

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, July 16, 1970

The SPEAKER (Hon. R. E. Hurst) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

QUESTIONS**ROAD SAFETY**

Mr. HALL: In view of the greatly increased number of road accidents in South Australia this year and the increasing attention being focused on this matter in our community, and in view of the injuries and loss of life and the damage to property this has caused, will the Premier consider implementing the policy of my Party, as announced at the election, of creating a portfolio of road safety to co-ordinate the measures that must be developed to meet this increasing threat to mankind?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This will be considered when proposals to increase the size of the Ministry come before Parliament. The Leader will know that the present size of Cabinet simply does not allow for the provision of a separate portfolio of this kind. At the moment, matters of this kind come under the Roads and Transport Ministry. We have many demands at present for the creation of separate portfolios: almost every area of interest in the State is demanding a separate portfolio for some particular purpose. We have demands for separate portfolios of local government and conservation, and I could add a lengthy list. Although we will certainly consider this matter, as things stand we have to cope with particular problems of this kind within the existing portfolios.

CRIMINAL LAW REVISION

Mr. MILLHOUSE: In paragraph 35 of His Excellency's Speech, an announcement is made about the establishment of a special commission to revise the criminal law and its administration. I remember that, when we came to office in 1968, there was a committee, of which the present Attorney-General was a member, charged with the task of reviewing the criminal law, although it had no specific terms of reference. That committee was presided over by Mr. Justice Hogarth. In view of the announcement in His Excellency's Speech, I take it that the Government's plans on this matter are firm. Therefore, can the Attorney-General say who will be the members of the commission; what terms of reference the commission will be given (because I am sure that he will agree these are

necessary, even though the Premier, who was Attorney at the time, did not think it necessary that there should be specific terms of reference); when the commission will be appointed; and what will be its relationship to the Law Reform Committee established in 1968?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The activities of the committee appointed in 1968 ended when the Government in which the member for Mitcham was Attorney-General took office and established the Law Reform Committee and, consequently, the committee of which I was a member and Mr. Justice Hogarth was Chairman no longer exists. The Government is considering who will constitute the new inquiry and also the terms of reference, and I cannot make an announcement at present about its personnel. There will be terms of reference, and I remind the honourable member that there is a considerable distinction between the committee appointed in 1968 and the commission that the Government now intends to appoint. Mr. Justice Hogarth, who presided over the 1968 committee, took the view that the committee should act as what he described as a technical reform committee and confine its activities to the reform of the technical aspects of the criminal law. The commission that the Government now intends to appoint will have a wider scope than the 1968 committee had and will be charged with the responsibility of considering the basis of the criminal law, the objectives that it ought to seek, and the methods by which it should seek to obtain them; in other words, the commission will consider matters of policy. The honourable member also asked when the commission would commence its inquiries, but I cannot disclose this at present. Its relationship to the Law Reform Committee will be simply this: I will ask the Law Reform Committee (indeed, I have asked the chairman already) to refrain from devoting further time to the criminal law and to confine the committee's activities to non-criminal matters. I am sure the honourable member will appreciate that these non-criminal matters are more than enough to occupy the time of that committee. Matters of criminal law reform will be left for the new commission to consider.

INDUSTRIAL NUISANCES

Mr. JENNINGS: A small industrial complex in a rental Housing Trust area in the northern part of Kilburn contains the factories of Stewarts and Lloyds and several smaller factories, as well as the factory of Bradford Kendall Limited (the principal offender so far as

nuisance to neighbours is concerned). That this is an industrial area is admitted, but the nuisance emanating from these factories causes constant complaint by trust tenants. The Enfield council, on taking up the matter with Government departments, has received mainly buck passing. I asked a series of questions last year, and the then Minister of Labour and Industry was to investigate the matter, but this was soon before that Minister's unfortunate illness. Eventually, I received a sympathetic reply from the Minister of Housing, who deplored the fact that these people had the disadvantage of living in an industrial area. The noise from the compressor at Bradford Kendall Limited, particularly when doors are open, is almost unbearable. Will the Premier, as the Minister responsible for housing, have this matter properly investigated?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

AGED COTTAGE HOMES

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Yesterday, the Attorney-General, when speaking in the Address in Reply debate, and referring to Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated, said that some pensioners had been persuaded to sign away the right to a home for life. In view of this rather strong charge against the organization, can the Attorney-General say what explanation this organization has given him for the action about which he complains?

The Hon. L. J. KING: In my speech I intended to, and I think did, confine myself strictly to a recital of the facts in this matter, and I referred to it in relation to the need for legislation for consumer protection. I did not make a charge against the organization, nor did I intend to do so. A conference has been arranged with the management of the organization to be held on Monday, and at that conference I will give the management the chance to make any comment it wishes to make on the matter. In my speech I did not pass or intend to pass any judgment on the correctness or otherwise of the organization's attitude; indeed, I pointed out that rising costs might have troubled the management. I did not make any charge against the organization; I was concerned to point out that it was perfectly obvious, from a bare recital of the facts, that no-one who had been properly advised would have signed the document that the elderly people did sign. If the honourable member repeats his question after the conference next Monday I may be able to throw more light on the matter.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Minister has not answered the part of my question about what explanation was offered by the board of Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated for the matters that he mentioned yesterday, so I have inferred that the Minister has not approached members of the board. I know the members of this board are all extremely unselfish voluntary workers who gain nothing from the administration of this organization, and they have explained the position to me in a way that certainly suggests that the new agreement for tenants is an intelligent appreciation of the situation in the interests of the tenants. As I understand the Attorney-General will meet members of the board on Monday, will he do them the courtesy of telling them, either through me or direct, the names of the people who have raised the problem with him? The board has many tenants, many of whom are extremely content, but each tenant the board knows to have complained has raised a different aspect. Perhaps the Attorney-General would help the board and the conference by telling the board in advance the names of the people who have complained to him.

The Hon. L. J. KING: One of the difficulties about that is that the meeting I was at was attended by more than 100 extremely disgruntled people, and I have not got their names, nor could I hope to give anybody the names of all the people who, apparently, have complained about this matter. However, I have told the solicitor acting for Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated the general nature of the matters that the Chief Secretary and I should like to discuss with the management. I have indicated to him that we are concerned that aged people who had legal rights to a home for life now find that, for all practical purposes, they have no legal rights. As I have told the honourable member, I have not at any time impugned the good faith of those administering Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated, and I look forward to Monday's conference in the confident hope and expectation that the management will co-operate with the Chief Secretary and me in resolving the difficulties in which these unfortunate old people now find themselves. Although there may be differences in individual cases, arising partly because different forms of contract were used, I think certain broad issues clearly emerge and certain broad problems must be resolved. I think that the management of Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated is aware, from earlier correspondence and interviews

with occupants, as well as from my conversation with the organization's solicitor, of the nature of these problems and the questions to be discussed at the conference.

MOUNT GAMBIER OFFICER

Mr. BURDON: Has the Minister of Labour and Industry a reply to the question I asked on July 14 about the appointment of additional staff in the office of the Labour and Industry Department at Mount Gambier?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The appointment of an industrial inspector, to be based at Mount Gambier, has already been made and the appointee is well advanced in his training in the head office of the Labour and Industry Department. It is expected that he will take up his duties in Mount Gambier shortly before the end of this year.

SERVICE STATIONS

Mr. COUMBE: Yesterday, the Premier, when replying to a question asked by the member for Tea Tree Gully, spoke at some length about rationalizing the petrol station industry in this State. I am aware of the problem, as I had discussions last year and earlier this year with some of the organizations concerned. Will the Premier clarify a little further the explanation he gave yesterday? For instance, is this plan, a discussion of which he intends should be held, to be confined to the metropolitan area, or will it apply to the whole State? Is any station that is above a certain quota likely to be closed down and the operator forced out of business? Further, can the Premier say what will be the position regarding the many petrol stations which are clustered around the metropolitan area, to the north, east and south of Adelaide, and which are permitted to establish under the Early Closing Act?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The rationalization of petrol outlets is designed to take place over the whole State and not to be confined to the metropolitan area. The nature of the rationalization proposed is contained in the agreement made last year by the Oil Industry Council with the South Australian Automobile Chamber of Commerce which the Leader of the Opposition, as Premier then, admitted had taken place but in which he said at that time the Government considered it had no place. The basis of the rationalization is as in that agreement: that there should be a continuing moratorium on the expansion of petrol reselling outlets and that certain action should be taken

in relation to computing heads of industrial pumps, with the confining of the expansion of industrial pumps to a certain gallonage. The aim of the rationalization is to see that this takes place effectively without adversely affecting the livelihoods of people at present engaged in business, or the industry generally. This means that there is to be much consultation about how it is to take place. The uneconomic form of marketing engaged in by some oil companies in South Australia has proliferated in recent months, and this has been a factor in the costs that have been presented to us as the basis on which prices should be fixed. This cannot continue. There is no reason why people should be driven out of business in reselling because the company concerned, through uneconomic marketing methods, is depriving existing resellers of sufficient gallonage to keep their business going. Also, there is no reason why a company should be expanding outlets in an utterly uneconomic way and then saying that these are costs of the industry which must be taken into account in price fixing. All of these factors must be taken into account in the rationalization, and that is why we are seeking the co-operation of the oil industry (the wholesale industry), just as we now have it from the petrol resellers.

Mr. Coumbe: Is it intended to close down existing service stations?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is not intended that existing stations should be closed down, but the Prices Commissioner has pointed out that, in fact, there are about 40 per cent more outlets than would be economically justified by the gallonage at present economically demanded. Therefore, there must be a moratorium on the expansion of petrol reselling outlets so that in due course the expansion in population and demand will take up the economic slack that now exists; otherwise, we are faced with forcing on to the public petrol reselling costs which are utterly unjustified.

