

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, September 16, 1969.

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

LAND VALUERS LICENSING BILL

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of money as might be required for the purposes mentioned in the Bill.

CRIMINAL INJURIES COMPENSATION BILL

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of money as might be required for the purposes mentioned in the Bill.

PETITIONS: ABORTION LEGISLATION

Mr. HUDSON presented a petition signed by 72 persons stating that the signatories, being 16 years of age or older, were deeply convinced that the human baby began its life no later than the time of implantation of the fertilized ovum in its mother's womb (that is, six to eight days after conception), that any direct intervention to take away its life was a violation of its right to live, and that honourable members, having the responsibility to govern this State, should protect the rights of innocent individuals, particularly the helpless. The petition also stated that the unborn child was the most innocent and most in need of the protection of our laws whenever its life was in danger. The signatories realized that abortions were performed in public hospitals in this State in circumstances claimed to necessitate it on account of the life of the pregnant woman. The petitioners prayed that the House of Assembly would not amend the law to extend the grounds on which a woman might seek an abortion but that, if honourable members considered that the law should be amended, such amendment should not extend beyond a codification that might permit current practice.

Mr. CLARK presented a similar petition signed by 762 persons.

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER, at the request of the member for Ridley (Hon. T. C. Stott), presented a similar petition signed by 48 persons.

Mr. NANKIVELL presented a similar petition signed by 79 persons.

Mr. ALLEN presented a similar petition signed by 18 persons.

Petitions received.

AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

The SPEAKER laid on the table the Auditor-General's Report for the financial year ended June 30, 1969.

Ordered that report be printed.

ELIZABETH TECHNICAL COLLEGE

The SPEAKER laid on the table the report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence, on Elizabeth Technical College.

Ordered that report be printed.

QUESTIONS**RECEIPTS TAX**

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Many people who are required to pay receipts tax on a half-yearly or yearly basis have been informed by the State Taxes Department that returns for the last financial year should have been lodged by August 31. Many small businessmen have placed the matter of preparing these returns in the hands of tax consultants who, because of the burden of their duties at this time of the year, have not had time to prepare the documents, simply because they are engaged in the preparation of income tax returns at the same time. The State Taxes Department has notified those liable to pay the tax that failure to submit the returns will result in penalties provided under the Act. Tax consultants believe that they ought to be given time to submit returns on behalf of clients, as a similar concession is allowed to them by the Commonwealth Taxation Department. They claim that the notices sent out to their clients have had some disturbing effect on them, and that, with the volume of work they are required to handle, it is physically impossible for them to submit the returns in the next two months. Can the Treasurer say whether consideration will be given to allowing tax consultants to have extended time to submit returns in relation to receipts duty in a way similar to that in which they are given extended time in relation to income tax returns?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: This matter has been considered and statements and advertisements in the press have indicated that the Commissioner of Stamps and Succession Duties will allow those people who are on an annual returns basis of lodging returns for receipts duty to present their returns to him, through their tax agents, at the same time as they lodge their returns with the Commonwealth Commissioner of Taxation. That has been extensively canvassed by me in public statements and as

recently as, I think, a fortnight or three weeks ago in an advertisement in the daily press. I think the position to which the Leader refers arises from the fact that there is a natural requirement by the Commissioner of Stamps that he should be notified by either the tax agent or his client that an agent is preparing the return and that it will be lodged when the income tax return is lodged with the Commonwealth Commissioner of Taxation.

Incidentally, as the Leader knows, that extended time for lodging income tax returns goes on until February 28. It was stated clearly on several occasions that tax agents would be permitted to submit returns of stamp duty when they submitted their income tax returns to the Commonwealth Commissioner but those people who have not advised our Commissioner to this effect are assumed to be not taking advantage of this extended period and, therefore, in the absence of advice to our Commissioner, notices have been sent to these people pointing out that they are required to lodge returns by August 31. I think the difficulty arises from a misunderstanding of the position and I welcome the Leader's question, because it enables me to clear up the matter. The position is precisely as I have stated and anyone using the services of a tax agent may lodge his return with the Commissioner of Stamps at the same time as he lodges his return with the Commonwealth Commissioner, provided (and I emphasize this) that the Commissioner of Stamps is notified accordingly.

GAS

The Hon. B. H. TEUSNER: Regarding the supply of natural gas for domestic purposes to the thickly populated areas of the Barossa Valley from the spur gas pipeline that will serve the cement works at Angaston soon, can the Minister of Works say whether the South Australian Gas Company has made a survey of the Barossa Valley regarding that supply and, if it has, whether a decision has been made on whether the Barossa Valley will have such supply?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The South Australian Gas Company has completed a survey of the potential domestic market in the Barossa Valley. The General Manager of that company has informed me that most residents have electric cookers and hot water services and, as was expected by the company, more than 90 per cent of them are quite satisfied with their present fuel. The greatest potential for natural gas is in space heating. As the company's manpower and resources will be

taxed to the utmost until the end of 1970 in converting the metropolitan area for natural gas, consideration of reticulating gas in the Barossa Valley will probably have to be deferred until 1971.

SOUTH-EAST HOUSES

Mr. CORCORAN: The Minister of Housing will recall that some time ago he undertook to make a reassessment of the rental increases of Woods and Forests Department houses at Mount Burr and at other South-East centres and I believe that an inspection has subsequently been made by an officer of the Housing Trust. As I understand that this inspection was possibly completed at the end of the week before last, I ask the Minister whether he has received a report from the Housing Trust as a result of that inspection and, if he has, whether he has considered it.

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: I have not had a report from the Housing Trust. I think that, if a report had been made by the officer who did the inspection, it would have been made directly to the Public Service Board representing the Minister of Forests. However, I will check on this matter and inform the honourable member tomorrow.

UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. EVANS: On the front page of this morning's *Advertiser* appears a report indicating how buoyant the Australian economy is at present and showing that there has been a large decrease in the number of unemployed persons in each State. Has the Minister of Labour and Industry further information in relation to employment in South Australia?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The figures disclosed by the Commonwealth Minister last evening regarding South Australia indicate that there was a decrease of 744 persons registered for employment with the Commonwealth Employment Service, compared with the figures at the end of July. The 5,269 persons registered is a reduction of 1,838 compared with the end of August last year. Expressed as a percentage of the estimated work force, the number registered for employment was 1.05 per cent compared with 1.19 per cent at the end of July, 1969, and 1.4 per cent at the end of August, 1968. The percentage for August, 1969, is the lowest August figure since 1965. As further evidence of the buoyant state of the South Australian economy, the number of job vacancies available as at the end of August, 1969 (2,982) represented an increase of 424 compared with the previous month, and an increase of 1,138 (a 62 per cent increase)

compared with the figure at the end of August of the previous year. For Australia, the number of vacancies increased by 8,634 or 26 per cent from the end of August, 1968, to the end of August, 1969. The number of recipients of unemployment benefits decreased by 334, compared with the previous month to a total of 1,457 persons. This number of recipients is nearly half the number at the end of August last year and is the lowest figure since November, 1965. The position relating to employment and job vacancies in this State is certainly the best it has been for three or four years, and the figures show that a remarkable recovery has been made in South Australia.

WHEAT SALES

Mr. CASEY: Has the Minister of Lands a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to the question I asked on August 28 about the present export price of our wheat, specifically f.a.q. wheat and prime hard wheat, and about the quantity and price of wheat sold to Japan?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Manager for South Australia of the Australian Wheat Board reports that the price of f.a.q. wheat varies from market to market and is currently about \$1.35 a bushel. The price of prime hard depends on the protein content of the wheat, and is presently quoted from \$1.45 to \$1.52 a bushel. Wheat is being sold to Japan: 28,800 tons of South Australian hard was sold on August 13, 1969, at \$56.75 (American) a metric ton (about \$1.38½ a bushel). South Australia had three cargoes of hard wheat available to Japan at the required protein level: two have been sold and the board is endeavouring to sell the third. In last week's purchases Japan bought Western Australian f.a.q. and prime hard from Queensland.

SIXTH CREEK

Mr. GILES: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 27 regarding the possibility of building a weir on Sixth Creek and transferring water into the Kangaroo Creek reservoir to augment the supply to Adelaide?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: As pointed out by the honourable member, the catchment area of Sixth Creek is a large one, being 12½ per cent of the total Torrens River catchment area. It is also known to be a very good catchment area, both in quantity and quality. For this reason Sixth Creek is watched closely by the Engineering and Water Supply

Department operating personnel and the maximum flow from this catchment is taken into Hope Valley reservoir via the Gorge weir. Storages to utilize the run-off from the Torrens River catchment area have been progressively built since 1857, when Thorndon Park reservoir was built, followed by Hope Valley in 1869-71, Millbrook in 1914-18, and now Kangaroo Creek reservoir, which is nearing completion.

The Torrens River catchment area with all these reservoirs is now almost completely harnessed and very little water will be lost, even in times of moderate flood. The increasing utilization of the Murray River water in the metropolitan water system, and the necessity to use some of the reservoir capacity in the abovementioned reservoirs as a balancing storage for this, may make it necessary to build a further dam on the Torrens River system at some stage in the future. Irrespective of where this storage may be, this will allow an even greater measure of control over the run-off water from the catchment area, and in this the valuable run-off from Sixth Creek will most certainly be included. At this stage it is not considered necessary or desirable to divert Sixth Creek water into Kangaroo Creek reservoir.

MIGRANT ACCOMMODATION

Mr. RYAN: Recently, a migrant living in the Pennington hostel, which is in my district, told me that he had a serious housing problem. After migrating to Australia with his wife and seven children about four months ago, he is in employment and earns \$60 a week, of which he pays \$41 to the hostel for his family's accommodation. I arranged for this man to discuss his case with an officer of the Housing Trust but, apparently, this discussion did not produce a satisfactory solution and yesterday I received a long letter from him. The letter states, in part:

We were told all the time before we left that Australia welcomes big families. Since we have been here we have just been penalized because we have seven children.

Apparently, this man wrote to the Housing Trust before he left England and was told that, after he had found suitable employment in South Australia, arrangements would be made for housing, but this has not eventuated. As he states that he is in the ironic position of not being able either to afford to stay at the hostel or to leave it, if I give the Minister of Housing the letter that fully explains the position will he have the complaint investigated to this family's satisfaction?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: Yes.

LAMEROO POLICE STATION

Mr. NANKIVELL: Has the Minister of Works a reply to a further question I asked about the Lameroo police station, concerning whether or not a new courthouse was to be built or whether in some way or other the old one would be incorporated in the new building?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The new police station at Lameroo will contain a room suitable for use as a court when required. The present courthouse forms part of the existing police station which is to be demolished.

WINDANA HOME

Mr. HUDSON: The Minister of Social Welfare will be aware, as a result of my telephone call to him on Sunday, of certain matters that were reported to me of occurrences at Windana Home, concerning which two constituents of mine complained that their young sons were beaten up by older boys at the home. In one case, the lad had a bruised and cut ear, a bruised cheek and, according to the doctor, small patches of bruising on the chest and on the back. The other lad had severe bruising of both ears and a black eye, although I am not aware of the other injuries he received. From the information I have been able to obtain, it seems that the injuries that these lads suffered occurred, first, on Friday night in the dormitory and, secondly, on Sunday morning, again in the dormitory, prior to the boys' actually leaving the dormitory.

I wish to make it clear that I hold no sympathy at all for the offence which these lads committed and which resulted in their being remanded by Mr. Wright, S.M., to Windana Home. However, it is a serious matter when, apparently as part of some initiation, the boys who have been at the home for a longer period beat up the newcomers. This seems to indicate a lack of adequate supervision at the home, although it may be partly because the Superintendent is sick at present. In view of the incidents that occurred at Windana Home, and in view of the increased use of the home as a result of the policy adopted by Mr. Wright of remanding juvenile offenders to Windana prior to the actual sentence and then releasing them either without conviction or on a bond, will the Minister take steps to ensure that supervision of the lads at this home is tightened considerably, so that the kind of incident to which I have referred cannot recur?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: While the honourable member was giving his full explanation of the question, I was searching through all my bags, because I did have notes on this matter. Unfortunately, I now recall that I sent them back for some further information, and I do not have the notes with me. I shall be able, however, to give the honourable member a full reply tomorrow. The honourable member telephoned me on Sunday afternoon after, I think, one of the mothers concerned had spoken to him. I immediately contacted the Acting Director of Social Welfare and asked him to inquire about the incident. As a result of this, the boys were, because of the seriousness of the allegations which the honourable member related to me, examined by a medical practitioner (not Dick Lippett, the Medical Officer of the department, but a practitioner in general practice). I have a certificate from him which shows that, while in one case the injuries were quite significant, in the other they were much less significant, and in neither case were they as serious as the honourable member had been told.

In fact, the practitioner expressed the opinion that no treatment in any case was required for any of the injuries. But, be that as it may, the fact is that the injuries occurred, and they should not have occurred. The boys were remanded on Friday, from memory, on charges arising out of some happening at one of the high schools, and they were due to appear in court again yesterday morning. I do not know what happened to them—

Mr. Hudson: They were released without conviction.

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: At Windana Home they were placed (and I was seeking the reason for this) in the section for neglected boys, although I think (and this is what I wanted to check on) the home was not full at the time. I wanted to find out why they had been put in the neglected section rather than in the other section, and I have not yet found that out. However, in the neglected section it is not as a rule necessary for the boys to be under supervision all the time, 24 hours a day, and it was during a period when they were not under supervision that the incident occurred. As a result of the action, and before the complaints were made, either to me or to the Matron, by the parents concerned, four boys had been punished for the trouble which had occurred and because of which these two boys sustained injuries.

I think that, when the honourable member spoke to me, he referred to a third boy as

having been involved and injured: in fact, he was not, on my information, injured in any way. But I will tomorrow, if the honourable member would like me to, bring down the notes which, as I say, I did have, and I hope then to have the additional information I was seeking, so that I can fill in any of the details which I have not been able to give today. Finally, I assure the honourable member that steps have already been taken to make sure that there is no recurrence of the incidents of which the complaints were made.

WHEAT QUOTAS

Mr. VENNING: Has the Minister of Lands obtained from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to the question I asked recently about legislation on the wheat delivery quota scheme?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The honourable member asked when Commonwealth legislation would be introduced and complementary legislation considered by State Parliaments. The Minister of Agriculture reports:

I regret that I do not yet know when the Commonwealth Government intends to introduce legislation on the wheat delivery quota scheme. I wrote to the Minister for Primary Industry on August 18, and also telegraphed him, seeking information on certain aspects of the scheme which could affect the provisions of any State legislation, and again sought urgent advice concerning the introduction of Commonwealth legislation. I have not yet received a reply from Canberra. I am concerned that the completion of our complementary Bill on wheat delivery quotas is delayed until this information is received from the Commonwealth, and I am pursuing the matter with a view to the early introduction of the Bill to Parliament.

Mr. CASEY: Has the Minister of Lands a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to the question I asked on September 3 about wheat quotas for farmers on smaller properties north of Gawler?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Secretary of the Wheat Delivery Quota Advisory Committee states that the basis laid down in the original wheat delivery quota scheme (that is, that all farmers, whether large or small, would be required to accept a 10 per cent reduction on the average deliveries of the last five years) was made clear at meetings attended by members of the committee. This requirement could, however, be subject to special consideration by the committee in individual cases, depending on the circumstances.

SHOW EMPLOYMENT

Mr. BROOMHILL: My question arises from a press report that I read a day or two ago of a statement by the mother of a 13-year-old boy who had been working at the Royal Show, apparently on one of the sideshows. She pointed out that her son, together with a 14-year-old boy and a 16-year-old boy, was in charge of the moving vehicles in one of the sideshows. She also pointed out that this lad had worked for up to 15 hours a day during the two weeks, being paid only \$13 for his work. As many children are employed on sideshows at the Royal Show and at our beaches and as it seems wrong that they should be paid such a low wage rate and also that boys of this age should be in charge of moving vehicles, for this could cause some danger to those using such sideshows, will the Minister of Labour and Industry say whether he has received any complaints in this connection, and, if he has not done so already, will he investigate the matter to see whether something can be done to prevent this type of thing from occurring?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: I am aware that many young people eagerly look forward to a job at the show in various capacities, and several are engaged in this work. As I am concerned at what the honourable member has said, I will certainly investigate the suggestion that exploitation has occurred, especially with regard to students under a certain age being in charge of moving parts. I will inform the honourable member as soon as I can.

RIVER BOAT

Mr. ARNOLD: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of September 2 about the future of the river paddle steamer *Industry*?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The paddle steamer *Industry* will no longer be required as a working unit when the new boat is commissioned, but its future has not as yet been referred to the River Murray Commission, which is the owner. A report to the commission will shortly be made setting out the alternatives that are available as regards its future. The suggestion made by the honourable member will be included in the report.

CITRUS MARKETING

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Has the Minister of Lands obtained from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to my recent question in which I referred to a statement about the

cost of oranges which appeared in a newspaper and which I thought could damage the industry?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Secretary of the Citrus Organization Committee reports:

A recent survey of retail outlets revealed that the general average quality of oranges available to the public is as good as in any previous season and at reasonable prices. Although prices varied between localities at retail level, it was shown that oranges were the best fruit value available today and were selling at an equivalent of from 6c a pound. It is difficult to comment on the statement made by the correspondent to the *Advertiser* of August 28 without having the details of her purchase both as to count and grade. However, if one assumes the oranges to be of seasonal average size, her purchases would be equivalent to \$3 a case. This is not an excessive retail price if the grower is to receive anything like cost of production for the fruit.

WHEAT STORAGE

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Lands obtained from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to my recent question about wheat storage?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The General Manager of South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited states that the South Australian wheat delivery quota set by the Australian Wheatgrowers' Federation is 45,000,000 bushels. Although the co-operative is currently engaged in the greatest silo construction programme ever in one year and building at 46 locations to provide an additional 24,000,000 bushels of bulk grain storage, carry-over stocks of last season's wheat will have an important bearing on the space available in silos for new season's quota wheat. Consequently, the co-operative is relying on sales by the Australian Wheat Board and adequate shipping allocations from South Australia to have existing silo stocks of 49,000,000 bushels reduced to the lowest possible level before harvest deliveries commence. All concerned are aware of the extremely favourable seasonal outlook, and at this stage it is estimated that there could be 60,000,000 bushels of wheat for delivery in South Australia during the coming season. In the event of its being possible to receive the 45,000,000 bushels quota wheat into the co-operative's silos during harvest, growers could be faced with the necessity to retain on farms 15,000,000 bushels of non-quota wheat until shipping allocations during and after harvest create space in the silo system.

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Lands received from the Minister of Agriculture a

reply to my question about wheat storage at Port Pirie?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The General Manager of South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited has informed the Minister that the company applied a few weeks ago to the Marine and Harbors Department for an additional area of land adjoining its existing leasehold area at Port Pirie for space to construct another 1,000,000-bushel bulk grain storage. It is expected that another cell storage block at Port Pirie linking with the existing system at the terminal would be of advantage to wheatgrowers throughout the whole of the division and, although the Marine and Harbors Department has rejected the initial application for the area to be leased to Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited, the company has requested the Director of Marine and Harbors to reconsider the matter and meet its request for the desired land to be made available for bulk grain storage.

NOARLUNGA FREEWAY

Mr. VIRGO: I refer to what I regard as a most regrettable incident that occurred on September 5 (the day after the House adjourned for the Royal Show), when I tried to get from the Highways Department information about the alternative proposals on which it had been working in relation to the Noarlunga Freeway in the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study plan. I was informed by the senior officer of the department that no information could be made available until I had first obtained the permission of the Minister. When I tried to contact the Minister, I was told that he would not be back until the week after next. When I then tried to contact the Premier, I got a similar reply. Later, I was able to contact the Attorney-General, who was good enough to get one of his officers to telephone me the following day and inform me that he was not prepared to give an instruction for Ministerial approval for this information to be provided.

The Hon. Robin Millhouse: That's not right.

Mr. VIRGO: Although I directed the question to the Premier, the Attorney-General can answer it if he wishes.

The Hon. Robin Millhouse: I am only saying that what you say is inaccurate.

Mr. VIRGO: If the Attorney thinks it is inaccurate, I suggest he had better check with his officers. Both yesterday and today

I again tried to contact the Minister, but without result. As I consider it is an affront to an elected member of Parliament to be denied information from a Government department, I ask the Premier whether it is his Government's policy to instruct departmental officers not to give information to Opposition members unless the Minister has first approved of its being given.

The Hon. R. S. HALL: If a matter of policy is involved, the usual courtesy extended by any member of this House or of the public is to contact the Minister, when the request for information will receive attention. By interjection, the Attorney-General has already said that the honourable member's allegations are not correct. I have yet to hear what is the information the honourable member is seeking. There is no point in the honourable member's making out a case in this House that he has been denied information that he should have received, without his first assuring the House that it was information he should have received. When he has assured the House that this is information he should have received, perhaps the House will be sympathetic to him. However, I am always sympathetic to the honourable member in his many troubles and, if he tries a little harder next time and contacts me, I will do my best to satisfy him. There is little moment in the honourable member's raising the matter in the way he has done when, in fact, the Minister was absent from his office. I am sure that, if he contacts the Minister, he will get the usual good service that this Government gives to members opposite.

