

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, July 30, 1969

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

QUESTIONS**TECHNOLOGY STUDENTS**

Mr. HUDSON: It appears that at the Institute of Technology this year a policy has been followed of excluding certain students, even though they have passed their subjects in the previous year. As far as I can ascertain, it seems that this has occurred in relation to those courses towards the cost of which the Commonwealth Government does not contribute. As this seems to be a fairly serious matter, I should like the Minister of Education, if she knows anything about it at present, to explain the exclusions that have taken place at the institute this year and, if she does not know about it at present, will she find out and bring down a detailed report?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: Although I cannot give this information at present, I will certainly obtain it and furnish a report as soon as possible.

MAITLAND COURTHOUSE

Mr. FERGUSON: In November, 1965, I asked the Attorney-General a question about the Maitland courthouse in reply to which he said that the Senior Design Architect of the Public Buildings Department, on investigating this building, had reported that it was in extremely poor condition and had recommended that all the structures be demolished and that a new courthouse, police station and residence be erected. In reply to a further question, the Attorney-General said last August that it was intended to provide new police premises at Maitland but that this depended on priorities. As the present buildings have been condemned, can the Attorney-General say whether the provision of new premises at Maitland will be considered soon so that those concerned will be able to work in at least reasonable conditions?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I take it that the reply in 1965 was given by my predecessor. I will follow up the matter with the Minister of Works to see whether this can be done.

RUTHVEN MANSIONS

Mr. BROOMHILL: The Minister of Works will recall that earlier this year I asked him a question about the future of Ruthven Man-

sions in Pulteney Street, and he told me that he was investigating the future use of this building. Has he any further information about this matter?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: I (like, I am sure, all other members) am concerned about the future of this building and its condition. As the House would be aware, only the lower section is being used by the Public Health Department and the upper part is unoccupied, mainly for safety reasons. It is intended in future planning that many public servants at present in unsatisfactory accommodation would be moved to the new Victoria Square building. However, as the Chest Clinic of the Health Department, now in Ruthven Mansions, should be closely associated with the Royal Adelaide Hospital, the question of its moving has yet to be determined. The future of Ruthven Mansions is now in the melting pot, and it will be examined to see whether it is worth keeping as a building or as a site. The present investigation that is now determining the needs of various departments that will be housed in the Victoria Square building will determine the future of Ruthven Mansions.

WHEAT RESEARCH

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: The Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industry (Mr. Anthony) was reported yesterday as having announced that the Commonwealth Government would make available about \$1,000,000 during the current financial year for wheat research. The report also states that the Commonwealth allocation will provide funds for 92 research projects to be carried out by the Agriculture Departments of the States, the Australian universities, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization, and other organizations. Will the Minister of Lands ascertain from the Minister of Agriculture what money is expected to be available to South Australia and, if any money is to be made available to this State, what type of research is to be carried out by this State into wheat production?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will get that reply.

KESWICK FACTORY

Mr. CASEY: On May 23 this year an article appeared in the *News* under the headline, "Egg Board Plans Keswick Factory". According to the article, tenders were called 12 months previously but negotiations had not been completed by the Government and, in accordance with Government policy, this

matter was referred to the Industries Development Committee. Can the Treasurer say whether the Government has received any recommendation from that committee about this factory and, if it has not, when these recommendations are likely to be made available to the Government? Also, if the recommendations have been made, can the Treasurer ascertain what the Government's attitude is towards this factory?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I cannot give the honourable member a reply without making inquiries. To the best of my knowledge, the matter has not been resolved by the committee but I will check and let the honourable member know.

SUGAR AGREEMENT

Mr. ARNOLD: Has the Premier a reply to my question of June 24, when I asked him whether he would point out to the Prime Minister the importance of the sugar agreement to the fruitgrowing industry of this State?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I took up this matter twice by letter, and I have received the following reply:

I have received your letters of June 4 and July 2, 1969, concerning the importance of sugar concessions to your State. Ever since the Commonwealth-Queensland Sugar Agreements took their present form in 1931, it has been the policy of the Commonwealth Government to have special regard for the canning fruit industry. You may be assured that the Commonwealth Government has the interest of this industry fully in mind in its current negotiations with the Queensland Government.

FILM CENTRE

Mr. McKEE: A report in the *Advertiser* some time ago stated that the Premier, following discussions he had last March with a Mr. Amsterdam, executive producer of the film company Four Star International, said that he would follow up negotiations by asking Mr. Amsterdam whether he intended to further his project to make Adelaide a major film centre. Can the Premier say whether the matter has been discussed further and, if it has, what the outcome was?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: After Mr. Amsterdam came to my office to discuss this matter with me, the initiative rested with him. I have not received any further communication from him and I assume that his inquiry is no longer current.

WEEDS

Mr. EDWARDS: Farmers who are obliged under the Weeds Act to destroy weeds on roadsides are put to great and unnecessary expense because the Highways Department and councils, by using infected materials and graders, spread on roadsides weeds such as soursob, salvation jane, three-corner jack, box-thorn, and many others. Will the Attorney-General ask the Minister of Local Government to instruct the department and councils to ensure that this practice does not continue?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will discuss the matter with Mr. Hill.

FARM TRACTORS

Mr. HUGHES: The first paragraph of a letter that I have received from the District Council of Kadina refers to a Local Government Association meeting held at Yorketown at which a discussion took place about the exemption of all farm tractors from the provisions of the Road Traffic Act that require warning devices and rear vision mirrors to be installed. Part of the letter states:

The view taken by council is that, as these vehicles are only occasionally on the road travelling between paddocks or for repairs, the provision of warning devices and mirrors is unnecessary. The law in this respect has been in operation for many years but not strictly policed, and the fears of my council, as expressed at Yorketown, that a campaign would shortly be mounted have materialized. Since the annual meeting a police patrol stopped a local farmer on the road and, as his tractor was not equipped with a warning device and rear vision mirror, he was told to leave it in the paddock and not return it to his home until so equipped. My council feels a little discretion should be exercised in such matters as was done in the past, and, as there is little need for warning devices and rear vision mirrors on farm tractors, respectfully asks that you use your best endeavours to have the law amended during the next session of Parliament.

Will the Attorney-General ask the Minister of Roads and Transport to examine this request and to consider introducing amending legislation to exempt farmers from the necessity to provide warning devices and rear vision mirrors on tractors?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will discuss the matter with the Minister, but, of course, the final decision would be a collective one, namely a decision of Cabinet.

POTATOES

Mr. McANANEY: Yesterday, the Minister of Lands was good enough to supply me with figures he had obtained from the Minister of Agriculture regarding the quantity of potatoes

imported annually into South Australia from other States. Will the Minister now ask his colleague to obtain the monthly figures in relation to these imported potatoes?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I gave some figures yesterday to the member for Onkaparinga (Mr. Evans) in respect of Western Australia, and I will ask my colleague for the monthly totals of potatoes brought in from other States.

Mr. EVANS: Will the Attorney-General obtain from the Minister of Roads and Transport details of the monthly tonnages of potatoes that have been imported by rail into South Australia from Western Australia?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will ask for the information.

LEASES

Mr. NANKIVELL: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to my recent question about breaking the nexus between miscellaneous and marginal leases?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The honourable member asked about the obsolescence of the marginal land leases. The marginal lands scheme which was carried out from 1941 provided for the aggregation of holdings in what were marginal areas. Both perpetual lease and freehold lands were aggregated with new marginal perpetual leases. Perpetual leases and marginal lands perpetual leases were tied to ensure that holdings were not subsequently subdivided. As the condition of much of this land and agricultural methods have changed since those days, consideration has been and is given to alleviating or waiving the conditions which were applied. Each case which is submitted is reviewed by the Land Board on its merits and, where it is clear that the tied holding can be safely subdivided, approval has been given. In cases where uneconomic subdivision would result, approval has been refused, as to act otherwise would be to negate the principles involved in the marginal lands scheme, which was brought into being by the expenditure of many millions of dollars of public funds.

Mr. CORCORAN: Last session the Minister of Lands moved an amendment to the Crown Lands Act that removed from the Act limitations in respect to perpetual lease country. Can he say whether any significant reduction has taken place in the number of applications for freeholding of perpetual lease land since that action was taken?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will obtain some information on this. However, broadly speaking, administratively there has

been a change in the approach towards freeholding, in that persons interested in it are told, without any inspection being made of the land, approximately what they might be expected to pay for the freehold title, so that they can then assess whether they are still interested in proceeding with the application. This is by no means a firm valuation, but is simply a rough guide. As a result, several people who have applied have not proceeded with their applications. That is an important factor in any reduction of applications. I do not know what the figures are, but it is an important factor.

Mr. CORCORAN: Did you explain to them that the limitation had been removed?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I think everyone knows that the limitations have been removed, and since that happened no adverse effects have been brought to my notice.

GOATS

Mr. ALLEN: Before asking my question, I hasten to assure members on the other side that it has no relation to them and that if there is any similarity it is purely coincidental. The question relates to goats. I have been approached by a prominent goat breeder in my district who points out that there is no branch in the Agriculture Department to handle matters connected with the goat industry. The Goat Breeders' Society of South Australia desires to have a branch set up to handle problems arising in this State. Some of the problems at present connected with the industry relate to the importing of semen, the sale of goat milk powder, the forwarding of whole milk from the country to the city, and diseases in goats generally. As I understand the departments in the Eastern States have sections to deal with these matters, will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture to consider setting up such a section within the Agriculture Department in order to help the industry in this regard?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will refer the question to the Minister of Agriculture, who will certainly consider it. Beyond that, I do not know that I can comment much today because this is a matter of departmental reorganization that would inevitably involve additional expenditure. I point this out because some primary producer organizations, particularly breed societies, have been in touch with the Government over the past few years. They contribute funds towards research into their branch of the industry, but whether the goat owners are able to do this, or whether they would consider doing

this, I do not know. I make this point, in case it is a suggestion that appeals to the goat owners. The Minister's considered reply will be given as soon as it is available.

The SPEAKER: I trust that the implication in the honourable member's question does not refer to me.

BRIGHTON ROAD

Mr. HUDSON: I understand that the widening and reconstruction of Brighton Road south of the Hove railway crossing is planned to commence this year and that much of the work will be carried out this year. The reconstruction project will involve that part of Brighton Road that goes through the Brighton shopping centre where, in recent years, there has been a large increase in traffic. My question to the Attorney-General representing the Minister of Roads and Transport is two-fold: first, will he obtain a report on the likely commencement and completion dates of this work; and secondly, will he ask his colleague whether any special arrangements are being made, when roadwork has to be done in the shopping centre itself, in order to handle the traffic and, at the same time, permit full and free access for customers to the various shops there? If appropriate arrangements are not made, these shopkeepers will lose a considerable amount of business.

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will try to find out.

YORKE PENINSULA WATER SUPPLY

Mr. FERGUSON: On several occasions I have asked the Minister of Works whether consideration could be given to providing a water supply to many of the shack sites on Yorke Peninsula coastal areas, but without positive results. I bring this matter to the Minister's attention again and ask him whether the Engineering and Water Supply Department will reconsider this matter, especially in respect to the larger areas such as Black Point, Hardwicke Bay and Balgowan?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: I will certainly do this. I am aware of the problem to which the honourable member alludes and which has been investigated more than once. I think the problem is that there has been considerable development on certain parts of Yorke Peninsula, especially in the holiday resort areas. The plain fact is that their expansion has outstripped the capacity of the trunk main, which comes down Yorke Peninsula and which is served by the Warren main, to service all

these areas. However, I will take up the honourable member's suggestion and have it re-examined in detail.

GAUGE STANDARDIZATION

Mr. CASEY: Last week, in reply to a question on gauge standardization, the Premier said that he had been in direct contact with the Commonwealth Minister for Shipping and Transport (Mr. Sinclair) by telephone regarding the terms of reference which South Australia had referred back to the Commonwealth. The Premier said then that he would make known within a few days exactly what the Commonwealth Government's attitude was. Can the Premier inform the House of the outcome of the discussion he had by telephone with the Commonwealth Minister?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: No. I have received no further information since last week. If the information does not come soon, I shall be following up the matter to find out where the information has gone.

AGRICULTURAL ADVISER

Mr. NANKIVELL: Will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture whether it is intended to establish the position of agricultural adviser in the Southern Mallee and, if it is, where it is intended that this officer will be stationed and when an appointment may be made?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will ask the Minister of Agriculture about this.

TOTALIZATOR TICKETS

Mr. McKEE: Has the Treasurer a reply to the question I asked last week about payments on lost totalizator tickets?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I think not, but I will check to make sure and, if I do have the reply, I will let the honourable member have it later.

STONEFIELD SCHOOL

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Has the Minister of Education further information to give me following my questions of June 19 and July 3 about the proposed closing of the Stonefield school?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: When the honourable member asked me his question on July 3, I gave the position as it was at that time. I can now inform the honourable member that arrangements have been made for a bus to provide a service for these children to Eudunda Area School. The bus will also pick up children from Dutton East. A 30-passenger departmental bus with a driver is available and

an acceptable route of 23 miles a trip has been worked out and approved by the Transport Contract Committee. I have therefore decided that the Stonefield Rural School shall be closed on Friday, August 1, 1969, and that the Stonefield, Dutton East bus service to Eudunda Area School shall be commenced on Monday next (August 4).

WEST BEACH TRANSPORT

Mr. BROOMHILL: The present bus service to West Beach goes along Burbridge Road with its terminal at the drive-in theatre. Since the bus service was inaugurated about four or five years ago, considerable building development has taken place along the West Beach Road in an area that was previously vacant land. As residents of this new subdivision have asked me whether the Municipal Tramways Trust could possibly change the service so that the bus route would pass reasonably close to their houses, will the Attorney-General raise the matter with the Minister of Roads and Transport?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: Yes.

TEXTBOOKS

Mr. LANGLEY: On July 1, in reply to a question asked by the member for Edwardstown (Mr. Virgo) about textbooks not being available at the Daw Road High School, the Minister of Education said that copies of four textbooks had not been delivered. However, on the dates she gave then, those books should now be available. As all the students had not received textbooks, I take it that lessons were curtailed until all the books had arrived. However, it appears that, even had the School Mathematics and Algebra Book II been available, there would still have been a real shortage of mathematics teachers. The Daw Road High School *Newsletter* of June 19 states:

Staffing: The need for more teachers with qualifications to take secondary classes at Daw Road and elsewhere is urgent. We are at present facing the problem of an imminent shortage in mathematics. Should you know of any former teacher whose services may be available (even part-time) we would appreciate any hint or lead that we could follow up.

Many of these students live in the Unley District and their parents are concerned whether enough teachers of mathematics are now available to ensure that the children receive the education that they require in this subject. Can the Minister of Education say what is the position at this school?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I think the honourable member's question related, first, to textbooks, and secondly, to teachers. Regarding

the textbooks, I will have to get a report on this matter as it affects the school to which the honourable member referred. As I have said before, we do have a shortage in science teachers that has not been easy to meet. In fact, we have been canvassing for any teachers who can come back into the department and teach this subject.

DERNANCOURT SCHOOL

Mrs. BYRNE: On February 11, I asked the Minister of Education a question about the construction of a canteen at the Dernancourt Primary School, pointing out that this matter had first been raised in 1967, and the Minister gave me a report on the matter on February 19. On July 11, I visited the school, again observing that the medical room situated on the first floor of the main building of the primary school was being used as a canteen, servicing 894 children (514 primary students and 380 infant students). These arrangements are obviously unsatisfactory and make it most inconvenient for the women who work in the canteen in the interests of the school. Will the Minister again obtain a report on the matter with a view to expediting the erection of this canteen?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I am sorry that the women who run the canteen are still operating under such difficulties. I should like to take this opportunity of saying what a splendid service they render to the schools, their work not being made any easier by their having to work under great difficulties. I will call for a report on the matter and see whether I can expedite it in some way.

Mrs. BYRNE: On my visit to the school on July 11, officers of the school committee showed me a well in the schoolgrounds 7ft. by 7ft. and 14ft. deep, which contained 3ft. of water. This well was put down by the school committee for water conservation purposes and at that time Mines Department officers told the committee where the well should be positioned. The committee now desires technical assistance and advice on whether deepening this well to make it a bore is worth while. Although I know that agreement to this request involves the co-operation of another Government department, will the Minister of Education examine the matter?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I will certainly call for a report on this matter for the honourable member as soon as possible.

Mrs. BYRNE: At the Dernancourt Infants School there is a timber frame dual-unit building in use for teaching purposes, having been

erected near the main infants schoolbuilding about 18 months ago. When I visited the school, members of the mothers' club pointed out to me the need for a path from the main building to the temporary building, especially in wet weather. Will the Minister of Education examine this matter with a view to having the necessary work carried out?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: Yes.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Mr. NANKIVELL: I heard the Minister of Education reply yesterday to a question about school holidays asked by the member for Glenelg (Mr. Hudson). As I do not believe that what the Minister said yesterday in the House was the same as the report that appeared in the *Advertiser*, can the Minister say whether she was correctly reported in that newspaper?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: As the interpretation conveyed by the press article was misleading, I should like to read what I said yesterday.

Mr. Jennings: This is certainly a Dame Zara, isn't it?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I am anxious to clear up any misinterpretation there may have been.

The SPEAKER: Order! As the Minister desires to correct a statement, I believe she should do this by way of a Ministerial statement with the leave of the House. Does the Minister desire leave to make such a statement?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: Yes.

Leave granted.

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: In replying to the member for Glenelg yesterday, I went to some length to explain how the holidays were fixed, taking into consideration the various factors that must be considered. I went on to say that I had satisfied myself that all of these conditions had been met. These related to uniformity with the various States, the dates of the Royal Show, university term dates, the number of school working days and the fact that the matter had been referred to the Institute of Teachers. This is the part I wish to correct. I said:

The institute has been pressing for a longer holiday in May, and we are hoping to move towards providing a fortnight's holiday in May, which is what teachers have requested for some time.

That was the part of my reply to the member for Glenelg's question that I wanted to put in the correct light.

MOUNT GAMBIER HOSPITAL

Mr. BURDON: Last week the Chief Secretary, when announcing the intended works to be carried out at the Mount Gambier Hospital, indicated that these works would be referred to the Public Works Committee. Although I have asked this question before, I repeat it. Will this work be included in work that is intended to be done on the fourth floor of the Mount Gambier Hospital so that it can be used for medical cases? Will the Premier ask the Chief Secretary whether this work to be done on the hospital will be included in the reference being made to the Public Works Committee?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I shall be pleased to inquire of my colleague.

FORT GLANVILLE

Mr. HURST: I was pleased to see the Minister of Immigration and Tourism interest himself in my district a couple of weeks ago by inspecting Fort Glanville Caravan Park, in company with the Premier. As a result of that inspection, can the Minister say whether he has any positive ideas to improve facilities in the camping area or to provide other facilities that may encourage tourists to visit the district I represent?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Fort Glanville Caravan Park is one of the most popular parks in the metropolitan area and one that the National Pleasure Resort authority, which controls this park, is particularly keen on improving. Although a programme of improvements has been submitted, the estimated cost is fairly heavy and it will not be possible to carry out this programme (or not all of it, at any rate) in the near future. However, we hope to develop a plan which will extend over a period of years and which will improve this park by enlarging it and improving the ablution and toilet facilities. Two matters are involved at Fort Glanville: first, the development of the caravan park and, secondly, the development of the old fort as a tourist attraction, and these questions naturally must be considered together, to some extent. We examined the fort and I think the brickwork is in good order. The sand lying close to the walls is well covered by marine beach-type vegetation, and is probably as the original occupants would have liked it to be when the fort was operating, because it offers good concealment. In any case, it did not seem to me that there was any problem with it.

