

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, July 4, 1967.

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

### QUESTIONS

#### GAS.

Mr. HALL: It is reported in this morning's *Advertiser* that the Premier has had talks with the Electricity Trust of South Australia and is soon to have discussions with the gas exploration group (Delhi-Santos) about price negotiations for the sale of natural gas to the trust. Although no plans exist in Victoria to use natural gas for power generation, the Victorian situation is at times used as a standard for comparison with the South Australian position. Any such comparison tends to ignore the low relative cost of existing fuels used by the trust. On August 10, 1965, the Minister of Works, in answer to a question, stated that the cost of Leigh Creek coal delivered to Port Augusta was just under 22.5c a million British thermal units. In the same month, as reported at page 821 of *Hansard*, the then Premier (Mr. Walsh) said:

The trust has recently been able to make a particularly favourable contract with the Adelaide oil refinery for a supply of fuel oil. As a result, it appears that electricity from the first section of the Torrens Island power station will be some 10 per cent cheaper overall than electricity from Port Augusta. In fact when the first machine starts operating in the Torrens Island power station in 1967, it is almost certain that there will be a reduction in the amount of Leigh Creek coal burnt in the older and less efficient plant at Port Augusta because power produced by the efficient plant at Torrens Island will be cheaper on a fuel basis alone.

Consequently, the projected price of fuel oil for use in the first stages of the Torrens Island scheme was then significantly below the 22.5c quoted by the Minister. The figures used loosely yesterday in newspaper reports about the negotiations for a price for natural gas were based on either 75 per cent or 60 per cent of the reported contracted price of 43c to be paid by the South Australian Gas Company, that is, either 32.25c or 25.8c a million b.t.u. As much money will be involved in constructing the gas pipeline and its construction requires that South Australia obtain an economic benefit from it, will the Premier assure the House that he will not place the trust in a position where it must sign an agreement that will raise its fuel costs?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It has been obvious from the start of the negotiations by the Government with the interested parties for the supply of natural gas to the metropolitan area that we do not intend that the Electricity Trust be put in a position where it has to pay more for natural gas than it would have to pay for alternative fuels. The price for natural gas must be competitive. That is the basis of the negotiations and will continue to be the basis.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: "Competitive" was the key word in the Premier's answer. Does he mean that the price should be merely equal to the price at which the Electricity Trust has been buying, is buying, or may in the future (possibly under more severe competition) buy fuel oil, or does he mean that, in terms of the contract, the Electricity Trust should be placed at some advantage over and above the price of the possible alternative fuels, so that it can indeed generate power at a cost that will assist industry to expand and develop in this State in competition with other States where power is cheap? If the trust, in the negotiations, were presently being offered a price that was to its advantage, then I assume that it would have long since signed the agreement. However, if the price offered were not so advantageous, this would explain the trust's reluctance to sign an agreement. Therefore, if the trust has not been offered an advantageous price, what is the purpose of the Premier's intervening in the matter? Is the Premier encouraging the trust to sign an agreement less advantageous to it (and therefore less advantageous to industry) than it could possibly arrange if the Premier kept out of the negotiations?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Many matters are involved in the series of questions asked. At present, the trust has not been offered by the companies a price that would compare with the price that it has to pay for other fuels. Some difficulty is also involved because certain feasibility studies by the companies have not been completed. My concern is that the negotiations with the trust ought to be brought to a speedy conclusion, because I do not consider that we should be substantially behind Victoria in date of completion of delivery, even though it is already obvious that, in any case, Victoria's price to the consumer will be substantially higher than the price in South Australia. However, regarding competitive prices, I am concerned about ensuring that the price of natural gas fuels to the

consumer generally in South Australia is more advantageous than the price elsewhere in Australia. At present the price that has been concluded by Sir Henry Bolte seems to me to be unreasonably high, but that should not worry South Australia. If we can (as I expect we shall be able to do) deliver natural gas to the consumer at a lower price than that charged in Victoria, that will give us a real cost advantage. If natural gas can be delivered to the trust at a price not higher than the price of alternative fuels, I should think that would be sufficient.

There are other advantages in our getting natural gas to the metropolitan area at a price that is more advantageous than the cost in other States and in enabling our public utilities to continue to supply electricity cheaply compared with the price in other States. That will be the basis of the negotiations. I do not intend to intervene in this matter to do the same kind of thing as was done in Victoria, where there was an agreement between the Government and the companies for a price, which I consider disadvantageous to consumers in South Australia. If the trust is to use natural gas fuels, it will be essential to have the gas provided at such a price that there will not be increases in the price of electricity in South Australia.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: The Premier has said that the Victorian price is higher than the price contemplated by the Electricity Trust of South Australia. However, I point out that the price that has been arranged in Victoria relates to the metropolitan gas supply and has no bearing at all on the price of electricity in that State, which has been governed by the open-cut brown coal deposits. None of the electricity development in Victoria will in any way be affected by the supply of natural gas to the Melbourne metropolitan area for domestic purposes. Actually, I understand that the Victorian contract involves a figure of 38c a million British thermal units. Will the Premier therefore obtain from the Electricity Trust a comparative statement as to the price being paid by electricity undertakings in other States for alternative fuels and, if possible, let members have that information? I understand that, in comparison, Leigh Creek coal is at present costing about 22c or 23c a million b.t.u. which, I am informed, is high compared with the price being paid in respect of electricity development in Victoria and

New South Wales. Of course, if that is the case, it would be impossible for us to justify a figure of over 30c a million b.t.u. which, from my understanding of the press reports, is being discussed at present.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will see what information I can get for the honourable member. Certainly, I would consider a price of over 30c prohibitive for the Electricity Trust. In fact, I do not think the trust could be expected to face that price and maintain a competitive cost structure for industry in South Australia which must be of vital importance to the Government here. Naturally enough, as the honourable member will be aware, certain discussions must at present be confidential, and it is unwise at a delicate stage in negotiations to make public pronouncements concerning them. However, I will try to give the honourable member as much information as I can.

Mr. HEASLIP: The Premier has said that the price must be competitive and, in reply to the member for Flinders (Hon. G. G. Pearson), that he is concerned about a speedy conclusion of the negotiations because, as I understand it, Victoria will possibly have natural gas before South Australia. However, the important thing is that we obtain gas at the right price. The Premier is satisfied that the consumer will receive gas at a much lower price, but I point out that the consumer cannot obtain gas unless the trust is first prepared to use it and unless the price to the trust is competitive. Following the Premier's recent announcement that South Australia was entering a period of industrial boom previously unknown in the State, will he allow the trust to continue bargaining so that it may obtain gas at as low a price as possible and so that industries in this State will be able to compete with those in the Eastern States that are already receiving electricity more cheaply than South Australia is receiving it at present? Will the Premier ensure that the trust will be able not only to hold the price at which it is now distributing electricity but to reduce that price to enable us to take part in the so-called industrial boom?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: My only concern in this matter is to get a speedy conclusion to the negotiations. I have not at any time suggested that I am not prepared to back the Electricity Trust in what seemed to me to be its just requirements in the provision of fuel. Regarding the cost of electricity to industrialists in South Australia,

the Electricity Trust is prepared to enter into special negotiations with bulk consumers as to price, and it has done so. Very advantageous offers have been made to bulk consumers in other States to come to South Australia, enabling industrial expansion here. The Electricity Trust has co-operated with the Government in an excellent fashion in an endeavour to achieve industrial expansion in South Australia, and I assure the honourable member that, on the information available to me, the signs are extremely hopeful. I also assure him that the Government is concerned to see that the costs of industry in South Australia are so advantageous that we are able to attract more industries here. At a meeting of industrialists and representatives of commercial and financial institutions (attended by such people as Sir Roland Wilson and Sir Norman Rydge) held in Sydney last Friday, I gave information that has led, within the last few days, to a number of inquiries from other States regarding the establishment of industries here.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked last week regarding the progress of drilling on the Moomba gas field?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The deliverable reserves in the Gidgealpa field are calculated at 460 billion cubic feet, and at Moomba, 170 billion cubic feet. Both figures are subject to substantial increase with further drilling, which will be undertaken as needed for development. Additional drilling is not required immediately, as the present reserves are adequate to meet the capacity of the first stage of the project, namely, an 18in. line and one compressor station. Before the second stage is committed, namely, two more compressor stations, further drilling will be required to establish additional reserves. The pipeline project is not being delayed by a lack of deliverable reserves.

#### KINGSTON BRIDGE.

Mr. CURREN: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to the question I asked last week regarding construction of the Kingston bridge?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Roads reports that tenders for the construction of the Kingston bridge are expected to be called at the end of October, 1968, and work under the contract should be due to commence in January, 1969.

#### ADULT EDUCATION CENTRE.

Mr. RODDA: The Adult Education Council is somewhat concerned at the state of repair of the Naracoorte Adult Education Centre, which is situated in the centre of that town's residential area. The exterior of the centre and the ancillary rooms badly need repair and renovation, and the grounds lack adequate fencing. (Even no fencing would be better than what now passes for fencing.) Asphalted and kerbing of paved areas and a drive-way and parking facilities for cars are required, as up to 90 vehicles have been in the grounds at one time while their occupants are attending classes and lectures. Will the Minister of Education see whether his department can give some attention to this centre?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: I shall be pleased to call for a report on the matter to see whether anything can be done to improve the position.

#### SIREX WASP.

Mr. HURST: Following the detection of the Sirex wood wasp by a member of the Waterside Workers Federation, and the Minister's statement that the Government had written thanking the waterside worker concerned for his prompt and efficient service, it has been suggested in the press that a more tangible reward be given to that person. Further, it has been suggested that notices be placed on the waterfront to enable waterside workers to familiarize themselves with the dangerous insects that may be found on the waterfront. Will the Minister of Agriculture say whether the Government has considered the suggestion contained in the press regarding a substantial token of appreciation for the waterside worker concerned? Further, has the department considered placing drawings in both provincial and daily newspapers, as well as conducting a film campaign, to educate waterside workers and employees in the timber industry concerning these dangerous insects, in order that our forests and other agricultural concerns in this State may be fully protected?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I shall refer the second part of the honourable member's question to both the Agriculture Department and the Woods and Forests Department. The department has already publicized matters concerning quarantine, but I will see if it is necessary for this campaign to be stepped up, as has been suggested by the honourable member. The editorial in yesterday's *Advertiser* suggested the Government should make

some tangible reward to the waterside worker who discovered these wasps. I understand that the editorial followed a letter sent last week to the *Advertiser* by somebody I do not know. However, previously I had asked the Secretary of the Waterside Workers Federation whether the Government could make some gesture of appreciation of the fine effort made by Mr. McPhee which had saved the State much money. The Secretary told me that the federation did not want this because it classes its vigilance in this and many other matters as a service to the people of South Australia. He referred me to many things that had been discovered by members of the federation in relation to quarantine provisions, smuggled goods, and other matters that showed that the vigilance of waterside workers was of great assistance to the State. I understand that a member of the federation discovered Argentine ant on one occasion; such discoveries are of extreme value to agriculture. The Government appreciates the value of the contribution made by waterside workers through their vigilance. As Minister of Agriculture I very much appreciate the keen interest shown by these men in their jobs: they make sure that they do not allow anything to come off ships that will be injurious to the State, particularly to primary producers. I should like the honourable member, on my behalf, to tell the person concerned how much we appreciate what has happened on this occasion and on other occasions.

#### PORT PIRIE GAS.

Mr. McKEE: I understand that, since I last took up the matter of the prices charged for domestic gas in Port Pirie (which was about two and a half years ago), many changes have been made and the new plant has been operating with only two shifts requiring six men and one works manager, whereas the old plant worked three shifts and required 14 men on each shift and one works manager. I also understand that these changes have enabled wages costs to be reduced by about \$38,000 a year and that other changes have reduced costs considerably. Because of this, will the Premier consult the Prices Commissioner with a view to discussing with the South Australian Gas Company the extreme differences between the prices in Adelaide and those in Port Pirie?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I shall investigate this matter and inform the honourable member when I have the information.

#### JUSTICES' HANDBOOK.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: As the Premier in his capacity of Attorney-General knows, a handbook for justices of the peace was published recently and, although I have not seen it, I understand that it is an excellent publication, which will be of tremendous benefit to justices in the dispensing of justice. I understand that the handbook is available to justices and members of the public at a cost of \$5. I am sure that the Premier will be the first to concede that justices are doing a tremendous amount of valuable work in an honorary capacity. As they travel long distances to attend the court to dispense justice in many country towns and as they perform a large volume of honorary work, can the Premier say whether this admirable handbook can be made available to them gratis?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, it could not. This matter has been considered, but the expense of providing every justice in South Australia with a copy of the handbook would be considerable. Because of the present position of the State's revenue (about which I shall tell the honourable member shortly), although it is sound and improving, an expenditure of this kind would be unreasonable, given the other calls on revenue. The handbook will be available to all courts of summary jurisdiction in South Australia, and the courses through the Adult Education Branch, to be supervised by Mr. J. Marshall, S.M., will be without charge to justices. Also, the Justices Association has recently been given assistance. That is as far as we are able to go. Justices wishing to possess the handbook will have to purchase a copy. I regret that we cannot be more generous, but the expense of providing a handbook for every justice, whether he is going to sit in the courts or not (and, at present, one cannot determine this beforehand), would not be justified because of other calls on the revenue of this State. The handbook is available from the Government Printer now.

#### SCHOOL SITES.

Mrs. BYRNE: Can the Minister of Education say what sites are being held by the Education Department in the outer metropolitan section of the District of Barossa for future primary and secondary schools?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: Sites already purchased and held by the Education Department for future primary and secondary schools in the area concerned are as follows:

## Primary Schools:

	Section.	Hundred.
Clovercrest . . . . .	Part 840	Yatala
Dernancourt East . . . . .	Part 515	Yatala
Highbury . . . . .	Part 822 and 819	Yatala
Modbury North . . . . .	Part 1583	Yatala
Ridgehaven . . . . .	Part 1578	Yatala
Surrey Downs . . . . .	Part 2130	Yatala
Valiant . . . . .	Part 507	Yatala

## Technical and High Schools:

	Section.	Hundred.
Modbury Technical High . . . . .	Part 1565	Yatala
Tea Tree Gully High . . . . .	Part 51	Yatala

In addition, the department is investigating, and in some cases has commenced negotiating for, the purchase of sites in the outer metropolitan section of the District of Barossa, as follows:

## Primary Schools:

Holden Hill  
Pedare  
Redwood  
Vista  
Yatala Vale

## Technical and High Schools:

Modbury Heights High  
Surrey Downs West High  
Yatala Vale Technical High.

## WALLAROO WOODWORK BUILDING.

Mr. HUGHES: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked last Thursday about the transfer of a school building from the Maitland Area School to Wallaroo?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The matter of transferring a standard triple unit wooden building from the Maitland Area School to Wallaroo for use as a woodwork building by the Yorke Peninsula Adult Education Centre is in the hands of the Public Buildings Department. It is expected that the transfer will take place near the end of August. The Public Buildings Department has been asked to arrange the siting of this building after consulting with the Principal of the centre. The offer of the Wallaroo corporation to grade the land in preparation for the transfer has been conveyed to the Public Buildings Department.

## JUVENILE COURT.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: When, in 1965, the Juvenile Courts Bill was before the House, I said I had grave misgivings about clause 64 (or section 64 in the Act as it was passed) which restricts the reports of proceedings in juvenile courts. At the time in the House (or in Committee) not much turned on this, or there was little debate on it, anyway. Since the Act came into operation, the newspapers particularly have expressed misgivings from time to time about the exclusion of reporters from the courts, and, consequently, the lack of

press reports of cases. Even though I know that under section 64 of the Act it is competent for the court to dispense with the observance of that section and to allow reporters into court, to the best of my knowledge that takes place infrequently. I can remember only one instance, I think, in which His Honour the Special Magistrate has taken that course (certainly only one instance recently). I refer particularly now to the second leader in today's *Advertiser*, one sentence of which reads, in part:

. . . the wall of silence that has been thrown around the court by the Juvenile Courts Act detracts from the value of the court's work by keeping the public in almost total ignorance of what is going on.

I agree with that comment, although I concede there are arguments on either side. However, I suggest to the Attorney-General that in view of the experience that we have had now—

Mr. McKee: Question!

The SPEAKER: The honourable member will ask his question.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes, Sir. I thought it would bring a few crabs from the other side.

The SPEAKER: Order! I think that in view of that remark I am perfectly in order in not hearing the honourable member.

Later:

Mr. MILLHOUSE: In view of the criticism levelled from time to time at the operation of section 64 of the Juvenile Courts Act, can the Attorney-General say whether the Government intends to introduce legislation during the present session to modify it?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The matter is in the hands of the Juvenile Courts magistrate who exercises his discretion in the interests of people coming before him. I have seen no case in which I consider that injustice has been done to any person or to the general public. In the matter referred to in the editorial of this morning's newspaper, if, in fact, this was an excessive penalty there are means of appeal, as the honourable member knows, but I am not aware of any appeal

having been instituted. The honourable member will be well aware of the inadvisability of merely relying on abbreviated newspaper reports about circumstances of cases and comparability of penalties. In deciding penalties the magistrate has to consider a series of matters, and not merely those reported in the newspapers. In cases where the magistrate considers that publicity could be an additional deterrent he reveals names to the press. The charge and penalty are always available to the press on all matters in the Juvenile Court: only the identity and some circumstances relating to the matter are not available. The action of the Juvenile Courts magistrate in excluding from the courtroom persons other than those directly involved in the case preceded the passing of the Juvenile Courts Act two years ago. While practising before the Juvenile Court I was required to leave the court occasionally at the request of the magistrate, because I was not immediately concerned in the case before him and I am sure that this has happened to other practitioners. I see no need to alter the present situation, and the Government does not intend to introduce an amendment to the Juvenile Courts Act this session.

UNLEY DRAINAGE.

Mr. LANGLEY: Has the Minister representing the Minister of Local Government an answer to my recent question about the Government's policy on drainage?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: A meeting of all metropolitan councils has been arranged for July 21, when my colleague the Minister of Local Government will explain the Government's policy on providing drainage in the metropolitan area.

STATE'S FINANCES.

Mr. BROOMHILL: Has the Treasurer further information regarding the amounts charged to Consolidated Revenue Account and to Loan Account?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: During the debate on the Supplementary Estimates I was asked for particulars as to the amounts charged to Loan Account previously intended to be charged to Consolidated Revenue Account. I anticipate that the Consolidated Revenue Account for 1966-67 will show a small surplus of the order of \$100,000. The figure cannot yet be given precisely as a few minor records must be obtained from the Agent-General in London and from the Railways Department. This result arises after

recouping Revenue Account out of Loan funds to the extent of \$2,624,493 for non-Government hospital building grants, which is a class of expenditure normally met from Loan in other States. After having made this recoupment the Loan Account balance will have been improved over the year by about \$1,250,000, so reducing the outstanding deficit on Loan Account to about \$1,200,000. I have full details of the non-Government hospital building grants, which cover 42 separate items aggregating \$2,624,493.46 recouped out of Loan Account. It was made clear in Canberra by the Premier and Treasurer of New South Wales that the course of charging to Loan Account items previously charged to Revenue Account had been followed by the Liberal Government in New South Wales. Contrary to statements made in public by members of the Opposition in this State, as to there being any difficulties in submissions to the Commonwealth arising from this course, the matter was not raised in Canberra and there was no suggestion by the Commonwealth Government that this in any way affected grants or the attitude of the Commonwealth to the grants made to the State. I can tell the House that, as a result of last year's trading, the consolidated deficit of South Australia will be reduced. I ask leave to incorporate in *Hansard* details of Loan Account recoupments without my reading them.

Leave granted.

NON-GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL BUILDING GRANTS, 1966-67.

Amounts originally met from Revenue Account and subsequently recouped from Loan Account.