RAILWAY CROSSINGS

Mr. HOPGOOD: I ask the Premier, in the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, to submit the following question to his colleague. Local residents tell me that shunting operations in the Marino railway yards activate the signal warning device not only at the Jervois Terrace level crossing immediately south of the yard but also at the Emma Street crossing, which is further south again. Will the Minister therefore ascertain how prevalent

are such systems in other parts of the metropolitan area, and whether anything can be done to eliminate such a nuisance to the public without in any way affecting the public's safety?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will ask my colleague to obtain a report for the honourable member.

FREIGHT CHARGES

Mr. RODDA: In an attempt to diversify into other forms of production, certain primary producers are seeking markets in Japan for their lucerne cubes. However, they are experiencing difficulty in this respect because Japan has decided to import cubes in containers only. The freight rate set down by the North Bound Shipping Conference of New South Wales poses a limiting factor in our growers taking advantage of this market. Comparative freight rates are \$36.14 a long ton for material coming from Australia, compared with \$21 a long ton for material coming from America. It is interesting to note that the freight rate in containers for waste paper going from Australia to Japan is \$22 a ton. This anomaly is resulting in our primary producers not being able to take advantage of this market. Of course, it is not necessary for me to tell the Minister of Marine how valuable this market for lucerne is. Will the Minister therefore investigate this matter to ascertain whether this anomaly can be rectified?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Although I shall be happy to examine the matter, I do not think that I, as Minister of Marine, would have much influence on it. I am responsible for the provision of shipping facilities only. The Premier, as Minister of Development, would be more interested in the matter. However, between us we will try to do something for the honourable member's cause.

LAND TAX

Mr. VENNING: Would the Premier state his attitude regarding the economic plight of primary producers in respect of the new quinquennial assessment due to be announced, and the adverse effect that any increase will have on the man on the land? Is the Premier aware that rural land values have dropped by at least 30 per cent to 50 per cent during the past 12 months, even though the quinquennial assessment could show an increased average value, taking into account the four previous years? Will the Premier take steps to ensure that the charges to rural producers for land tax, water rates and other such Government taxes

are decreased pro rata in relation to the possible increased assessment?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Government has already taken action regarding the assessment. The land tax was previously to be based on quinquennial assessments, which showed a marked increase in most areas of the State. Reassessments have been made so that the new assessments take into account the fall in value of rural properties. I have examined this matter in detail. In fact, the fall in value of rural properties has not been constant throughout the State: it varies from area to area. In some areas market values of properties have remained constant; in other areas they have fallen. Where falls have clearly taken place, reassessments have been made in order to try to see that fair assessments are made and that rural properties have taken into account the fact that difficulties currently face sections of rural industry.

In addition, in the new land tax legislation which is to be introduced and which will deal with a whole series of matters, there will be a reduction in rates relating to rural properties. I cannot give the honourable member an undertaking in relation to other charges on rural properties. I point out that what is happening in relation to water rates is that the metropolitan water area is very heavily subsidizing the water provisions in other areas of the State; we are already receiving many protests about the fact that there has been a significant increase, which took place before we assumed office, in metropolitan water assessments.

QUEEN'S COUNSEL

Mr. McRAE: The matter of Queen's Counsel was most controversial at the time of the last election when attention was focused on Mr. Elliott Johnston. However, members who are also lawyers will know that this has been a very vexed question for several years. The fact of the matter is that many persons who may well have had the right to enjoy the honour of being appointed Queen's Counsel have been denied that right for various reasons (and I speak strongly on this matter, having given it ample consideration), including such matters as having the wrong politics, not having the right school tie, being a member of the wrong religion, or being a person who was fiery enough to stand up to certain judges. These are evils which have taken place in the past and which I believe should be eliminated. The current system is such that there is and must be some kind of political connotation in the

appointment of Queen's Counsel because Executive Council plays some role, even though the situation is that Queen's Counsel do not have any public right: the appointment is a distinction within the profession that can be equated with the honours that can be enjoyed by doctors in being elected fellows of their various colleges. Bearing in mind that there has been a history involving a certain amount of patronage and the evils to which I have referred, will the Attorney-General assure the House that he will examine the matter with a view to setting up a system similar to that operating in Britain and in the Eastern States whereby the judges will look at candidates' applications and judge them purely on merit, and whereby Executive Council will look at the judges' recommendations purely on merit without taking politics or anything other than legal merit into account?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Dealing with the last part of the question first, I assure the honourable member that, so long as His Excellency is advised by his present Ministers, Executive Council will take into account no matters other than professional integrity and ability. Turning to the earlier part of the question, I can say that discussions relating to the method of appointment of Queen's Counsel have taken place. Members will recall that the regulations governing this matter were altered several months before the present Government took office. As I understand the position, a committee of the Law Society is presently considering the method of appointment of Queen's Counsel. I have informed the Law Society that I will take no action in the matter until that body is prepared, as a result of the deliberations of its committee, to discuss the matter with me. I assure the honourable member that the method of appointing Queen's Counsel is being considered and will be further considered in consultation with the Law Society and the judges.

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

Mr. EVANS: My question is supplementary to the one asked by the member for Playford in relation to appointing Queen's Counsel. I am concerned with the present method of appointing justices of the peace in this State. First, after the relevant form has been signed by six citizens, it is forwarded to the member of Parliament concerned, and it is the member who says whether or not he recommends the particular person involved.

Mr. Clark: It doesn't matter a bit which recommendation he makes.

Mr. EVANS: If he does not forward the recommendation, no-one ever knows whether or not it has reached the Attorney-General's Department. I do not believe that members of Parliament should have any say in who, in our society, should be a justice of the peace, because political feelings, as well as other feelings, may come into the matter. With 47 Parliamentarians in this House and 20 in another, there could be people who, for political reasons, would not recommend a particular appointment. Whether or not it is unfair, I believe that it is desirable for a member of Parliament to make no recommendation at all along these lines and that this is the job of a member of the Police Force, a local council, or others who really have no direct affiliation to a political Party. Will the Attorney-General examine this matter with a view to changing the method of recommending the appointment of justices of the peace, and will he bring down a report on this matter?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I must say that my brief experience of this system regarding the appointment of justices of the peace has raised in my own mind some question as to its desirability, at least in respect of some of its aspects. Having had the opportunity to hold some discussions with other persons and with one body that has an interest in this matter, I am considering the position and, in reaching a decision, I will certainly give full weight to what the honourable member has said.

Mr. EASTICK: Members have recently received from the Attorney-General's Department lists of the justices of the peace in their respective districts, some of which appointments are not current, as some persons whose names appear thereon have died or have left the district. I draw the Attorney-General's attention to *Hansard* of June 22, 1966, when the Premier, who was then the Attorney-General, was asked by Mr. McAnaney a question regarding the permanent appointment to the Commission of the Peace of chairmen of district councils and mayors of municipalities. In reply to that question, the then Attorney-General said:

It has been the practice to appoint mayors of municipalities and chairmen of district councils to a permanent appointment with the Commission of the Peace upon their retirement from office and I think that the honourable member's suggestion is a good one, namely, that on their taking office as mayor or chairman they should be given a permanent commission. I will certainly give serious consideration to seeing that it is done automatically.

Can the Attorney-General say whether he subscribes to this belief, and whether people in the various areas who hold these offices can expect to be placed on the permanent list?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I can see merit in the suggestion that these people should be justices of the peace, but I do not know the full implications of taking that course, having regard to the present quota system, which may not have been operating in 1966. I will certainly look into this situation, ascertaining just what impact this would have on the quota system and furnishing further information to the honourable member.

POLICE PENSIONS FUND

Mr. McANANEY: During the time of the Walsh Administration, the contributions paid into and the pensions paid by the Police Pensions Fund were altered with the assurance that the fund could stand the alteration. Recently a public statement was made that the state of the fund was not too healthy, although the Auditor-General's Report seems to show a considerable increase in the fund. It has been stated that contributions to the fund may have to be increased. Can the Premier say what is the present state of the fund and whether or not there is a Public Actuary at present? I understand that at the time the fund was altered there was no Public Actuary.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is a Public Actuary at present and, if the honourable member would like to meet Mr. Stratford, I should be pleased to introduce him; I assure the honourable member that he is a Public Actuary who is very active. I will get a report for the honourable member concerning the state of the Police Pensions Fund. I expect that legislation relating to this fund will come before Parliament this session.

ROADSIDE SALES

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Labour and Industry a reply to my question of July 14 about children selling fruit and vegetables at roadsides during weekends?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: As I pointed out to the honourable member when she originally asked this question, no legislation is at present available which controls the employment of children selling fruit and vegetables at weekends in roadside stalls. However, I am having further investigations made to see whether this can be overcome.

MAITLAND COURTHOUSE

Mr. FERGUSON: I refer to the erection of a new police residence and courthouse at Maitland. The then Attorney-General, in reply to a question I had asked in the last Parliament, told me that work on these buildings would be commenced early in 1970. However, to my knowledge the erection of those buildings has not commenced yet. Will the Attorney-General ask for a report on when it is intended to commence this work?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Yes, I shall obtain the report desired and let the honourable member know.

NURSES

Mr. GROTH: In view of recent increases granted in rates of pay for nurses in the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Queensland, can the Minister of Labour and Industry say whether the Government is considering salary adjustments for nurses in South Australia?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Yes, nurses' wages and conditions have been the subject of approaches to the Government and, as a result of salary movements that have occurred in the places referred to, it seems that the Government will be required to consider the salaries and conditions of nurses in this State. I, with the Chief Secretary, will be meeting a deputation from the Public Service Association tomorrow and I will probably be able to give the honourable member some information later.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Attorney-General, representing the Minister of Health, say whether there are still waiting lists in regard to girls wishing to begin nursing training at the Royal Adelaide and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals? If there are, will he say how many names are on each list and whether girls are waiting because of age or because no vacancies are available at present?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain the information desired from my colleague and furnish it to the honourable member as soon as possible.

