it. He intends to dispose of it by leasing it. Although he has tried to secure support from the Aborigines for the measure, he has not been able to do so. The Aborigines are not enamoured of this Bill.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: Aborigines all over the State are in favour of it.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Some Aborigines have spoken to me about the matter. The Bill should provide that the trust shall not dispose of the North-West Reserve or that it shall dispose of it only with the

approval of Parliament. If the Minister does not intend to dispose of the reserve, he ought to accept one of the amendments. However, he has said that he refuses to accept them because he wants to protect the mineral rights. That could be done if the first alternative had been accepted. I oppose the disposal of the reserve and shall work against a Bill that allows this to be done. If the Minister uses his numbers to defeat the amendment, I shall do my utmost to defeat the Bill.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Regarding the mineral rights to which the Minister has referred, I point out that the actual site prospected was not on the reserve but in the Peterman Ranges in the Northern Territory. I have seen the site twice. I do not deny that the prospecting rights extended into the North-West Reserve, but mining was attempted and abandoned on an area outside the reserve. The Minister said that the amendment moved by the member for Gumeracha would leave the reserve wide open to improper acts of administration by the Government. However, any such acts in the next 18 months will be the Minister's direct responsibility.

Although the Minister now proposes to transfer to the trust powers that are superior to the powers of Parliament, I have heard him, when he was on this side, fulminating time and time again on the supremacy of Parliament in all matters. I am not unsympathetic to his object and would support the Bill if I thought anything would be achieved. However, I consider that the measure will be a flop. The Minister has told us two or three times that it will be some time before he is able to obtain the well informed opinion of the people in the reserve about whether they desire the council to be set up and this matter transferred to the trust. I appreciate his reasons for saying that, and it is true, because there are nomadic people in that area who want to walk around in the clothes that nature provided and who are extremely shy and difficult to contact. I accept his reasons on this point. If the amendment is not carried, until a council can be formed and the ensuing proclamation transferring the land to the trust can be made who will control the trust? The amendment provides that in the interim period Parliament will have control.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: No, in the interim period the thing will remain as it is at present.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The Minister would not be able to do anything even if a

mine could be established in which 500 or 600 Aborigines could be employed.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: I will not give away the right.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The best thing that could happen there would be the discovery of a good mineral-producing site to employ the 500 Aborigines who are in the area or who would gravitate there from Western Australia, so the Minister would not have any trouble in getting labour to work such a proposition. The Minister is being too dogmatic. The amendment will do much good, at least in the ensuing few years. The North-West Reserve was created for a peculiar and particular purpose. If the Minister had had time when he flew there soon after assuming office to travel to the Mount Davies corner and towards the Western Australian border towards Mount Lindsay, he would have seen some very interesting ceremonial tribal grounds scattered through the area. To talk to the Aboriginal people there and discuss with them matters dear to their hearts is to discover the real reason behind the creation of the reserve.

Much more is involved than developing, leasing or disposing of it in any way: it must be preserved. His policy, like mine, is that people are excluded from entering the reserve unless they have a valid and proper reason for entering. The previous Government introduced this policy in the teeth of apathy by the Western Australian Government and some looseness in administration by the Northern Territory Administration. I give the Minister full marks for carrying on this policy. We were determined to preserve the area so that it would not be a show-place where tourists could ogle at unclad natives, because we thought it was the home of important ceremonial and tribal rites. We want to keep it that way. I support the amendment because in the initial stages of the operation of this Bill the reserve will be afforded some protection in the way outlined by the member for Gumeracha.

Mr. QUIRKE: My concern about the North-West Reserve is not about minerals: rich as the area may be, the Aborigines are entitled to their share. I am concerned, however, to see that the reserve will be preserved in its present condition forever. Subclause (6) provides:

The trust may—

- (a) with the consent of the Minister, sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise deal with land vested in it pursuant to this Act; or

(b) develop such land subject to compliance with the provisions of any Act or law relating thereto, as it thinks fit. The Minister shall not withhold his consent unless he is satisfied that the sale, lease, mortgage or dealing fails to preserve to the Aboriginal people of South Australia the benefits and value of the land in question.

The Minister mentioned in the subclause is the present Minister, and, although I am not saying that he will not do what I will suggest may be done, this will become authoritative, and he will not always be the Minister. This provision will enable the land to be cut up into holdings in the interests of the Aborigines. If this were done, no great benefit would be conferred on the Aborigines unless the land were held in a vast organization for their benefit, but if that were done the place would be destroyed. We all know that in vast areas the permanent cover has been destroyed and converted into desert. This is the last remaining area that is almost, although not entirely, in the same condition as when we found it. It is the last link in this State with the early conditions that must have appeared magnificent when white people first saw them.

In this reserve there are still trees that bear right down to the ground, as they did all over the country originally, before they were trimmed by stock and destroyed by rabbits. The ground fauna lost its cover. I intend to try to make it just as difficult to dispose of this reserve as it is to dispose of an acre^{age} of park lands around Adelaide. This cannot be done without a resolution of both Houses. Nobody would dream of giving the councils whose districts surround the city, authority over the park lands, yet this area of virgin country in the North-West of this State is just as precious. I see no reason why the Minister should object to the amendment moved by the member for Gumeracha, because, after all, will it act to the detriment of the scheme which, I know, is near and dear to the heart of the Minister? I give him full marks for what he is doing, but he is not the only Minister: there will be successors.

He should now consider maintaining that area in its present condition in the interests of not only the Aborigines but also South Australia. Those natives within a few generations will become sophisticated. Their progeny will be educated and they will not want to be nomadic. We want that area not destroyed but preserved forever in its present state; we

do not want the cutting feet of sheep on it or the tearing capacity of great stock, which wrench the top cover off the land. We do not want it turned into the condition in which we now find many inland reserves, with the top cover destroyed to such an extent that a sustained rainfall is required to restore it.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: I will give some information on that when the honourable member sits down.

Mr. QUIRKE: I should first like to finish what I have to say. I know many South Australians want this area kept in its present condition; they are the people in charge of the preservation of these things that will be precious to people to come. If we are to do that, we must have exactly the same condition pertaining to that area, as pertains to our park lands—both Houses of Parliament consenting to any alienation of this land. I know how difficult it is to get a proposal like that through both Houses of Parliament. The Minister is now doing something there in his term of office but, however long he occupies that office, his tenure must come to an end. Others will follow him and they may not be of the same opinion as he is. Now is the time, when the first attempt is being made to preserve this area forever, to make that condition that will render it next to impossible to do anything to the area without the consent of both Houses of Parliament.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I propose to do something here to make it clear to the honourable member what the Government's intention is. I am prepared to move an amendment to a later clause of the Bill to provide that there shall be no lease or alienation of the land other than to Aboriginal people except by a resolution of both Houses of Parliament; that is to say, I will put in the same provision, in effect, as is in the Aboriginal Affairs Act in relation to the North-West Reserve so that there can be no question about it and there will be no use of this area or alienation of it in any way from the Aboriginal people except by a resolution of both Houses of Parliament; so that the trust is limited in the way in which it deals with property. I ask now that progress be reported, and I shall put the appropriate amendment on the file.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.15 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, August 9, at 2 p.m.