Unfortunately, much of the heavy ironmongery associated with the guns has disappeared. I understand that about 20 years ago the trunnions and gun mountings were sold as scrap: at least, they were lost, but two large coastal guns remain, and I know where the smaller guns are to be found. I believe that to develop the fort as a better tourist attraction would require building it up as a small museum. I have been in touch with a group of people who are interested in fortress artillery, and their representative saw me and agreed to ascertain where we could gather information about the equipment and possibly return it to the fort as an added attraction. I repeat that there are two issues: first, a plan to fully develop the caravan park, which will cost money, which I am afraid will not be possible to introduce immediately, but which will be considered; and secondly, the development of the fortress so that it will be of greater interest to tourists.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE DEMONSTRATION

Mr. LAWN: Have you, Mr. Speaker, received a letter from a Miss A. McMenamin, to whom, I understand, Parliament House has been chained, inviting you to have a chat with her? If you have, do you intend to avail yourself of her offer, and will you read the letter to the House?

The SPEAKER: I have received a letter from the girlie Miss McMenamin that conveys to me the request to ask whether any members of the House wish to go and address her and her companions, so it is up to the honourable member if he wishes to go out and associate with them. The girlie also said that she would like to have a talk with me. I am prepared at any time to have a talk with a young girl but, in this case, only after she removes all the paraphernalia from the steps of Parliament House. After this has gone and if she has any problem I shall be pleased to discuss it with her.

WATER PIPES

Mr. McKEE: I do not know whether the Minister of Works is aware that on the Port Germein to Port Pirie road there are several stacks of old Engineering and Water Supply Department pipes (perhaps two or three miles of them). Can the Minister say what the department intends to do with these pipes, and whether it intends to dispose of them as scrap metal or sell them privately? As I have been asked many questions about them and have received inquiries about buying them, can the

Minister say whether the department intends to dispose of them, or has it further use for them?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: I have discussed this matter with the Engineer-in-Chief, but in order that there shall be no misunderstanding I will obtain up-to-date information so that the honourable member may be informed of the present position.

MINING

Mr. LANGLEY: Recently, I asked the Premier whether he or a representative would attend the meeting on July 23 organized by Upper Murray graziers, concerning future mining in the area by large mining companies. As the Premier said that the Minister of Works had asked this State's Commissioner on the River Murray Commission to ascertain whether a representative would attend the meeting, can the Premier say whether the Government was represented at this meeting and, if it was, what was the outcome of the discussion?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I will inquire.

LUCINDALE ROAD

Mr. CORCORAN: The Lucindale council has now been told, I think by the Highways Department, that \$40,000 has been made available to commence the construction of Main Road No. 298, which runs from Lucindale to Furner. Doubtless, people who live on this road are grateful that at least a start has been made on the work, but this money will provide only for reconstruction from the Lucindale end and my attention has been drawn to the state of the road from the Robe-Penola Road to the Lucindale council boundary. This part of the road is in the Beachport council area. The Minister of Roads and Transport has said that sufficient funds are not available to enable money to be allocated to the Beachport council this year to commence reconstruction of that part of the road. However, as this section is in a deplorable condition, will the Attorney-General ask his colleague to consider allocating money for maintenance of this portion of Main Road No. 298?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will certainly ask the Minister.

FORT LARGS

Mr. HURST: A few weeks ago I was privileged to be shown over the old fort at Largs and was impressed with the work that the Police Association had been doing to restore the fort and the museum of old fire-arms and swords on display. Has the Minister of Immigration and Tourism inspected Fort Largs

and is his department doing anything to promote visits by tourists to the fort because, when the work is completed, the fort will have tourist potential and should be given publicity?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I have not been to Fort Largs but I have heard that it is very good and I am pleased to have the honourable member's endorsement of that opinion.

GLENELG PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. HUDSON: The Minister of Education will be aware that the new Glenelg Primary School building is being constructed in the north-eastern corner of the schoolground, and the windows along the northern face of the building are immediately behind the southern goal posts of Glenelg Oval. Patrons of this oval, the home ground of the premier league football team in South Australia, are disturbed at the prospect of windows in this building being smashed by footballs kicked over the fence. It seems to me that a simple solution that may save the department insurance costs and other expenditure would be the erection of a much higher fence at the southern end of the oval. Will the Minister consider this suggestion, on the basis of the cost being shared by the Education Department?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: Yes.

BEACHPORT WATER SUPPLY

Mr. CORCORAN: Will the Minister of Works obtain for me a progress report on the search for water in the township of Beachport?

The Hon. J. W. H. CUMBE: I think I gave the honourable member some details not long ago. I shall be pleased to give him an up-to-date report on Tuesday, if possible.

STUDENT TEACHER

Mr. LAWN: Will the Minister of Education say whether she intends to take any action against a certain Mr. R. Hall, a student teacher at Adelaide Teachers College?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I understand that the matter is *sub judice* at present.

Mr. LAWN: I wish to ask a question of you, Mr. Speaker. I asked the Minister of Education a question about a certain R. Hall, a trainee teacher at the Adelaide Teachers College, whether the Minister intended to take action against Mr. Hall. The Minister said the matter was *sub judice*, and that was the end of it. The person to whom I am referring is not appearing before the court on any charge at the moment.

Mr. Corcoran: He's in the jug.

Mr. LAWN: Yes, at present he is in the jug as a guest of Her Majesty the Queen.

I am serious because we can take this *sub judice* business too far if we suggest that the case of a person who is a guest of Her Majesty the Queen is *sub judice*. I ask you to rule whether this matter is *sub judice* or otherwise.

The SPEAKER: I am not sure whether or not this matter is *sub judice*, as I am not very conversant with it. I know about the incident concerning Mr. Hall, but whether he has been before the court and convicted—

Mr. Lawn: He has, and he is serving his sentence.

The SPEAKER: I am not sure of the whole of the facts of the matter. I do know that this person has appeared in the court on one charge and is serving his penalty now, as I understand it; but I believe other charges are pending. Whether that is so, I cannot say. Rather than give the honourable member a straight-out answer, I think I would prefer to delay the reply and examine the matter.

Mr. Corcoran: The charges aren't before the court.

The SPEAKER: That is why I want to find out what is happening. If they are not before the court, then the matter is not *sub judice* until they are in the hands of the court. This is how I would rule on a matter of *sub judice*, but let me find out the facts.

Mr. Lawn: Could you let the House have that reply later this afternoon; or, if not, could we have it at 2 o'clock tomorrow?

The SPEAKER: I will try to get it by tomorrow.

Later:

The SPEAKER: I refer to the point of order taken by the honourable member for Adelaide (Mr. Lawn). I have inquired of the right sources and am led to believe that the Mr. Hall referred to by the honourable member is involved, as a defendant, in a matter that is at present before the Full Bench of the Supreme Court and is *sub judice*. A Parliamentary question about a matter that is under adjudication in such a court is inadmissible. Therefore, in my opinion, the honourable Minister of Education was justified in not replying to the question asked of her as she considered that it related to a matter now before a court. Of course, a reply to a question cannot be insisted upon if a reply be refused by a Minister, whether the grounds of refusal are *sub judice* or otherwise. In my opinion, the implications of such a refusal are political rather than procedural. In the circumstances, I think the honourable member for Adelaide will realize that the matter is *sub judice*.

GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. BROOMHILL: I have frequently raised in this House the matter of timber frame classrooms at schools. The Grange Primary School consists entirely of such classrooms and, as I understand that the department plans to resite the school as a brick building in a new position, will the Minister of Education say what the Government intends to do on this matter?

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

PORT MACDONNELL

Mr. CORCORAN: When I inspected the port at Port MacDonnell recently, my attention was drawn to the fact that the boat-parking area catered for only about 33 vessels and, when I was there, about 30 vessels were in the bay. Because of this, difficulty is experienced by fishermen, who must have necessary maintenance work done on their vessels at this time of the year. Can the Minister of Marine say whether his department has plans to provide another boat-parking area and, if it has not, whether he will consider the matter?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: I remember inspecting this area, I think last year, and I know the problem to which the honourable member has alluded. The present parking area, although extensive, is not sufficient to cater for all the vessels that ply out of Port MacDonnell and, if the honourable member tells me privately after Question Time of any constructive suggestion that he has, I will take it up with the department to see whether something can be done.

SCHOOL LIBRARIES

Mr. HUDSON: In at least a couple of instances the Commonwealth Government has made money available to schools for the purchase of library books, and this is probably general policy now. At the same time, these schools have been informed of their subsidy allocation for the current financial year and, in each case that has come to my attention so far, the State Government's own contribution to this subsidy has been reduced, although the effect of the Commonwealth Government money plus the subsidy provision is to allow for a slight increase in the total provision. Will the Minister of Education say whether this is the general policy being followed in order to provide some of the library money effectively for general education revenue? Will she also say whether the situation applying to a couple of schools of which I am

aware applies to all schools generally throughout the State?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: If the honourable member will give me the names of the schools to which he refers, I will most certainly have the matter looked at (and looked at also from the point of view of general application).

NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. CORCORAN: My question relates to the dedication of national parks. The Minister of Lands will be aware that the Piccaninny Lakes near Port MacDonnell have been set aside and will be dedicated as a national park (at least, that was the intention when I was Minister). He will be aware also that an area was purchased in Nora Creina (an area which I think is known as Little Dip, but I am not certain of that name). Will the Minister ascertain whether, in fact, these areas have yet been dedicated as national parks?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Yes.

TURNOVER TAX

Mr. HUDSON: When the Bill establishing the Totalizator Agency Board was passed, it contained a clause providing that 14 per cent additional turnover tax on the moneys going through an on-course totalizator would go to the racing clubs for a period of three years and that this money would be available to the clubs for improvements to on-course totalizator facilities. As the three-year period is drawing to a close (I am not sure when the time will be up but it is not too many months away), will the Premier (or the Treasurer, if my question should be directed to him) indicate whether the Government intends that this 14 per cent additional tax shall revert to the Treasury or whether it will continue to be made available to the clubs; and will he say when amending legislation will be brought down?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I will get a report for the honourable member.

CEDUNA WATER SUPPLY

Mr. EDWARDS: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked earlier this session about the Ceduna water supply?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: A scheme is under consideration for the construction of about 34,200ft. of 8in. asbestos cement main and a 100,000-gallon storage which, located north of Ceduna, will assist in balancing peak demand periods and provide a limited storage in the event of failure of the Tod trunk main between the Pimbaacla storage and Ceduna during the

next seven years. The sum of \$105,000 has been provided on the 1969-70 Loan Estimates for this work.

WHEAT INDUSTRY

Mr. VENNING: I ask leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. VENNING: In this House during the last few weeks there has been much controversy and statements have been made about shipping and the wheat industry. Generally speaking, it has been stated that if South Australia had had a deep sea port we would not have sold another bushel of wheat. I think it is necessary that the facts of the situation be made clear to the House for the benefit of the industry. It is not necessarily a case of wheat sales but of the shipping of wheat from this State and of South Australia's priority in regard to other States of the Commonwealth. This has been the problem in South Australia during the last harvest period. Also, I should like to—

Mr. LAWN: Mr. Speaker, when you put the vote, I think the House in all good faith thought the honourable member was to make a personal explanation. Can a member have leave of the House to make a statement on any matter at all without its being a personal explanation?

The SPEAKER: I asked the House whether the honourable member should have leave, and leave was granted, no objection having been raised at that stage. I am listening to what the honourable member has to say. Before the member for Adelaide objected, I was going to ask the member for Rocky River whether this was a personal matter to which he was referring. If it is a matter relating to the wheat industry generally, that really goes beyond the scope of a personal explanation. As the House knows, the honourable member is involved in the wheat industry to a great extent in his official capacity, and I was waiting to see whether he would link that up with his explanation. I take it that the honourable member will link it up. I think that up to now he has not given a strictly personal explanation.

Mr. McKee: He's dealing with the member for Wallaroo.

The SPEAKER: Order! Has the honourable member leave to continue his explanation?

Mr. Lawn: Provided that it is a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. VENNING: I am concerned about this whole situation because of my association with the wheat industry as a past member of the Australian Wheatgrowers Federation. I am very much concerned with the industry, and this matter has been highlighted because of the wheat situation. We have heard much about growers and the possibility of black marketing in grain.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member must bring it into his personal explanation.

Mr. VENNING: I am very much concerned, and I make a personal explanation that it would be much better—

Mr. HUDSON: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The SPEAKER: As objection has been taken, the honourable member is out of order.

Mr. HUDSON: We are taking a point of order that the question of what is a personal explanation should perhaps be clarified with the member for Rocky River. Certainly, I do not want (nor do I think other members of the Opposition want) to prevent the honourable member from making a legitimate personal explanation, and none of us would take objection so long as it was a personal explanation.

Mr. Corcoran: Concerning him personally, and not answering an argument.

The SPEAKER: What is the point of order?

Mr. HUDSON: You said that the honourable member was out of order because objection had been taken.

The SPEAKER: That's right.

Mr. HUDSON: We are asking you, Mr. Speaker, to rule not on that. We are not taking objection as a result of that: we are asking you to rule on what constitutes a personal explanation.

The SPEAKER: I was trying to help the House. The strict rule is that, if a member wants to make a personal explanation, he must have leave of the House. That was granted in the first instance. I told the member for Adelaide that I was listening to the honourable member to see whether he would link up his remarks. I told the honourable member that he must do that first but, when he went off the point, there seemed to be some objection. I have ruled previously that a personal explanation must be heard in complete silence. There was interruption, which I took as an objection. The honourable member cannot proceed with his explanation if objection is taken. This is the strict rule of the House. I do not wish to embarrass the

Opposition in any way. I see the honourable member's point: he does not want the Opposition to prevent the honourable member from making a personal explanation.

Mr. Clark: None of us do.

The SPEAKER: I think the point is taken. In those circumstances I am prepared to let the honourable member proceed with his personal explanation but it must be linked to a personal matter: it cannot be a general wheat industry matter. He must link it as a personal explanation to explain the personal way in which he is affected. Does the honourable member wish to proceed?

Mr. VENNING: No.

Mr. CORCORAN: The member for Rocky River was just making what I believe to be a statement to the House concerning an industry with which he is connected and about which he is vitally concerned. Would he care to give to the House his views on the current situation in the wheat industry?

The SPEAKER: I do not know whether I can allow the question now. I do not think I can.

Mr. Hudson: We are trying to keep it in order.

The SPEAKER: The Opposition's point has been made: Opposition members do not wish to be taken as objecting to any member's making a personal explanation.

BURRA HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of July 23 regarding water mains pressure for fire hydrants in Burra?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The current cement-lining programme of the Engineering and Water Supply Department does not include the town of Burra. Investigations are not yet complete regarding the metallic condition of existing mains, and consideration of future demands must be made to avoid wasteful lining of mains. The hydrant referred to by the honourable member is fed by mains that are undoubtedly corroded to some extent, but replacement or lining without overall investigation would be unsound. However, approval has been given to provide an alternative feed to the school by laying a connecting water main across Burra Creek opposite the Post Office. This feed main will improve water pressures at the Burra High School. It is anticipated that the work will be completed in 12 weeks' time.

MORGAN DOCKYARD

Mr. FREEBAIRN: Last Friday, I visited Morgan in my district where representations were made to me concerning the Highways Department's dockyard. The Minister of Roads and Transport visited the dockyard some weeks ago and undertook to give the building of a new dockyard his urgent personal attention. Will the Attorney-General ask his colleague to supply me with a progress report on this work and will he also inquire whether provision will be made to protect the dockyard against floods up to the 1956 flood level?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: Certainly.

PARKSIDE SCHOOL

Mr. LANGLEY: For some time now the Parkside Primary School, which seems each year to maintain its numbers, has been short of playing areas. This is not an unusual situation in old schools in the metropolitan area. In the last five years, an old house was purchased and the site of this old house is now the infants school play yard. Several times I have mentioned that several small old houses alongside the school are for sale, and they have been for sale for some time. As I have not asked this question for some time, will the Minister of Education ascertain whether consideration could be given to purchasing these old houses as a site for further playing space?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I will do that.

PARINGA PARK SCHOOL

Mr. HUDSON: The Minister of Education may recall that I have asked her previously about land being held by the Education Department at Warradale for the rebuilding of the Paringa Park Primary School and the separation of the Paringa Park Primary School from the Paringa Park Infants School. Can she say whether the department has adopted firm plans in relation to the rebuilding of this school?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I cannot say at the moment, but I will seek information on the matter.

VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICE

Mrs. BYRNE: In April, I received correspondence from a constituent of mine, an English migrant interested in starting in South Australia a volunteer emergency service similar to the service presently operating in England. This constituent is a former member of that organization and he has asked my opinion whether the service could operate in South Australia and whether its credentials would be

accepted. I quote from correspondence which explains the Volunteer Emergency Service. It is stated that this service is operated by volunteers who wish to help hospitals, homes for the blind, the disabled and any organization which needs a quick service in case of an emergency, for example, when hospitals have difficulty in obtaining supplies for accident cases awaiting an operation, and in cases of blood tests needed for this group. When a call from the hospital is made to the area controller of the Volunteer Emergency Service for a rider to take a sample to the nearest laboratory, the volunteer rider takes off and the call is completed. My constituent states that the possibilities of this organization are almost limitless.

On April 18, I wrote to the Minister of Health asking for his comments on the value of having this service established in South Australia. On April 29, I received an interim reply from him to the effect that the matter had been referred to the Director-General of Medical Services for a report and that, on receiving information, the Minister would write to me again. However, I have not had a further reply. Of course, my constituent has contacted me from time to time for, if this service is acceptable, he is anxious to commence operating in South Australia. Therefore, will the Premier use his influence to obtain from his colleague an early reply?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: The honourable member will realize, as I am sure all members realize, that many valuable volunteer organizations exist in the community that do magnificent work for people who are in need or are subject to misfortune. I will bring the name of the new organization to my colleague's notice and see whether I can expedite a report.

ABORTION

Mr. CORCORAN: Does the Attorney-General intend to proceed with the Criminal Law Consolidation Act Amendment Bill dealing with abortion that was before the House last session and, if he does, when is the Bill likely to be restored to the Notice Paper?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The Government intends to revive the Bill in due course. When this will happen depends on the business before the House and how quickly it is dealt with.

BRIGHTON HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. HUDSON: Some months ago, before the Minister of Works went to Piccadilly Circus, the Minister will recall that a representative of the Brighton High School and I

approached him in relation to building at that school an assembly hall and with regard to the problems involved in ensuring that the working drawings were made and completed as expeditiously as possible. Also, we raised with the Minister the question of the overall Government subsidy that would be provided for assembly halls in view of the rise in building costs that has been experienced over the last 12 to 18 months. I understand that the architects engaged by the department are still waiting for the return to them of the drawings submitted to the department so that further work can be done to complete the working drawings before the stage of actually calling for tenders is reached. Will the Minister of Works investigate the whole matter for me to expedite as much as possible the stage where tenders can be called for this work? Also, can he say what approach the Government intends to take in relation to the amount of subsidy that will be made available?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: I remember that, following the honourable member's interview with me earlier in the year, I processed some of the material he brought before me. Only last week I discussed the whole principle he has raised. However, regarding this particular project, I shall have the matter examined so that I can inform him as quickly as possible of the latest position.

BLACK FOREST LAND

Mr. LANGLEY: For some time in the Black Forest area the Education Department has owned a large area of land in Forest Avenue. Because there was an old house on a section of this land not owned by the Education Department, a playing field could not be provided in the area. As the house has now been demolished, can the Minister of Education say whether the department has purchased the land and, if it has, what it intends to do with it in the future?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I will follow up the question.

BEACHPORT ELECTRICITY

Mr. CORCORAN: The Minister of Works may be aware that the electricity supply at Beachport is still privately operated. Although I believe the franchise still has some time to run, I have been told that negotiations have been taking place between the owner and the Electricity Trust of South Australia with a view to the trust's taking over this operation.

Will the Minister inquire of the Electricity Trust whether my information is correct and, if it is, when the trust is likely to take over this service?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: Yes.

SOCIAL WORKERS

Mr. McKEE: In reply to a question I asked him yesterday about the appointment of a full-time social worker at Port Pirie, the Minister of Social Welfare said that he held out little hope. Can he say now whether the matter was discussed and whether it was decided not to station an officer at Port Pirie?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: Naturally, as the honourable member raised the matter, it was considered by me and my officers. The problem is that, with very great deference to the honourable member, there are other areas in the country that we believe have a higher priority. We are doing our best to station officers of the department in all those places in which we think they should be stationed, but naturally we can go only at a certain speed and station them in those places where we think the need is greatest.