BIRDWOOD LEASES

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my question about the renewal of leases previously granted to constituents of mine at Birdwood?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states:

I replied to the honourable member on this matter on July 14, and he should have received

the letter yesterday or today. I have told him that the area of land in question is required by the Woods and Forests Department for planting in 1971, and I regretted, therefore, that I could not agree to any long-term extension of the leases involved. The lessees were aware that, on the expiration of the fixed term of the leases, there was little likelihood of any extension. However, the department has not objection to the lessees continuing in occupation of the land temporarily until required for preparation and planting, provided they are willing to pay normal agistment fees and will tolerate some interference due to preliminary departmental operations.

ROYAL PARK HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. HARRISON: Can the Minister of Education say when the Royal Park High School, now being constructed, will be ready for occupation?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: This high school is one of the major projects now in progress and it will be well advanced by the end of this year. As I am not sure of the exact date when we expect it to be ready for occupation, I shall find that out for the honourable member.

STATE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. BECKER: As the future development and growth of South Australia is of extreme concern to all members, the time is now opportune, in view of minor but encouraging mineral and oil discoveries in this State, for the Government to assist the Industrial Development Branch staff by seconding, on a full-time basis for, say, two years, top administrative experts from successful South Australian companies, such as General Motors-Holden's, Chrysler Australia Limited and South Australia Rubber Mills Proprietary Limited, and banking sources. Will the Premier, as Minister of Development, say whether the Government will consider seconding at least four business executives for two years to assist the present staff of the Industrial Development Branch to encourage more industries and investment in this State?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If I understand the question correctly, the honourable member suggests that we should take executives from business in South Australia, under contract to the Industrial Development Branch, to assist the present staff of the branch. The Government does not intend to do that. The staff of the department will be expanded, but not on the basis the honourable member suggests. Frankly, the chance of our obtaining business executives under contracts is absolutely nil,

following the policy of the previous Government in getting rid of Mr. Currie, a private business executive whom we had brought into the department as the chief executive, and treating him as it did. However, some changes have been made in the Industrial Development Advisory Council, which was set up when a Labor Government was in office previously. Immediately after the last change of Government the Chairman of that Council resigned and, on my inviting Mr. H. N. Roscow, of Sola International Proprietary Limited, to take the position of Chairman of the council, he has accepted. Further, the new member for Peake (Mr. Simmons), who is now Chairman of the statutory Industrial Development Committee, will be joining the Industrial Development Advisory Council. Other proposals relating to the staff of the department will come before Executive Council soon and will be announced here. Additional work will be undertaken by the department, particularly in market research in Europe and Asia, and our first action on this matter has been to appoint Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort Limited as agents of the South Australian Government in Tokyo. This is a first step in the establishment of agents in major Asian capitals to service the department with industrial and marketing information.

SURPLUS ORANGES

Mr. CURREN: Last Monday a proprietary citrus packer told me that a large tonnage of navel oranges unsuitable for sale through terminal markets had been built up without there being available a juicing outlet. After a meeting between the Citrus Organization Committee and the proprietary packers, the Government was asked for financial assistance to process this fruit. As I understand that Cabinet made a decision on this matter this morning, will the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, tell the House of that decision?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states:

Following representations made to me for assistance in disposing of a surplus of some 200 tons of citrus, I made arrangements for an advance to the Citrus Organization Committee of up to \$4,000 to enable the processing into juice of the surplus by Berri Fruit Juices Proprietary Limited. The resultant juice will be stored for disposal in due course. The Government wishes to make it clear, however, that this arrangement is not to be regarded as a precedent and is designed merely to assist the industry in a difficult situation.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT VOTING

Mr. MATHWIN: His Excellency's Speech referred to compulsory voting at council elections. Can the Premier, in the absence of the Minister of Local Government, say whether there has been any consultation with the Local Government Association and, if there has, what was the association's reaction? If there has not been consultation, will the Minister consult this association? If the Government proceeds with this Bill, will the Government or the councils bear the cost of preparing the rolls, as this will be more expensive than the cost of the present rolls?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have not discussed the matter with the Local Government Association and, at this stage, I cannot say whether my colleague has. The Government's policy was announced before the election. The cost of the rolls is not likely to be great because, with the computerized system that is used for preparing State rolls, all that is necessary to prepare rolls on the basis of adult suffrage is to programme the computer. With the existing rolls it is much simpler than would have been the procedure under the old method of manual preparation. The matter of cost has not been discussed by Cabinet, but it will do so, and I will ask the Minister of Local Government to inform the honourable member of the result.

SAFETY HELMETS

Mr. LANGLEY: During the last five years many improvements have been made for the safety of workmen on large projects and for workmen on outside work employed by the Electricity Trust, the Engineering and Water Supply Department, the Highways Department and others, and the use of the safety helmet has saved many workmen from serious head injury. However, this type of helmet is cumbersome for certain work, but a smaller type of helmet used by jockeys has saved many of them from serious injury. Can the Minister of Labour and Industry say whether his department has any plans for smaller safety helmets to be made to suit certain conditions, thus saving workmen from serious injury?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Obviously, I can see the reason for the honourable member asking this question, but I believe there is merit in it. When I have visited industrial sites at which safety helmets have been required I sometimes have found them cumbersome, although I appreciate that they have been designed for safety. I have seen photographs of some members of the House that have been taken when they have been visiting

various building sites and wearing the normal safety helmet, and I have noticed that the members have not looked attractive. In some cases a smaller size helmet can be safely used, and, as I believe that this suggestion can be investigated, I will do so.

WHYALLA ROAD

Mr. CARNIE: Yesterday, when the Minister of Roads and Transport introduced the Bill to ratify the Whyalla to Port Augusta railway, he said that the Whyalla to Port Augusta road would be diverted to make use of an over-pass that it was intended to construct. Can the Premier, in the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, say whether the Highways Department intends to reconstruct completely the Whyalla to Port Augusta road, which has been reduced to an extremely poor condition in recent years?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

FOSTER ROAD

Mr. WELLS: Foster Road, in the district of Florey, runs between Junction Road and the Main North-East Road, and the Hillcrest Hospital is situated on it. This road is badly lit, and an accident occurred recently when a pedestrian was struck by a motor vehicle and killed. This road is often used by patients from the hospital and the hospital staff during the hours of darkness. I cannot say that the lack of lighting contributed to the death of the person but it may have had some bearing on the accident. Will the Premier, in the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, investigate the conditions prevailing at present in order that they can be improved?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

KIMBA MAIN

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister of Works say whether, if the Commonwealth Government provides finance for the Kimba main, he will consider letting the remainder of the work to private contractors in order to speed up the construction?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member asked me a question about this matter the other day and, although I have submitted the matter to the Commonwealth Government, it has not made any decision. The honourable member has now asked whether, in order to speed up the work, we will let the work to private contractors rather than have it done by departmental labour.

I take that as a reflection on the efficiency of the department, and I emphasize that the Engineering and Water Supply Department in this State is one of the most efficient Government departments.

Mr. Gunn: Look at the work they are doing.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am not concerned about what the honourable member has to say about it. I am telling him that, from my experience of this department and my present experience as Minister, I have nothing but praise for the work of the department. I will not indicate whether the work will be let to private contractors, because this will depend entirely on the resources of the department. The decision to let to private contractors will not be taken because of any so-called inefficiency on the part of the department's labour.

FIRE PROTECTION

Mr. KENEALLY: On July 1, 1969, the former member for Stuart asked a question of the then Minister of Aboriginal Affairs concerning the extreme fire risk at the Davenport Aboriginal Reserve at Port Augusta. It seems that the Port Augusta corporation at that time had asked the Fire Brigades Board that this reserve be included in the Port Augusta fire district. The board inspected the reserve but excluded it because of the poor water pressure. The Minister was asked to investigate this matter urgently, and he promised to do so. On June 29 this year, almost 12 months later to the day, a fire at the reserve caused a residence to be burnt to the ground, with the occupants losing practically all their possessions. I understand that the fire was caused because of the unsatisfactory electrical wiring of reserve houses. Although the Port Augusta fire brigade was able to reach the reserve with a minimum of delay, it was unable to control the fire because of the inadequate water pressure. An extreme fire risk existing at the reserve presents grave dangers to both life and property. As nothing has been done in the matter, I wish to ask my question in two parts: First, can the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs say what action, if any, has been taken to provide adequate fire protection and suitable fire-fighting services at the Davenport Reserve? Secondly, can he say whether action will be taken to upgrade electrical wiring in reserve residences?

The Hon. L. J. KING: If the facts are as outlined by the honourable member, they certainly seem to disclose an alarming state of affairs. I will obtain an immediate report on the matter and furnish the information to

the honourable member, and at that stage I shall be able to tell him what, if any, action is to be taken.

MARDEN ROADWORKS

Mr. SLATER: I desire to ask a question of the Premier in the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport. At present, a highway and bridge are being constructed to link the suburbs of Marden and Vale Park. Construction is at a certain stage, and the residents of Vale Park particularly are interested to know when the work will be completed. As the Marden High School is to be opened shortly, I believe, these residents are anxious that the bridge and highway be opened soon both to pedestrian and to vehicular traffic. Will the Premier try to ascertain when the highway and bridge will be opened to both these forms of traffic?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get a report for the honourable member; this matter happens to be of as much interest to my district as it is to his.

MANNUM ROAD

Mr. WARDLE: In the temporary absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, I direct my question to the Premier. It concerns Main Road No. 33, which links Tea Tree Gully with Mannum. In 1968, a report was made to the Highways Department by Dames Harley and Associates concerning this matter. This report, which the department has been considering since that time, consists of plans to straighten and widen (in fact, almost completely remake) this highway. As I am wondering whether the department has made a decision in connection with this report, I ask the Premier whether he will provide me with the appropriate information.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get the information for the honourable member.