	\$
Adelaide Children's Hospital ..	13,267.00
Angaston Hospital .. . . . . .	82,507.97
Ardrossan Hospital .. . . . . .	8,239.79
Ashford Community Hospital ..	97,456.00
Balaklava Hospital .. . . . . .	7,000.00
Bordertown (Tatiara Soldiers' Memorial) Hospital .. . . . .	174,383.82
Burra Hospital .. . . . . .	1,687.33
Clare Hospital .. . . . . .	14,269.99
Eudunda Hospital .. . . . . .	3,437.33
Gawler (Hutchinson) Hospital ..	108,975.67
Gumeracha Soldiers' Memorial Hospital .. . . . . .	21,771.06
Hawker (Great Northern War Memorial) Hospital .. . . . .	17,333.33
Henley and Grange Community Hospital .. . . . . .	21,043.34
Hindmarsh Community Hospital ..	38,614.76
Jamestown Hospital .. . . . . .	9,396.29
Kangaroo Island General Hospital	2,718.61
Kapunda Hospital .. . . . . .	6,070.63
Keith Hospital .. . . . . .	5,262.83
Kimba Hospital .. . . . . .	1,223.76
Loxton Hospital .. . . . . .	4,099.47

	\$
Lyell McEwin Hospital . . . . .	5,611.15
McBride Hospital . . . . .	1,825.00
McLaren Vale (Southern Districts War Memorial) Hospital . . . . .	3,738.80
Millicent Hospital . . . . .	3,400.00
Mount Barker Hospital . . . . .	1,426.66
Mount Pleasant Hospital . . . . .	14,421.18
Murat Bay Hospital . . . . .	25,564.36
Naracoorte Hospital . . . . .	23,806.16
North-Eastern Community Hos- pital . . . . .	42,666.67
Northern Community Hospital . . . . .	28,333.33
Onkaparinga Hospital . . . . .	36,994.95
Orroroo Hospital . . . . .	22,600.75
Pinnaroo Hospital . . . . .	1,028.13
Stirling Hospital . . . . .	30,499.55
Strathalbyn Hospital . . . . .	14,619.94
Streaky Bay Hospital . . . . .	32,632.35
Victor Harbour (South Coast District) Hospital . . . . .	19,420.30
Waikerie Hospital . . . . .	13,945.46
Crippled Children's Association	2,715.45
Home for Incubables . . . . .	1,549,705.75
Minda Home . . . . .	84,110.54
S.A. Spastic Paralysis Welfare Association . . . . .	26,668.00
	\$2,624,493.46

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: This is not a critical question, but it concerns a matter which may arise and which may have to be considered by the Government. The Premier is well aware of the provisions of the Public Works Standing Committee Act which provides that it is unlawful for any Treasurer to introduce a Bill appropriating money for public works if the matter has not been inquired into by the Public Works Committee. I know he is aware of the provisions of section 32, I think, of the Public Finance Act which provides that, where any money that is not provided for in the Loan Estimates is paid out of the Loan Fund, the Treasurer must submit those payments in the first Loan Bill introduced after the payments are made. Those provisions cover the type of transaction which, in my opinion, the Treasurer referred to this afternoon and which have been discussed. I have considered the schedule made public by the Treasurer this afternoon, and one item (and I am not critical of it—it is perfectly meritorious) requires more than \$1,500,000 to be paid out of Loan funds. Undoubtedly, this matter has not been inquired into by the Public Works Committee because it was not a public work in the previously accepted term. Will the Treasurer consider whether it is now necessary to have this work submitted to the Public Works Committee so that the necessary authorization in the next Loan Bill can be made in accordance with the Public Finance Act?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will examine what has been submitted by the honourable member and let him have a reply.

#### DROUGHT ASSISTANCE.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: Following questions I have asked and correspondence I have received from the Premier regarding assistance to farmers suffering because of the drought, the matter is now getting serious. Several meetings have been arranged in my district, another meeting is being held this week, and I have been asked to arrange further meetings. The problem is so serious that, although the farmers have reduced their flocks of sheep to only feeding ewes, they are finding it difficult and almost impossible to obtain fodder anywhere to feed their stock. They have tried to obtain some from the Bordertown silo and have also tried to get baled hay in the South-East, but none is available. Inquiries are now being made in other States. It has been suggested that I ask the Government to consider appointing a subcommittee from the Agriculture Department to see whether it can get fodder from the Eastern States and freight concessions on the cartage of that fodder. In addition, where farmers are carting fodder to starving stock, will the Government consider removing the road tax on vehicles used for that purpose? Will the Premier set up such a committee? It may not operate for long, but the problem is to get someone with authority to obtain fodder from the other States.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I shall discuss the honourable member's suggestion with the Minister of Agriculture and with Cabinet, and let him have a reply.

Mr. McANANEY: In view of the difficult conditions being experienced by some farmers, will the Minister of Agriculture ascertain what is the prospect of early dividends from the Wheat and Barley Boards?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Yes.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: I understand that some oats for starving stock have been purchased from silos in the South-East. Farmers have picked up the oats from the silos in their bulk trucks, but the Railways Department has charged up to 85c a ton, even when the oats are not transported by rail, because they have been taken from railway property. Mannum, for example, has no railway service, and the department could not transport goods there. Some oats have been transported to a railway centre, such as Lameroo or Pinnaroo, where the

department has no bulk handling unloading facilities. Therefore, anomalies have arisen. Although I know that the practice in general trade has been to make a charge of 85c a ton, will the Premier raise the matter with some appropriate authority of the Railways Department to see whether the department will forgo this payment where it is proved that the oats are to be transported for starving stock?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will have the matter investigated.

#### BAKER'S RANGE DRAIN.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to the question I asked on June 28 regarding proposals of the South-Eastern Drainage Board in relation to Sheepwash Swamp?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: On June 27, 1967, Mr. McDonald telephoned the office of the board in regard to drainage proposals in the vicinity of the swamp. As the information was not immediately available he was advised that it would be given to him by telephone as soon as the position could be ascertained. However, he expressed a wish to call and discuss the matter with the board and this conference was to take place on Friday last, June 30. However, Mr. McDonald was unable to keep the appointment. The work to be carried out does not include any excavation through the swamp itself. It is intended that the excavation will cease at the point where the drain enters the southern edge near the boundary of the hundreds of Short and Coles, and recommence at the northern edge where suitable protection work is to be provided. The proposals envisage no material alteration to the existing conditions at the swamp and it is expected that water will continue to be available for irrigation purposes. Mr. McDonald has been authorized by the board to take water for irrigation purposes under annual licence, but no provision exists by which he has the right to make water available to other adjacent landholders. However, at his request, the terms under which this arrangement might be made were supplied to his solicitor on August 23, 1966, and the board awaits a reply.

#### PORT RIVER.

Mr. RYAN: Under the heading "Port River Sewage", the following article appeared in the Port Adelaide *Messenger* of June 28:

Raw sewage is discharged into the Port River, according to the Port Adelaide council. The statement was made when council discussed a letter from the Minister of Works about the discharge of effluent into the Port

River. Council decided to write to the Minister again on the subject. The letter will tell the Minister that there is evidence of raw sewage being discharged into the Port River from time to time from the Port Adelaide Treatment Works.

Can the Minister of Works say whether he has received the letter from the Port Adelaide council and replied to it? If he has replied, what is the content of that reply?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: No letter has yet been received from the Port Adelaide council regarding the matter raised by the honourable member. However, I say emphatically that the allegation that raw sewage is being discharged into the Port River is incorrect. Following similar allegations, this matter has been investigated time and time again. The department goes to no end of trouble to see that only purified water is discharged into the river and away from the treatment works. I am surprised to hear of the allegation and to have not yet received the letter.

#### PARK LANDS FACILITIES.

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of last week about park lands facilities being provided to the Adelaide Teachers College?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The Adelaide City Council was not able to agree to the construction of the large structure referred to by the honourable member, in the park lands, and therefore it is not intended to proceed with its construction there. However, a property has been purchased on MacKinnon Parade, North Adelaide, adjacent to the playing fields. The buildings on it have been demolished and plans drawn up for changing-room facilities. Tenders will be called when funds are available. Plans are also well under way for the provision of a new equipment shed near the oval and for the provision of new public toilets at the sports grounds.

#### KIMBA WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. BOCKELBERG: Recently I have asked several questions about the water supply at Kimba. As I understand that the Minister of Works now has a more detailed report, will he give it now?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: This matter has been closely watched by the Water Conservation Committee for the last two years, and in November, 1966, the position was reached where it was considered advisable to appoint a committee of Government officers stationed on Eyre Peninsula to investigate the position on the spot. This committee consisted of Mr. D. E. Martin, Regional Engineer of the Engineering

and Water Supply Department at Port Lincoln, Chairman, Messrs. D. H. Watson, Divisional Superintendent of the South Australian Railways at Port Lincoln, and M. A. Barry, Inspector of the Lands Department as members. This committee met on a number of occasions and investigated the possibility of water being carted into the county by rail and by road. However, the combination of a cooler than average summer and some summer rains made it possible for the demand for water to be met from the existing supplies within the county.

Excluding the water stored in the tanks at Kimba for township supply purposes, the total amount of water stored in the 16 water conservation supplies in the county at the present time is 3,800,000 gallons and this compares with a combined storage at the same time last year of 6,900,000 gallons. The total capacity of these supplies is 90,000,000 gallons and, despite the dry winter so far this year, there is considered to be a reasonable chance of some intakes being received in these supplies before next summer. The maximum amount of work has been done by the Regional Engineer and his staff in preparing the catchment areas so that the maximum amount of runoff will occur from any rain that follows. No firm plan exists for the augmentation of supply to the area in the event of no intake being received, sufficient fodder still being available to carry the stock numbers involved. Previous investigations by the committee, however, would make it possible to formulate and implement an urgent plan of action should this become necessary. The foregoing remarks do not apply to the Kimba township water supply where water has been carted from Iron Knob for many months to maintain a restricted supply. This carting will continue for as long as is necessary.

#### HOVERCRAFT.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Recently I observed a demonstration at Port Noarlunga of a South Australian built hovercraft, which has been developed in South Australia by two young engineers, Messrs. Geoff. Green and Treloar. I believe that, at present, this is the only hovercraft that can actually carry passengers. The Commonwealth Government has been approached to see whether it is interested in developing this machine for its use. Should the Commonwealth Government decide that it wants full development, I am concerned to see that the industry remains in South Australia. The industry requires six or seven acres of flat land, obviously without many trees,

and the land must be near water. Of course, the industry also has other requirements. Will the Premier see these gentlemen or authorize appropriate officers to have discussions with them with a view to helping the industry develop and remain in South Australia?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I should certainly be happy to see personally the engineers involved and to see to it that officers of my department render them every assistance. As the honourable member knows, the Government is prepared to make industrial sites available extremely cheaply. However, it is our policy that, where assistance is desired by an industry, we will build and either sell or lease factory space for the establishment of that industry. Recommendations can be made by the Industries Development Committee for either direct grants or the Treasurer's guarantee. We certainly desire to have an industry of this kind established in South Australia if it is a viable proposition. I assure the honourable member that, if he asks the gentlemen concerned to see me, I shall give them an interested reception.

#### AUBURN-EUDUNDA ROAD.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to my question about the policy of his colleague in regard to the completion of the sealing of the Auburn-Eudunda road?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Roads reports that in reply to a similar question asked by Mr. Freebairn on March 9, 1967, the following reply was given:

The District Council of Saddleworth is at present reconstructing the section between Marrabel and Eudunda and should complete it in 1967-68. The departmental advance programme provides for reconstruction between Auburn and Saddleworth to be commenced by the District Council of Saddleworth in 1967-68 and completed in 1968-69. As the section between Saddleworth and Marrabel is already sealed, the whole length between Auburn and Eudunda will therefore be completed in 1968-69.

#### FISHING.

Mr. HALL: The fishing industry in South Australia was highlighted at the weekend, when the following report appeared in the *Sunday Mail*:

Four steps urged to lift industry in South Australia. Development of the South Australian fishing industry depends on four immediate steps, the General Manager of the South Australian Fishermen's Co-operative Ltd., Mr. R. M. Fowler, said today.

The steps referred to by Mr. Fowler are as follows:

Appoint a full-time Director of Fisheries with reasonable authority and sufficient finance to provide necessary scientific and technical staff as well as fisheries inspectors;

Set up an advisory committee under the chairmanship of the Director of Fisheries, consisting of representatives of the catching, processing, and marketing sides of the industry;

Apply strong pressure on the Commonwealth for finance from the Fishing Industry Development Trust Fund for research into South Australian fisheries; and

Give South Australian fishermen suitable landing facilities.

The Government's discharge of its responsibilities to the fishing industry has been marked by two factors. The first factor is a reduction in the amount spent on fishing havens, as shown by the following comparison:

Year.	Amount. \$
1963-64 . . . . .	272,000
1964-65 . . . . .	84,000
1965-66 . . . . .	47,000
1966-67 (proposed) . . . . .	40,000

Secondly, it has been marked by the laying-up of the fisheries research vessel *Investigator*. Because of these facts and Mr. Fowler's remarks, will the Minister of Agriculture examine these important aspects with a view to appointing a permanent Director of Fisheries, re-establishing financial authority for fishing havens, and obtaining as much assistance as possible in respect of Commonwealth research facilities for South Australia?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I read the comment by Mr. Fowler in the *Sunday Mail*. This followed two previous reports, one by the Acting Director and Chief Inspector of Fisheries the week before and one by a spokesman for big game people the week before that. It was because of the controversies about fishing that the Government elected a Select Committee. Many problems, even more than those suggested in the three reports, are associated with fisheries. The Government is well aware of the need to assist the fisheries industry. There was a full-time Director until recently, when Mr. Bogg resigned to take up an appointment with the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations. He has just left, and applications have been invited for the position. Some likely applicants are at present being investigated and interviewed. It is hoped that we shall have a full-time Director soon, although a suitable applicant may be committed to his present position for some time to come, and some time may there-

fore elapse before he takes up duty. That happens in many appointments. The Leader, after reading from the newspaper, said that during this Government's term of office, the allocation for fishing havens had declined. However, he quoted a year in which provision was made for a special purpose—for Lake Butler at Robe. Such variations in the allocation occur when special provision is made for a particular project in one year.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: The amount has been fairly even over the years.

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I have noticed that the Leader has been rather keen, when addressing political meetings, to select certain years. On other occasions, he has sorted out cases where special amounts have been provided on a line for a particular project. He has done this to bolster up his argument in debate, and I suppose this action is understandable in view of his rather destitute and desperate position. Generally, the Government is very conscious of the needs of the Fisheries Department. In relation to the vessel *Investigator*, work is being done at present and the vessel will probably be in use soon. The manning of the vessel has caused us problems for some time. Mr. Fowler has raised one or two matters that are not unknown to the department, and they will be considered.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Agriculture a reply in connection with a letter I wrote to him about the provision of bag limits on undersize fish at Port Davis?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Again, this matter is evidence of the need for the appointment of the Select Committee. The matter of amateurs *versus* professionals has been brought to my notice many times since I have been Minister and one of the matters involved is the right of some people to take undersize fish. Whiting is one of our most valued varieties of fish and we must protect this variety at all costs. I am not in favour of providing bag limits for undersize fish. Before I became Minister, these limits were provided for three places: Port Broughton, Port Pirie, and Coffin Bay. However, I do not think that such a provision makes the practice right, particularly in these days when people are more mobile on the water. Trailer boats allow many more people to take advantage of fishing than could previously. If we provide a bag limit for everyone, before long we shall have undersize fish being caught all the time instead of being

allowed to grow. The point made in the letter that undersize fish would die anyway after they were caught is not borne out by evidence. If fish are treated correctly, the hook can be removed without the fish suffering ill effects. I oppose granting extra bag limits for undersize fish: indeed, I would take away those that already exist.

Mr. HALL: If he can, I should like the Minister to obtain for me the sums spent on fishing havens in other States. The sums spent on fishing havens in South Australia during the last 10 years are as follows: 1966-67, \$40,000; 1965-66, \$47,000; 1964-65, \$84,000; 1963-64, \$272,000; 1962-63, \$30,000; 1961-62, \$52,000; 1960-61, \$70,000; 1959-60, \$142,000; 1958-59, \$132,000; and 1957-58, \$60,000. The average for the eight years of the previous Government's term was \$105,000 a year, but the average during the two years of administration of this department by this Government is just over \$43,500. If the high figure of \$272,000 is taken out of the table, we still have double the provision made for havens by the present Government. This comparison supports my question. Will the Minister of Agriculture ascertain from the other States how much each has spent in a reasonable time, perhaps in the last five years, so that a comparison may be made with the expenditure in South Australia?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: I shall be happy to do that. I know from discussions at the Fisheries Council that for many years some of the other States have spent far more than South Australia has spent. In fact, I shall be happy to get, in percentages, a comparison of how much they have spent.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: On fishing havens?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Yes, and I shall also obtain a comparison of the amounts spent on fisheries generally, because that is also important. I should like to have received some support from honourable members opposite when I called them together some time ago to discuss problems in the fishing industry. Also, when we appointed a Select Committee, we invited Opposition members to be members of the committee, but they refused. I consider that Opposition members are as aware as I am of the problems in the fisheries industry, and the Select Committee was appointed because of those problems. I hope that fishing will be regarded as an industry, not as a political football.

#### PESTICIDES.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: Has the Minister of Agriculture an answer to my recent question concerning the use of pesticides and the consequent hazard?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: The following report has been prepared by the Director of Agriculture in regard to the problem of pesticide residues, which was referred to in the House recently and reported in *Hansard* on June 29, 1967:

As stated by you, this is a problem which receives much attention at meetings of Agricultural Council. The possible hazard to animal and human health in Australia and the effects in regard to acceptability of Australia's exports are both matters of paramount importance. The Co-ordinating Committee on Pesticides, on which State Agriculture Departments and several Commonwealth departments are represented, keeps these matters under constant review. In South Australia, a small committee has just been formed with a view to ensuring that everything possible is done to avoid residue problems. Recently a review was made of the department's recommendations for the control of crop and pasture pests and, wherever possible, insecticides of the chlorinated hydrocarbon type—including D.D.T.—have been excluded.

A few important pests of pasture, however, can be controlled only by D.D.T., and to ban the use of D.D.T. at this stage would lead to serious effects on production. In an endeavour to overcome this difficulty it is hoped to commence a new project aimed at finding alternative methods of control against these pests. In the meantime the department is publicizing the need to follow the recommendations regarding withholding of grazing animals for a period following spraying with insecticides. To sum up, the department is well aware of the situation, and is taking steps to bring about improvements in regard to residue levels.

#### WALLAROO HOSPITAL.

Mr. HUGHES: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked during his absence last week concerning bitumen paving at the Wallaroo Hospital?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The Director of the Public Buildings Department states that a contract for repairs to the bitumen paving at the Wallaroo Hospital has just been let to L. R. & M. Contractors and Engineers Proprietary Limited of 11 Ryde Street, Gawler.

#### ONE TREE HILL SCHOOL.

Mrs. BYRNE: Can the Minister of Education say whether land has been purchased for a replacement school at One Tree Hill and, if it has been, what plans the department has for erecting a new building on this site or for shifting the existing timber frame unit from the present site to the new site?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: An area of about 2½ acres in section 4192 hundred of Munno Para has been bought as a site for a new school at One Tree Hill. However, it is estimated that 24 children only will attend the One Tree Hill school in 1968, and future enrolment trends indicate a rise to 33 in 1973. At present, the need for new school buildings at One Tree Hill is not as urgent as at several other places. For this reason it is not intended to proceed with the erection of new buildings at the present site, or to transfer the existing building to the new site. However, the position will be closely watched with a view to future needs.

#### KEITH WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. NANKIVELL: On June 20 I asked the Minister of Works a question about the success or otherwise of the Mines Department's search for water at Keith, and the Minister said that he expected to have an answer within a week. Has he now any relevant information on the matter?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Although I promised to obtain a report, I have received an interim report from the Mines Department simply indicating that further investigations should be made. I have been told by the Minister of Mines that a report was forwarded to my office this morning. However, I have not seen that report because, unfortunately, I was out of the office for most of the morning on other duties. I understand the context of the report is that further investigations are being made and that it is hoped to have a final and detailed report within a fortnight.

#### KESWICK INTERSECTION.

Mr. LANGLEY: Has the Minister representing the Minister of Local Government an answer to the question I recently asked about installing traffic lights at the Goodwood Road and Greenhill Road intersection?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Compulsory acquisition of land on the south-eastern corner of Goodwood Road and Greenhill Road intersection will be necessary before the installation of traffic lights can proceed. Right of entry is expected by September or October, and the lights are expected to operate by the middle of December.