GRAIN ACREAGES

Mr. FERGUSON: Has the Minister of Lands a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my question about the estimated acreages of wheat, barley and oats sown during the present sowing season?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Minister of Agriculture states that figures of intended sowings as compiled each year by the Bureau of Census and Statistics are not yet available. However, it is the opinion of officers of his department, concerned with crop estimates, that wheat will exceed 3,250,000 acres, barley will exceed 1,500,000 acres, and oats will approximate 1,000,000 acres. It is expected that crop estimates will be made by the end of October, when sowings will be known and a better assessment of seasonal conditions can be made.

LEIGHTON SCHOOL

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 27 about work to be carried out in the Headmaster's residence at Leighton Primary School?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: Private tenders closed on August 26, 1969, for the installation of a hot water service and pressure pump unit in the Headmaster's residence. A departmental order has been placed on G. A. & S. M. Nourse, of Burra, to carry out the work.

STRATHMONT TRAINING CENTRE

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 19 about the construction of the Strathmont Training Centre?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: It is expected that the Strathmont Training Centre complex will be completed, ready for occupation, by the end of June, 1970. It is not yet possible to state the actual completion and opening dates of this centre.

POWER BOATS

Mr. WARDLE: As the Minister of Marine knows, in the last two years councils and individual persons have expressed concern about the numbers of power boats operating on the Murray River, on lakes and off beaches, and about the need for the registration of such boats and the licensing of the drivers. Can the Minister say what progress has been made with legislation on which he and his officers have been working?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: Much progress has been made. Cabinet has approved of the drafting of a Bill and details are now being worked out. As I told the House some time ago, I had hoped that this legislation would be introduced in time for it to operate this summer. The only thing that would prevent this would be the business already on the Notice Paper. However, the preparation of legislation is well advanced and I have had many discussions with boating clubs in South Australia and with individuals who are anxious for the legislation to operate. Further, officers of the Marine and Harbors Department have spoken to representatives of many councils on the Murray River and in seaside areas. These discussions have been welcomed because the Bill will provide for the Government and councils to co-operate in the policing of water ski-ing areas and speed boating in an effort to minimize accidents in future. As soon as I have further information on the Bill, I will tell the honourable member.

SOCIAL WELFARE

Mr. HURST: An assisted migrant from the United Kingdom with a wife and four children was apparently accommodated at Pennington Hostel for about 19 months before finding rental accommodation in the Taperoo district. In June last year, the migrant became sick, I understand with a heart complaint, and was under the care of a heart specialist (Dr. Leigh Wilson) who later diagnosed that the man was suffering from a psychological problem stemming from anxiety about his family. As a consequence of his illness, he had to give up his employment and now receives Commonwealth social service benefits. He has asked the Immigration Department whether he can be repatriated, but apparently medical evidence is insufficient for this to be done and that department does not seem anxious to help him solve his housing problem. Further, the owner of the house in which he lives has required him to vacate the premises by next Saturday. Will the Minister of Social Welfare ask his department and the Housing Trust to see whether assistance can be given in these urgent circumstances? I will give the Minister the name of the person concerned.

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I will get the information for the honourable member.

WALLAROO HOSPITAL

Mr. HUGHES: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked recently about the installation of consumers' mains and main switchboard at the Wallaroo Hospital?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: Some difficulty has been experienced by the contractor in obtaining the main switchboard from the manufacturer. The original switchboard that was made up did not meet the specified requirements and was rejected. Another board is now being manufactured and will be ready for installation this week. The progress of this contract has been discussed in some detail with the contractor, who has now advised that all work at the hospital will be completed by the end of September, 1969.

PARKING SIGNS

Mr. LANGLEY: A report in today's *Advertiser* states that Mr. G. L. Howie, of Clarence Gardens, claims that tickets have been placed on cars in areas where "no parking" signs have been erected illegally. To test his point, Mr. Howie deliberately parked in six different places where he considered that parking was restricted or prohibited

illegally. Having received six parking tickets, he has stated that members of the public have been bluffed into paying parking fines. I know that Mr. Howie has received parking tickets and that, although he has been willing to contest their validity, the cases have been dropped. The report states that the Town Clerk of Unley (Mr. G. V. Payne) has said that, whether "no parking" areas have been advertised or not, the council still has a moral obligation regarding the safety of the motorist and considers that it is doing the right thing. As there seems to be a loophole for many people to contest parking fines, and as in most other cases people pay the fines merely because they think there is no alternative, will the Attorney-General and his department ensure that councils can erect parking signs lawfully in future? I understand that regulations on "no parking" areas are usually checked by the Crown Solicitor.

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The honourable member is asking much in his question. The Crown Solicitor gives a certificate of validity in respect of each by-law and regulation that comes into the House, but that is only to show that it is a valid regulation. I think that Mr. Howie's point (and I have had correspondence with him over several years on this matter, because it is a matter in which he has taken a great and diligent interest, as the honourable member may know) is that parking signs have been erected in places where there is no regulation to give them a lawful authority. This is a matter to be tested in the court. If Mr. Howie is prosecuted he will be able to contest the case, and the court will decide. It would not be proper either for me or for the Minister of Roads and Transport and Local Government, who is also most interested in these matters, to intervene in them. This is a case for judicial process.

ABORTION

Mr. CORCORAN: I draw the attention of the House to a report in last Friday's *Advertiser* headed "An Abortion 'Resort'" which includes a statement by the Commonwealth Attorney-General that the Commonwealth Government had to be careful that it did not turn the Australian Capital Territory into an abortion "resort". Mr. Bowen told the House of Representatives that it was essential that the Commonwealth Government did not act alone in introducing abortion law reforms. He went on to say:

We are watching the situation in Britain following the relaxation of the laws there to see what consequences flow from amendments of the law.

He also said:

We would not wish to get out of step with New South Wales, so as to make the A.C.T. an area of resort with a different kind of law. I will not act without putting this matter on the agenda of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General.

In view of that statement, will the Attorney-General say whether he still intends to restore to the Notice Paper this session the Bill to amend the Criminal Law Consolidation Act (a Bill dealing with abortion in this State), and, if he does, will he, because of the Commonwealth Attorney's statement, further consider his decision?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The replies to the honourable member's questions are, first, "Yes", and secondly, I think that the Australian Capital Territory is in a rather different position from that of any State, because it is an enclave of New South Wales and—

Mr. Corcoran: It can be an enclave of Australia, can't it?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: No, "enclave" means that it is completely surrounded by New South Wales.

Mr. Corcoran: Isn't it completely surrounded by Australia?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I often wonder about the honourable member's attitude to this matter. When it was first mooted he said he was absolutely against it, but now he is saying that he thinks there should be an inquiry into this matter, and one wonders why he has asked his question.

The SPEAKER: I do not think that the Attorney-General can debate the question.

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: No, Sir, I fell from grace for only a moment: I was tempted, Sir. The Australian Capital Territory being completely surrounded by New South Wales, the danger of its becoming a resort is greater if its laws on this topic are more free or more liberal than they are in New South Wales. I acknowledge freely to the honourable member, as I have said before, that it would be most undesirable for any part of Australia to become an abortion resort. I hope that this will not happen in South Australia, and I do not think it would happen if the Bill, with certain amendments, were to be passed. However, I am not going to debate that at the moment. I have said several times that the chances of obtaining a uniform approach on this topic from the standing committee

are so remote as not to make such an attempt worth while.

Mr. Corcoran: You are not prepared to try.

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I have discussed it informally (and the honourable member knows that, although he taunts me by way of interjection) with my fellow Attorneys at meetings, but if the Commonwealth Attorney-General wants to put the matter on the agenda for the next meeting of the standing committee, that is all right by me. However, I do not think, in view of what I have said, that this justifies our not going ahead with the Bill and debating it in this Chamber, or another place not debating it if it passes here.

HEART TRANSPLANTS

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Has the Premier a reply from the Minister of Health to my question of August 19 about whether South Australia has the necessary facilities and medical knowledge to enable a heart transplant operation to be carried out?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: The Board of Management of the Royal Adelaide Hospital has agreed in principle that facilities should be provided to enable such surgery to be undertaken. However, following further investigation it is now considered that the modifications that would have to be made to existing facilities to provide the proper environment for patients recovering from heart transplant surgery would need to be much more detailed than those originally proposed. At the direction of the Chief Secretary, more detailed planning is at present being carried out.

CARRIBIE BASIN

Mr. FERGUSON: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 28 regarding a study of the Carribie Basin?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The Carribie Basin has not yet been adequately assessed. The pluviometer survey necessary to evaluate recharge of the aquifer has not been started because the equipment has not been available from the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology. Geological studies so far made indicate that a maximum draw-off rate may be about 1,000,000 gallons a day and the annual safe yield could be in the vicinity of 150,000,000 gallons. However, because of the low piezometric height of the groundwater, ingress of sea water is a very real danger if the aquifer is overpumped. Thus, there seems to be little hope of developing a widespread scheme from this source, but it may be economically possible

to gain some degree of augmentation. During the coming summer, now that appropriate metering will be available, it is proposed to carry out an overall study of distribution and storage on Yorke Peninsula. Consumption south of Clinton pumping station in the past has reached almost 600,000,000 gallons a year, and if this figure is approached or exceeded this year some valuable information will be obtained.

DOG POISONING

Mr. BURDON: I quote from a letter I have received from the Guide Dogs for the Blind, Mount Gambier:

At a meeting of our committee held on Thursday, September 4, 1969, it was resolved that we write you on the subject of recent dog poisonings in Mount Gambier. We would like to make it known that we condemn most strongly the freedom which is permitted in South Australia in the purchase of strychnine and other similar poisons and that action be taken in regard to the laws associated with the purchase of poisons.

I also quote in part from a letter I have received from a private person at Mount Gambier:

A few days ago, my English setter dog was poisoned, right outside my own home in Locke Street, Mount Gambier. Three other people in the immediate vicinity have also lost their dogs through strychnine poisoning. This is the third bout in three years of poisoned baiting in this particular part of town, that is, the Canavan Road area and adjoining streets. I would like to commend the C.I.B. for the quietly efficient way in which they have conducted their inquiries. All persons who have purchased strychnine from a local chemist over the past three years have either been questioned or investigated, but, alas, although some cases appear suspicious on the surface, there is no definite proof as to just who the guilty party might be. Exposure, or the loss of public esteem to the poisoner, is not going to bring any of the dogs back, but the baits have apparently been laid in such quantity that many people now consider them a danger to young children, and I feel we should act on stemming the easy availability of poisons before such a tragedy occurs in our city.

Several points would seem to be immediately obvious, the first being that household pets such as dogs and cats should not under any circumstances be considered vermin, but far more serious could the consequences be if an irresponsible or mentally unstable person had quantities of these poisons in their hands. In a city of this size, with most of the local pharmacists knowing their customers fairly well, I submit that almost anyone could purchase these poisons under the present arrangements and still remain within the letter of the law. I also submit that a person who will poison household pets is psychologically insecure and not fit to be able to purchase such dreadful poisons. The law requires that we

register fire-arms, but a far more dangerous method of killing is apparently open to almost anyone. Five to eight grains of strychnine is considered a massive and fatal dose, certainly for a big dog anyway, and there are well over 400 grains per ounce. The remedial action that I suggest is that the purchase of these poisons be brought into line with the circumstances that exist in the metropolitan area, namely, that they can be purchased only with the approval of the Police Department and witnessed by a police officer.

Will the Premier ask the Minister of Health what restrictions (if any) apply to the sale of these poisons and whether there is any discrimination between the purchase of poisons in the city as against their purchase in country areas? The poisons I have in mind are strychnine, arsenic and cyanide. Will the Government also consider whether more stringent restrictions should be exercised in respect of the purchase of these poisons? Will the Premier ask his colleague to take up this matter with a view to making the purchase of these poisons more difficult than it is at present and, if possible, seeing whether such poisons could be purchased only under police supervision?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I will obtain a report.

HAIL STORMS

Mr. GILES: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to my question of August 20 regarding the use of rockets for controlling hail storms, thus preventing damage to our apple crops?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Director of Agriculture reports that small rockets available from France and Italy have been used in Australia since the early 1950's. At Stanthorpe, Queensland, and in the Huon Valley in Tasmania they have been used extensively. No objective assessment of the effectiveness of these rockets has been made in Australia and it would appear that enthusiasm for their use is declining. An officer of the Division of Radio Physics of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (Mr. E. E. Adderley) with whom the matter was discussed was of opinion that the small rockets do not rise high enough and cannot be aimed accurately. The Director states that large-scale operations designed to disperse hail storms have been more successful. It is claimed that large operations have been 95 per cent successful in Russia and this is supported by work in the United States of America. Large rockets are fired from 3½ in. anti-aircraft guns capable of reaching 10,000ft. to 12,000ft. and delivering massive quantities of silver iodide. Radar

is used by skilled operators, who also make extensive use of a meteorological service. This type of operation is very expensive in equipment, materials and staff. Costs approximate \$500,000 for the protection of 250,000 acres. Unfortunately, such operations cannot be scaled down for application to small areas.

SOIL TESTS

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have noticed on the area immediately north of the City Baths some rigs evidently taking soil tests on the site immediately to the north of the baths. Can the Minister of Works say whether the rigs have been erected by the Mines Department, whether that department or another organization is making the soil tests, and whether the results will be tabled when the tests have been completed?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: I shall be happy to get a reply for the Leader, and I will try to have it for him this week.

TINTINARA BRIDGE

Mr. NANKIVELL: During the last two sessions of Parliament I have asked for statistics of accidents that have occurred on the Tintinara overway bridge. However, these statistics relate only to those accidents reported, and I am reliably informed by people engaged in crash repair work and in driving mobile cranes that many vehicles involved in accidents on the bends approaching the bridge are righted and that no report thereof is made to the police. The reason for this is that a charge may be laid against the driver of the vehicle in question for driving without due care. The driver of a commercial vehicle cannot afford to have this sort of charge laid against him. During the past week, two head-on collisions occurred on the approaches to this overway bridge and, although there were no fatalities in one of those collisions, a person was killed and two others were critically injured in the other. Within three days of those collisions, a major carrying contractor's truck overturned on the approach to the bridge. This is a serious hazard involving a main highway, and it is the people who do not know this area who are mostly concerned. I believe we have a responsibility to do something about clearly sign-posting the approaches to this bridge. Originally, signs were placed on the approaches, but being yellow signs marked out in black they were not conspicuous and were quite easily missed by drivers, particularly on a wet evening, because the colours did not show up. I should like the Attorney-General to ask the Minister of Roads and Transport

about the possibility of using blue phosphorescent signs, such as are now used to indicate parking bays, and to have these placed on the driver's side of the road on the approaches to the "S" bend that is involved. I do not care what colour is used, as long as the sign is conspicuous, but I suggest blue because it is conspicuous. I suggest that these signs be placed on the driver's side of the road on the approach corners, both of which are blind corners before they are actually reached.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member is starting to debate the question.

Mr. NANKIVELL: No, I am asking the Attorney-General to take up with his colleague the question of placing blue signs on the driver's side of the road at the approaches, so that the driver will look directly at them and know that there are dangerous curves ahead. I ask the question in the hope that something can be done before further fatalities occur. Will the Attorney-General refer my question to the Minister of Roads and Transport?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: Yes.

ALSATIAN DOGS

Mr. CASEY: Has the Attorney-General obtained from the Minister of Local Government a reply to the question I asked prior to the show adjournment about Alsatian dogs?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The Minister reports that the Alsatian Dogs Act prevents the keeping of Alsatian dogs in certain parts of South Australia, including the area of the District Council of Hawker. Recently, consideration has been given to the possibility of lifting the ban in the Hawker council area. The opinion of the council was sought in this respect, and on August 26 a reply was received that the council most emphatically opposed the lifting of the ban on Alsatian dogs within its area. Regarding the use of Alsatis as tracking dogs, consideration is being given to presenting an amendment to the Act to allow the temporary admission of Alsatis for emergency purposes such as tracking and to allow, under a permit system, the transport of Alsatis through the banned areas.

METROPOLITAN ABATTOIRS

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Lands received from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to my recent question about abattoirs reports?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Minister states that the statutory report on the operations of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board for the three-year period

ended June 30, 1968, is now almost complete, and he expects that it will be tabled shortly in Parliament.

APPRENTICES

Mr. BROOMHILL: The Minister of Labour and Industry was good enough recently to forward to members a copy of an apprenticeship leaflet that he had had sent out to employers in this State seeking to encourage them to consider engaging apprentices. I think the idea is sound, and the Minister should be commended for the action he has taken. However, I have previously found that one of the main reasons why we do not have sufficient apprentices is that the conditions of apprenticeship are not sufficiently attractive to the school leaver. Will the Minister now say whether he has discussed with the Chairman of the Apprenticeship Commission improving the position of apprentices? If he has not, will he be good enough to do this and to tell me whether it seems that this is one of the problems associated with the State's shortage of apprentices?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: I thank the honourable member for his comments regarding the campaign I have instituted with a view to increasing the number of apprentices entering industry generally in South Australia, particularly next year. I think this move has received general approbation. We have the problem that with an expanding economy, especially industrially, we are not getting sufficient numbers of boys (and girls, too, in some cases) to become apprentices. Although we are expecting this year an increase of about 8 per cent on the previous year's figure, this is not sufficient to keep pace with the increasing demands of industry. Therefore, to provide for the needs of the tradesmen and executives of the future we must encourage more and more people to enter apprenticeship. That was one of the reasons why the letter referred to went out to about 4,000 employers.

I know this has the support not only of the House but also of employer organizations and the responsible trade union organizations in this State to which copies of the letter were sent. The second part of the honourable member's question relates to a pertinent matter: I intend to introduce into the House this year legislation which I am preparing now. Provided we can get it on to the Notice Paper, the measure will be discussed and, I hope, passed during this session. It will contain amendments to the Apprentices Act in several ways which I believe will encourage still

further more boys and girls to come into apprenticeship.

That legislation is being prepared at the moment, and I cannot discuss the details with the honourable member, but I shall be glad to give them to him as soon as they are finalized. I add here my plea to parents of likely school leavers this year to consider carefully the advantages of putting their children into an apprenticeship system, as opposed to considering the attractions of short-term jobs which pay plenty at present but which lead to no future. I make this plea in the firm belief that boys or girls who are qualified as apprentices will forever have before them a benefit and qualification that will lead them to far better jobs and to more security in the future. I intend to bring into the House this year amendments to the Apprentices Act to make the form of indenture far more attractive.

Mrs. BYRNE: Will the Minister ascertain the number of apprentices employed in all phases of the building industry at present and, if possible, over the last seven years?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUNBE: I shall be glad to obtain that information for the honourable member.

NORTHERN ROADS

Mr. VENNING: Has the Attorney-General obtained from the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to the question I asked some time ago about certain northern roads?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The crushing contract for the production of crushed rock base material was completed on August 29, 1969. The excavation through Magnus Hill, which is included in the contract in conjunction with the production of crushed rock, should be completed by the end of September, 1969. The District Council of Port Germein has been allocated funds to place and compact the base course on the whole section, which will be sand-sealed progressively as the base is prepared. At present the road, with the exception of the deviation around Magnus Hill, has been constructed to sub-base standard and is in very good condition.

BAROSSA SEWERAGE

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Works obtained for me a report I requested, when speaking during the Loan Estimates debate on August 25 (as reported at page 1244 of *Hansard*), on sewerage projects to be undertaken this year, including projects already approved, and any other projects involving the

outer suburban sections of the Barossa District that are to be approved?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: Because adjoining areas were involved, it was somewhat difficult to obtain the programme for the Barossa District, but the following report represents the position as closely as we could get to it:

The sewerage schemes programmed for construction during the 1969-70 financial year in the outer suburban areas of the Barossa District are as follows:

1. Laying of approved sewers in the Modbury area will continue throughout the whole year.
2. The Holden Hill scheme to serve Southern Terrace, Malcolm Avenue and other streets is programmed to commence in March, 1970; the actual starting date will depend upon the completion of other work.
3. Sewers will be laid in the second stage of the A. V. Jennings Industries Limited subdivision at Modbury adjacent to Ladywood Road and in the subdivision of S. M. Bradshaw at Highbury adjacent to Forbes Avenue and Valley Road. The work in these new subdivisions will be carried out at the subdivider's initial cost.

No new major schemes are proposed in the area, but there may be some extensions following individual applications and some further schemes under agreement with subdividers.

HAPPY VALLEY RESERVOIR

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Works a reply to a question I asked during the Loan Estimates debate about houses alongside the Happy Valley reservoir?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: When the land to the east of the Happy Valley reservoir was purchased by the Engineering and Water Supply Department, there were 19 houses in various states of disrepair. Six of these houses have been demolished. These were all old houses in poor condition and in a state that made it uneconomic to repair them to a standard that would allow them to be rented and occupied. Of the remaining 13 houses, nine are at present occupied and a further two will be occupied by nine departmental employees within the next few weeks; one is an old house which has not yet been demolished, but it is doubtful whether it could be satisfactorily rented and occupied as it has no permanent water supply, and one house is vacant. This vacant house requires extensive repairs. The walls are cracked, and it requires painting inside and out. It was never completely finished inside and the most recent inspection suggests that \$1,300 would need to be spent on it before it could again be occupied.