ELIZABETH HOUSING

Mr. CLARK: In the olden days, before May 30, when my district included all of Elizabeth and Salisbury, I was rather the envy of some of my colleagues because, up until a few years ago, I nearly always found it easy to obtain Housing Trust rental houses in the Elizabeth area, without experiencing a long wait.

Mr. Burdon: You did it well, too.

Mr. CLARK: Most of the people in the district apparently thought so too, although I am no judge of that. However, nowadays this is far from being the case and, although I probably can get people houses more quickly

than they can be obtained in some other districts, it still takes many months for deserving cases to obtain a rental house. I am not levelling criticism at the trust because of this; the trust invariably sends me a nice reply and I know that what it says (that it will not forget a particular case) is correct. However, this is not much consolation to people sorely in need of a home. Will the Premier, as Minister of Development, ask the Housing Trust how many houses are being built at present in the Elizabeth area for rental purposes and how many are to be built there soon?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Recently, we let considerable contracts in the area for additional houses, but I will get the full information for the honourable member.

CLAPHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. MILLHOUSE: My question concerns the use of the lavatories at the Clapham Primary School, in my district. In May this year I received a letter from the chairman of the school committee complaining that, when the school grounds are being used for sporting activities, as they are at weekends, the lavatories which form part of the school buildings, are locked. This has, to say the least, caused much inconvenience to those concerned. I referred the letter to my colleague, the member for Torrens, who was then the Minister of Education, and after the election I received a minute through the present Minister's office, signed on behalf of the Director of Primary Education (Mr. Wood), but dated May 28, pointing out that the difficulties involve, first, the design of the building and secondly, unless this is modified, the question of supervision as the whole school must be opened so that the lavatories can be used. Mr. Wood pointed out that six schools of the same design, I presume in the metropolitan area, are experiencing the same problem. The minute does not really carry the matter any further, except that Mr. Wood says that the provision of external access doors to schools of the same type as Clapham has again been referred to the Public Buildings Department, from whom a report is awaited. The Minister would realize that it often takes a long time before action is taken, and in this case there has been no promise of action. I passed this minute on to the members of the school committee, and I have now received a letter asking me to press the present Minister for action to be taken. As I intend to do just that, I ask the Minister of Education whether he would be

kind enough personally to look into this matter and to take it up with his colleague the Minister of Works who, I suppose, is technically responsible for any action to be taken, with a view to that action being speedily forthcoming.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I hope I understand the honourable member correctly regarding the Minister of Works being only technically responsible for the matter. I promise the honourable member that I will investigate the matter for him and attempt to unclodge any difficulties that have arisen.

WILD DOG FUND

Mr. BROWN: I draw to the attention of the Minister of Works paragraph 29 of His Excellency's Speech, which states:

The present condition of the Wild Dog Fund following the record number of scalps received during the past financial year is causing concern to the Government. Appropriate amendments to the Wild Dogs Act will be introduced.

In view of that, can the Minister say how much money is in the fund?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague has been kind enough to supply me with a report on this matter. Incidentally, the bounty paid for the scalp of a wild dog was increased on September 1, 1969, from \$2 to \$6 and, although an average of only 3,800 scalps was submitted during the previous 10 years 19,490 were submitted during the 1969-70 financial year.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: A really good effort!

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes, and that required a total bounty pay-out of \$111,060, representing 1,470 scalps at \$2 each, and 18,020 scalps at \$6 each. After borrowing from the Treasury \$8,000, the maximum advance permitted under the Wild Dogs Act, the Wild Dog Fund was at June 30, 1970 \$39,200 in debt, with 5,800 scalps still to be paid for. In order to curtail expenditure for the year 1970-71, the following steps have been taken: The bounty payment has been reduced from \$6 to \$4 for the scalp of a fully grown wild dog, and from \$6 to \$1 for the scalp of a wild dog which is not fully grown. Also the rate for each square mile has been increased from 10c to 15c, the maximum rate permitted by the Act, which will provide an additional \$8,000 in revenue. These measures will, however, be inadequate to restore the fund to solvency if, as may reasonably be expected, 12,000 scalps are submitted during the 1970-71 financial year in the ratio of 10,000 fully

grown dogs at \$4 each and 2,000 pups at \$1 each. On the above hypothesis the position will then be:

Expenditure 1970-71:

Committed—	\$
5,800 scalps at \$6	34,800
Administration, handling charges, etc.	4,400
Loan from Treasury	8,000
10,000 scalps at \$4	40,000
2,000 scalps at \$1	2,000
Administration, handling charges, etc.	4,500
Interest on \$8,000 at 5 per cent	400
	<hr/>
	\$94,100

The position as the Wild Dogs Act is framed will provide the following revenue for the current financial year:

	\$
Rates at 15c a sq. mile	28,000
Government subsidy	8,000
	<hr/>
	\$36,000

Leaving a deficit of \$58,100.

Urgent amendments to the Wild Dogs Act, 1931-1961, are necessary if the Wild Dog Fund is to meet its commitments. Recommendations will be made to Cabinet upon the necessary amendments, and after consideration by Cabinet a Bill will be introduced during this session.

It is obvious that the action taken in increasing the bounty payment to \$6 achieved the object of reducing the dingo menace. It is also clear that the menace was a more serious one than was envisaged at the time and it was with great reluctance that a reduction in the bounty payment had to be made. However, with the fund exhausted, such action was unavoidable. They tell me that they were even breeding them up there at one stage, and doing fairly well out of it.

MODBURY HOSPITAL

Mrs. BYRNE: Will the Attorney-General obtain from the Chief Secretary a report on the completion of phase 1 of the Modbury Hospital, the scheduled date being August, 1971? I should like to know whether the work is running to schedule.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain the information and supply it to the honourable member.

SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Speaking in Tuesday's debate about the Subordinate Legislation Committee, the Premier said:

We endeavoured to get an arrangement (with the other place) in a previous Parlia-

ment in 1965, but we could get nowhere. We could get no undertaking of any kind, nor can we now.

I see that in another place the Chief Secretary was asked yesterday what approaches had been made and he said that, to the best of his knowledge, there had been no approaches.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is out of order in quoting from the proceedings of another place.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I accept your ruling, Sir. Can the Premier say what is the truth of the matter and what approaches have been made this year to the other place on this subject?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have had some discussions with some members of another place on this matter. It may be that we will be able to get some resolution of the matter. If we can, I hope to be able to inform the House.

CHOWILLA DAM SITE

Mr. CURREN: Recently I was requested by Mayor Sims of the Renmark Corporation to find out whether the Chowilla dam site could be opened for public inspection, for much interest has been shown recently in the site by many tourists who visit the Renmark area. Can the Minister of Works comment on this suggestion?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member having been kind enough to tell me he would ask this question, I have obtained the following report from the department:

The land at the Chowilla dam site on which the Engineering and Water Supply Department office and camp facilities are situated is leased from Mr. G. Stoekel. After the River Murray Commission recommended that the Chowilla project be deferred pending further investigations, departmental personnel were withdrawn from the site and the camp was placed on a care and maintenance basis, although it has been used recently to accommodate men working on the replacement of gates at lock 6. In order to prevent disturbance to Mr. Stoekel's grazing pursuits and also to prevent damage and interference to departmental installations, it has been found necessary to restrict public access to the area.

CHILDREN'S DEATHS

Mr. EVANS: Over several years there have been many sudden and unexpected deaths amongst children in the age group of one month to one year, and no exact cause of the deaths has ever been found. No records are kept of how many deaths occur in the State in this way and no person is authorized to keep such records or to investigate the matter. It is estimated that 10 per cent of the children in

this age group who die do so in this way, with no cause being found for their death. Often it has been wrongly suggested and recorded that they died as a result of smothering or some similar cause. Much mental torment and strain is suffered by families as a result. Mothers worry that they have done something wrong or that the child has smothered as a result of the family's neglect. General practitioners do not know the cause of death, for they have no knowledge of previous symptoms on which to work; they see the child only after it is dead. The coroner is then faced with the body of the child and, with no knowledge of past symptoms, the cause of death is still not found. No records are available to show whether such deaths occur more often in one season than in another, so that it cannot be ascertained whether climatic conditions have an effect. As it would not cost more than, say, \$2,000 a year for a registrar at the Adelaide Children's Hospital to collect this information and follow up the matter to try to work out the cause of the deaths, to see whether more occur at one time of the year than another, and to make other investigations, will the Premier see whether it is possible to make that sum available to the Adelaide Children's Hospital so that numbers, percentages and so on can be worked out, because it is frustrating and annoying for parents not to know the cause of a child's death?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have had no report on the costs involved or any other submission from the department. However, I will take up the matter with the Minister of Health and see what is proposed by the Director-General.

MOUNT GAMBIER COURTHOUSE

Mr. BURDON: As the Minister of Works is aware, over many years I have been interested in public buildings, including the courthouse, at Mount Gambier. Immediately on his taking office, I approached the Minister about the courthouse. I appreciate the assistance that the Director of Public Buildings and he have given me in this matter. Can the Minister now say what progress has been made on the courthouse?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I greatly appreciate the sentiments expressed by the honourable member. I have obtained the following report:

Sketch plans and estimates are currently being compiled. The project should be ready for consideration by the Public Works Standing Committee late this year. Present planning

provides for commencement of work in the latter part of next year, with completion late in 1972.

