

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, September 26, 1968

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

### QUESTIONS

#### FUNCTIONS

Mr. VIRGO: I understand that all other honourable members as well as I have received from the Minister of Agriculture an invitation to a function at Roseworthy Agricultural College on Friday, October 18, and I should very much like to accept that invitation. However, I have also received (from the Minister of Roads and Transport) an invitation to participate in a Parliamentary visit to the Islington workshops on the same day, and I should also like to accept that invitation.

Mr. Lawn: Ministers don't speak to each other!

The SPEAKER: The member for Adelaide is out of order speaking to the member for Edwardstown. The honourable member for Edwardstown.

Mr. VIRGO: Will the Minister of Lands take up with the Minister of Agriculture this duplication of invitations to find out whether, when future visits of this kind are proposed, Ministers will first confer so that a situation is not reached in which both invitations cannot be accepted?

Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will take this question up with the Minister of Agriculture. It seems that these two functions, one being arranged by the Minister of Agriculture and the other by the Minister of Roads and Transport, have coincided. I do not know the purpose of the visiting day at Roseworthy, but it may well be connected with some event at the college and not merely be a date selected by the Minister. I will take this matter up with him and doubtless he will be pleased to provide to the member of Edwardstown and any other honourable member an opportunity to see Roseworthy Agricultural College on some other day to be decided. I am sure the Minister will be disappointed to know that the member for Edwardstown wanted to go but could not. I will discuss this matter with my colleague, but I am confident that he would be pleased to invite the honourable member to visit Roseworthy College on some other day if he wished to do that.

Mr. VIRGO: I refer to the earlier question I asked about the clashing of arrangements for

visits to the Roseworthy Agricultural College and the Islington railway workshop. As I understand that the Minister now has a reply, I compliment him on his expedition in obtaining it and shall be pleased to have it.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Minister of Roads and Transport has announced in the Legislative Council this afternoon that he has agreed to change the date of the visit to Islington. The Roseworthy college visit still stands as presently arranged, and there is some significance in this date: it is a special day set down for visiting at Roseworthy. Further information on the Islington visit will no doubt be forthcoming soon.

Mr. LAWN: Following the Minister's reply to the question asked by the member for Edwardstown about the clash of Parliamentary visits, I desire to ask the Premier a further question. Earlier this session the Chief Secretary said in the Legislative Council that Council members of the Ministry were not speaking to members of the Ministry in another place. Although I can understand why members of the Ministry in the Council are not on speaking terms with the Assembly Ministers, I cannot understand why two Ministers in the Council do not speak to each other. That is past my comprehension. Will the Premier ascertain why certain members of the Ministry are not on speaking terms, and will he use his good offices, if any, to smooth over the disagreement among members of the Ministry?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I am not responsible for the limits the honourable member puts on his comprehension and, therefore, I cannot arrive at the basis of the question. Not only do Ministers write to each other: they also speak to each other.

### SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

Mr. RODDA: At present, the House is engaged in discussing the Budget and I know that the Government does not intend to stifle the debate, as such debate is good for South Australia. However, there are only 24 hours in each day and, in the circumstances, can the Premier say whether he intends the House to sit tonight and what he intends to do next week?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: The House is making slow progress in the Budget debate, but the Government does not intend to ask it to sit tonight, because this would be difficult as, no doubt, members may have made prior arrangements. However, if progress is made only at the rate at which it was made yesterday

and early this morning it may be necessary for the House to sit next Thursday night, if that can be arranged, but it will depend on progress made next week.

### HOUSING LOANS

Mr. RYAN: In this morning's *Advertiser* under the heading "House Loan Rise by State Bank" an article states:

The State Bank will be able to make available bigger housing loans—up to 95 per cent of the banks valuation—under an insurance plan announced by the Treasurer (Mr. Pearson) yesterday. He said that from Wednesday the State Bank would be in a position to approve the new "high ratio" loans.

Although from the contents of the article it seems that any person is eligible for the loan, I understand that these high-ratio loans, when attached to insurance, are available only to people in a certain age group. If my assumption is correct will the Treasurer give details of the age of people who will be eligible for such a loan?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: As the honourable member said, an arrangement has been concluded with the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation for the State Bank to operate in co-operation with it and, as the article states, to approve of loans up to 95 per cent of valuation with a limit of \$8,000 on new houses and \$7,000 on established houses, so that advantages of the low deposit can be availed of, thereby reducing the number of cases where secondary finance is required. The honourable member is correct in saying that the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation has a maximum age limit for applicants and, from memory, I think it is 35 years. Above that age the corporation does not accept liability. It is as well that the honourable member has raised this point, so that I can clarify the situation. It is disappointing for people who assume that they have the right to apply when, indeed, by virtue of their age, they have not. But I think the honourable member will agree that the age provision is perfectly proper, because the loan is for a long term and, obviously, the corporation cannot accept liability in respect of a person above the age applicable to the normal life expectancy.

Mr. HUDSON: Will the Treasurer say what position applies in relation to the Savings Bank of South Australia with respect to higher ratio loans being guaranteed under the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation? Secondly, as I understand there has been a

reduction in the rate of approvals by the Savings Bank over the last three to six months, will he obtain information for me regarding the Savings Bank rate of approval of new loans?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I thank the honourable member for asking me the question because it enables me to correct the reply I gave just now to the member for Port Adelaide. After I had answered the honourable member's question and told him that there was a maximum age limit for insurance under the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation, I doubted whether my information was correct. I checked up and found it was not correct. I ask that this matter be taken note of by the newspapers and the House so that wrong information is not sent out to the public. The position under the Housing Loans Insurance Act is that it is the loan which is insured and not the borrower. The purpose of the Act is to ensure that the loan is duly paid, so that in that case the insurance is not on the person and therefore does not depend on his age. There is a maximum age limit in respect of the Housing Loans Redemption Fund and that is the matter I had in mind when I answered the earlier question. However, the fact is that the age limit does not apply for insurance under the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation. Regarding the other matters raised by the honourable member, I understand from my discussions with the Savings Bank authorities that they are not necessarily taking advantage of the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation. However, as I understand it, they do make internal arrangements of a similar nature. I will obtain from the bank a report for the honourable member on the rate of approvals.

### SHEEP INSPECTIONS

Mr. ALLEN: For many years sheep being sent to Western Australia from South Australia have been subjected to close inspection to ascertain whether they are carrying noxious weeds, and sheep found to be carrying such weeds have to be shorn before departure. As considerable numbers of sheep are returning to South Australia from Western Australia this year, will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture whether the restrictions to which I have referred cannot be applied to these sheep?

The Hon. D. N. BROCKMAN: I will find out what restrictions, if any, apply.

## TREES

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked a few days ago about trees to be planted over sewer mains?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: The honourable member asked a question on September 19 about trees planted in the vicinity of sewer mains. Since the relevant article appeared in the *Sunday Mail*, regulation 278 under the Sewerage Act was amended to include 146 trees. These trees are listed in three lengthy schedules and, if the honourable member sees me after Question Time, I shall personally give him the details.

## PUMPING STATION

Mr. WARDLE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked some days ago about the location of the first inland pumping station from the Murray River on the route of the proposed Onkaparinga main?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: From the honourable member's question, it is understood that he is referring to the No. 2 pumping station site. Neither the No. 2 pumping station nor the appurtenant tanks have been accurately sited at this stage. However, present indications are that the pumping station itself will be located approximately midway along the northern boundary of section 191, hundred of Mobilong. The tanks will probably be located on the opposite side of the roadway in section 192. With regard to the power transmission line, the Electricity Trust consulted the Department of Civil Aviation about clearances which would be required. As a result, it has been decided to retain the proposed route but to alter the actual location of towers so that the low points in the spans will come in line with the landing strips. This will permit adequate clearance for the operation of light aircraft.

## STUDENT TRAVEL CONCESSION

Mr. HURST: Has the Attorney-General a reply to the question I recently asked about student travel concessions?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The Municipal Tramways Trust does not operate a scheme specifically to provide concession travel for university students. Monthly school concession tickets, which are designed to meet the needs of children attending primary and secondary schools, are issued. These tickets are available to full-time scholars under 19 years of age, and some university students buy these tickets. However, rules covering

their use are designed to cater for the requirements of primary and secondary school students on school days only. The prices of these tickets are lower than the equivalent child's cash fare.

## RENMARK HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. ARNOLD: As I have made many approaches to the Minister of Works and the Minister of Education about inadequate facilities existing at the Renmark High School in the boys craft centre, can the Minister of Works say what steps have been taken to improve these facilities?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: I can inform the honourable member that the expenditure of \$81,000 has been approved to allow a new boys craft block at Renmark High School to be planned and built. The accommodation under this plan provides for a woodwork room, metal work room, planning room, and ancillary accommodation. The project is included on the current school-building programme and provision has been made in the 1968-69 Loan Estimates for construction to be undertaken this financial year.

## GAUGE STANDARDIZATION

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: On August 27, in reply to the member for Stuart (Mr. Riches) the Premier said, in relation to gauge standardization:

The Minister of Roads and Transport reports that South Australia's proposals envisage the completion over a five-year period of the conversion of most of the remainder of the Peterborough Division, Port Pirie to Adelaide and some other broad gauge lines north of Adelaide.

Further on in his reply he said:

It is intended that the Adelaide to Port Pirie section be converted in the latter stages. The alterations to the Adelaide station following upon the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study proposals must also be integrated with those for standard gauge. South Australia is pressing for an early decision on these works.

Today's *Advertiser* reports that the Minister for Shipping and Transport (Mr. Sinclair), in a written reply to the Commonwealth Leader of the Opposition, said that previous statements of economies of the Port Augusta to Whyalla link had indicated that a successful operation would depend upon the availability of a standard gauge connection to Adelaide. He also said that recent developments in the steel traffic from Whyalla, particularly the decision by Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited to transport steel to New South Wales have pointed to the need to reassess the position and that this review was under way and a report

would be submitted to the Commonwealth Government. In view of the Commonwealth Minister's statement, will the Premier now have this matter reassessed with a view to having constructed at an early date the line from Port Augusta to Whyalla and also with a view to having the Port Pirie to Adelaide section standardized sooner than was previously indicated?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I will certainly follow up further the approach the State Government has made to the Commonwealth regarding the construction of a standard gauge railway to Whyalla and regarding the link-up to the interstate system. I think I said yesterday that the Government would naturally like to see both these works carried out concurrently if that was possible, but that if we had to choose a priority we would choose the Adelaide to Port Pirie rail link because of the wider implications. However, from the report to which the honourable member referred, it would seem that the Commonwealth is taking a much greater interest in the Whyalla line. I certainly intend to follow the matter up and ascertain the Commonwealth's thinking on it. As a number of questions have been asked about the Government's involvement in this matter, I believe I should read to the House the following letter I sent to the Prime Minister on August 7:

On August 3, 1967, my predecessor wrote to you regarding further rail standardization projects in South Australia. My Government subsequently, by letter to you dated June 19, 1968, supported the proposal for a standard gauge line between Adelaide and Port Pirie, together with associated conversion work in and north of Adelaide and on the Peterborough Division of the South Australian Railways. Although it was not mentioned in my previous letter—

I did not mention it in the previous letter, because we were then dealing entirely with standardization—

I should advise that my Government also fully supports the construction of a new standard gauge railway between Port Augusta and Whyalla. As you know, Whyalla is a rapidly expanding industrial city and the very nature of the type and volume of production involved makes the provision of a standard gauge rail connection to Whyalla an objective of substantial priority. Indeed, were it not for the fact of Commonwealth ownership and operation of the line between Port Pirie and Port Augusta, South Australia would be interested in providing rail facilities to this city. We realize, however, that this would not be desirable from operating points of view. I understand that the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner has conducted a preliminary survey of a line from Port Augusta to Whyalla.

My Government will render any necessary co-operation. The future development of Whyalla is at present being studied by the State Planning Authority in conjunction with the Highways Department and other Government departments. It is important to ensure the future orderly development of this city, and I consider that a proposal to provide a standard gauge rail connection to Whyalla will require close co-operation between the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner and these authorities. An early indication of your Government's intentions on this Port Augusta to Whyalla proposal would be appreciated.

That was August 7 and, as the honourable member has said, the Commonwealth Government, through the local member and now through the Minister, has indicated further interest. I shall be happy to follow up this further interest to see where this project now stands in the Commonwealth Government's thinking.