#### PORT LINCOLN ROAD.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Has the Minister representing the Minister of Roads a reply to the question I asked on June 20

about a road near the Government Produce Department works at Port Lincoln?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague the Minister of Roads reports that the work which has been undertaken recently on the outskirts of Port Lincoln on a road linking the Old West Road to the vicinity of the Government Produce Department works is a scheme to provide a new main road access to the Port Lincoln town centre and to the bulk wheat silos and other major traffic generators in the area. The route of this proposed road between the area of the Government Produce Department works and the vicinity of the wheat silos is subject to certain negotiations currently being pursued with the South Australian Railways which may result in a road alignment much superior to that considered previously by the Highways Department. The negotiations are well advanced and it is expected that finality will be achieved and work progressed on the second stage of development of this project soon.

#### LICENSING BILL.

Mr. McANANEY: On the first day of this session the Premier said that a list of amendments to the Licensing Bill would be made available before the Address in Reply debate was concluded. If the amendments are numerous, will the Premier ascertain whether the Bill cannot be reprinted with the amendments incorporated?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Although I have considered that matter, I point out that, as some of the amendments are contentious, it is a little difficult to put before the House a Bill containing a whole series of amendments that have not been accepted. However, I completed with the Parliamentary Draftsman and the Superintendent of Licensed Premises last Sunday week a series of proposed amendments to the Bill. I would have hoped that the amendments would be available to members ere this so that they could examine them. I will inquire whether the amendments might be placed before members with an explanation of them. I assure the honourable member that I shall give time to members and interested organizations to study the amendments before we proceed with the Committee debate on the Bill.

#### INDUSTRIAL DESIGN CENTRE.

Mr. CUMBE: I understand that the Premier said in another State last week that he intended to set up in South Australia an industrial design centre. As I have some

knowledge of industrial design and its function, I ask the Premier what he has in mind and how he will develop the undertaking?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: In relation to industrial design centres in other States, the Australian Design Council has been financially supported by Governments elsewhere (in Victoria, I think the sum paid towards the Industrial Design Centre is about \$2,000 a year). I intend to undertake discussions with the local committee of the Australian Design Council, and with Sir Walter Scott when he is available, about setting up an industrial design centre in South Australia with some annual support from the Government. It is desirable that we should co-operate with the overall Australian organization, using the awards made by the design council, rather than that we should set up any separate organization here. I am anxious that this proceed as soon as possible. I have been in touch with the people involved and as soon as I have some conclusions I will inform the honourable member.

#### FRUIT CARGOES.

The Hon. Sir THOMAS PLAYFORD: Has the Minister of Agriculture been able to secure any information about insurance of the fruit cargo on the ship which is at present impounded in the Suez Canal and which contains a large quantity of valuable commodities from South Australia? Can he say why the ship did not adhere to a direction given by the Apple and Pear Board to avoid the Suez Canal?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: Although I cannot say why the ship ignored the direction to which the honourable member has referred, I have undertaken some research into the matter generally. A report from the General Manager of the Government Produce Department (Mr. Jeanes) states:

(1) The only vessel affected which is carrying South Australian fruit is the *Scottish Star*, with a cargo of 182,000 bushels of apples and 14,000 bushels of pears from several States. Of this total, 79,677 bushels of apples were shipped from South Australia.

(2) Of the South Australian shipment, 12,500 bushels of several varieties were shipped by this department as agent on behalf of seven different packing sheds. The remainder was handled by other shippers, including Murray River Wholesale, McKenzie & Co., Craig Mostyn Ltd., Pine Ridge Packing Co., and Chilton Thompson & Co. Pty. Ltd.

(3) Of the 12,500 bushels shipped by this department, 600 bushels represented a forward sale, and no loss would accrue to the packers on this quantity. The remainder was sold on consignment with a guaranteed advance payable by the buyer on loading at Port Adelaide, and

these advances have been paid. A further payment, representing the difference between the guaranteed advance and the selling price, less handling charges and commission, would be due to the grower if the apples were eventually marketed.

(4) All fruit sold on a guaranteed advance consignment becomes the buyer's responsibility for insurance, and it has been ascertained that all fruit shipped by this department was insured by the buyers for its estimated sale value. Fruit shipped by the other agents would almost certainly be similarly covered.

(5) Fruit has a limited life and all the circumstances indicate that there is little likelihood of the fruit in the *Scottish Star* arriving at its destination in a saleable condition. Certainly its value must be drastically reduced at least.

(6) In the event of total loss of the fruit, which is a distinct possibility, the insured value could normally be claimed. However, inquiries through the Agent-General and Trade Commissioner in London reveal that there are grave doubts on this question. Insurance companies state that losses caused through a delayed voyage are not covered by the average policy. The shipping company also, does not accept responsibility for the present delay. It would appear, therefore, that, in any event, a great deal of negotiation will be necessary before any further payments, beyond the guaranteed advances, are made, if at all.

(7) If no further payments are received, it is estimated that the following losses would be incurred by the South Australian fruit-growers. These losses are based on the assumption that the fruit could have been sold at not less than the insured rates, and recent selling prices would fully substantiate this assumption.

Loss on 12,500 bushels of apples shipped through the department by seven different packing sheds and co-operatives—about \$18,700.

Probable loss on 67,177 bushels of apples shipped by other agents, which included 54,531 bushels on guaranteed advance consignment, 11,413 bushels forward sale, and 1,233 bushels on open consignment—about \$93,300.

Total estimated loss by S.A. fruitgrowers, if fruit is lost and insurance not paid—\$112,000.

Whilst this loss would be very considerable indeed, the buyers, on the other hand, in both the United Kingdom and the Continent, would stand to lose about double this amount as they have already paid out on guaranteed advances. The Australian Apple and Pear Board is watching the whole position very closely, and is investigating all aspects of insurance and responsibility. This information will be made available to the industry as it comes to hand.

Following the question asked about sultanas, I asked my Secretary (Mr. Rush) to investigate the matter, and he reports as follows:

Following a telephone conversation I had with Mr. Fleming of the South Australian Dried Fruits Board, I am informed that the position regarding South Australian dried fruits delayed in the Suez Canal is as follows:

There are about 19 tons of dried tree fruits aboard the *Killara*, which is one of the two vessels carrying Australian produce to Britain trapped in the Suez Canal as a result of the Israeli-Arab war. There is approximately 16½ tons of dried fruits aboard the other vessel, the *Scottish Star*. This information was obtained by Mr. Fleming by personal inquiry from the South Australian agents. The South Australian board does not have any say in the allocation of cargo space, nor does it have anything to do with export dried fruits. These are matters which are handled by the Australian Dried Fruits Board whose headquarters are in Melbourne.

Mr. Fleming said that it would be most unlikely that the dried fruits in question would be in refrigerated cargo space. Assuming they are being carried in unrefrigerated cargo space, there would, in the event of a prolonged delay, be some deterioration in the quality of the dried fruits, but it was unlikely that it would become a total loss. He had no information on the insurance position.

After receiving that information, I sent the following telegram to the Minister for Trade (Rt. Hon. J. McEwen):

Am greatly concerned over South Australian fresh and dried fruits aboard *Killara* and *Scottish Star*. Both vessels delayed indefinitely in Suez Canal. Am informed approximately 80,000 bushels apples and 16 tons dried fruits ex South Australia aboard *Scottish Star* and 19 tons dried fruits aboard *Killara*. Delay will mean either total loss or bad deterioration. Insurance position not clear but obvious growers will incur heavy losses. Grateful for anything you can do to alleviate position for growers.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE.

Mr. HALL: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to the question I asked concerning the Local Government Act Revision Committee's report?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Local Government states that the Local Government Act Revision Committee is still currently sitting to consider proposals to be included in the Local Government Act. The committee has heard evidence from over 50 persons and bodies. In addition, numerous written submissions have been received. The committee is still receiving requests from persons anxious to make submissions. The committee has received requests that it visit certain country areas to enable country local authorities and ratepayers to make submissions. It considers this essential, but other investigations have so far prevented these hearings taking place. Indications are that local authorities are anxiously awaiting this and the committee hopes to make these visits early in the financial year. The committee has received and

is receiving submissions from interested people to a far greater extent than was originally envisaged.

The original tentative period for the inquiry was two years, but it must be remembered that the magnitude of such a task makes accurate estimation of completion extremely difficult. The tentative two-year period expires towards the end of 1967, but investigations necessary and the volume of submissions to the committee indicate that an extension to this tentative period will be required. During the 1967-68 financial year the committee hopes to complete its investigations and hearings and to reach decisions on provisions for the Act. The availability of a Parliamentary Draftsman will greatly affect the time of completion of drafting the provisions of the new Act.

#### INDUSTRIAL STOPPAGES.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: It was reported in the paper (I think last Saturday morning) that in the course of an address to industrialists in Sydney the Premier had favourably compared the industrial record (time lost through stoppages) of this State with that of New South Wales. It was reported a week earlier (I think in the *Advertiser* of June 24) that the Australian Council of Trade Unions planned a series of stoppages throughout Australia to protest at the decision of the Arbitration Commission on the total wage concept. It was further reported that many industries could be severely hit on varying days by stoppages that could extend to at least four hours following lunch-hour meetings, and that these stoppages were to be organized through the various State branches of the A.C.T.U. In view of the importance to this State of minimizing industrial stoppages, will the Government use its good offices with the South Australian Trades and Labor Council to persuade it not to go on with the stoppages or, if it is not able to do that, at least to ensure that such stoppages do not in any case go beyond the lunch hour?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The decisions of the A.C.T.U. are not in the hands of this Government. It is the custom of the South Australian Trades and Labor Council to inform the Government of any likely or intended stoppages in this State, and the Government always uses its good offices to conciliate and to see that stoppages are minimized. That will continue to be its policy.

## POLICE RADIOS.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked regarding whether the Police Department had called tenders for the supply of two-way radios?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Chief Storekeeper has in the past agreed to the department continuing with the purchase of a standard type of radio equipment and dispensing with calling for tenders. It is essential that any radio equipment purchased by this department is readily interchangeable and fits in with the existing network, so that in the event of any breakdown a spare component can be fitted and the vehicle or set brought back into service with a minimum of delay. We have found that even in the case of the introduction of a new model of the equipment used, accessories, fittings and spare parts are usually interchangeable. The supply of spare parts and any factory service also present no problem, as the equipment is of local manufacture.

## TRANSPORT STUDY.

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to the question I asked last week concerning the progress being made on the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Roads reports that the study is almost completed, except for minor details. Finalizing of the scheme will take about three months. The time required for printing of the text and plates is not known exactly. This is now in hand with the Government Printer, but it is unlikely to be available at least until the end of the year. It is a matter of decision by the department as to when it will be tabled in the House or released to the public.

## WATERVALE WATER SUPPLY.

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Will the Minister of Works inquire of the Director and Engineer-in-Chief what stage work on the water supply service to Watervale has now reached?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Yes, and I will inform the honourable member when the reply comes to hand.

## UNDERGROUND RAILWAY.

The Hon. T. C. STOTT: Has the Minister of Social Welfare, representing the Minister of Transport, a reply to my recent question about an underground railway?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The possibility of an underground railway beneath King William Street has been referred to by the

Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study. A decision on this matter will depend upon a full study of the final report of the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study and the availability of funds.

## CHOWILLA DAM.

Mr. HALL: Has the Premier the specific report of Mr. Beaney (which he promised to get in response to several questions from members on this side) concerning the present state of the negotiations on, and construction of, Chowilla dam?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have the following report:

The River Murray Commission at its meeting of May 10 considered the revised cost figures for Chowilla that were revealed in the tenders received. Arising from this the commission decided to re-examine the benefits available from the scheme. The earlier assessments of Chowilla were made in 1961 by a working group of officers of the three States concerned, and representing South Australia an engineer was stationed in Melbourne on this work for several months. While the benefits shown in the early studies can still be regarded as an estimate of the gains to be had from the Chowilla storage, the commission has recently had the operation of the river system programmed for computer studies. The higher costs prompted the commission to aim at the most precise evaluation possible from the project. The 1961 studies had shown that storages on the Upper Murray above Hume dam did not favourably compare with Chowilla and the commission has not included a new assessment of upper river storages in the present studies. There have been a number of suggestions from outside bodies in Victoria and New South Wales advocating these alternatives but the commission, in recent correspondence on the subject, has continued to advise that the 1961 studies showed that Chowilla is the preferred storage development on the river.

In its concern at the present cost level of \$68,000,000 for Chowilla, the commission has asked that the Engineering and Water Supply Department as the constructing agent for the South Australian Government explore any possible modification of the scheme that may lead to economy. This is being done as widely as possible and apart from our own design work we are in close contact with our consultants, Soil Mechanics Limited of London, and have at present a team of engineers from the Snowy Mountains Authority closely examining all aspects of the design. Discussions are also being held with other departments covering suggestions that a substantial saving should be taken by the elimination of the lock chamber and alternative provision be made for the transport of small craft only past the dam. The computer studies are being carried out by the technical committee of the commission and this is meeting today in Melbourne. Mr. A. M. Kinnear (Assistant Engineer for Irrigation and Drainage) is representing the department. There is some hope that a report will be issued

to the commission from this meeting, although there are several differences of interpretation of the work so far done that will require negotiation between the several representatives there. There is one point that may require immediate field investigation. This could lead to a delay of two or three weeks in completion of the technical committee's report. The River Murray Commission will be meeting to discuss its recommendations to the Governments as soon as possible on the receipt of the information from the technical committee.

#### BUILDING INDUSTRY.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: When the Premier assumed office, he said that he regarded as an urgent task the revival of the building industry in South Australia. Subsequently, he announced that he intended to have talks with leaders in industry with a view to achieving that aim. That took place about a month ago and no announcement has been made of any plans the Government may have to revive the building industry in this State, and no apparent revival has occurred independently. Therefore, can the Premier reveal to the House what are the plans of his Government following his talks with leaders of the building industry?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I shall be announcing these plans before long. I assure the honourable member that I have had discussions with a wide range of people concerned with the building industry. I have also had to have discussions with officers of the Housing Trust and, in Canberra, with the Prime Minister. It is essential that the results of all this discussion be evaluated properly before an announcement is made by the Government. However, I assure the honourable member that no time has been wasted in this regard.

#### NAILSWORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL.

Mr. COUMBE: As a result of questions I asked last year, the Minister of Education effected several long overdue improvements to the Nailsworth Primary School that have been well received by the parents and staff. Unfortunately, requests to the department to have a new toilet block erected at the school have not borne fruit. Therefore, will the Minister look at this matter urgently to see whether a new toilet block can be provided fairly quickly?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: Yes, I will examine the matter.

#### LOAN ALLOCATION.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Last week the Treasurer attended the Loan Council meeting in Canberra, at which a total Loan programme was agreed upon. Can he say whether the decision on the

total amount of the Loan programme was unanimous among the parties and, if it was not, whether South Australia supported the proposal finally agreed to?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member, from examination of the financial agreement, must know that a decision of Loan Council is required to be unanimous.

Mr. Millhouse: That was only the cut up.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No. It was made perfectly clear at the Loan Council meeting that, unless all States were prepared to agree to the figure proposed by the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth would refuse to underwrite the Loan and would simply pay to the States their proportions under the monthly Loan raisings. It was not a position in which any support could be gained for the proposition that South Australia should stick out. I cannot discuss in detail the discussions that the Commonwealth Government demanded be confidential. I can only say that the discussions were spirited and, at times, extremely heated. South Australia got the best possible deal that was available in all the circumstances. We have had some increase in Loan raisings allowed to us and a special allowance for our gas pipeline, beyond the general Loan raising programme. Only two other States got anything extra in this way: Tasmania got \$2,000,000 for the Gordon River project and New South Wales got an additional \$2,000,000 generally built into its cut up from Loan moneys. Basically, this was a result of previous submissions to Loan Council by New South Wales, but the two applications for special benefit made by Victoria and New South Wales (Victoria for its gas pipeline and New South Wales for its grain elevators) were refused by the Commonwealth and it was not possible in the circumstances, in Loan Council, for us to obtain better than we obtained. The unanimous conclusion that was then reached was not reached with any happiness on the part of the Premiers of the other States or on my part. It was a situation into which we were forced by the Commonwealth stand. I can also say that in future I, as Treasurer of this State, shall not be prepared to have the Premiers' Conference held together with confidential discussions of Loan Council. I consider that these meetings must be held separately and that the Premiers' Conference must be held in public. Then, everybody will know the kinds of ultimatum given to the States.

### NURIOOTPA HIGH SCHOOL.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question about plans for new solid construction buildings at the Nuriootpa High School?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: Plans for new-type solid construction high schools have been completed and tenders have been called by the Director, Public Buildings Department, for the first of these new high schools, at Glengowrie. If desired, copies of these plans could be obtained from the Director, Public Buildings Department, for the information of members of the Nuriootpa High School Council. However, it should be pointed out that there is no possibility of solid construction buildings being erected at Nuriootpa High School in the near future, or that they would necessarily be of the same design as the Glengowrie High School.

It is not possible to say when new solid construction buildings will be erected at Nuriootpa High School, because with present resources, such high school buildings must be limited to areas that do not have a high school at present, to schools that cannot house expected increased enrolments without solid buildings, and to the completion of schools the erection of which has been planned in two stages.

### TAX REIMBURSEMENT.

Mr. McANANEY: Can the Treasurer say why the South Australian share of total tax reimbursements this year has been reduced?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The amounts we received were according to the formula previously worked out and varied according to population movement. In fact, South Australia received exactly the average of the amount paid to the States.

Mr. McANANEY: On which 12-month period before the fixing of this year's tax reimbursement were the population figures taken?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot say exactly, but I shall obtain the information for the honourable member. I consider that South Australia is at some disadvantage, because a mistake was made in calculating the South Australian population prior to 1965, when the last re-writing of the financial reimbursement grant formula took place. Consequently, South Australia is at some disadvantage because the base figure has been fixed on a wrong estimate of population. I submitted this fact to the

Commonwealth Government at the council but, at that stage, it was not prepared to listen.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Who made the mistake in the submission?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot cite exactly who was responsible at that time: this Government was not in office when the formula was re-written. However, the mistake is there and I submitted this fact, but the Prime Minister has not, so far, listened in respect of this matter. However, we have made further submissions to the Commonwealth Treasurer pointing out the injustice to South Australia, and I hope that, when a further special meeting of Premiers takes place (which I expect will be before the next annual meeting of Loan Council and Premiers' Conference), this matter will be rectified.

### BIRDSVILLE TRACK.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: An announcement was made by the Commonwealth Minister for National Development last week that \$1,000,000 (I think that was the amount) will be spent on work on the Birdsville track in South Australia. Will the Minister of Lands ascertain from the Minister of Roads what the programme for improvements to the Birdsville track may be, in view of this generous grant from the Commonwealth Government, and when the work will be undertaken?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes.

### SALES TAX.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Before the Premier set out for Canberra last week he announced separately, I think, that he intended to urge the Commonwealth Government to relax sales tax on motor vehicles, and that he intended to urge the Commonwealth Government to enlarge social welfare benefits. Can the Premier say whether he made these submissions to the Commonwealth Government and, if he did, to whom in particular were they made, and what was the response to them?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: In my general case submitted to the Commonwealth Prime Minister and the Treasurer, I pointed out the difficulties with which others were faced to provide extra moneys to those people for whom the Commonwealth Government should be basically responsible for unemployment benefits, and the States' difficulties to cope with anomalies in Commonwealth social service payments. After the meeting I submitted to the Prime Minister that a special meeting of officers of the State Social Welfare Department and the Commonwealth

Social Services Department should be held soon to examine this position. The Prime Minister promised me that he would take the matter to Cabinet immediately. I submitted the matter of a reduction of 2½ per cent in sales tax at the open Premiers' Conference. Although there was some argument about the effects of changes in sales tax, I do not think my submission fell on entirely deaf ears, because the Prime Minister and the Commonwealth Treasurer have promised that this matter will be considered during their discussions of the coming Commonwealth Budget.