Mrs. BYRNE: Can the Minister give me details of the number of social workers in this State attached to the Social Welfare Department; the areas to which they are allocated throughout the State; and what benefit the outer suburban section of the district I represent (namely, the area covered by the city of Tea Tree Gully) derives from this valuable service?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I shall be happy to get the information for the honourable member.

INSECTS

Mr. GILES: On July 2 the member for Chaffey asked a question about chironomid midges at Chambers Creek, Barmera, and expressed concern that eradication methods suggested by health authorities could have a detrimental effect on fauna. In 1944 at Clear Lake, about 90 miles from Washington, a problem existed with gnats, a mosquito-like insect, and the authorities sprayed the lake with one part to 70,000,000 of D.D.D. In 1954, with a similar problem, the authorities again sprayed the lake with one part in 70,000,000 D.D.D., and in 1960 they sprayed it with one part in 50,000,000 D.D.D. In 1944 there were 3,000 pairs of Grebe swans, but in 1960 this number had been reduced to 30 pairs and there were no young swans. As this situation had been directly attributed to the fact that the lake was sprayed with D.D.D., will the Minister of

Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture to consider all available facts in using chemicals to control chironomid midges, gnats, and other insect pests, so that the action to be taken at Barmera will not be detrimental to the lake or the fauna around the lake?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will draw the attention of the Minister of Works to this information, because he is dealing with these objectionable insects on the lake.

ADULT EDUCATION

Mr. HUDSON: The Minister of Education will be aware that an old building at the Brighton Primary School that fronts Brighton Road and is no longer used by the school has been made available for certain adult education classes. Most adult education in the Brighton area is conducted at the Brighton Boys Technical High School, and because of the excellent facilities at that school there has been a tremendous growth in adult education in the area. Indeed, I suspect that the old building at the Brighton Primary School is now being used as a consequence of the overloading of facilities at the technical high school. It seems that there is a real need for a permanent facility for adult education to be provided at the technical high school, and such facility could be used at the school during the day. As the number of boys attending this school increases each year, if a further permanent building was erected at the technical high school to serve both adult education and the school requirements, this would avoid the usual rash of temporary buildings that disfigure so many of our schools. Will the Minister of Education consider having a further permanent building constructed at the Brighton Boys Technical High School for the purposes I have mentioned, so that the expanding requirements of adult education and the school can be adequately catered for in this area?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I will obtain a report on the proposition suggested by the honourable member.

EDUCATION SYSTEM

Mr. HUDSON: The Minister of Education will be aware of the general problems existing throughout the education system in South Australia and of the overall financial limitations imposed on the department as a result of budgetary difficulties of a succession of State Governments. Also, the Minister will probably be aware that this problem of State Government education can be effectively relieved in the long run only by a further

intrusion of the Commonwealth Government into this field, and that, unless substantial direct grants for general education purposes are made by the Commonwealth to the States, then education will continue to make a slow rate of (if any) progress. Can the Minister say what plans she has to make an approach to the Commonwealth Government for further general assistance grants to education, and what plans she has to bring pressure to bear (and public pressure at that) on the Commonwealth Government to try to bring it to the point where it realizes the real need for direct Commonwealth Government assistance to education in Government schools?

The SPEAKER: Order! This question is a matter of Government policy. I think the honourable member realizes that the Minister is not obliged to answer questions on policy matters. Does the Minister of Education desire to reply?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: The honourable member is aware that he has raised matters of great moment that involve, in effect, Government policy. These matters are being continually discussed at this level, and as it is a matter of policy I do not think it is proper for me to reply to him at this moment.

ST. AGNES SCHOOL

Mrs. BYRNE: From time to time I have asked questions about the purchase of land for school purposes at St. Agnes, and on May 13 the Minister of Education informed me by letter that approval had been given by Cabinet to purchase land owned by P.G.H. Industries in section 846, hundred of Yatala, and that negotiations were in progress. Will the Minister ascertain what stage the negotiations have reached?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I shall be pleased to do that.

PORT PIRIE LAND

Mr. McKEE: Recently, the Education Department demolished a large house at the corner of Balmoral Road and The Terrace, Port Pirie, and it has been rumoured that the department intends to build units on this land to house teachers. Will the Minister of Education ascertain what the department intends to do with this land?

The Hon. JOYCE STEELE: I shall be pleased to do that for the honourable member.

MOUNT BURR ELECTRICITY

Mr. CORCORAN: Recently, when visiting Mount Burr, I was told that there was such a tremendous fluctuation in the voltage of the

electricity supply in that town that at certain times of the day it was impossible to boil a kettle and to operate an electric shaver. I understand that that is an indication whether the voltage is at the correct level. I have been told that the school projector was sent to Adelaide three times for repairs because it did not operate. When the operator was trying to get it going on one occasion, it suddenly came on when the mill ceased operating about 3 o'clock in the afternoon. That showed that the projector was not faulty and that the voltage was not sufficient to operate it. I understand that electricity supply at Mount Burr is still controlled by the Woods and Forests Department, not by the Electricity Trust. I am sure that the member for Victoria (Mr. Rodda) will not mind my saying that similar circumstances apply at Nangwarry, in his district. Will the Minister of Lands consult the Minister of Forests about the matter?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will take this matter up with the Minister.

GLENELG TRAM

Mr. HUDSON: I wanted to ask my question of the Premier, but he does not seem to bother to be here.

Mr. McKee: The Under Secretary isn't even here.

Mr. HUDSON: No; I suppose they are all having an important conference. I will ask my question of the Attorney-General, representing the Minister of Roads and Transport. The Attorney will be aware that adoption of the section of the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Report about railways would mean the discontinuance of the Glenelg tram service. There is much concern about this possibility locally, because the Glenelg tram provides a relatively quick service from Glenelg and the areas along the tram line to the centre of the city. This is particularly so because the tram line is almost all fenced off and the trams are not affected by road traffic, except at one or two intersections and in Jetty Road, Glenelg, and King William Street in the city. As this tram line provides a real service to those who live along it and as elimination of the tram line must require travellers to use the roads (which are already congested), will the Attorney take up with his colleague the matter of continuance of operation of this tram service? Further, if the Minister agrees with the general points that I have made, will an announcement be made as soon as possible that the Government has rejected that part of

the M.A.T.S. Report that involves the elimination of the tram line?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: This matter will be the subject of an announcement soon, and there will also be an opportunity to debate the matter in this House.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on the motion for adoption.

(Continued from July 29. Page 532.)

Mr. McKEE (Port Pirie): Before the House adjourned last evening, I had been referring to failures by the Government to carry out its election promises.

Mr. Clark: It would take a long time to mention them all.

Mr. McKEE: Yes, I do not think we could go to that length. However, I will mention one or two more, in passing. The Government, instead of honouring election promises, did the reverse. Whereas it promised to lower taxation, to build Chowilla dam, and to do other things, it has placed taxation imposts on the people. Because of this, the Hall-Stott Government is recognized and talked about as one of the most unpopular Governments ever to come to power in South Australia.

To confirm my statement, I refer to the demonstration that has been going on outside this House for the last three days. Admittedly, the issue involved is a Commonwealth matter, but Government members must not forget that they are wearing the same guernseys as their colleagues in Canberra are wearing, and there must be a rub-off on members opposite. That demonstration confirms the unpopularity not only of the State Government but also of the Canberra colleagues of members opposite. When I arrived home last evening, I was interested to see a television interview with the member for Albert (Mr. Nankivell) on the steps of the House. The honourable member, when asked for his opinion about the demonstration, agreed that the students had the right to some form of protest.

Mr. McAnaney: Do you say they've got the right to be out there?

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Stirling is out of order.

Mr. McKEE: They have the right to protest, and I was pleased to hear the member for Albert say that. The member for Albert also said that they were presenting themselves in the wrong way, that they should present

petitions and seek conferences with the appropriate people. That was a let-out for the honourable member. If he had read the newspapers, he would have known that these people have done everything in respect of presenting petitions and seeking conferences with appropriate people but have not been successful.

Mr. Rodda: Don't you believe in defending the country?

Mr. McKEE: It is not a matter of defending the country at all. I realize that the honourable member who has just interjected is a returned soldier, but he is not the only one. If the circumstances today were the same as they were in 1939, I think these young people outside the House would volunteer, as we volunteered in those dark hours. But that sort of situation does not confront us today, and the member for Victoria knows that only too well.

It was said the issue was a Commonwealth one, and I agree that the Commonwealth has much responsibility in this issue. I think it is a serious matter to conscript young men and to force them to fight in an undeclared war. Indeed, as Commonwealth members of the Labor Party have put it, it is police action, and I repeat that no war has been declared. I do not think any democratic Government has the right to take young people away to fight in an undeclared war.

I can understand why these young people are demonstrating, and I give them full credit for exercising their rights although, under the Gorton Government, they seem to have no rights. We expect these people to pay taxation, and they make a huge contribution to the national production. The Minister of Works is looking at me in a certain way but surely he will not disagree with my statement that these people pay taxes and make a considerable contribution to the nation's productivity.

Mr. Evans: They have the right to protest.

Mr. McKEE: Fair enough, but is anyone taking any notice of them? We hear members of this Government, as well as members of the Commonwealth Government, paying much lip service to this rosy democracy under which we are supposed to be living but, rather than being a democracy, it is more akin to a mockery. I do not see how any Government can force young people to take up arms in an undeclared war, not even giving them an opportunity to vote. If these young people had an opportunity to make their decision in a ballot box, and if the Government then coming into power said, "This is the legislation we are

putting through; we are going to conscript you", the Government's ruling might be acceptable, but in the present circumstances it is not acceptable.

If we expect young people to take up arms, particularly in a war such as this, they should be given the right to vote. I agree to the demonstrating, for I think that if I were in these young people's position I would be doing the same thing. I hear a certain rumbling. I do not know what military qualifications the member for Eyre (Mr. Edwards) may have, but I point out that there are some young fellows in the Liberal Party, including the Attorney-General and Andrew T. Jones, who are keen to force other mothers' sons into the present predicament.

However, I do not notice these two gentlemen becoming actively involved. I do not believe in asking someone to do something that I will not do myself. I listened carefully on a previous occasion to what the member for Eyre had to say in this debate. It has been said that he is possibly breathing down the neck of a certain other member of his Party.

Mr. Clark: I heard he was going over to the Commonwealth.

Mr. McKEE: No, I think he will stay here. I think he has a really good chance; in fact, a second-to-none chance.

Mr. McAnaney: You'll be a member of the Opposition for the next 30 years, anyway, at the rate you are carrying on.

Mr. McKEE: I know the member for Stirling is worried about a certain situation in his district and is anxiously awaiting a certain report to be made available to this House. The member for Eyre had a few things to say that did not please the Government. In fact, he was most critical of the Government regarding certain matters in his district, which he claims has been completely forgotten. He accused the Government of sending many of the young farmers of Eyre Peninsula bankrupt, because of its severe taxation measures.

Mr. Edwards: Your Government was the one at fault.

Mr. McKEE: He claimed it was impossible for many of these young farmers to carry on, and said some had gone bankrupt and that people had walked off their properties.

Mr. Edwards: Because of the action of your Government.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Eyre has made his speech.

Mr. McKEE: The member for Eyre cannot misplace the blame. There have been good seasons and crops albeit a few mice about the

place. The people concerned just have not had the returns to pay the taxation that has been imposed on them by this Government. The honourable member also criticized the Government for not honouring promises made prior to the election. He said many of those promises had completely disappeared from the scene; they had gone forever. Of course, the honourable member's district is not isolated in this respect, for this is occurring in every district. Indeed, we shall hear other speakers, no doubt from both sides, making similar complaints when they follow in the debate. I can only tell the honourable member to be patient and point out that a Labor Government will soon be in office and that we will attend promptly to his district's problems.

In the meantime, I urge him not to take for granted anything contained in the Governor's Speech. This is no reflection on the Governor, for he only read the Speech, and did an excellent job in this respect. But the Speech was written for him by the Government. Further, the honourable member should not take for granted any promises made by the Hall Government, because he has learned, to his sorrow, that many of them have not eventuated. When the honourable member has been here for a while, he will learn that many things appearing in the current year's Governor's Speech will again appear in the following year's Governor's Speech, and again in the year following that. Sometimes these matters are there forever, as a form of window dressing.

Another matter causing concern to the people of this State is the alarming increase in crime, particularly among juveniles. I noticed a newspaper report on April 10 last stating that there was a big rise in the number of cases brought before the Adelaide Magistrates' Court in 1968, particularly among juveniles. The report also stated:

According to figures issued yesterday by the Acting Attorney-General (Mr. Brookman) the number of cases in which juveniles were convicted, or an order was made by the court, rose from 1,840 in 1967 to 5,795 last year. I think that honourable members will agree that that is an alarming increase in juvenile crime, but what is the Government doing about it? The Government should be concerned over this sudden increase in juvenile crime. The Attorney-General may have said lightheartedly that he is alarmed but, up to the present, we have not heard what he has in mind to combat this class of crime. There must be a reason for the sudden increase in juvenile crime. I believe that most of the

increase has been brought about by this Government's administrative and economic policies which have forced mothers to seek employment. Not so long ago it was frowned on for a wife to go to work, as the husband was considered the bread winner. The man of the house provided for his wife and children but, under the Hall Administration, this is not the case, so a wife is forced to go to work to supplement the husband's wage.

Mr. Evans: The husband couldn't get work when your Party was in Government.

Mr. McKEE: The honourable member knows that this was brought about by a muddling Commonwealth Government. This State is not going too well federally at the moment when one considers the way the Premier was treated in Canberra. He wears the same guernsey as the Government in Canberra wears. It has been said by Commonwealth members (and the member for Grey made this statement) that South Australia is the poor relation of the Commonwealth. After crossing swords with the Prime Minister, the Premier said that the only decision he could arrive at was that, at Commonwealth elections, the Liberal and Country League did not get a good vote in South Australia, so we are being penalized because his Party does not get a good vote in this State at Commonwealth elections. The Premier said that the Commonwealth Government could not be worried about South Australia but that it must look after the States which get a good Liberal vote and which can return Liberal members to Canberra. The Commonwealth Government is prepared to let South Australia go purely for reasons of political expediency.

I do not care what anyone says: it is impossible for a man to support his wife and family on the basic wage, which barely pays Housing Trust rent today. I would not like to see the member for Eyre on the basic wage and supporting three or four children. He may laugh, but it would be no laughing matter, and he would have more wrinkles on his face than Annie Laurie had. It is impossible for a man to feed, clothe and educate his family on the basic wage today. When we had price control and were under a Labor Government, people got value from their wages, but now that this Government has lifted price control the bread winner is no longer able to win the bread and the mother is therefore forced to neglect the children and to go to work to help provide the essential needs for the family. Because of this, many children are not seeing enough of their mothers: they are not getting the love and

care they should get from their mothers, nor are they getting the discipline that is required at an early age. Another matter about which I am concerned is the meagre social service payment doled out to our unemployed, particularly juveniles. I see the member for Stirling looking at me. I hope he will agree with me when I say—

Mr. McAnaney: We will have no unemployed soon.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. McKEE: —that the bulk of our unemployed today consists of juveniles because, when they leave school, it is difficult to place them all in employment. I know of girls who left school last year and who are still unemployed. The position may not be so bad in the metropolitan area, but in country centres such as Port Pirie, where there is heavy industry, this Government has no intention to decentralize and ask light industry to go to the country and, therefore, people are migrating to the city. At present, over 70 per cent of the State's population lives in Adelaide. Since the decontrolling of prices the cost of living in South Australia has risen out of all proportion to wages and the fathers, whose duty it is to provide for wives and families, are no longer able to do so. A man on a low wage cannot support his wife and, therefore, the mother is forced to work and the children are neglected. While we have a Government that believes in low wages and high prices, crime must continue to increase. If people do not get sufficient money to buy the necessities of life, there is only one alternative open to them, and it appears that they are taking that alternative. If I read to the House the number of juvenile criminals who have appeared before the court for shoplifting, it would surprise the member for Eyre, but he does not bother to look at these things: he has never been in that position; he is not in touch with the working people. As I said last night, the Government is so arrogant and conceited that it just looks straight over the heads of the people.

Mr. Lawn: How do you know the member for Eyre has not been before the court on other offences?

Mr. McKEE: I will not go into his character in that respect. Social services are a State obligation. I know of a young wife whose husband was sentenced to 21 days' imprisonment for some misdemeanour. She is bearing a child; her rent is \$4 a week; and her welfare payment, while her husband is in gaol, is only \$9.50 a fortnight. The member for Stirling does not murmur now. How is

this woman expected to live on \$5.50 a fortnight? This is not an isolated case by any means, and the hardship these people suffer is incredible. I hope the Minister of Social Welfare has been listening to what I have said and that his department will consider relieving the hardship suffered by these people.

Apart from some promises (and promises were also made regarding the District of Eyre), no reference was made to my district in His Excellency's Speech. The promises made have been made previously and will probably be made again. However, as I consider a couple of matters in my district to be extremely important, I hope action will be taken this financial year in relation to them. First, I refer to the serious accommodation problem at the Port Pirie Hospital. The Public Works Committee has recommended that improvements be made, and I hope they are completed as soon as possible, because the situation regarding accommodation for young children is serious. As it is intended to build a new children's ward at the hospital, I hope that this project is undertaken soon.

Secondly, the Public Works Committee has also recommended the removal of the oil tanker berth which is now right at the centre of Port Pirie. I believe that, realizing the dangerous hazard created by this wharf in its present position, the committee recommended that it be shifted to a more isolated part of the river. I hope work is soon undertaken to overcome this dangerous situation. I hope the Attorney-General, representing the Minister of Roads and Transport, has noticed that I have not asked questions recently about the Solomontown over-pass, the reason being that work has now been undertaken on this project and is progressing very well. Although I consider other matters are important, I do not want to include them in this speech, because they could become lost. Therefore, I will leave those matters until later.

Mr. BROOMHILL (West Torrens): You, Mr. Speaker, will be pleased to know that I do not intend to attack Government members on the personal abuse they have heaped on Opposition members. I regret that this sort of thing has entered into Parliamentary debate: it even intruded into Question Time today. However, I believe some excuse can be made for Government members and their attitude, for this is the most uninspiring Governor's Speech ever delivered to Parliament. We are aware that the normal practice is for the Speech to include a report on the previous

year's progress of the Government and to draw to the attention of Parliament what the Government intends to do in the following 12 months. In this respect, the Speech was a complete failure.

On looking through it, one can find reference to the good year that we had, meaning that there was no drought. However, almost all other references are to projects that were commenced by the Labor Government and are merely being continued by this Government. As a result, it has been difficult for Government members to make constructive speeches in this debate. I want to make it clear that I believe the Governor delivered the Speech in an excellent manner; in fact, he has conducted all his duties excellently since he has come to the State, and I do not want my earlier comments to reflect on him.

Mr. Hurst: He can only do what he's told.

Mr. BROOMHILL: True. On reading the Speech, what struck me was the complete lack of reference to new development. This did not surprise me because the Premier has admitted he is not anxious for new development to take place in the State. This was clearly illustrated by what he said after the Premiers' Conference, as reported in the *Advertiser* of June 27, under the subheading "South Australian 'Clamp'", as follows:

The clamp imposed by the South Australian Government to keep expenditure within bounds this year was outlined to the conference by Mr. Hall. He said that soon after his Government took office the Treasurer, with full Cabinet support, issued firm and detailed instructions to all departments on the need to exercise the strictest control over expenditure. The instructions pointed out among other things that a staff vacancy was not to be regarded as sufficient reason in itself for appointing a replacement.

Savings by a department on one line of appropriation could not be transferred to other lines. Appointments could not be made late in a financial year even when appropriation was available, if there was the slightest risk of problems. Many desirable proposals were deferred and rigid control procedures extended even to the critical services of hospitals and schools. The staffing and operation of a number of new capital works was deferred, notwithstanding that they were or could be made ready for operation.