#### ECHUNGA SCHOOL

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of September 17 regarding the provision of a library at the Echunga Primary School?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: Following a request from the Echunga Primary School Welfare Club for an additional room to serve as a central library, the Public Buildings Department has been asked to transfer from the closed Wistow school a single-unit classroom for library purposes. The head teacher has been asked to furnish plans for the siting of the room, and when these have been received the Public Buildings Department will be asked to take action to enable the library to be set up at Echunga.

#### BOOK SALES

Mr. BURDON: Recently, my attention has been drawn to the high-pressure salesmanship of a book company's representative operating in the District of Mount Gambier. The information is such that I consider that sections 5 and 6 of the Book Purchasers Protection Act may have been breached.

Mr. Jennings: That's a very good Act, too.

Mr. BURDON: Sections 5 and 6 of the Act provide:

A vendor or his agent shall not accept or receive from a purchaser under any such contract for the sale of books any deposit or other consideration whether monetary or otherwise or deliver to the purchaser any book or books the subject matter of the contract until the purchaser has notified the vendor in writing that the purchaser confirms such contract. Penalty: Not exceeding one hundred pounds.

A vendor or his agent shall not at any time whether before or during the period hereinbefore allowed by this Act for confirmation of the contract by a purchaser, solicit or otherwise attempt to obtain from such purchaser any notification under paragraph (e) of section 4 of this Act nor shall a vendor or his agent or any employee of a vendor at any time obtain or attempt to obtain from a purchaser any authority to act as an agent of the purchaser to give any such notification on behalf of the purchaser or otherwise to act as the agent of or in any way on behalf of the purchaser in relation to any contract to which this Act applies. Penalty: Not exceeding one hundred pounds.

I have informed the person concerned of his rights under the Act and have advised him to write to the firm immediately to cancel the order and to request return of the deposit. Although I have reason to believe that the person concerned will be treated justly by the company, will the Attorney-General consider giving publicity to this type of activity so that people may be better informed of their rights and be more wary of the door-to-door salesman?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I was glad to hear the interjection from the member for Enfield. The Act has been a very salutary brake on the activities of door-to-door salesmen of books. I am sure that the whole community is grateful to the Premier who, when a private member, introduced the Bill in 1963. Regarding the matter raised by the member for Mount Gambier, if he gives me the name of the purchaser or the person approached and the name of the company I will have this matter examined and, if it is an appropriate case for publicity, I will consider that aspect.

#### STREAKY BAY SCHOOL

Mr. EDWARDS: As the Streaky Bay School Committee is still waiting and wondering when fencing and paving work promised earlier this year will be done at the school, can the Minister of Education say when the work will be carried out?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I am sorry that I have not the report with me today regarding the matter raised by the honourable member. However, I will make further inquiries in order to expedite it for him.

#### STUDENT TEACHERS

Mr. HUDSON: In the debate on the Budget, the Minister of Education said that student teachers were potential employees, or I think the word used on that occasion was "employees". Yesterday, in reply to a question, the Minister said that she meant that they were potential employees and that

they would not have pay docked if they failed to sign the attendance book. The Minister has also said in previous discussion of this matter that she wishes to treat the student teachers on a basis of equality with those Commonwealth scholarship holders who receive a living allowance. I think the Minister would know that such Commonwealth scholarship holders were not subject to Commonwealth income tax. I have with me a triplicate copy, described as the employee's copy, of a group certificate issued by the Education Department to a student teacher, and the name of the employer is shown as the Education Department. The tax levied by the Commonwealth income tax authority is \$36.30, which means that this particular trainee is classified by the income tax authorities as an employee, pays taxation of about \$36 a year, and is not on a basis of equality with persons in receipt of a living allowance under a Commonwealth scholarship. Will the Minister take this matter up with the Commonwealth Treasurer, explaining that she wishes student teachers to be on a basis of equality with Commonwealth scholarship holders who receive a living allowance, and that, as student teachers are not employees of the Education Department, their allowances should not be taxable?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: As I heard the member for Glenelg, it seemed to me that more than one question was implicit in what he said. Regarding his comment about employees, may I say that even members of Parliament are issued with group certificates that state that they are the employees of Parliament. I believe that this is a matter of convenience in the House of Assembly. Because it was rather difficult to follow the honourable member's rambling question, I thought it might be better if I explained whether Commonwealth scholarship allowances and Education Department allowances were taxable. A parent of the holder of a Commonwealth scholarship under 21 years of age must declare the amount of allowance as dependant's income for taxation purposes. The maximum allowable concession (\$208) is reduced dollar for dollar by the amount by which the Commonwealth scholarship allowance exceeds \$130. If the holder of the Commonwealth scholarship allowance is over 21 years of age, the parent cannot claim any taxation deduction.

Mr. HUDSON: I am aware that parents of a student teacher or a Commonwealth scholarship holder have, if that student teacher or

Commonwealth scholarship holder is under 21, a deduction they can claim and that deduction is affected by the amount of living allowance paid in the case of a Commonwealth scholarship holder, and equally by the sum paid to the teacher trainee. The same thing applies in both cases. I am concerned that the allowance of the teacher trainee is subject to taxation, because the Commonwealth Government regards the teacher trainee as an employee of the Education Department, although, on the other hand, the allowance of the Commonwealth scholarship holder is not subject to taxation in his own hands, because the Commonwealth Government does not regard this person as an employee of the university.

The SPEAKER: Order! I think the honourable member is debating, and I ask him to put his question.

Mr. HUDSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker. As this matter seems to me to involve a certain amount of inequity, will the Minister of Education (she need not give me a direct answer now) investigate the comparison on the basis of the relative taxation paid by the student and the Commonwealth scholarship holder? If she thinks that action is necessary by making certain representations, will she ensure that such action is taken?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

#### FLUORIDATION

Mr. LAWN: As we have chlorine in our drinking water and the Government's suggestion that it will add fluoride within about 12 months, can the Premier say whether the Government also intends to add bromide to our water supply just before the next election?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: Only if the honourable member requests it in his own service.

Mr. HUDSON: The following report appears in today's *News*:

Premier angry on fluoride: The Premier (Mr. Hall) today criticized the attitudes of some L.C.L. Legislative Council members over fluoride.

Later in his statement the Premier referred to these members as being some of the more conservative members of the Legislative Council. The heading "Hits At Own Men" is also used in the report. As we know that the Premier is an extremely progressive Leader of an extremely progressive Government, and as the Legislative Council contains these Tory reactionaries whom the Premier has described in the *News* today, will he take up with his

Cabinet colleagues the real need for reform of the Legislative Council and the need to alter the basis of voting for and the boundaries of the Legislative Council? I am sure that, if this were done, the Tory reactionary members soon would be seeking employment elsewhere, and I am sure that all members on this side, as well as the progressive metropolitan members such as the Minister of Education, the Attorney-General, and the Minister of Works, would be delighted with the change.

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I did not use the term that the member for Glenelg has used in relation to some kind of Tories, and I consider that the report set out my comments so fairly that I have no need to add to it. Regarding the part of the honourable member's question dealing with reform of the Legislative Council, I think both sides of politics in this House agree that this matter should rest until we have dealt fully with the House of Assembly electoral proposals.

#### NORTON SUMMIT SCHOOL

Mr. GILES: Last Tuesday morning I visited Norton Summit Primary School for the first time since I left the school as a youth. I was surprised at the lack of playing space for children at this school (it is on the top of a knob) and it would be most difficult to provide a suitable playing area. The school has applied for the levelling of an area as a playing ground. Will the Minister of Education examine this matter carefully, because of the poor state of the present playing area at the school?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I shall be pleased to take up the matter raised by the honourable member and obtain a report for him.

#### TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Mr. VIRGO: Last Tuesday I drew the Premier's attention to a press statement attributed to Professor R. A. Jensen and asked the Premier whether he agreed with the professor's claim that the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study plan would eventually cost \$1,000,000,000. The Premier, in reply, told the House of the opportunity that anyone who had different views on the matter had of making representation, but he did not deal with my question. Therefore, will the Premier now say whether he agrees with that statement attributed to the professor that the M.A.T.S. plan costs could reach \$1,000,000,000?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: The M.A.T.S. proposals were submitted by experts who were

given a job to do by a previous Liberal and Country League Government and who did the job during the term of office of the Labor Party Government. The honourable member has a wonderful way of trying to fence in a person whom he questions. He has asked specific questions and has received specific replies. There is no point in his asking me now whether I agree with some third statement. If he likes to put to me a question of his own about financial or other implications of this plan, I will reply. However, I do not intend to reply to hypothetical questions or questions based on another source and designed to fence me in for his benefit.

#### NORTHERN ROADS

Mr. CASEY: On August 15, six weeks ago, I asked the Attorney-General whether he would obtain from his colleague in another place a report about the possibility of transporting by rail the ore that is now transported from Hawker to Quorn by road (and I understand that is about 95 per cent of the ore). Ore has been transported by one train a week since this mineral has been coming from Quorn. Has the Attorney-General yet received a report from his colleague about the matter?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: No.

#### FUMIGATION DEPOT

Mr. ARNOLD: I believe that this question should be directed to the Minister of Works. In the Upper Murray area a large quantity of wine grapes in crates is sent each year to the Melbourne market by road transport. Can the Minister say whether facilities will be made available this year to have these crates fumigated when they are returned?

The Hon. J. W. H. CUMBE: I think that matter will be covered by the recent approval of the construction of a fumigation depot at Renmark for the Agriculture Department at a cost of about \$26,000. It is hoped that this work will be completed this year and one function of the depot will be to treat goods of this type.

#### PORT BROUGHTON ROAD

Mr. McKEE: Will the Attorney-General obtain a report from the Minister of Roads and Transport about whether there will be a grant made to the Broughton Council and the Port Pirie District Council this year for work on the Port Broughton to Port Pirie road?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will obtain that information.

#### APPLES

Mr. GILES: Has the Minister of Lands received a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my question of August 29 about apples?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I have received the following report from my colleague:

I have examined the information available on the move made by Tasmanian growers to obtain assistance from the Commonwealth Government to stabilize the apple industry in Tasmania. From information available to me I understand that the Tasmanian Fruit Board is seeking a guaranteed f.o.b. price of \$2.40 a bushel from the Commonwealth Government, and that this proposal has the support of the industry in South Australia. Provided any intended action seems to be of value in assisting the apple and pear industry in South Australia I will give it my full support.

#### MOUNT BURR DUMP

Mr. CORCORAN: Has the Minister of Lands received a reply from the Minister of Forests to the question I asked on September 18 about providing land to the Beachport council as a site for a rubbish dump?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Conservator of Forests reports that a rubbish dump, situated about a mile and a half from Mount Burr, is established for the use of residents of Mount Burr township and forest. For its protection, and that of the forest, however, it became necessary some time ago to have the area fenced and locked. This practice should not interfere with the availability of the area to residents, who have free access to the keys. The Conservator is not aware of any recent approach from the district council on this matter, but my colleague, the Minister of Forests, would be pleased to discuss with the honourable member any further information he may have on it.

#### ELECTRICITY POLE

Mr. ALLEN: A few years ago the Electricity Trust connected power to the township of Booborowie and to enable power to be supplied to the various consumers the trust placed a pole in the front garden of one person's house in order to avoid some pine trees. These pine trees have now been removed and the person has approached the trust requesting that the pole be removed so that he may plant lawn. However, he has been told that a charge of \$30 will be made for this work, and he objects to paying this sum. Will the Minister of Works obtain a report on this matter?

The Hon. J. W. H. CUMBE: Certainly I will.

## TEACHER QUALIFICATIONS

The Hon. R. R. LOVEDAY: In replying to a question from the member for Stirling on September 18 the Minister of Education, when explaining a point in relation to a letter that I think all members of this House have received from the President of the South Australian Institute of Teachers concerning classification of teachers, said:

Any teacher who in future is employed in a secondary school and holds lower qualifications will be employed as an Assistant C and at a lower salary. At present teachers employed with this lower classification are employed as Assistant B.

Can the Minister say whether this applies only to those teachers with lower qualifications who will in the future be accepted for employment? Also, can she say whether, in view of the fact that a teachers' award is being considered at present, those with the lower qualifications who are now called Assistant B will, as a result of this award, receive lower salaries than at present in the event of their being called Assistant C in future, and will their future increments of salary be affected?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: Although I thought I had the document relating to this matter with me, it does not seem to be here and, as I should like to consider the question in its full context, I will try to obtain a report for the honourable member early next week.