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

Mr. NANKIVELL (on notice): Will the Minister of Social Welfare answer the following:

1. Where is the Minister's office situated?
2. Who is his Secretary?
3. How many indigent families are under the Minister's control?
4. How many children are in his care?
5. How many of these are in institutions?
6. What is the ratio of children to staff in these institutions?
7. How many welfare officers are employed in the Social Welfare Department?
8. How many child psychologists are employed?
9. Is this number considered sufficient?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: The replies are as follows:

1. The office of the Minister of Social Welfare is on the sixth floor of the Reserve Bank Building, Victoria Square, Adelaide.

2. The duties of the Secretary are being performed by Mr. J. N. Holland, of the Chief Secretary's Department.

3. There is no statutory provision in South Australia for indigent families to be placed formally under the Minister's control. However, many families are visited by welfare officers of the department's Field Branch to give supportive help and family counselling, frequently over a lengthy period. In May, 1967, 1,082 families were being visited in this way. Public relief assistance is currently being afforded to 603 families.

4. At May 31, 1967, the number of children committed as State children under the Minister's guardianship was 2,867. Another 1,016 children were under probation supervision by officers of the Department of Social Welfare for offences, in accordance with the Offenders Probation Act. A further 4,322 children were subject to visitation (but not under formal control), pursuant to the Social Welfare Act. Children in families in receipt of relief do not by that fact only fall within any of the above categories.

5. Children in departmental homes and institutions on May 31, 1967, numbered 499.

6. The ratio of children to staff in the various departmental homes and institutions based on the maximum number of children during this financial year is shown below. Vacancies in the establishments exist from time to time:

Institution.	Maximum number of children.	Total staff establishment.	Ratio of children to staff.
	114	46	2.5 : 1
Windana (Remand Home at Glandore) ..	95	56	1.7 : 1
Boys Reformatory Institution, Magill (including Security Section) .. . . . . .	62	21	3 : 1
Brookway Park (Junior Boys Reformatory Institution, Campbelltown) .. . . . . .	48	19	2.5 : 1
Vaughan House (Girls Reformatory Institution, Enfield) .. . . . . .	94	30	3.1 : 1
Glandore Boys Home, Glandore .. . . . . .	96	44	2.2 : 1
Seaforth Home, Somerton Park .. . . . . .	27	9	3 : 1
Lochiel Park, Campbelltown .. . . . . .	30	9	3.3 : 1
Struan Farm, Naracoorte .. . . . . .	68	22	3.1 : 1
Hostels (2 for boys and 2 for girls) .. . . . . .	48	18	2.7 : 1
Cottage Homes (5 excluding Port Pirie where no paid staff is employed) .. . . . . .			

The new senior boys reformatory institution at Magill is nearing completion, and a staffing establishment for the General Section totalling 61 positions has been approved on the basis of up to 120 boys in residence in the first year or so. There are 11 additional positions in the Security Section.

7. The establishment of the Field Branch in the department, excluding clerical officers is:

Field Supervisor and Assistant Field Supervisor . . . . .	2
Senior welfare and probation officers and assistant seniors . . . . .	5
District officers and officer-in-charge of a district officer . . . . .	6
Probation officers . . . . .	35
Welfare officers . . . . .	23
Total . . . . .	71

The institutional staff referred to in the answer to Question No. 6 are not included in the above figures.

8. Five.

9. The department has sought two additional professional staff for the Psychology Branch. Further consideration of this request has been deferred until November, 1967.

#### TOURIST TRADE.

Mr. NANKIVELL (on notice):

1. What is the annual value to the State of the tourist trade?

2. Is this figure increasing?

3. How many visitors from each Australian State come to South Australia annually?

4. About what is the annual number of overseas visitors to this State?

5. From which main countries do these overseas visitors originate?

6. What methods of transport do they use?

7. How much has been spent on advertising South Australia interstate and overseas, respectively?

8. Is greater expenditure on advertising advocated to attract more visitors?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The replies are as follows:

1. Surveys carried out suggest that in the calendar year 1966 South Australia received about \$30,000,000 from interstate and overseas holiday and business visitors. The value of the intrastate travel trade is not known but a "guesstimate" is that it is about the value of the interstate and overseas business.

2. Surveys carried out in the last five years show an annual increase of about 10 per cent.

3. The number of visitors from each Australian State is unknown, but the estimated total for interstate and overseas visitors in 1966 was 600,000.

4. Unknown.

5. New Zealand, United States of America and Britain.

6. Mainly air, but some come by sea to Australia. Within Australia rail, road and air transport are used.

7. The appropriation for advertising the State in the year 1966-67 was \$57,192. This sum, covering all kinds of publicity, including advertising, was all spent within Australia, and mainly in South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales. No money was spent in overseas tourist advertising, because South Australia, in common with the other States, agreed to support the Australian National Travel Association financially and otherwise and this body has had the responsibility for the promotion of overseas travel to Australia.

8. Yes; but it is necessary to consider this need in relation to other demands on the State's resources.

#### ABORIGINES.

Mr. FERGUSON (on notice):

1. How many persons have been appointed to the Aboriginal Lands Trust?

2. Have all positions on the trust been filled?

3. What are the names of the personnel of the Aboriginal Lands Trust?

4. Which of the Aboriginal reserves have been inspected by the trust?

5. What is the nature of the economic utilization which is being considered in connection with these reserves?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The replies are as follows:

1. Three.

2. Yes.

3. Mr. T. Hughes (Chairman). Mrs. N. McNamara. Mr. G. I. Wilson.

4. Borri, Bonney, Boundary Bluff, Brinkley, Campbell Point, Ceduna, Coober Pedy, Dodd Landing Point, Goat Island, Koonibba, Mallee Park, Mannum, Marree, Murat Bay, Needles Island, North West, Oodnadatta, Point McLeay, Point McLeay No. 2, Poonindie, Rabbit Island, Snake Island, Swan Reach, Wellington East, Wellington West, Yalata.

5. Action has commenced for the transfer of unoccupied and unoccupied reserves to the Aboriginal Lands Trust. Negotiations have already commenced for the leasing of certain reserves for farming purposes. A survey has

been undertaken and a developmental programme outlined by the Agriculture Department for the improvement of Block "K" (Point McLeay No. 2).

**TEACHERS.**

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. How many teachers resigned in the first six months of each of the years 1964, 1965 and 1966, respectively?

2. How many teachers have resigned during the present year?

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: The replies are as follows:

1. 1964, 549; 1965, 619; 1966, 581.
2. 1967, 538.

**BANKRUPTS.**

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): How many persons became bankrupt in the years, 1964-65, 1965-66 and 1966-67?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is a Commonwealth matter. The Official Receiver has supplied the following information:

Year.	No. of Persons.
1964-65 . . . . .	591
1965-66 . . . . .	556
1966-67 . . . . .	661

**ROAD ACCIDENTS.**

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. How many persons have been killed this year in road accidents in this State?

2. How many have been injured in road accidents during this period?

3. Is the Government concerned at the number of such deaths and injuries?

4. What action is it proposed to take, with a view of reducing death and injury on the roads?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is not clear whether "this year" refers to the calendar year or the financial year, therefore figures for both are supplied but, as reports are still being received in regard to injuries, the total number injured in road accidents will probably be 300 higher in the final analysis.

1. Killed:

January 1, 1967, to June 30, 1967	130
July 1, 1966, to June 30, 1967 . .	270

2. Injured:

January 1, 1967, to June 30, 1967	5,248
July 1, 1966, to June 30, 1967	10,293

3. Yes.

4. The Police Department will continue its efforts to promote road safety and endeavour to reduce speed and other unsafe driving by

use of radar and the breathalyser. Increased patrolling will be dependent upon increases in police strength and vehicles.

**FORESTRY.**

Mr. RODDA (on notice):

1. Is it intended to increase annually the acreage of pines planted in this State?

2. What area is now available to the Government for forestry plantings?

3. Is this area sufficient to maintain plantings at the present rate?

4. What acreage has been purchased for forestry purposes this financial year?

5. Are any negotiations pending to make further purchases of land for these purposes?

The Hon. G. A. BYWATERS: The replies are as follows:

1. The annual planting programme of pines will continue at the 1967 rate of 6,000-7,000 acres for as long as possible.

2. About 28,000 acres.

3. Unless more suitable land is obtained, the planting rate will decrease after 1970.

4. 2,480 acres.

5. Yes.

To amplify the above figures, our planting programme is an objective of 6,000 acres net of new land annually. This target is about 1,500 acres above the average of the past few years, and is in accordance with the recent decision of the Australian Forestry Council to increase plantings in all States where possible. The available area (28,000 acres) is a net figure and, therefore, we still have almost five years new planting land in hand.

**POWER BOAT COMMITTEE.**

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN (on notice):

1. Does the Government approve of the recommendations of the Power Boat Committee, regarding—

- (a) registration of power boats; and
- (b) licensing of drivers of power boats?

2. If so, what action does the Government intend to take, and when?

3. What was the cost to the Government of the Power Boat Committee?

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: The replies are as follows:

1. (a) and (b): Yes, in principle. Further submissions by interested parties are being considered.

2. Legislative action some time in the future.

3. \$3,100.

## SOCIAL SERVICE.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Were increases in social service benefits to widows, made in 1964 by the Commonwealth, taken into account in adjusting the State scale of relief payable to widows at that time?

2. If so, how was the scale adjusted?

3. How have increases in social service payments made by the Commonwealth since March, 1965, affected the State scale of relief payable to widows?

4. What adjustments have been made, and when?

The Hon. FRANK WALSH: I request the honourable member to ask that question again next Tuesday.

## LEAVE OF ABSENCE: MRS. STEELE.

Mr. NANKIVELL moved:

That two months' leave of absence be granted to the honourable member for Burnside (Mrs. J. Steele) on account of absence overseas.

Motion carried.

## ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on the motion for adoption.

(Continued from June 29. Page 280.)

Mr. QUIRKE (Burra): I wish to comment on what has become, during this session, an activity on the part of Government members inasmuch as nearly every one of them, when he rises to speak, finds it fitting to criticize both the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Gumeracha (Hon. Sir Thomas Playford). I have also noticed that being passed among Government speakers is a document from which they quote copiously, and the title of which I believe is "Notes to Labor speakers who do not do their homework"!

It is evident that the document is a comprehensive compilation but, also apparent, is the fact that no opportunity should be missed by Government members to try to break down the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the last Liberal Government, Sir Thomas Playford. Why do members of the Government find it necessary to do that? Usually, if a person is of so little value, people do not undertake to criticize him. What benefit will accrue from such criticism? Having listened to Government members, I conclude that underneath their criticism is a fear that both the Leader of the Opposition and the Hon. Sir Thomas Playford are casting a shadow over the present Labor Administration. Therefore it is necessary, in the opinion of Labor members, to try to write them down. They just cannot do

it, and when the Leader of the Opposition becomes Premier next March—

Mr. Ryan: That is today's funny story!

Mr. QUIRKE: The honourable member reminds me of a passage from Goldsmith's *Deserted Village*: "The dog's bark floating down the wind. The loud laugh that betrays the vacant mind." I do not want to level that at the honourable member, but he is definitely vacant in his criticism of both the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Gumeracha. I have absolute faith in the capacity of the Leader of the Opposition to fulfil any office that this Party elects him to. When the honourable member laughs, he is only carrying out instructions to try to belittle someone who is, in his Party's opinion, becoming a menace to the Party. I think that is a correct assumption.

Regarding the Hon. Sir Thomas Playford, honourable members opposite can batter their heads against that irresistible object and they will achieve nothing, but looming over their shoulders is his record, which cannot be laughed down. In any event, they will certainly be unable to do so by next March. The honourable member for Gumeracha has printed an indelible mark on the people of this State (from Mount Gambier to the Far West and as far north as one likes to go), which no deprecating remarks can ever destroy. In the first two years of the present Administration, members opposite must have, in their innermost hearts, thanked the Almighty for what had been given them by the previous Administration. During the 27 years of that Administration this State was completely reformed and revitalized, and I defy anybody in South Australia to deny that. What was the position of this State 27 years ago, and what is its position now? All the industries that now operate came here during the term of that Government. A few odds and sods have been added since, but they do not amount to anything of consequence. The member for Mount Gambier must have a sense of frustration every time he gets up each morning and looks at his district, or every time he goes through the forest areas. Everything he sees in the continual development of the area reminds him of the image of Sir Thomas Playford, and he cannot deny that. What has been added since?

Mr. Burdon: The original foresight of the Labor Government in establishing the area.

Mr. QUIRKE: The original Labor Government never established it, and anyone who knows history knows that is correct. One

would have to go back to the 1860's and there was no Labor Government then. The area was in need of resuscitation and, because of his foresight, the member for Gumeracha could see that it was necessary to promote the softwood industry in this State. He knew we would need adequate supplies of softwood timber and materials for paper making, board making, and other things that are absolutely vital in the internal economy of a State such as this, and he set about developing the area. Members should not belittle themselves by trying to write down that effect.

Throughout the whole of the State the Playford Government had to nominate land for soldier settlement, and the finest thing that ever happened to the South-East was the infusion of new blood that came with soldier settlement. I shall not quote the figures involved, because I forget them. The difference in the number of sheep and cattle carried in the South-East now compared with the number carried prior to soldier settlement is astronomical. Keith is in the centre of a good agricultural area, and radiating from it is a great area that cannot be developed without water. I do not criticize the present Government for the amenities provided for the people there. They are all needed and I have no argument in that respect. However, they will be a tremendous charge on the internal economy of this State and the things that would return interest to the State.

It is now proposed to construct the pipeline to Keith. Of course, the Playford Government started that, and had it still been in office that work would have been completed by now. People think that this pipeline will only carry a water supply to the township of Keith but, of course, Keith is only the terminal. To the west side of the pipeline is an area of hundreds of thousands of acres in a good rainfall area, but it is, in the main, unusable for continuous farming and pastoral operations because of the salinity of the underground water. The idea was to improve the agricultural return in South Australia which, honourable members must realize, is the first free money that comes into the State—that is, free spending money. The State will always have a debt hanging on it. There has been a tremendous increase in the monetary return from primary production, and it will be even greater when that pipeline is constructed. That land should have been brought into production, as the land from Coonalpyn Downs to Mount Gambier was brought into production. This would vastly increase the agricultural potential of the State

and the return accruing to it. I hope this will not be long delayed. A massive industry employing an enormous number of people would be needed to obtain the same return to South Australia as can be obtained from the pipeline.

I hope that it will rain so that the wheat crop can be sown and harvested. I would not wish the calamity, which will eventuate if it does not rain, even on the Labor Government. Last year, the wheat crop in South Australia was worth about \$75,000,000. That sum was raised to about \$100,000,000 by the income from oats and barley and, by the income from other forms of agriculture, to about \$200,000,000. If it does not rain and this return is reduced to about \$100,000,000, perhaps the resulting impact might be enough to force home to the Government just what is necessary, and might show it that every conceivable attempt should be made to increase primary production. I suppose the Treasurer has included in the Estimates provision for the completion of the Taillem Bend to Keith main. I hope he has done that and that the main is completed with the greatest possible expedition because water and progress in South Australia are synonymous: we cannot progress unless we have adequate water supplies. In a year such as this, the immeasurable benefits accruing from adequate reticulated water supplies cannot be estimated because they are so vast. When feed is short sheep will get along; but they cannot get along without water. The present condition of sheep in South Australia is due to adequate water supply. That cannot be argued, but the conception of our reticulated water supplies came from the Playford Government.

Let us examine the industrial areas of Adelaide. South Australia has a vast collection of secondary industries and a vast collection of houses built to accommodate people working in those industries. However, those houses did not fall like manna from heaven: they were the product of a Leader and his Cabinet. Thus, we have thousands of houses, and large industrial organizations employing thousands of workers who live in the houses. Also, we have electricity, water supplies and a percentage of deep drainage to houses used greater than in any other State. All these things are consequential on the wisdom of promotion.

A splendid Labor Party member, Mr. Oscar Oates, used to call Torrens Island his orange grove: he hoped to live to see the day when the swamps there would grow oranges. He did not see that, and I do not think the present member for Port Adelaide will see it.

On that barren little island is placed today the greatest generating station in the State. It was put there because of the enormous quantity of water available to be pumped through the cooling systems of the generators. The water goes in one side and out the other: it is ejected on the other side so that cool water is continuously coming in. What a marvellous innovation this is in a State that has no indigenous source of power other than Leigh Creek coal. Oil, and coal from Newcastle, are used. However, the boilers have been adapted to be able to work on gas. Therefore, a change-over to gas will not take long or cost much: provision has been made for it as the possibility of gas was known at the inception of this station.

An American gentleman has purchased land in the Wallaroo area where he wants to start a nitrogenous fertilizer plant. I hope he succeeds in doing that. I do not know the economics of a straight route for the gas pipeline as against a deviated route. However, a water trunk main that wanders all over the country is most expensive compared with the provision of subsidiary reticulation mains to carry water from the principal trunk main to the point of destination. When it was intended to duplicate the Morgan-Whyalla main (which was of much less magnitude than it is now), it was promised that Booborowie and Burra would obtain a water supply. Water was to be pumped to the top of Bald Hill from which it would go north and west, taking in Booborowie and the country in between. It was to provide water for extremely valuable country. Then the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited decided to use low-grade iron ore: this involved the use of enormous quantities of water which the projected main would not carry. When the decision to build the main was made, it was built alongside the existing main, with the difference that some of it was built underground. If a main had been built to supply Burra, under the original terms it would have cost \$200,000 a mile. Burra has been supplied with water which is reticulated from Hanson into tanks already at Burra. It has been supplied to Booborowie by similar means. These small mains were installed at a cost equal to the cost of one mile of the large trunk main. The member for Wallaroo should not be downcast because the gas pipeline does not pass through his district.

Mr. Hughes: I am not downcast at all.

Mr. QUIRKE: In Australia today many organizations are prepared to make nitrogen-

ous fertilizer, but gas is not the only medium used for this purpose. In Germany it is pulled out of the air and sent to Australia. It is expensive to do this, but it is being done. Air is the source of supply of nitrogen: consequently, it is inexhaustible. When a 100-ton tree is burnt there is less than five tons of residue, because the remainder goes into the air, and the ashes left contain minerals from the earth. These elements from nature are indestructible and will return to the earth. When using natural gas we are using energy that was stored there millions of years ago.

Many places in South Australia with a flat countryside, good rainfall, and plenty of sunshine, for example, Riverton and Jamestown, could be sites at which to erect buildings and plant for the use of natural gas. The pipeline will pass close to these places: it will be underground with a minimum of 3ft. of soil above it. Who thought of the original concept of this pipeline? Who thought of the gas and who initiated Gidgealpa and other places? It was the man whom honourable members opposite now deride at every opportunity. Port Pirie is a thriving port with, apart from the invaluable assets of the smelters, a restored and first-class wharf, a dredged channel for shipping, and vast grain-storing silos. The silos may have been built by farmers' money, but the previous Government guaranteed advances to the bulk handling co-operative. When it was necessary to have wharf accommodation and equipment the previous Government provided that also. At Port Augusta, there is much evidence of the actions of the previous Government.

At Whyalla, which will be one of the greatest industrial towns in the Southern Hemisphere, a water supply has been provided by main from the Murray River, but this supply will have to be increased. As the town is situated on the seafront and the works are about 30 miles away, it is not improbable that it will be one of the first towns in South Australia to benefit from a desalting plant. I did not use "desalination": people do not know what that means, but they know what desalting means. It may be costly to generate power from nuclear fission stations, but it is inevitable that we will have them and that we cannot dodge the responsibility of installing them. The Murray River is not an inexhaustible supply of water. If the snowcaps fail on the mountains of New South Wales and the tributaries fail, because of the tremendous use of water serious consequences would result as this river is the lifeline of both South Australia

and Australia. Industries such as fruit and vegetable growing, and canning and preserving factories, depend on water from the Murray River, and as the population increases it will be necessary to increase the capacity to store fruit and vegetables, resulting in a further demand for water. We are not as far removed as we might think from having to desalinate water. Problems exist on the river in this regard, including the problem of effluent water from the irrigation and drainage system (although it is not always as saline as people might think it is). The salinity of water coming through the drains can be quite reasonable, particularly that of water flowing from the older districts, but where a drain can seep back directly into the river the water can be very saline. The whole of the River area has much for which to thank the Playford Administration.