It appears very doubtful whether these repairs and this expenditure could be justified. From this it may be seen that the department is making the maximum use of all houses which are able to be used and is examining critically the economics of repairing and renting every house before any decision is taken to demolish it.

PRAWN FISHING

Mr. McKEE: As I understand that further prawn fishing licences have been issued recently, will the Minister of Lands obtain from the Minister of Agriculture information about how many prawn fishing boats operate under licence in the Spencer Gulf area at present?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will get the information.

GAS

Mr. WARDLE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about a natural gas pipeline to serve the lower Murray River area?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The Natural Gas Pipelines Authority of South Australia states that no specific consideration has been given to taking a natural gas pipeline to serve Murray Bridge and Mannum. The first consideration is to complete the pipeline to Adelaide, and further extensions will depend on demands from consumers in the various areas.

SEACLIFF INFANTS SCHOOL

Mr. HUDSON: The Minister of Works will be aware of previous questions I have asked about the Seacliff Infants School grounds. Parents of children at the school have again contacted me, for work has not yet started; in fact, no-one seems to know whether or not the new contract for the work has yet been let. In addition, there is a sort of epidemic of worm infection at the school, some parents believing that possibly the state of the grounds may have something to do with this. This type of worm infection can be partly spread externally from physical contact between children. As the Minister knows, the school has been waiting for this work to be completed for almost 18 months. Therefore, will the Minister treat the matter as one of utmost urgency, and find out whether the contract has been let, when the work will commence, and when it will be completed?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: I regret the situation to which the honourable member refers, because I understood that the matter

had been resolved. In view of what the honourable member has said, I will certainly take up the matter urgently and try to get a reply this week.

ZOO ANIMALS

Mr. EDWARDS: The Adelaide Zoo is of great interest to the public, especially to children and to city people, who do not have as much chance to see animals as do people who live in the country. As much interest has been taken in certain types of fauna on some of our reserves, can the Minister of Lands say whether, during the last seven months, any animals not often seen have been brought to the zoo?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: By arrangement with the Director of the zoo, I have a list of additions of mammals and birds. As it is long, I will not read it all, but the list of mammals is as follows:

MAMMALS

- (a) Bred—
 - 1 great grey (forester) kangaroo.
 - 1 red kangaroo.
 - 1 Kangaroo Island kangaroo.
 - 5 euros.
 - 3 yellow-footed rock wallabies.
 - 5 parma wallabies.
 - 1 agile wallaby.
 - 5 Bennett's wallabies.
 - 4 black-striped wallabies.
 - 1 dama wallaby.
 - 1 red-bellied pademelon.
 - 1 potoroo.
 - 1 pig-tailed monkey.
 - 1 bonnet monkey.
 - 1 spider monkey, hand-reared.
 - 2 marmosets.
 - 3 red deer.
 - 4 barking deer.
 - 1 water buffalo.
 - 2 camels.
 - 1 donkey.
 - 1 Syrian bear, destroyed by dam at 26th day.
 - 1 puma.
 - 2 lion cubs, being hand-reared.
 - 5 dingoes.
 - 4 golden agoutis.
- (b) By exchange, purchase, etc.—
 - 2 South American tapirs, from San Diego Zoo.
 - 1 grison, from San Diego Zoo.
 - 1 sitatunga, from Taronga Zoo.
 - 3 New Guinea forest mountain wallabies, from Australian Reptile Park.
 - 11 Oriental small-clawed otters, from Bangkok.
 - 1 Australian hair seal, from Marino beach.

I ask that the remainder of the table be incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.
Leave granted.

BIRDS

- (a) Bred—Among the birds added to our collection in the same period by breeding were:
 - 1 emu.
 - 2 white ibis.
 - 1 macaw (hybrid).
 - 2 golden-crowned coures.
 - 4 musk lorikeets.
 - 2 rainbow lorikeets.
 - 1 golden-mantled rosella.
 - 2 eastern rosellas.
 - 4 quaker parrots.
 - 2 superb parrots.
 - 2 turquoise parrots.
 - 1 red-tailed black cockatoo.
 - 3 Indian ring-necked parrots (lutino).
 - 3 Cape Barren geese.
 - 21 brush turkeys.
 - 8 grey partridges.
 - 3 wonga pigeons.
 - 2 spinifex pigeons.
 - 3 diamond doves.
 - 3 swinhoe pheasants.
 - 2 peafowl.
 - 1 yellow-rumped finch.
 - 1 star finch.
 - 3 gouldian finches.
- (b) By exchange or donation—
 - 2 hooded parrots, from Melbourne Zoo.
 - 4 scaly-breasted lorikeets, from Melbourne Zoo.
 - 1 red-tailed black cockatoo, from Perth Zoo.
 - 2 crimson rosellas, from Sir Colin Mackenzie Sanctuary, Healesville.
 - 4 chestnut teal, from Sir Colin Mackenzie Sanctuary, Healesville.
 - 2 fairy penguins.
 - 2 little black cormorants.
 - 1 red-backed kingfisher.

TRAIN SERVICES

Mr. VIRGO: Several constituents are extremely concerned about an investigation being held to determine whether metropolitan train services should cease at 8 p.m. on week days and should not run on Sundays. As I understand that this investigation is being conducted at the behest of the Minister of Roads and Transport and Cabinet, will the Premier table the report and recommendations so that this House may make any decision arising therefrom?

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

WEST LAKES SCHEME

Mr. HURST: A letter that I have received from the Port Adelaide council, dated December 12, states:

The council was most surprised and concerned to receive a copy of pages 33-40 of the Fourth Schedule of the West Lakes indenture, dated June 11, 1969, from the Director of Industrial Promotion, and to learn from same that it was the intention of such indenture and

the West Lakes Development Bill now before Parliament that the Port Adelaide council would be held financially liable for certain possible drainage works envisaged therein.

Will the Premier say what discussions (if any) took place between councils and other authorities who would be financially committed, before the indenture was drawn up?

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

WALLAROO HARBOUR

Mr. HUGHES: Has the Minister of Marine received from Sydney the report on the seismic survey of the Wallaroo harbour?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: Immediately the department received the report yesterday, I was told and, although I have not seen it, I understand that it is complicated and will take some time to interpret and to assess. When I am able to advise the honourable member further, I will do so.

TUBALCO PROPRIETARY LIMITED

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have had a further request from Tubalco Proprietary Limited about tenders for copper piping, the company having lodged tender No. 2193 for the supply of copper tubing to the Engineering and Water Supply Department. As the reply previously given to me about this company stated that the Government would not go beyond the normal preference given to South Australian industry, will the Premier say whether special consideration will be given to the tender to which I have referred, in view of the fact that it seems that organizations in other States manufacturing copper tubing are dumping this product in South Australia by tendering to the Government to supply at prices designed to drive Tubalco out of business?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: The Government will examine the tender on the basis of the merits of the price submitted. The normal preference given to South Australian industries will be given in this case, but whether the Government can be the sole supporter of an industry that is subject to severe competition from other States remains to be seen. Obviously, this company would suffer such competition in the private sphere as well as in Government tendering and many factors, such as the significance of potential business with the Government in relation to total turnover, would determine the Government's attitude. We would also consider how much support would come from the Government and how much the company is involved in the general economic

situation outside Government purchases. All these facets are pertinent to the company's position, as is Government involvement in any deliberate spending beyond the normal preference to such an industry. However, the Government will examine the matter.

GRAIN TRUCKS

Mr. VENNING: Has the Attorney-General further information in reply to my recent question about grain trucks?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The final unit cost of the aluminium bulk grain waggons, 3ft. 6in. gauge (32.5 tons capacity), is estimated at \$13,588, which figure includes a nominal sum for the use of surplus narrow gauge bogies from the Peterborough Division. The corresponding figure for the standard gauge steel bulk grain hopper waggons of 53 tons capacity is \$11,055.

MILLICENT HOUSING

Mr. CORCORAN: Has the Minister of Housing a reply to my recent question about the insulation of Housing Trust houses at Millicent?

The Hon. G. G. PEARSON: The General Manager of the trust reports:

There are many improvements that the trust could carry out on its older houses, but any upgrading must be planned and executed on a State-wide basis. The trust has not programmed to provide Rockwool insulation in ceilings of its older homes, and cannot see its way clear to do so at this stage.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Mr. McANANEY: As there have been conflicting reports and much publicity in the past week about the terrific cruelty to a cat in the northern suburbs, will the Premier say whether the matter has been referred to the police and, if it has, whether the police intend to prosecute?

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

PARK TERRACE CROSSING

The Hon. C. D. HUTCHENS: Since asking a question about the stationing of police at the Bowden railway crossing. I have noticed that the "stop" signs have been removed and I agree that this has relieved the congestion somewhat. Has the Premier further information in reply to my question?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I also have noticed that the "stop" signs have been taken away. A police officer was stationed at the railway crossing which is at Park Terrace, Bowden, to cancel out the effect of a "stop" sign during

peak periods by directing traffic through this crossing. With the removal of the "stop" sign early this month, the presence of a police officer is not necessary.

PINE PLANTINGS

Mr. EVANS: I believe that the areas on the southern side of the Mount Bold reservoir reserve are planted with radiata pine of grafted stock, which is imported and used as a seed-bed nursery. I understand that on the northern side of the reservoir the department has planted *pinus pinaster*, which I believe is not as economically valuable as radiata pine. Will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Forests why we are planting pinaster in this area; whether pinaster and radiata will cross-pollinate when planted near radiata; what is the comparable economic value of the two varieties on maturity; and how close can the plantation be to the seed-bed stock without fear of cross-pollination from other types of pine?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Although I know little about the possibility of cross-pollination between the two varieties, I understand that on certain soil and in certain climates in some parts of the State pinaster is superior to radiata. However, these areas are limited. Although pinaster does not have the widespread advantages of radiata pine, there are circumstances in which it is more economical. The Woods and Forests Department has led, and still leads, Australia in soft-wood plantings, and as I believe it knows more about soft-wood growing in general than does any similar department in other States, I doubt that it would make the elementary mistake suggested by the honourable member. However, I will obtain a full report from the Minister of Forests.

WATER LICENCES

Mr. CLARK: Will the Minister of Works obtain for me the names of persons or companies issued with water diversion licences to irrigate in excess of 100 acres during 1967 up to April, 1968, and also a list of those licences issued since April, 1968, for areas in excess of 100 acres?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: I will obtain this information for the honourable member.

CANADIAN WHEAT

Mr. WARDLE: Some time ago the Premier said that Mr. Hal Dean, the Government Director of South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited, had been requested by the Premier to investigate the methods used for

the bulk storage of wheat in Canada. As I believe that this gentleman has now returned to South Australia, does the Premier intend to make available a report on Mr. Dean's findings, or can he say whether Mr. Dean intends to report to the co-operative?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I will obtain a reply for the honourable member.

OATS

Mr. ALLEN: It has been brought to my notice that some oat processors in South Australia are obtaining supplies of oats from Victoria at a much cheaper rate than they can be obtained from the South Australian oat pool. Will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture whether that is correct, and also what quantities of oats are currently held in the South Australian oat pool?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will ask my colleague for that information.

COMPETITIONS

Mr. HUDSON: A constituent of mine has informed me that several competitions or raffles are being conducted in one particular district (and probably in other districts) of the metropolitan area that involve the employment of small boys, who visit houses in order to sell tickets for quiz competitions, walkathons, and similar events. My constituent informs me that a few weeks ago four different boys called at his house at different times selling tickets for a quiz competition for an organization called the South Adelaide Ramblers Football Club. A small notice in yesterday's *Advertiser* stated that the South Adelaide Ramblers Football Club quiz had been cancelled, and in one of the columns of that newspaper today the following paragraph appears:

City Cross perfumerie manageress Pat Hines bought tickets in a football club quiz a few weeks ago. Yesterday, in a two-line newspaper ad, the club announced that the quiz had been "cancelled". A bit rough, Pat thought.

My constituent says that he is not concerned about the 20c he has paid but that he is concerned about what happens to the money collected by the children. Is it going to be refunded, or will it go into the club's funds? In view of the somewhat unusual circumstances surrounding this matter, will the Premier ask the Chief Secretary to investigate the whole matter in order to ascertain what can or should be done?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: This subject has been under review by Cabinet for several

months and is still being considered. In the light of that circumstance, I believe that the matters brought up by the honourable member will be well covered in the information being sought by Cabinet. However, I will refer his question to the Chief Secretary, and add it to the other details that we are studying.

COUNTRY COURTHOUSES

Mr. NANKIVELL: The Minister of Works earlier replied to a question I asked about the Lameroo police station. Will the Attorney-General, as Minister in charge of courts, discuss with the magistrates involved in the Keith and Lameroo areas the question of court accommodation, particularly as to whether the rooms which are provided in these police stations and which are used for court purposes are in fact adequate for carrying out the work necessary to be undertaken?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I sympathize with the honourable member in his wish to have better court accommodation. I, too, would like to see far better court accommodation in many places throughout South Australia. However, this is a matter of priorities mainly based on finance. I will have a word with the Temporary Local Court Judge to ascertain the position, but my recollection is that the priority for this work, although high, was not so high as to justify the work being done in preference to other work. However, if the work can be done it will be done.

BARMERA T.A.B.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have received a number of complaints from people living in the Barmera area that the Barmera Totalizator Agency Board agency is located in a delicatessen and that the normal facilities available in T.A.B. premises elsewhere are not readily available there, as very cramped facilities are being used. Will the Premier, representing the Chief Secretary, obtain a report from his colleague on whether more satisfactory premises can be provided?

The Hon. R. S. HALL: I will obtain a report from the Chief Secretary or the Treasurer.

CREAM SALES

Mr. EVANS: I quote from a stop press report in today's *News*:

South Australia was losing about \$1,500,000 worth of local cream sales annually through imports of cream from interstate, the South Australian Dairymen's Association Secretary, Mr. D. J. Higbed, said today.

Will the Minister of Lands ask the Minister of Agriculture to investigate this matter to see whether there is any way whereby we can promote the sales of our own local cream?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I will ask my colleague for a report.

DRAINAGE

Mr. CORCORAN: Has the Attorney-General, representing the Minister of Local Government, a reply to the question I asked on August 27, during the debate on the Loan Estimates, about funds to be made available to the District Council of Millicent for drainage purposes?

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE: The District Council of Millicent has submitted designs for a drainage scheme in Millicent for possible participation in the governmental subsidy scheme for the construction of main drains both in metropolitan Adelaide and country towns. However, it appears that the Millicent scheme is not eligible for subsidy in its present form as the drains are minor and local in character and, as such, are the total responsibility of local government. However, Her Worship the Mayor was advised by letter dated August 21 that it would seem necessary for the council to submit a scheme that would meet the requirements of the subsidy scheme policy as set down, and to this end the Minister of Local Government suggested close co-operation between the council's works manager and officers of the Highways Department.

GOVERNMENT VEHICLES

Mr. VENNING: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question concerning the disposal of Government vehicles?

The Hon. J. W. H. COUMBE: The objective of the Supply and Tender Board is to dispose of surplus Government motor vehicles at the best obtainable prices, and the manner of disposal is kept under constant review. From time to time, sale by public auction is arranged in order to compare the prices with those by private tender sale. The board's experience has shown that the prices obtained by public auction have generally been less than those obtained by the two main methods employed by the board which are (a) advertising by public tender both in the classified and Government columns of the daily press, with all relevant particulars shown either on the tender form or in the advertisement; and (b) trading-in on new vehicles if the trade-in price exceeds the highest tendered price.

At 4 o'clock, the bells having been rung:

The SPEAKER: Call on the business of the day.

OATHS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

The Hon. ROBIN MILLHOUSE (Attorney-General) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Oaths Act, 1936-1968. Read a first time.

The Hon ROBIN MILLHOUSE: I move:
That this Bill be now read a second time.

It proposes legislative reform recommended by the Law Reform Committee of South Australia, and accepted by the Government, for two amendments to the Oaths Act, 1936-1968. Both amendments are in connection with section 27 relating to statutory declarations under Part III of the principal Act. The first question is with regard to the elements of the offence of making a false declaration, created by section 27. That section provides:

Any person who wilfully and corruptly makes any declaration by virtue of this Part, knowing that declaration to be untrue in any material particular, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and shall be liable, upon conviction thereof, to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding four years, with hard labour.

It is suggested that the words "and corruptly" be struck out from the section, on two alternative grounds: that the words in question are either redundant or place such a difficult and heavy onus of proof upon the complainant as to whittle away the value of a statutory declaration by reducing the chance of a conviction. Support for these arguments is amply furnished by the decided cases on the interpretation of the word "corruptly".

Generally speaking, where the word "corruptly" appears in a Statute without the word "wilfully" it has been held to require some element of bad faith or wrongful intention, in effect, a dishonest intention. If, in the context of section 27, this is all the word means, then it would appear to have no real significance in the section because, if the word "wilfully" is to be given some meaning, it seems to be the word which emphasizes the presumption of *mens rea* or wrongful intention as an element of the offence. If, on the other hand, by reason of its conjunction with the word "wilfully" the word "corruptly" means there must also be a motive or intention to produce an unlawful or wrong effect, that is, if it is necessary to prove that the declarant knew the true purpose for which the declaration was made and that he intended an unlawful effect, then the person who makes the false

declaration, although knowing it to be false, may well escape conviction.

The second amendment is designed to prevent defeat of the purpose of Part III of the Act by a challenge based on an alleged defective form of a declaration. Section 25 of the Oaths Act prescribes the form for the declarant but says nothing as to the manner in which the declaration is to be taken. It is, however, well known that attesting justices and other authorized persons often use a form of words of their own choosing. It is accordingly proposed to insert subsection (2) in section 27 to empower the court to rule on the validity of the declaration if satisfied by evidence that it was made in a manner that complied with the Act. The proposals as outlined above are contained in clause 2 of the Bill, clause 1 being purely formal.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN secured the adjournment of the debate.

THE BUDGET

The Estimates—Grand total, \$328,261,000.
In Committee of Supply.

(Continued from September 4. Page 1473.)

THE LEGISLATURE

Legislative Council, \$45,615.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Leader of the Opposition): The Treasurer has on this occasion introduced a Budget which, on his own admission, cannot cope with the needs of the State and in which, without special Commonwealth assistance, we may anticipate one of the heaviest deficits ever budgeted for. It would appear that the Treasurer does not do this with any great joy in his heart: he has submitted it to us in the spirit that it is a poor thing that is done, and he has commended it to this place on that basis. Whatever criticisms one can make of the priorities evident in the allocation of moneys available, the plain fact that comes from this Budget is that the State is unable to meet its obligations in education and other services because of the continued refusal of the Commonwealth Government to agree to revise its financial arrangements with the States.

At the time of the Premiers' Conference in June of this year, we heard a great deal from the Premier on this score. I want to remind honourable members of what he said. No doubt, because of political events of another kind immediately pending he has gone rather quiet about these things, but at the time he said some things quite as rugged as anything I ever said when we were in office, and probably rather more so. He said that, if

we were to get only what the formula would provide, then, to all intents and purposes, the Premiers would come next year as representatives of claimant States; that would be their position because the Commonwealth-State system would no longer be working. The Premier said bluntly at the end of the general discussions that the system had broken down. Addressing the Prime Minister, he said, "Whether you agree or not, the States are back to the impossible situation of knowing that they cannot provide for their State needs." The Premier talked to the Commonwealth Treasurer and took him to task for referring to the Premiers and their constituents; he said, "I remind you that they are also your constituents, and these constituents are beginning to grasp from these unedifying wrangles the bewildering complexities of State problems brought about by wage rises and the interest charges on the public debt." The Premier went on to say that there must be an equitable sharing of resources in the public debt structure in Australia, that we needed at least a share of an extra \$12,000,000 built into the allocation or the Budgets of the States would be in chaos, and that the list of economies and curtailments made in South Australia during the current financial year had been extreme.

Well, we all agree with that. It is quite clear from this Budget that, as time goes on, we shall get further and further into difficulties forced upon us by a Commonwealth Government that refuses to recognize the needs of the States to provide adequate services in the areas of their responsibilities. This is not a new situation. I wish that, when members opposite had been in Opposition, they had got behind us in the protests that we made as unequivocally as we on this side of the Chamber get behind them in the protests they are making, because undeniably this State is being deprived of the means of carrying out its responsibilities to its citizens; and this is the deliberate policy of the Commonwealth Government.

Let us go back a little in history to see what was done on the score of Commonwealth State financial relations. In 1966 the Commonwealth Government undertook that in February of 1967 there would be a review of the situation. In February of 1967 there was no review of the situation, but a special grant was made. Because the Commonwealth Government recognized that there were some difficulties, it said it would make an interim grant to tide the States over. Each one of the States was then invited in June, 1967, to

make submissions on the basis of a complete revision of the Commonwealth-States Financial Agreement. Every State sent its Treasurer to the Premiers' Conference and the Loan Council meeting with submissions for a complete revision of the Commonwealth-State financial arrangements. When we got there, the Commonwealth Government would not listen to even one of the submissions. We had them all ready, but we were then told that we had to accept the amount proposed for the Loan Council agreement—the total amount of Loan works money prescribed by the Commonwealth. When the Commonwealth had made some minor adjustment as a result of the protests of the States, it said that the condition of its agreeing to the added amount of Loan works money was that we accepted the existing formula and it would listen to none of the submissions made by the States for a revision of the formula.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: Are you speaking of the Revenue formula?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes; I am speaking of the Revenue formula. We had been invited to go there in June, 1967, with submissions for the revision of the Revenue formula. We had them there, but the Commonwealth would not listen to a word of them. The result was immediately apparent in every State of the Commonwealth, and the Liberal Premiers, wherever they existed, protested so much that the then Prime Minister scheduled for February, 1968, a meeting to revise the Revenue formula. However, it was never held. Mr. Holt died tragically, and Mr. Gorton never held the meeting.