This report was supplied by the Premier to the Commonwealth Government with a feeling of pleasure. This is the reason why we find no new developments announced in the Governor's Speech. It is also the reason why we have had such extreme criticisms of the various Ministers. It is one of the reasons why the Minister of Education in particular has been singled out for repeated attacks over the

crisis in education in this State. As the Premier pointed out after the Premiers' Conference, rigid control procedures were to be extended even to the critical services of hospitals and schools. As a result of these rigid controls we find that the departments under the control of the Ministers cannot operate at their full capacity. Therefore, we have had a most disappointing address by the Governor.

With the member for Port Pirie, I regret that the Speech does not refer to my district other than to state that Housing Trust flats that have been under construction for some time in one area are nearing completion. For the reasons I have given, my criticism will be directed not to what is in the Governor's Speech but rather to what it does not contain. I believe that one of the most important issues during the past 12 months is in relation to law changes on consumer protection. In the last few days we have been provided with a copy of the report of a committee set up under the Dunstan Government to look at some problems in this field. I am disturbed to think that the likely action of the Government will be to defer this matter further and to take no action. The reason I expect this to happen is that, in December last year, after the New South Wales Government had announced that it was considering law changes for consumer protection, our Premier was reported to have said that he intended to refer the matter to Cabinet and that within a short time he would be able to make a public announcement. However, when he was questioned again in June this year he deftly dodged the question and informed the reporter that the Government had no changes planned.

Mr. Hudson: He didn't dodge it deftly.

Mr. BROOMHILL: No, he evaded the question. Since then the Rogerson report has been provided, and I regret to say that I have been informed that the Attorney-General, knowing the Premier will not allow any changes to provide consumer protection, has ordered many thousands of copies of this publication, at \$3 an issue, to be forwarded to business interests in this State, hoping that they will provide enough criticisms so that he will be able to tell the public that, because of the considerable criticism he has received, he will be unable to continue with any law changes in this matter. The article, to which I have briefly referred, appeared in the *News* of December 12, 1968, and under the heading "Praise for N.S.W. Action", states:

Bid to protect South Australian consumers: The Attorney-General, Mr. Millhouse, is considering recommending to Cabinet that increased consumer protection action be taken in South Australia. He said today New South Wales Government's consumer protection legislation to be introduced early next year "had a lot of value." The New South Wales legislation calls for a consumers' affairs council to advise the Government on the need for any legislation or administrative action to protect consumers, and a consumers' affairs bureau.

A consumers' protection council in Victoria yesterday called for a crack-down on finance companies, second-hand car dealers and the use of gift tokens in sales promotion.

Mr. Millhouse said consumer protection action by the South Australian Government would alert people to various trade practices which they should be made aware of to ensure they were not tricked into anything.

"It would make people more able to look after themselves in commercial transactions," Mr. Millhouse said.

The Premier, Mr. Hall, said he believed that in the large majority of transactions in South Australia, finance companies, car dealers and other commercial groups gave fair deals.

"However, there are always some in any industry who do not observe the rules of fair play and the Government is always interested in seeing that the public is not taken for a ride by such people," Mr. Hall said. He said his interest in consumer protection was illustrated by the Book Purchasers Protection Act which he successfully moved in Parliament several years ago. This had been the first legislation of its kind in Australia.

"At the moment we do not have any current documents before us in relation to further consumer protection action," Mr. Hall said.

"However, I understand the Attorney-General is considering bringing this matter before Cabinet when the pressure of Parliamentary business allows," Mr. Hall said.

In that article the Premier drew attention to the Book Purchasers Protection Act, which he successfully introduced some years ago. However, when the question of consumer protection is being discussed the Premier always makes that statement. I agree that it was good legislation but, as he repeatedly says that he was responsible for this Act, people have come to the conclusion that it was the only good thing he has done in the House. In his own interest I ask him not to try to continue to gain credit for this move.

Another article appeared in the *News* of June 4 (six months later) and, obviously, by this time Cabinet had considered the question, although we have not heard publicly any result. It can be concluded from this article that Cabinet had considered this matter but had rejected any moves for consumer protection, because the article stated:

No New Price Laws for S.A. The Premier, Mr. Hall, said today he was looking forward

to the day when price control would no longer be necessary in South Australia. He was commenting on reports that the new Tasmanian Government intends to introduce consumer protection laws. Mr. Hall said there were no immediate plans for additional consumer protection laws in South Australia. South Australia had a Prices Commissioner who, in many ways, was a public servant acting as a consumer protection officer.

"Perhaps in the long term there may be a need to alter the designation of his department as I look forward to the day when price control will no longer be necessary," he said.

"But at the moment there are no immediate plans for additional consumer protection."

Mr. Hall noted that door-to-door book sales were already regulated by a law he had introduced into Parliament as a private member.

I believe that this statement made it clear that the Government did not intend to do anything about consumer protection. I agree with an article that appeared in the *News* of December 12, written by the "Action Line" editor, who, no doubt, received many complaints from people who have been taken down by sharp practices that existed in many fields. Under the heading "It's Action We Need", the editorial stated:

Action Line strongly urges more consumer protection legislation here. Our daily volume of letters includes many from the little people who have been "bitten" because there was no law to protect them. They include pensioners, widows, new arrivals to the country, and teenagers.

Like the Victorian Consumers Protection Council, Action Line is appalled at the frequent reports of "chicanery and deceit" used to dupe consumers of their money. We admit some of these cases have their origin interstate. Only today we had a letter from a mother of five schoolchildren saying her washing machine bought through a competition in her letterbox for \$360 had broken down and the cost of repairs would be \$85. Our inquiries revealed the machine was, in fact, not new.

Other avenues with loopholes to be plugged include faults in newly built homes, gardening contractors who arrange finance through finance companies, then skip without producing the goods; advertisements from interstate firms, giving only a box number, asking for money for goods which, in some instances, if they do exist, are of a doubtful nature. Door-to-door commissioned salesmen making sales with customers who cannot afford it are in the front line of attack.

The excellent Rogerson report draws attention to the difficulties mentioned in this article. From the complaints I have received, the main offender seems to be the door-to-door salesman who is specially trained to be aware of the manoeuvres of housewives. Because of his intensive training and his ability to enter the house and gain the confidence of the housewife, he is in the position where the average

housewife or her husband cannot compete with his great experience. I believe that, because the Government has not included any reference to this matter in the Governor's Speech, it will not consider this question further and will not introduce legislation. I hope that sufficient pressure will be brought to bear on the Government to make it take notice of the report. One of the methods of operation of salesmen is shown in a letter that has been placed in the letterbox of almost every house in my district. The envelope has on the front "Puzzleword competition" and a postal address. Inside the envelope is a form, on which there is a crossword puzzle. I may point out that the puzzle is so simple that even some Government members would get it correct!

Mr. Clark: Are you reflecting on their mentality?

Mr. BROOMHILL: The honourable member can take it as he wishes. One word in the puzzle is a three letter word, the first letter being A and the third letter being T. The clue given is "To paint". I think some of the crossword enthusiasts in the House would quickly solve that: it could be filled in correctly by a 10-year-old child. The form has on it a photograph of a sewing machine, and this is also printed on the form:

Puzzleword Competition. Win a sewing machine free. Special awards of \$50, \$40, \$30, \$20, \$10 off a sewing machine. All correct and near correct entries will receive an award.

Despite the simplicity of the puzzle, one only has to be nearly correct to receive an award. However, the brand of the sewing machine is not given. People who are successful in such competitions are told the good news about winning an award because of their brilliance in completing the puzzle and the salesman tells them that, therefore, they are entitled to have the amount of the prize deducted from the price of the sewing machine. There is no need for me to say that the value of the prize has already been added to the normal price of the sewing machine. This sort of practice should not be permitted. It is a sharp practice, designed to make people think that they have won something because of their ability. The fact that practices of this kind are so prevalent shows the need for the Government to take action.

Many members would have had complaints from householders about these matters. One of my neighbours told me that, after she had seen an advertisement in a newspaper that a new floor polisher could be bought at a ridiculously low price, she telephoned, asking the

salesman to bring one down to her. The salesman brought two polishers, one a small cheap-looking article, and the other a machine of a wellknown brand. When this woman asked the salesman to demonstrate the machine that she had telephoned about, he said, "That would be a waste of time. It is no good your seeing this: it is a Japanese machine and we cannot get parts for it, but I have a lovely one here that you ought to be interested in, because it is going cheaply." I think all members are familiar with that practice.

My wife has told me that in recent weeks people have been going about the area trying to sell sewing machines. The salesman does not come direct to the householder. He sends a young lady around and she asks the women whether they are interested in having free sewing machine lessons. In this way the young lady finds out whether the householder has a sewing machine and whether she can sew. Then, the salesman can follow up the leads.

We also have the problem of used cars, which is dealt with in the Rogerson report. Whilst these difficulties may not be as prevalent or as big a nuisance as difficulties involving door-to-door salesmen, large sums are involved in purchases of used cars. In many cases, a young person's complete savings are invested in the purchase of a used car. Because of this, something ought to be done. The guarantees offered are worthless, because the provisions in small print exclude from guarantee almost everything that can happen so far as faulty parts are concerned. In the interests of the public, action should be taken in this matter. I hope that I am wrong and that the Government does not shelve this matter but does something effective about it. I am sure that all members on this side would support proper measures to change the laws on consumer protection.

A constituent recently told me that her child had bought some potato chips at the local shop. These items are usually bought by children. They are displayed on shelves in shops and the front of the packet is normally taken up with coloured paper and writing. However, the back of the packet is clear and one can see the contents. This constituent gave me the packet to inspect and I found that, whilst the packet itself was large, it was less than half filled with the product. In order to check the facts, I bought another packet of these potato chips and I found that the same position applied. The first packet had not been half-filled by accident.

Legislation to provide for packaging to be done in a reasonable and proper manner has been passed by Parliament, and I draw the attention of the Minister of Lands to what I have been saying. I understand that the legislation will not be operative until January next year, but I think the Minister should know as soon as possible what type of article to consider in conjunction with that legislation so that what has been happening does not continue. It is not good enough for children to have to pay twice the price that they should pay for potato chips. The practice that I have referred to forces competitors of the makers of this products to act similarly so that their sales will not drop. I will give this potato chip packet to the Minister of Lands for examination. Another matter that is important to the people of this State is dealt with at page 8 of the Speech, where His Excellency is dealing with the activities of the Housing Trust and states:

During the current financial year the trust resumed its programme of building three-storey flats in the metropolitan area. Blocks of flats are near completion at Brooklyn Park and Henley Beach and work has recently commenced on 84 flats at Gilberton. More flat projects are planned for other suburbs. There is a strong demand from young married couples, both of whom are in employment, for this type of accommodation which can be occupied whilst an endeavour is made to accumulate savings to enable them to purchase a home of their own.

This is an accurate statement, for it is necessary today for young married couples to have a house or flat they can live in in the initial stages of marriage while they attempt to save sufficient money to purchase a house of their own.

I looked at the latest report of the Housing Trust, its 32nd Annual Report, for the year ended June 30, 1968, and I found there some additional information about the needs of young people and their housing problems in South Australia. Page 6 of the report states:

The trust drew particular attention in 1955 to the increase in the birth rate in the years from 1944 onwards and pointed out that the marriage rate would take a steep upturn in the late 1960's; this has actually occurred and is illustrated in Figure No. 1. The increase in the marriage rate results not only from the high birth rate from 1944 to 1949, but also from a lowering of the average age of marriage. The trend today is for couples to marry at a young age and to require an apartment or flat at a modest rent that enables them to live as economically as possible while the young wife goes on working. Very few of the young couples are in a position to buy a house immediately they are married. Firstly,

their financial resources are limited and, secondly, the future careers of many young men are not settled at marriage; in fact, many have not even finished their tertiary education. It could even be that when a young man has completed his tertiary education he may obtain employment in a national or an international company and to obtain promotion he is aware that he will possibly not stay for a very long period in any one place. The trust recently analysed a sample of applications received and the following statistics were produced.

They are very interesting statistics because they indicate (I will read them because there are not that many of them) the age of the applicant, and the percentage of persons of a certain age who apply for a Housing Trust house. There are also figures for the salary of the applicant and the percentage of applicants with certain salaries applying for houses. The figures are as follows:

Age of Applicant	Per cent
18-20 years	4
21-25 years	39
26-30 years	23
Over 30 years	19
Over 40 years	15
Salary of Applicant	Per cent
Under \$40 per week	7
\$40-\$44	19
\$45-\$49	25
\$50-\$54	18
\$55-\$60	15
Over \$60	10
Unemployed	2

The report continues:

It will be noticed that 43 per cent of the applicants are under 25 years of age and that 51 per cent receive a salary of less than \$50 per week. Therefore in South Australia in 1968 there exists a strong demand for housing by young people with very little finance.

The figures given by the Housing Trust provide us with some sort of picture of the housing problems of young people today; yet, I believe the trust has taken the wrong figures, because it states that 43 per cent of the applicants to the Housing Trust are under 25 years of age and that 51 per cent of them receive a salary of less than \$50 a week. I did a calculation and found that 66 per cent of the applicants were under 30 years of age (a very high percentage) and that 69 per cent of them earned less than \$55 a week. These are the types of people who apply to the Housing Trust, and they would be a fairly general cross-section of the community. If 66 per cent of them are under 30 years of age and are receiving less than \$55 a week, their problems in purchasing a house must be immense. They would have little opportunity of saving sufficient money for a deposit on a house. Even if they could reach that stage, they would still be in difficulties in meeting

their weekly commitments, including their rates and taxes and expenditure on improvements that they would be required to make to a home if they were purchasing it. So it is obvious that there is a severe demand on the Housing Trust for the type of accommodation that these people can afford.

When one looks at the types and total numbers of applications for rental houses and flats that the Housing Trust is receiving, one can see that the trust is, unfortunately, going only a small part of the way towards assisting the young married people of this State to cope with the many difficulties they must be encountering because, on page 13 of this report, under "Applications for Housing", it is shown that for rental houses and flats for the year ended June 30, 1968, there were 7,926 applications before the Housing Trust, compared with 7,494 for the previous year. So the trust had received a continuing increase in the number of applications before it. During the year there were 7,926 applications for rental houses and flats before the Housing Trust; yet, when we look later on in the report at the number of houses and flats constructed we see that only 1,076 rental houses and flats were constructed, which meant that the Housing Trust that year could not help about 6,900 applicants. The previous year it had had a similar number of applicants, so over that two-year period there were many people whom the trust was unable to help.

It seems to me that, if the average income that I referred to earlier is the actual average income of these people coming before the Housing Trust, the trust is probably the only body in this State that can provide proper accommodation for these young married people in South Australia. Accordingly, it is with regret that we notice that the trust cannot do more to provide assistance for these people. This is something the Government must look at closely, because the increase in the birth-rate will mean that in years to come this problem will become much worse and it is important that people in South Australia be properly housed for an outlay that they can afford.

I want to refer briefly to another matter that has caused me some concern in recent months—the Hong Kong flu scare that has swept South Australia and Australia since the beginning of this year. It seems to me that every year we get reports from the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories, supported by the medical authorities here in South Australia,

that we shall be subjected to some form of Asian or Asian-type flu. Apparently, it was felt that the people of the State might have become sick of the "Asian-type flu", so the authorities thought of a new one, the "Hong Kong flu", this year. I have noticed in recent years that these announcements are made before the commencement of each winter, and people tend to panic and think there will be some bad outbreak.

This year I watched the situation closely. I was interested to read, shortly after the announcement by the officials of the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories that we could expect huge outbreaks of Hong Kong flu, that it would be necessary for everyone to receive inoculations against it. It was also stated that reports had led the authorities to believe that people might, in fact, even die from the effects of this infection. Being a little cautious, and expecting that this might be a similar scare to those that have come out each year for the last 10 years, I was interested to read a letter to the editor, appearing in the *Advertiser* last February, that was sent in by a general practitioner. The newspaper indicated that this person's name and address had been supplied. The letter was one that I felt warranted attention. Under the heading "Inoculations for Flu", it states:

The annual advertising pressure from the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories is under full steam again, with all popular news media and direct approaches to industry to purchase and use the latest instant brew for this year's oriental virus. Since there is no mention of this magic brew in medical literature, and I am genuinely concerned with the welfare of my patients, could I inquire through the same media used by the manufacturers:

1. Whether there is any scientific evidence that the Hong Kong serum is effective?
2. If it is effective, is it not very likely to produce eventually complete lack of natural resistance to a multiplicity of viruses?
3. Or is it, as I suspect, a blatant money-making racket?

Mr. Clark: Do you think that might be correct?

Mr. BROOMHILL: I considered at the time that it was correct. The letter continues:

I would like to know the results of controlled trials as to effectiveness and safety. I write this as a serious plea by the general practitioner who has been taught by excellent teachers never to use any drug or medicament, especially for minor illness, unless it is of proven safety and activity. I am besieged by a host of panic-stricken patients whipped to a frenzy applicable to the Black Plague by the tripe so unethically circulated by an otherwise excellent Government department.

I thought at the time that certain questions required answers. That letter appeared in the *Advertiser* within a week or two of the announcement made by the Commonwealth Serum Laboratories and supported by the State Government health authorities (the announcement which stated, in effect, that everyone should receive their inoculations and that we were likely to experience a most tragic outbreak of the infection). I raised the matter in Parliament last February and read out the letter to which I have just referred. I asked the Premier whether he would take up with the Minister of Health the matters raised in that letter and whether he would provide me with a report. It was my view that if the report were provided to me in Parliament and publicity given to it, and if some of the questions raised by the general practitioner were, in fact, correct, it would put the public of South Australia on the right track. I remind the House that many people were in a state of panic at the time.

The trade unions were pressing for employers to provide mass inoculation facilities, and many elderly people found that they could not receive the vaccine as it was not available because nearly everyone in the community was rushing to his doctor asking for these inoculations. However, I regret to say that the Minister of Health failed to give me any information whatsoever, completely ignoring the question. I believe that, had he acted properly at the time, it would not have been until June or July before people realized that this Hong Kong flu scare was nothing but a racket; that there was, in fact, no Hong Kong flu; and that it was widely recognized that an error had been made.

Mr. Rodda: It will be different now that you have those sideburns.

Mr. BROOMHILL: That could well be. I have found that sideburns do, in fact, suit people with large ears, so I would suggest that the honourable member grow a moustache and goatee. In conclusion, I sympathize with the Government and its members because, from the types of speech made recently, it seems that this particular Government believes the employment position in South Australia is satisfactory. I disagree with this. I know it is better than it has been, and I am pleased about that, but nevertheless I believe that the employment figures given to us each month have established the fact that we still have some weak links in our economy. I regret that Government members have tried to take

credit for the fact that the employment figures are better than they were a few months ago.

Mr. Hudson: It is certainly nothing to do with them.

Mr. BROOMHILL: No, and they will find that out, because after the coming election, if the Commonwealth Liberal Government is returned, the types of promise that it will no doubt have to make to buy itself back into Government will mean that the brakes will have to be applied severely. If the worst happens (if the Commonwealth Liberal Government is returned), we shall find that the brakes once again will hit South Australia first and hardest. As a result of this, and of trying to steal credit for the slightly improved employment figures, the Government will of course have itself to blame for any worsening of the position. I feel sorry for Government members, because obviously they have fooled themselves into thinking that they deserve some credit for the employment figures applying in this State. Although I am thoroughly disappointed with the contents of the Governor's Speech, I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

Mr. CASEY (Frome): I, too, support the motion. I join with the member for West Torrens in saying that I, too, am rather disappointed at the action of Government members in attacking Opposition members. I think this is uncalled for, and it is not helping to maintain the dignity of this Chamber.

Mr. McKee: They have nothing else to speak about.