One could continue *ad infinitum* in enumerating the Playford Government's achievements. Although a bitumen road may not as yet have reached Ceduna, one can at least travel now on a bitumen road from Adelaide to Mount Gambier, and there will shortly be a bitumen road from Adelaide to Broken Hill.

Mr. Casey: That has nothing to do with the Playford Government.

Mr. QUIRKE: Nonsense! I was partly instrumental in implementing that project. When I first became member for Burra the bitumen road extended no farther than Saddleworth. It was then extended through Waterloo and Black Springs and thence to Burra. That work was projected long before the last State election; indeed, it was well advanced at the time of the election. What a magnificent start Labor had! I include also in the previous Government's achievements the Keith water main. I wish to debunk once and for all the criticisms made by Government members. They seize every opportunity to write down both the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the past Liberal Government.

Perhaps I can excuse Government members, because they must live with all that was done before they came into office, and they cannot deny that. It was the firmest foundation on which any Government ever took office. Bearing in mind the calamitous possibility that the present Government will be returned next year, I assert that it could never achieve as much in a comparable number of years as was achieved by the former Government. I was rather surprised that the Minister of Agriculture should use such words as "destitute" and "desperate"; of course, neither term tells the

story concerning the Leader of the Opposition. I shall give Government members some good advice: if they continue along these lines they will have to face the consequences. People outside are already saying that the present Government is mooning because it cannot match what was previously achieved.

Mr. Jennings: Get back on to eggs.

Mr. QUIRKE: I may say something soon about goats, although that is not a personal reflection. The member for Gawler (Mr. Clark) was strong in his criticism; indeed, it was the type of criticism in which I thought the honourable member would not indulge. If the little handbook to which I have referred is used any more frequently than it has been, I shall have to ask that it be tabled, so that we might all see what it is.

Although I do not know how much wheat is available in South Australia at present, I do know that certain quantities of it must be reserved for local consumption this year in the event of things not going as well as we wish. We do not wish to place ourselves in the position of having to import wheat, as New South Wales and other States had to import it from Queensland a few years ago. There is too much edge on the present dry spell to ignore safety measures. The Minister of Agriculture may know how much wheat is held and what will remain in storage against the contingencies of a dry year.

The Hon. G. A. Bywaters: We have held back quite a lot.

Mr. QUIRKE: Quite a lot will be required! Having examined past records, I believe this year is almost an exact duplicate of 1914, in which year crops were sown in August. Favourable rains were received in that year right up until Christmas. They were the horse days, when motive power had to be fed with hay and chaff. Sufficient hay was cut for producers' requirements and seven bags of grain to the acre was reaped over a large area that was sown in August.

Mr. Ryan: What was the quality?

Mr. QUIRKE: It was good quality. There was not the same selection of high quality wheats then that we have today, but it was good wheat, and one could grow a crop if there was sufficient rain. The rains then were different from the rains this year: in 1914 the crops were sown and then perished for the want of rain. The rain started again when it was too late. These weather cycles have a habit of being repeated and, although I do not

wish that they should be repeated again, I want it to be thoroughly understood that there is danger in this present year.

What will happen to the city if the purchasing power of the people in the rural areas falls by \$150,000,000 or \$200,000,000? Where would any industry be under those conditions? Who will provide the spending power for the people here to purchase the output of industry? Members know that dissemination of money consequent on the growing of primary products goes into every nook and cranny of this State's economy. Should there be a calamity such as I said could happen, conditions would be worse now than they were in 1914 because the things dependent on primary production are so much greater now than they were then; heaven knows they were bad enough then! There was not one thatched straw roof implement shed that had its straw roof left: they were all taken off and fed to the stock to keep them alive. I was not very old at that time, but I was old enough to know that.

Every conceivable thing necessary to promote the production of foodstuffs in this State should be done in order to get that production. One-third of the world is on the brink of starvation, and we have to review our ideas in that regard: we have to send our foodstuffs to those people, free if necessary, without denying the farmer his costs. This is a great problem, which cannot be avoided in the future: steps will have to be taken. I hope we do not run out of wheat.

This year has been a calamitous year for oranges. There has been bad weather at blossoming time, saline water and lack of drainage and, whatever the effect last year, this harvest is a bad one. Of course, bad conditions will occur again. In the course of nature, these things are hard to avoid, but one does his best to prevent them. However, one cannot prevent visitations of frost or the wrong type of weather at a certain time. I make a plea for the people, particularly those in places like Loxton, who had not had an opportunity to recover. All the disabilities they have suffered were not as a result of their negligence although, of course, some were. With so many people there will undoubtedly be some who are at fault but, generally speaking, the conditions are not of their own making and they are saddled with large debts. I venture to assert that Loxton will never rise from its present position until that debt is lifted from the shoulders of the settlers.

Having been on the Land Settlement Committee, I realize that there are two major difficulties associated with irrigation: the easy one, putting water on, is an engineering problem; the other, taking it off, is an engineering problem plus, because there is the added disability of what is to be done with the water when it is taken off. If it is left in the same valley as the water being irrigated from, one is in real bother. It is suggested that orange trees should not be sprayed with overhead sprays because, if one is spraying with old water, the trees are defoliated. They will stand up a lot more if spray lines are dragged along the ground so that the spray does not strike the plant's foliage, thereby encrusting it with salt which burns it in the sunlight. However, salt may seep into the irrigation system, and it is costly to remove. One man wisely suggested that a canal be built alongside the Murray River, leaving the river itself as a drain. That sounds foolish, but if the worst happened it would have to be done or the seepage water would have to be collected in basins and piped out to sea, and that would be a costly proposition. I make a plea for the soldier settlers whom I got to know so well during my period in office, because I know the difficulties facing them. Some settlers have had their entire gardens wiped out by seepage and other causes, and they have had to replant their holdings.

The other soldier settlements in the State are good. Kangaroo Island was a long-term settlement, but it is all right now. Considerable trouble was experienced in the South-East, but that is all right now. There are also a few on the West Coast, but they, too, are all right now. The fruitgrowing settlements along the Murray River are a problem.

Mr. McKee: On whom do you blame that?

Mr. QUIRKE: I would not lay the blame on anyone, because the people responsible acted in good faith.

Mr. McKee: We have to rectify the previous Government's mistakes. Much of this is Commonwealth money.

Mr. QUIRKE: The honourable member can look at his history. The Commonwealth has recognized its responsibilities in relation to seepage drainage. The Commonwealth Government pays the cost of the drainage which, in many cases, can be as much as \$8,000 a block. However, then the Commonwealth Government becomes a bit niggardly and requires the State to pay two-fifths of the cost over a period of time. This was not included in the terms of the

war service land settlement scheme, which provided that anything that happened after an area was settled was supposed to be the sole responsibility of the Commonwealth Government. People on these blocks have an unhealthy incubus of debt hanging over them that I hope can be lifted at some time.

The matter of pesticides has been raised in this place. A certain vineyard in an irrigated area was infested with cottony cushion scale, which is an infestation on a bunch of grapes where burrs are knitted together with a white, furry scale. As these vines were badly infested, the owner was strongly advised to spray them to get rid of the cottony cushion scale. He sprayed his vines and got rid of the pest, but he also destroyed its natural parasite. When the cottony cushion scale came again it had increased in proportion. Therefore, he gave up spraying. We cannot expect a perfect result in our conflict with nature and we should carefully investigate our use of chemical sprays. D.D.T. used to be the answer to codlin moth but it failed to destroy the red spider. It destroyed the wog that was a parasite on the red spider. In the Adelaide Hills one could see unsprayed and sprayed trees. The hills that had been sprayed were silver, with the trees looking like silver poplars. Therefore, D.D.T. was no longer used. The codlin moth has come back, and is being treated differently.

The Agriculture Department is constantly reviewing these matters and endeavouring to stop infestation. Much work has been done about the dying arm on vines and I understand that the department has recently found the insect responsible for this. As this insect has had a tremendously destructive effect, if it can be eliminated production will be automatically increased. This disease devitalizes the whole vine and not only the part infected. The 60 per cent of the vine that is left therefore does not necessarily bear in the same proportion that it did when the vine was whole. I congratulate those responsible for seeing that means are being taken to fight this insect. I often wonder whether deluging with pesticides will provide a remedy or whether infection can be offset by revitalizing vines. If a fruit tree is dying for the want of nutrition and is thoroughly nourished it is surprising what comes back: things that are almost dead or infected with all sorts of wogs will come back.

The Hon. B. H. Teusner: A resistant stock is needed.

Mr. QUIRKE: The resistant stock is used in the case of phylloxera; resistant stocks must be planted and the vines required grafted

on to them. I am also gratified to know that the Birdsville track will be dealt with. More than anything else this track needs engineering work. Members who have travelled along the track know that on an open plain a vehicle will wobble greatly. These paths along the track need to be made straight. If large vehicles carrying stock sway to the near side and then quickly back to the offside, the stock do not have sufficient time to recover their balance and are affected. If stock can be transported on an even keel over a straight road they will be brought to Adelaide without difficulty. The grading of the track over the years has resulted in all the good road material being on its edges: if the track were graded from the outside to the centre a road could probably be made. However, I will leave that to the engineers.

People travelling from Queensland could find nothing more interesting than travelling, in the right weather, through the channel country and over the Birdsville track to South Australia. Even the member for Port Pirie will agree that if the track could be used in this way it would bring a large sum into the coffers of South Australia through tourist trade. Because of tourist trade, the outlay of such a large sum would quickly be made up. Of course, the road would have to be maintained continuously but the return would be sufficient to make this maintenance worthwhile. Although it is a long road, it is intensely interesting and steeped in the history of South Australia. Properly handled, it could be a tourist attraction, providing a great return to South Australia.

I wish to congratulate the commissioners of our national parks for the lovely park now established below Mount Lofty. If honourable members have not seen this park they should do so. Although it is small, it is already valued and appreciated by thousands of people. I hope I live to see the day when a large area of the country on the eastern side of the Mount Lofty Ranges, spreading across on to the Murray flats, will be set aside for fauna and flora reserves that will cover not 1,700 acres but some square miles. Then our indigenous fauna will be able to live under the most suitable natural conditions. At the park to which I have referred, I have seen youngsters petting kangaroos and looking at the joeys in their pouches. However, these children have not yet seen an old man kangaroo in full flight. Until one has seen an old man kangaroo in full flight across the plains and over bushes one has not seen a kangaroo in action. I hope that

provisions for further reserves will be implemented shortly. With these unchallenging words, I support the motion.

Mrs. BYRNE (Barossa): The member for Burra said that members on this side have spent much time eulogizing the achievements of this Government in the last two years, but I am sure they are well worth it. He will be pleased to know that I shall not speak about the past, but that I shall speak about the future and offer constructive suggestions, which will be useful to my district and to the State.

Mr. Quirke: You are the first to do that; thank you, very much.

Mrs. BYRNE: Paragraph 6 of His Excellency's Speech states that enrolments at Roseworthy Agricultural College for the current year stand at 112, which is believed to be a record. It has also been decided to add a fourth year to the Roseworthy Diploma of Agriculture Course in 1968. The present diploma will continue, but those electing to do the fourth year will be awarded a new Diploma—The Roseworthy Diploma of Agricultural Technology. This course is designed to provide training for those joining the Extension Services of the Agriculture Department or those who plan to work as consultants to farm management advisory services.

This is a step forward but I have often wondered whether there should be another course, a practical farmers' course. This short course would be attended by those whose secondary education standard was not as high as required at the Roseworthy Agricultural College, and there need be no exams. I am not suggesting that this course would be conducted at Roseworthy but I understand there is a similar set-up established in Victoria. At present there are 23,000 farms in South Australia and it is estimated that there are 800 new farmers a year with the present turnover. In Australia one farm in three employs a man, and one farmer in 10 has a son who remains on the land. These are the people to whom I am principally referring.

Paragraph 8 of the Speech refers to the National Parks Act. The local branch of the National Trust of South Australia would like to see an area reserved at Tea Tree Gully. The Minister of Lands will recall that on August 17, 1965, and February 16, 1966, I directed questions to him and his predecessor, concerning a section of land at Tea Tree Gully, bounded by the Main North-East Road on the north, Perseverance Road on the west, Range Road (Houghton) on the east and the Lower North-East Road (Anstey Hill) on the south.

The Town Planner's report, prepared for the metropolitan area of Adelaide, shows this land as a proposed reservation under "open spaces". I wrote to the Minister on May 12 about this matter and received an acknowledgment on May 29, in which he stated:

I want to assure you that the Government is appreciative of the merit of the Tea Tree Gully proposal and will keep the matter in mind.

I am pleased that the Government is appreciative of the merit of this proposal and that it is keeping this matter in mind. I notice that this paragraph states, among other things, that during the forthcoming financial year a northern teachers college, south of Elizabeth, will be planned. I am pleased about this, because some students will, no doubt, come from the Tea Tree Gully and Modbury area, which I represent. This is a foresighted programme.

Paragraph 15 of the Speech refers to the work to be undertaken for the Modbury Hospital. This project is one that is of the utmost importance to residents of the north-eastern suburbs which it will serve. This hospital is necessary because of the population density build-up that must occur in this area. Predicted future population for the Modbury and Tea Tree Gully area is more than 100,000 which, at 4 beds a 1,000 population, would require a 400-bed general hospital, apart from the needs of adjacent northern and eastern suburbs and surrounding country towns.

The new hospital, built on the crest of a hill overlooking the new Modbury Civic Centre, will provide excellent views. The 18-acre site, which was compulsorily acquired on September 30, 1965, by the present Government, is also close to the freeway planned by the Highways Department.

Mr. Coumbe: That does not answer the question.

Mrs. BYRNE: It is pleasing to know that the erection of Para Vista Primary and Infants School (not in the District of Barossa, but on the fringe of the District of Enfield), is well advanced, as this will take pressure off the Modbury Primary and Infants School. Parents of children attending the Modbury Primary School are glad that the Modbury Infants School wing is now completed and occupied. However there are growing pains associated with this building, because a small playing area only is asphalted, and with 468 infants in this section the present playing space is inadequate. Other land is available for a playing area, but before this can be used it will be necessary for portion of it to be covered

with quarry rubble and the remainder no doubt will be grassed in time. It would be appreciated by all concerned if the department would take immediate action to improve this situation.

Because of the population explosion in the north-eastern fringes of the metropolitan area, parents of the schoolchildren concerned appreciate the fact that the Education Department is closely watching the need for primary and secondary schools. A primary school at the corner of Lower North-East Road and Lyons Road at Dernancourt must be built soon. It is interesting to note that already nine sites in the area have been purchased and are held by the department for future primary and secondary schools. In addition, the department is investigating (and, in some cases, has commenced negotiating for) the purchase of eight sites in the outer-metropolitan section of my district. We believe that we are being well catered for in this regard.

Apart from seven schools that have been built in the outer-suburban section of the District of Barossa, there are 20 country schools, at some of which improvements and maintenance work have been effected. In addition, a replacement school and new school-house at Sandy Creek have been built and are in use. I have been gratified with the co-operation and assistance I have received from the Minister of Education and members of his department, as well as from officers of the Public Buildings Department who carry out the necessary work.

I was disturbed at a notice appearing recently in the "Houses—Land for Sale" section of the *Advertiser* and inserted by the Director of Lands, which related to the sale of portion of the Millbrook Primary School land. The notice called for offers for the land, closing on July 4 which, of course, is today. Following that announcement a parents' meeting was held on July 16, as a result of which correspondence was forwarded to me. Part of that correspondence stated:

The meeting was at a loss to understand the exclusion of the school committee and the head teacher from any preliminary discussion on the proposed sale.

The Minister of Education has since informed me that it has been decided to temporarily withhold the proposed sale pending further information on the proposed re-alignment of the road, its effect on the school property, and the re-siting of the bus shelter. In addition, Education Department officers will now first ask the school committee to submit any plans it may have for the use of this land. This decision is

pleasing, and I trust it will lead to the land not being sold. However, the situation need not have arisen if the Education Department had included the school committee and the head teacher of the school in earlier discussions. There may be a good reason why this was not done but, if it is not the department's practice to discuss such matters with these personnel, I suggest that it would be in the department's interests to do so in future.

The Education Department has also purchased a site for a new school at One Tree Hill but, as the need for a new school there is not as urgent as it is at a number of other places, it is not at present intended to proceed with the erection of the building.

Although the One Tree Hill Rural School (No. 322) is not in my district but in that of the member for Gawler (Mr. Clark), I point out that it is attended by some of the children who live in my district. I have been informed that that was the first rural school to be built in the State (it was erected in 1856) or, alternatively, that it is the oldest rural school still in use. Therefore, it would be regrettable if it were demolished and not preserved for historical reasons. Although I do not know whether the National Trust of South Australia has expressed interest in preserving this school, I hope that it will, in fact, be preserved and that the department will consider that fact when the school is no longer required for educational purposes.

Paragraph 18 of the opening Speech states, in effect, that much work has been undertaken on sewerage facilities, that works in progress will be continued, and that other projects will include the provision of sewerage facilities in various parts of the metropolitan area. I refer specifically to the Tea Tree Gully area, in which work commenced on October 18 last with the extension of a 24in. trunk sewer from Montacute Road along the route of the Dry Creek, that area being known as Area No. 2. To date, four common effluent drainage schemes have been connected, in addition to a connection made to the Modbury school on Golden Grove Road. The trunk sewer has now reached an area near Hancock Road, Tea Tree Gully. The implementation of this scheme has made a wonderful improvement to that part of the district. The Engineering and Water Supply Department's plans relate to four drainage areas, each of which is a tributary valley of the Dry Creek, with its own branch sewer.

Area No. 1 comprises 3,000 acres, on which 41 houses are served by common effluent drains, and on which about 50 houses are not so

served. Area No. 2 comprises 1,700 acres; 736 houses are served by common effluent drains and about 300 houses are not served. Area No. 3, consisting of 1,000 acres, contains 47 houses that are served by common effluent drains and about 200 houses not so served. Finally, in Area No. 4 (1,200 acres) 195 houses are served by common effluent drains, leaving about 200 houses that are not so served. Therefore, a total of 6,900 acres (10.8 square miles, which is a considerable area) and 1,019 houses are served by common effluent drains, leaving an estimated 750 houses that are not served.

The number of houses served by common effluent drainage schemes was obtained from the Tea Tree Gully District Council's records as at January, 1966, and the houses not served were estimated from aerial photographs taken in about November, 1965. The overall plan is to construct a collecting sewer to serve each of the areas to which I have referred. However, as previously stated, the Public Works Committee initially recommended connecting sewers to serve Area No. 2, and all of the common effluent drains will be connected to the main sewers as they reach the collecting point. In addition, individual streets will be progressively reticulated. Referring to the unsewered portions of Area No. 2, I point out that immediate attention should be paid to Redwood Park (in particular, Gloucester Avenue and Somerset Avenue), which is south of the trunk main in Dry Creek, where the soil is such that septic tanks do not work efficiently.

I have received many inquiries from constituents who live in unsewered areas in the outer-suburban section of the district; I do not refer here only to Tea Tree Gully but also to parts of Modbury, Highbury, Dernancourt, and Holden Hill. The people concerned wish to know when their areas will be sewered. Officers of the Tea Tree Gully council and I would greatly appreciate information from the department concerning its works programme to be undertaken in the district, particularly the order in which work will commence, and the relevant dates. Those making inquiries could then be informed of a certain programme with a greater degree of certainty. This would make these people very happy, because although they regret that they have not got sewerage they would be satisfied to a great degree if they could be told some definite time when the sewerage would be connected. I should like to thank the officers of the Tea Tree Gully District Council for their co-operation with me regarding the matter of sewerage, for

this is of joint concern to me, as the member for the district, and to the officers of the council.

I notice that paragraph 19 of His Excellency's Speech states that the Housing Trust hopes to expand its rental programme in the forthcoming financial year and that considerable housing programmes will be carried out at various places. Some of the localities in which these houses will be built have been listed. However, I regret that there is no mention of rental houses being built in the outer suburban section of the Barossa District, as I know from inquiries I have received that a demand for these exists. Some people would like to live in these suburbs but for various reasons would not wish to purchase a house. The trust owns land at the corner of Grand Junction Road and the Main North-East Road at Holden Hill, and I suggest that this would be a suitable site for Housing Trust rental houses in the area.