## CAMBRAI-SEDAN WATER SUPPLY

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: For some years I have been advocating a reticulated water supply for the Cambrai and Sedan areas in the Murray Plains of this State, and two or three years ago I dealt with the matter at some length in the Loan Estimates debate. I was informed at the time that such a reticulated service would be possible from the Swan Reach to Stockwell main when it was completed and, as the Minister of Works knows, that main is now, in fact, nearing completion. Will the Minister therefore consider having a spur pipeline laid from the Swan Reach to Stockwell main to the areas to which I have referred?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: I am aware of the problem to which the honourable member has referred. As he has said, the Swan Reach to Stockwell main is nearing completion, and I shall be happy to have his suggestion investigated.

## DENTAL TREATMENT

Mr. BROOMHILL: With the South Australian public becoming increasingly interested in dental health, it has been brought to my attention that people today are more concerned about providing treatment for their children's teeth, particularly if teeth are in need of straightening or are too crowded. More people, whose children's teeth need such attention, are having bands applied to their children's teeth for straightening. Unfortunately, however, as it is not unusual for the cost of such treatment to exceed \$300, many people are denied the opportunity to provide this treatment for their children. Although I understand the Dental Hospital has some facilities for providing this form of treatment, those facilities are limited and the waiting period is considerable. Unfortunately also, this treatment must be provided at a specific age in a child. Will the Premier obtain a report on the facilities available at the Adelaide Hospital in this regard? Will he consider whether they are adequate and, if they are not, whether steps cannot be taken to improve this important service?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I shall be happy to obtain a report for the honourable member. Indeed, I share his concern on this matter. Because of the cost of treatment, some children are unable to have their teeth straightened. Of course, the treatment goes further than this: much of it relates to straightening jaws, as well as other problems. Although I believe that the high costs of this treatment are partly the result of a shortage of dentists, I shall be happy to obtain the information sought by the honourable member.

## O'HALLORAN HILL SCHOOL

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question about a school being established at O'Halloran Hill?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: At least 40 children from the O'Halloran Hill area attend the Reynella school which, because of the opening of Reynella South school in 1968, has ample accommodation to meet anticipated enrolments for at least two years. The children from the O'Halloran Hill area are well served by a private bus service to Reynella to which parents of children living midway between O'Halloran Hill and Happy Valley prefer to send their children. A close watch is being kept on developments in these areas. The headmasters of the schools concerned will notify the Education Department



of any significant change in the present situation. The direct answer to the honourable member's question is that there are no plans for the building of a new school in the Happy Valley and O'Halloran Hill area in the immediate future.

#### SEMAPHORE CROSSING

Mr. HURST: Has the Attorney-General obtained from the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my recent question about railway accidents?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The information which the Police Department has on record concerns one accident which occurred on August 7, 1968, at the Semaphore and Military Roads crossing, and another on August 10, 1968, at the Woolnough and Semaphore Roads crossing. Police investigation and adjudication on both incidents has only recently been finalized. Police action has been recommended in both cases, it being alleged that the driver in each case has committed a breach of section 80 of the Road Traffic Act. This section creates an offence for any driver to drive his vehicle or any part thereof on to a level crossing when any railway rolling stock or tramcar with which his vehicle might collide is approaching the crossing. In view of the foregoing it would be improper at this stage to release any information from the reports in relation to statements made by any of the parties to the accidents concerned. When police action in both cases has been finalized, however, the reports and the information they contain could be made available should this information still be required.

#### WHEAT

Mr. CASEY: Has the Minister of Lands obtained from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to my question about research carried out on wheat strains in South Australia?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Director of Agriculture reports that varieties and advanced crossbreds which have arisen from the Rockefeller Foundation wheat breeding programme in Mexico have been introduced into South Australia by the wheat breeders at the Waite Agricultural Research Institute and Roseworthy Agricultural College. The performance of these has been compared with Australian varieties at several sites in the wheat belt over several seasons. In general terms these varieties are capable of high yields under very favourable conditions of moisture

and fertility. Under less favourable conditions they do not differ greatly from Australian varieties. Of greatest importance is their general low commercial quality by Australian standards. Later releases are of higher quality than earlier releases but even these are not acceptable. The varieties are of great importance to plant breeders as parent material and are being incorporated in many of the wheat breeding programmes in Australia. It is confidently predicted that substantial increases in yield will result from the varieties produced from these programmes. There are also varieties of this general semi-dwarf type arising from programmes other than that conducted by the Rockefeller Foundation and some of this material has been introduced as well.

#### BUILDING INDUSTRY

Mr. LANGLEY: A newspaper recently reported that applications for new buildings had increased during the last three months, and I am sure everyone is pleased about that. Can the Minister of Works obtain a report on the number of buildings being constructed and intended to be constructed during this financial year by the Commonwealth Government?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: Although I do not have such figures with me, I shall be happy to obtain them for the honourable member. I am pleased to say that I agree with what he said about the increase in building approvals. The other day, when I was announcing a substantial increase in the number of youths taking up indentures in apprenticeship in the State, I found that even in the building trade there was an increase in the number of apprentices being engaged.

#### WARDANG ISLAND

Mr. CORCORAN: The speech of the member for Yorke Peninsula last evening, in which he spoke about the future of Wardang Island, reminded me to ask a question about the matter. The Minister of Lands will recall that on July 24 I asked him a question about the security of tenure of the present lessee who purchased from Broken Hill Associated Smelters Proprietary Limited the remainder of the miscellaneous lease which I understand was to expire in 1970. As several improvements have been made in the area, I do not doubt that the present lessee paid a substantial sum for the remainder of the lease. The Minister replied that an approach had been made by

the present lessee to him because he was concerned about his security of tenure. The Minister also said that he was investigating the matter and that a decision would be made in due course. Can the Minister say whether he has considered the matter, whether a decision has been made on the security of tenure of the present lessee and, if a decision has been made, what it is?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Although the matter has been considered at length, I cannot give a definite reply at present. I have informed the member for Yorke Peninsula that I will give him some information on the matter soon.

#### WALLAROO WARBLER

Mr. EVANS: A rare bird has been known to inhabit upper Yorke Peninsula near Wallaroo and has recently been heard in this city. It is rumoured that moves are now afoot to have this bird exterminated because of its habit of repeating its mating call during the evening for periods of up to three hours. Will the Minister of Lands obtain an assurance from the Minister of Agriculture that all necessary protection will be given to this rare and unique bird, which is believed to be a cross between a lyre bird (because of its unusual mimicking qualities) and a parrot (because of difficulty in stopping its continual warble) and which is commonly known as the Wallaroo warbler?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I should normally have asked for this question to be put on notice. However, as it is evidently very urgent I will discuss the matter with my colleague.

#### EGGS

Mr. FREEBAIRN: To explain my question, I quote from the September issue of the *Red Comb Poultry Journal*. One of the articles refers to the stamping of eggs with a stamp by agents of the Egg Board. The stamp is commonly recognized by housewives as being a bureaucratic stamp or the kiss of death. The article states:

I think we could well remove the stamps from the eggs, and change the wording on cartons to something like this: "Packed for the South Australian Egg Board by Producer No. 123". After all, the cartons state the grade of the eggs they contain, and the eggs are not packed by the South Australian Egg Board anyway. A little more of the psychological approach with regard to the product and a little less of the expensive psychological approach on the T.V. screen could well boost the sale of eggs above the minimal increase in sales achieved during the past year.

As housewives obviously prefer the unstamped eggs they can obtain from Victoria and suppliers in the other States, will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture whether the legislation could be amended so as to render the stamping of eggs unnecessary?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Yes.

#### TRAFFICATORS

Mr. RYAN: Next Tuesday (October 1) the new amended road traffic regulations on trafficators on motor vehicles will come into force. I have been approached by several people concerned with this matter, including officers of the Royal Automobile Association, because the regulations provide that trafficators already fitted to cars will be acceptable, provided that they conform with the regulations. Apparently, the inbuilt trafficators on the old type of cars, such as Mini Minor, Ford Prefect and Volkswagen, that come out of the side of the car do not conform with the regulations, which state that the trafficator shall be 6in. long and 1in. wide, whereas most of the inbuilt trafficators are slightly under 6in. long and slightly under 1in. wide at their widest part. I conferred with the Deputy Commissioner of Police and Superintendent Vogelsang this morning and they told me that the Police Force had issued instructions that it would be tolerant in this matter and would not prosecute people for driving cars with inbuilt semaphores, even though they did not completely comply with the regulations. The R.A.A. has told its members that, provided the inbuilt trafficators comply with the regulations, everything will be in order. As there is some confusion on the matter, and in an effort to clarify this issue, I spoke to the Deputy Commissioner of Police and Superintendent Vogelsang. So that the public may be assured, will the Premier obtain a report from the Chief Secretary on the attitude of the Police Force?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: There is no real conflict in this matter, except on the basis of action that may be taken. When this matter was first discussed, I questioned the wisdom of allowing the semaphore type of signalling device to continue to be legally operable at the same time as turning lights were being endorsed, because I believed they operated from different positions on the vehicle, and if one is used to observing turning lights at the rear of the vehicle I thought it would be confusing to have these lights in a minority of vehicles in a different position and not nearly so visible. At the time, however, I was

persuaded (perhaps rightly) that it would cause less disruption, but over several years I should like to see uniformity. That is the basis of my thinking. I will take up this matter with the Chief Secretary and ascertain the basis on which the Police Force is acting, so that the honourable member can assure his constituents and other people as to the action the police may take.

#### YUNTA SPECIAL RURAL SCHOOL

Mr. CASEY: Last Friday, I had the pleasure of opening the new science classroom at the Yunta Special Rural School. I thank the Minister of Education for her courtesy in allowing me to open this school because of her pressure of business elsewhere. During the afternoon, I was approached by members of the school committee who are anxious to have water laid on to the school in order to grow lawn and to beautify the surroundings of the school generally. It will take about 500ft. of 1½ in. polythene pipe, which could be connected from the overhead tank in the main street to the school, and which has proved the best material to use for this purpose in the area. Will the Minister take up this matter to see whether finance can be provided for the purchase of the necessary pipe for this project? The school committee tells me it will lay the pipe and fix all the connections at no cost to the department.

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I shall be happy to do this. Incidentally, I was pleased to suggest that the member for Frome be asked to open the new classroom.

#### HEATHFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of September 5 about playing fields at the Heathfield High School?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: In May this year, a request was received to proceed with stage 2 of the playing fields at Heathfield High School. This involves the enlargement of the existing oval and the nearby area into two ovals and a second hockey field. Owing to the lapse of time since the preparation of the original proposals, revisions to the design work and additional survey work have become necessary. A recent site inspection has revealed that maintenance to the existing pavements and improvements to existing stormwater drainage are also desirable. Estimates of costs are now being prepared for the maintenance and development proposals, and these should be

completed within about two weeks. Subject to approval of funds, it is expected that tenders could be called in about six weeks from that time.

#### CROSS ROAD JUNCTION

Mr. VIRGO: Has the Attorney-General a reply to my question of September 18 in which I asked for his assistance about resumption of land so that Wattle Terrace at its junction with Cross Road would be a two-way road?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will give the reply orally, and reinforce it by letting the honourable member have a written copy. The design of the junction of Wattle Terrace with Cross Road was agreed to by the corporations of Marion and West Torrens. It was approved by the Road Traffic Board after due consideration of the points raised by the corporation of Marion in its later representations. This approach was largely due to doubts about routing traffic from the Morphettville Racecourse. However, there are no problems in this regard and little hardship for local residents will eventuate as satisfactory alternative access is available. It is not considered that further examination of the matter is warranted.

#### FOOT-ROT

Mr. RODDA: The regulations dealing with the vexed matter of foot-rot have worked excellently. However, I think the department desired to be able to release all infected flocks. Will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture what is the present position regarding foot-rot?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Yes.

#### SEWERAGE FINANCE

Mr. HUDSON: Residents of Marino Rocks, in my district, who have been directed by the Marion Council to have sewerage connections made have had much difficulty in obtaining from plumbers the three quotes that are necessary in order to take advantage of the Engineering and Water Supply Department's time-payment scheme, as it were, for the costs of the installation. In one case that was brought to my notice this morning, although my constituent had called on 12 plumbers he had obtained only one quote, and this whole process has so delayed him in complying with the council's requirements that he has now received from the council a summons to appear before the Local Court in about one month. I point out that the Marino Rocks area is very hilly and some plumbers do not even visit the premises, whilst others go there but say, "No,

thank you very much." Will the Minister of Works examine the scheme to which I have referred and find out whether it is possible to ease the requirements in circumstances where householders have much difficulty in getting the requisite number of plumbers to submit a quotation?

The Hon. J. W. H. CUMBE: I will certainly examine the matters raised and see whether I can get the honourable member's connections fixed up.

#### GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

Mr. EDWARDS: I was interested to hear, on one of our television stations, the Australian Labor Party's candidate for the Commonwealth District of Adelaide (Mr. C. J. Hurford) giving forth his opinions on all sorts of State matters. Knowing the hopeless task that he faces in standing against the well known and popular Andrew Jones, M.H.R., I understand the need for all this Socialist brain washing. I have also noticed, to my amazement, in reports and newspapers that Mr. Hurford is a member of the Municipal Tramways Trust Board and a trustee of the Savings Bank of South Australia, and these appointments were made by the Labor Government that was kicked from the Treasury benches last March.

Mr. Langley: By 43 per cent of the people!

The SPEAKER: Order! One question at a time.

Mr. Hudson: This isn't a question: its a speech.

The SPEAKER: I shall be the judge of that.

Mr. EDWARDS: Can the Premier say whether the Government intends to keep these Socialist appointees in their big offices when their present terms run out?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I do not intend to enter into a controversy concerning the Commonwealth elections. My Government will honour appointments made by the previous Government. I do not associate myself with any charge made against any member of the Savings Bank Board in this regard. If the honourable member has a particular point to discuss I shall be happy to receive his written submissions on it.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION: CHOWILLA DAM

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Leader of the Opposition): I ask leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

D4

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Last week a statement was published by the Commonwealth Minister for National Development concerning the Chowilla dam and as a consequence (although I did not know that the Premier had written to him) I wrote to him protesting about the statement, and I think I should inform the House of what I said to the Minister. I quote my letter, as follows:

My attention has been drawn to your statement in the House of Representatives on September 18 that "Chowilla did not appear to be the best site for a Murray River dam to supply water for South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales". In view of the current investigation being undertaken by the Snowy Mountains Authority for the River Murray Commission, I wish to express, on behalf of the Labor Party in South Australia, our deep concern at statements which prejudice the investigation, particularly when they emanate from the responsible Minister. We have been informed that the current comparison of Chowilla and the Dartmouth site would not be completed until the end of this year and that when the comparison is complete, the commission will make its decision in terms of the technical data available to it. It will be very difficult to convince people that justice has been done in relation to such a decision if statements prejudging the matter continually appear in the press.

This is not the first statement that this Minister has made in terms rather similar to these concerning the Chowilla proposal. It seems to us on this side of the House that the Minister for National Development is using his position to curry favour with his constituents in the Albury area rather than considering the needs of this State and those of the nation, and we express roundly our dismay that he should use his position to make statements outside the commission in the way he has seen fit to do.

#### THE BUDGET

The Estimates—Grand total, \$295,284,000.

In Committee of Supply.

(Continued from September 25. Page 1451.)

#### THE LEGISLATURE

Legislative Council, \$41,494.

Mrs. BYRNE (Barossa): This Budget increases taxation charges in seven ways. The Opposition admits that this State needs additional revenue, but this aspect was not put forward by the Liberal and Country League at the last State elections, whereas the Australian Labor Party stated clearly in its election policy how it would raise additional revenue if it were returned to the Treasury benches but, because of the electoral set-up in this State, we are now in Opposition.

Upon examining the Budget it is found that an additional \$8,300,000 is to be taken from the public, and the Treasurer places much of the blame on the Commonwealth Government. The total revenue for the year is expected to be \$295,300,000. When the Labor Party was in office and introduced its Budget, we were told repeatedly by Opposition members that it was improper for us to blame the Commonwealth Government for this State's financial position. However, now that the L.C.L. is in Government its members are also criticizing the Commonwealth Government.

I now turn to the Commonwealth Budget, which was explained by the Commonwealth Treasurer on August 13 this year and which provides for estimated receipts, other than from borrowings, of \$5,950,000,000, including a deficit of \$641,000,000 to be financed from borrowed funds. Obviously, the Commonwealth Government does not balance its Budget. As the total revenue to be raised in South Australia is \$295,300,000, which includes \$111,100,000 from the Taxation Reimbursement Grant, it is apparent that the Commonwealth deficit of \$641,000,000 far exceeds the total sum that South Australia is to spend.

The Commonwealth Budget provides for expenditure of \$6,591,000,000. Provision is made for \$1,217,000,000 for defence services—an increase on the 1967-68 figure of \$102,000,000, and a percentage increase of 9 per cent. Payments to or for States' works and housing will be \$2,176,000,000—an increase on the 1967-68 figure of \$146,000,000, or 7 per cent. The sum of \$1,446,000,000 is provided for social services and repatriation—an increase of \$111,000,000 on the 1967-68 figure, or 8 per cent. Departmental running expenses receive \$384,000,000—an increase of \$24,000,000, or 7 per cent. The sum of \$217,000,000 is provided for Commonwealth payments to industry—an increase of \$38,000,000, or 21 per cent.

A total of \$144,000,000 is provided for external economic aid, including Territory of Papua and New Guinea—an increase of \$17,000,000, or 14 per cent. Other payments are \$1,006,000,000—an increase of \$42,000,000, or 4 per cent. The total Budget expenditure for 1968-69 is \$6,591,000,000—an increase of \$479,000,000, or an overall increase of 8 per cent. On examining the Commonwealth Budget it is obvious that the only way the States can get more money from the Commonwealth is for the Commonwealth to raise

more money in taxation, or decrease expenditure, or to allocate the existing expenditure differently. I doubt whether the Commonwealth Government would want to increase taxation in order to increase revenue, and I suggest that it is up to Government members in this State to persuade their colleagues in Canberra to alter the ratio of the percentage on items now allocated or to reduce expenditure on existing items.

I have heard, I think outside this Chamber, that Government members have a better affinity with their Canberra colleagues than have members on this side, and I suggest that the Premier put this theory into practice by showing the people of this State some evidence that this is, in fact, the case. However, we all know that this is not the position. The Premier did not have much success in obtaining assistance from Canberra, and other Liberal Governments in other States have not had much success, either. This situation is obvious from the statements being made by the Premiers in other States about the existing financial arrangements between the Commonwealth and State Governments.

One of the worst actions of the State L.C.L. Government, carried out in conjunction with the introduction of the Budget, was the decontrolling of 34 items under the control of the Prices Department, and to control prices not fixed for 19 items, leaving 34 items controlled and prices fixed. Having examined the items which have been decontrolled and also those which are controlled but the prices for which are not fixed, I think about 50 per cent of those items relates to the building industry, and this may well result in an increase in the cost of houses in this State. I hope that that is not the case, because we all wish to see the building industry progress; indeed, recent figures show that an increase in building has occurred.

I am disappointed at the Government's attitude to the Builders Licensing Act, which was enacted during the term of the Labor Government and which Act I commend, because I realize the necessity for this legislation. The Act was to come into operation on June 30 this year, yet nothing has been done. One reason given for the delay in implementing the Act was the setting up of the Builders Licensing Advisory Committee and the appointment of a small subcommittee of Cabinet to examine the possibility of amending the Act. I was surprised to see this in *Hansard* in a reply given to the member for Edwardstown (Mr. Virgo), because, as this Act has not yet been

tried, it is difficult to believe that amendments to it are required. While this situation exists, we will continue to see poorly constructed buildings in South Australia.

Only two weeks ago I was asked by a constituent to inspect a new house into which he had moved five weeks previously, and I was shown a crack that extended right through one of the inner full brick walls. I was also shown many minor faults including circular holes about  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. across in the floor boards. These holes were present even in the sitting room and would prevent the owners from having polished boards; they would have to use some form of floor covering. I was informed that the house had been built by subcontracting. I felt sorry indeed for the members of this family, who are migrants and who are very distressed about the matter. I wish the Minister of Housing could see this building for himself so that he would know how urgent it was to implement the Builders Licensing Act.

Fortunately, few householders in the north-eastern suburbs will be affected by the recommendations made in the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Report if it is eventually adopted. The report includes provision for the Modbury freeway and for a rail rapid transit line to Modbury and Tea Tree Gully. The route of the Modbury freeway beginning at the Walkerville interchange, extends in a north-easterly direction through the Torrens River valley on a curvilinear alignment. In an effort to preserve the natural meanderings of the river, a number of bridges are proposed, rather than channel locations. The freeway turns to the north at Lyons Road, and because of the close spacing of interchanges, the freeway will be eight lanes wide south of Grand Junction Road, six lanes wide between Grand Junction Road and Montague Road, and four lanes wide north of Montague Road. The 1986 road and highway network will require the construction or extension of about 35 miles of new arterial roads. Some of the important projects include the relocation and extension of Ryans Road from Salisbury Highway to the proposed Dry Creek expressway at Walkley Road in Para Vista, including grade separation at the Gawler railway line, and the extension of Smith Road from Bridge Road in Salisbury to Kiekbush Road in Tea Tree Gully.

This indicates what is to take place in the Modbury and Tea Tree Gully area if the M.A.T.S. Report is adopted. The one criticism I have of the report relates to the new route of the Modbury freeway after it crosses the

Torrens River into Dernancourt: this particular proposal is not identical to the previously proposed freeway route, land for which has already been reserved. I refer specifically to the route between Willowbrook Avenue and Brookvale Road, where the proposed new freeway will now require houses to be demolished. This was not the case under the previous proposal. A similar position applies where the previously proposed route was sited between Cornish Terrace and Hope Valley reservoir, and the proposed new route of the freeway will require some houses in this section to be demolished. I ask that the demolishing of these houses be examined and that the land already reserved for the freeway be used instead.

Much has been said about tourism, and I will confine my remarks here mainly to the Barossa District. Near Williamstown there are three reservoirs: the Warren, South Para and Barossa. Hardly a day goes by when a bus does not take visitors to the South Para reservoir; in fact, I am told that up to 10 buses a day occasionally take tourists to this reservoir. In addition, I believe that on one Sunday afternoon 1,000 cars within four hours visited the reservoir. Of course, there is quite a large car parking area at the South Para reservoir. The Barossa reservoir is mainly renowned for its whispering wall, and many tourists visit it for this reason. It has toilet facilities, lawns and gardens. I suggest that at either or both of these reservoirs—and this may apply to reservoirs in other electoral districts—restaurants should be built for the convenience of tourists. When I went to Western Australia about a year ago I visited a reservoir at which tourists were able to eat a well-prepared meal in a comfortable restaurant while at the same time enjoying a view of the reservoir. The Government Tourist Bureau should consider these points about reservoirs, which are beautiful sights and attract many tourists.

Mr. ALLEN (Burra): I support this Budget, so capably delivered by the Treasurer. The Budget, prepared by a man with a lifetime of successful experience on the land, who has been a member of this House for 18 years, could not fail to be accepted by a large majority of the people of this State. The Treasurer has admitted that he was reluctant to increase taxes, but the previous Government gave him no alternative. No-one likes increased taxes but, as most of the people in this country are aware, in order to have a standard of living such as we enjoy at present we must have additional revenue to cover the additional costs.

My district has received the Budget very graciously. I expected more protests than I actually received, but the people in my electoral district, being fair-minded citizens, realize that Governments as well as businesses must be run on sound financial principles. South Australians have accepted this Budget in much the same manner as people throughout Australia accepted the increases in the recent Commonwealth Budget. On September 12 the *Advertiser* published the following results of a Gallup poll held last month:

Electors' support for the Gorton Liberal-Country Party Government was hardly affected by the Federal Budget. If a Federal election had been held recently, the Gorton Government would probably have been returned with something like its present majority. These are the findings of an Australia-wide Gallup poll held last month after the Federal Budget had been presented.

I should like to refer to the three previous Budgets brought down by the present Opposition when it was in Government. In the financial years 1965-66 and 1966-67 taxation was increased substantially, and I have no complaint about this, because I have had sufficient experience in my own business and in local government to know that, if costs rise, there must be a corresponding rise in taxation to balance the Budget. However, what happened in 1967-68, the last year of the Labor Government? The only increase in taxation resulted in extra revenue of a few thousand dollars from increased gun licence fees, and a deficit of \$3,967,000 was budgeted for. In fact, this deficit turned out to be considerably greater.

It was said that this would put stability into the economy. This may sound all right in theory, but it does not work out in practice. The position now is that this Government has to increase taxation considerably to close the gap created by the previous Government through its not raising taxes in its last year in office. No doubt it thought it would win the election and then it could increase taxation this year in the same manner as this Government has been forced to do. I do not condemn any Government or any council for increasing taxation, because I know that no responsible body will increase taxation unnecessarily.