Immediately Mr. Gorton took office there were protests and immediate requests for the meeting to be held, but it was never held. In June, 1968, no revision of the formula took place; nor did it take place in June, 1969. Now we are told that the meeting, which was originally promised for February, 1967, will be held in February, 1970; but at this stage of the proceedings we have no better indication that the States' needs in health and hospitals, in education, in development and in assistance to the poor, will be listened to by the Commonwealth; and no opportunity is given to the States to assess the priorities within these areas, because the State Budgets are so tight that we cannot meet our existing needs, let alone set any sort of variation in the priorities that we have within these areas.

In these circumstances, how can it be said that the present Commonwealth Government is meeting the needs of the State? I notice that

the Premier, when he was in Canberra, talked about the kind of buildings he could see there. We have heard recently about this. Anybody who goes to Canberra and observes the amount of money spent within that enclave on education buildings and education facilities and compares that with what is available within the States (for instance, the schools in New South Wales, immediately outside Canberra, and those in this State, compared with the schools in the city of Canberra itself), can see what sort of priorities the Commonwealth Government sets in expenditure.

The Commonwealth Government has been prepared to increase expenditure in its own areas of responsibility and to ignore the fact that the States have responsibility in particular areas where, in every comparable country, the annual increase in expenditure has exceeded the increase in population. In every comparable country, the annual increase in education expenditure, the annual increase in hospitals and health expenditure, and the annual increase in development expenditure all exceed the rate of increase in population. Yet, Mr. Chairman, we in the States are, as a result of a deliberate decision of the Commonwealth Government, confined to a formula which provides that our increases in these areas for which we have responsibility are tied to the increase in population and to changes in wage rates alone, with no adequate betterment or increase factor.

South Australia is in the peculiarly difficult position that it has two things written into the formula which place it at a singular disadvantage constantly. One was that the original formula was written at a time when this State's expenditure in the welfare area was proportionately lower than that of any other State. That was the basis of the original formula and, because we were spending less on the total of welfare programmes, on education, health and hospitals, on law, order and public safety, and on relief for the poor and the aged than was being spent by any other State, we were tied to a formula at that time which meant that we received less in respect of these areas than did the other States.

Since that time, the Labor Government has submitted to the Commonwealth that the formula should be revised to bring us into line with the budgetary standard of the other States, and the present Government has done so, because the very same submission that I made (that the increase in expenditure in the welfare

areas, in hospitals and health, and in education was entirely justified and necessary in this State to bring us into line with the other States) was taken up by the present Government when it went to Canberra. It was taken up in June, 1968, and it was agreed that the formula was wrong upon that basis. The second thing was, of course, that the estimates concerning population were wrong originally and, in consequence, we were at a disadvantage on that score. The Commonwealth Government refused to listen to me when I produced the figures and pointed out that the estimates had been completely wrong and that we were at a disadvantage as a result. All the Commonwealth Treasurer could say was, "What you gain on the swings you lose on the roundabouts, and we are not going to go into that." All this has meant that the Treasurer is in the situation that he outlined at the beginning of his Budget explanation, when he said:

Unfortunately, we must proceed without any adequate assurance other than that the Prime Minister will meet the Premiers some time in the new year to review these matters and, in addition, to commence the review of the new arrangements that will apply for a period commencing with the financial year 1970-71.

We have no such assurance. The Prime Minister said he would meet us, just as he said previously that he would meet us. However, on those occasions he has not done so. His predecessor said he would meet us, and he did not. At the moment we have no adequate information to show that we will get any sort of better deal in the future than the deal that the Premier has said will produce a complete break-down in the system. I do not wish to speak at length here on the priorities within the Budget, because, while there are some complaints that I can make about certain Budget lines, I will reserve these for the lines. I think that some mistakes have been made, but these are matters of detail, and on this first line I want to refer to the general position of the Budget. As far as new policies are concerned, there is not terribly much to talk about, because there are not any. This Budget is a Budget not of change but of continuation of existing expenditure procedures. The Treasurer has endeavoured to do his best to hold the line and to do no more than that, because of the difficulties with which he has been faced by the Commonwealth Government's policies. However, what amazes me in these circumstances is that, in the present political situation, people in this State who say that they are concerned to maintain the rights of the States

to be able to carry out their responsibilities are not, regardless of any sort of political consideration, out on the hustings to campaign for South Australia's getting its rights.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: Can the honourable member give me any assurance that if we had a change of Government we would get better consideration?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes, I certainly can.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: I'll be interested.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have been to the meetings of the Labor Party in Australia over the last three years at which this particular subject has been No. 1 topic right throughout and, unlike the meetings (or the lack of them) and the public exchanges of people of the political persuasion of the Treasurer, ours have been amicable, because our Commonwealth leaders have seen the necessity for providing the States with the means to discharge their responsibilities.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: I thought unification was the policy of your Party.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Obviously, the Treasurer has not been keeping up with the decisions of the recent Commonwealth Conference of the Labor Party.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: In any case, your meetings could be held without any likelihood of your having to make good the undertakings given or the promises made.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I think the Treasurer has not been looking at the Gallup poll figures for this State. If he has not, I suggest he does, because they will give him some sleepless nights. While I do not want to disturb his slumbers too much, I suggest that for the benefit of the State he ought to face the facts.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: This State is not the only one that affects the result.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is quite true. As far as this State is concerned it is true, on both a Commonwealth and State basis, that any time there is an election the result will redound considerably to the credit of this side of politics. We will contribute something to the Commonwealth situation. I do not know how much the Treasurer has been going to other States recently, but I assure him that I have been doing so, and the position that I see in this State politically is not a matter concerning this State alone. If the Treasurer thinks there is not going to be a considerable change in Canberra after October 25, then in that case he is not facing the

facts. The Treasurer asked me whether I could give him an assurance that there would be a better deal for the States as a result of a change of Government in Canberra. I can give him that assurance. The Labor Party believes that the services which are the responsibility of the States must be given sufficient means so that they can operate effectively. The people that we represent politically are the people who rely on those services, and we are going to see that they get them.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: I don't think you have any exclusive representation of those people.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Perhaps not, but they are the people who vote for us, and they are the people whom we came in here to represent—the ordinary people of this community.

Mr. Virgo: And they are worth representing, too.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Everyone of us on this side represents an area where the lower and middle income groups predominate.

The Hon. G. G. Pearson: So do I.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am very glad to hear it. It is not entirely the case with everyone else on the Government side, but I am pleased that the Treasurer is with us on this matter. Those are the people who need to rely on these services, and we are determined to see that they get them. The present Commonwealth Government is not interested in seeing that these services are given to these people; the Treasurer's own words and those of the Premier bear this out. The Commonwealth Government does not care. We can go to Canberra and talk about the necessity of getting things done, but the Commonwealth Government will not listen and it is time it did.

Members on this side are seeking to ensure that the people get these facilities. We have seen to it that our leaders in the Commonwealth Parliament are prepared to fight to see that the necessary finance is available from the Commonwealth Government to the States to give the services required. I suggest that members opposite, too, should do a bit of arm twisting, because unless we all get together on this matter to see that this State gets the money for these services it will not get it. This question ought to be above politics. We have been starved, and I assure the Treasurer and the Premier that any time they go out to get from the Commonwealth Government the

money that this State needs to give the people these services, every member on this side will be behind them.

Mr. McANANEY (Stirling): I notice that the Leader stuck to one subject because I suppose he is conscious of the Commonwealth election that will be held soon and he is doing his best to spread political propaganda. He did not, however, refer to the present buoyant state of South Australia's economy: he dodged it at every point. Over the last 18 months there has been a change for the better in the atmosphere in this State and in our economic conditions.

There was a fair amount of talk that possibly we had not spent so much from Loan funds on the building industry. However, in May, 1969, 689 housing permits were issued, compared with 563 in the corresponding month last year; in June, 1969, 764 permits were issued, compared with 526 in the corresponding month last year; in July, 1969, 895 housing permits were issued, compared with 643 in the corresponding month last year. The total number of permits issued in May, June and July this year was 2,348, compared with 1,732 in the corresponding period last year. It is important that the people have housing and that employment figures are maintained, because the more people there are in employment the more goods there are for everyone to share.

In 1966 building expenditure in South Australia amounted to \$112,000,000; in 1967 it was \$130,000,000; in 1968 it was \$141,000,000; and so far in 1969 building expenditure has been maintained at the rate of \$157,000,000 a year. These figures show that South Australia is moving again. During the three months ended June, 1969, 1,811 houses were commenced and 1,881 were completed. Commencements were 78 more than in the March quarter of 1969, and 310 more than in the June quarter of 1968. Completions were 435 more than in the previous quarter and 143 more than in the June quarter of 1968.

The total of 2,480 dwellings (houses and flats combined) commenced was 275 more than in the preceding quarter and 506 more than in the June quarter of 1968. As many as 12,019 persons were employed on building jobs at June 30, 1969; this number was 188 more than on March 31, 1969, and 649 more than on June 30, 1968. As these figures increase, people who left South Australia during the three horrible years of the Labor Government will return and our growth rate will again reach 3 per cent fairly soon. Our

growth rate fell to only 1 per cent during the worst part of the Labor Government's term of office.

Mr. Broomhill: What is the waiting period for Housing Trust rental houses?

Mr. McANANEY: With an increasing population there is an increasing demand for houses. It is better to have a waiting list than to have many empty houses, and during the Labor Government's term of office there were not enough people to use the houses available. In the present period of almost full employment our living standards are clearly rising. It is pleasing that \$13,000,000 is to be spent on school buildings this year, compared with \$8,700,000 two years ago.

Mr. Hudson: You fiddled the books to arrive at that figure.

Mr. McANANEY: I had a great admiration for the honourable member during his first two years in Parliament, because I thought he was an honest man.

Mr. Hudson: You are not being honest at present, because you know as well as I do—

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. McANANEY: Since the honourable member entered Parliament he has slipped. The Leader of the Opposition has berated the Commonwealth Government for not supplying finance for various services in South Australia. Being an accountant, I look at the matter in a businesslike way. The Commonwealth Government is giving South Australia a reasonable share of the gross national product. What I would tackle the Commonwealth Government on is that it collects taxation from the taxpayers of South Australia and the other States and it then lends that money to the States for schools and other capital projects. This is where we ought to hit the Commonwealth Government. I would tackle the Commonwealth Government along these lines: it is taking taxation from the people of South Australia and not spending it on current items. I would say to the Commonwealth Government that it is basically wrong to lend this money back to the States, charging interest on it. The money should be returned as grants to enable States to construct school buildings.

Mr. Clark: The money isn't being used: you are soaking it away.

Mr. McANANEY: I point out to the honourable member that South Australia is in a wonderful position at present, whereas two or three years ago the coffers were bare. There was no flexibility; we could not turn left or right. If extra money was needed to provide jobs for the unemployed it was not available,

for the coffers were empty. However, we are now on a sound basis, with a greater volume of building taking place and more schools being built.

Mr. Hudson: That is not even true: fewer schools are being built.

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. McANANEY: The brain from the other side does not worry me very much, and I had better get on with the facts of life. South Australia is now in a position where all available manpower can be used and the economy can go ahead at the maximum rate. We can now attract more migrants, and the workers who left the State can now come back. Thus the State can progress again as it progressed in the past.

As I have said, I believe that the Commonwealth Government should make grants to the State for school buildings and so on rather than lend it money. If it made these grants, the State would not be committed to make interest and capital payments over 53 years, and the money saved would be ample to provide the various services needed for the State. As I have been interested in education all my life, I should like to see education standards and opportunities improved possibly at a greater rate than is presently the case. Although he qualifies his remarks by excluding cases dealt with by the Public Works Committee, the Auditor-General states that in some cases money has been spent on education extravagantly. I am sure the member for Gawler will agree that, in the cases dealt with by the Public Works Committee, there has been no stinting of expenditure and the buildings approved are modern and up to standard. It is interesting that evidence has been given freely by high school teachers that the variation in temperatures experienced in some of the modern buildings is greater than the variation experienced in the so-called temporary buildings that have been so much abused. However, I wish to make out a case to show the big improvement in education facilities that has taken place.

Mr. Clark: I think you'll agree that there's plenty of room for improvement.

Mr. McANANEY: There is always a need for improvement. As I have said before in this Chamber, when a member does not want to see things improved he is an old man and should get out of Parliament. We must always seek more improvements. I commend the South Australian Institute of Teachers for its campaign, although I do not believe some of the statements made in the campaign are

accurate. Perhaps it is difficult to understand the Budgets of the various States. On Sunday I received a sheet comparing the proportions of the Budgets of South Australia and Victoria spent on education. It has been said that South Australia spends a smaller proportion of its Budget on education than Victoria spends. However, the Victorian Budget does not include much of the revenue included in South Australia's Budget; for instance, revenue from railways and roadworks is not included in the Victorian Budget. Therefore, on that basis Victoria spends on education a much greater proportion of its Budget than does South Australia. I think the institute has claimed that South Australia spends only 18 per cent (or some such figure) of its Budget on education, but the institute has completely ignored the fact that the Budget includes provision for repairs and maintenance of schools, interest on money borrowed to build the schools, and various other expenditure on education. From this it can be seen that South Australia's proportion of expenditure spent on education compares favourably with that of other States.

Perhaps the fairest basis is to work out the sum spent per child. South Australia has many sparsely populated areas and spends much more per child than is the case when more closely populated areas are involved. The Leader of the Opposition spoke about the raw deal the State received from the Commonwealth Government regarding its proportion of taxation reimbursement. We have a population representing about 9 or 10 per cent of Australia's population, yet we receive a much greater proportion of taxation reimbursement than that would justify, so we have received an increased reimbursement on a per capita basis. This is justified because we have more sparsely populated areas and must spend more per head of population. Our reimbursement gives us an opportunity to spend more per child on education, and members opposite cannot deny this.

I have received several letters from school-teachers stating that the allocation of the money is wrong and should be altered. I will refer to the Auditor-General's Report on this matter but, as we have received it only in the last hour or two, my percentages could be slightly out. The State collects \$56,000,000 in taxation and that, plus Commonwealth taxation reimbursements, is the only money available for allocation. The sum of \$326,000,000, which is the total shown in the Budget, is not available for this allocation. Of that sum,

\$14,000,000 is credited to revenue, because the Treasurer debits it to the Treasury and it is handed over to the South Australian Railways. That is an increase in the revenue and a debit to expenditure, and there are various other contra items. We collect money under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement that is debited to the Treasury and handed over as a credit, and this builds up the total. All but one of the railways, waterworks, harbours and Produce Department undertakings operate at a loss. This money is not available to the Treasurer for allocation: it is there to pay the expenses of those functions of Government. Some taxation money must be allocated to pay for the losses on these items. The consolidated revenue of the various functions of Government was \$169,500,000, \$73,307,000 (or 43 per cent) of which was an operating deficit on education services. The sum of \$25,873,000 (or 15 per cent of the money available) was allocated for hospitals and health; \$10,378,000 (or 6 per cent) was allocated to the Police Department; \$4,580,000 (or 3 per cent) was allocated for social welfare; \$2,656,000 (or 2 per cent) was allocated for agriculture, including Roseworthy College; and \$12,534,000 (or 8 per cent) was allocated for roads. That money is not available for the Treasurer to allocate, because the Act provides that the \$14,500,000 that will be collected from motor vehicle revenue this year must, after paying administrative costs, be spent on roads. In that case, all the other percentages would increase. If motor registration revenue that is not available to the Treasurer were included, the education services would receive perhaps 46 per cent or 47 per cent of the money available. The sum of \$12,317,000 (or 8 per cent) is allocated for railways and a loss of \$4,654,000 (or 3 per cent) was incurred on waterworks and associated services. A further loss of 4 per cent was incurred on other public services, making 15 per cent of the total sum available.

Members opposite recently tackled the Government because it was trying to reduce the loss being incurred by the Railways Department. I commend the Treasurer for not having to increase taxation; indeed, the only increase that has been levied this year is in respect of the charge for surplus water. Who other than the people who use them should pay for the losses incurred on waterworks? As the Leader of the Opposition said, the Commonwealth Government should take both from South Australian taxpayers and from those in other States much more money so

that it can hand more money back to the South Australian Government to enable it to subsidize losses incurred on waterworks and railways. Surely the people who use these services should pay for the cost of same.

Mr. Casey: What about B.H.P. in Whyalla? You haven't done much about that.

Mr. McANANEY: When the Government is trying to attract business to South Australia and enters into an indenture with a company to supply it with water at a certain charge, it cannot go back on its word.

Mr. Virgo: Do you suggest we should reimburse the company for it?

Mr. McANANEY: This is something that we are trying through negotiation to achieve, and I would certainly support any move to ask B.H.P. to pay the cost of the water it uses, particularly when it said it expected to use a certain quantity of water (which would have increased our revenue) but has not done so. That is a perfectly legitimate reason for us to go to B.H.P. and say, "We constructed this pipeline because you said you would need so much water, but you have not used that quantity. As a result, we are incurring fairly large losses of about \$1,500,000 on this line. You should therefore help pay for the cost of the water you use." However, the Government cannot break an agreement it has made just like that; it has obligations to honour and it must do so.

This is where the State must reduce the losses it is incurring on the services it provides. Members opposite say that no railway lines should be closed, when at present the railways are running at a 25 per cent loss: the State receives back in revenue only 75 per cent of the actual running costs of the railways. If that sum could be used in our schools we could solve our problems, such as they are, overnight. However, this loss is growing, as only three or four years ago the railways were not running at a loss and the Engineering and Water Supply was paying its way. If this money were channelled into education, we would not have the shortages that we are experiencing at the moment.

Mr. Virgo: You are criticizing Playford now.

Mr. McANANEY: These losses occurred during your time in Government. Very few losses were incurred on the railways previously.

Mr. Hudson: And you have increased them.

Mr. McANANEY: I admit that, if we had not freed the roads, these losses might not have been so great. However, that is what the South Australian public wanted.

Mr. Virgo: How do you know what they wanted?

Mr. McANANEY: We were told this by members of the public, many of whom went to meetings that were held throughout the State. The member for Mount Gambier was not even game to go to the meeting held in his district. The people themselves decided that they wanted to use road transport, and the Labor Government then back-pedalled.

Mr. Virgo: How do you know what the people wanted? You have never been to a democratic meeting—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. Virgo: —and you never will go to one.

Mr. McANANEY: It is wrong if the South Australian public does not let us, as members of Parliament, know what it wants, because we are here as the servants of the people.

Mr. Virgo: But you would never believe them.

Mr. McANANEY: When the public gets stirred up, it certainly lets us know what it wants, as it did on the transport proposition. It can make its own decisions, and if members of the public decide that they want to use private motor cars or public transport, it is up to them; and that is exactly what is happening now. The railways are there and can be used if needed, but the public chooses not to use them. Indeed, 75 per cent of goods are now carted by road transport, although I admit that most of the goods carried over a great distance are carried by rail.

In this respect, certain standards exist in private enterprise. Members opposite do not believe in competition or in the more efficient private enterprise providing a greater service to the community as well as accumulating gains for itself. However, if something is running at a loss one must do something about it. For this reason, I believe that an inquiry into the railways should be conducted now. An inquiry is at present being undertaken in regard to the waterworks: a committee is trying to ascertain whether there is a better way to charge consumers than charging them for what they actually use. I know that great difficulties are associated with the implementation of this scheme, because the city of Adelaide pays a large percentage of water rates without using much water. Despite this, I notice that the profits of Rundle Street undertakings have increased considerably this year and that they are always at a high level. The water rates these people pay are added to the cost of the goods they sell, and thus, indirectly, suburban and country people pay indirectly for

the water used by city ratepayers. However, if the charge for water could be equated with its reticulation cost and people charged for the quantity used, they would be more careful in this respect and would waste considerably less water. The public did a tremendous job during the drought when the then Premier, now the Leader of the Opposition, asked them to be careful in their use of water. To their credit, they co-operated very well. I am always fair, and I remind the member for Glenelg that my figures are accurate, too. I admit any error that I make.

Mr. Rodda: You don't make many, though.

Mr. McANANEY: I make some errors. The more work one does the more errors one makes: the person who does not do anything does not make mistakes. If people were charged for water according to usage, the Murray Bridge to Hahndorf main would not need to be provided so quickly. The total cost of that main will be \$30,000,000 and even in a wet year in which water is not pumped through the main the interest cost will be perhaps \$2,000,000. We would not have to meet such an annual charge if we were more careful in our usage of water.