My attention has been drawn to the number of migrants who come to live in the Tea Tree Gully and Modbury areas and who bring with them elderly relatives, mainly parents. I have had inquiries as to whether accommodation could be found in the area for these elderly people. Therefore, I make the suggestion that cottage flats be built in the area to fill this need so that the people concerned could remain near their relatives. This need concerns not only elderly parents and relatives of migrants in my district but parents and relatives of people like me who have lived in Australia all their lives.

Recently the purchaser of a house in the Modbury area who had received a loan from the State Bank told me that he had found white ants in the floor boards. On making inquiries, I found that the requirements for receiving such a bank loan did not include the requirement that the builder had to white-ant-proof the house, and this surprised me. As a result of the increase in the demand for brick-veneer houses, more timber is being used. I would be pleased if the Minister for Housing could examine the merits of enforcing this requirement and, if he considers them favourable, consult with the State Bank on the matter with a view to having white-ant-proofing made a requirement of building practice subject to a bank loan being approved.

While on the subject of housing, it might be worth while examining what we make a buyer do in terms of normal housing under today's terms and conditions. The average house comprises an area of 1,100 sq. ft. placed on a

serviced block of land of a minimum area of 6,000 sq. ft.; the house and land together cost about \$10,000, and are serviced by a first mortgage of \$7,500, costing \$8 or \$10 a week, plus a second mortgage of \$1,000 or \$1,200, costing another \$4 or \$6 a week. So we have a mythical average buyer with, say, \$800 or \$1,000 deposit, on an income of \$40 to \$50 a week, committed to paying \$12 or \$14, plus rates and taxes, off a house. House ownership is estimated to be about 70 per cent. Of this proportion, 50 per cent might be earning less than \$50 a week, 50 per cent might have less than \$1,000 deposit, and 50 per cent might be less than 23 years of age. These are only rough figures of mine, because no statistics are available on these aspects.

It is commonly recognized that people should labour one day in seven to secure their shelter. However, we have people here labouring one day in three to secure this, although we are providing them with large backyards (to which they put little use) and a social status that makes it necessary for them to spend large amounts of money on their lawns. It is my opinion that we would be receiving better value for our housing funds by providing all people, young and old, with accommodation more closely related to their needs, in terms of space and money. We should also add to this the easy facility for people to change houses when they outgrew one, or when their children left a big house. Of course, there would be resistance to this move, because there is always resistance to any change.

In some parts of the United States of America housing subdivisions are divided in three different ways. First, there are walk-up flats. Secondly, there are condominiums, which, for the benefit of members who may not know the term, are patio houses, group housing, or row housing. The occupiers mainly own these units. The strata titles legislation that the Government will be introducing this session will be most useful for this type of housing. Thirdly, we have the normal houses with an area of land attached to each house. This is the type of housing that we mainly have in South Australia. The present Building Act allows for the creation of building allotments of 2,000 sq. ft. in area for buildings of domestic class, and the requirement for a building block is 6,000 square feet.

As I said a little while ago, some housing subdivisions in the U.S.A. are divided in three different ways. I do not suggest that the ratio should be as high here, but 10 per cent of the land could be allotted to group houses,

homettes, flats or whatever one likes to call them, on minimum-sized blocks, for example, 2,000 sq. ft., with a house of 700 to 800 sq. ft. This is suggested for new areas, but the same could apply to inner-suburban development. To illustrate the point, a homette development could provide for 10 homettes each having a living-dining area, kitchen, bathroom and two bedrooms, and incorporating an outdoor enclosed court, drying area, carport and front garden. Each unit could be sited on an allotment of about 2,600 sq. ft. If this idea is to be adopted, consideration must be given to site development and planning, and the following factors must be taken into account:

(1) Reasonable access for residents to usable open space having an area related to enclosed living area on the basis of a floor index ratio.

(2) Provision of adequate privacy for indoor and outdoor living.

(3) Provision of an area adequate for the storage of at least one vehicle for each allotment. (After all, this is the motor car age.)

(4) Provision of adequate space for clothes drying facilities externally or clothes drying units internally.

(5) Provision of adequate facilities for the removal of rubbish, etc.

The reasons advanced for these different types of houses are, first, that a proportion of the population does not require or want large allotments; secondly, that it is evident that a considerable area of land is wasted in present suburban subdivisions; thirdly, that larger allotments either become very untidy or take considerable time and money to maintain (time and money that is not always available); and, fourthly, that conditions prevailing (such as insanitary conditions, and space required for vegetable gardens, fruit trees and so on, or for keeping poultry) when regulations requiring larger allotments were initiated do not always apply. I do not contend that people should be forced to live on smaller allotments. Many people would require the present minimum area or larger, and these requirements could be catered for by proper zoning. However, I submit that it is wrong to enforce regulations which give rise to a situation where land continues to be swallowed up in an uneconomic manner, with the consequent increase in cost to the community as a whole for roads, services, private and public transport, and so on, when in fact it remains to be proved that the present regulations make for better living conditions.

It is now recognized as being wrong to treat development costs merely on the basis of the price of land plus the price of the

house. Also included must be the costs of services, proper site development (such as drainage, roads and open spaces), general transport and administration costs for the community, plus the loss of production from land taken over for residential purposes. Also an efficiency factor exists; that is, a spread-out community works less efficiently than a more compact community because of the travelling and communications involved and because of the need to maintain greater areas of land. I now wish to refer to an article by Mr. G. Spielman, A.M.I.E., M.A.P.I., in the *Australian Planning Institute Journal* of January, 1963. He predicted changes and implied that urban planning would become consolidated to involve urban arrangement. He said:

If this prediction is correct, the method and techniques of planning will change. The basic issue will no longer be planned versus unplanned cities but one rather of selecting the best possible plan from a number of alternative proposals in the light of the most factual data available.

He also made the following comments about the established costs affecting urban economics:

Questions are being asked whether urban explosion gives rise to serious inefficiencies of land use, services and transportation and to what extent these inefficiencies constitute inflationary trends and involuntary increases in the consumption of goods and services and in the final analysis retard the rate of economic growth and the attainment of higher living standards.

In the United States of America in the four-year period ending in 1967 (I have been unable to find later statistics for that country) cost increases because of the inefficiency of the current pattern of growth were in the order of 5 billion dollars, or more than 1 per cent of the gross national product at that time. In a comparison of alternative patterns for the Sydney region, the Cumberland County Council estimated that costs to the community could differ by \$100,000,000 a year by 1978. To do what I have suggested the Building Act would need to be amended to make provision for individual allotments for housing in a properly planned development with a minimum area of, for example, 2,000 square feet.

Also, the Planning and Development Act provides for the control of land subdivision to follow the same procedure as under the present legislation, and it is likely that regulations will be made similar to those already operating. Further, planning regulations are at present being drafted to act as a guide for councils in preparing regulations to implement development plans. These model regulations will require to be approved by the State Planning Authority.

Consideration is being given in the model regulations to the question of allotment sizes and the density of development. If the Building Act Advisory Committee is required to review any part of the Building Act and the regulations made thereunder, a submission has to be made to the Minister of Local Government, who is responsible for the Act.

The Governor's Deputy's Speech states that a Bill to make provision for strata titles is to be introduced this session. That is fortunate because, if our housing trends are to be altered, as I have suggested, in some instances, these new titles will be necessary. I am pleased to notice Bills are also to be introduced for a State Government Insurance Office, the continuation of the Prices Act, and the registration of builders and contractors. I have had both complaints and inquiries in respect of these matters.

In addition, 25 other Bills are under consideration, so a busy legislative programme is in front of us. In conclusion, I again wish to thank all sections of the staff at Parliament House for the assistance and courtesy shown to me over the last 12 months. Also, I wish to thank many members of the Public Service on all levels for their co-operation when I have had to contact them from time to time. I support the motion.

Mr. FERGUSON (Yorke Peninsula): When the member for Alexandra (Hon. D. N. Brookman) spoke in this debate, I remember that he said that he thought that a speech from the member for Alexandra would be welcome at that stage of the debate. I hope that a speech from the member for Yorke Peninsula is welcome now. I do not take up much time in this House in making speeches. However, I have great faith in the old saying that actions speak louder than words. I believe a Biblical quotation states that, "By their fruits ye shall know them." In making that quotation, I take my leave from the member for Adelaide (Mr. Lawn) who, in his speech in this debate, exhorted and implored members on this side of the House to study well the books of Jeremiah. I believe the member for Adelaide would have done well to take his cue from the book of Job because "in his distress he cursed himself and wished he could die". As I said, I do not say much in this House but, in the future, I may be spurred to action and speak more than I have spoken in the past.

We regretted that His Excellency the Governor had to enter hospital, but we were pleased to know (and I inquired today) that

his health was improving. In a few weeks His Excellency will tour all country towns in order to say farewell to the country people of this State before his term of office expires. He has been one of the most popular Governors that South Australia has had, and I am sure that the people of South Australia will be sorry when he returns to the Old Country.

The late Hon. R. S. Richards was a personal friend of mine and, although we did not see eye to eye in politics, we worked together in many spheres in which we had common interests. I played many games of cricket against him, and cricket is a game that brings out the good qualities of a man. I know that the late Hon. R. S. Richards was esteemed and loved by Cornishmen in Moonta, Wallaroo and Kadina. I was associated with the family of the late Dudley Octoman, not only in primary production but also in other spheres, and my association with him in this Parliament cemented a friendship that had been formed earlier. I did not know the late Mr. Rufus Goldney as well as I knew the others, but I understand that he was a quiet member of this House who represented his district well, and was esteemed and respected by both members of Parliament and his constituents.

Some members will retire at the end of this session: I thank them for their assistance whilst I have been a member, particularly immediately after my election. I hope that we will be able to emulate their lives and the good work they have performed in this Parliament. I listened with much interest when the member for Wallaroo moved this motion. If by way of interjection I caused him personal discomfort, I am sorry. In his impassioned speech he said that when he speaks his people take notice of what he says, and I presume that the member's recent speech will be printed in the local newspaper.

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

Mr. FERGUSON: When the constituents of the member for Wallaroo read this speech and find out that he has said that they all take notice when he speaks, I do not think they will be pleased. I know that when we speak people listen to us, but that does not mean they take notice of us. I am sure they do not agree with all we say, and this applies as much to the honourable member as it does to other honourable members. I cannot understand why he has to give such an impassioned speech to the electors of Wallaroo. Does he feel that his position in Wallaroo is not so secure as it was? Of course it is not

so secure as it was, for the same reason that many other Labor-held seats are not so secure as they used to be: the present Government has done many things with which the people of South Australia do not agree; it has done many things distasteful to them.

Mr. Hughes: Are you insinuating that what the Government has done in my district is distasteful?

Mr. FERGUSON: It has not done anything in the District of Wallaroo to be distasteful. Another reason why the honourable member may feel his position is not so secure as it used to be is that he knows that in this forthcoming election he will have a formidable opponent. I know that in the past many electors in the District of Wallaroo have voted for the honourable member because they have said he is a good fellow. He has had a personal vote, but the conditions under which the forthcoming election will be contested will be different, because then there will be two good fellows, which will bring the election back to its proper basis—Party politics.

Mr. Hughes: I take that as a personal reflection on the previous candidates you have had and I will see that the people get to hear about it. If you keep going, you will help the situation in Wallaroo.

Mr. FERGUSON: My Leader drew attention to the fact that this Government had suddenly and dramatically discovered that primary production was a very special part of our economy. This was borne out further by the remarks of the mover of this motion, because he devoted much of his time to lauding the development and progress of the Agriculture Department. I agree with him that that department has done remarkably well in providing the primary producers with the information necessary for the progress of agriculture in South Australia. More than once I have said that the department in this State has contributed considerably to the increase in production here. The department is still continuing, by means of research and experiment, to increase the production of our rural lands.

Another development in South Australian primary production, to which the honourable member for Victoria referred in his speech, is the establishment of farm advisory clubs or farm advisory consultant services, or whatever they may be called. These advisory services or clubs are proving of great benefit to primary producers. Exciting days are just around the

corner for primary producers not only in this State but all over Australia.

I now refer to an article in the *Australian Country* magazine contributed by a Mr. Gordon Muir. The article is entitled "Farm Computer Services Now Open for Business". I should like to say here that I imagine that information being fed into the computer described would be more reliable than the information that has lately been fed into computers to find out who are eligible to be on the Legislative Council roll. If the information being fed into the computers described in this article is no more reliable, then I should say that the farmers who are relying on this exercise will soon go broke. The article states:

Will you be one of the hundreds of farmers who will be out of business in the next five years? In the past five years the number of people on rural holdings in Australia has declined by more than 12,000 and, if anything, the trend should accelerate as we near the 1970's.

Obviously farmers are in the farming game to make a profit and to make a living, and probably they have every intention of staying there as long as possible. The article continues:

You've probably heard the lecture read again and again that "farming is a business today—run your farm like a factory—track down every cent and know what it does for you—don't spend your money where it will return less than bank rate." All these thoughts are distasteful to the died-in-the-wool farmer and grazier, but unfortunately they are the new facts of life: if you're not to join the growing band of farmers and graziers hurrying into forced retirement.

Many ideas and developments have come up through the years for better and more efficient farm management aids—ranging from the simple farm record books put out for a few cents by the various Departments of Agriculture to the ultimate of your own farm management adviser.

There are many ways available for lifting production and getting the most from one's property. In this article, however, one hopes to explain one new development in one field of management which, around the farming world, is gaining recognition as a keystone to success. At two ends of our continent, at Armidale in New South Wales and in Nedlands—a Perth suburb—this new aid to farming is helping more and more producers. It is one of the 20th century's greatest gifts to mankind—the computer.

As I have said before, if the computer is properly used and the correct information fed into it, a useful answer should be obtained. The article further states:

The Armidale computer, in the University of New England, is run under the guidance of Professor John L. Dillon, Foundation Professor of Farm Management, and his Farm

Management Service Centre. In Western Australia, the guiding light is Dr. H. P. Schapper, of the John Thompson Agricultural Economics Centre in the University of Western Australia, and their baby, the Farm Management Service Laboratory Association of Western Australia (Incorporated).

The New England centre was set up about two and a half years ago and was established initially on a \$16,000 grant from the Rural Credits Fund in 1964. Since then this grant and income have covered costs. In the financial year to June 30, 1966, the centre processed some 1,000 sets of records covering whole farms, yielding final reports in the form of comparative analyses.

The reactions of the centre's advisory officer, Miss Shane McMahon, and Dr. Schapper to the question, "do you believe it is a little early for Australian farmers to start thinking in terms of computer record keeping?" drew interesting replies. Dr. Schapper, writing from Western Australia, said this:

"Whether the farmers are thinking in these terms or not is not quite relevant. Computers are here; farm management advisers and accountants are already tooling up, and it is only a matter of time when they and the farmers will be brought together. Farmers who are farm labourers at heart will gradually give way to those who are farm business managers at heart."

Miss McMahon said: "Rapidly we are accumulating, via farm management clubs and farm consultants, people with the skills, or people who have extreme pressures applied to learn the skills or record use in farm planning and decision making. If the electronic data processing can get this information more cheaply than any other method then we are certainly ready to use the computer."

For once Australian agriculture seems to be at least keeping pace with the producers of other lands. In America—with its much larger farm population and "supply" of universities—an estimated 10,000 farms have experience with data processing of records and currently about 5,000 are enrolled throughout the country.

So it can be easily seen that, with this little information and experience from other States about the use of computers for compiling statistics on primary production, it will not be long before they are used generally in compiling information for primary producers throughout Australia.

The mover of the motion also gave to the House details of the progress made in every respect by South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited. I pay a tribute to some persons that have helped make this organization operate as successfully as it does. Members may recall that the first bulk handling terminal was established at Ardrossan by the Australian Wheat Board. I think the original capacity of that terminal was 1,000,000 bushels,

whereas it is now 5,310,000 bushels (3,310,000 of wheat, and 2,000,000 of barley).

Reference was made earlier to the delay in the receipt of grain in the Eyre Peninsula division, particularly concerning Ceduna: indeed, ever since the inception of the bulk handling of grain at Ardrossan a delay has occurred at some time or other during the harvest receipt period. The South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited took over the Ardrossan terminal from the Australian Wheat Board, and I well remember the co-operative's calling for applications for a manager. Mr. Sanders, of Ardrossan, was appointed manager and has held that office ever since; he was an Ardrossan boy, he had a good business training, and had gained much experience in the grain trade. The affairs of the co-operative in the early days were guided by the capable chairmanship of Mr. L. H. Heaslip, and in recent years by the chairmanship of Mr. Max Saint, who was appointed to the wheat board on the death of Mr. C. T. Chapman of Moonta.

Mr. Saint was one of the original directors of the co-operative, and no-one knows better than I (or perhaps the member for Ridley) just how much cereal growers in South Australia owe to Mr. Max Saint for the time and energy that he has devotedly given to this important industry. In his early life, Mr. Saint received sound business training and later went on to the land at Maitland, as a result of which he became a successful and practical primary producer. Having made numerous visits overseas on behalf of the Australian Wheat Board, he has been responsible for negotiating many successful sales overseas on behalf of growers and the board. I think the bulk handling of cereals has been in practice now for about 12 years, having commenced with wheat. Indeed, I recall that in the early days the co-operative had many teething troubles.

A few years ago the barleygrowers of Yorke Peninsula approached the Barley Board with a view to bulking their grain, and after much pleading with the board it was decided that the board would establish points at which the receiving of barley in bulk could be tested. I fully realize that the bulk receipt of barley can be much more difficult than the bulk receipt of wheat, particularly because of the barley's moisture content and its nature and habits. However, over the last couple of years it has been an accepted principle that barley can safely be received in bulk. At the same time some hazards and hold-ups have occurred at terminals, particularly at Ardrossan, because

C.B.H. has not been in full control of the receipt of this cereal. The Barley Board has retained control at receipt points, and I believe that, in the best interests of the barley-growers, it should ask C.B.H. to take full responsibility for the receipt of its grain. Until this happens the anomalies that have been apparent in the past will continue in the future. Although I make this complaint, I believe C.B.H. has done a magnificent job in the establishment and operation of bulk handling facilities in this State, and I venture to say that, while the handling of the grain trade is in the capable hands of men such as those I have mentioned, primary producers have little to fear.

The member for Wallaroo said that C.B.H. had established terminal points and silos throughout the State and, up to a point, that is true. However, parts of southern Yorke Peninsula have not had the advantage of terminals in which their grain can be received. It was pleasing for me to be able to announce to the electors of Yorke Peninsula on June 20 that the Government had decided to start installing bulk handling facilities at Giles Point early in the new year. I assure honourable members that the cereal growers on the southern end of Yorke Peninsula heaved a sigh of relief when they received this important news. This project was being planned when I entered this House. At that time the Playford Government was in power and the growers in that area were trying to have Edithburgh developed as a deep sea port but the Government, knowing the conditions existing at Edithburgh, said that if Giles Point was acceptable, investigations would be proceeded with to ascertain whether bulk handling facilities could be installed there. The Public Works Committee, having fully investigated this matter, recommended that this project should be established, and the then Government approved its erection. These deep sea loading facilities on the southern part of Yorke Peninsula will mean much to the primary producers in that part of the State. They will now be able to proceed confidently to develop that part of the peninsula, which, as yet, has not been brought into full production. On the southern end of Yorke Peninsula there is an area of some 250,000 acres which can be brought into production, either in the form of cereal growing or for pastures. The Agriculture Department has gone a long way towards establishing that this area, which has an excellent rainfall, can be developed. The

area has been deficient in certain minerals, one being manganese. However, it has been proved by the development of a spray of manganese on cereals that the southern end of Yorke Peninsula can produce crops equal to those in other parts of the State.

I believe, too, that the invention by Messrs. Ekersley and Bourne, of Yorke Peninsula, of mechanical stone pickers will play a great part in the development of the southern part of the peninsula. The fact that growers in that area will now be able to deliver their barley at a bulk terminal and receive as much as 7c a bushel more for their grain than they have been receiving in the past will be some incentive and will mean the difference between being able to develop that part of South Australia and not being able to develop it.