The Deputy Leader of the Opposition, when speaking on the Budget, said that Government members were not very happy with it. He was quite correct: no-one is happy with a Budget that increases taxation; but let us

be men enough to stand up and do the job for which we were elected, namely, to bring South Australia back to the financial standard it enjoyed a few years ago.

I was very pleased to see that the Treasurer made no increase in State land tax this year. My mind goes back to the situation of a few years ago, when the Commonwealth Government was in the land tax field in a much larger way than was the State Government. The Commonwealth then dropped out of the land tax field because, I assume, it wanted to give the States a much larger field of taxation in this respect. The States then acted immediately and increased land tax. We still have memories of the former Labor Government in this State increasing land tax steeply, and had it not been for the action of members in another place the increase would have been much greater. State land tax is competing against councils, which derive revenue through rates.

These two taxes are similar in that they are a direct charge against the land. Councils are becoming reluctant to increase rates because they know the land-owner is taxed almost to capacity through council rates and land tax. The day will come when the Government will have to vacate the land tax field to give the councils a wider field from which to derive their revenue. Councils are a wonderful help to a State Government in administering their local areas, and it is up to us to give them all the assistance possible. Apparently the Victorian Government has recognized this, because in its Budget, announced by the Victorian Premier on September 18, land tax is to be abolished on all Victorian land used for primary production.

I discussed the tourist potential of my own area when speaking during the Address in Reply debate, but I should like now to deal with tourism in relation to the State as a whole. Tourism is one of my hobby horses: I have done much touring and taken much interest in the methods employed by other countries to attract and entertain tourists. Switzerland, for example, has 5,000,000 people, with no natural resources, and two-thirds of the country is mountainous. Agriculture is its most important industry and tourism is second in importance. The country being mountainous, many cable cars are used by tourists there, and many tourists are attracted in the winter to the ski resorts. Many people travel from England to Switzerland to spend a weekend ski-ing.

It is interesting to realize that the distance from London to Switzerland is no further than that from Adelaide to Melbourne. Many people overseas take advantage of these short distances. All European countries are close to the densely-populated part of the world, and it is common for people in those areas to visit other countries during the weekend or for a week's vacation. I had the pleasure of meeting American students on vacation and touring Europe on their school holidays. I also spent a long time with an American teacher who had ambitions to come to Australia. I feel sure that in the long talk I had with her I convinced her that there were good opportunities for her here.

Mr. Hudson: Was this the same American who was the member for Stirling's girl friend in New York?

Mr. ALLEN: It might have been.

Mr. Hudson: She was a Communist.

Mr. ALLEN: We must educate tourists who leave Australia to sell this country overseas. I assure honourable members that the Americans do that for their country very well indeed. Ireland depends principally on agriculture, with tourism its second largest industry. I imagine Ireland would have the least to offer of any country to a tourist, but the way the country is sold to tourists is an eye-opener. Members should see how people there sell what they have to the tourists and make them enjoy every moment of their stay. In England and Scotland, tourism is the third largest industry. In these countries it is common when touring to see notices on gates advertising bed and breakfast for 18s. This applies to farmhouses as well as to houses in townships generally and, as this charge compares with a charge of 40s. in any hotel, these people do a good trade in the season.

Mr. Broomhill: Obviously, they have not been subjected to a Budget like this.

Mr. ALLEN: If the honourable member went to England he would see that people there have had a worse time; even owners of castles are opening them for inspection so that they can pay the rates. To give an idea of the number of people touring England and the Continent in the season, I point out to honourable members that, just after I left Rome, there were serious floods and the main highway north from Rome was cut by floodwater. It was estimated that 30,000 tourists were stranded in Rome as a result. Australia is a long way from these thickly-populated parts of the world, and it will be some

time yet before we can attract tourists on a weekend or weekly basis. We must therefore cater for tourists who have a few weeks to spare. Much money is taken out of this State by people who tour other countries and it is up to us to try to induce sufficient tourists back to this State to balance out this state of affairs.

The member for Frome (Mr. Casey) said he was worried about farming costs today in relation to farm sizes. He also referred to what the Minister for Primary Industry said about the matter when he was in the State recently. In the Address in Reply debate I referred to the matter of farms in relation to costs of production. I maintain that the reason for the high land values now is the shortage of good agricultural land in South Australia. The high price is being created by businessmen in the cities who are competing for the good land with farmers' sons wishing to go on the land. This has the effect of pushing up the prices. As members know, it is quite common for a person to buy out his neighbour to provide land for his son. I can speak with experience on this subject because only last February I sold out to a neighbour. Yesterday the member for Albert (Mr. Nankivell) said that this practice resulted in people going elsewhere and paying fictitious prices for land in other districts, thereby pushing up the value of land. However, I assure honourable members that this is not the case with me because, instead of buying extra land, I chose to become a member and worry others in this place.

There are two ways to overcome the problem of small farms in relation to the cost of production. The first is the pooling of farming plant. I know something about this subject because, over the past 12 years, I have been a partner in a system of this type whereby I pooled the farming plant with neighbours. I have been exceptionally lucky in that I have had very good neighbours. Two other neighbours and I entered into an agreement whereby we pooled our haymaking and reaping equipment. This system worked exceptionally well, but I point out that one must have good neighbours who are prepared to give and take. There were times when one member of the partnership might have been up or down \$20. However, if one is prepared to overlook this, one can get on exceptionally well. We are now in the process of dissolving our partnership and my neighbours are taking over the plant (which, although old, is quite good) at a reduced rate. This would be one way to overcome the problem.



Another method of overcoming it is contract working, which has been operated in parts of Yorke Peninsula for many years. I know of one case where people have let reaping on contract for 12 or 15 years. One of my former neighbours is presently entering into contract reaping in his district. With him I have worked out the economics of the matter, and I find that a relatively small farmer is far better off financially in letting work contracts than he is if he purchases high-priced farm machinery and has it stand in his shed, depreciating all the time. At present, farmers who have several sons see their sons entering salaried positions rather than attempting to buy extra land.

Much has been said about fluoridation. I wish to deal with the subject briefly, although the fluoridation of water in my area is not a big issue. In common with most country districts, almost all people in my district have rainwater tanks and are not in the habit of drinking reticulated water. I believe we will have to install filters at our schools and encourage the consumption of reticulated water if the children are to obtain the necessary benefits. I understand that the dentist in my area has very definite proof of the advantages of fluoridation. In today's *Advertiser* there appeared the results of a recent Gallup poll held throughout Australia showing 63 per cent in favour of fluoridation. In view of the obvious support for this, why should we have a referendum? In these circumstances, I support the action taken by the Government in this respect.

To conclude on a lighter note, I should like to relate to members a conversation I had last week with a constituent of the member for Rocky River (Mr. Venning), who I hope will take notice of this because it is an angle on fluoridation that has not been referred to in this place before. This man believed that country people with rainwater tanks would receive little benefit from fluoridation. He claimed he would be washing his car and watering his lawn with fluoridated water. He also said that his stock would drink it. However, he then saw the wisdom of the proposal because he said that his sheep would retain their teeth much longer and that he would get a better price for his aged ewes. I support the first line.

Mr. VIRGO (Edwardstown): The Budget has been introduced at a black time, not only for the people directly and indirectly affected by it but also it has come in at about the same time as the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Report, about which I have had

much to say already and will have more to say today. I am delighted the Premier is in the Chamber, because what I am about to say will prove that he has been deliberately misleading the Chamber. He is a liar.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is out of order in using those words.

Mr. VIRGO: I withdraw the remark and say that the Premier has been handling the truth carelessly, as has the Minister of Roads and Transport. The Premier has said in this House that if any person's property is in the path of the M.A.T.S. plan and if that person is forced to sell because of a transfer to another State or for some other such valid reason the Highways Department will immediately buy the property. That is untrue, and I think it is time the Premier acknowledged that he has been telling a pack of untruths. He has told us in this House that this is what will happen. A constituent of mine interviewed me not five minutes ago and said that yesterday he went to the Highways Department because he has been transferred by his firm to Sydney. He is due to take up his appointment on October 14. He has had his house on the market, but he cannot sell it, naturally enough. Who would want to buy a house that is in the path of the M.A.T.S. plan? He went to the Highways Department, which verified that his house was in the path of the rail rapid transit system in the Glandore area. However, the department told him that it could do nothing about it as this was a railways matter and not a highways matter, and that he should go to see the Railways Commissioner.

He went and saw, I think, the Deputy Railways Commissioner, who said, "Yours is the first inquiry we have had. We know nothing about the scheme, and we do not know whether it will even be implemented. Even if we wanted to buy the property, we doubt whether we have the power to buy it. We want nothing further to do with you." This is the way the Government is treating the people. It is hoodwinking the people and telling them a pack of untruths. The people affected by the M.A.T.S. plan should be given some consideration, and they are the people I am pleading for. The person who has fought and striven all his life to purchase a house is forced by this Government's dictatorial attitude and its incompetence—

Mr. Broomhill: They are unnecessarily forced.

Mr. VIRGO: Quite unnecessarily, yet a person who has purchased a house is having his greatest asset frozen by this Government, which

could not care less about it. This is the tragedy of it. The Government merely passes on to members who ask questions replies that are completely untrue. I consider that we have reached the stage where we must get the Government to say what it is going to do. Earlier this afternoon, the Premier said that I was trying to fence him in. Unfortunately, he has effectively fenced the public in by making statements that are devoid of any semblance of truth. I hope the Premier will take heed of what I have said and that in order to straighten this matter out he will consult with the Minister of Roads and Transport, if we can get Ministers in this House to talk with Ministers in another place. The Government should not keep feeding the tripe that the Highways Department will buy properties and do other things when it knows all the time that that is not so.

The Premier holds a responsible position and should discharge his responsibilities properly. I am pleased he has been present today long enough to hear my comments, and I hope he will go away and think about them. I hope we can get something a little more concrete before very long. Recently, when I was browsing through the Parliamentary Library I noticed an article in the *Port Lincoln Times* of September 5. The headline that struck me was "State's Record Shark". I thought that the *Port Lincoln Times* had been very apt in the description of its local member in describing him as the Treasurer who had just brought in a Budget, but this was not the case. I think many journalists would regret that they had not coined such a heading for the purpose of describing the Treasurer. I think it was a very apt title for him. Unfortunately, the journalists were not smart enough to latch on to the appropriate nature of this title.

We all agree that the State needs added revenue. The Government cannot go on providing the types and quality of service required and needed by the community unless additional finance is obtained. I think that on this point the Opposition and the Government could find themselves in some measure of agreement, but I think this is probably where the agreement would finish. From this point on we would take entirely different roads because the principles of the Opposition and the actions of the Government are completely different. I do not know where the Government stands on principles, so I can talk only about its actions. The Government believes that taxation should be on a flat rate, whereas

the Opposition has a sound fundamental principle that taxation should be levied on the ability to pay. The Opposition does not believe in trying to make the poor person poorer, nor does it believe in trying to make the rich person richer. Flat taxation hits the poor person in exactly the same way as it hits the millionaires (what few there are) who support the Liberal and Country League. This, I think, is the fundamental difference that exists between the members of the Australian Labor Party and the members of the minority (43 per cent) Government opposite.

The Treasurer has made a complete mockery of the L.C.L.'s pre-election statement that South Australia would receive better financial treatment if it joined the family. Well, unfortunately, 43 per cent of the people of South Australia said they wanted to join this illustrious family, and 52 per cent said they did not want to. In spite of that, we joined the family, but where has it got us? We have in South Australia a Party which, for the past three years, said that taxes in the State were too high. The L.C.L. issued pamphlets on this subject and had a wonderful time, but it now does worse than the Labor Party Government did in the taxation field. The Government has made a complete mockery of the situation.

With a degree of reluctance the Government has acknowledged what the Labor Party has been claiming for a long time: that the finances available within a State are insufficient, and that we have to get a better deal from the Commonwealth Government before we can achieve the required degree of progress and expansion in health, hospitals, education and other fields. Indeed, the Premier has gone so far as to agree to attend the window-dressing meeting that has been called by the New South Wales Premier for October 4 to enable State Premiers to express their disgust at the deal the States are getting financially from their fellow-travellers in the Commonwealth sphere.

One must remember that there is a Liberal and Country Party coalition in Canberra and it is that Government that is not giving us sufficient money. I would hate to see what would be the position if a Labor Government were in power in Canberra. The members of this Government would scream their heads off then. However, they have to go quietly because their own political Party is dominating the scene in Canberra. I suggest that if members opposite were honest (and I do not think many of them are)—

Mr. Edwards: You speak for yourself!

Mr. VIRGO: I said I do not think many of them are.