More frequent pumping from the Mannum and Swan Reach to Stockwell mains would have avoided, for some years, the necessity to provide the main to Hahndorf. However, the Engineering and Water Supply Department uses a conservative scale and, as soon as reservoir holdings drop to a certain figure on the chart, pumping is started. If the department kept more water in the reservoirs, the loss caused by water flowing over the top would not be as great as the annual cost of \$1,500,000 or \$2,000,000 for the Hahndorf main. We are losing 15 per cent of the State's available revenue to pay for losses on various services, which should be available for education, hospitals, and health, and the State must face up to this.

The Commonwealth Government must borrow some money and pay interest on it. Only a limited amount of credit can be used, according to economic conditions. The Commonwealth is entitled to lend borrowed money to the States for capital expenditure on items such as water supply, and this capital must be serviced. This year we will get about \$5,800,000 more than we got last year in taxation reimbursements, plus special Commonwealth Government grants of, I think, \$4,000,000 or \$5,000,000. We are paying back to the Commonwealth Government this year about the same amounts in interest and capital repayment.

If money collected by the Commonwealth in taxation and now lent to us at interest were given as a grant to build schools, the States would be able to provide these necessary education facilities. Although I compliment the teachers on their campaign, which they are perfectly entitled to carry out, I do not think that some of their figures are accurate. On Sunday I was given the pamphlet that states that 89 per cent of infants schools have classes of more than 30 students, 91 per cent of the large primary schools have classes of more than the ideal maximum number of 30 pupils, at high schools 89 per cent of the first-year second-year and third-year classes have more than the ideal maximum number of pupils, and that at technical high schools 71 per cent of the classes are above the ideal maximum size. The Auditor-General's Report also gives figures about this.

Mr. Hudson: You can't use average pupil-teacher ratios to refute the teachers' figures.

Mr. Clark: That's exactly what he's going to do.

Mr. McANANEY: I had an experience with the member for Glenelg in his submissions to the electoral commission. He came up with some most extraordinary figures which I could not follow and which his expert witness from the university could not comprehend or did not agree with. In technical high schools, there are 1,235 teachers for 20,541 students.

Mr. Hudson: You aren't even comparing the same thing. It's a completely fraudulent comparison.

Mr. McANANEY: That is an average of about 19 students for each teacher, yet the teachers claim that 71 per cent of the classes in technical high schools have more than 30 students. The member for Glenelg cannot prove that the statement by the teachers is correct.

Mr. Hudson: Have you allowed for free periods, for one thing?

Mr. McANANEY: I know that some headmasters and teachers do not teach, but a teacher told me on Friday that he worked from 7 p.m. to midnight each night. I do not know what he does in the free periods, if he has many of them.

Mr. Hudson: Your figure makes no allowance for free periods.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nan-kivell): Order! There is too much dialogue.

Mr. Hudson: He's making a fundamental statistical error.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: The honourable member is out of order.

Mr. McANANEY: When the member for Glenelg first came here I admired him for giving figures that were against his own case. However, now he distorts everything he can lay his hands on. The Auditor-General's Report shows that in primary schools the average number of pupils for each teacher is 29.5, in area schools 19.8, and in high schools 21, and that the overall average is 25 pupils to a teacher. Of course, there are free periods and a certain amount of sickness.

No-one can deny that there has been a steady improvement in education. We are trying to get more student teachers. More secondary teachers will come from Adelaide Teachers College next year, and the first group of teachers will come from Bedford Park Teachers College. This will help the position no end. In the financial year ended June, 1969, the number of student teachers was 4,409, compared with 4,186 in 1968. In the past five years the number of teachers employed increased by 2,080, or 30 per cent, and the number of students in teachers colleges increased by 844, or 28 per cent. This is greatly in excess of the percentage increase in the number of students. Perhaps there should have been better forward planning, but the number of students attending high schools increased from 32,643 to 43,181 in the last six years, whereas the number attending primary schools increased from 130,179 to 146,781 and the number attending technical high schools increased from 13,022 to 20,541. More students are attending school for a longer period, but it seemed that neither the Liberal nor the Labor Governments realized this tendency and provided for more teachers. The Commonwealth Government has granted money to build the new Salisbury Teachers College, and the Wattle Park Teachers College is to be replaced. Facilities for education are being improved and some schools are to be replaced. Whether this trend will continue if our growth rate remains at 3 per cent is something that we do not know, but it will be difficult to replace some schools unless a further increase in funds is made available. After receiving a letter from the teachers at Goodwood Technical High School, I and the member for Onkaparinga visited this school. Obviously, it will be difficult to provide adequate playing fields at this school without demolishing many houses and spending much money. Although \$80,000 has been allocated this year for improvements at this school, it will be difficult

to make it ideal, although this expenditure will provide a comfortable school. According to the Commonwealth Minister in charge of education, within a few years every high school will be provided with a library.

Mr. Virgo: What about teachers: do you think the Commonwealth Government will provide those?

Mr. McANANEY: An increased number of student teachers now attends teachers colleges, and we are building new and better colleges that will attract more student teachers, but it is difficult in a time of full employment to retain staff. I understand it has been claimed that some teachers have resigned in order to sell insurance and that one left the department and started work in the Railways Department. I cannot understand why anyone would wish to leave the teaching profession after being trained as a teacher, particularly if he liked teaching. I remained a farmer with little reward, because I liked the life and thought that I was doing something worth while, although financially I did not do much good. I thought that that was my vocation. If one is happy with what one is doing one remains in that position. In some cases teachers posted to old schools might be disappointed because they were not posted to a modern school. I commend the Treasurer for what he has done in the 18 months he has been in office. He took over a Treasury that was pretty bare.

Mr. Virgo: A buoyant Treasury.

Mr. McANANEY: I do not know what buoyed it up, except hot air.

Mr. Hudson: You will have a \$10,000,000 deficit at the end of this year.

Mr. McANANEY: Yes, but \$8,200,000 of it was inherited from the Labor Government. In the Budget of \$326,000,000 it is difficult to determine whether there will be a surplus or a deficit of \$2,000,000. With our present booming economy and the number of new building allotments that will have to be created, probably more stamp duty will be received than has been budgeted for. Also, we can rely on the good Commonwealth Government to give us a few million dollars. The Commonwealth Government, which was criticized by the Leader of the Opposition, gave us nearly \$5,000,000 last year, a grant that enabled us to finish the year with a \$400,000 surplus. We have not yet paid off the deficit created by the Labor Government in 1931-32, so I cannot understand how Opposition members have the nerve to say that this Government has created deficits. After next year or the year after that,

or the year after that, when we are still here, Opposition members can criticize us for creating a deficit if one has been incurred.

Because of the changed conditions in South Australia in the last 18 months compared with those that were created during the three previous years, the people of South Australia must be grateful to the Liberal Government, because they are receiving their reward for the wisdom they showed in changing the Government after three years of difficulties under the Labor Government. I commend the Treasurer, because he now has plenty of reserves. Perhaps it may be difficult to spend money on some necessary things because of the present demand for goods. This is certainly a good state of affairs: we can be flexible, and if an opportunity occurs to spend money in the interests of the people of the State it is available, and it can and will be spent to give the greatest benefits to the people.

Mr. HUDSON (Glenelg): I now understand what is wrong with this Budget. When I first read it I was somewhat puzzled, but it is clear from what the member for Stirling has said that the trouble has been that the Treasurer has been taking his advice. I should like the member for Stirling to visit the South Australian Institute of Teachers and quote the average ratio of teachers to students. The Minister of Education has done that and nothing annoys the teachers more, because it gives a completely false impression. It makes no allowance for free periods that teachers have; it makes no allowance for headmasters and deputy headmasters who do not teach but who are involved in administrative positions, although they are included in the overall statistics provided by the Auditor-General; and it makes no effective allowance for the way in which certain small classes lower the average. In my area, where most of the schools are above average in size, I do not know of any significant number of primary school classes that would have fewer than 35 students or of secondary school classes in mathematics or English that would have fewer than 40 students. It is clear from my own area that the typical size of class in the basic subjects of English and mathematics is about that shown by the statistics of the South Australian Institute of Teachers.

This present Budget has concealed certain matters. We find that the effective increase in this State's contribution to education is smaller than it was last year. We find, too, that the State's contribution to tertiary education includes the smallest increase since the

Playford Administration, although the Government is allegedly matching in full the proposed grants of the Universities Commission and the Wark Committee. When we analyse the matter carefully, we see that the State is virtually not increasing the contribution to universities and to the Institute of Technology from its own resources in this coming financial year. The percentage increase for the whole triennium is smaller than that for the previous triennium. What appears to have happened is that the South Australian Government has, via its colleagues in the Commonwealth Government, ensured that the Universities Commission and the Wark Committee carry out recommendations for South Australia that involve a smaller percentage increase than that which applied to the previous triennium.

I refer now to page 46 of the Auditor-General's Report for 1968-69. There, we find set out the State grants for the University of Adelaide, Flinders University, the Waite Agricultural Research Institute, the Institute of Technology, residential colleges, and scholarships, less the sums provided by the Commonwealth. There is a table, too, for the amounts provided from the Loan Fund. If we total these figures, we find that South Australia's contribution to tertiary education from its own financial resources in 1964-65 was \$6,678,216; in 1965-66 it was \$7,633,308; in 1966-67 it was \$8,652,288; in 1967-68 it was \$9,838,534; in 1968-69 (the first year of the current Government) it was \$10,664,114; and in 1969-70 the proposed State contribution for tertiary education is to be \$10,735,000, which is an increase of only \$71,000 over last year's amount. Honourable members can obtain from page 46 of the Auditor-General's report the figures for the last three years by adding the net amounts borne by the State in the table at the head of the page to the net amounts provided from the Loan Fund in the table at the bottom of the page; and for the current year we get the relevant figure by looking up the various current lines on either the Budget or the Loan Estimates.

In the first year of the Labor Government (1965-66) the percentage increase in this State's own allocation of its funds for tertiary education was 14.3 per cent; in the second year it was 13.2 per cent, and in 1967-68 it was 13.7 per cent. In 1968-69 it went down to an increase of 8.4 per cent and for this coming year there is a percentage increase of only .7 per cent. So there is virtually no increase at all in this State's own financial contribution to tertiary education. In circumstances where

the Commonwealth Government has effectively increased its contribution to tertiary education by some \$1,130,000, this State's response is to increase its own contribution by only \$70,000. This, of course, matches the approach of the Government to school buildings in the Loan Estimates. Honourable members will remember what it did: it used increased Commonwealth aid for teachers colleges and financed increased expenditure on that but, by dint of not increasing the overall provisions under that line, it had an effective reduction in major additions and in new school buildings in primary, technical high, area and high schools, the reduction being \$1,400,000. It is not true, as the member for Stirling has said, that this Government is building more schools. It is not; it is reducing the building of schools, and the member for Stirling knows that to be true. He knows we can quote chapter and verse from the Loan Estimates provided by the Treasurer.

Mr. Clark: The Premier last night at Naracoorte admitted that.

Mr. HUDSON: There was no reduction in this State's own financial contribution to school buildings during the three years of the Labor Government, if appropriate adjustments are made for under-spending or over-spending that occurred towards the end of each year. At no stage did we propose reducing expenditure on school buildings; yet this Government has blatantly proposed that—and the Premier has no answer to it. In fact, in a speech he made the other night he did not even know what we were talking about; he did not even get the point. At least the Treasurer knew what it was all about, but the Premier simply did not have a clue. For tertiary education, the Government has provided the smallest increase in this State's own contribution since the Martin Committee first started operating, towards the end of the 1950's.

The Hon. R. S. Hall: There was a decrease of 26 per cent under the Labor Government.

Mr. HUDSON: There was no decrease under the Labor Government. I have just quoted the figures provided by the Auditor-General. The Premier knows that once again he is playing very lightly with the truth; he does not care for the truth. The figures I have just quoted are accurate. During the three years of the Labor Government and during the Playford Administration there was a regular increase of about 14 per cent or 15 per cent each year in the amount provided by this State for tertiary education, but this financial year there is to be virtually no

increase. That is the correct position. We have heard a song and dance about the overall recommendations of the Universities Commission. The Government is saying it is fully matching the Universities Commission's recommendations. I want to know what the Treasurer and the Premier said to the Commonwealth Government about instructing the Universities Commission to lower the recommendations for South Australia.

Mr. McAnaney: Now you're guessing.

Mr. HUDSON: Well, why is there a percentage reduction in the combined sum provided for the University of Adelaide, Flinders University and the South Australian Institute of Technology over the three trienniums? The sum provided in the 1964-66 triennium was \$35,500,000; in 1967-69 it went up by 52 per cent to \$53,879,000; and in 1970-72 it is to go up to \$73,000,000, an increase of only 36 per cent. Why did we not get the same percentage increase? The plain fact is that this Government is economizing on education.

Mr. McAnaney: Oh!

Mr. HUDSON: Does the member for Stirling mean to tell me the Premier can get up here and say the Government is not economizing on education?

Mr. Corcoran: Of course he can. He can get up and say anything.

Members interjecting:

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nankivell): Order!

Mr. HUDSON: According to the Auditor-General, \$10,664,000 was provided from the Government's own funds for tertiary education, and this year from the State's own resources it is to be \$10,735,000. Members on the Government side (not all, but some) do not really care much about education; they only pay lip service to it when they have to. This Government is using increased Commonwealth money made available for education to limit the extent to which it has to increase its commitment. Instead of giving the usual increase in commitment that is given, the Government is giving less, and even concerning the overall Budget provision for education the figures are appalling. The average increase in the budgetary provision for education under the Labor Government was 11 per cent each year, and in the first year of this Government it was 11 per cent; but what is it now? It has been reduced to only a 9½ per cent increase for this financial year.

Mr. McAnaney: How about giving us the figures for 1965, 1966 and 1967!

Mr. HUDSON: In 1965-66 it was 10.7 per cent; in 1966-67 it was a 13.6 per cent increase; and in 1967-68 it was 9 per cent.

Mr. McAnaney: Tertiary education?

Mr. HUDSON: Primary and secondary education.

Mr. McAnaney: What about the drop-back?

Mr. HUDSON: I have given the figures for tertiary education. If the member for Stirling cannot see at the bottom of the page to which I have been referring the initial provision provided from the Loan Fund and add on for 1966-67 the net contribution from Loan of \$1,899,893 to the figure given in the table at the top of the page, I do not know what we can do with him. Really, before he makes any comment, he should work things out properly.

Mr. McAnaney: You are taking the figures out of the Budget.

Mr. HUDSON: I am taking the figures of actual expenditure over the last 10 years, and I got out the documents for the last 10 years in order to take out the appropriate figures. The fact of the matter is, to repeat it, that last year this Government proposed an increase in expenditure on primary and secondary education from its own sources of 11.2 per cent. This year it has been reduced to 9½ per cent. Despite what members of the Government believe or say in public, there are some people associated with this Government who are not concerned to do the best job they can for education. A sprinkling of ancillary staff is being appointed to our schools for the coming financial year in order to keep the teachers institute quiet a little bit and to make its members feel a little happy. In fact, the overall performance of the Government is not as good as it was last year.

This is a position which I believe requires the most adverse comment in this Chamber. The member for Stirling was trying to tell us that great improvements were being made in education: I will not deny that there have been improvements, but the overall extent of these improvements is really very small each year and, of the increase in expenditure made available each year (until this year it has averaged 11 per cent), the greater part goes towards meeting the increased costs of salaries and materials and, secondly, towards providing extra teachers for extra children in our schools. The sum that is available to improve the quality of what is done is small indeed. I doubt whether any more than 1 per cent of that 11 per cent increase each year is available to improve standards. In fact, the great

tragedy of our education system is that the improvement that occurs each year is pitifully small, despite the fact that we have within our education system people with the ability and potential to make great improvements, and this is one of the frustrations that teachers experience at present.

Almost any teacher who knows anything about the education system will admit to the tremendous potential for improvement existing within our schools. The tragedy is that that potential is not being realized, and it is that lack of realization of the potential within our education system which leads to frustration and which is, I believe, the fundamental reason for the campaign now being conducted by the South Australian Institute of Teachers. The Premier, of course, regards the campaign as being politically inspired; he does not think the teaching profession in this State is capable of raising \$25,000 from its own members and from its own resources in order to conduct a campaign in public and to explain to the people that more money is needed for education. I grant any State Government the fact that great difficulty faces it in providing properly for its various responsibilities, including education, because of the appalling state of Commonwealth-State financial relations and because of the appalling centralist attitude of certain administrators and politicians in Canberra, including, it seems, the Prime Minister himself.

Mr. Rodda: Aren't you a centralist?

Mr. HUDSON: Let me explain that, because it might be of benefit to the member for Victoria. I believe the Commonwealth Government, where it does not have the administrative experience, should be making general grants to the States, and the States should then determine the priorities. If the Commonwealth wishes to support education, it should make a general grant for the purposes of education in South Australia, because in the fields of primary and secondary education the Commonwealth simply does not have the administrative experience to determine the priorities. This current Commonwealth Government says, however, "No, we will not do that. We say science laboratories, libraries and teachers colleges are the absolute priorities. We will provide money for this purpose and you yourself can find any additional money that you require for any other purposes." The reason that the Commonwealth does that is not that it has some absolute and overriding interest in education but that it thinks that repeating the words "libraries" and "science laboratories", etc., means votes for it. It is a part of its

political gimmickry. In the field of social services, where the Commonwealth Government has the necessary administrative experience, it is entitled to say to the States, "We will make special grants for some particular project in the social welfare field that the State Government administers, because we want, overall, a better integrated system." The Commonwealth Government's experience throughout the whole area gives it a notion of how to get a properly integrated system.

The provision made this year in the Commonwealth Budget for the first time—and long overdue—for grants to State housing authorities so that rental accommodation can be provided for pensioners has arisen from the Commonwealth's administrative experience. It has at last seen what members of this Parliament have known for years—that there is an appalling waiting list for any elderly person who wants a pensioner flat (a rental flat) from the Housing Trust. For years we have been telling the Commonwealth Government that it should assist Government instrumentalities as well as private organizations, because the latter have been mainly interested in selling life interests in pensioner accommodation for \$2,500. The private organizations can then use this money to build more accommodation and attract further Commonwealth subsidies. I congratulate the Commonwealth Government on seeing the light and making these additional grants to the States.

I hope the State Government has already started making appropriate arrangements for rapidly increasing the rate of building pensioner flats of the rental-only type. We have heard nothing about them, but the Treasurer can rest assured that when we are considering the lines of the Estimates I will question him on this matter. There is an urgent need for the Housing Trust to step up its provision of pensioner flats. The trust's policy should be directed toward increasing the rate of building of these flats in both the metropolitan area and the country. I have dealt with an example of a grant made by the Commonwealth Government that has arisen from its own administrative experience but, where it does not have this experience, it should let the States do the job. Unfortunately, we have some very narrow-minded people in Canberra who just do not see the problems of the States, nor do they see the priorities involved in our education system. These people are increasing our difficulties by the form of the grants they are making and by the form of the assistance they are giving. Unfortunately,

an unsympathetic State Government that pays some lip service to education but whose performance stinks—

Mr. McAnaney: Oh!

Mr. HUDSON: I have just given the honourable member the facts about tertiary education: there has been virtually no increase in the amount provided for tertiary education by this Government. There has been a reduction of \$1,400,000 in the amount provided for school buildings and there has been an increase of 9½ per cent in education expenditure this year, compared with 11 per cent last year and an average of 11 per cent over the last four years. Whom are we kidding?

Mr. McAnaney: You have not quoted the figures for the Labor Government's term of office, or of the Playford Government.

Mr. HUDSON: I quoted figures for the last four years; they do not go back to the period of the Playford Government. I hope the honourable member can work that out.

Mr. McAnaney: Your figures were inaccurate.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Nankivell): Order! The honourable member for Glenelg.

Mr. HUDSON: Thank you, Mr. Acting Chairman. I wish to quote the following passage from page 2 of the Auditor-General's Report for the year ended June 30, 1969:

The continuing high level of spending on departmental capital works with, in addition, the payments from Loan of grants previously paid from Revenue adds to the debt charges each year. This, together with losses by some departmental public undertakings, the demand for increased expenditure on services and higher interest rates on new and conversion loans, will make increased charges to the public inevitable.

The Auditor-General could not make this point clearer: he says quite unequivocally that increased charges are inevitable. Why have they not appeared in this year's Budget? This matter is worth analysing, because I believe that all the Treasurer is doing is putting off the evil day until next year. When we carefully examine the sources of finance available to him, we find that he has imposed increased charges in one area—water rates. The increased charges will provide extra revenue of almost 10 per cent—\$2,410,000. This increase arises from an increase in the sewer rate from 6¼ per cent to 6½ per cent and an increase in the price of water for each 1,000 gallons from 30 cents to 35 cents. The latter will apply to both rebate and excess water and is designed not only to raise essential revenues

but also to discourage the unnecessary use of water so that pumping costs may be minimized.

No doubt further increases will arise from the revaluation of property, and I should like the Minister of Works to inform me whether any general property revaluations are taking place this financial year. There is no hint of this in the Budget but I suspect that it may be going on. There is an increase, then, of almost \$2,500,000 in revenue from the Engineering and Water Supply Department. The bulk of the increased revenue expected this financial year arises from the increased taxes that the Government announced last year. The Government's tax spree fulfilled the Premier's promise that he would spend more and tax less! The only promise he has fulfilled is to remove the winning bets tax.

Mr. McAnaney: Which promise has he broken? He has balanced the Budget.