One or two speakers on this side have had something to say about the tourist trade in South Australia. I think we all know that South Australia is not as endowed with the natural facilities for tourism as are other parts of Australia. However, we do have some potential for tourism here, and I think the fact that we are not as endowed with the natural facilities as are other States is all the more reason why we should develop the potential that we have in this State. The district I represent has some of this potential. In fact, I believe that some of the scenic views on the southern end of Yorke Peninsula are equal to any coastal scenery in South Australia. Because of the nature of the terrain and the many miles of coastline there, the type of scenery that can be developed successfully is mainly in the nature of seaside resorts and camping areas.

Mr. Casey: What's the fishing like down there?

Mr. FERGUSON: Very good. The honourable member for Gumeracha (Sir Thomas Playford) could give the honourable member all the information he wanted about fishing on the southern end of Yorke Peninsula. I believe that the people in the local communities have done all they can to develop their communities for tourism. This year the Australian championships in connection with the 505 series yacht race will be contested at Port Vincent during the Christmas holidays, starting on December 26 and ending on December 30. In this championship, boats from New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory will be competing, and the winning boat will be sponsored to take part in the world championships to be held in Germany in August, 1968. I think the fact

that the Australian yachting authorities selected Port Vincent as one of the best places in South Australia to conduct this championship speaks for itself. This shows that they believe Yorke Peninsula has tourist trade potential. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. JENNINGS (Enfield): I congratulate the member for Yorke Peninsula upon resuming his seat. I take much pleasure in supporting the motion so ably moved by my distinguished friend, the member for Wallaroo (Mr. Hughes), and so equally ably seconded by my equally distinguished friend, the member for Unley (Mr. Langley). May they long continue to serve the House with such conspicuous ability. I must express regret at the death of the Hon. R. S. Richards who was, during his last years, a constituent of mine. I was not a contemporary of his in this House but I had ample opportunity to hear of his tremendous capacity and leadership qualities that were so much admired by all sections of the community. I know well that in his last years he still retained an impressive mental capacity and was a wise counsellor and friend. He obtained great satisfaction from the election of the present Government and gained great pleasure from its achievements. To his relatives and those of the other departed members, I express my sincerest sympathy.

This will be the last session for an unusually large number of some of our most respected members, who will be retiring voluntarily. Amongst them will be two former Premiers—the Minister of Social Welfare (who is the member for Edwardstown), and the member for Gumeracha. Both will leave this House rich in honours and will carry into their retirement the best wishes of their Parliamentary colleagues and the citizens of a grateful State. I shall always be proud to remember that I have served with them for 15 years in this House and, with the member for Edwardstown, for even longer in Party affairs. The member for Burra (Mr. Quirke) has also been here for a long time and has always managed to be one of the most notable members of the House. His record is really remarkable. Few politicians have ever walked the tightrope as successfully as he has. He has been on just about every side, with variations thrown in.

Mr. Quirke: Another one is still to come.

Mr. JENNINGS: I do not doubt that for a moment. It must be regarded as a tribute to his dexterity over the years that his retirement is by choice. It must certainly be a tribute to the genuine warmth of his character that,

despite his political gyrations, he has retained the affection of all members. That is something unusual amongst those who change their coats in politics. I know that sometimes I felt I should have disliked the honourable member, and on a couple of occasions I think I consciously tried to, but I certainly never succeeded for more than a couple of days. Perhaps the honourable member thinks I was not trying hard enough, but he will carry into his retirement all my best wishes. I think the honourable member was never a Party man, despite the fact that he has aligned himself at times with both major political Parties, and probably flirted with others. I think he is, in fact, a cussed individualist with a social conscience and a taint of monetary mania. When the honourable member departed from his social credit ideas he was undoubtedly one of the best speakers in the House.

Mr. Quirke: I still have them.

Mr. JENNINGS: I know, and that is one thing that has tainted the honourable member forever. However, in debates when the honourable member got away from such drivels as he spoke today he was one of the best speakers here. I was impressed by his speech delivered last week and with his obvious sincere relief at casting aside the cares of office, including the worry of other people's problems. Not many members would not sympathize with him and would not feel a tinge of envy. Undoubtedly, it is a wearisome burden to keep in inviolate secrecy the worries of other people and to share these worries, whether we have our own at the same time or not. I shall have to bear the burden for about another 28 years, but when the time comes no doubt I will remember the remarks of the member for Burra about scraping out other people's skeletons from the cupboard. Our friend, the member for Rocky River (Mr. Heaslip) is also to retire. He has always been a source of interest to members on this side.

Mr. Lawn: Why?

Mr. JENNINGS: Sometimes he has been a source of exasperation, but mostly of enjoyable amusement. I have thought that the most noteworthy thing about him is his breadth of vision, which is about as wide as that of a cross-eyed garfish. The honourable member thinks that there are only two types of people in the whole world—primary producers on the one hand and, on the other hand, all the rest of the people, who are either robbing or currently trying to rob primary producers.

Mr. Lawn: He likes the workers! He likes to watch them work!

Mr. JENNINGS: They are among those always robbing the primary producer. No doubt the honourable member earnestly tried to be a good advocate of the primary producer, but his narrowness prevented it. No section of our community is best served by regarding the members of it as a race apart from the rest. We are an interdependent community wherein each person has a role to play in our success and our progress. The honourable member for Eyre (Mr. Bockelberg) is another who is setting aside the cares of office and the responsibilities of statecraft. He is an affable man who has always been most considerate of the staff of this House. I have heard it said that, if he had a private secretary, it would be the most sought after job in the country. The honourable member has earned my admiration (or perhaps I should say envy) by deciding that he could best represent his vast and rugged electoral district from the wilds of Burnside and its bowling greens. I have heard (and I speak sincerely here) that he has had a distinguished military career. That is not surprising. I understand he was a colonel. Well, don't forget that the member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse) is a major so, if that is the yardstick, the member for Eyre should have been a field marshal—and an admiral on his days off!

The member for Onkaparinga is in a different category (as he always is), but we do not know whether or not he is to stand again. At the moment he is waiting for a call, and the silence is shattering. It looks at this stage as though the hatchet man has got the hatchet himself—where the chicken got it. However, he has had a very long career and should be content, and no doubt will be, to accept the inevitable. I do not, of course, know the victor in his pre-selection ballot but have been told (perhaps wrongly), admittedly by someone who had no reason to like him, that the successful candidate is, amongst other things, a garbage collector. We are used to the Liberal Party collecting garbage, but it is surpassing itself in collecting the garbage collector as well.

Mr. Ryan: Do you suggest that that is the height of its policy?

Mr. JENNINGS: I think its policy is closely related to garbage. So far we have been talking about voluntary and quasi-voluntary retirements. There will be retirements where the voters will take the initiative in some seats. I am not going to make any wild prophesies but I believe that our Party

will be able to save the Liberal Party from its current leadership embarrassment by riding this House of the member for Gouger.

His Excellency's Speech is a tribute to his advisers. It is the best opening Speech I have ever heard, and the most significant part is in paragraph 2, which deals with the new Cabinet under the new Premier. The Hon. Mr. Dunstan is a man who for a long time was tipped for the position he now occupies. His appointment could scarcely have been a surprise to anyone in South Australia. What has greatly and pleasantly surprised me and others of his supporters is the wide acceptance of his appointment by all sections of the community. The South Australian people, irrespective of their political creed, have acclaimed his election as Premier, and they have acclaimed him as an outstanding South Australian for whom this State's highest political office is a proper reward.

I have been personally assured by many erstwhile Liberals that they will now be voting Labour for the first time to ensure the Hon. Mr. Dunstan's continuance as Premier of this State; all patriotic, loyal South Australians should do this, forgetting for the time being the awful alternative. The other members of the new Cabinet are the same tried and trusted personnel who formed the first Labor Ministry in this State for 33 years. They have the support and the unlimited confidence of all members on this side of the House.

The Leader of the Opposition subjected this House to one of the most puerile and pointless displays of incompetence we have ever heard, and I am sorry for the institution of Parliament, since this is becoming customary for the Leader. I have sat with three former Leaders of the Opposition—the late Mr. O'Halloran, the present Minister of Social Welfare, and the honourable member for Gumeracha. When these three members entered a major debate such as this, it was a major occasion and they could be depended on to make a massive contribution, whether we agreed with it or not. However, such is not the case now, because the Leader appears not even to take much interest in what he is saying; unless he improves what he is saying this is understandable. He has a staff to help him and yet he comes into this House with only rudimentary preparation for any debate in which he takes part.

When the Leader was appointed to his present position I said what Billy Hughes once said: he couldn't lead a flock of homing pigeons. However, now he doesn't even seem to be trying; one might be pardoned for

thinking that he is running dead. He commenced his speech with a dreary recapitulation of the sorry performance he displayed in the debate on the Natural Gas Pipelines Authority Bill when he asked for a different route. However, on this occasion we did not hear the startling suggestion that the pipeline route should be the subject of an investigation by the Public Works Standing Committee.

Perhaps it would have been an embarrassment to some people to have raised this proposal again after the Leader's colleagues in another place, where they have the numbers to do something about it, did not accept his suggestion. Not even the four Liberal and Country League members for the Northern District pressed for a vote on the issue, and it was rather strange in the circumstances to hear the Leader raising the matter again in this debate. The Leader seems to be at long last interested in decentralization. The Government, of which he was a supporter, had a shameful record on decentralization. It was interested only in preventing decentralization, as any measure of it would have only put a finish to its electoral prospects for all time. The infamous gerrymander could only be effective by actively curtailing decentralization, and that vicious policy was actively pursued by the L.C.L. Government. For once the Leader quoted correctly, and I listened to this part of his speech—

Mr. Burdon: What for?

Mr. JENNINGS: It was something of a burden, but I felt obliged to listen to him for as long as I could. The Leader said:

I have been reliably informed that for the first five months of this year no substantially new references were made to the Industries Development Committee.

He further said:

I do not know whether that fact is correct or not.

Might I remind honourable members that facts are usually correct. Probably what the Leader meant to say was, "I do not know whether the information I give the House is correct." If he did not know whether or not this was true, why did he make such a statement at the beginning of his speech? This is surely a most astonishing attitude for a man in a responsible Parliamentary position to take. This looseness in debate is becoming typical of the Leader.

The member for Gawler (Mr. Clark) talked about the Leader's "galloping around the country in all directions making very very doubtful statements". I personally hope that the Leader keeps it up; I cannot think of

anything more calculated to advance the interests of the Labor Party than the Leader's making the statements that he makes abroad in the community. We must bear in mind that recently the President of the Royal Automobile Association, who is not (to my knowledge, anyway) sympathetic to the Labor Party, had to correct publicly some erroneous statements made by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Burdon: I could correct one he made at Mount Gambier, too.

Mr. JENNINGS: Recently, I saw the statement made by the Leader in a Penola paper wherein he was reported to have said at a public meeting in the district that the recent takeover of the Penola Electricity Supply Proprietary Limited was socialistic, confiscation and expropriation and, in fact, just about everything short of arson. What about those great watchdogs of democracy in the Upper House! Surely, the Leader knows that we have not a majority in that Chamber. Did the Liberal majority in the Legislative Council, including the four Southern District Liberal Legislative Councillors, support the Electricity Trust of South Australia (Penola Undertaking) Bill, which was socialistic, confiscation and expropriation? If we believe the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition, they did.

The Leader regaled us with a story he heard from a person in the street at Tailem Bend. He offered such dubious evidence as an attack on the Government. On the following day the Minister of Agriculture, who is the member for the district in which Tailem Bend is situated, and who arranged for a question to be asked in the House about the matter, gave the truth of what happened, which certainly did not verify the remarks made by the Leader, and certainly told an entirely different story. I say again that this all adds up to a pretty pathetic performance by a person in a responsible Parliamentary position. The Leader made a juvenile attack on the Premier for some remarks he made on a *Four Corners* television programme. For once, his quotations were correct because he had the text with him. His inferences of what was said were so illogical that they are worthy of mention for that reason alone.

The Leader said that the Premier wished to preside over the destruction of this Parliament; he said that the Premier was the most dangerous man ever to occupy the Premier's office. I can only repeat now what I interjected then—that the Premier is certainly dangerous to the prospects and ambitions of the Leader of the Opposition. What was so unusual

about the Premier's answers to questions involving the Federation of Australian States? What he said, he has said in this House before, as have many other members. Every member on this side supports a Commonwealth Parliament with sovereign powers from which it is a natural step to regional Governments with a community of interest and exercising delegating powers from the sovereign Australian Parliament. Every member on this side believes this, supports it, and talks about it when it is necessary to do so. Why the Leader of the Opposition on this occasion should have taken such umbrage at what the Premier said on the television interview on *Four Corners*, I cannot see. Of course, what the Premier said about State boundaries in Australia being illogical is completely true. Surely the greatest exponent of this view was no less a person than that arch Country Party conservative, the late Sir Earle Page, who was always talking about it.

The Leader of the Opposition later in his remarks talked about Socialism in South Australia and blamed it for our ills, both real and imaginary. Even the Leader should know that the economy we live under in this State is a private enterprise economy not a Socialist economy, more's the pity. We undoubtedly have a Socialist Government, but what a Socialist can do in any State in Australia to introduce a Socialist economy is indeed doubtful. In fact, the constitutional impediments to achieving Socialism in Australia are so great that we will not have the benefit of that form of economy for a long time. The Leader was linking this up with unemployment. He reiterated the barren argument he made on opening day about unemployment in this State, but he conveniently forgot that by far the greatest unemployment in this State in modern times was under the Playford regime in 1961.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: They tried to blame the Commonwealth Government.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes. The Playford Government tried to blame the Commonwealth Liberal Government, just as we are blaming it.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: And rightly so!

Mr. JENNINGS: The Leader must have been so mesmerized by Sir Henry Bolte on his recent visit to Victoria that he failed to notice that at the very time he was there the recent increase in unemployment in that State was far greater than any increase in this State. In any case, the degree of unemployment in this country is obviously caused by the policy, or lack of it, of the Commonwealth Government. That Government is responsible for the economic climate of the whole country and

perhaps we should sympathize with Sir Henry Bolte in the callous treatment of his State by the Commonwealth Liberal Government, just as we protest at its treatment of us.

Mr. Speaker, the honourable the Leader, aided and abetted by his friend and adviser from Mitcham, is very prone to talk about this State's suffering since the last election from a lack of confidence in the Government. This sort of statement is easy to make and difficult to justify, but there was one instance we have known only fairly recently in which the people of this State had an opportunity to show in a tangible way their support for, and confidence in, the Government. I refer to the Electricity Trust loan. This loan, floated by the Electricity Trust, which is a Government undertaking, was over-subscribed almost before it was opened.

The Hon. G. A. Bywaters: Showing confidence.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, that showed complete confidence in the Government, through one of the Government's own enterprises.

Mr. McAnaney: What about the Commonwealth election; that rocked you for a while.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, I do not deny for a moment that it did. However, the honourable member need not think that what happened at the Commonwealth election is going to be translated into the next State election results. Mr. Speaker, I was most disappointed with the speech by the honourable member for Mitcham (Mr. Millhouse), and when I say that I was disappointed it must be realized that I was disappointed with it even though I did not expect anything of him, anyway. However, it is surely an all-time low in debate, perhaps following his Leader here, to introduce as a matter of public interest the schoolboy nickname of the Premier.

Mr. Clark: Did he have a schoolboy nickname himself?

Mr. JENNINGS: I do not know.

Mr. Lawn: He has one today.

Mr. JENNINGS: If the child is father of the man, as we are sometimes told, then I think it is reasonable to assume that the member for Mitcham was such a revolting little prig that he did not have a nickname at all, because after all a nickname is usually bestowed as a result of some affection. If the honourable member thinks that introducing the Premier's schoolboy nickname into this debate is a proper subject to talk about in an Address in Reply speech, it shows how completely bereft he is of anything sensible to say. There is nothing further worthy of comment in the honourable

member's speech, although he did admit what I said a moment ago, namely, that this State is based on a private enterprise economy. Of course, the honourable member tried to claim that the Premier was determined to tear asunder this private enterprise economy of ours and transform it into a Socialist economy. I am very sad to say that not even the Premier could achieve this. The speech by the member for Mitcham contained one intriguing reference. He told us that, despite their political differences, he would always be eternally grateful to the Premier for something the Premier did for him during their student days. After that we were left completely up in the air. The member for Mitcham was not making an inhibited speech (on the contrary, he took us into his confidence about the vital matter of the Premier's nickname), so why the secrecy about this other matter? In the absence of any elaboration of his bald statement, I can assume only that the young Dunstan must have, at one stage, saved the young Millhouse from a fate worse than death.

Mr. Lawn: As I heard it, a colonel one day addressed the boys at the college and the Premier saved the member for Mitcham from taking the colonel's baton.

Mr. JENNINGS: I am not familiar with the schoolboy life of the member for Mitcham. I can say only that if the Premier was ever guilty of this gross indiscretion then he was wise not to make it public before the election for Premier for, if this revelation had been made, I know of at least one vote which he got which might have been seriously prejudiced. The whole thing is an insoluble mystery. I suppose we will have to content ourselves by saying that the Premier, perhaps inadvertently, saved the Labor Party from a fate worse than death by not bringing his young schoolboy companion into our ranks.

As though I will never be finished with the member for Mitcham, I now draw attention to his attitude towards the Government's proposal to increase the annual leave of public servants. This attitude on his part and on his Party's part is astonishing, to say the least. During the first and second sessions of this Parliament, we saw the surprising spectacle of Opposition members moving motions, "That in the opinion of this House . . ." and adding that the Government should do something that the Labor Party had promised in its policy speech at the last election. This was a singularly inept form of political tactic and I have never known how it came to be

adopted. Had it been adopted since the present Leader took up his position that would have completely explained it. However, this tactic was adopted by the Opposition at the time when Sir Thomas Playford, a much more sagacious and perspicacious member than the present Leader, was Leader.

Mr. Clark: And cunning.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes. Therefore, I can assume only that at that stage the former Leader had given the game away. Of course, these motions were not carried because we had the numbers. It was patent that members opposite hoped to embarrass the Labor Government by committing it to do things which it had promised but which the Opposition thought it was incapable of performing. They did not know how capable we were of honouring our promises. Now, we intend to honour this solemn election promise to increase leave for public servants, but are attacked by the member for Mitcham for doing so. He would attack us if we had refused to do it, and would have said that we were breaking our promise. It was rather astonishing that the honourable member gave a television interview on the matter. Apparently he is kept in reserve to drop a bit of poison when it is required. I had the misfortune to see this interview. I was watching, quite peacefully, when suddenly before me appeared this horrible apparition on the television screen, like a gannet with a goitre, exhorting us to believe that the economy of this State would collapse as a result of the extravagance of the Labor Party.

It was not said on the interview that this was an election promise by the Labor Party, which the people of the State had endorsed by their vote. I was glad the member for Mitcham was consistent with all his mental and spiritual troglodytes in claiming that the time was not right for this reform. Never in the recorded history of political and economic progress has any time for any reform been the right time according to people with the mentality of the member for Mitcham. A responsible Government can afford to implement this programme of leave for public servants. This Government knew it could before it promised it, and it will honour its promises, to the great disappointment, dismay, and frustration of Opposition members.

Mr. Lawn: The Government has confidence in the future of this State: the member for Mitcham has not.

Mr. JENNINGS: Precisely. This debate has been conducted on a high plane by Government members, led by the members for Wallaroo and

Unley. It was led by the Leader of the Opposition on a low plane, descending further to the level when it would probably need the intervention of someone like the member for Eyre to raise it to the depths of banality.

Mr. Rodda: What does that mean?

Mr. Lawn: They do not understand the words.

Mr. JENNINGS: I would much rather hear myself speak than hear the member for Victoria. All this, of course, is because the Opposition has no Leader, no policy, no argument, no spirit, and certainly no hope.

The Government, on the other hand, has a record of achievement that can stand any challenge. The Statute Book of this State during the current period of Labor Government has been completely revolutionized in the field of industrial, legal, social and administrative legislation. No Government with this record and with the Leader we have and with the policy we have and with the inspiration to serve all the people that we have: no Government like this need fear the future nor any election that may confront it. I look forward to the next election, and I am confident that this Government will be returned, and returned with an increased majority. Then, when the result of our actions is seen, our Party will remain as the Government of this State for a period longer than that for which most members will remain in this House, and the people of this State will benefit immeasurably.