Mr. Clark: You are not referring to the member for Eyre?

Mr. VIRGO: If the cap fits, wear it. I left enough latitude for one or two to do that. If members opposite were honest we would find them coming out not just on a window-dressing campaign on the financial question but coming out to defeat the Commonwealth Government, which is starving South Australia of finance. Members opposite should consider that.

Mr. Casey: It is the same as they are doing with Chowilla.

Mr. VIRGO: Yes, exactly the same. They do not realize that on the one hand they are criticizing the Commonwealth Government for not giving them enough finance and on the other hand they are assisting to get that Government returned to office. How hypocritical can they get? Again, if the Government had the interests of South Australia at heart, all its members would come out to a man to oppose the return of the Gorton Government, because if pressure of this nature were exerted on the Commonwealth Government it would wilt in exactly the same way that the Hall Government wilted under the threats and pressure of people demanding electoral reform and of trainee teachers demanding justice. Any Government will wilt under those conditions and the present South Australian Government has wilted twice over the last month or so. The Commonwealth Government would wilt in exactly the same way. Pressure can and

should be brought to bear, because there is no doubt we are not getting what we should from the Commonwealth for the development of South Australia. It is no good the Premier merely making pious statements and going with the Treasurer to Loan Council meetings and Premiers' Conferences, when we know before they go that the whole thing is cooked: we know what we are going to get long before they go. The Government's financial advisers draw up the programmes months before the conferences are ever held, and they and the Government know what will come out of them. Until the Government is prepared to make a positive stand and demand justice for the people of South Australia, the same old slap-happy manner of dealing with financial matters will continue.

Our State finances are tied up with Commonwealth finances, and the manner in which the Commonwealth handles its finances has a direct bearing on what happens in South Australia. Some members of the Government here have been brave enough to come out and admit that the real cause of the present financial chaos in South Australia has been brought about by the Liberal and Country Party coalition Government: it has come about because this coalition Government has allowed Australia to be not only sold but also given away to overseas interests over the years. I now draw attention to a booklet that is being produced called *A Financial Invasion: The Take-over of Australia*. I draw members' attention to one or two passages in it. Under the heading "Australian Oversea Indebtedness" we see:

	In 1950	In 1967
Commonwealth and State Government debts owing overseas . . .	\$1,099,000,000	\$1,500,000,000
Australian reserves held overseas . . .	\$1,259,000,000	\$1,200,000,000
Oversea investment in Australian companies . . . . .	\$800,000,000	\$5,000,000,000

I think the first two lines of figures are the most important in that little table. These figures are authentic. They have been reproduced from the *Annual Bulletin of Oversea Investment, Australia, 1965-66*, by the Bureau of Census and Statistics. There is no question about their authenticity or accuracy.

These are facts that need much consideration. A statement printed in the *Melbourne Age* on October 27, 1967, is well worth considering. It reads:

One of Australia's top finance authorities, the Managing Director of the Commonwealth Banking Corporation (Mr. B. B. Callaghan) yesterday indicated that he had misgivings about the large-scale foreign investment in Australia. He told top-level Treasury and business leaders to "watch foreign capital carefully" and to ensure that it did not "soften the economy".

Of course, that is exactly what it has done; that is why we are in this financial morass today. Another passage that should receive consideration is as follows:

During the last five years dividends payable overseas by Australian companies were \$1,342,000,000.

Just imagine that! What would that do if those dividends were paid here in Australia, if the Commonwealth and, indirectly, the States were receiving that money from these dividends? What a wonderful difference it would make if that money could be made available, as it should be, for the building of schools and hospitals—and for the implementation of transportation schemes, too!

Mr. Broomhill: It would cover the cost of the F111.

Mr. VIRGO: That is probably one of the greatest losses we are suffering at present. What many members do not realize is that we still have not got the F111; they are still trying to get it to stay up in the air for more than a quarter of an hour! The Commonwealth Government has already paid \$140,000,000 to the United States for an aeroplane that we have not got.

Mr. Broomhill: No wonder people want to look at those contracts!

Mr. Casey: With that money we could build two Chowilla dams.

Mr. VIRGO: The Commonwealth Government cannot get money for Chowilla, schools, hospitals, etc., but it can always find money for these other things. When we see the amount of money spent, on the one hand, by the Commonwealth Government in these directions and, on the other hand, the astronomical sums of money going out of the country every year, we realize there is a financial invasion of Australia. The financial wizards of the world regard Australia as the greatest milking cow in the world. Commonwealth legislation allows it and, in fact, even encourages it to go on.

Whilst, of course, the action required to do something to rectify and arrest this situation lies with the Commonwealth, I hope that some Government members of this Chamber will talk to their colleagues in Canberra in the interests of this State and try to do something to rectify the position. For instance, Japan allows capital for the promotion of national development—and that is all. Japan controls it. We ought to control it here. Japan does not allow oversea investors to come in and buy out existing industrial establishments.

Mr. Casey: It is proud of them.

Mr. VIRGO: Of course it is, and we should be proud of ours in Australia and not sell them down the drain, as we are at present.

This is the very reason for the financial instability of our State Government. I do not know whether many, if any, members opposite examined the report of the Vernon Committee on an inquiry into the economy of the country. Assuming that some honourable members did study it, I want to quote as follows:

The Vernon Committee of Economic Enquiry, the only expert independent committee to investigate overseas investment in Australia, in its report dated May 6, 1965, page 292, said:

These agreements (double taxation agreements) contrast strongly with the moves in Canada to discriminate by way of withholding tax and depreciation allowances against companies having less than 25 per cent Canadian equity. We do not think that the problems posed by overseas investment in Australia as yet warrant adoption of the Canadian approach. Moreover, we cannot be sure that the imposition of a differential tax along Canadian lines would not have the effect of reducing capital inflow to an undesirable extent. There may, of course, be grounds for considering the renegotiation of the double tax agreements from the point of view of the cost to the Commonwealth revenue resulting from the much greater flow of investment income from that to Australia . . . . As already indicated, there will be for many years a continuing need for overseas investment of the kind that improves national productivity. Some degree of reliance on capital inflow for balance-of-payments purposes also seems unavoidable, although we have warned in this chapter and elsewhere in our report against the dangers of allowing this process to go too far. We must ask what the Australian attitude should be if the amount of investment seeking to come to Australia continues to grow as fast as it has in the past. In our view, there is no longer justification, on the basis of the experience of recent years, for general promotion of overseas investment either by the Commonwealth or State Governments . . . . A continuation of the recent level of new overseas investment of about \$300 million a year would not be sufficient to prevent a worsening of the balance-of-payments position, possibly to an extent that could not be tolerated. On the other hand, it would be sufficient to produce a gradual increase in the proportion of Australian company assets owned overseas, perhaps to something like 46 per cent by 1974-75.

The Vernon Committee also recommends the preparation and maintenance of a register to be kept continually up-to-date of all overseas investment. This is a fair question: As the Vernon Committee states \$300 million inflow would mean 46 per cent of Australian company assets owned overseas by 1975, what percentage of Australian company assets will be owned overseas when double or treble that inflow occurs?

These are words of warning from an expert committee comprising people who know what they are talking about. This is the only committee that has thoroughly investigated this matter, and the committee has sounded a note

of warning, but the only person apart from Commonwealth Labor members who has done anything about it is the Leader of the Country Party, Mr. John McEwen.

Mr. McAnaney: Don't bring him into it.

Mr. VIRGO: I do not understand why the member for Stirling should disown the Leader of the Country Party, because Mr. McEwen spoke on a subject that is of considerable interest to the honourable member. I hope he listens to this political statement made by Mr. McEwen, Deputy Prime Minister, Leader of the Country Party and Minister for Trade and Industry, to the Victorian Country Party at Lakes Entrance on Tuesday, April 2, 1963:

There has been an increasing tendency for capital to flow into Australia not to establish some new and highly complicated technical activity, but to come in to buy out an Australian flour mill or an Australian bakery or an Australian dairy factory, sometimes a co-operative. I make it quite clear that I can't welcome the transference of ownership to overseas people of these simple food processing activities which have been actually established by Australians and in many cases successfully operated by Australians for more than half a century. However, to a not significant extent, the overseas money which is provided to buy out these industries, is also the overseas money making good our inadequate earnings from export sales. To this extent overseas investment in Australia has come to be dependent upon our balance of payments. We in this room . . .

That is, of course, the Country Party room, not this Chamber. Mr. McEwen continued:

. . . are mostly established farmers. If we earn enough annual income we can live comfortably. If we don't we could still live comfortably by selling a bit of the farm every year, and that is pretty much the Australian situation.

Mr. McAnaney: That's what you wanted to do in your succession duties Bill, isn't it?

Mr. VIRGO: I think the remainder of the quotation will impress the member for Stirling: he has been impressed until now. Mr. McEwen said:

We are not earning enough and we are selling a bit of our heritage every year.

That is exactly why we are in a difficult financial position today. On this occasion I agree completely with John McEwen. We are selling a bit of our farm every year to the overseas interests.

Mr. Ryan: He is a Liberal collaborator, isn't he?

Mr. VIRGO: Of course. We might say that he was the mainstay of the Liberal Party. Although Government members know that this overseas investment is creating great difficulty

on a State basis, this feature is part and parcel of the policy to which they subscribe. I have with me a copy of the objectives of the Liberal Party of Australia.

Mr. Ryan: The first is "Ruin South Australia first", isn't it?

Mr. VIRGO: The first is that they believe in an Australian nation dedicated to political liberty and the freedom and dignity of man.

Mr. Hudson: There is a secret protocol to that, "Leave out South Australia".

Mr. VIRGO: They go further. They believe in an Australian nation protecting the people against exploitation. Yet, I have shown how people are being exploited and how that exploitation is being assisted by the Liberal Commonwealth Government. I now refer to the *Directory of Overseas Investment in the Australian Manufacturing Industry*, produced by the Department of Trade and Industry, Canberra, in 1966. In this booklet the department has categorized under the various headings, different companies in the Commonwealth—where they operate, what they do, the amount of their assets and how much of the assets are owned by overseas interests, and the overseas equity of ordinary capital. Conzinc Riotinto of Australia Limited has 85 per cent overseas equity; and this company controls more than 30 other companies including Broken Hill Associated Smelters Proprietary Limited, Broken Hill Corporation Limited, New Broken Hill Consolidated Limited, and others. New Broken Hill Consolidated Limited is, by itself, a 100 per cent foreign-owned company. Obviously, most of the wealth in the soil of Australia is today going overseas, because the Commonwealth Government has allowed overseas interests to enter this country, dig out the wealth and take it overseas for people who could not care less whether we had a school built of hessian bags or whether it was properly constructed. Our Australian assets are diminishing and the country is becoming less valuable, but nothing is being done about it. Coming closer to home and of interest to Government members who are farmers and the people who support them—

Mr. Allen: Is this sour grapes?

Mr. VIRGO: I want the honourable member to realize that every time he buys farm equipment he is selling Australia down the drain.

Mr. Allen: It keeps you employed.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. McAnaney): The honourable member must address the Chair.

Mr. VIRGO: I do not quarrel with the fact that there should be oversea investment in Australia, and I did not say that. Of course it provides employment, but that is where it starts and finishes. The honourable member should realize that oversea investments in Australia are earning colossal profits which, in fact, should remain in this country. I refresh the memory of the member for Burra by reiterating that \$5,000,000,000 is going out of this country every year because of oversea investment. Some money has to go out and we expect this, but I do not want Australia to be bled white, as is being done at present. If the members for Burra and Rocky River buy a piece of farm equipment from Allis-Chalmers—

Mr. Allen: I can't afford to: there has been a drought.

Mr. VIRGO:—they will contribute to a company that is 100 per cent foreign-owned. I remind the member for Burra that no-one can afford to do much with this rotten Budget that has been presented to us. John Deere (Australia) Proprietary Limited, Massey-Ferguson (Australia) Limited, and Oliver Australasia Pty. Limited, are all 100 per cent foreign-owned.

Mr. Venning: What about Horwood Bagshaw Limited?

Mr. VIRGO: I am talking about manufacturers of farm equipment.

Mr. Venning: What about David Shearer Limited?

Mr. VIRGO: If the honourable member would like to look at the long list of names that I have I would be delighted to give him my copy, but he can obtain one from the Parliamentary Library and, upon perusing it, he will see how these companies are making monkeys out of the people of Australia. Let us consider the motor car manufacturing field: British Motor Corporation (Australia) Pty. Limited, Chrysler Australia Limited, Ford Motor Company of Aust. Ltd., General Motors-Holden's Pty. Ltd., International Harvester Company of Australia Pty. Ltd., and the Leyland Motor Corporation of Australia Proprietary Limited are all 100 per cent oversea-owned. The profits of the labours of our people are going to foreign interests which, in most cases, would not know where to find Australia on the map.