Mr. HUDSON: He has not balanced the Budget. He has a \$10,000,000 deficit on the Budget this year.

Mr. McAnaney: Would you repeat that?

Mr. HUDSON: The deficit on Revenue Account at the end of the last financial year was \$7,900,000; the extra deficit this year is \$2,240,000. At the end of this financial year the deficit on Revenue Account will be greater than \$10,000,000 and, in addition, according to the Treasurer, it is expected that wage increases as great as \$5,000,000 will occur during the year. If these increases do occur there will be a compensating adjustment in the taxation reimbursement grant of about \$1,800,000. So, these two factors could further increase the deficit by \$3,200,000, making a total of about \$5,440,000 as the size of the prospective deficit for the current financial year. They are the Treasurer's own figures. If that is added to the deficit that existed at the end of last financial year, the total is about \$13,300,000.

Mr. McAnaney: Do you expect us to balance your deficit?

Mr. HUDSON: I am not saying that; I am merely saying what the prospective deficit will be. When he was campaigning for people's votes, the Premier did not really care what he said as long as it would get him votes. He said he would build the Chowilla dam and that he would not increase taxation. Reduced taxes were the only things mentioned while he was in Opposition.

Mr. Corcoran: He said State taxation was too high.

Mr. HUDSON: Yes, he said his Government would tax less and balance the Budget!

That was the story put across by the Premier and that is why today he is in a position where many people will not even bother listening to what he says.

Mr. McAnaney: What about Arthur Calwell?

Mr. HUDSON: The Premier leaves old Arthur Calwell for dead as far as the credibility gap is concerned. It is extraordinary and indicates the embarrassment of the Government on this point that the cumulative deficit prospective for the end of June, 1970, does not even get a mention in the Financial Statement, although every cumulative deficit has been referred to in the Financial Statements of every other Budget ever presented in this Chamber. No doubt the Treasurer does not want publicity given to the fact that, on his own Budget, he expects the cumulative deficit on Revenue Account to be about \$10,100,000 at the end of June, 1970, and \$13,300,000, if wage increases to the extent of \$5,000,000 occur.

The Treasurer then talks about getting increased assistance from the Commonwealth Government. The Government will not get increased assistance from the Commonwealth next year, for next year will not be an election year for the Commonwealth House of Representatives. The reason the Government received some lucky hand-outs this year and the additional \$3,250,000 was made available (such assistance was not given to the previous Labor Government; in fact, the only reason the Government finished with a surplus last year was that there were extra hand-outs by the Commonwealth) was that it was a Commonwealth election year.

Mr. Evans: That's an assumption.

Mr. HUDSON: True. However, perhaps the member for Onkaparinga is not aware that there are occasions when one can make an assumption and be 99 per cent sure that one is right.

Mr. Evans: You might apologize later on.

Mr. HUDSON: I doubt it, knowing our Commonwealth friends, for they have some unpleasant things in store for the people of Australia. If the present Commonwealth Government gets back into power it will impose a credit squeeze, and that is perfectly obvious.

Mr. Edwards: That's if the Labor Government gets in.

Mr. HUDSON: I am talking about the fine feathered friends of the member for Eyre.

Mr. McAnaney: What about the production squeeze when you were in office?

Mr. HUDSON: No State Government can impose a credit squeeze. The member for Stirling knows that and he knows that the Commonwealth Government imposed the credit squeeze in 1965.

Mr. McAnaney: Oh!

Mr. HUDSON: The honourable member should check his facts and he would find out that this was so. If the honourable member cares to hear a prediction from me, I can tell him that next year, if the present Commonwealth Government is returned, we will face a credit squeeze with very substantial increased calls into the reserve deposits of the Reserve Bank of Australia. There may be further increases in interest rates along with the increase that has already taken place and there probably will be budgetary measures as well. The sympathetic noises the Commonwealth Treasurer is currently making about income tax rates for those in the salary range of \$2,000 to \$18,000 is just a little bit of election fluff.

Mr. Broomhill: In that range there would be 90 per cent of the community.

Mr. HUDSON: True.

Mr. Burdon: Who will they slug to make up the difference?

Mr. HUDSON: We do not know, but we all know that the attitude of the Commonwealth Treasury and the Commonwealth Treasurer is that, when a situation arises where job vacancies start to get ahead of the numbers registered for employment, it is an inflationary situation and appropriate anti-inflationary action must be taken. After what happened in 1961, when the Commonwealth Government took action before a Commonwealth election, it will not be caught that way this year and the action will be taken after the election. The member for Stirling, the Premier and various others of the clique on the Government side must be a little careful in claiming credit for this Government for any expansion in employment that has occurred in South Australia, for they will get credit also for any contraction that occurs in the State as a result of a credit squeeze brought about by their Commonwealth colleagues.

The plain fact of the matter is that what this State Government does has precious little impact one way or the other on the state of the economy in South Australia. The factors at work that have the major impact are those operating on markets in other States that affect the demand for South Australia's products and the actions taken by the Commonwealth Government with respect to monetary policy,

which it has the authority to control, and with respect to its own Budget, which is many times (about 40 times) greater than the South Australian Budget. The South Australian Budget in comparison with the Commonwealth Budget is like the budget of the Brighton council in comparison with the State Budget, and the attitude of the member for Stirling is rather similar to the attitude a councillor of the Brighton council would take if he blamed the mayor for any unemployment in Brighton.

That is about how pathetic the honourable member's attitude is. What the honourable member has done is similar to what a councillor would do if he gave the mayor credit for any improvement in employment in that council's area and praised him for bringing confidence into the area. That is obviously ridiculous. The local council is so small in its spending in relation to the whole area that its impact on employment for good or ill is only marginal and does not have any significant effect. The State Government is so restricted in its ability to run a surplus or deficit year by year that its ability to exert a deliberate impact on the economy is also virtually insignificant.

Mr. McAnaney: Not as large, but not insignificant.

Mr. HUDSON: Virtually insignificant.

Mr. McAnaney: We have plenty of money at present.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. HUDSON: I appreciate your assistance, Mr. Acting Chairman. I know the propensity of the member for Stirling to make speeches: he has just made one speech and he is set to make another.

Mr. McAnaney: This is your second; you made one while I was speaking.

Mr. HUDSON: I only interjected when the honourable member obviously made mistakes and had to be corrected. I do not deny that the total amount of State expenditure has an impact on the economy, but the critical factor in making the economy of the State better or worse is the ability to increase expenditure by a huge amount one year or cut it back the next year. The State Government's responsibilities are such that it simply cannot do this. The marginal difference, in effect, of the State Government's Budget on the economy is rarely more than \$3,000,000 to \$4,000,000, at the absolute most. I should think that this Budget, in expansionary effect, because of the deficit, would probably involve a \$3,000,000 boost to the South Australian

economy, compared with last year. That is relatively insignificant in the overall scheme of things.

The Commonwealth Government can exert that kind of influence so many more times during the year than can the South Australian Government, not only through the Budget directly but also through the banking system. Of course, the member for Stirling (Mr. McAnaney) ignores the banking system altogether. Action taken through that system, as the honourable member knows, can affect the liquidity position of every firm, hire-purchase company, and other source of credit in the community. It can also affect the position of insurance companies. If this action is severe enough, it can have an adverse effect of great magnitude on the whole economy. I hope that next year, when things are grim and Government members could cheerfully cut the throats of their Commonwealth colleagues in Canberra (if, through misfortune, they are still in Government) and when a credit squeeze is imposed, members opposite will be consistent and take the credit for the credit squeeze. If they will not take it, we will give it to them.

Mr. Burdon: With interest.

Mr. HUDSON: Yes. It will not matter too much what we do, but members opposite have been blowing their tops and seeking great publicity about how wonderful they are and how the wonderful man, the Premier, has been going overseas and bringing industries back in his bag.

Mrs. Byrne: Where are they?

Mr. HUDSON: I do not know: all we are told is that they are in the bag. We are told that, if we put faith in the Premier's bag, everything will be all right. The fact that members opposite have gone in for all this punk publicity means they will be saddled with the blame for the credit squeeze.

Mr. Rodda: Are you a prophet of gloom?

Mr. HUDSON: Every time I look at Mr. Gorton or Mr. McMahon, particularly Mr. McMahon, I cannot be anything else.

Mr. Rodda: I think you're whistling in the dark for Mr. Whitlam.

Mr. McAnaney: He hasn't a chance.

Mr. HUDSON: I do not think the member for Stirling should make provocative remarks that might lead to certain financial commitments resulting in his having to put his money where his mouth is: especially he should not make them from out of his seat.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. HUDSON: I shall refer to many other matters in the Budget, particularly the extent of additional revenue coming available in this financial year because of the record tax imposts levied by this Government last year. For example, receipts duty alone is estimated to provide \$5,300,000 in 1969-70, as against \$1,910,000 in 1968-69. Again, on page 8 of his statement, the Treasurer states:

From all forms of credit and rental documents and arrangements I estimate that the return this year will be about \$1,600,000 compared with \$900,000 last year.

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

Mr. HUDSON: Before the adjournment I was dealing with the general nature of the Budget and the fact that the Treasurer could hope to get by this year without substantial increases in taxation, other than the intended change in water rates, largely because of the substantial increases in taxation that occurred last year. For the most part these took effect only in the latter half of the financial year, so the revenue impact on the Budget was limited in 1968-69 and the full impact will be felt this year. I should think that about \$6,000,000 or \$7,000,000 of the increase in revenue that can be expected for the current financial year is a consequence of the tax increases introduced by this Government last year.

Even so, the Treasurer is budgeting for a deficit of \$2,225,000 which, if he is correct, will mean that, in addition to the existing deficit of \$7,900,000, the total cumulative deficit on Revenue Account at the end of June, 1970, will be a little more than \$10,000,000. As the Treasurer has pointed out, if he is wrong and there are substantial wage increases that are not fully matched by increased Commonwealth tax reimbursements, the cumulative deficit by the end of June, 1970, could be more than \$13,000,000. I do not think that is likely to happen, because there are several hidden protections in the Budget.

First, I refer to the state of Treasury balances: these are available at page 4 of the Auditor-General's Report. Treasury balances at the end of 1968-69 were a little over \$47,000,000, compared with \$33,442,000 at the end of 1967-68. Trust accounts at the end of June, 1969, stood at \$20,426,833; deposit and suspense accounts stood at \$22,122,937, whilst the surplus on Loan Fund was \$12,477,469. This gives a total of deposits of one sort or another amounting to about \$55,027,000, and to work out the actual

Treasury net balance one has to deduct the cumulative deficit on Consolidated Revenue Account of about \$7,900,000 to balance back with the total of \$47,122,000 of Treasury balances.

The Treasurer, whilst in Opposition, made a great song and dance about trust funds, but it is clear from the size of deposit and suspense accounts held at the Treasury, of a little more than \$22,000,000, that there is a substantial margin available to the Treasurer should he decide on an increased school building programme or that increased money should be made available for general education purposes. In view of the overall increase of Treasury balances of \$14,000,000 over 12 months, I do not think we can accept the Treasurer's argument that he must keep a surplus on Loan Account of about \$12,000,000 in order to cover existing and prospective Revenue deficits. In fact, the Auditor-General points out that at least one of the balances held with the Treasury is in a real sense a credit to the Consolidated Revenue Account: this refers to the position that exists with respect to the group laundry.

The accounting arrangement of the group laundry and central linen service is that it charges the various Government hospitals for the services provided and then meets its own costs out of those charges; the surplus is then treated as a sum going into a special account of the group laundry held at the Treasury. This is one of the deposit and suspense accounts that total \$22,000,000 held at the Treasury. The Auditor-General points out at page 67 of his report (and he obviously attaches some significance to it because it appears in large black type) the following:

At June 30, 1969, there was an accumulated surplus of \$565,523 in the Group Laundry and Central Linen Service Deposit Account at the Treasury. As this has resulted mainly from charges to Consolidated Revenue in excess of costs, the amount not required for equalization of charges should be repaid to Consolidated Revenue.

He is pointing out that this surplus has arisen as a result of an accounting transfer from Consolidated Revenue into a deposit account at the Treasury and for that reason he is, in effect, saying that the Treasurer's deficit is over-stated. I have not had a chance to go in detail through the deposit accounts held at the Treasury but I suspect that some of the departmental working accounts held at the Treasury are in excess of what they should be, and that some of the funds held there

could well be regarded as a transfer back to Consolidated Revenue.

If one did this and was able to do it in relation to a significant number of these departmental accounts, which are only the Government's own accounts held at the Treasury, the actual deficit of this Government (and, indeed, of the previous Government) would turn out to be less than it actually is. I suspect that what the Treasurer is trying to do, to some extent at least, is to conserve his fire for the next financial year, which, after all, will be a pre-election year. However, I have already quoted the remarks of the Auditor-General on the almost certain increases in public charges that will occur. Let me refer to them again, because I want to bring the Treasurer's attention to them. On page 2 of his report, the Auditor-General says:

This, together with losses by some departmental public undertakings, the demand for increased expenditure on services and higher interest rates on new and conversion loans, will make increased charges to the public inevitable. I suspect that the Treasurer's plan of having a sort of bonanza year next financial year with something in it for everyone will probably come unstuck.

I should like to refer now to the position of the Electoral Department and the use of computer rolls. On page 49 of the Auditor-General's Report appears the following:

Following negotiations on the joint use of computer rolls with Commonwealth authorities referred to in my last year's report, \$38,500 was received during the year from the Commonwealth as its proportion of development costs.

I remind Government members of what they said when the previous Government proposed to computerize the handling of electoral rolls in South Australia. The Attorney-General, in particular, made a great song and dance about the futility of this procedure. What has happened as a result of the action of the previous Government is that South Australia has pioneered the computerizing of electoral rolls for the whole of Australia and that the Commonwealth Government now so recognizes the work undertaken in the State Electoral Department that it is paying a substantial contribution of \$38,500 towards the development costs of the whole project.

Mr. Virgo: The Commonwealth Government is also copying the procedure. The Canberra rolls are now prepared with a computer.

Mr. HUDSON: Quite. This will be done in other States as well. Government members are now silent about this matter. On page 52 of the Auditor-General's Report there is a

reference to the supply of water to the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited at Whyalla, as follows:

In previous reports I have commented on the Government's unfavourable financial position with regard to the supply of water to the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited at Whyalla and Iron Knob pursuant to the provisions of the above Act—

that is, the Broken Hill Proprietary Company's Steel Works Indenture Act—

The price of water as prescribed by the Act is at rates reducing from 23.33c a thousand gallons to 20c a thousand gallons according to the quantity supplied, whereas the cost of supplying water at Whyalla and at Lincoln Gap for Iron Knob for 1968-69 as determined by the Engineering and Water Supply Department was 86.19c and 76.88c a thousand gallons respectively. As set out in my report for the year ending June 30, 1968, the company has consumed considerably less each year than its stated requirements when the capacity of the pipeline was increased. For the year ended June, 30, 1969, there has been an increase in consumption to 934,000,000 gallons as compared with the previous year (620,000,000 gallons). Discussions are currently being held on this matter with representatives of the company by the honourable the Treasurer representing the Government but no finality has been reached.

It is worth examining this a little more carefully. What is involved effectively concerning the B.H.P. is a subsidy of about 60c a thousand gallons for all water supplied through the main to the B.H.P. at Whyalla and Iron Knob. As the Auditor-General states, 934,000,000 gallons was supplied last year. Effectively, the subsidy to the B.H.P. last year paid by the Engineering and Water Supply Department was about \$600,000, in circumstances where the State is supposed to be in a difficult financial position. No wonder the Treasurer is negotiating, and it is disappointing to read that no finality has been reached. I hope the Treasurer will, in the interests of South Australia and of the South Australian Budget, be able to achieve some progress that will make a reasonably substantial adjustment as between B.H.P. and the State Government. It seems an absolutely extraordinary subsidy. I hope that, when the Committee is considering individual lines, the Treasurer will indicate how the negotiations are proceeding.

Finally, we have a fairly exact statement on the sum that this Government would have go down the drain in relation to the Chowilla project. On page 64 of his report the Auditor-General says:

Work on the construction of the Chowilla dam was suspended early in 1967-68 pending

further review by the River Murray Commission and the Governments concerned following the receipt of tenders for the embankment, spillway and lock structures, which were considerably in excess of the original estimate.

At that time approximately \$5,000,000 had already been spent in preparation for the construction stage. Houses had been purchased and a construction depot established. Access roads and bridges were built, a ferry was provided and a bitumen road was constructed to the site. Some special equipment and services were the subject of contracts and a railway had been laid from Paringa to the dam site, a spur loop laid at Kinchina (near Murray Bridge) and a weighbridge provided, for the transport of suitable stone.

Net expenditure by the commission on the project at June 30, 1969, amounted to \$5,572,000 after allowing for a net credit of \$103,000 in 1968-69 arising mainly from the disposal of houses and equipment.

Part of this expenditure of \$5,572,000 by the commission is expenditure by the South Australian Railways. The report continues:

The South Australian Railways, at a cost of \$593,000 provided from State Loan funds, manufactured and modified rolling stock to transport stone from Kinchina to the dam site. That cost was to be recouped to the South Australian Railways in the haulage rate when transport commenced. If the project does not proceed, an assessment of the commission's obligation for capital costs will be undertaken. Since July 1, 1967, the commission has been responsible for the interest on the Loan funds expended by the South Australian Railways which has amounted to \$59,000 to June 30, 1969.

So, there is this continuing interest commitment on this previous expenditure by the South Australian Railways. I do not believe that it is too late to go ahead with the Chowilla dam. It is extraordinary that, while the Commonwealth Government is prepared to provide between 40 per cent and 50 per cent or more for projects like the Blowering dam and other dam projects in New South Wales and Queensland, it is prepared to provide only 25 per cent of the funds necessary for the next Murray River storage.

If the Commonwealth Government was prepared to help with the provision of Murray River storages in the same way as it has helped with other dams, it would be possible to proceed with a two-dam proposition. Such a proposition, involving Chowilla and Dartmouth, would entail some modifications to both schemes, but I suspect that a two-dam proposition would provide New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia with considerably more water than Dartmouth would provide and could be undertaken for a sum in excess of \$90,000,000. It would be quite practicable for

the three States if the Commonwealth Government approached it as a truly national project. If the Commonwealth was prepared to provide 50 per cent of the cost, the commitment of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia would be no greater than it would be for Dartmouth.

Mr. Virgo: South Australia is no longer part of the Commonwealth, which just ignores us.

Mr. HUDSON: I suspect that may well be the case; certainly we have been dealt with very badly by the Commonwealth in this matter. The Commonwealth Government and the Minister for National Development (Mr. Fairbairn) made it clear from the beginning that they were not interested in the reports of the technical committee. They made up their minds on the virtues of an up-river storage well before the technical committee reports ever came out; the extracts we have of the minutes of the River Murray Commission for April 24, 1968, make that clear. In fact, those minutes even make it seem as though there was some collusion between the representative for Victoria (Mr. Horsfall) and the Minister for National Development, because the delay they contemplated at that time, according to Mr. Horsfall, was to be very suitable because it would then enable Mr. Horsfall, so he said, to convince Mr. Beane privately of the virtues of the Dartmouth proposition and then Mr. Beane would have six months to convince the South Australian Government.

That all appears in the minutes of the River Murray Commission nine months before the technical committee, which was set up to compare the two, ever produced its report. As a fair-minded man, I ask you, Mr. Chairman, what you would do if you were an employee of the Snowy Mountains Authority or of the River Murray Commission and, effectively, came under the Minister for National Development, and he had gone on record as saying in public that an up-river storage would supply benefits at least as great as those supplied by Chowilla. Would you produce a technical report for him that showed him up as an idiot? I do not think you would. I believe that the whole matter with respect to the Dartmouth dam was prejudged by the people concerned, particularly because of the role of Mr. Fairbairn, who had a special interest in the project anyway, for his district is down-river from the Dartmouth dam site but up-river from the Chowilla site, so that it was in the interests of the

people he represented to have Dartmouth and not Chowilla constructed.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I trust that the honourable member is not embarking on a debate on Chowilla. I think that strictly it would not come within the scope of the Budget debate.

Mr. HUDSON: It is a very notable omission from the Estimates of Expenditure, and we should be considering it. We have a statement of the Auditor-General, and the absolutely extraordinary statement that \$5,500,000—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I do not object to a passing reference being made to Chowilla, but I do not want to have this opened up during the Budget debate.

Mr. HUDSON: No doubt we will get another opportunity to debate it. Let me complete my passing reference by saying that I believe that the assumptions in the technical committee's report on the comparison between Chowilla and Dartmouth were juggled in such a way that they gave the result that was most favourable to Dartmouth and most unfavourable to Chowilla, and that this was no accident. The appalling thing is that the representatives of South Australia (people such as the Premier and the Minister of Works) just have not been able to see the different results that one could get on this comparison if different assumptions were made. I refer to another matter in the Auditor-General's Report on which I consider the Government should be making a statement, particularly because of the recommendations of the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study about road maintenance charges. At page 73 the Auditor-General states:

Since 1966 I have drawn attention to the need for some action to be taken to ensure the recovery of a larger proportion of road charges than is at present being collected. In my report last year I outlined some amendments to the Road Maintenance (Contribution) Act which I consider would assist the Department to collect the full amounts due, but no action was taken and the following comparison illustrates the extent to which the position has deteriorated in the collection of charges levied.