I realize that this may seem a good time for me to end. However, I have one more task to perform: it is to give the House another example of a strange form of political journalism. The member for Adelaide in an enlightening and entertaining speech read to this House what can best be described as an episode in the saga of Mildred and George.

This extraordinary form of journalism was employed for about six weeks by the Liberal Party in its weekly commentary in the *Advertiser*. All members are aware of this column, in which the Labor Party and the Liberal Party contribute something that they hope will reach the electors. The Labor Party's commentary is always a gem of wit and wisdom. Generally speaking, the Liberal Party's column is good by its standards, which are pretty low. However, for some reason, which must surely be known to someone somewhere, the Liberal Party for about six weeks spoke through the mouth of Mildred, a rather frustrated married woman, who had a

long-suffering husband called George. Mildred was a member of the Liberal Party and a member of a bridge club.

The Mildred and George saga ended as suddenly as it started; we do not quite know why. Personally, I think that George cleared out to Arnhem Land, and that the Minister of Social Welfare is now trying to find him for Mildred's maintenance. This is one instance where I hope the absconding husband is not found!

When the honourable member for Adelaide read the first episode of this saga, which dealt with free school books, I wondered why he had chosen this episode, and not the one in the following week's *Advertiser*. Perhaps he could not go on for ages reading Liberal Party commentaries, so I shall rectify his omission by reading the second episode in the series. It is from the *Advertiser* of the week after the Saturday quoted by the member for Adelaide. This is Mildred again:

Do you remember that last week I told you about our bridge club? Well, this week I received an awful shock to learn that two of our ladies admitted that they are members of the Labor Party. They are quite nice, too, and really quite intelligent. When I commented on this to George (he is my husband, you know, and terribly sweet, though not a member of the Liberal Party), he only snorted something about Mr. Dunstan and Mr. Whitlam not being exactly nitwits either. Sometimes I think George is almost subversive. Anyway, that night in bed I took to George properly about Mr. Dunstan (I'm sure he is a dangerous man) trying to get the ordinary people a vote for the Legislative Council.

As I said to George, "Unless you own property, how could you possibly know what is best for everyone?" George got really annoyed at me and started talking about the gerrymander (I'm not sure what that is, but it did sound so funny in the bedroom), adult franchise, democracy and all sorts of things. But I really like George best when he gets a little angry with me, and I was hoping he was going to get really interesting, when he just turned over and went to sleep, so I never did get the point after all.

However, it is all terribly confusing, as I secretly admit that Mr. Dunstan and Mr. Whitlam are quite nice but so, of course, is dear Mr. Hall. But I do hope that he never debates with Mr. Dunstan again on television, as it is taking such an unfair advantage of him. But what can you expect from the television, radio, and the press—they always favour the Labor Party, which is probably why the Liberal Party does not let reporters into our conference, and I hope we never do. Heavens, we would not know what we might read in the papers if we did, especially now with some people in the Liberal Party becoming quite democratic.

I have been told that even Mr. Millhouse once attacked dear Sir Thomas Playford's electoral laws at a Liberal Party conference. That was terribly ungrateful of him. After all, how could Sir Thomas have stayed there so long without his electoral laws. Anyway, Mr. Millhouse has become quite a loyal Liberal since he entered Parliament. Perhaps I had better concentrate more on George, but a girl is making it hard for nothing when her husband just goes to sleep on her. See you next week.

I congratulate the Governor's Deputy's advisers on the Speech and have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. BOCKELBERG (Eyre): I support the adoption of the Address in Reply to the Speech made by His Excellency the Governor's Deputy at the opening of this Parliament. With other members I express regret that His Excellency was indisposed and unable to attend the opening of the last session of Parliament before his term of office expired. I regret, too, that His Excellency and Lady Bastyan will be leaving the State, for they have endeared themselves to South Australians probably as no other Governor and his lady have. They have travelled extensively throughout South Australia, even though I believe they still have a large programme to fulfil.

I congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on receiving the high honour bestowed on you in the Queen's honours list. I am sure that if anybody in the House has earned such an honour, you have, through your long experience with the Parliament and for the excellent manner in which you conduct the business of the House. I, too, add my expressions of sympathy to those already given in relation to the late Bob Richards, Rufus Goldney and Dudley Octoman. Although I did not know the late Mr. Richards when he was a member of the House, the member for Enfield may be pleased to know that I met him on the bowling green at a sport in which he proved to be a good social player. Although the late Mr. Richards was rather unfortunate one day when we collected an eight from his rink, he did not bear us any grudge.

I do not often remark on speeches made by others, but I was forced to sit here this evening, because I was to follow the member for Enfield (Mr. Jennings). Never have I listened to such tripe and rubbish as he uttered on this occasion. His speech contained not one constructive comment or reference to the district he represents. I think that when a member merely spends his time in black-guarding other members he should resume his seat a little earlier.

As this will probably be the last opportunity I shall have to speak to this debate, I wish to refer to some of the work that has been done (and some that has not been done) in my district. As honourable members know, ever since I have been in the House I have been trying hard to obtain an adequate water supply for Eyre Peninsula. Indeed, we were nearly successful in obtaining a water main for Kimba residents but, unfortunately, the electors of the State voted us out of office. During the 2½ years that this Government has been in control of the Treasury benches I have tried continually to have this project implemented, but nothing seems to have been done. I do not know whether the Government has any present plans in this regard, but I point out that the position is becoming serious in the Kimba district. Farmers are holding 250,000 sheep for which they have sufficient water for about three weeks, if it does not rain. What will be done about this situation? Are we going to let the sheep die? Are we going to go to all the expense of carting water to Kimba, or are we going to extend the main to the town?

It is not a big job to install that main. Three or four years ago, when the water position on Eyre Peninsula was becoming critical, the then Minister of Works (the member for Flinders), after explaining the position to the then Premier (Hon. Sir Thomas Playford), was told, "If that is the case, we will have to do something about it." That work, which was carried out at a cost of approximately \$950,000, included 25 miles of main, a pumping station and a 1,000,000-gallon tank, and was completed in about four months. If that could have been done by the Playford Government, surely it can be done by this Government, and the quicker it gets on with the Kimba main the better it will be for the people of this State.

Although the honourable member for Enfield suggested that I controlled my district from the Burnside bowling green, at least I know something about the district. We have been trying for some considerable time, but with little success, to have a boat haven, slipway or a landing stage constructed at Thevenard for the use of the fishermen there. These men, who do an excellent job, bring considerable revenue to this State. Although they do not all vote for me (as a matter of fact, many do not) that does not alter the fact that I am here to represent them and to see if something can be done for the fishermen in the Thevenard

area. That should be one of the first jobs the present Government does in that part of the district.

I am happy with the condition of roads on Eyre Peninsula. In fact, when I entered Parliament as the member for Eyre there was not one chain of sealed road in the district, but now there are sealed roads pretty well throughout it, with one exception: a few weeks ago I happened to be in Penong on a windy, dusty day. I would like the Minister representing the Minister of Roads to listen to what I have to say because for about 10 minutes after a truck passes through Penong one cannot see anything but the dust it leaves behind. How the people live and conduct businesses in that street is beyond my comprehension.

We have had a bumper harvest in South Australia this year, particularly on Eyre Peninsula. For some time I have advocated that it would be better for silos to be built nearer to where the wheat was produced and harvested, so that wheat would not have to be dragged in during the harvest period and held at the terminal depots. Our railways are only third grade, and the line at the present time in many places is only twentieth grade. I cannot understand why they attempt to haul the wheat to Thevenard during the busy season. If the silos were built nearer to where the wheat was grown, it would be much more satisfactory to everyone. This year many farmers at Penong and Ceduna have had hundreds of thousands of bushels of their wheat classed as second grade, because they could not get it to the silos in time to escape a rainy period.

The honourable member for Yorke Peninsula spoke about the tourist industry, and I support what he said. We have many excellent fishing spots on Eyre Peninsula, and I commend them to anyone who desires to go fishing. The member for Gumeracha can support me: he catches only the large whiting and other people catch only the smaller ones. If there is any better scenery than that between Streaky Bay and Elliston, I have yet to see it.

I understand that before long a Bill will be introduced into this House to provide canteens on Aboriginal mission stations. I am rather worried about the position of the Aborigines in my district, and I think perhaps that had we provided a canteen in the first place instead of giving the Aborigines an open go they would have been much better off today. I do not know whether a canteen will do a great deal of good, for I imagine that it would be limited and at the present time that would not be sufficient for these people. It is a most

unfortunate thing that although several years ago the Aborigines from Koonibba Mission had one of the finest football teams one could find anywhere in the country no-one from the mission is playing football at all today. The Aborigines are unable to play today because of the ravages of drink. I am not against drink in any shape or form, but I think that the right to drink was probably thrust on them a little too suddenly. That is just my personal opinion.

A friend of mine on the coast there was employing a good Aboriginal worker and his wife, the man cutting posts and the woman heaping them up. One weekend they wanted to go to the football at Ceduna. The Aboriginal came along first and said, "I want £10, boss—going up to Ceduna to the football." Some little time after the boss had given him the £10, the wife (Annie, I think her name was) came along and said that she wanted £10, too, because she wanted to go to the football. As she was working, she also collected her £10. They went to Ceduna on the Saturday morning, and the first thing they procured when they got there was five flagons of wine each. Well, they did not see any football, and they returned to Smoky Bay stony broke; they could not even pay the mail driver for bringing them back. They had not had any food, and they did not bring any clothing back. They had spent £10 each just on wine, not only for themselves but for all the others.

That is the appalling state of affairs that has been reached at the present time. This particular man who was employing them had occasion one day to go to their camp, where he saw them making a mixture which looked most peculiar to him. This mixture consisted of wet tea leaves, tobacco, sugar, and flour, and they were rolling it up into little balls. He said, "What do you do with that?" and one Aboriginal replied, "Me chew em, boss, fix em up here just like wine." That is the state of affairs that has been reached in some places.

I should now like to refer to the former Premier, the Hon. Frank Walsh, who unfortunately is absent from the Chamber at this moment. During the time he was Premier he was always a thorough gentleman, in my opinion. Probably he was not the best Premier we have had in South Australia, but at least he did the best he possibly could for this State during his term of office. I congratulate him, and I am sure that when he retires he will enjoy the balance of his life.

I should also like to refer to some of my colleagues on this side of the House who will be retiring at the end of this Parliament. I might say that I am the junior of the four of us who will be retiring from this side of the House. I thank all my colleagues for the very cordial reception they gave me when I came into Parliament, and for the very generous help they have given me during the time I have been here. I have very much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. McKEE (Port Pirie): I support the motion. I am pleased to learn that His Excellency the Governor is out of hospital and on the road to recovery after his recent illness. I offer my sincere sympathies to relatives of deceased members. I congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on the honour conferred on you in the New Year's Honours List. As the member for Eyre, who has just resumed his seat, will retire at the end of the session, I take this opportunity of wishing him a long and happy retirement. I do not think I would be remiss in saying that he has been liked by all members of the House. In these sentiments, I include the members for Gumeracha, Onkaparinga, Burra and Rocky River who will also retire at the end of the session. I will miss the member for Rocky River, because he usually makes my speech for me.

I support the remarks made by the mover of the motion and offer my appreciation also to the Hon. Frank Walsh for the great work he did for the State in his two years as Premier. He will go down in history as the man who defeated the world's greatest gerrymander. He will also be remembered as the man who changed this State socially from the most backward to the most progressive State in the Commonwealth. To the new Premier, I extend my congratulations. I have no need to remind honourable members (especially the Leader of the Opposition) of his capabilities. The Leader had first-hand experience of those capabilities on the first day of this session when members opposite decided to launch an attack on the new Premier. It is hard to imagine what they expected to gain from such an attack. Surely they must have known from past experience that the new Premier is not scared easily: besides, he has the answers.

Mr. Clark: He usually wins on a knock out.

Mr. McKEE: True, and on that day it was a massacre. On that occasion the Leader and his supporters succeeded only in going backwards. While they continue to distort the truth they will never win back the confidence of the people of this State. Opposition members

must realize that they never had the confidence of the people. The only confidence the Playford Government had was in the Playford gerrymander, and it was amusing to hear Opposition members trying to make the people of this State believe that this was the only State with unemployed people. They know that this unfortunate situation exists throughout the Commonwealth. Anyone with reasonable intelligence would know that the slump in Commonwealth civil and defence works spending in this State is the main reason for the unemployment situation. For political purposes, Opposition members refuse to admit this. Liberal Premiers in other States have publicly accused the Commonwealth Government of not carrying out its responsibilities to the States, and I endorse those remarks.

Obviously, because South Australia is the only Labor governed State on the mainland it has been singled out for especially harsh treatment, and the member for Albert and his supporters condone this treatment. If they were concerned for the welfare of the people of this State they would use their influence with their Commonwealth colleagues to ensure that this State was treated fairly rather than support the actions of the Commonwealth Government. They do so in the hope that they will eventually return as the State Government. However, I assure Opposition members that should they continue to be pleased about the unemployment situation, not only will they continue in Opposition but also their numbers will become fewer. The Government is most concerned about the unemployment situation, and the Premier did his best to do something about it at the last Loan Council meeting.

Mr. Clark: This was generally recognized at Canberra.

Mr. McKEE: Yes, everyone said that he did so.

Mr. Clark: He gave the meeting a stimulant.

Mr. McKEE: The Prime Minister said that he engendered into the debate an intelligent atmosphere that was unheard of before.

Mr. Clark: That is what you would expect.

Mr. McKEE: The Leader's great friend, Sir Henry Bolte (Premier of Victoria), also congratulated the South Australian Premier on his effort at the Loan Council meeting.

Mr. Hurst: Did he congratulate the Leader of the Opposition on his recent visit to Victoria?

Mr. McKEE: I did not read anything about that, but from what the Leader said when he returned from his visit, Sir Henry Bolte had obviously pulled the wool over his eyes. An

article, appearing in the *Advertiser* of May 4, and headed "South Australia Dip in New Work", stated:

The slump in Commonwealth civil and defence work spending in South Australia is underlined in official figures listing annual rates of expenditure over the past 11 years. The estimated total outlay in South Australia this financial year of \$4.4 million is nearly \$7.5 million less than the figure for 1959-60. There is no early prospect of the situation improving unless the Commonwealth, in shaping its 1967-68 Federal Budget, increases the South Australian allocation. On present indications, Federal spending in South Australia handled by the Commonwealth Public Works Department will be about the same as this year. The percentage decline in expenditure in South Australia has been progressive since the peak year of 1959-60; the figure then was 26.5 per cent, and this year it is 4.1 per cent.

And members opposite have the audacity to stand up and tell the people of this State that the Commonwealth Government has treated this State fairly in regard to its public works programme! It is hard to believe that this statement ever got into the *Advertiser*; I cannot understand how that paper ever printed it, but it did say that it was from its Canberra representative. It did not say that he tells lies, so I take it to be correct.

The *Advertiser* also gave it big headlines on page 3, and it is also strange that members opposite never noticed this statement. It also surprised me that the member for Mitcham has not inquired how it got into the *Advertiser* or what has happened to the Canberra representative. It is quite possible that the *Advertiser's* Canberra representative has been sent to Vietnam as a result of printing this statement. Another contributing factor to the unemployment position is our huge defence commitment. No member opposite has mentioned this, but people in the street and in the workshops refer to it frequently because they realize that the vast figure we are spending on defence has undoubtedly retarded development and the expenditure of Commonwealth funds throughout Australia. Of course, this is public opinion, but there is an old saying: "You cannot have war and caviar too." I have found from experience that when Liberal Governments endeavour to promote wars they must have unemployment to go with them; this enables them to recruit economic conscripts. This was the case in 1939 and we are now facing a similar situation.

I notice the member for Albert smiling, perhaps as a result of something he is reading. However, this is a fact, and to prove it I point out that the age group affected by

unemployment today is the 15-20 years age group, which represents 4.8 per cent of the unemployed males in Australia. At 17, they have the option of joining the Army and receiving adult pay. If they have not joined the Army at the age of 17, by the time they are 20 they are conscripted anyhow. Boys, having left school through unemployment, become unsettled after a few months and think, "Well, I will join one of the services." This is a tailor-made programme of a Government that promotes wars and conscripts economic conscripts. People experienced this before the Second World War. The Government had no money for employment prior to the war, but it soon found it when the war broke out.

Mr. Nankivell: I was able to get a job, then.

Mr. McKEE: The member for Albert is wrong when he says that, because in parts of North Queensland most of the men of the Sixth Division were carrying their swags, sleeping under bridges, and getting rations worth about 5s. a week. It is hungry men who fight, and this is the situation the honourable member is trying to create, so that there will be hungry men who will fight. We are facing this situation again.

Mr. Quirke: Your statements don't do you justice, Dave.

Mr. McKEE: It seems to be the situation. I am pleased to report that my district has never been more prosperous than it is at present. The standardization of the Broken Hill to Port Pirie line has been the greatest thing that has ever happened to Port Pirie.

Mr. McAnaney: Who provided the money?

Mr. McKEE: I knew that was going to come: like the chicken on the last walk to the wood heap, the honourable member fell into the trap. I do not know whether it would be wise to tell the honourable member to read *Hansard* at the time when we were trying to get the Commonwealth Government to supply funds to build this railway and when a couple of members of the Commonwealth Government were voted out because they voted with that Government. A motion was carried unanimously in this House requesting Commonwealth Senators to actively support the implementation of the Commonwealth-State rail standardization agreement. The honourable member does not want to take any credit for pushing the standard gauge between Port Pirie and Broken Hill. Ben Chifley instigated the standard gauge. This line from Broken Hill to Port Pirie has brought prosperity to Port Pirie. The Broken Hill Associated Smelters

has almost completed expansion worth about \$15,000,000, and later this year its work force will be increased to about 2,000 employees.

Mr. Casey: It has faith in the Government.

Mr. McKEE: Of course it has, and other people in the town also have faith in the Government. Apart from that great development, private house building is booming in Port Pirie. The Housing Trust expects to build 300 or more houses in Port Pirie to complete its programme. The new railway station is almost completed and we shall soon no longer have the train running along Port Pirie's main street.

Mr. Quirke: The Public Works Committee was responsible for that.

Mr. McKEE: I give credit where credit is due. Although we shall no longer have the train in the main street, we shall at least be able to boast of having the longest railway platform in Australia. Apart from all that Government expenditure in my district, local business is expanding: two new motels are in the course of construction, and South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited has a project under way. The Engineering and Water Supply Department has almost completed a new block of offices on Senate Road and, in addition, the technical school is being enlarged. I hope that the negotiations concerning the proposed ceramics industry that is at present being considered by the Industries Development Committee will succeed and that the industry will be established at Port Pirie. If that industry requires natural gas, I have been assured, as has the member for Wallaroo, that the industry will receive the gas. Work having also commenced on the over-pass at the Solomontown railway junction, I confidently speak for all Port Pirie motorists when I express the hope that it will soon be completed.

If the Commonwealth Government is not spending money in other parts of the State it is at least spending some in my district; it has commenced a new office for the Departments of Labour and National Service and Social Services. This, of course, is not before time, as the existing office is nothing more than a shed. The Commonwealth Government is also making extensions to Port Pirie's telephone services. However, I do not think that work has been implemented through the efforts of the new member for Grey, because the previous Labor members were continually asking the Commonwealth Government to carry out this most essential work.

Mr. Heaslip: The present member got results.

Mr. McKEE: I shall tell the honourable member why he got results: the Commonwealth Government hopes to hold Grey at the next election.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: That is the finest compliment that has ever been paid to the member for Grey, because I have never heard his predecessor referred to in this House.

Mr. McKEE: The late Edgar Russell represented the District of Grey in the Commonwealth Parliament for over 20 years and, had he not passed on, he would possibly still be there. The Liberal Party has only been lent the seat, but it will be back under a Labor Administration after the next Commonwealth election. At the moment my main concern, and that of other members, is the

adverse weather conditions we have been experiencing. Like other country centres, this area relies to a great extent on the success of primary producers.

Mr. Heaslip: The member for Enfield did not think so.

Mr. McKEE: Of course, the honourable member for Rocky River would know, because he is farming in a dry part of his district. For his sake and that of his farming friends in that district, I hope they get some good rains soon. I support the motion.

Mr. COUMBE secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

At 9.43 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, July 5, at 2 p.m.