Mr. CASEY: That is so. They have nothing to speak about regarding their achievements, and this will still be the case over the next 12 months. There is little in the Governor's Speech worth referring to. However, I take the opportunity to congratulate the Governor on his recent appointment, and I sincerely hope that his stay in South Australia will be a pleasant one. I think State Governors in Australia are getting towards the end of their day and that within 10 or 15 years they will be a thing of the past. Nevertheless, that does not alter the present situation. The present Governor has been appointed, and I wish him and his good lady an enjoyable stay while in South Australia. If past records are any guide, I am sure that the Governor will do a pretty good job.

I know that the member for Rocky River (Mr. Venning) and other members opposite are interested in the present crisis facing the Australian wheat industry. I should like to say

something about my Party's attitude to this situation. Agriculture in Australia is at present in a sorry plight, and it does not matter to which section we refer, whether it be dairying, wheat farming, or woolgrowing. All sections are in trouble. Because we have been blessed with good seasons, and because in many of these industries we have advanced technologically, there is over-production to such an extent that we cannot sell our products abroad at a reasonable price. I believe this situation will be with us for many years.

It is most unfortunate that undeveloped or developing countries, which could use much of the food we produce, are unable to afford the purchase price. Whilst I believe that starvation does not occur to the extent that we are led to believe it occurs, there are undoubtedly isolated pockets of starvation, because of the ravages of war, in such places as Nigeria and Biafra. By and large, most developing countries are suffering mainly through their inability to produce enough food for their own nutritional requirements and through their inadequate economic growth, which limits their ability to purchase additional food. People in these countries suffer mainly from an inadequate intake of protein.

It is estimated that in the future there will be a steep increase in world population; by 1985 it will have increased by 50 per cent of its present size. Of course, this increase will not be uniform in all countries, and the increase in developing countries will be relatively high. For example, it is estimated the population of Brazil will increase by between 70 per cent and 85 per cent; of India, by between 58 and 70 per cent; and of Pakistan by between 82 and 108 per cent. If members look at the figures for Australia over the last few years, they will be astounded to find how small our growth rate has been in comparison with some of these developing countries.

Just how this increased population will be fed is a challenge to every developing country in the world today. Of course, I realize that many developing countries are trying to solve their own problems. One way of meeting the crisis would be to help these people in such a way that they could develop their own natural resources and thereby produce more food. Only a few years ago India and Pakistan were importing large quantities of wheat, but they are now becoming major producers in their own right. Indeed, Pakistan is self-sufficient in wheat production and India is increasing her production, although she must still import some wheat.

In accordance with the International Grains Agreement and the Kennedy Round talks held in the United States of America some time ago, Australia has agreed to give free wheat periodically to many of these developing countries, and I understand that India is one such country. Members will see in the Wheat Board's annual report that there is a quite steep increase in wheat production in some Asian countries. For example, in India 608,700,000 bushels of wheat was produced in 1968-69, almost 200,000,000 bushels more than in the previous year; in Iran 223,100,000 bushels was produced, compared with 161,000,000 bushels in the previous year; in Pakistan 233,600,000 bushels was produced, compared with 161,400,000 bushels in the previous year (an increase of 72,200,000 bushels).

These figures give some idea of the potential of these countries. They use the Mexican strain of wheat, which has been tried and tested through different sources and which is applicable for certain environments in certain countries. Apparently, very good results are being achieved. Farmers in the developing countries have developed rice strains that originated in Taiwan, and these have been improved to such an extent that, if used with a high level of fertilization, they result in the production of some very good crops in the South-East Asian region.

Other grains such as maize and sorghum have also been developed to suit the tropical areas of certain countries where a serious population explosion will continue for many years. It is in this respect that such countries can best serve themselves. This does not, however, help Australia to any great extent, because we have over-production of wheat today and we do not know what to do about it. I honestly believe that the present two-price system (one for export and one for home consumption) is absolutely ridiculous. I have spoken to many wheat farmers in recent years and, indeed, over the last few months, and I know that many of them believe that a one-price system would be better for the industry.

The home consumption price of \$1.70 is ridiculous, particularly when one realizes that in certain parts of Australia such as Queensland (and I understand, recently, Western Australia) grain could be used for stock fodder but it has to be purchased at the home consumption price of \$1.70. Wheat is being stored in sheds and left out in paddocks, yet the people who require it and would buy it at a reasonable price just cannot see their way clear economically to pay \$1.70 for it. We take care of this

sort of thing in the sugar industry, where there are No. 1 and No. 2 pools, so there is no earthly reason why the same situation should not prevail in the wheat industry. Last week I had the pleasure of attending the annual conference of the United Farmers and Graziers, where I heard the Minister for Primary Industry (Hon. J. D. Anthony) deliver an address, even though he was running late.

Mr. McKee: You won't get an invitation next year.

Mr. CASEY: I am a member, so I should get an invitation. I was astounded when the Minister informed the gathering that he was late (and he was about an hour and a half late) because he had been waiting for the astronauts to walk on the moon. I can assure him that I, too, was waiting to see this, but I thought that the conference was much more important to the welfare of wheat farmers in the State. I knew some provision would be made whereby we could see the actual walk, but the Minister thought differently, and he tried to laugh his way out of it. I believe many people at the conference did not appreciate his attitude towards farmers, many of whom had travelled hundreds of miles to attend the conference.

Mr. Venning: The conference went on just the same.

Mr. CASEY: I am talking about his address, not the conference. Mr. Anthony said that the Commonwealth Government was often criticized by uninformed writers in newspapers about the present wheat quota system operating in Australia. Apparently these people blamed the Commonwealth Government, but Mr. Anthony made it clear that this was not a Government scheme but an industry scheme, and I agree that it is. I understood this scheme was originally brought to the notice of the Australian Wheatgrowers Federation in New South Wales early this year by South Australians. After much criticism by other States, the scheme began to take shape and eventually the A.W.F. decided it was the best scheme in the interests of the growers of this country. However, Mr. Anthony cannot get out of this matter as easily as that because, if the Commonwealth Government intends to guarantee \$2,000,000,000 of the taxpayers' money over the next five years to finance the scheme (and I think that is how this works out; it is the figure Mr. Anthony quoted, anyhow), then his Government must have been absolutely certain that this was the best plan available; therefore, his Government must have agreed to the scheme.

Mr. Venning: Absolutely.

Mr. CASEY: I want to make that point quite clear, because I think the Commonwealth Government is equally as responsible as is the A.W.F. for the adoption of this plan. If the Government had not agreed to the plan, it would not have guaranteed the money. That Government cannot have it both ways, and it is trying to get out from under.

Mr. Venning: No, it isn't.

Mr. CASEY: It should not do this, but should face up to its responsibility.

Mr. Venning: It is facing up to it.

Mr. CASEY: As a member of Parliament, I will support this scheme, even though I think it is wrong.

Mr. Freebairn: You know the growers want it.

Mr. CASEY: They had no alternative; this was the only scheme submitted to them. Let us be fair about this. This scheme was submitted to growers all over Australia by the A.W.F.; they were told that the scheme was sanctioned by the Government and that, therefore, that was that. As I have said earlier, I believe there should be a one-price structure rather than a two-price structure. At present the prices are \$1.45 for export and \$1.70 for home consumption, and there is a first payment of \$1.10. I believe there should be just one price.

I also disagree with the quota system on five years' production. I believe that there should be a quota system but that it should be on a certain quantity of wheat that will protect the small farmer. Mr. Anthony said in his speech that he had always protected the small farmer, but under the quota system small farmers are not protected. If such farmers, who sow, say, 200 acres of wheat, have an average yield of, say, 15 to 20 bushels an acre and the quota is then cut, those farmers will lose up to \$1,000, and they cannot diversify as easily as can the larger growers. I do not think anyone can quibble about that statement, for it is perfectly true.

For this reason, I think some measure of protection is given by stating a certain quantity of wheat. Strangely enough, the South Australian Government agrees with this, and this has been stated by the Minister of Agriculture. The Minister has made many public statements. About 12 months ago he more or less encouraged South Australian farmers to grow more wheat, saying that this could be the greatest wheat-producing State in the Commonwealth. I took him to task over

this, because it was an absolutely ridiculous statement to make, but he did not even reply to the letter I wrote to him. Part of the reply he gave, through the Minister of Lands, to a question by the member for Light is as follows:

The South Australian Government does not favour acreage or production restrictions, but is prepared to co-operate with the industry by introducing the necessary legislation into Parliament to make the scheme workable.

I agree entirely. The Minister continued:

The alternative in the present circumstances would appear to be a first payment of \$440,000,000—

that is what the Commonwealth Government has agreed to, and over a five-year period it amounts to \$2,200,000,000 to which I referred earlier—

over "X" amount of delivered wheat for the whole Commonwealth, and an individual producer-financed home storage programme, for an indefinite period, depending on sales of export wheat.

The only part of that statement with which I do not agree is that, instead of subsidizing the individual home storage programme, I favour storage by South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited.

Mr. Freebairn: Hear, hear!

Mr. CASEY: I think this could be financed by the Commonwealth Government. That is the whole crux of the matter as I see it today. As I said, in no circumstances will I vote against the legislation when it comes before the House, for this matter is so important to the wheat industry. However, I think that the Commonwealth Government has made an error and that it knows it, but it is not prepared to face facts. If it had listened to the Labor Party—

Mr. Venning: Ha, ha!

Mr. CASEY: The honourable member's Government agrees with this policy, so I cannot understand why he is laughing. I do not agree with the policy of the A.W.F., but the honourable member cannot have it both ways. This is the stupid part about it. I do not quibble about anything generally. I have put my facts and said what I think, but I will go along with the legislation when it is introduced, because it is important to this State.

Mr. Anthony said that the delivery quota was controlled entirely by the wheat industry: it was formulated by the federation, is supported by the federation's affiliated organizations in the States, and has the support of the Commonwealth and State Governments. Apparently, it does not have the support of this Government, which does not agree with

it, but it will support the legislation when it is introduced. We must realize that the Australian wheat situation is different from the position in the United States of America, where last year 55,300,000 acres was planted, producing 1,570,500,000 bushels with an average yield of 28.4 bushels an acre. These results are incredible: yields have been increasing during the past 20 years and have now reached that high figure. Technology used in primary production in the United States is the pattern that we will have to follow in the future, and we have been following it. Canada, with standards more or less similar to those in Australia, sowed 29,400,000 acres, which produced 650,000,000 bushels, with an average yield of 22.1 bushels an acre, whilst Australia sowed about 26,000,000 acres to produce more than 500,000,000 bushels, with an average of 20 bushels an acre, which was a good result on Australian standards, because we are susceptible to climatic conditions of drought, and so on.

I turn now to the wool industry. Today, many people are being completely hoodwinked by newspaper reports concerning the Australian wool industry. At present, this industry is probably at its lowest ebb for many years, and unless the price of wool increases in the future many problems will arise. One major problem for the Australian wool industry is that we cannot get our product into the United States of America, which would be an enormous market.

The United States produces about 30 per cent of the wool that it consumes, and is known as a deficit producer of wool because it relies on imports. For years the woolgrower in America has been jealous of his product and his industry, and in 1954 the National Wool Act was introduced, giving much protection to that industry. Since the Second World War various methods of protection have operated, including price support programmes, incentive programmes, and tariffs on raw wool.

The system operating at present in the United States is a combination of tariffs and deficiency payments. Because of this Act the raw wool produced in the United States is sold on the open market, and cash subsidies (or deficiency payments) are paid to growers to compensate them for the difference between the open-market price and an administratively determined producer-price. This is known as a cash subsidy to the farmer.

The tariff on imported raw wool means that the textile industry cannot purchase raw wool at the world market price, and that condition

applies today where American interests come to Australia, purchase wool, take it back to the United States, but then have to pay almost as much in tariff as they paid in the open world market for the wool. At present the tariff is about 26c per lb. and, therefore, the open-market price of raw wool is increased by that amount. During the recent Kennedy Round Conference consideration was given to removing the tariff on raw wool but, unfortunately, no agreement was reached. I say it was unfortunate because it would be the greatest thing that happened to Australia if the tariff could be withdrawn.

In addition to these cash subsidies, a compensatory tariff on wool textile products is designed to compensate the domestic manufacturer for the high cost of his raw material; costs that are not incurred by foreign competitors. The production of wool in the United States, although encouraged by the Government through incentive payments, has deteriorated. In 1940, America produced 434,000,000 lb. of greasy wool, but last year the figure had dropped to 211,000,000 lb. that is almost a 50 per cent reduction in about 20 years. On the other hand, in 1940 America produced 471,200,000 lb. of rayon and acetates (synthetic products), a figure almost the same as that for wool production in 1940, but today, while the production of wool has decreased by about 50 per cent, the production of rayon has increased to 1,388,100,000 lb.

These figures give some idea of the manufacture of synthetics in the United States. It seems to me that they have expanded at the expense of wool. Unfortunately, the wool produced in America is not always of a high quality. However, that is not the case in some places, such as on the plains. In general, wool is only of secondary consideration in America, because the graziers go in for lamb production. Therefore, the tariff protection and cash subsidies paid to farmers are only secondary.

I do not consider cash subsidies and other incentive payments to the wool industry to be beneficial to the American consuming public in general. A recent report on the cost of protecting raw wool in the United States concluded by stating:

Given the assistance of a domestic wool support programme, both the woolgrowers and the economy have much to gain by eliminating the raw wool and textile compensating tariffs.

That is the 26c tariff to which I have referred and the compensation paid to domestic manufacturers because of the higher cost of

his raw material. Apparently, if both benefits are eliminated, the United States will get something more beneficial. In this respect, more cash payments to the grower can be substituted. If that were done, we would benefit greatly by being able to get our wool into the United States. I do not know the figures for most of the iron curtain countries, such as Russia and parts of Asia, but I understand that at present the sheep population of Russia compares with the sheep population in Australia, but Australia has always been recognized as the home of the merino. We produce about 33 per cent of the total world production.

The merino is also important to New Zealand, and I am sure that members will be interested to hear that Uruguay, in South America, produces a large quantity of wool: wool is Uruguay's greatest export earner. That country, unlike Australia, is more suitable to the cross-bred type of sheep than is Australia. Uruguay is more comparable with New Zealand, but it contributes much wool to countries throughout the world.

The total imports by the United States of America in 1966 were 276,700,000 lb., of which 24 per cent came from Australia, 28 per cent from New Zealand, 20 per cent from the Argentine and Uruguay, 8 per cent from South Africa, and 20 per cent from other sources. The diversity of wool purchases by America shows that she purchases from all over the world, and America is interested not only in merino wool but also in wool from cross-bred sheep. In the last 20 years Australia has been producing ever-increasing quantities of wool. In 1948-49 the total wool clip was 1,030,397,000 lb., whereas in 1968-69 the total was 1,938,700,000 lb. It has almost doubled in 20 years and I understand the estimate of next year's clip to be about 2,000,000,000 lb.

The steady increase over the years has been due mainly to technological improvements, such as the use of superphosphate fertilizers, the control of rabbits by myxomatosis as well as by ripping and by poisoning, and also the opening up of new country in Queensland, in parts of New South Wales, and particularly in Western Australia. Our production has fluctuated in the last 20 years, mainly because of seasonal conditions. Droughts are not uncommon in this or other wool-producing countries. South Africa, for example, is probably more prone to droughts than is Australia, but I have never been to South Africa and do not know about that for sure.

That droughts affect sheep numbers was proved in South Australia in 1967, a drought year. Drought also affects the quality and weight of our fleece wool. Who knows what will happen in the next 20 years regarding our production of sheep and wool? Perhaps we will be producing more than 3,000,000,000 lb. by the year 2,000. I remember reading a report by Sir Ewen Waterman, of the Australian Wool Board, in which he said he was confident that there would be that quantity of production in Australia within the next 20 years. With increased irrigation, increased pasture development, and better sheep husbandry, the quality of our wool production could increase. In the immediate future, however, wool prices, which are at a very low ebb, will have a marked effect on production in Australia, and at present the situation is fairly grim.

I have calculated a few prices, as applicable to the latest sales in South Australia. *Wool News*, a pamphlet issued by Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort Limited after every wool sale, sets out much information about that sale, the previous sale, the sale 12 months before, and the final average or progressive average for the year. The pamphlet also points out the changes in the prices of different counts and qualities of the wool itself. Let me give members an idea of how it goes. In the No. 12 wool sale, two sales ago, the price was quoted at 38.71c per lb. At the last sale the figure of 33.32c per lb. was 8.46c per lb. lower than last year's progressive average of 41.78c per lb. However, what is alarming is the price of merino wool, and particularly fine wools.

For example, in the first sale of the current series (only last week, I think it was—the July sale that has just concluded) prices for all counts of wool fell appreciably on the prices realized at the July sales last year. For instance, on a quality basis of 70's, last year (and this is good style wools on a scoured basis) the price was 118c; at this last sale that wool brought only 105c, so there is a drop of 13c, or 11 per cent, on this wool compared with the price 12 months ago. Going down the list, I see that the 64's last year were quoted at 106c, but at this last sale they made 93c—a 13c, or 12 per cent, drop. The 60's quality last year brought 90c; in this last sale it brought 82c—a drop of 8c, or 7 per cent. The 58's last year brought 74c, and in the last sale 69c—a drop of 5c, or 6 per cent. The 56's quality last year brought 66c, and this sale it was down to 60c—a drop of 6c, or

4 per cent. With the 50's quality, last year the price was 55c, whereas at the last sale it was 53c—a drop of 2c, or 4 per cent. The average price realized was \$107.95 a bale, or 33.32c per lb. When the price structure gets down to 33.32c per lb., the woolgrower of this country is almost scraping the bottom of the barrel.

We are getting to the stage where, if the price structure drops any lower, many people will be in big trouble—not that they are not in big trouble today. The average price for 1968-69 was 41.78c per lb., realizing \$135.27 a bale—so there is a drop there of almost \$28 a bale at this last sale compared with the average for the whole of last year. Let us take a small farmer in, say, the 40-bale range. If he drops \$35 a bale, he will have a lot taken out of his normal income (as for last year) compared with what he thought he would get this year.

The wool industry must look seriously at the present price structure. The New Zealand reserve price scheme is working satisfactorily. I know it had many headaches initially, but they were suffered mainly because many buyers were out to try to break this reserve price scheme—and they nearly succeeded in doing so. It was only that the New Zealand Government was able to finance the scheme (not an easy thing to do, because New Zealand is by no means a rich country) that it weathered the storm, and it has been in the interests of the woolgrowers of New Zealand that they have had this reserve price scheme. I sincerely hope that the woolgrowers of this country will become united (as you know, Mr. Speaker, at the moment they are not, unfortunately) to submit to the Commonwealth Government a plan for a reserve price scheme and that it will be accepted by the Commonwealth Government and implemented as soon as possible for the protection of our wool industry.

I also think that the Wool Board, in its wisdom, could do much more by way of promotion. It took it a long time to get off the ground but, since it has got off the ground, it has done a reasonably good job. I have no complaint about that. The only complaint I have (if it is a complaint) is that it should be pushing a lot harder and publicizing our wool to a greater extent. Let me give members a typical example. I saw on television the other night a demonstration of flammable clothes carried out by the fire brigade. It showed us a little practical demonstration by the members of the fire brigade of how syn-

thetic materials almost explode when they come into contact with a naked flame. I think they used a heating device.

Mr. Clark: It just melts.

Mr. CASEY: Yes. Nevertheless, the clothes were highly flammable. What a wonderful opportunity it was to demonstrate a woollen product on that show to give the people an idea of exactly how wool is not flammable to the extent that these synthetic materials are! We missed a wonderful opportunity to publicize wool in that programme. We all know that wool does not burn: it smoulders. It is in the interests of the general public that they become aware of this property that wool has.

In my opinion, as in the opinion of so many people, at the moment there is no substitute for wool. There is all this quibbling about our having to join the synthetics. I agree with that if we want to mix wool with synthetics; let us go ahead and do it, but I still think people should have the chance of choosing whether they want a mixture of wool and synthetics in a material or whether they want a pure wool product.