	1967-68	1968-69
	\$	\$
Total charges collected	2,324,328	2,556,842
Sundry Debtors as at		
30th June	269,295	322,230

There had been a further increase in indebtedness of about \$53,000, merely on account of sundry debtors. However, the amounts for sundry debtors include amounts enforceable by order of a court of \$112,024 in 1967-68 and

\$122,092 in 1968-69. Bankrupt estates, of which there were 136 in 1967-68, were responsible for \$45,035 of the sundry debtors in that year, and the amount increased to \$81,476 in 1968-69, 231 bankrupt estates having been involved in road maintenance charges in that year.

In addition, in 1967-68, 14 road transport companies were in liquidation, involving \$20,534 of uncollected road maintenance charges. At the end of June, 1969, 28 companies were in liquidation, the amount of uncollected road maintenance charges for those companies at that time having been \$41,168. Further, amounts of \$6,927 in 1967-68 and \$10,935 in 1968-69 were written off. These amounts were over and above the amounts for existing bankrupt estates and companies in liquidation. The Premier, the Treasurer, and the member for Stirling have said that the economy is booming, yet an additional 95 road transport operators went bankrupt and an additional 14 road transport companies went into liquidation during the last financial year.

Mr. Burdon: A 100 per cent increase.

Mr. HUDSON: Yes. The Auditor-General concludes his remarks in that section by stating:

It is expected that further amounts will be written off when sufficient information is available regarding the possibility of collection. He does not consider that his summary represents the correct picture regarding the possibility of collection. I should like some assurance from the Treasurer on one disturbing matter in the Auditor-General's Report, because it seems to fly a kite in relation to possible increased charges being introduced at the Dental Hospital. Referring to the Dental Hospital, the report, at page 81, states:

The cost (excluding debt charges, etc.) of operating the Dental Hospital in 1968-69 (supplied by the department) was \$491,000. The number of new patients treated was 7,956; the total number of attendances was 57,182 (up 7,256). Cash received in 1968-69 was \$14,297 (\$2,097 more than 1967-68). The average amount received per attendance was 25c, whereas the average cost of providing each treatment was \$8.58. Certain patients, including pensioners, are treated free. I have repeatedly called attention to the small financial return of this hospital compared with the costs.

The Auditor-General's suggestion is, obviously, that substantial charges should be made for any dental service provided at the hospital, and I hope the Government will make it clear that it does not accept that suggestion. After all, poor people of this State, if they require

dental treatment, can get it only at the Dental Hospital, and in order to get it there they have to wait, in cases where dentures are required, for at least three or more years. I have no doubt that this waiting time can be reduced considerably by imposing a substantial charge for dental services at the hospital, but that would not be a service to the dental health of the people of this community.

Mrs. Byrne: Some people cannot get the service.

Mr. HUDSON: Obviously, there is a need to expand services and increase the amount of subsidy provided by the State. At present, people who cannot afford dental treatment either go without or go to the Dental Hospital, and if they go there, because of the paucity of practitioners, they have to wait for a considerable time and, in many cases, they do without the treatment for a long time.

Mr. Clark: This is bad in the case of children.

Mr. HUDSON: Of course. Prompt treatment is vital for children, and many cases exist where, if action had been taken earlier, the cost involved in rectifying dental problems or an incorrect bite would be much less. The longer action is delayed the more difficult it becomes to take the appropriate action. I do not know what the Government's policy is in relation to this matter, and I do not know whether the Government still plans to go ahead with fluoridation. Can the Treasurer say whether the Government plans to do that, or is fluoridation being quietly dropped?

Mr. McKee: No answer is the stern reply.

Mr. HUDSON: Will the Premier indicate whether fluoridation is being dropped? They do not know, Mr. Chairman. I support fluoridation, and I should think that the member for West Torrens, having been a worker within the field of the dental profession generally, would also support it.

Mr. Broomhill: It may be that I know more than you do.

Mr. HUDSON: Perhaps the member for West Torrens is worried about the future and thinks that if fluoridation is introduced fewer jobs will be available in a certain area—I do not know. I should not like to attribute any incorrect motives to him. All honourable members, whether they are in favour of or against fluoridation, are entitled to an up-to-date account from this Government of what is going on. We are not told, so perhaps some key person has gone away.

Mr. Virgo: That may be the answer.

Mr. HUDSON: However, I give fair warning to the Government that, when we come to the appropriate lines, this matter will be pursued further because, after the debate last year and the favourable vote the Government received and after its announcement that it would proceed with the scheme, we should be told at least what progress has been made. I suspect that the Cabinet room is a little like a rocking horse: which way the horse moves depends on which way one person in it sits. Perhaps some member of the Cabinet has been shifting his ground on fluoridation.

Mr. Broomhill: Perhaps it should have gone to the Public Works Committee.

Mr. HUDSON: I think it is a matter that would do the Public Works Committee a lot of good: it would separate the sheep from the goats.

The CHAIRMAN: If the honourable member would address the Chair occasionally, that would be doing a lot of good, too.

Mr. HUDSON: I am sorry, Mr. Chairman; I do not want to cause offence. A further general matter contained in the report of the Australian Universities Commission to which I want to refer is the development of a new medical school in South Australia. The detailed statement to be found in that report makes these points:

Since 1962 there has been a quota on the admission of students to the medical course in the University of Adelaide, limiting the output of medical graduates to about 100 a year. In 1966, a committee appointed by the South Australian Government to investigate facilities for training medical practitioners in South Australia recommended that a medical school should be established with a minimum of delay at Flinders University in order to provide adequate medical services for the State. The South Australian Government has recognized the need to train more medical graduates and holds the view that to establish new facilities at Flinders University would be preferable to expanding the medical school of the University of Adelaide.

The medical school of the University of Adelaide fully utilizes the clinical facilities of the two main teaching hospitals, the Royal Adelaide and the Queen Elizabeth. A new teaching hospital would in any case be necessary to provide training facilities for additional medical students. The Government proposes that such a teaching hospital should be established on the Flinders University site. There is thus the opportunity to plan a new medical school and a new teaching hospital as an integrated unit and to develop a close relationship between the functions of teaching and patient care. The following is the proposed time table for the school:

1970 Appointment of a Chairman of the school to begin planning—

and the university is currently proceeding with the necessary preliminaries for that—

- 1972 Preparations to be made for the construction of the medical school building.
- 1973 Construction of medical school building to be completed and first-year teaching to begin.
- 1974 Second-year teaching to begin. Hospital building to be completed and hospital to begin functioning.
- 1975 Third-year teaching to begin.

The first graduates would then become available from the medical school at the end of 1978. So at the beginning of 1979, in almost 10 years' time (at the earliest I may say), we can hope to get additional medical graduates in South Australia. This is a pretty appalling commentary on the State. After all, a quota in respect of new entrants into the medical faculty of the University of Adelaide has been in existence since 1962, and it has taken seven years to reach a decision to go ahead with a new medical school and a new teaching hospital. The Walsh Government certainly did its best to push things along; in fact, one of the first acts of Frank Walsh when he was Premier was to sign the docket for the purchase of the land known as Laffer's land so that a hospital could be incorporated in a site next to Flinders University.

As members know, a subsequent investigation by the Mines Department showed that the Adelaide fault line ran underneath that land and that it would be an unsuitable site for a multi-storey hospital building. It was as a consequence of that report in 1966 that in 1967 an exchange of land between the Government and Flinders University was agreed on so that part of the land which used to be occupied by the Bedford Park sanatorium buildings would become the land for the hospital, and the university would get additional land from the Marion Road, Sturt Road and South Road triangle as compensation. However, any further progress on this scheme had to await the recommendations of the Universities Commission for the new 1970-72 triennium. We were too late to have the medical school project included in the 1967-69 triennium. It seems to me that, while planning for a three-year term is probably a fairly suitable arrangement of universities, it should be sufficiently flexible to permit adjustments to that planning to take place within the triennium.

The university will now be going ahead with a hall of residence. This hall of residence was originally recommended for the 1967-69 triennium but could not be proceeded with at that time. In 1967, the Parkin Trust offered a

substantial grant towards the cost of a hall of residence at Flinders University, and honourable members will recall amending the Parkin Trust deed in order that such an endowment could be made. However, Mr. Gorton became a nigger in the wood pile, because he refused point blank in 1967 to reopen the question of the hall of residence in order to make additional Commonwealth money available to build it in 1967. However, the delay of a further two years has resulted in the withdrawal of the Parkin Trust offer. Now, therefore, the State and the Commonwealth Government will each have to provide 50 per cent of the cost of constructing the hall of residence. I am sure the Minister of Lands will be pleased to know that the hall of residence will accommodate both male and female students.

This Budget is very disappointing. It is a lack-lustre Budget that pays only lip service to the needs of education in South Australia. It does not effectively increase the amount of South Australian finance going overall to tertiary education for the current financial year. Consequently, the Adelaide University will probably have to reduce its overall quota for the coming academic year or, if it does not do this, it will have to eliminate the increase it was planning for some faculties. I believe that the Government has been so niggardly with the Adelaide University that it will be forced to reduce its intake of students.

Year by year more and more students are matriculating. It has been Commonwealth policy, through the Universities Commission, to force an increasing proportion of these students to go not to a university but to an institute of technology. Because this policy has been applied State by State, in the grants for the coming triennium the institutes of technology in the various States are treated much more favourably than are the universities. The policy of the Universities Commission is quite clearly to force quotas on to all universities and to allow the main expansion of numbers to be taken up by institutes of technology.

I suspect that in the coming triennium, as a result of the overall approach, the Institute of Technology, too, will have to impose quotas even for properly qualified students, although I understand it does not intend to do this at present. Certainly, however, the overall policy, in which this Government has acquiesced, is to restrict the Adelaide University from further expansion, to permit only a limited expansion at the Flinders University, and concentrate the bulk of the expansion in tertiary education

at the Institute of Technology. This policy should be thrashed out in this Committee. The Government has made no announcement on this matter, but surely we are entitled to hear some sort of statement on the Government's attitude from the Minister of Education, the Treasurer or even the Premier. Surely the Government should indicate whether or not it accepts the position implied by the current recommendations of the Universities Commission of stricter and stricter quotas which apply more and more severely year by year to the University of Adelaide. Also, will the Government deny that the message was not got across to the Commonwealth Government to ensure that the Universities Commission's recommendations for the coming triennium were not for too much of an increase? What happened in relation to that? We are entitled to answers to all of those questions.

I believe we are also entitled to a Government that pays more than lip service to the question of primary and secondary education in South Australia. The people of South Australia have been given a false impression by the education portion of this Budget. As I have already indicated, the percentage increase is smaller than was the case last year when there was an 11 per cent increase in the State's own contribution to primary and secondary education. However, this year the increase is only 9½ per cent. The fact that it is a smaller increase percentage-wise in education is covered by two nice little gimmicks that are attractive perhaps from a political angle, one certainly with teachers, and I refer to the employment of ancillary staff equivalent to 246 full-time appointments. Perhaps the Treasurer can help me here. It is not altogether clear whether or not these are to be 246 additional appointments or whether appointments are to be made to bring the ancillary staff up to 246.

Mr. Clark: And just what is meant by "ancillary staff"? Many people would like to know.

Mr. HUDSON: We are entitled to further explanations on that matter. The only other aspect in the Budget is the increased boarding and book allowances for fourth and fifth-year secondary students. Regarding the basic drive of educational improvement, we have no sign at all of the provision of those funds necessary to employ as many teachers as possible, to pay them higher wages, to offer greater promotional opportunities than exist in the service at present, and to make real progress

towards reducing class sizes, eliminating temporary classrooms and raising in a clear-cut way the overall quality of education in South Australia. All we can expect from this Budget is a tiny improvement in the quality of education.

We can expect then a continuation of the frustration that the teaching profession in this State feels. This frustration is brought about largely by the knowledge that a tremendous potential for educational improvement exists but remains untapped because the Commonwealth Government, on the one hand, will not support Government education and because, to a lesser extent, the State Government, on the other hand, is niggardly in relation to its own provision to education and pays only lip service to the proper educational aims of a democratic community.

Mr. EVANS (Onkaparinga): In supporting the first line, I wish to make one or two comments. The member for Glenelg took a quarter of an hour to sum up and I hope that is about the time I will take to make all my comments. I was a little disappointed with the Leader's comments on the Budget. He must be very satisfied with it, for he made few comments about it. He must consider it to be quite satisfactory.

I am pleased that the contribution to hospitals has been increased by \$3,452,000, or 14½ per cent. Although I agree with many that education is an important part of our life, I do not consider that it should be placed before health. Hospitals, health, and the public welfare are the most important aspects of our life and we must make sure that they are in the top bracket at all times. The subsidies to the Hospitals Fund are increased by 6½ per cent and the Government has agreed to limit contributions by councils to 3 per cent of rate revenue, commencing this year. In the past many councils were required to contribute considerably more than this, and the Government is providing additional amounts to offset the reduction in the amount received from local government. We have increased the contribution to public health by \$152,000, or 13½ per cent.

In welfare the increase is \$362,000, or 11 per cent. The Government will continue the internal training course and commence a new course for welfare officers in 1970. Public relief will be increased, at a cost of \$70,000 in a full year and \$50,000 this year, including increased payments to foster parents of \$40,000 in a full year and \$34,000 this year.

We all know that the report handed down on our railways stated that the main line was in a bad state of repair, and during the Loan Estimates debate there was comment about only \$600,000 being allotted for this work. The Government has now allotted a further \$600,000, making a total of \$1,200,000 available this year. This amount is considerable, particularly as the report was handed down only recently and there was not much time to make an allocation in this Budget. Our expenditure on prisons is increased by 14 per cent. We must give service to those who are imprisoned at Her Majesty's pleasure so that they will have as good an opportunity as possible to come out good and reliable citizens.

My main comments will relate to education and the statements that have been made by many people, including some sections of the teaching fraternity, in the last few weeks. We have increased the contribution to education by \$5,189,000, which the member for Glenelg agrees is an increase of 9½ per cent. This increase is considerable and the 38 per cent increase in Commonwealth Government contribution, mainly for tertiary education, has relieved some of the burden on the State. The Treasurer has possibly taken the liberty of decreasing the State's contribution. As a community, we fall down when it comes to accepting responsibility in education. I am referring not to the Government but to the community as a whole.

Those of us who are on school committees know that the parents will not accept the responsibility for or take sufficient interest in their own public schools. If we call a parents' meeting at the beginning of a year to select a committee to help to conduct the affairs of the school we are lucky if 10 per cent of parents of children attending the school come along. The parents can do much to educate the children in the home. If the television set is on of an evening, I wager that in most houses the children are watching it. The parents accept that, instead of advising the children that they must study hard and take every opportunity if they are to become educated.

Literature has been put out recently and an advertisement in today's *News* refers to teachers who have said that the children are not getting a fair go. The advertisement contains a photograph of a person that appears very much like Adolf Hitler. He is supposed to represent a worried parent. I believe that children are not getting a fair go from the parents. We tend to tell our children that they must have a good education before they can obtain a reasonable

job, but we leave it at that and do not encourage them to study or offer them help with their study. We tell them, our teachers tell them, and our universities advocate that everyone is entitled to some freedom and does not need to be dictated to. I think that what people think is correct may not always be right, because we must conform to a certain degree.

Many parents were brought up in a more strict world, and so will not dictate to their children but let them have their own way. This has led to many of our problems, but I believe that the next generation will not do this, because they will have the opposite attitude, and this will be of great benefit to this country. I now comment on statements published in *On Dit* about a special report on education, in which the South Australian Institute of Teachers was thanked for the information it provided. The article states:

Education is the basis of civilization.

I do not think that any member or any person would not agree with that statement, but education is not only received in a school, college, or university: we obtain education by living with our fellow men and learning to understand them. The article continues:

It is the way our knowledge is passed on and is necessary if new knowledge is to be gained. The quality of our way of life depends on what we know of the world, and on the sort of people we are, so education must also be concerned with developing all sides of the person. If we are to live full and happy lives, we must learn to tolerate and understand our fellow men, appreciate the beauty of art and nature, take part in community life

I believe that the most important part of our education is to take part in community life. Many of those within universities who want to change our way of life and society (including many teachers, although not all, because most are responsible people and I respect them all as a profession) take no part in community life. They, like the rest of society, play sport and forget about others in the community who are less fortunate.

Mr. Hughes: That is not a fair comment.

Mr. EVANS: We should accept the responsibility of looking after those who are not so fortunate as ourselves.

Mr. Hughes: Who do you mean by "the rest"?

Mr. EVANS: I mean the rest of the community and not only those within this Chamber. The article continues:

. . . and develop a clear understanding of ourselves as well as learn a job.

I do not believe that the whole object of education is to prepare for a job. Many

studying today for a broad academic education are not prepared to use that education in practice. After much money has been spent educating them, they drift around within the community and cause trouble to others. The article continues:

Australians are not getting a good education, and South Australia is amongst the worst off in all States in Australia.

Why? I should say that South Australia spends more a head of population on education than any other mainland State in Australia.

Mr. Clark: Even if that is so, it still would not make the position good.

Mr. EVANS: It would not make this State's position the worst in Australia, either, except that it falls back on the tutors and not on the amount of money spent. New South Wales spends \$38.73 a head of population; Victoria spends \$34.35; Queensland spends \$28.62; South Australia spends \$41.37; Western Australia spends \$38.55; Tasmania spends \$46.37; Northern Territory spends \$31.94; and the Australian Capital Territory spends \$40.46. Those figures are from the latest *Commonwealth Year Book*. The Australian average is \$36.52, so South Australia has an expenditure of \$5 a head of population more on education than the Australian average, which proves that as a State we accept our responsibilities more than does any other State in Australia except Tasmania.

I am not saying there are not some problems with education. The word "crisis" has been thrown up to our Minister of Education on many occasions when it has been said that she maintained there was no crisis in education, but it depends on the interpretation of the word "crisis", because in every department and facet of Government there is some type of crisis if we look for it. There is no department without a crisis, if we care to use that word, but the Minister's interpretation of "crisis" was different from that used by those promoting a campaign to try to make the public aware of the need for some improvement in education.

I do not believe that all teachers are dissenting. I was fortunate to be able to visit the Royal Show, where nine teachers spoke to me and not one of them mentioned more money for education. They all said, "We would all contribute to the fund if Harris was not in it promoting his case." I had a letter, as other members probably had, from the Goodwood Technical School. I took the opportunity of going to see that school, because the children of some of my constituents attend it. (I do not apologize to the member for

Unley for this.) The staff were not radicals in the sense that they thought there was a crisis in education; they thought there were faults and they were conservative in their comments. They put their case well, and I appreciated the sane manner in which they discussed the things they wanted to rectify at the school. I was pleased to go there with the member for Stirling to see it. I hope all members who received a letter took the opportunity to go along there.

I am not over-happy at spending money on this school in the way that is planned, because the Government should erect a multi-storey building and try to preserve as much playing area as possible. That is one aspect of the proposed development I object to. I hope that, when this matter comes before the Public Works Committee, it will give it some consideration. Having received letters from schools within my own district I have visited those schools and I know of the divided views held by members of parents and friends associations and by teachers. Some admit that if more money is to be spent on education there must be more taxation, because there is no other field in which expenditure can be cut down. It is unreasonable to compare expenditure on education in this State with expenditure that occurs in developed overseas countries in which water and power supplies, etc., are reticulated over short distances whereas we have such vast distances to cover.

In some cases roads in overseas countries have been put down by the Romans, whereas we are still constructing new major roads. It is wrong to expect us to spend so much on one aspect of our development. People who come to live in this country should be aware of our education system and of the type of life offering, and if they are not happy they know that they can return overseas. However, the majority of these people stay, knowing that ours is the type of country they want, although they have left countries that have better public transport systems and education facilities. We should be proud of our country. People from this country in all walks of life are able to acquit themselves overseas as well as can people from any other country. Members have said that teachers are leaving this State for Canada, but people are going to all parts of the world, because they want to travel. Indeed, I would do likewise if I were young and had the necessary qualifications.

Only today, the press reports that Canada is to cut its federal works force by 10 per

cent because that country is running into financial trouble. Maybe we will be hearing that some of those who have gone to Canada are wishing they had not left us, and they may well be pleased to return to such a high standard of living as that existing in South Australia. I note that another teachers college is to be built at Murray Park at a cost of \$3,100,000 to accommodate 800 students. I am not particularly happy about this type of expenditure. I believe that a factory capable of working for 12 or 14 hours a day should be used for the whole of that time and that when students reach the stage of attending a teachers college they are capable of commencing their studies at, say, 7 a.m., finishing perhaps just after mid-day, to be followed by the next group of students who would finish their studies at, say, 8.30 or 9 p.m. To be outlaying a capital expenditure of about \$3,000,000 on a teachers college which is to be used for such a short time is a waste of money.

Mr. Broomhill: Do you honestly believe that?

Mr. EVANS: Yes. I believe that what I have suggested is possible and that it has been carried out in other countries. We tend to think that we can have whatever we ask for without contributing any effort, but it is time we realized that if we are to maintain our present standard of living we must contribute more and not expect so much for ourselves.

Mr. Broomhill: Are you suggesting that the same be done in our schools?