Mr. Riches: Did you say "Chrysler Australia"?

Mr. VIRGO: That is the name it uses—Chrysler Australia Limited. The oversea associate is the Chrysler Corporation of Detroit (Michigan); the oversea equity in

ordinary capital is 100 per cent; and the date of that information is June 17, 1965. The total assets of this concern are valued at \$50,102,400. Having referred to motor cars, I now refer to some of the firms that keep motor cars going, because a car is not much good if there is nothing to put in the tank. The Amoco organization in Australia is owned 100 per cent by oversea interests, as also are Australian Oil Refining Limited, B.P. Australia Limited, Caltex Oil (Australia) Proprietary Limited, Esso Standard Oil (Aust.) Limited, Mobil Oil Australia Limited, and the Shell Company of Australia Limited. I am recommending to members opposite that if they believe in Australia (and here is a commercial out of which I hope I will get a little cheap petrol!) they should go to H. C. Sleigh Limited, because the oversea investment in that company amounts only to 31.3 per cent.

Mr. Allen: Have you any shares in that?

Mr. VIRGO: I have no shares in anything.

Mr. Corcoran: What did the Commonwealth Government do to Commonwealth Oil Refinery?

Mr. VIRGO: I should not like to embarrass members opposite by talking about C.O.R., the whaling station, Amalgamated Wireless (A/Asia) Limited or any of the other assets of this nation that are being given away, but I am concerned at the way that they are allowing the resources of this country to be eroded. I now refer to a group of companies to which we are all occasionally forced to give support: 43 pharmaceutical companies are listed in this booklet to which I have been referring, 35 of them are owned 100 per cent by oversea interests, and two of the remainder are branches of oversea companies, anyhow. Therefore, only six other companies remain, and the lowest oversea holding in respect of these is 50 per cent. This in itself is bad enough, but I think it takes on a far worse complexion when we realize that Commonwealth Serum Laboratories has the ability and the facilities to produce probably the greatest proportion of pharmaceutical needs in Australia, but it is restricted—

Mr. Corcoran: Isn't it 3 per cent?

Mr. VIRGO: Yes, that organization is restricted to supplying 3 per cent of the Australian market so that the oversea investors can get the rake-off in Australia! This is what the Canberra colleagues of members opposite are doing. Instead of going to these kite-flying meetings at which everyone

has much to say but does nothing, the Government ought to be pressing the position, and pressing it hard, demanding that the Australian people benefit from the nation's wealth. Firms such as W. Angliss and Company Limited (Aust.) Proprietary Limited (and I expect most of the farming members on the other side occasionally have something to do with this company) are 100 per cent owned by oversea interests. Thomas Borthwick and Sons (A/Asia) Limited, which just about has the South-East by the throat from what I could see of it when I was there, is also 100 per cent owned by oversea investors.

Then, when we consider some of the things that you, Mr. Chairman (as well as members on the other side), enjoy, we learn that if we buy a chocolate from Cadburys (Cadbury-Fry-Pascall Aust. Ltd.) we are contributing to a company owned 100 per cent by oversea interests. If we have Campbell soup, we are in the soup, because that organization is owned 100 per cent overseas, as also are Carnation Co. Pty. Ltd., Cerebos (Aust.) Ltd., D. and J. Fowler (Aust.) Ltd., H. J. Heinz Company (Aust.) Ltd., Kelloggs (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., Kraft Foods Ltd., Nabisco Pty. Ltd., the Nestle Co. (Aust.) Ltd., and perhaps one of the greatest combines—Unilever Aust. Pty. Ltd. This is why the South Australian Government is in such a financial mess at present: members opposite and their colleagues are continuously supporting this type of oversea exploitation of the Commonwealth of Australia. Although ours is one of the richest countries in the world, it is being exploited continuously by the type of activity to which I have referred.

The *Advertiser* of February 14 last reported the Premier as saying, "Stability is the first aim", when he made his policy speech at Para Hills the previous evening. The Premier has made a mockery of the statements that he made at the time, and he has held to ransom the people of South Australia who supported him.

Mr. Langley: A minority!

Mr. VIRGO: The 43 per cent of the population that supported members opposite has been treated very shabbily in respect of this Budget. The Premier said (and I am quoting from a newspaper report which I assume is accurate; I have not seen any contradictions of or corrections to it):

I should tell you at the very outset that our first and most important objective (indeed, it is the very heart of this campaign) is to restore South Australia's financial stability.

All I want to know is: when is he going to do that? This Budget will not restore any stability; in fact, it is putting South Australia in a financial mess from which we shall take a long time to emerge. The Premier continued:

You could fairly call the Walsh-Dunstan Administration a pleasure and leisure Government, a Government living on borrowed money, borrowed ideas and borrowed time.

Who is living on borrowed money, borrowed ideas and borrowed time? The present Government is not living on borrowed ideas: it is not living on any ideas at all.

Mr. Broomhill: It wants ideas from the people. It should see us.

Mr. VIRGO: Yes. Two days ago the Premier was so barren of ideas for developing this State that he appealed to people, I think, in the Commonwealth Club, saying, "Will you please tell us how to run this State, because we do not know how to? We haven't anyone in our Government who has an idea."

Mr. Giles: He didn't say that.

Mr. VIRGO: He did say it, and members opposite must learn to live with it and like it.

Mr. Giles: We want the truth before we like it.

Mr. VIRGO: The honourable member should listen to what the Premier said in the House and what he was reported as saying in the *Advertiser* last Tuesday. The honourable member should have seen and heard that the Premier is asking the people of this State to tell him how to run the State. It is as simple as that.

Mr. Lawn: He hasn't any ideas.

Mr. VIRGO: I agree. He must ask for them.

Mr. Clark: But even if you told him he would say you were trying to fence him in.

Mr. VIRGO: I have been trying to tell him about M.A.T.S.

Mr. Corcoran: They haven't any ideas about that, either, because they are leaving that one to the people to decide.

Mr. VIRGO: I do not know who is deciding it, but the Government, the Premier and the Minister of Roads and Transport have been completely dishonest with the public. In his policy speech the Premier also said:

When we are elected to Government—of course, they were not elected to Government, but they did assume office—our first task will be to restore stability in the State's accounts. We will do this by arranging a careful priority of spending, by

making sure that we get value for our money in our spending, and by securing more money as a result of increased activity in industry and commerce. Take no notice of sceptics who say we cannot do this.

Mr. McAnaney: We are doing it.

Mr. VIRGO: The honourable member cannot really be serious when he says that. Members ought to listen again to what the Premier said. I hope the honourable member will tell me what he thinks the present Government is doing. I repeat what the Premier said:

We will do this by arranging a careful priority of spending—

Where is this careful priority of spending? I have not seen it, and I suggest that no other member has seen it.

Mr. Broomhill: Probably they regard their action in connection with student teacher allowances as having this meaning.

Mr. VIRGO: Perhaps, as the honourable member suggests, the reference to arranging careful priorities meant "Let us reduce payments wherever we can." They started this in the field of student teacher allowances. If this is the meaning, then I concede that the member for Stirling is correct, but I am not sure whether he will agree with me on that. Nevertheless, I think this is the only construction I can place on the Premier's remark. He continued:

We will get value for our money in our spending.

I suppose the same argument could be advanced again: the present Government is getting more value for the money it spends as a result of its action in reducing allowances. We all know that the position regarding allowances will be further improved. After the allowances had been reduced to \$85 the students were able, by logic and pressure, to force the Minister to increase them to \$105. However, they have told the Minister that this is still not acceptable and, provided they keep up the pressure, this Government will wilt, as it has already wilted on two or three occasions. At any rate, I do not think the member for Stirling will find for one moment that the Government is getting value for the money it spends. The final thing the member for Stirling claims that the Government is doing is well worth considering. The Premier referred to securing more money as a result of increased activity in industry and commerce. Where is this increased activity? We have not seen a thing happen since the Government came into power other than the rearrangement of departments.

Mr. McAnaney: What about the employment figures? Everything is going well.

Mr. VIRGO: The plain fact is, as members opposite know, that there has been no increased activity in industry or commerce since the Government came to power. In fact, the reverse is the case: we have seen industries close since the Government took office. The member for Stirling knows this and he also knows that the Premier was so bereft of original ideas that, when he came back from overseas, he had to pinch Tom Playford's idea of saying he had industries tucked up his sleeve but that they were so secret he could not say what they were. We have not seen one iota of value as a result of the Premier's trip, despite the grandeur of the welcome afforded him on his return. Show me the industry established as a result of his trip! Show me the increased activity in industry and commerce that has come out of it!

Mr. McKee: Do you think he will take another trip soon?

Mr. VIRGO: I have heard he will, but the matter now being considered is whether to give him a return ticket; I believe members opposite do not want to do this.

Mr. McAnaney: Who is employing the unemployed, the number of which has been reduced?

Mr. VIRGO: I feel sorry for the member for Stirling. He has been in the most embarrassing and invidious position that anyone has ever been in: he has had to stand up and try to praise a Budget that is not worth the paper it is written on. I believe he is to be commended for still battling on trying to put a brave face on it. The Premier also said, "Take no notice of the sceptics who say we cannot do it." Who were the sceptics? I repeat what I said when the Premier was in the Chamber: the Government, the Premier and the Minister of Roads and Transport have deliberately hoodwinked the public of South Australia with their downright untruths.

Mr. McAnaney: Now you're running true to form.

Mr. VIRGO: Unfortunately it is the Government that is running true to form. The honourable member should have been here when I pointed out that the information I have been getting on the M.A.T.S. Report is completely untrue. I suggest that he look at this matter. If he has to try to defend the Premier and the Minister of Roads and Transport about



the supply of false information to members, then I am pleased it is he who has to do that and not I.

The Hon. J. W. H. Coumbe: I do not think you like that report.

Mr. VIRGO: It is not a matter of whether I like the M.A.T.S. Report: I do not like untruths. If the Government intends to do something, even if it is unpopular, let it be big enough and honest enough to come out and say exactly what it will do. Do not let us have a continuation of the situation where the Premier, in this Chamber, and the Minister of Roads and Transport, in another place, are making statements that are completely without foundation. All I hope is that one of the Ministers is prepared to interview this constituent of mine and justify the statements made, on the one hand, and the subsequent rebuttals of them, on the other. Other statements made by the Premier are worthy of brief mention. He said:

In addition, we will work with the Governments of every other State and the Commonwealth to hammer out a better Commonwealth-State Financial Agreement.

There would be few members opposite who would try to justify the claim that this had been done. Not even the member for Stirling would try to say that the State Government was working with other Governments, both State and Commonwealth, to try to get a better Financial Agreement. Members opposite know that the present Financial Agreement will give this State Government, be it Labor or Liberal, a set amount. The myth of "joining this family" has already been adequately exploded. The member for Enfield (Mr. Jennings) at one stage suggested it might not be a proper family. A certain matter which the Premier referred to in his policy speech and which the member for Albert (Mr. Nankivell) spoke of yesterday does not, unfortunately, appear in the Budget—the teaching hospital at Bedford Park. The Premier said:

Build the teaching hospital at Bedford Park to help meet the shortage of doctors and staff throughout the State.

This is a pressing need. Many thousands of people in the southern suburbs have no hospitalization available to them in their immediate vicinity. If they require hospitalization suddenly and urgently, they must go either to Adelaide or to Woodville. With the establishment of Flinders University, I believe that, as the member for Albert said yesterday, there is an urgent need for work to commence on the south-western districts hospital, which is

not merely a parochial thing for me: it is a most important project. In fact, I note that the Premier said in his policy speech:

The Bedford Park teaching hospital project is vital to the establishment of the new medical school at Flinders University and to serve the south-western districts. It must be ready for immediate commencement on the granting of a subsidy by the Australian Universities Commission.

Obviously the Premier, before the election at least, was alive to the necessity for this hospital, but now that the election is over the Premier may have lost interest. Alternatively, perhaps he could not induce the Treasurer to include this in the Budget. Whichever it is I hope that, in the interests of both the people of the district and the training of doctors (an urgent necessity) this matter can soon be actively considered. Another part of the Premier's policy speech dealt with the tremendously important subject of industrial development. I consider that we have gone backwards in this field since the assumption of office of the Hall minority Government. The Premier said in his speech:

The harsh fact is that, during its first two years of office, the Walsh-Dunstan Administration put no importance on development. As a matter of urgency we will create a Ministry of Development. This will be a full-time job, not something for the fag end of the day. The absurd conflict between Government industrial policy and Government industrial promotion will be eliminated.