I think that core testing is necessary. If members are not conversant with what core testing is, perhaps I should explain. The core testing of wool is carried out simply by taking a sample of the wool from a bale, sending it to the laboratories, and having the yield processed, recorded and sent back. Then it is noted on the top of the bale "This wool's yield is so much"—perhaps 50 per cent, 55 per cent or 60 per cent, whatever the case may be. This core testing should be done prior to the sale of the wool on the floor. I think this is most essential. I think the yield should be made available to buyers, because I do not care how good an appraiser may be (and I include here the member for Victoria, if he calls himself an appraiser): the person concerned would not have a dog's hope of appraising all the types of wool that he wished to buy on the show floor at the Port Adelaide stores, or anywhere else for that matter.

It would be a wonderful opportunity for the industry in general if all the wool could be core-tested, so that when the buyers went on to the show floor they could see the yield of a particular type of wool. I think this is one of the most important facilities available in the wool industry today, and I believe we should make every effort to see that it is provided as soon as possible. To the end of April this year, buyers tested 35,883 bales of wool in stores before shipment. These tests

were carried out by recognized testing houses, which issue certificates showing the yield and micron measurement. The significant fact is that the buyer does not have this scientific test carried out until he has bought the wool. How does the producer get full value for his money? He can get better value if core-testing is carried out before the wool is sold.

Mr. Nankivell: Don't you think the commission agent would do it for a little extra commission?

Mr. CASEY: I am not specifically suggesting who might do it.

The Hon. J. W. H. Coumbe: Why is it not done?

Mr. CASEY: I do not think the scheme has been pushed to any great extent. It costs \$2 to have a bale core-tested. Who will pay that sum? At present, the buyers are paying it.

Mr. Nankivell: It is allowed for in the price.

Mr. CASEY: That may be so but it still has to be paid for. I think the Australian Wool Board should provide the facility. I think that the Commonwealth Government, if it is at all sincere in its approach, should make available a small subsidy to the board in order to cover the cost of core-testing. If it is not prepared to do that, there is no reason why the stock firms themselves should not be involved, perhaps slightly increasing their present commission, the rate of which is 3 per cent for the first 1,000 bales, 2 per cent, I think, for the next 1,000, and thereafter 1 per cent. By making a slight increase here, the price of core-testing could be covered.

We must do something to protect the producer in every possible way, providing true value for his product, and I think this is one of the ways in which we can do it. I was rather pleased to hear the member for West Torrens refer to consumer protection, and I think it is about time that members on both sides considered producer protection. Many primary producers, in particular, are being absolutely bled concerning the sale of their products, such as fat lambs, beef and pigs.

Mr. Venning: I wouldn't say it about beef.

Mr. CASEY: I would. I have had personal experience involving beef sales and, although this was some years ago, the situation still exists today. Earlier this year on a visit to New South Wales I inspected the Homebush abattoirs for the specific purpose of examining the scale method, which involves the purchase of the beast on the hoof, and it is put on the scales and weighed. I am pleased to say that that system now constitutes part of the Labor

Party's platform in regard to rural industry in this State. I think it is absolutely essential that the primary producer should get full value for his product.

Mr. Venning: What did you get for your lambs?

Mr. CASEY: Cut it out! The producer is not protected today in regard to the type of stock he sells. At the abattoirs, particularly at about this time of the year when there is an influx of lambs, the prices fluctuate tremendously from one week to the next, although this fluctuation does not seem to apply in the butcher shop. I do not know exactly how this disparity in prices comes about or who is making money as a result of it, but something must be done. I know that Nelsons and Producers Meat Markets (S.A.) Limited is a good outlet; in fact, I am an advocate for this organization, because I have always maintained that the primary producer should have the opportunity to be paid for meat on the hook.

Mr. Allen: This is always available to producers if they want it.

Mr. CASEY: Yes, but I do not think the Nelson meat company can handle the business, bearing in mind the number of lambs coming into the market, particularly at this time of the year. Last year many people asked me about getting their stock to the Nelson company and when I checked up I found that it was absolutely booked out and could not take any more produce. However, this does not mean that there is not some other way, even if it involves our open markets at the abattoirs, to secure better protection for the producers. I think an investigation should be undertaken into the whole aspect of the marketing of primary products in South Australia.

Mr. Allen: This system is used in England.

Mr. CASEY: Is it? It is a good system. I recall a few years ago when the pig producers from the Districts of Yorke Peninsula and Rocky River and parts of the Mid North were bringing their pigs to the Adelaide abattoirs but were selling them in the open market because of the terrible prices being received. They left the pigs on their trucks on the roadside and said, "If the buyers want to purchase these, they will have to give us our price." During my tour of Homebush abattoirs I said to the manager, "Will there come a day when you can weigh your pigs over the scales?" He said, "Yes, we will definitely be able to do this." An enormous quantity of pig meat is sold in New South

Wales, compared with the amount sold in South Australia.

Unless the primary producer gets full value for his product today, he will be in dire straits. Faced with a falling wool market, over-production of wheat and the quota system, the primary producer must get as much as possible to cover the increased costs with which he has been burdened over the years. I should like to see the Government taking a lead for a change; in co-operation with the stock firms it should devise a method of improving the prices that the primary producer receives for his product. I shall be interested to see whether the member for Victoria (Mr. Rodda) can come up with something beneficial to the primary producer.

I turn now to the subject of desalination, which was a very hot topic in this House during the dying months of the Playford régime. We were always being told that we would have a nuclear power plant somewhere in the South-East and that a desalination plant would be established, because South Australia was the driest State in the driest continent in the world. Members should be fully aware that the United States of America is in the forefront of developing desalination processes. Sometime ago the Minister of Works was greatly interested in establishing a nuclear power station in South Australia and he said that he had put an excellent case before the Commonwealth Government that would ensure that South Australia had the first nuclear power station in Australia. However, we soon found that other States had different ideas on the matter. New South Wales came out with great gusto and said, "South Australia is such a small State in respect of power consumption, so the first nuclear power station should be in New South Wales." Other reports came in that the power station should be in Canberra.

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

Mr. CASEY: Up until a few years ago the desalination of water had been referred to in this House several times.

Mr. Jennings: By the present Minister of Works.

Mr. CASEY: Yes. I assure honourable members that this topic is still lively in many parts of the world. In fact, the growing practicability of desalination is amplified by the fact that there are 627 desalting plants that produce 225,000,000 gallons of fresh water daily for cities around the world. It is expected that by 1975 the total production of desalting processes will reach about one

billion gallons a day. I have often wondered, as no doubt other members have wondered, just what desalination entails and what would be an easy method of desalting water. Perhaps I might recite a little extract from the oldest reference I have been able to find regarding desalination (the Minister of Works will be interested in this), and it is in Exodus XV. 22-25, as follows:

22. So Moses brought Israel from the Red sea, and they went out into the wilderness of Shur; and they went three days in the wilderness, and found no water.

23. And when they came to Marah, they could not drink of the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore the name of it was called Marah.

24. And the people murmured against Moses, saying, What shall we drink?

25. And he cried unto the Lord; and the Lord shewed him a tree, which when he had cast into the waters, the waters were made sweet: there he made for them a statute and an ordinance, and there he proved them.

If the Minister of Works could only find that tree it would certainly save him many problems.

The Hon. J. W. H. Coumbe: I would say, "Hallelujah!"

Mr. Jennings: I guarantee his dog wouldn't find that tree.

Mr. CASEY: A few years ago, when I was in the United States of America, I took the opportunity to visit the Office of Saline Water, and regularly since then I have been kept in close contact with the desalting processes that have been improved upon in the United States. I am sorry to learn at this stage that the huge dual purpose nuclear power station and water desalting plant, authorized by the Department of the Interior on the man-made island off the coast of Southern California in co-operation with the Metropolitan Water District, Southern California Edison, San Diego Gas and Electric Company, and the City of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, has been held up. This was probably going to be the first big break-through of this kind in the world.

However, under the new time table, construction would start in the mid-1970's and the plant would begin on a rather limited basis producing 50,000,000 gallons a day by 1980. Under the previous arrangement the construction date was 1968 with the initial operations in 1974 and the expansion of the plant to a capacity of 150,000,000 gallons a day by 1978. When the plant is operating it is expected that

the cost of producing fresh water will be considerably reduced. It is claimed that, as technical advances are made, the cost of desalting water can be reduced to 50c a thousand gallons by 1972 for the 1,000,000 to 10,000,000-gallons-a-day plant. Within the next five to 10 years sea water desalting costs could drop to between 25c and 35c a thousand gallons for plants of between 50,000,000 and 150,000,000-gallons-a-day capacity, and after 1980 the cost may become sufficiently low to be competitive for use in irrigating high-value crops.

As that is an indication of the desalination of water on a large scale in the world today, it would be futile for us to advocate the desalination of water at this stage, because the cost here would be prohibitive. I agree with a recent statement of a professor, who said that it would be about 30 years before we could tackle this problem with any confidence in Australia, but it is possible that a breakthrough could occur in the United States, because of research, sooner than is expected. The reverse osmosis system may not be familiar to all members. Originally, scientists considered the composition of the whale and wondered how it could live in the sea although consuming large quantities of salt water. However, the whale has an in-built membrane and when it takes in salt water through the mouth it passes through this membrane before entering the stomach and, by doing so, it is transformed into fresh water.

The scientists then built a membrane similar to the whale's, and this is how this system started. This information was given to me at the Office of Saline Water in America. This was the initial effort of scientists to establish some means of separating salt from sea water. They have met with some success and are now building better membranes, and perhaps the reverse osmosis system will be the one that proves most successful in this field. I hope that Government members have learnt something from the American Saline Water Conversion Report of 1968 that will stand them in good stead in the future.

I should like to mention something about my own district, which members will realize is one of the largest in the State. I am pleased that the Gidgealpa to Adelaide pipeline project has been completed and is a reality at last. Natural gas will soon be piped from the Gidgealpa site to the metropolitan area and other places.

Mr. Lawn: Is it along the original route?

Mr. CASEY: I think the original route was about 461 miles, whereas the route adopted was 468 miles.

Mr. Lawn: They didn't take it through Port Augusta, did they?

Mr. CASEY: No, but we can remember some members opposite, when in Opposition, criticizing the Labor Government for not bringing the pipeline around the gulf ports of Port Augusta and Port Pirie.

Mr. Jennings: They moved a motion for the adjournment of the House and wanted the matter referred to the Public Works Committee.

Mr. CASEY: Yes, but it was only kite-flying.

Mr. Venning: What size is the pipe?

Mr. CASEY: It is 22in. in diameter. The Liberal Party suggested that the route should be through the Spencer Gulf towns for political reasons, and nothing else. Anyone able to make a feasibility study and able to consider the economics of the pipeline route would have been quite convinced that the gas had to come by the most direct route. If any more costs had been incurred at that time, we would not have been able to compete with the residual oils available in large quantities at a reasonable price in the metropolitan area. Because of that, only one route was open for consideration, and that was the route adopted.

Natural gas has many advantages for industry in this State. Members will realize that when natural gas has been found in other parts of the world and utilized to any great extent, industry has benefited greatly in the following years, and I hope that our natural gas will help South Australia industrially and economically. I congratulate the Natural Gas Pipeline Authority on the way in which it has completed the job two months ahead of schedule.

Mr. Venning: That shows what private enterprise can do.

Mr. CASEY: I also want to mention northern roads. For the benefit of the member for Rocky River, I explain that all road systems in South Australia have now been brought under the control of the Highways Department. This was done by the Labor Government and I am pleased to say that several years ago I was responsible for the initiation of this change. I could see the complete folly of allowing the Engineering and Water Supply Department to continue to be the road-construction authority outside local government areas, particularly in the Far North. When an approach was made to the Commonwealth

Government for funds (and I mention specifically the Birdsville track) we were in big trouble because the Commonwealth Government, knowing that we had two road-making authorities in the State, would not make money available until all roads were put under the control of one authority, namely, the Highways Department. Of course, they have their problems because in the Far North there is a lack of the water that is so essential in any road construction. They are definitely working under severe and adverse conditions. Nevertheless, given time and some consideration by motorists (and particularly in wet weather) they will be able to construct roads capable of taking most types of traffic in the area. However, I issue this warning to motorists in the Far North that they should consider the road constructing authorities in those areas so that, when rain does fall (it is not regular in that part of the world), they keep off the roads as much as possible. In certain circumstances, some of these roads should be sealed off completely, though only for a matter of one or two days, to enable them to dry out.

I have seen big transports during a rain storm in that area go up through a new section of road that has only just been graded, and they have done thousands and thousands of dollars worth of damage to that road. It was hard to believe that people could be so silly as to drive a vehicle when the roads were in such a state. It is most essential in that area that the roads be kept in a reasonable state of repair because long distances have to be travelled and the state of the roads means much to the people living there when they have to transport sheep, cattle and other things. I hope that in the years to come we shall have better roads in the north than we have had in the past. I am sure that will happen now that the roads are under the control of the Highways Department.

I was interested to see that the Minister of Roads and Transport has just returned from a visit to Alice Springs, where he looked at the main north-south road, which goes up through Kingoonya. I am doubtful at this stage whether we should be pushing for money for this road, because, from the point of view of access to Alice Springs from the south, we already have a road up through Marree and Oodnadatta to the Alice and this main north-south road through Kingoonya to the Alice. At present there is a railway system running up through Marree and Oodnadatta to the Alice, and the Commonwealth has for some years (I do not know whether it has come

down with a definite report on this) initiated moves, through the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner (Mr. Smith), to re-route the main north-south railway line adjacent to the existing main north-south road through Kingoonya and Kulgera to Alice Springs.

The Commonwealth Government will have to come down with something in the immediate future about what it intends to do with its railways. I was always under the impression that the north-south road through Kingoonya was opened because much of that area had no access to the markets farther south. This road has, since it has been constructed, stood the people, and will continue to stand them, in good stead. However, if the railway is shifted further over, what will happen to the existing road through Marree and Oodnadatta to Alice Springs?

Mr. McKee: Which is the best road?

Mr. CASEY: It is difficult to say: it is six of one and half a dozen of the other at the moment because, if the authorities improve the Birdsville track and the road north of Hawker through to Marree, we are halfway home to Alice Springs from Adelaide, so the Governments must get together on this to see exactly where they are going; they must formulate a plan of where the railways and the road should go or where the greater portion of the money should be spent in this area. I sincerely hope the Government comes to a satisfactory arrangement soon; otherwise we shall be at sixes and sevens and spending large sums of money unnecessarily on both roads.

I refer now to South Australia's future prospects in regard to shipping its produce, particularly wheat, away to other ports. Although I do not wish to become involved in any argument concerning the pros and cons of the matter, I think it is high time that we had a really good look at the situation. Today, we have lost much of the business of shipping wheat to the United Kingdom, in particular. Wheat for the U.K. market is now being shipped from Western Australia, because the bulk carriers prefer to call at ports in that State which are, of course, closer to London than are Wallaroo and Port Lincoln, for instance. If we want to have the advantage of these bigger carriers calling into South Australia, we must provide the necessary port facilities to accommodate them, and it seems to me that we must have at least two main terminal ports in South Australia. An examination of the map contained in the recent report

of the Wheat Board reveals the present ridiculous situation. I think it all stems from the early days of settlement in South Australia, when the South Australian farmer was recognized as being the most progressive in the country.

Mr. Venning: And he still is.

Mr. CASEY: I do not doubt that for one moment. South Australia was the granary of Australia, and the windjammers coming out from Europe found it convenient to call at South Australian ports, sailing right up Spencer Gulf to Port Germein, Wallaroo, Port Pirie and Port Broughton, etc. It seems to me that the present Government and future Governments of South Australia must have a policy providing for at least two ports in the State to accommodate the big ships which will come and which are at present coming on to the run. Looking at the map to which I have referred, we see that Queensland has two ports for the loading of wheat (Gladstone and Brisbane); New South Wales has two (Newcastle and Sydney); Victoria has one (Geelong), and there is talk of building another one later, although I have heard nothing final on that score; Western Australia has five ports; and South Australia at present has six, even though our coastline is the shortest of all. The Government must have a really good look at the situation in order to formulate a policy to provide that, if we cannot get a deep sea port—

Mr. Ryan: Where do you suggest that it be situated?

Mr. CASEY: I do not know; I am not the Minister of Marine. This is an important issue for South Australia, and I think the Minister of Works and Marine realizes this. I think he has to be geared into action on this matter, to take the bull by the horns, so to speak, and formulate a policy, because if we want to survive as a wheat-shipping State we have to provide the necessary facilities. Just exactly where the ports should be, I do not know, but looking at it in a broad sense I would say that we would need a minimum of two ports—one on Eyre Peninsula and one on this side of the gulf. I hope I have made myself clear on that score.

I think the points I have covered are all of immense importance to South Australia generally. I have covered the question of wheat shipment, and I have endeavoured to indicate the situation today with regard to wool and to show how it is so vitally important that wool promotion is kept to the forefront at all times. I sincerely hope that

further representation will be made by the Commonwealth Government to the United States Government for the lifting of the tariff which is crippling the export of wool from Australia to the U.S.A. I have explained why I think the removal of this tariff would not hurt the Government of the U.S.A. to the extent that has been claimed in the past. I consider that if we could get a footing into the American market it would be most beneficial for Australia generally.

Members on this side of the House have dealt with the problems relating to school teachers. No doubt members opposite, too, have been approached by school teachers with their complaints. I know that there are many school teachers in country districts who are most dissatisfied with this Government's present policy. I consider that the Education Department has been more or less hamstrung since this Government came into office. It seems that the Government became obsessed with the idea of saving money in order to balance its Budget. This policy, one of the very small items on the Government's platform and in fact one of the few, is the No. 1 item for this Government. However, I think that in taking this attitude it has curtailed the Education Department to such an extent that it has caused hardship to many school teachers, particularly in country areas.

Mr. McKee: This is capitalist policy.

Mr. CASEY: A school teacher who came to me several months ago told me that the rent of his house had been increased by \$5 (I think it was) a week, even though the house had been condemned. Another school teacher came to me only a few weeks ago and said, "I don't know where we are going, because I got a \$1.30 rise last year and now I have had a \$1.30 increase in my rent." That is not good enough. If we want teachers to go to country areas we have to give them some incentive to go there. We certainly are not going to hold these people by these methods of giving them a wage increase with one hand and taking it away by means of a rent increase with the other hand.

As I say, the Education Department has been starved by the Treasury. It has been told to cut back as much as possible, and this has affected the teaching staff. I am afraid that if the Government does not pull its socks up, something very serious could happen with regard to the teachers in this State. I know that ancillary staff is needed. As I know several headmasters in country areas and in the city, I have seen the tremendous strain they are

under and the amount of work entailed in their job as headmaster. I know that few headmasters of city high schools teach, but most headmasters of country high schools also teach. How does a headmaster administer a fairly large high school and teach at the same time, with examination papers to correct every so often, homework to mark at night, and so on? Because he has no knowledge of the environment, I do not think the average member of Parliament can visualize the work involved in running a large primary or high school. This is a pretty big task and I think headmasters are justified in asking for ancillary staff, and that the provision of this staff is long overdue.

This subject was raised with me several years ago and, when I saw the work done by teachers, particularly headmasters in the country high schools and large primary schools, I could not have agreed more that the need was there. I sincerely hope the Minister of Education can do something about this, although I realize that her hands are tied because, if the Treasurer will not give her the money, she cannot do much. If the Government wants to balance the Budget it has to take what is coming to it regarding departmental problems, and I think it is high time Government members realized that that is the score; they cannot have it both ways. If they are so obsessed with balancing the Budget then they can attempt to do that, but they will suffer in other quarters, particularly regarding education, which is vital not only in South Australia but throughout the Commonwealth.