Mr. EVANS: I have not said that. I referred to two shifts. If the member for West Torrens wishes to indicate his own thoughts on this matter, he can do so. I am only suggesting two shifts a day. I do not think this is beyond the capacity of our young people, and I believe it would be accepted.

Mr. Virgo: Where will you get the tutors?

Mr. EVANS: Whether we have two shifts or one shift a day, we still need the same number of teachers. In connection with the Public Buildings Department, there has been an increase of 15 per cent in the provision for the maintenance of hospitals and Government buildings, including schools. On page 1 of his report the Auditor-General says:

The problem facing Government is how to keep the growth of public expenditure under control and at the same time discharge its responsibilities to the public. From time to time various sections of the community seek greater proportions of the available funds for their particular interest, but Government must apportion available revenues or borrowings to, in its judgment, the best overall advantage.

I believe this is where the duty of members of Parliament lies. The report continues:

Generally, because of rising standards and costs, there has been an increase in the cost of various Government projects, such as school, hospital and other Government buildings. I have previously commented that, because of the burden of debt charges, it is essential that projects should be in accordance with what the State can provide from its financial resources. In my opinion insufficient attention is being given to economy consistent with necessity in the standard sought by departments and in the planning and design, particularly where projects do not come within the scrutiny of the Public Works Standing Committee.

I believe the Highways Department is one department that should come under the control and, perhaps, supervision of the Public Works Committee. Its funds should perhaps be controlled a little more by the Government. The report continues:

The extension of private contract work, particularly in certain fields such as plant hire, has resulted in worthwhile economies.

This is one of the things I have advocated here before, and the member for Edwardstown has taken me to task when I have suggested that more work should be let to private contractors to reduce expense. Because of red tape in Government departments, public money is sometimes wasted, and it is our duty to ensure that the money raised through taxation is used to supply the services expected by the people.

Mr. Broomhill: You are advocating that it should result in private profit.

Mr. EVANS: If private enterprise can carry out a contract at a cheaper rate than can a Government department and if private enterprise can show a profit, good luck to it, because this encourages enterprise and thrift. It does away with the idea that there is a great big bin from which we can take all we want; this idea was apparent in connection with higher salaries for members of Parliament. I have my doubts about the eventual results of the teachers' campaign to encourage people to ask their members of Parliament for more money for education. The teachers are performing some type of community service, and I do not blame them for their actions. I would not ask this Government to take any disciplinary action against these teachers (and I would be disgusted if it did so). However, the previous Minister of Education or his department took disciplinary action against Mr. Murrie, who was suspended because he spoke out against the department. I am pleased to have him as a headmaster in my district, for he is a capable teacher and is doing a good

job. I believe it should be accepted that the teachers can do little harm if they conduct their campaign in the way they are conducting it at present, as long as we accept the fact that not all teachers are making this comment and that many are satisfied with the salaries they are receiving.

Mr. Virgo: Are all the teachers in your district satisfied?

Mr. EVANS: At a parents and friends meeting at the Heathfield High School, after it had been stated that teachers should have an increase, a senior teacher said to me, "I have only one comment to make: I believe we are paid enough."

Mr. Virgo: Is that the opinion of all the teachers in your area?

Mr. EVANS: All I have said is that not all teachers are asking for this and that many are satisfied, as possibly some Parliamentarians were satisfied with their previous salaries. *On Dit* also states that Governments are not prepared to make the necessary sacrifices to give Australians a good education. However, it is not Governments that make sacrifices but the people. Members are elected to represent the people. If the people want much more spent on education they will elect a Government that will tax them more heavily to provide the services they want provided. If heavier taxes are not imposed, to provide better educational facilities provision for hospitals and other aspects of social welfare will have to be cut down, and that would be to the detriment of society. *On Dit* also states that as a capital investment there is a greater return from education than from fixed capital. The article states:

This can be seen in terms of salaries paid to people of different educational levels. A survey in the United States in 1965 showed: people with eight years primary education earned an average of \$4,000, people with four or more years of college (tertiary) education earned an average of \$10,800, over two and a half times as much.

If we accepted this as a basis and gave all our children this extra four years' tertiary education, we are led to believe that all of them would get a job that would average out at the Australian equivalent of \$10,800. However, that would not happen, for the jobs would not be there. Some of us will always be paid less than others, because we cannot have everyone earning the same sum or we will cut out initiative and the drive of the individual to extend himself to the full. A man will ask himself what is the use of extending himself fully if he does not get any more for doing so.

He will work only half a day and then sit on his bronze. Also, if we think that education is the only thing in society and that the only education we have is at the schools or universities, we will tend to develop the type of people who say, "I am entitled to this much because I have this standard of education."

Mr. Broomhill: Do you believe we must have underdogs?

Mr. EVANS: What we should have is a society similar to that which exists in West Germany where the people are prepared to work and earn what they receive. *On Dit* refers to people with eight years' primary education earning \$4,000 a year and people with four years' tertiary education earning about \$10,000 a year. Although these people may have been paid that sum there is no proof that they earned it, and that is the same for all of us. I do not necessarily say, as the member for West Torrens has suggested, that there should be underdogs, but there will always be underdogs, as members opposite are learning at present and as we may learn in the future. This publication states that teaching conditions are not good enough to hold teachers, and continues:

Last year in S.A. an extra 700 teachers would have been required to meet immediate needs.

In any profession in which a reasonable standard of education is required there is a movement of personnel to other States or countries or to the private sector, because most of us, at times think we would like a change. If a person wants a change from the Education Department, there is only one place for him to go. I am not saying that school accommodation is perfect or that at times teachers do not work in poor conditions: I know that they do and that many accept this knowing that the Government is doing all in its power to rectify the position. However, this is not the only reason why people leave the Education Department. Some leave to further their studies. This report continues:

Unqualified teachers are given little opportunity for further study. It is the children who suffer from a cheap education.

The unskilled person in the community does not get time off from work to further his studies. He has to attend an adult education class and study in his spare time to acquire the skills necessary to obtain a certificate in his profession. People in all professions and all walks of life, not only unqualified teachers, suffer in this field. A headmaster who has spoken to me recently believes in getting away

from the old practice of testing students every three weeks, with a major test every nine weeks, to find out how they are progressing. I believe that it was wrong to require everyone wanting to attend university to have reached Matriculation standard.

Many people who, because of the depression or war, did not have the opportunity to further their education would be willing to do one subject in which their calling specialized. They would help our society to develop and they would help themselves if they could do that. However, they are not allowed to attend the university because they have not matriculated. If we want full education facilities to be available to all, a person should be able to study one subject at university, even though he did not have even the Intermediate certificate. Admission to university should not be restricted to the privileged or intellectual few who have obtained the Matriculation certificate.

I agree with the statements by these people that there are faults in the education system, but those faults will never be overcome completely. The member for Glenelg has said that classes are too big. I agree that the classes are over the maximum for perfect education but, if we get class numbers down to 30, the objective will become 25, because the ideal ratio of teachers to students is one to one. With such a ratio, a person's success would depend upon his own abilities. Improvement will always be demanded, and we must continue to improve. However, we will never get the perfect system in any walk of life, because we cannot afford it. It has been stated that it is illegal in Sweden for a class to contain more than 30 pupils, but that is the only country in the world where this is the case and the only one that has been quoted. We have gained much in education in this State since the Second World War. When I attended a high school there were 55 pupils in a first-year class, but there are few classes of that size today: I doubt that there are any, and we have gradually decreased the size of classes.

The Leader of the Opposition said that we as a country have never spent on education the same percentage increase compared with the percentage increase in population. I know that we have not, because as a country we have encouraged people from other lands to live here and we have a larger increase in population than has any comparable nation referred to by the Leader. This type of comparison cannot be used for a country like Australia or a State like South Australia,

where we have encouraged migration in order to build up our population. Our hospitals, education, or anything else cannot be compared with those in developed countries, which have existed for a thousand years. We are a young country and we should not try to run before we can walk, which is what we tend to try to do today. I am pleased that provision has been made for ancillary staff in schools, but I hope that this will not develop to the extent that with 30 teachers in a school there will be an ancillary staff of 30 to do the clerical duties for the teachers. We must take care that Parkinson's law does not operate, as it does in some Government departments. However, I agree that there should be caretakers, groundsmen, and ancillary staff to help in larger schools. The question of education is being discussed at great length in every State. The Victorian Education Department has to rent public halls to use as classrooms. At least that does not happen here. We have wooden classrooms that are claimed by some teachers to be acceptable.

Mr. McKee: Who told you this?

Mr. EVANS: If the member for Port Pirie comes with me on Friday I will take him to a group of teachers who told me this. These classrooms are not perfect but they are acceptable, and they have some benefits and advantages that are not evident in some of the large multi-storey school buildings.

Mr. McAnaney: Do they have many wooden classrooms in the United States?

Mr. EVANS: I do not know, because I have not visited that place, although I believe the honourable member has.

Mr. McAnaney: They are all wooden there.

Mr. EVANS: This country has one of the highest standards of living in the world and it is one of the highest taxed countries in the world, because, as a young country, our people have demanded services that people in developed countries have been receiving for many years. In some cases we have better services than those available in these countries, which look to us as a guide. We should all be thankful for what we already have, and be prepared to suffer some inconvenience in certain fields for some time. That includes us, as Parliamentarians, and our salaries. I support the first line.

Mr. VIRGO (Edwardstown): It is a long time since this Chamber has suffered such a reactionary speech as the one we have just heard, and that is not surprising. It is no wonder, when we listen to the hypocritical statements made by the member for

Onkaparinga, that politicians are regarded as of less significance than the dustman. While his type of politician exists, that attitude will continue. It was the filthiest statement I ever heard in my life.

Mr. Rodda: Rubbish!

Mr. VIRGO: It is not rubbish. If you go back to your seat, you can interject. I am surprised that the Acting Chairman has not pulled you up.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN (Mr. Ferguson): Interjections are out of order.

Mr. VIRGO: I am thoroughly disgusted to hear a man who alleges he represents people say that there is not a crisis in education and that the teachers in his area say the same, that they do not think there should be any improvement. I hope he will have the courage to send them a copy of *Hansard*: he will then be in the same position as the member for Rocky River was when he found that the teachers could read *Hansard*. He got up and made a personal explanation, making the position worse for himself because he told lies, just as the member for Onkaparinga has done.

Mr. Venning: Rubbish!

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. VIRGO: I am disgusted with what the member for Onkaparinga has said. I move: That progress be reported.

Mr. EVANS: On a point of order, Mr. Acting Chairman, I did not get as het up or as radical as the member for Edwardstown is. I take the point of order that I said that some of the teachers in my area—

Mr. Clark: It is not a point of order.

Mr. EVANS: The member for Edwardstown said that I told lies. It was not a lie, and I ask that the statement that it was a lie be withdrawn.

The ACTING CHAIRMAN: It is not a point of order. The member for Edwardstown did not call the member for Onkaparinga a liar.

Motion negatived.

Mr. VIRGO: To try to blame the parents or society for the sins of omission of both this Government and its counterpart in the Commonwealth sphere is just plain stupidity. What do the member for Onkaparinga and other members who apparently agree with him want? Do they want to go back to the days when no education at all was available?

Mr. Rodda: He did not say that.

Mr. VIRGO: The honourable member can say that the member for Onkaparinga did not say that, but what he is saying is that there is

no need to provide further money for education. He is saying that the campaign of the Institute of Teachers is a lot of hogwash.

Mr. Rodda: He did not say that at all.

Mr. VIRGO: If he did not say that at all, I suggest that the member for Victoria, too, send a copy of *Hansard* to the schools in the electoral district of Victoria with the added comment, "I agree with everything he says."

Mr. Rodda: I will send them some letters inspired by Harris, if the honourable member wants that.

Mr. VIRGO: That is typical of the honourable member. That particular person is one man who would have more character than all the honourable members opposite—a person who was elected to his position in a democratic fashion.

Mr. Rodda: If he wants to run this campaign, he will run into trouble.

Mr. VIRGO: What the member for Victoria obviously fails to recognize is that this man has been employed to do a job on behalf of the institute. If the member for Victoria puts on his glasses and reads the *Advertiser* or watches the television screen, or if he listens to the radio, he will learn that every one of these announcements is authorized by the Institute of Teachers, not by R. T. Harris.

Mr. Rodda: R. T. Harris is—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Interjections are out of order. I asked the member for Edwardstown to continue and honourable members to refrain from interjecting.

Mr. VIRGO: I take strong exception to the statements made by the member for Onkaparinga and to the interjections made by the member for Victoria in trying to convert the present position into a scurrilous attack on a person who cannot defend himself. They are using what is commonly known as coward's castle to attack a man who cannot reply, and that is typical of the characters concerned.

Mr. Rodda: Don't start throwing mud at me.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I have told the member for Victoria to refrain from interjecting.

Mr. VIRGO: I challenge these members to go outside and publicly make these statements where they can be properly dealt with by the courts. They would not have the courage to do that, because they know the charges have no foundation whatever, and they also know that they would finish up being involved in a decent old case in court. They use coward's castle to attack a man who is employed and

appointed by the South Australian Institute of Teachers to do its bidding.

Mr. Broomhill: It'll have something to say to the member for Victoria about this outburst.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Order!

Mr. VIRGO: I am pretty certain that the institute and the vast majority of its members are interested in what every member of Parliament has to say about this matter, and I have no hesitation in saying that I wholeheartedly support the institute in its campaign; I believe it is 100 per cent correct. The deficiency currently existing in education lies fairly and squarely at the door of the Commonwealth Government. This Government can do no more than the Commonwealth Government will allow it to do.

Mr. Broomhill: It could do a bit more concerning school buildings and the like.

Mr. VIRGO: Perhaps, but it is restricted by the finance made available by the Commonwealth Government which, over the years, has failed miserably to provide the States with the necessary money. In fact, it is only in recent years that the Commonwealth Government has succumbed to the pressures exerted by private schools and has provided amenities for this sector. But it has not provided the necessary finance for State schools. Yet we get members such as the member for Stirling, followed by the member for Onkaparinga, saying that there is no crisis in education. Where have they been? The member for Onkaparinga has the gall to say that he has been to his school. He ought to take the cotton wool out of his ears the next time he goes there.

Mr. Evans: I didn't say there was no crisis in education; I said there were crises in Government departments.

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. VIRGO: I quite understand why the honourable member is now trying to get out from under in connection with what he said, because he is afraid that the teachers in his area may get hold of *Hansard*. He need not worry; they will get *Hansard* all right.

Mr. Evans: I send it to them.

Mr. VIRGO: Then, I hope they read it, because I think they will be interested to know just how adequately they are represented! The honourable member said that a large number of teachers in the school he visited had said they would be prepared to contribute to the current campaign if Mr. Harris were not involved. The honourable member's statement is typical of the gutter-type tactics of Liberal members of Parliament.

Mr. Evans: That is another misstatement.

Mr. VIRGO: I can see that the honourable member will be terribly busy tomorrow morning up there on the first floor with *Hansard*. I admit that I did not take many notes of what the honourable member said, because his speech contained so much rot that it was scarcely worth writing down. He referred to the need to build a new teachers college and he said that when a factory is built it should be used for 14 hours a day. This is the very basis of the present crisis in education, and his words show his attitude quite conclusively: he regards educational facilities such as schools and teachers colleges as factories. That is the very basis of the argument at present, and this is what the teachers are complaining about—schools and teachers colleges are not factories. Surely we are not going to regard the children of today, who are the citizens of tomorrow, merely as components moving along a production line. Apparently this is what the honourable member wants when he refers to the use of a factory for 14 hours a day.

Mr. Broomhill: I think he suggested that the children ought to go out to work.

Mr. VIRGO: When the member for Onkaparinga suggested that people must pay for adult education and that they do not get time off to attend adult education courses, he was really advocating a return to the days of child labour: he was saying, "Let the kids start work at the age of seven or eight years, and let them go to school after working hours." Apparently, this is his backward way of thinking, but it is not surprising, because he is a member of a backward Party. Members opposite have to delve into areas that they know are dangerous and they have to say things that they know are stupid because they are trying to play a very difficult role—to applaud the Government for this Budget. Quite frankly, after listening to the Treasurer presenting this Budget and after reading it to make sure of the points contained in it, I believe it is extremely difficult to become excited about any part of it, because it does nothing. One certainly cannot be elated after reading the Budget. At least in the Budget 12 months ago the Government engendered some life by imposing some of the most vicious taxes we have seen. However, on this occasion, apart from increasing water rates (and it has done this by a back-door method and has not made a song and dance about it), it has decided to continue on the present level hoping that the vicious taxes it imposed 12 months

ago will provide some measure of financial stability.

One of the difficulties of the present Government is that the Ministers do not talk to each other. On many occasions the Minister in this Chamber has made a statement completely contrary to a statement made by a Minister in another place. The Premier and the Chief Secretary are usually outstanding in this field. How amazing it was to read in the *Advertiser* this morning that, last evening, the Premier had said the South Australian Government was looking down the gun barrel in its financial outlook this year. He was talking to a Liberal and Country League meeting at the time, so I do not know whether he was trying to whip up a few funds for the forthcoming Commonwealth election. In the same newspaper (in fact, in the same article) the Treasurer was reported as saying that the High Court ruling that the Western Australian Government could not charge stamp duty on iron ore would not create any material problem in South Australia. Mr. Chairman, can you get the Treasurer and Premier to make up their minds on what is what?

Mr. McKee: Of course, the Treasurer has \$12,000,000 put aside.

Mr. VIRGO: I do not know whether he has told the Premier about that; he might be laughing up his sleeve about it. This conflict of interests and lack of co-ordination and co-operation within the State Government is now starting to manifest itself and will continue to do so. I think I would be pardoned for suggesting that the Government and Cabinet in South Australia might have caught the fever of Canberra. Cabinet is in all sorts of difficulty, and I believe this is the real basis for the unimaginative, uninspiring, cautious Budget that the Treasurer has brought down.

I do not believe the State's case has ever properly been considered by the Commonwealth Cabinet. I do not suggest that the case for South Australia has not been adequately placed before the Commonwealth Treasurer, although we all know that the undertakings given in 1967 to reconsider the State's financial arrangements has not been honoured. We are all most conscious, as are the people of Australia, that the relationship that exists in the Commonwealth sphere is anything but cordial. In fact, heads roll over there more readily than apples drop from the trees in the Gumeracha District. The former Minister for External Affairs (Mr. Hasluck) got out of step with the Prime Minister, and

he promptly became unloaded into the Governor-General's position. Now Mr. Fairhall is out of step and is on his way out. Mr. St. John dared to criticize the Commonwealth Treasurer and spoke a few home truths with which most of the people of Australia agreed, so his head was chopped off.

Mr. Hurst: This is the freedom of expression in that Party.

Mr. VIRGO: Yes. They can say anything they like but, if the top echelon does not like it, they use a sharp axe to cut their heads off. The position in Canberra is not happy, and I think the fever has crossed the border. A statement on page 2 of today's *News* headed "Danger of labour shortage soon" states:

Australia will be faced with a chronic shortage of labour if unemployment continues to fall in the next few months. Figures released yesterday by the Labour and National Service Minister (Mr. Bury) showed that unemployment had fallen by a further 4,618, bringing the total to 44,920.

I wish to refer particularly to the final paragraph, which states:

If unemployment continues to fall, inflationary pressures on the economy will increase, with a substantial rise in costs.

I am reminded of a report in the *Advertiser* of April 16 headed "McMahon alarmed at boom" which stated:

The Treasurer (Mr. McMahon) today expressed growing Government alarm over inflationary trends in the economy. "We are now getting very close to the stage of overfull employment. We would not like this trend to continue for any great period of time."

A Government reveals its economic policy in its Budget. The South Australian Government, being of the same political colour as the Commonwealth Government, has the same policy. It subscribes to the view of Sir Robert Menzies that in his system, the Liberal Party system, capitalism cannot function without a pool of unemployment. That policy is borne out by the press statement to which I have referred. We are not far from the time when the Commonwealth Government will curb the extremely pleasing position of reasonably full employment towards which we are tending. The State Government cannot do that, because it cannot control these matters.

One man can work only in one job: there is no such thing as over-employment, and it is only when the economic strings are pulled tight that we find there are two men for every job. This is the situation in which we are finding ourselves today. The relationship, if any, that exists between this State

Government and the Commonwealth Government is strained, to say the least. The Commonwealth Government is not doing the State any good, and we have never received a fair go from it. If Government members were genuine in their desires to promote the interests of South Australia they would subscribe to the slogan that is currently being used: "Put South Australia back on the map".

Mr. Edwards: I don't remember it being taken off the map.

Mr. VIRGO: That statement is typical of a backward thinking Government and it is not surprising to hear the honourable member say that, because that view would be shared by every other Government member. None of them realizes that South Australia is no longer on the map.

Mr. McAnaney: We were off the map for three years, but we are back now.

Mr. VIRGO: This State has been receiving less financial assistance than it should justly receive. We have a national crisis in education and this State is getting it in the neck; we got the worst deal we have ever had in the allocation of road moneys; we are off the railway system because of standardization; in addition, there is Chowilla and an endless list of similar incidents. Despite these things, the member for Stirling makes such a stupid remark: is it any wonder that South Australia is regarded as a backward State?

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9.34 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, September 17, at 2 p.m.