AFRICAN DAISY

Mr. McANANEY: During last spring and summer, several landholders in the central Hills district were served notices and fined for having on their properties certain types of noxious weed, including African daisy. During the same period, on the western slopes of the Adelaide Hills African daisy has for 10 years been left to run wild. Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture what action he intends to take in the coming year to overcome the problem? Further, as the Weeds Advisory Committee comprises mainly representatives from the pastoral and low-rainfall areas and has no representative from the central Hills district, will the Minister ask his colleague for how long the present committee holds office and whether a representative of the central Hills area could be appointed to it?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will be pleased to obtain a report for the honourable member.

SOCIAL WORKERS

Mr. McKEE: Last year the then Minister of Social Welfare told me that the Director of the Social Welfare Department had recommended that a full-time social worker be appointed at Port Pirie. I know that the Director is well aware of the need for such a person in that area. Will the Minister of Social Welfare ask the Director when this appointment will be made?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will examine the position and give the information to the honourable member.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Mr. McRAE: On Sunday last a meeting was held about the situation in Northern Ireland. This meeting, which was non-political, was representative of various religious denominations. Following that meeting a petition was prepared, but it is not in correct form to be presented to this House. Therefore, will the Premier convey this message to the appropriate channels so that it may reach the British Government? The basis of the document is that the groups represented at the meeting on Sunday point out the injustices at present existing in Northern Ireland and call upon the British Government and the United Nations to join to ensure the election of a democratic

and truly representative Parliament for the six counties of Northern Ireland.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I shall be pleased to convey the petition to the British High Commissioner, with a request that he forward it to his Government.

PARA HILLS COURTHOUSE

Mr. GROTH: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary when a police station and courthouse is likely to be constructed at Para Hills?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain the information desired by the honourable member and give him a reply.

TOURISM

Mr. HALL: My Government promised at the last election that in this coming year expenditure on tourism would be increased substantially: that the sum spent on advertising and promotion would be increased to \$120,000 a year, and that the sum available to councils for such items as boat ramps and caravan parks would be increased significantly. Can the Premier say whether he intends to proceed with these increases?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: We certainly intend to increase the sum spent on promoting tourism in South Australia. This State has suffered for a considerable time (and this applies to all Governments in the past) in that we have markedly underspent other States in the promotion and planning of tourism, and our revenue from tourism is much less than that of comparable States. This is an area of development in which a marked increase in our proportion of the gross national product can take place more rapidly than is likely to take place in any general secondary industry development. Consequently, the tourist activities have been centred in the Development portfolio.

MURRAY STORAGES

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked yesterday concerning the Gutteridge report on salinity in the Murray River?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The report by Messrs. Gutteridge, Haskins and Davey in association with Hunting Technical Services Limited has been completed and submitted to the River Murray Commission. A meeting of the commission has been convened for Wednesday, August 19, 1970, and it is expected that the commission will, from that meeting, submit copies of the report to the Governments concerned.

STRUAN CENTRE

Mr. RODDA: I understand that some weeks ago the Director of Agriculture met interested people in Naracoorte to discuss ways and means of shifting the branch of the Agriculture Department from Naracoorte to Struan and the setting up of Struan as a regional centre in the South-East. As it has been suggested that at least a semblance of agricultural administration should be retained at Naracoorte, will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture for an assurance that, when this change is made, an office will be retained in Naracoorte for the convenience of the public?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am aware of the controversy that has surrounded this matter, and I will ask my colleague whether he can give the assurance sought by the honourable member, and obtain a report.

VIRGINIA BASIN

Mr. FERGUSON: I think that it is to be regretted that a few market gardeners in the Virginia area are taking the law into their hands and are prohibiting meters from being placed on their pumps. I do not think any person, whether a market gardener or a politician, should take the law into his own hands, and thus defy it. At a meeting of growers at Virginia on July 1, 1970, growers were given an opportunity to air their complaints. The main complaint was that many growers had not received a reply to their appeals, made last November, for an improved quota. The quotas were based on figures from the land-use survey made in 1968, and at that time the growers were not informed that the information given was to be the basis for a future allocation of water. In many cases, because of a misunderstanding, the figures given were not suitable to be used to assess quotas. As I understand that much of the opposition to the fitting of meters stems from the fact that the grower is not aware of the quantity of water he is to be allocated, can the Premier say why there has been the delay in notifying the growers and when growers can expect to be notified of these quotas?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: As far as I am aware, most growers have been notified of their quotas, but I understood that the objection to installing meters was not on the basis suggested by the honourable member. In fact, the objection to meters (mainly from those who have refused to allow installation of meters) has been, I think, as a result of a

complete misunderstanding of the basis on which action is being taken to restrict the drawing off of water from the water table in the Virginia area. I am trying to see to it that the maximum information is given to growers in that area, and the Mines Department and my press officers are trying to provide this information to growers before a meeting is held in Virginia at the end of this month. With officers of the department I shall address this meeting, and interpreters will be provided for growers. We expect that the information in various languages used in the area will have been circulated before the meeting so that growers will receive the maximum information to apprise them of the reasons why, for their own protection, meters must be installed. A deputation from representatives of growers in the area raised with me various problems concerning the installing of meters and the provision of water quotas, and I hope that the matters raised will be resolved before the end of the month. I appreciate the feeling of the honourable member concerning these growers, but he will appreciate that I have some sympathy with them, and that I consider that no prosecution should be undertaken until the maximum of information has been given them. We have sought every means of getting co-operation from the growers in the area. Consequently, I have not authorized any prosecutions arising out of the refusal of growers to allow meters to be installed.

GRESHAM STREET

Mr. HOPGOOD: Although this question does not specifically deal with something in my district, it is within the city and I ask it because the member for Adelaide is temporarily absent, a constituent of mine has spoken to me about it, and the spread of large buildings outside the city and through the metropolitan area will be of some concern to me soon. It seems that Gresham Street, opposite Parliament House, acts as a wind tunnel under certain atmospheric conditions, and on these occasions pensioners and small children have been knocked off their feet by the force of the wind. I understand that the ceremonial parade for the Opening of Parliament on Tuesday was slightly inconvenienced by the rush of wind down that street. Will the Premier ask the Minister of Local Government to request the municipal authorities to frame regulations with a view to preventing this situation's developing when further large buildings are constructed?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I see in the *News* this afternoon an announcement of the appointment of Mr. I. S. Cox as the head of the amalgamated Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs Department, and I am glad to see that an appointment has been made. If my memory serves me correctly, Mr. Cox was with the Social Welfare Department in Victoria and he has excellent qualifications for the job. I know that there were some very good applicants for the position. Can the Minister of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs give the House any further information about Mr. Cox; that is, when he is likely to take up his duties, and what detailed steps the Minister intends to have taken in order to implement the decision taken by the previous Government to amalgamate the Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs Departments?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I agree entirely with the honourable member on the qualifications of Mr. Cox, who is extremely well qualified for the position to which he has been appointed; I am most impressed with him personally and look forward to a happy association with him in this department. Arrangements are in hand for the winding up of his service with the Victorian department, and he is expected to be able to take up his duties soon. I have refrained from settling any definite details relating to amalgamating what were formerly two departments, pending the appointment of the new permanent head, because I considered that it was only fair and reasonable that the position should be kept fluid until the new permanent head had been chosen and could be consulted. As soon as Mr. Cox arrives in Adelaide, I will confer with him, and a plan of action will then be settled for merging the two departments.

NORWOOD CROSSING

Dr. TONKIN: On Kensington Road outside the Norwood Boys Technical High School there is, in the morning and afternoon, a decided traffic hazard which involves boys arriving from a diagonal cross street and crossing over the road there. In spite of school signs, near misses occur almost every day. I understand that there has been some difficulty in relation to the Kensington and Norwood council, which has not been able to provide funds for a school crossing. In the temporary absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, will the Premier consider the early installation of a school crossing at this point on Kensington Road?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes. This is a matter that concerns me as much as it concerns the honourable member, as most of the boys of the high school come from my district. I have previously taken up this matter personally with the Kensington and Norwood City Council, but unsuccessfully so far. However, I will certainly have the matter further examined.

BARLEY

Mr. GUNN: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture to examine the possibility of having barley shipped from Thevenard so that barleygrowers in this part of South Australia will enjoy the freight benefits that apply elsewhere?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be happy to refer that question to my colleague and to bring down a report for the honourable member.

EYRE PENINSULA RAILWAY

Mr. CARNIE: My question, which is directed to the Premier in the temporary absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, deals again with the Bill passed in this House yesterday. We have a narrow gauge railway system on Eyre Peninsula which is completely unconnected with the remainder of the State. Although I realize that standardization of the Eyre Peninsula system probably cannot be considered at this stage, I ask the Premier whether consideration has been given to connecting the Eyre Peninsula railway system to the new railway to be built from Port Augusta to Whyalla so that, by means of either transshipment or bogie exchange, this most important part of the State will be connected with the rest of the State.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get a report for the honourable member.

MARINE STORE DEALERS

Mr. MATHWIN: I have received a complaint concerning a marine store dealer who was recently stopped by the police, the offence in this case being that his truck was painted blue. On investigation, I find that regulation 6 (c) under the Marine Stores Act, 1899, provides:

No two dealers shall be allowed to register the same colours and no dealer shall use a blue colour for painting the bodies of carts and trucks.

As this Act is 70 years old, will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary to consider altering this provision?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Yes. That law was made before my time but I will certainly consult with the Chief Secretary and let the honourable member have a reply.

SENTRY BOX

Mr. JENNINGS: I am sure that all members who were in the last Parliament will recall the advocacy of the Minister of Works, when he was then Deputy Leader of the Opposition, in regard to providing a sentry box for the police officer on duty outside Parliament House. Now that the honourable gentleman is in a position to do something about this, will he pursue the matter further?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am happy to reply to that question, and my concern for the policeman who does such a wonderful job for every member of this House is no less now than it was when I was Deputy Leader of the Opposition. I have expressed the view in the past (and the situation has not changed) that this officer suffers much discomfort out in the weather, whether it be hot or cold and wet. As a result of this, I have taken steps in connection with the re-design and renovation of Parliament House to see that proper provision is made for the policeman who patrols the front of the House. No doubt when the matter is submitted to the Public Works Committee members will have an opportunity to view the facilities to be provided.