We have had much discussion of this subject in the Chamber, and I do not think anyone is misled about the present unsatisfactory position in this field. The Premier said that the creation of a full-time Ministry of Development was a matter of urgency.

Mr. McKee: How many jobs has the head of this department got now?

Mr. VIRGO: I do not know, but if the office of Premier of this State is not a job, many people have been fooled for a long time. However, he is also Minister of Industrial Development, whereas he said that the Ministry of Industrial Development would be a full-time job. He has attached it to the No. 1 portfolio in the State, although he said it should not be a job for the fag end of the day. He has made it a part-time job, attached to his own portfolio.

However, a worse aspect is that the control of the department is now a part-time job. I do not think whether the Minister devotes all his time to the work matters much. The Minister should not be licking stamps, sweeping floors, and doing other menial tasks.

However, the management and control of the department is unquestionably a full-time job. Nevertheless, a person can be "top brass" in the administration of the industrial development of this State and General Manager of the Housing Trust at the same time! Either that person was not fully employed before or he is not devoting much time to his other job now. The Premier cannot have it both ways.

Mr. Jennings: He's Chairman of the Municipal Tramways Trust, too.

Mr. VIRGO: Yes. I think what I have said indicates clearly the lack of interest and concern shown by the present Government on industrial development. I refer now to the Premier's concluding words in his policy speech at Para Hills, and I wonder whether, in his busy life, he has had the opportunity to read his own statement. I think he would feel a pang of conscience about his "best seller." I should say it is more like a piece of comedy work. The Premier said:

This election is not a commonplace political auction, a clash of personalities, a battle of words. What is at stake is another three years of your working life and the life of your State. What we have to terminate, swiftly and decisively, is an interlude of decline and financial disaster—the three-year regime of the Labor-Socialists and the Walsh-Dunstan administration.

Mr. McAnaney: You cannot disagree with that.

Mr. VIRGO: The member for Stirling does not know me well and he does not know the truth well if he claims that. That statement, made by the then Leader of the Opposition, was aimed at winning and buying votes. He claimed it was not a political auction, but he made it one. In the main, he has failed to carry out the terms of his policy speech. One or two things may have been done but that is all. The member for Stirling should remember that when the Premier delivered his policy speech and spoke about finance he said something about getting more money as a result of increased activity in industry and commerce, but he did not say one word about imposing extra taxation on the ordinary people.

Mr. McAnaney: We are all good, ordinary, hard-working people.

Mr. VIRGO: I am pleased that the member for Stirling is an ordinary person, and I hope that he starts to echo the voice of the ordinary people instead of echoing the voice of the Adelaide Club.

Mr. McAnaney: Where is that?

Mr. VIRGO: You don't have to know where it is to get your directions: you are told what you will do by the Adelaide Club, but you pretend you don't know where it is.

Mr. McKee: He may not be allowed in, but he supports the establishment.

Mr. VIRGO: Of course he does, otherwise he would not be sitting on the L.C.L. benches. The Attorney-General is grimacing about it: he knows as well as I do that if the Adelaide Club had not supported John McLeay he would be the Commonwealth member for Boothby today. It was the Adelaide Club that beat the Attorney-General, and he knows it.

Mr. Langley: There was a bit of crookedness in the ballot, too, and he knows that.

Mr. VIRGO: They do not have the court-controlled ballots they inflict on the trade union movement. They believe it is important for trade unions but not for their own organization.

Mr. Rodda: You have Joe Chamberlain kicking you about.

Mr. VIRGO: I do not know the point of that interjection and I would be pleased if the honourable member would explain it to me. If the statements I have made concerning the Adelaide Club and the amount of dictatorial control imposed on members opposite are resented, I am sorry, but it is of their own making. When one makes one's bed one has to lie in it, and I think that is the position here. I hope that the member for Stirling, who started all this by saying that he was an ordinary person, will heed the views of the ordinary people and will not let himself be led along by the nose and support these imposts introduced by his Treasurer. I assure the member for Stirling that members on this side would welcome the opportunity to defeat this Budget if a vote were taken and if he were prepared to join us.

Mr. McAnaney: You weren't here in 1966-67; didn't you read about that Budget? You collected more then than is to be collected this year.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The member for Edwardstown.

Mr. VIRGO: Although I am delighted to have the honourable member's assistance, I regret that he is not meeting with much success. Not only have we witnessed the most vicious Budget in respect of the working class (the ordinary people—the family people) in years: concurrent with this Budget we have heard the announcement (and I am sure that in view of his former attitude the Attorney-General has finally held sway) to decontrol

the prices of many items. At whom is the Government kicking? It is kicking at the people who can least afford to pay. It is kicking at the ordinary people—the kids who want to buy cool drinks and who will be slugged 1c more. It is a tragedy that the kids are being hit, yet the Attorney-General can laugh; he may think he has that ring of confidence. I assure him that there will be a ring of confidence in the voice of the electors when the Government next goes to the people. I hope members opposite will give some consideration to the people who cannot afford these charges.

Mr. Ferguson: Where's your handkerchief?

Mr. VIRGO: The member for Yorke Peninsula probably does not have many working class families in his area. I can remember that, when I spent three weeks on Yorke Peninsula a few years ago, I did not find too many farmers waiting to walk off their farms. All members should remember working men who have large families and they should remember what the extra charges on cool drinks and ice cream will mean to them. No sooner were beer prices decontrolled than those prices were increased. I hope there will be enough people within the Liberal and Country League who will take steps to see that working men with large families are protected. Let us remember the items whose prices have been decontrolled. Surely the Minister of Education must be concerned about the prices of chalk, pencils and pens, or are we to assume that she could not care less?

I am bitterly disappointed not only in the Budget but in the Government's action in decontrolling these prices, both of which will have tremendously adverse effects. This morning's newspaper said that hospital charges would rise by \$1 a day. This will be known as the dollar-a-day Government. The Government did not even give a sufficient warning to the people about the increase in hospital charges to allow them to adjust their hospitalization cover.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: Did you?

Mr. VIRGO: Did I what? I do not know what the Treasurer is talking about. I am making a plain statement that the Government did not give people time to increase their hospitalization cover. It could not bung on these extra charges quickly enough. This is the Government that was going to raise more money by increasing activity in industry and commerce, but we are still waiting to see this increased activity. Tell us where it is.

Mr. McAnaney: We do not have to tell you.

Mr. VIRGO: I sincerely regret it if I am upsetting members opposite.

Mr. Rodda: You are writing South Australia down.

Mr. VIRGO: I think I have made the point I wish to make. The Budget is a disappointment as is the decontrolling of prices. We should not have to accept this from a Party that does not have the support (and probably will never get it) of a majority of the people. The Ministry serves without any authority from the people, as members opposite received 42 or 43 per cent of the votes at the last election whereas the Labor Party received 52 per cent. However, because of other factors which we hope will be rectified one day, the Liberal and Country League assumed the Treasury benches and brought down this Budget. I believe the Budget will speak more loudly than we can, and it is to be confidently expected that, when the people next get the opportunity (and I hope this will be before long), they will say what they think of this Budget by dismissing the present Government.

Mr. LANGLEY (Unley): The Budget has had a resounding effect on the people of the State. I cannot remember so many people from all walks of life complaining about what is to happen in the forthcoming financial year.

Mr. Rodda: They are smiling from ear to ear.

Mr. LANGLEY: No, they are talking but not smiling; they are very glum. These heavy impositions are being rapidly forced on the people. Only today I found one case where an impost had been made, although I had not expected it so soon; I shall refer to it later. The people are astounded at these rises in taxes, and yet we are told there is much more to follow.

Great controversy surrounds the winning bets tax. Apparently, even when the Government receives from other sources the sum it previously received from this tax, it intends to impose a further tax on bookmakers of up to 2 per cent. Therefore, more money than expected will be raised from this source. At the election, the Premier said he would do something about the winning bets tax, but I am sure he did not tell people about the extra impost that he intends to levy when the winning bets tax is abolished, probably towards the end of the next financial year.

In his policy speech the Premier said (and it is very true) that employment was hurting South Australia's pride as well as its pocket. I am sure that members on both sides of the Chamber have had fluctuating reports, during their Parties' respective terms of office, about unemployment. No-one likes it but there is no doubt the Budget will hurt the pockets of people all over the State. Having read the policy speech, I find it difficult to discover any mention of these taxes. It has been well done: they have been well concealed. However, the Government is not fooling the people of South Australia, who were shocked by the Budget. Wage-earners and salaried people will all be hit by this Budget, but the people in the higher-income groups have "expenses" that they maintain are their firms' expenses. They do it openly and are helped by the Commonwealth Government. They will not be much affected, but 90 per cent of the people of this State will be.

The Budget will affect the people's purchasing power. Already in many cases they are starting to button up their pockets. We do not want that: we want to keep the economy going as much as possible. Only today I asked a business man when the impost of 2c on receipts over \$10 would be introduced. I should have known, but I was told, "It happened the very next day." I remember, when in this Chamber we intended to introduce a similar impost, the Opposition was up in arms about it. Members opposite said that the increase in the cost of a cheque was enough to cover that, but they took that increase and also the 2c impost on receipts. That did not make any difference.

A topic dear to my heart was mentioned by the member for Onkaparinga. It is marvellous how we get all sorts of wonderful ideas, even some from the member for Stirling—for instance, that 43 beats 53. In that connection he referred to test cricket. In all the cricket matches I played in, the side that scored the most runs always won. In this case the Australian Labor Party won easily.

Mr. Ferguson: But what about a draw?

The CHAIRMAN: Order! There are too many interjections. I ask the honourable member to address the Chair.

Mr. LANGLEY: The member for Onkaparinga is a sporting man and has done well. I admire him for that but, when he has to employ these means to try to make a point, it does not go down well with anybody in the

sporting field: it is unsportsmanlike, and it is undemocratic to suggest that 43 can beat 53. Even with the 43 per cent, the Liberal Party needed two helpers to help it form a Government; it did not do it on its own.

Mr. McAnaney: Does the side that takes the most wickets always win?

Mr. LANGLEY: Of course it does not. Has the honourable member not heard of a side declaring? Members opposite ought to declare the member for Stirling. The removal of price control from many items used in the building trade will result in increased prices that will absorb the advantage of the recent increase in the maximum amount of loans from \$7,000 to \$8,000. I would have thought that some start would have been made regarding the licensing of builders, and Mr. Bob O'Neill, a prominent builder who favours licensing, recently spoke to me about it. If it were decided to do something about licensing now, the system would not come into operation for six months. Since the passing of the legislation prices have increased and shoddy work continues to be done by fly-by-night builders. These are the lowest tenderers, but they do not care what standard of work they do and will not stand by their work.

If the Government thinks it right to provide for increased loans to purchasers, surely it should ensure that approved tradesmen do the work. Most contracts in the building trade are let to the lowest tenderer, and in many cases the contracts are sublet. That is where good workmanship ceases and builders build down to a price. This results in young people not getting value for money in their biggest investment. I am sure that young people would be pleased if builders were licensed. I understand that shoddy workmanship is rife in Melbourne, and I suppose we will have to wait for the Victorian Government to act before we do something. That seems to be the usual trend these days.

I recently received a letter from the Clerk of Works Institute of Australia. The members of this institute are conversant with all types of building and obtain wide experience in the building trade in their South Australian Institute of Technology course. They are practical men who understand the trade and I hope that the institute will be represented on the authority to be established. Such a representation would be a great asset to the building trade in South Australia.

Fluoridation of water supply is a red hot topic at present and all members have received many letters, both for and against fluoridation. I have probably received more letters on this matter than on any other matter affecting the people, and some of the submissions date back four or five years, so people must have known then that action would be taken. I think all members have received a booklet from Mr. Irwin (President of the Australian Dental Association). I have perused this booklet, which discusses both sides of this important question. After reading the first page I was amazed to find that people who favoured fluoridation could make this submission. I have selected only one paragraph because I

should like to know more about fluoridation before claiming to be conversant with the topic. The following is a statement from this booklet issued by the Tasmanian Department of Health Services:

Recent work in West Germany has shown that dental disease is a potent factor in industrial employee inefficiency. For instance, the total removal of all teeth causes a decrease in the total output per worker of 20 to 25 per cent. Complete tooth loss of either upper or lower jaw causes a decrease in output of 15 per cent.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 5.53 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, October 1, at 2 p.m.