One Government member claimed that the mover and seconder of the motion were fitting replacements for the previous members for Gumeracha and Onkaparinga. I believe that was the exaggeration of the century, because I do not think all of the members opposite put together would compare with Sir Thomas Playford and Mr. Howard Shannon with regard to ability. I had a lot of respect for those two gentlemen. Do not let us try to kid ourselves when talking about the contribution made by the mover and seconder. I think they did their best, but that was about a 20 per cent effort. If members opposite want to be constructive then I suggest to them that they should be truthful, because if they are not truthful they cannot be constructive. Members opposite should heed that suggestion because the new members have much to learn if they are to emulate Sir Thomas Playford and Mr. Howard

Shannon. I have pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. LANGLEY (Unley): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, but on reading the Governor's Speech one is aware that the Government is not making the forward moves and progressing in the way that we thought would happen. We had often been told in this House that as soon as we had Liberal Governments in control of the Commonwealth and State Parliaments things would be much better and brighter. However, I am afraid that the Commonwealth Government has not given the assistance to this Government that we were told it would. I congratulate the Governor (Sir James Harrison) on the way he delivered his Speech to members at the opening of Parliament. We all know that Lady Harrison and he will carry out their duties in a most competent manner, and we all wish them well.

I convey my sympathy to the next of kin and relatives of deceased ex-members. During the last election campaign many weird and wonderful pamphlets were placed in letter boxes, particularly in the Districts of Unley, Glenelg, and Wallaroo, but, lo and behold, some of the prophecies and things that were stated in the pamphlets have not come to fruition. However, no matter what was said during the campaign by L.C.L. members, it was obvious that the people of South Australia wanted a State Labor Government. This was shown by the voting and I am sure that now and in the future the people will overwhelmingly vote for a Labor Government at the next election.

Mr. Rodda: Who wrote this speech for you?

Mr. LANGLEY: No-one wrote this, but I am sure someone wrote the speech of the honourable member. I do not know who it was, but he did not do a bad job. I am sure it was not the Premier, but I think it was someone from the Premier's Department.

Mr. Lawn: Perhaps one of the Premier's Under Secretaries.

Mr. LANGLEY: Like the member for Light, the member for Victoria is a cohort of the Premier.

The Hon. J. W. H. Coumbe: How do you spell that?

Mr. LANGLEY: Having attended Bowden Technical School, I am proud of my schooling, and proud to be a member of the Party to which I belong today.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I ask the honourable member for Unley to ignore all interjections.

Mr. LANGLEY: Sometimes, Sir, one cannot help replying.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: If the honourable member will address the Chair he will get on all right.

Mr. LANGLEY: I quote from the pamphlet *Voice of South Australia* placed in letter boxes in the Unley District, because this is extremely important to the people of South Australia. It shows how times have changed and also how people can be forced in a certain direction, because of pressure placed upon them. During the last State election this paragraph appeared in that pamphlet, and now we realize how wrong it was. The pamphlet states:

In 1963, when Sir Thomas Playford announced the Chowilla dam project, he announced that the dam would be an absolute necessity by 1970, otherwise we ran the risk of a serious water shortage.

Mr. Clark: We still do.

Mr. LANGLEY: No doubt about that, and we have nothing in our favour at present. We will get something one day, but we do not know which day. The pamphlet continued:

In 1967, after the Labor Party had been in power in South Australia for nearly three years and after \$6,000,000 had been spent on site testing, building a railway and building two villages for construction workers, the Chowilla dam is now in doubt. We don't want water restrictions in South Australia. Why doesn't the Labor Party get on with the job?

Mr. Broomhill: The position is intolerable now.

Mr. LANGLEY: No doubt, but "we don't want water restrictions"! During the life of the Dunstan Labor Government we had one of the worst droughts ever, but we maintained the water supply in South Australia, because the people of South Australia stuck with the Dunstan Government and co-operated in their use of water. A Liberal Government would have imposed restrictions immediately, as Liberal Governments had done before. The drought to which I have referred was one of the worst ever.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Unley is making a good attempt at his speech and should be heard without interruption.

Mr. LANGLEY: I think the Labor Government, in three years of office, spent more than had been spent by any other Government but the members who were then in Opposition and are now in Government are saying, "We will defer the dam." The Labor Government intended to go on with Chowilla, and the building of Chowilla has continued to be our policy.

I assure the Government that the people want the Chowilla dam built. The member for Light (Mr. Freebairn) said in this House that he was willing to go to an election on the issue, but he was quickly squashed the next day. Members representing Murray River districts have the opportunity to go to the people on the issue and see who comes through with flying colours.

If we have Chowilla in South Australia we can control it but, if we had Dartmouth, we would have to rely on someone else. If people in another State had a bad time, what would happen about water coming to South Australia? You, Mr. Speaker, know that South Australia needs water, and we prefer to have the source of supply in our own State so that we will have control and be able to provide sufficient water to develop South Australia. The Premier had been saying that we would have Chowilla, but he made an about-turn on the issue. Although I have not such a high position in my Party as the member for Light has in his, I know that the Opposition would be pleased to go to the people and accept his challenge.

Mr. Broomhill: Where's the member for Light now?

Mr. LANGLEY: That is his business, not mine.

The SPEAKER: Order! Members must stop interrupting the honourable member, please.

Mr. LANGLEY: I do not mind being interrupted occasionally, Mr. Speaker, but I have taken a bit of a lashing over a period: sometimes I hear, and sometimes I do not. The member for Onkaparinga (Mr. Evans) has said that he is not now interested in the building trade. I am sure that that is correct, because in the last 10 years the fortunes of builders in this State have fluctuated. Gone are the days when we did a job, received payment, and the people were happy, knowing that they had had a good job done by good tradesmen. In those days, builders were trained well and they learnt the hard way.

However, the building trade has slumped, particularly in the modes of workmanship, in contracts, and in the way tenders are negotiated for big building projects. Before the Second World War the builders were competent. At that time the electricians and plumbers were probably the only tradesmen outside the control of the building contractor, although they would be under the supervision of a building inspector. These days there has crept into this State and all other States the practice whereby the builder sits in his office, telephones about four or five

different trades, and gets a price from them. He decides it does not matter what happens: he will take somewhere near the lowest tender. Then he adds 10 per cent on to the working money he requires, and he either gets the contract or he does not. That is how tendering is done these days.

Recently, in the *Advertiser*, I saw one of these companies in action. They even got down to saying they would supply the hardware. They would do anything they possibly could to get a building contract. Building techniques have changed and there are many smart people in the trade at present. We also find people who know a little but say they know a lot. They are sharp and are able to become builders without in any way being connected with the building trade. We know that in the building trade more people have gone bankrupt during the last few years than ever before in that trade. We also know that many people who have bought houses have not had the building supervised by anybody. The houses have been built by "spec" builders. I am not saying that all "spec" builders are smart or do not do a good job, but there are always some who do not do a good job. There is no doubt that the biggest financial outlay the average person makes in the course of his life is on a house, which these days will cost him well over \$10,000. Naturally, he wants something for his money.

During last session, we passed a Bill to license builders, but the only thing we have heard about it since is that there is an office in town for the Builders Licensing Board, for which the Government pays, and the board has a number that can be contacted, but nothing further has been done about the licensing of builders. During the course of the last Parliament, we licensed electricians. I do not know whether any members have had any trouble with that legislation. Naturally, there has been some trouble. I believe the member for Stirling (Mr. McAnaney) has had a complaint.

Mr. Hurst: Was he fooling around with it himself?

Mr. LANGLEY: Maybe, because he is a foolish fellow. If he does that type of thing, there may be a by-election. There is the safety aspect to be considered with electricity. As the member for Onkaparinga knows, the people in the country do not have to be licensed, for they can be a long way from an electrician. They do not have to be under the supervision of the Electricity Trust; but suddenly they were given the opportunity to do the work and have the work passed. There

should also be the licensing of builders in this State.

During the course of these debates many suggestions have been made. The licensing of electricians was effected by regulations, but I have not noticed any regulations for the licensing of builders. Most people in the building trade would welcome the licensing of builders: it would help in more ways than one. How many times do people who have built houses discover that six months or so after completion the house starts to crack or something goes wrong with the doors or latches—or even with the electrical work? If a licensed person had done the job, the owner could go back to him immediately, but some subcontractors are merely fly-by-night operators who often cannot be found and over whom there is no control. Unfortunately, many people who have made the biggest outlay of their lives in purchasing a house are up for more expense. It is high time that the Government of the day took action to ensure that people receive value for their money when purchasing a new house. I refer now to price control and to the unfortunate fact that the price of the ordinary house has increased considerably. This is another impost on the people of South Australia.

Mr. Evans: If you bring in licensing, prices will increase more.

Mr. LANGLEY: I say that we should still have price control. The Government has lifted this control, but this denies people the opportunity to get the best quality for the price they pay. When price control is not being applied, prices increase, although the work performed does not improve in any way. The lifting of price control gives certain people an opportunity to increase their prices to suit themselves, and elderly people particularly are often in a cleft stick. Having perhaps believed that a certain workman they may have engaged is as honest as the day is long, they have no redress when they discover that his workmanship is faulty and that it is not covered by price control. I hope it will not be long before the former Labor Government returns to power, so that once again we can ensure stability of prices in regard to the electrical trade, for instance.

It has been shown that with electricians, for instance, charging prices below those set by the Prices Commissioner, it is the maximum price and not the minimum price that forms the basis on which many tradesmen charge for the work they perform. We have heard much in this House about safety on the roads and in

industry in this State, and we are aware of the existence of two safety organizations, one sponsored by the Government and the other a voluntary organization, both of which are doing a good job. I assume that the Minister concerned has received a letter from one of these organizations seeking help in the future, and I only hope that that help will be forthcoming. The Minister has told us that safety in factories has improved considerably, but I am not so sure that there has been an improvement in road safety or that we are doing sufficient to safeguard the lives of people who use the roads, pedestrians and motorists alike.

Only the other day in my district, a child and its mother, who were the only pedestrians walking along a section of a particular street, were involved in an accident, and the child was fatally injured. There are set patterns in implementing safety measures, and I instance the provision of school pedestrian lights, which are an effective measure, although there may previously have been some minor accidents at the site of these lights. However, I refer here to the George Street, Duthy Street and Harrow Terrace stretch of road that is commonly known as the Kingswood car line. We have all heard the saying that speed kills, and I am sure this is so with regard to this road. The three streets I have mentioned are all of a similar width to the ones that intersect this road, and they are streets that normally do not carry a large volume of vehicular traffic. These streets that I have mentioned become almost a main highway during peak periods of the day, and people in the district (and other people, too, who traverse the district only occasionally) are apt to forget that this section is a semi-main highway and they fail to take the necessary precautions to ensure safety.

We know that at various places there is a sign saying that there is a crossing ahead. Well, sometimes these are easily seen and sometimes they are not, because they are on the left and usually motorists these days look to the right while driving. Also, some of these signs are partially obscured by posts and by trees when they are in full foliage. I know that "stop" signs and, especially on the main highways, "give way" signs have effected an improvement. The road that runs from Greenhill Road to Maud Street has "stop" signs on either side of the road, but from Maud Street to Fisher Street, with one exception, there are only "crossing ahead" signs and a line down the centre of the road.

I might add that the other section of Duthy Street, as well as Harrow Terrace, is in the district of the member for Mitcham. I am sure he will (at least I hope he will) support me in my plea that something be done to ensure further safety in this area. Many fatal accidents have occurred on this road, and I am told that accidents happen every day in this area. I hope that the member for Mitcham will help me in this matter, because he represents the Minister of Roads and Transport in this House. Once "stop" signs are erected, motorists get to know they are there and before they get to a corner they slow down and ensure that they move into the traffic in the correct manner. I am sure that the people in that district and the people who travel along this semi-main highway would be happy if something was done to ensure more safety in this part of my district.

Another matter I wish to bring before the House concerns the Minister of Social Welfare. It is claimed that we look after the people better in this State than do other State Governments. The example I wish to quote indicates what a pittance we give to help people who are in dire need. I know of a sick person who has been the victim of circumstances, for he lost his house when he was taken down by a smart person in the real estate business. This man, who has a wife and two children, receives \$17.25 a week in Commonwealth social services, plus \$1.25 from the Social Welfare Department. While he was at home he was receiving \$4 a week as a rent allowance, but when he had to go back into hospital his rent allowance was cut down to \$1.25 a week. At present, he pays \$12 a week rent, which is not a bad rent in these days; I expect rents in other areas are higher. For general commitments such as electricity, gas and so on another \$4 is spent, so that in the end he and his wife have \$2.50 a week to live on. This is a mere pittance, and I am sure that this is not an isolated case. In cases such as this, where people are the victims of circumstances beyond their control, I hope the Minister will see whether full rental allowances can be forthcoming from the department. The case to which I have referred is genuine. If it was not for neighbours and others around the district, these people would not be able to exist. This man's house is very clean, and I am sure that when he is released from hospital he will be able to pull himself through, because I have been told that his job will still be available.

During the debate I have heard remarks about the Electricity Trust of South Australia. I am sure the newer members of the House (and I am only a relatively new member) will be interested to know how the Electricity Trust came into being. Despite Sir Thomas Playford's guile, energy and shrewdness, the trust could not have been established had it not been for the support of the Labour Opposition at the time. Since it was established I can assure honourable members that it has given a great boost to the economy and has helped industries to establish here. Sir Thomas Playford would not have a bar of the licensing of electricians, even though the Electricity Trust was wholly in favour of it. Now the trust is going from strength to strength, and one could not find a more efficient band of people. With the single wire earth return service and low tariffs in the country, there is no doubt the trust has done a wonderful job, and it will continue to do so. I am amazed to think that some members opposite have had the gall to say the Labour Party was against the trust; that is completely wrong. I am pleased that Sir Thomas Playford was big enough to take over from private enterprise in this case.

Mr. Jennings: He had to use Leigh Creek coal.

Mr. LANGLEY: Yes, and this enabled the State to utilize this source of power. The Port Augusta power station has used these deposits and, as they diminish, I am sure that changes will be made to ensure that an efficient service continues. I know of no more efficient organization in South Australia than the trust, whose officers are on call at all hours to help people as much as possible and ensure that they receive an uninterrupted electricity supply. Perhaps I favour electricity, but I sincerely hope that we shall learn a lesson from what has happened in other States following the introduction of natural gas. I find, when travelling among the people in my district, that the Gas Company has not impressed the public with the benefits of using natural gas. People have said that they would use electricity rather than gas, and I am sure that this state of mind has been brought about by what has happened in Victoria. This is a huge project that will be of great benefit to this State, and should be boosted more to ensure that people do not write it down: rather, it should be written up by the Gas Company.

Perhaps a publicity campaign should be used, because the Government will also benefit from people using natural gas. Action should

be taken to ensure that people are looked after in the case of accident, although, of course, I hope that such accidents will not happen. The public must be given confidence to use natural gas, which will be of great benefit to this State, particularly in relation to industry. Although the member for Eyre may joke about some things, some of his jokes have misfired. Whatever he has said about the position of the Australian Labor Party in this State, I assure him that we have never been more united.

Mr. Venning: You must be kidding.

Mr. LANGLEY: I am sure that the honourable member does not really know, and could not instance anything to the contrary. Apparently, some newspapers have been trying to implant in the minds of people the idea that members on this side are not pulling together, but we have never been more united. Some people have spoken about the Communist bogey concerning members of the Labor Party, but nothing of this kind has infiltrated into the minds of any member on this side. Perhaps there are members of the Communist Party among Liberal supporters.

Mr. Rodda: Are you a Socialist?

Mr. LANGLEY: I am, and I agree with those principles. I am sure that I have been able to satisfy the electors of my district, because I have been able to defeat my opponents on several occasions. At each election some sort of bogey has been raised, but without effect. The Premier has said that he would be proud to admit defeat when it comes, and so are we. Several of the candidates who have opposed me have never praised the person who defeated them, but have rubbished the Labor Party and the Labor candidate. If I am defeated at the next election I will congratulate the person who wins it: one must take defeat when one has to, and then fight back again. No-one gets anywhere by sitting on the fence, and the Opposition has not been sitting on the fence during the life of this Parliament.

Mr. McAnaney: Aren't you fiddling now?

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Stirling is out of order.

Mr. LANGLEY: I have never seen such a fiddle as the L.C.L. has suggested regarding the District of Unley. In every redistribution, the Unley District has been a great fiddle. I should like the member for Stirling to contest the District of Unley on the present boundaries. If he did, he would change his mind about whether the L.C.L. fiddled that district. The L.C.L. now wants to fiddle the Unley District in such a way that it will be impossible for

Labor to win it. The L.C.L. should give candidates a chance to win and should not fiddle districts.

Mr. McAnaney: What about the District of Adelaide?

The SPEAKER: The honourable member for Stirling is out of order, and I will not warn him again.

Mr. Jennings: Throw him out.

The SPEAKER: That is what will happen if he does not behave himself.

Mr. LANGLEY: I know that unemployment has been used by both Parties for political purposes. We all know that we have had recessions. No-one can tell me that we did not have them under Liberal Governments, and we had a gerrymander in those days. The recession during the Labor Government's term of office was brought about by the Commonwealth Government, and South Australia was not the only State that suffered. However, as the Leader of the Opposition has said, we have not a diversified economy in this State and we were getting away from agriculture and going more to engineering and to producing consumer goods. As the other States were not doing very well, we were not able to sell our products. Although the unemployment percentage figure for this State may have dropped, the general position is still the same. All States, including South Australia, have picked up. People left South Australia and they are not coming back.

Mr. Broomhill: They're still moving out.

Mr. LANGLEY: They may be. One reason why they are not coming back is that they are enjoying better conditions and are doing well in another State.

Mr. Lawn: The Premier says that, although advertisements have been published, they won't come back.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Adelaide is out of order.

Mr. LANGLEY: Would anyone leave a position in which he had continuity of employment and if he had settled down? I am sure that I would not. Many people went to Western Australia, but the position changes and States have booms at various times. The Opposition would love to be on the Treasury Benches in these days, and we should be there. The people of South Australia voted 53 per cent to 43 per cent in favour of Labor and they wanted a Labor Government.

When I was in a country district (I think it was the Treasurer's district) I got the biggest surprise of my life when a man said to me, "Electoral boundaries are not too good. Look

at us people with our wheat, sheep, land and trees. I cannot understand why you people want to stop the country from being so loaded." I said, "What is your position?" He said, "I am a farmer and I get four or five votes to what you get in the city." I said, "Oh, what about going to see Sir Edward Hayward to see what he thinks about that and to see what the people in the street think about it?"

The Government should realize that the people of South Australia want one vote one value; they want to think they are all equal in these things—although, of course, some are better than others in certain walks of life. The other countries of the world do not give a preference to country seats. Even the Commonwealth Government tries for one vote one value and, the sooner we get it, the better. I do not think I am any better than the member for Rocky River and I hope he does not think he is better than I am. Let us keep it on the right plane. I am sure you, the member for Rocky River—

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Unley must address the Chair.

Mr. LANGLEY: I am sure we were all delighted to meet Sir James Harrison and his wife. Like others who have spoken to this motion on this side of the House, I am pleased to have the opportunity to refer to the Governor's Speech. I congratulate the member for Gumeracha (Mr. Giles) and the member for Onkaparinga (Mr. Evans) on the way they moved and seconded the motion. I support it.

Mr. JENNINGS (Enfield): I am glad to have this opportunity of speaking to the motion. I do not particularly care whether or not it is adopted. As Mr. Toots said, "It is of no consequence to me." However, it is traditional for this motion to be adopted, so I shall not oppose it just for the sake of notoriety although, on the other hand, I have no reason to support it. The Governor's Speech was and is an inept instrument of an inept Government, a minority Government that gained power by political opportunism and since then has betrayed the trust put in it by breaking the promises that enabled it to take office.

I congratulate the microscopic few who have contributed anything worthwhile to the Address in Reply debate. His Excellency the Governor undoubtedly read his Speech well and enunciated clearly—a lesson, I think, to the mover of this motion; but the Governor's excellent reading and clear enunciation only

highlighted the shallowness of the document he was reading from. It was this that caused most of us to feel that this was the longest opening Speech that we had ever heard; but it was not—it only seemed long. We have a new Governor, a distinguished one. He is a distinguished gentleman. I am glad an Australian was chosen. But I am disappointed that the Government chose a military man for this position and apparently did not consider anyone beyond the three services. I cannot help but think that the continuous glamourizing of military men and military affairs, with the attendant pomp and jingoism, is not conducive to the maintenance of world peace and that it is, anyway, getting our values a little mixed up.