GLENELG NORTH WATER PRESSURE

Mr. BECKER: The mains water pressure experienced by residents in the area bounded by the Patawalonga Lake and the beach at Glenelg North is so poor during summer that householders can use only one water sprinkler which operates at about half the normal pressure. If a house ever caught on fire during this period, the water pressure would be so poor that a disaster might occur. Will the Minister of Works ask the appropriate officers of the Engineering and Water Supply Department, as a matter of urgency, to investigate thoroughly the cause of the poor pressure in this locality, and will he assure me that this matter will be rectified prior to next summer?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be happy to examine this matter and anything that can be done will be done quickly in an attempt to rectify the situation, which is so undesirable, particularly bearing in mind the price being paid for water these days.

NURIOOTPA BY-PASS

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I believe that a by-pass road is proposed for Nuriootpa and that three possible routes have been pegged. This is inconveniencing landowners in the district, as it is making it difficult for them to take decisions regarding the working of their properties. Will the Premier, in the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, ascertain whether it is possible for an early decision to be taken regarding the route to be followed, so that the position can be clarified for these landowners? Also, will the Minister ascertain how far planning has proceeded to date?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

KATARAPKO ISLAND

Mr. EASTICK: Will the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Lands, obtain for me a report on the current situation in respect of Katarapko Island in the Upper Murray River, indicating, if possible, its intended use?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes, I shall be happy to do that. If my memory serves me correctly, the island, or part thereof, is shortly to be declared a national park.

DAIRY RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Has the Minister of Works received from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to the question I asked yesterday about the dairy farm reconstruction scheme?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: A condition of the acceptance in principal by the Government of the Commonwealth dairy farm reconstruction scheme was that we reserved the right to negotiate separately with the Commonwealth on certain provisions of the draft agreement, including the definition of a marginal dairy farm for the purposes of the scheme.

I have arranged for the appropriate departmental officers to confer with the Parliamentary Draftsman in the drafting of the necessary complementary State legislation, and confidently expect that a definition will be worked out that will be acceptable to all concerned. It is intended that the dairy industry be consulted when the Bill has been drafted.

BREAD

Mr. COUMBE: The Minister of Labour and Industry recently made an announcement regarding future legislation on the baking of bread, one bright feature of which was that packages were to be dated. However, there

are other features about which I should like further information. Does this mean that bakers throughout the State will be able to bake bread for only five days of the week and, if it does, what action will be taken regarding those bakeries which have been forced to establish in their present position just outside the metropolitan area because of the inroads made into their business by large city undertakings and which now supply the city? Also, does it mean that anyone in the metropolitan area will be able to get fresh bread at weekends when this legislation is passed?

At 4 p.m., the bells having been rung:

The SPEAKER: Call on the business of the day.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on the motion for adoption.

(Continued from July 15. Page 58.)

Mr. HALL (Leader of the Opposition): I find it pleasant once again to have the opportunity to speak in an Address in Reply debate. I have that pleasure in the knowledge that I am again supported by my electoral district, as are all other members. It is pleasant for each of us to know that he has the support of his district. However, it is less than the ultimate in pleasure for me to be sitting on your left, Mr. Speaker, instead of on your right (although it would be somewhat inconceivable for me to be sitting on your right when you, Mr. Speaker, are in your present position). I am happy to accept the discipline of the electors and to occupy this position, knowing that the Minister of Education is still opposite me and will no doubt still interrupt, as he has in the past.

I congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your election to your high office; your election has the support of every member. We look forward to a high standard of conduct of affairs in this Chamber, because we know that you promised in your acceptance speech that you would carry out your duties impartially. I congratulate all new members. I am not sure whether a record has been established, but the percentage of new members in the House is very high. I am happy to know that the Opposition presents a younger image than the Government presents, even though it is only by a small margin.

Mr. Clark: What about the old members?

Mr. HALL: It is pleasing to know that the Opposition represents the younger group in

the community. In addition, the Opposition now has more academics within its ranks than has the Government. I am sure this is a broadening aspect in my Party that will be most acceptable to the community and will contribute greatly to the deliberations in this House. I heard someone interject, "What about the old members?"

Mr. Clark: It was said kindly.

Mr. HALL: I realize that. I am sure we will resume the relationship, punctuated sometimes by sharp exchanges but more often by friendly exchanges, that was previously established. I appreciated the company of the members who retired before the last election. Two members of my Party retired through the effluxion of time and three retired through the operation of plebiscites within my Party. I place on record my appreciation of their service to the previous Government and to the people through the operation of this Parliament.

There were no surprises in His Excellency's Speech, probably because of the enormous build-up the Government gave to its programme when it took office and because of the subsequent publicity given to its actions. In addition, the large assembly of public relations officers and press secretaries the Government is now gathering ensured that its programme would be well publicized before His Excellency's Speech was made. In any case, there were no surprises, although I am sure there will be many regrets about the Speech. One of the points I think all members, especially new members, should consider is that this House, which is significantly enlarged, is in its present form as a result of the redistribution of electoral boundaries instituted by the previous Government. I am pleased to see that that redistribution has produced members of the obvious calibre of those on both sides. It is a source of great satisfaction to me, as the previous Premier, to see that it has been so successful in bringing forward such people to the service of this State.

I listened yesterday to the moving and seconding of the adoption of the Address in Reply by two new members. It is not, of course, novel that the mover and seconder should be new members, although it is fairly unusual that one of those members should be a member of the front bench. I think we all congratulate both the mover and the seconder on the quality of their speeches. The mover comes from a different background from that of the seconder. The Attorney-General comes here with a good reputation in the law. No

doubt he has particular talents that may yet be hidden by the irrelevancies of the law, which often hide good qualities in people. However, when we search beneath those irrelevancies and inconsequential aspects of the law, we will no doubt find what he, the real man, is like.

Obviously, the Attorney-General's speech very rightly proclaimed, as did the seconder's speech, the ideals that brought these two gentlemen into politics in South Australia. One can only commend them on the height to which those ideals stretch, on the sentiments and verbal assertions of service, and on the relative worth of that service to this community. However, I think the very ideals expressed and the manner in which they were expressed draw attention to the difficulty of maintaining them. As time goes by and as members consider the current aspects of politics in this State and those yet to come, they will find it hard to maintain the high ideals they expressed yesterday. Obviously, the ends do not always justify the means.

The Attorney-General, in launching as a Minister into the moving of the adoption of the Address in Reply, lays himself open to any criticisms that may be made of his speech. It is not easy to enter into extreme criticism of a new member's speech, but I believe that the Attorney-General, as a Minister launching into this debate, has subjected his subject matter to the scrutiny of members. The member for Spence (Mr. Crimes) said there was a fresh wind of democracy blowing through the South Australian Parliament—a fine piece of verbiage. Already, I believe that that fresh wind of democracy has blown over the political mud flats of South Australia. Whether it is a beneficial wind and whether it blows sweet or sour will depend on the condition of those political mud flats.

Let me draw attention to some of the inconsistencies in the Attorney-General's speech. He made much of the sanctity of the individual and the rights of individuals to equality. He referred to that famous word immortalized by the member for Adelaide—"gerrymander". I thought mentioning this word was somewhat in bad taste, following the well supported redistribution made last year to rectify difficulties in the electoral system. In the same speech other points were made. However, in relation to this matter, let me remind the Attorney-General that, while he talks of equality and the necessity of safeguarding the rights of individuals, he is a member of a Party which, in this House on Tuesday, refused to allow the Opposition a

member on the Subordinate Legislation Committee. It does not tie in with equality and fair play to be a member of the Party that supports that attitude. He is completely inconsistent.

I will now deal with other aspects of the political idealism of the new member, the Attorney-General, who made a strong plea on behalf of private schools in this community, saying they should not be subject to discrimination. Yet he is a member of a Party that is actively pursuing a policy of discrimination against private schools. All members opposite know that, at the last election, the Labor Party could not and did not equal the promises of assistance to private schools made by my Party.

Mr. Clark: Are you asserting that your policy was better?

Mr. HALL: The honourable member is correct in saying that we assert that our policy was better. It was demonstrably better because we guaranteed that, on election, we would double the amount per capita that would be provided to individual pupils attending private schools. The Attorney-General belongs to a Party that will not go as far as that. His Party has some nebulous plan, which it will not yet reveal, involving a means test either on schools or pupils. That is what the Labor Party put forward at the election. However, in a well-publicized speech, the Attorney-General has said that he believes private schools should not suffer discrimination. I hope he will help us in achieving what we have promised in this matter, which is more than his Party has promised.

He belongs to a Party whose Minister of Education has this week defended absolutely the textbooks complained about in this House and outside as being blatantly unfair to my Party in the material they present to school-children in this State. The Minister of Education has defended these books simply because they favour his Party, and for no other reason. If the position were reversed, and the books devoted seven pages to my Party and 18 lines to the Labor Party, it would be a different story. If we are to have fairness in politics, let us have a little fairness from the Attorney-General's own Party. The Attorney-General went on to castigate the last Parliament for passing the abortion law reform legislation, which was introduced by my Government. He said this legislation represented a return to the jungle. Yet that Bill was overwhelmingly supported by the

House. Why does the Attorney-General turn his intolerance on that vote in the way he did yesterday? This brings me to the Attorney-General's attitude towards the law. He said:

Respect for the law, like respect for conscience, is vital to the well-being of society. This respect can be commanded only if the law itself is attuned to contemporary needs and aspirations.

Before that he had said he joined with the Premier in the Premier's attitude towards the National Service Act. On the one hand, the Attorney-General said that he believed in the rule of the law. Yet, in the same speech, he said that if one did not agree with the law one should break it. This is a most extraordinary proposition. Today the Government has spoken of prosecution, I think, of people at Virginia who do not want water meters fitted to their bores. Let me make it plain that I, as a member of the Government that began to institute the fitting of meters, believe they should be fitted. But how can the Attorney-General launch a prosecution against these people, who do not want the water meters, when he advises people, on the other hand, to break one of the most important laws and ordinances in the Commonwealth? What sort of equality and fairness is that?

Also, I see that the computer has found that thousands of people did not vote and, unless they have a good excuse, they will be prosecuted. Will the Government prosecute everyone who says, "It was against my conscience to vote"? Surely not, if it is a good enough excuse in this community to say, "It is against my conscience; it is a bad law; my conscience tells me so." As the present Attorney-General and the former Attorney-General know, in the law there are things called precedents, and the present Attorney-General is setting them by sanctioning in this House the breaking of laws. When the Premier sanctioned the breaking of the National Service Act, which he did publicly on a nation-wide programme, he equated the breaching of that Act with the breaking of drinking laws in this community. He lumped the two things together, saying they were the same, and excused himself on that basis. It is shameful that the leaders of a community of 1,250,000 people in this Commonwealth should sanction the breaking of a law that was affirmed at an election only last year. This law was not affirmed five years ago: it was endorsed only last year by the Australian public. No doubt this will be the peak of irresponsibility (I hope it will be) that this Government will exhibit in its three years of office.

The Government will have much to answer for in other ways. Let the Attorney-General and all other members opposite understand that they are in Government now because not many weeks ago in this House the Labor Party voted for a provision that stated that South Australia must have the Chowilla dam and the Dartmouth dam built together. It is because the Labor Party voted for that provision that its members sit to your right today, Mr. Speaker. These members, having voted for two dams or nothing, have the responsibility of producing the two dams.

Mr. Millhouse: I bet they don't.

Mr. HALL: If they do not, they will be denying that there was any basis for their vote in this House on that fateful evening. We await, not with bated breath but with political interest as well as interest held on behalf of all members of the community, the result of the Government's negotiations. The sooner the Government accepts the 37 per cent extra usable water that we negotiated for the State the better I and my Party will be pleased. However, that is not what the Government must get: it must get two dams together to fulfil the promise it made to the people of South Australia. Therefore, keeping in mind the ideals that he stated in this House yesterday, it behoves the Attorney-General to look carefully at his own Government's actions today. In view of the equalities and fairness it denies and the law-breaking that it advocates, it behoves him to bring up the behaviour of his Party to his ideals and not bring his ideals down to the behaviour of his Party. If he can do that, he will have my support. With a new Government in office in this State, it is perhaps good to look briefly at some of the important things accomplished in the last two years by the previous Government.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: What were they?

Mr. HALL: In answer to the Minister of Labour and Industry's quiet little remark, may I say that there is a long list of reforms which his Government will be flat out to beat. It may be an easy thing to laugh at; perhaps these things have not been publicised or put together in simple form, but if members listen they will hear some of the major points among the myriad of things accomplished.

Mr. Coumbe: We didn't have press secretaries.

Mr. HALL: It could well be that we did not have enough press secretaries to tell the story that we should have told, and perhaps that is why members opposite do not know

about these things. The future children of this State will owe much to the previous Government for their dental health. The move to have fluoride added to South Australia's water supplies is something of which my Party is extremely proud.

Mr. Langley: Not all of them.

Mr. HALL: Members opposite who speak so freely can rest assured that the public of South Australia overwhelmingly supports this health measure.

Mr. Coumbe: The figures in Canberra speak for themselves.

Mr. HALL: Yes, the figures in Canberra strongly indicate the beneficial effects of this move. As the years go by, it will give this Party great satisfaction to know that the opponents of this health measure, like the member for Unley (Mr. Langley), who interjected a moment ago, could not stand in the way of this move, for the more sensible people who had the health of South Australian children as their concern were successful.

I have already mentioned electoral reform, something that two successive Governments in this State had unsuccessfully attempted. I refer to the last Labor Government and the Liberal Government that was in office prior to that, both of which Governments were too extreme in their own interests. It took my Government to achieve, in most difficult circumstances, a reform that has overwhelming support in this community. It has produced a Government which reflects (in fact, more than reflects) the percentage vote of the Labor Party in this community, a fact which I believe demonstrates fully the justice of that reform.

We produced a reform here which possibly was debated more than any other measure in recent times. I refer to the abortion legislation that we introduced, a reform which I believe previous Governments were afraid to touch. I think the Victorian inquiry into practices in that State that followed the passing of this Act and the information we have gained from that inquiry have fully vindicated my Government's move in embarking fearlessly on an issue that was divisive in some instances and offensive to some people. My Government moved quite fearlessly in this matter, I believe again with the support of most South Australian citizens.

We introduced a Bill to allow drinking by 18-year-olds, but that move was not supported by this House, which raised the age from 18 to 20 years. However, it was still a move in a direction in which we as a Cabinet and as a

Government desired to go. We widened significantly pensioner concession fares or travel in South Australia, and we instituted for the first time (the Attorney-General should be aware of this) *per capita* assistance to private schools. This was a most significant new move in assistance to private schools in this State, assistance which, as I said earlier, we desired at the time of the last election to liberalize significantly.

In respect of South Australia's water supplies, we gained a written and signed guarantee of a size never attempted by the present Government or any previous Government, and the history of that is now evident to all of us here. We took in hand the deficit financing that was going on when we came to office and were confronted with a deficit of \$8,500,000, and we reinstituted sensible financing. We greatly increased Government spending, yet at the same time we handed over to the new Government (and I am proud of this) a substantial surplus. It is all very well for some people to say that it is wrong to have a surplus, but we know what happened to this community when we were in deficit. One need only ask the people in industry and in business what happened to the last surplus that was left to a Labor Government. It could be politically advantageous to my side of politics if the Labor Government of today followed the previous Labor Government and instituted a recession in South Australian industry. However, that is the last thing I want. I do not want a repetition of that mismanagement, and I only hope that wiser heads than the member for Ross Smith (Mr. Jennings), who appears to be trying to interject, will prevail. I hope the newer members of the Labor Party will have some say in this and that they will ensure that we do not again ruin the confidence of industrialists and people right throughout this State in the ability of the State to progress and expand.

We heard some mention today of industrial development and the fact that it was impossible to get anyone from private industry into the Industrial Development Department because we had sacked Mr. Currie. When we came to office the regard held for the Industrial Development Department was the lowest in the history of any department of any Government in this State, and one of the things we had to do urgently was shift Mr. Currie. I make no apology for doing so. The Premier knows that the very investigating committee he set up to look at the industrial development of this State stated quite clearly that the Direc-

tor the Premier had appointed was not competent to carry out the job. So, when that obstacle was removed, the stream of industrial development that occurred in the two years my Government was in office is something of which we will remain proud for years to come and, if the present Government can equal that flow of factories and jobs and funds into this State, then certainly it will be achieving something of magnitude and worth to the State.

We instituted an increase of expenditure on education which had not previously been equalled, not simply in terms of the escalating sums of today's inflated economy but in percentage rates. In the first year we increased this expenditure by 11 per cent, and in the second year we increased it by about 15 per cent. If the new Government can maintain that rate of increase it will be achieving something worth while for this community. We set up a very small but important outfit to produce films to publicize South Australia's potential and I am proud that we produced, with expert but limited resources in the Premier's Department, a promotion film of South Australian industry such as had not been produced previously. That film is now being distributed throughout the world by Commonwealth agencies and other means.

When we came to office the matter of the building of a festival hall in this State was in complete disarray. The Labor Government had intended to dismember some of the park lands and some of the Government House grounds and squash between two other facilities what was to be a show piece for South Australia. It is to the credit of my Government that we not only chose a site that was suitable for the building but one that was acceptable to almost everyone in South Australia. Further, when my Government returns to office in three years' time, this building will be connected to a magnificent plaza and we will have one of the show pieces of South Australia, the festival hall, on the banks of the Torrens Lake.

I could speak at length about our many achievements in those two years that stand as something of which we will always be proud. We enjoyed the work, because it brought prosperity to South Australia and gave to the quality of living an emphasis that had not applied previously in this State. Perhaps that could be exemplified by our setting up committees, well supported by academics and the like, to study pollution in all forms and to study the education needs of the State.

Many promises were made before the last election. Already it is interesting to see how many of the Liberal Government's promises are being pursued by the new Labor Government and I am thankful for this. I deplore the moves made by the new Government to raise the housing loan limit from \$8,000 to only \$9,000. I consider it could have been possible to add another \$500 or \$1,000 to that figure, but I do not criticize that at the moment. I raise the point that the Government should keep an eye constantly on Loan funds and the capacity of those funds to be diverted to housing to ensure that the housing loan limit is as high as the State's finances can bear.

Much has been said about many forms of education and I have spoken of assistance to private primary schools. The Opposition waits with anxious expectation to see how much of the Government's policy in this matter will be fulfilled and how much of the Opposition's policy will be implemented. In our policy speech we promised reform of lotteries, higher penalties for drug abuse, consumer protection, real assistance to the rural community through relief in land tax and succession duties, a new emphasis on mining, and more protection in and greater emphasis on town planning.

As I mentioned when asking a question this afternoon, we promised greater assistance to tourism. We promised to make more convenient the system of applying for registration and insurance of motor vehicles, and we also promised to introduce legislation providing that 18 years would be the age of majority. We promised other physical changes, such as the filtering of the Adelaide water supply. It will be interesting, as the years pass, to find what will be the present Government's attitude to these matters. There have been, in less than two months, failures in administration more serious than I would have thought any Government to be capable of in that time. It is regrettable that Ministers opposite tend to blame everyone else within sight and out of sight rather than accept responsibility for many of the matters that have been discussed publicly.