Why should not we have, as head of State, a distinguished scientist, author or painter, farmer or trade union leader, or anyone who has contributed something to peaceful pursuits and who could continue to contribute to the pursuit of peace? No-one can claim that what I have said is a reflection on the Governor himself. I have said that he has made a success of his chosen career, as the member for Gumeracha (Mr. Giles) told us *ad nauseam*. Perhaps the next and only people who should be congratulated on the Address in Reply, apart from other members who had to listen to it, are the workers in the Government Printing Office who did the excellent printing job.

Mr. Corcoran: Some good speeches were made on this side of the House.

Mr. JENNINGS: No, I am referring to the Address in Reply, that is, the document itself. The workers in the printing office did an excellent job, despite the conditions under which they work.

Mr. Hurst: I forgot to mention that.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, the honourable member also forgot a few other things. I extend now my sympathy to the families of the deceased former members referred to in the Governor's Speech. Some of these members I knew; one of them was a constituent of mine, albeit a former Liberal member of the Upper House, representing the Northern District. No doubt they all contributed, according to their lights, to the service of the State. While on the general niceties (I assure members the niceties are not going to last much longer), I express my deep regret at the negligence shown in this debate by members on both sides of the House regarding the new Prince of Wales.

Despite my promptings, not one member thought of congratulating our bonnie Prince Charlie on his investiture as Prince of Wales, and this makes me shudder. I do not know how the British Commonwealth of Nations is going to continue when one of Her Majesty's Parliaments neglects to congratulate the Prince of Wales on his investiture. I have now seen that the Prince of Wales has not been forgotten, but it should have come from someone more important than I, even perhaps from an Under Secretary (even an over under secretary or an under under secretary).

The Governor's Opening Speech was prepared, of course, in the Government's absence. Most of the Ministers were away overseas at the time, and the speech itself shows plenty of evidence of this. The Speech was not the legislative programme for the session: it was a romance history of the past, for many of the things that the Government was congratulating itself on had their origin in the period of Labor Administration.

Mr. Venning: I would not have thought so.

Mr. JENNINGS: The member for Rocky River may or may not have thought so; I do not know. One thing I do know about the member for Rocky River is that he is a very silent man but he speaks much more than he thinks. There is nothing original about a Government's taking credit for something that an Opposition did, or at least started, when it was in Government; but on this occasion we had the peculiar position of the Government's taking credit (in the Governor's Speech) for things which when it was in Opposition it violently opposed in this House. In fact, the former Opposition was the most unconstructive Opposition in the history of South Australia.

Mr. Corcoran: Most destructive!

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, but it was the rotten electoral system, not the people of this State, that destroyed us.

Mr. Clark: And that is only temporary.

Mr. JENNINGS: Of course.

Mr. Corcoran: And there was something else that destroyed us, too.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, and we know where he is sitting at the moment. Something that was most reprehensible was that we had people like the present Attorney-General putting forward nation-rocking arguments about the cleaning of school windows.

Mr. Clark: We haven't heard much about that lately.

Mr. JENNINGS: No. The Attorney also asked several questions about Ministerial cars. I think that, when he was not properly satisfied with the answer, he put the question on notice. When he asked this question about Ministerial cars, I believe the wrong answer was given. He put down about three questions in one and the Government, being a good, honest Government, answered each question in turn, but the answer should have been just to clean them.

That part of the Governor's Speech that was intended to outline the Government's legislative programme enumerated 28 Bills to be introduced, and ended up by referring to "a number of other Acts". It would have been just as illuminating to us if the Speech had referred from the beginning to "a number of other Acts", for the 28 enumerated are only those things likely to be done anyway.

Mr. Lawn: Chowilla hasn't got a mention.

Mr. JENNINGS: I noticed that; there is a reason for it that I will explain later. I think that if, at the end of this session, the Government's legislative achievements bear any resemblance at all to the Governor's Speech anyone on this side of the House will, in the hallowed words of Sir Thomas Playford, be prepared to give a garden party.

Mr. Hudson: I hope the garden party will be given if the bet is lost, because Sir Thomas Playford still owes me a garden party and has never paid up.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. JENNINGS: Sir Thomas Playford was a great statesman and he was also very good at shrewd, cunning expressions such as that, so that he could get out of things.

Mr. Broomhill: Are you suggesting he wasn't a man of his word?

Mr. Venning: You said he was a statesman.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, he was a statesman, compared with the person in his place now.

Mr. Ryan: He was brilliant in comparison.

Mr. JENNINGS: Anyone would be. It is much more likely that the difference between our legislative achievements at the end of the session and the Governor's Speech will be as great as the difference between the Liberal and Country League's election promises and its post-election achievements. So much for the Governor's Speech. I must admit that I share his prayer for Divine guidance: we will need it. However, I would need convincing that it was genuine Divine guidance, and I would take a lot of convincing if it came through the extraordinary agency

of the member for Rocky River, who has been claiming lately that he is the new Messiah.

Let us consider the debate so far. Although it has been an unusual debate in many ways it has, on the other hand, been usual in another respect, and that is something that I have always noticed since I have been in this Parliament. The speeches from Government members are getting worse (although you would not think it possible) and the speeches of members on my side are always getting better, although you would not think that possible. The mover, the member for Gumeracha, let me down badly, although I did not expect much from him.

Mr. Giles: I must have been talking commonsense.

Mr. JENNINGS: No, the honourable member read his speech: he was pulled up a couple of times for doing that and the member for Hindmarsh took a point of order about it.

Mr. Giles: He apparently read his, too.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Gumeracha has made his speech.

Mr. JENNINGS: The member for Gumeracha let me down badly, because I had expected something from him. Despite much evidence to the contrary I had always imagined that, because he took over the seat of Gumeracha from the Hon. Sir Thomas Playford, he must have been hand-picked by the former member for Gumeracha. Now I realize that this was a foolish assumption of mine, because I did not allow for the astonishing ego of Sir Thomas Playford.

Mr. Broomhill: You should have done that.

Mr. JENNINGS: Of course. We know that Sir Thomas Playford would never sponsor anyone to a position he held who could compare favourably with him, and how could I forget this when I have the horrible example of the Premier facing me every day? On reading the speech of the member for Gumeracha (which is what he did), I find it impossible to comment on most of it. It is merely a list of favourable statistics (that is, from his point of view) presented to us and prepared, as he admitted himself, by the departments concerned.

Mr. Clark: The Under Secretaries were in it, too.

Mr. JENNINGS: Although it was bad, it was too good for that. It had plenty of foam-rubber padding such as the biography of the Governor. We were given the Governor's career from the time he entered Duntroon until he was appointed Governor of South Australia.

The member for Gumeracha must have spoken before the Governor visited the District of Eyre, otherwise he would have told us of the Governor's visit and that the Governor had been given great "hospital" treatment by the constituents of the member for Eyre, and we were told that by the member for Eyre.

Mr. Langley: I think he is going to dong you.

Mr. JENNINGS: I would not be game to speak in these terms if the member for Eyre was to follow me. Rarely did the member for Gumeracha essay his own opinion.

Mr. Broomhill: Why?

Mr. JENNINGS: It may be because he has not an opinion of his own, but perhaps it would have been better if he had given any opinions that he has. In fact, it probably would have had to be better. On the other hand, I do not think it would have been much more enlightening, if what I am about to read is an example. At page 178 of *Hansard* the honourable member, when talking about tourism, said:

With more finances available, our outback country, beaches and areas could be developed to the stage where they would be equal to any other tourist attraction in the world. Our Minister is just the person to develop this industry.

The first part of that statement has all the charm of novelty, in that he says that one can do more if one has more money! The second part is purely a personal opinion that would not be unanimously held in this House. My opinion is that the Minister could not attract bees to a honey pot, but that is also a personal opinion, and I may be wrong. Only two things the honourable member said are really worthy of comment. One is his analysis of the financial situation inherited by the Labor Government in 1965.

Mr. Clark: That was all inaccurate.

Mr. JENNINGS: It was completely inaccurate, as I will show. I do not know whether the honourable member knows better and was just loyal to Liberal lies or whether he has succumbed to L.C.L. propaganda of the type that emanated from that pamphlet that was referred to tonight by the member for Unley—*Voice of South Australia*. That publication is now defunct, but the real voice of South Australia is not defunct and I assure you, Mr. Speaker, that it will not be defunct at the next election.

The member for Gumeracha knows that at the 1962 election, the Playford Government's numbers were so depleted that the Government had to depend on the casting vote of a so-

called independent Speaker for the next three years. It was humiliating for a Government to have to depend on a key man who could be turned any way. The Premier tried to regerrymander during that Parliament or "super" gerrymander or Tommy-gerrymander (call it what you will) but he did not then have a constitutional majority, so he failed.

As a consequence of this, the then Premier (Sir Thomas Playford), being the astute politician he was, said that the loss of one seat would mean that the Premiership would be lost after 27 years. I think he was more concerned about the loss of the Premiership after 27 years than the loss of a Liberal Government after 32 years, but he decided to spend money he did not have. He embarked on projects all over South Australia hoping that people would see those things being built and say, "The Playford Government has a new lease of life."

Mr. Langley: A deep sea port at Oodnadatta!

Mr. JENNINGS: He had been going to do all sorts of things, like the electrification of the South Australian railways and the construction of an atomic power plant at Lake Leake.

Mr. Clark: And the deep sea port at Smithfield!

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes. He did not like the prospect of losing the election, and this was one of the ways in which he tried to get public opinion back on his side. This meant that he overspent and committed the incoming Government to expenditure for years in advance. It was not a very great sum (\$9,600,000 from the closing of the Radium Hill project) that he had to squander (and it was squandered) as a handy little sum to throw away. This was obviously not a recurring income, so that is the position the incoming Labor Government found in 1965. Liberal speakers ever since have been talking about the fact that the Playford Government left the Treasury highly financial.

Mr. Hudson: He had overspent by over \$8,000,000 in his last year.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes.

Mr. Corcoran: And had raised no taxation to maintain it, either.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, because that would have meant an impost on the taxpayer which he obviously did not want to apply just prior to an election. The principal thing was that the Labor Government could not possibly leave those projects half-finished, because that would have been bad economics. Liberal speakers

have always been talking in this fashion: that we inherited the Treasury in such a good condition and left it in such a bad condition. That is not true—quite the contrary. It is merely a case of people who do not want to see, and that is all: they must know better themselves. The second point made by the member for Gumeracha was in regard to the electoral boundaries, and he said:

Since 1954, no redistribution has taken place.

He was two years out, but that is nothing for him. He continued:

Because of the centralized type of population growth in the Adelaide metropolitan area, a serious out-of-proportion situation has developed.

That is a masterly understatement. Later, he said:

I do consider that we gave too much away in country areas.

That is peculiar thinking. If the new electoral set-up is adopted, the country voter will still have a vote worth much more than that of the metropolitan voter, and that is my principal objection to the present proposal. Cannot the honourable member see that the system under which we suffer at the moment, where we have two country seats to one metropolitan seat, has been in vogue since 1938? In all this time to which the honourable member was referring, regarding country areas not being treated properly (and I have heard this from country members ever since I have been here), there have been two country members to one metropolitan member and an L.C.L. Government for the whole period except for three years.

How can Government members justify complaining about the representation that country people have in this Parliament? The real position is that the country electors of South Australia will not be properly served by electing a majority to this Parliament of substandard country people to represent them. If the members of this Parliament represented country electors on the same basis as metropolitan electors were represented, I would think this artificial division of country versus city would be overcome, and the country districts would be served much better than they have been served during the last 30 years. The motion was seconded by the member for Onkaparinga (Mr. Evans), a young man of considerable self-confidence and self-importance. I congratulate him on his speech. He at least intruded some of his own thoughts into his speech. However, he congratulated everyone on the Government side.

Mr. Clark: He would have congratulated you if you had spoken before him.

Mr. Venning: I don't think so.

Mr. JENNINGS: I agree with the member for Rocky River for once. The member for Onkaparinga even congratulated again, just before he finished, the member for Gumeracha on his magnificent speech. If a person is that easily pleased, he should be encouraged, or he should be bred from, but I understand that that has happened already. He doubled up somewhat in his congratulations. For example, he was not content to congratulate only the present Governor: he also congratulated the former Governor (Sir Edric Bastyan) for his wonderful service to South Australia. I doubt very much whether Sir Edric Bastyan would know the member for Onkaparinga if he fell over him; if he does know him, it might be the reason why he was so glad to get away from South Australia.

An example of what I am saying is to be found at page 194 of *Hansard*, where the honourable member congratulated the Minister of Tourism. Mr. Speaker, I would ask you to get this, if you do not mind: he congratulated the Minister of Tourism on the amiable way in which the Minister regarded the Mount Barker summit. That, surely, is a very quaint phrase, but a pleasant one, no doubt. When I come to think of it, I suppose I always regard the Mount Barker summit in an amiable way.

Mr. Clark: Just what exactly does that mean?

Mr. JENNINGS: I do not know. I, too, would have regarded the Mount Barker summit quite amiably if I ever regarded it at all. Then, after a while—in fact, halfway down the same column in *Hansard*—the member for Onkaparinga congratulated the Minister of Lands on something else. As we know, the Minister of Lands is also the Minister of Tourism. After the first burst, how could the Minister be anything but amiable? His head was glistening then. Still, as I said, the member for Onkaparinga did intrude a few of his own thoughts into his speech.

I do not want to refer at any great length to many other speakers from the Government side. However, perhaps to keep things in the order in which I want to keep them, I should begin by referring to my friend, the member for Eyre (Mr. Edwards). The honourable member made—and I congratulate him on it—the best speech I have ever heard him make in this House.

Mr. Clark: That's 100 per cent correct.

Mr. JENNINGS: I say this quite sincerely: he made the best speech I have ever heard him make in this House. If he can keep up this rate of improvement for a number of years, he will be just simply awful. The honourable member began his speech by objecting to the lamentable practice, lately enjoying some currency in this place, of employing nicknames to describe other members. He complained that he, for example, is variously described as "Deadly Ernest" or "the wombat". He said that the member for Stirling is called "Knucklehead", the member for Rocky River "Rocky cockie", and the member for Onkaparinga the "Garbage man". I think he has missed a few. Let me assure the honourable member that, in blaming Labor members, he is blaming the wrong people. Apart from the soubriquet so fondly applied to the member for Stirling, all of the others have been conjured up by jealous members on the other side.

Mr. Edwards: On your side.

Mr. JENNINGS: On the other side. If the member for Eyre disputes this, I can tell him that I knew he would be described in here as "Deadly Ernest" before I had ever seen him; I was told by one of his own Parliamentary colleagues that he would be called this.

Mr. Edwards: He had better watch out then.

Mr. JENNINGS: I will not tell the honourable member who he is. We did not call the member for Onkaparinga a garbage man: we have respect for honest garbage men. Regarding "Rocky cockie", I had no idea the member for Rocky River was in the least interested in modern music. The facts are that these nicknames have been adopted to some extent by Labor members as a means of identifying the new L.C.L. members. Many new L.C.L. members came into the House at the last election and they were a grey, anonymous lot. There was not a personality or character amongst them. It would have been entirely different if there had been a Playford, Quirke, Shannon or Hambour amongst them, for these men were personalities in their own right. As I have said, the nicknames applied to them by jealous and small-minded colleagues were accepted in some cases by Labor members to help us tell Tweedle Dum from Tweedle Dee.

Mr. Clark: Have you heard the nickname "Curly"?

Mr. JENNINGS: No, but that could be applied to many members.

Mr. McKee: I notice the Minister of Lands laughing.

Mr. JENNINGS: After complaining about these nicknames, the member for Eyre then did something worse than that about which he was complaining: he made another nickname based solely on a member's physical disability. Sir Thomas Playford has been referred to quite often in this debate. He is a great statesman now he has left this House. I remember that when I first came here he took me aside, advising me that it was a tradition in this Parliament never to break a confidence, never to say in the Chamber things that are said in the lobbies, and never to take advantage of the discomfort of another member because of some domestic, emotional or nervous upset, or things such as that. My own Leader (Mr. O'Halloran) told me the same thing. It was good advice then and it is good advice now, but neither of the Leaders thought to tell me that one does not take advantage of a member's physical disability. They did not think it was necessary to say that: our parents had told us that when we were three or four years old and we told our children that in their formative years.

The member for Eyre, after complaining about nicknames and blaming the wrong people, made what he thought was a joke about the bad leg of the member for Adelaide. This, of course, did not worry the member for Adelaide in the least: nothing the member for Eyre could say would worry the member for Adelaide, I think we all agree on that; and it did not worry members on this side, who are the friends and colleagues of the member for Adelaide, because in our Party we judge men from the shoulders up and not from the hips down. If the procedure of judging men from the shoulders up instead of from the hips down was adopted by the Liberal Party it would have ensured that the member for Eyre would never gain endorsement.

Mr. Hudson: That is a bit unkind.

Mr. JENNINGS: Do you want me to apologize to him?

Mr. Hudson: You are being uncharitable to him: you look it, anyway.

Mr. JENNINGS: The member for Eyre has spoken in the past as if he were an authority on zoology and ornithology, but on this occasion he has widened the subjects on which he claims to be an authority to include trade union secretaries and the domestic affairs of the Labor Party. For example, he said that trade union secretaries, from their plush offices and earning a high salary, spend most of their time provoking strikes and inciting their members to strike. If that is so, and the strikes are

so unacceptable to the union members, how do the secretaries keep their jobs, because they are elected, in most instances, more frequently than are members of Parliament? As every member on this side knows (and there is no reason why members on the other side should not know if they wanted to inquire or if they were capable of understanding), one of the most difficult jobs of a trade union secretary is to keep his members out of irresponsible strikes. I am sure that former union secretaries in this House would corroborate what I have just said.

I think that the honourable member went a bit too far when he made an intrusion into the domestic affairs of the Labor Party climaxed by asking a question of the member for Barossa, based on what he claimed was a loophole he had found in our rules that did not oblige women members of the Party to be bound by the same Parliamentary retiring age as male members. It is almost incredible that a junior member of this House, and one suffering with such limitation, should engage in a flirtation with subtleties like this.

Mr. Edwards: That's only your interpretation of it.

Mr. JENNINGS: Well, I prefer mine. The member for Barossa gave the correct reply by saying that the matter was not one of public interest, and she based her reply on Standing Order 124, which provides:

At the time of giving notices of motion, questions may be put to Ministers of the Crown relating to public affairs; and to other members, relating to any Bill, motion, or other public matter connected with the business of the House, in which such members may be concerned.

Would not this House become even more farcical than it sometimes becomes if we were able to ask other members about such purely private matters as what time they went to bed,

and things of that kind? The member for Barossa could have pointed out that, under our rules, there is complete equality amongst members, irrespective of sex. Certainly, our rules are not cluttered up with "he or she", "him and her", "us and them", and that sort of thing, any more than are the rules of any other association or the Acts passed by this Parliament. The member for Adelaide (Mr. Lawn), who spoke soon after the member for Eyre, explained that matters of that kind were covered by the Acts Interpretation Act. I guarantee that, when the member for Adelaide said that, it was the first time that the member for Eyre knew that such an Act was on our Statute Book.

Mr. McKee: I still don't think he believes it.

Mr. JENNINGS: Well, why should he take my word for it? He can ask the Clerk, or the Premier. There is another very practical way in which our party gives effect to the equality of the sexes. The girls working in the Labor Party office are paid male rates, and the male rates prescribed not in the general commercial award but in the Oil Industry (Clerical) Award, which is a career award and prescribes higher rates than the general commercial award. We pay our girls the male rates in what is probably the best clerical award in South Australia. Despite all that I have said in the last few minutes about the speech made by the member for Eyre, I still say sincerely that I regard it as the best speech I have ever heard him make in this House. I ask leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9.44 p.m. the House adjourned until Thursday, July 31, at 2 p.m.