Mr. Langley: You would say, "I'll get a report."

Mr. HALL: The member for Unley looks as though he has been reported. The first and perhaps most serious failure in administration by the Premier for which he must be responsible is in finance and his dealing with the Commonwealth Government. There is not the slightest doubt that South Australia's attitude should be to ensure that its standards of finance and activity are as near as possible

to being equal to those of the other States, and my successful recommendation to the Commonwealth Government was based on this idea. In the last financial year that idea produced an additional \$2,000,000 in special grant for this State, a grant in which no other State shared. Ultimately, such representations were made at the crucial talks concluded last month to establish South Australia on such a financial footing in comparison with the other States. However, the Premier did not adopt this attitude. He claimed to the Commonwealth Government that it should make special adjustments to Commonwealth-wide taxation to benefit South Australia. This was his most formal claim upon the Commonwealth Government.

Of course, the claim was futile. Everyone who has dealt with these matters within the Australian Federation knows how futile it would be to ask the Commonwealth Government to vary sales tax merely because South Australia had a special problem. Does the Premier intend that tax be taken in the five other States as well as in South Australia to help this State alone? He fulminated in Canberra about the lousy deal given South Australia, because he is responsible for the position. If he had continued with the type of negotiation that had been well established before he came to office and had insisted that South Australia be given a standard equal to that of the other States he would have got more money for South Australia and would not have had to go to the Grants Commission. He and his Ministers are responsible for that position.

We have the spectacle and spectre of the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study. What a shameful episode of mismanagement this has been! I shall recapitulate its history. Sir Thomas Playford, in the last few weeks of his Government's term, provided for a study, which was carried out, completed, paid for (at \$700,000), and approved for printing by the Labor Government. When the Labor Government lost office, it refused to support its own study and members of that Government have been caught. Members opposite can hardly say that they spent \$700,000 and did not look at the report. Now they say, "We want to revise it." Of course, this was revised.

My Government's handling of this matter was an example of good public relations, because people were invited to examine the report, given extensions of time, and never refused in their approaches to the Government: every form of consultation was

entered into. I understand that more than 10 per cent of all properties required under the plan have now been acquired. So many people have said to me, "At least, I know where I stand and can plan my future." The approved acquisitions have gone smoothly and well.

Mr. McKee: Do you know where you stand?

Mr. HALL: I stand ashamed of the action of the honourable member's Government, in making every person in the metropolitan area vulnerable to property acquisition. Do such people know where they stand?

Mr. McKee: You are the one who should examine that.

Mr. HALL: It is a plan that the Government approved and paid for. It is the honourable member's plan. He now denies it. It was paid for by his Government and implemented in a most humane way. It is now rejected and no-one in the metropolitan area knows whether or not his home is safe. The main architect of this chaos is the Minister of Roads and Transport. He is the villain in this piece of wretchedness now being thrust back on to all South Australians living in the metropolitan area. In the frantic scramble to get out of it there is this seven-day review. I think that after the election the Premier said he would look at it and within seven days we are having a lot of freeways again, "but we are not going to tell the people yet. We are going to spend \$700,000 but we will keep people in suspense a little longer." Dr. Breuning was engaged before he knew it, so quick was the Premier. He announced the engagement of Dr. Breuning before Dr. Breuning even knew about it. That may be very good, but let me ask the Government: will Dr. Breuning's findings be binding on the Government? Who is the final expert? Are we to take it all away from the South Australian experts, the previous American experts, the thousands of representations that were made by South Australian citizens—all this great conglomeration of expert advice and public representation? I ask the member for Port Pirie, who appears to be the only one opposite to acknowledge this: is all this worth nothing; is one man from some city in America to be the dictator?

Mr. McKee: Are you jealous?

Mr. HALL: Are the public of South Australia to be subject to that sort of treatment? Let us tell them about it. It will be embarrassing for the Government if Dr. Breuning says, "Boys, you were right the first time."

Following quickly the failure with M.A.T.S. came an indication of the Premier's attitude

on railways. The Government and the Premier know that, when previously in office, the Labor Party submitted to the Commonwealth Government a comprehensive plan for the standardization of lines north of Adelaide. It was a plan that we examined when we came to office, and we resubmitted it to the Commonwealth Government. It was a plan got together by the South Australian Railways Commissioner. The Commonwealth Government would not accept it and said, "We need an arbitrator, an independent expert." This State Government and the Commonwealth Government agreed to the appointment of Maunsell and Partners to conduct that study. They have worked on it for all these years of dissension and have reported on a most valuable and desired facility for South Australia worth \$50,000,000. The Government has said, "No; we will go back to square one. The Railways Commissioner has some other plan." He had a plan in 1967-68 but it would not stand up to Commonwealth scrutiny.

There has been an arbitrator and it is reported that we are going back to the Commissioner again. Let me advise the Government (I say this with some knowledge of previous negotiations) that the Commonwealth Government will not accept, as it has not accepted in years gone by, the recommendations of the South Australian Railways Commissioner in this matter. It insists that there not be a re-doing of the old lines but that there be new lines of world standard. Is it wrong to insist on this? Of course not. We have a big job keeping the trains on the rails in South Australia as it is without converting second-grade lines. I thoroughly support the insistence of Maunsell and Partners on there being a new line. The only real point has to do with the entry of the line into the metropolitan area. I freely admit that I could not agree with the final report of Maunsell and Partners in relation to the entry of the standard gauge line into the metropolitan area. I wrote to the Commonwealth Government and said, "To make the scheme acceptable, we must have a rail link into Elizabeth." Nothing could be done before the election and nothing was done, but, if the Government desires the connection we wanted or the further connections that we insisted on, it must use the Maunsell report as the basis of negotiation. If it does that, it may well be that within six months it can come to this House and say, "We have finally achieved what South Australia has been seeking for years."

But the Government is not doing this; it is going back to square one, back to the Commissioner. The Commonwealth Government said

years ago, "We do not want his plans." All this time the Premier, for his own political purposes (he knows there is a Senate election coming up before long) is castigating the Commonwealth Government for not putting enough public works into this State and is waiting for an open cheque to build \$50,000,000 worth of works. The Premier does not want to proceed with that before the Senate elections later this year. That is the reason.

It is almost incredible that there should be so much mismanagement of large multi-million dollar projects so quickly in the life of the new Government. I must admit that, in the first few days of Opposition when talking to my own Party tactician, I said, "This new Government will not be as foolish as the last Labor Government; it will be careful. It has learnt its lesson. It will deal with the people's assets properly, at least in its first year or so before the power of office goes to its head." I was wrong and I stand in dismay knowing that so much is being wrecked before our eyes and that so many people will be hurt by the activities of this Government in its first few weeks of office. I assure honourable members that, if mistakes can only benefit me politically, I would far sooner the public of this State got the benefits they needed than that I got political benefit from the mismanagement now occurring.

The Speech outlining the procedures the Government will follow, as I said earlier, contains no surprises, but it contains a good dose of Socialism here and there. It mentions rather apologetically (and then runs from the subject of water resources) that the Government is committed to get two dams at once. I have no doubt there is a good reason for running away from it. The programme then tends to live on the legislative and administrative successes of the previous Government. It mentions with pride (I say this to the member for Port Pirie because it is important to his district) the development of mining and the Australian Minerals Foundation that my Government was able to help set up. I congratulate those individuals who have been so generous in donating money to it. The Speech speaks of industrial development and the possibility of acquisition by the Government of equity shares in some companies. Let me remind the House that this could be a dangerous procedure, and I do not recommend that the Government become involved in ownership of industry unless there is an extreme and urgent case, which I cannot con-

ceive at present. His Excellency's Speech refers to a Government insurance office, and the old sort of cargo cult attitude of the Labor Party that holds out to people that this office will bring all sorts of good things, and it makes out, by inference, that premiums will decrease. The Government knows that the first thing the insurance office will do will be to apply to the federation to become a tariff insurance office. This has happened in every State, and all that the Government and the member for Price want is another Government institution in which there would be no benefit to the public.

Mr. Ryan: They will get a fair deal.

Mr. HALL: Knowing the insurance rates in South Australia, I consider that it could well be that this insurance office would be a feature in promoting an increase in insurance rates in this State, so far are they below, in many instances, the rates in other States. It could well be that, apart from using Government funds for this institution (funds that will be taken from education and hospitals and other necessary facilities for this Socialist experiment), it will accomplish nothing that will benefit the community by even \$1, and it could easily raise, considering the delicate balance of premiums here, the premiums to be paid by the community.

Other matters have been referred to in the Speech. There is M.A.T.S., about which I have spoken before, that spectre that is being reinstituted as a fearsome creature that will spread on an unknown path across the metropolitan area. Reference was made to a State film unit, and this will need to be explained because we do not want a multi-million dollar waste of funds that could have been used for education. We read of the old attack on the Legislative Council, but we have yet to see what form that will take. The Labor Party has lived on that for years and, no doubt, intent in its attitude of blaming everyone else, it will use the Council again. The Speech refers to the use of the Prices Act to protect the purchasing power of money. I assure members that we will not do that if we have a Labor Government, and I doubt whether the Prices Act will do it. Other things are mentioned, including housing and succession duties, but the details of this legislation must be seen before a final opinion can be given about them.

The attitudes of the Government today are not attuned to the feelings of individuals in the community who desire to advance their economic activities, raise a family, buy a house, and support their own charities, schools and other matters with which they are involved.

The Government's attitude is demonstrated by the reply the Premier gave today to a question about petrol stations. The Government believes, first, in control, and it will control the number of petrol stations in one way or another.

Mr. Langley: And don't they need it?

Mr. HALL: Can the member for Unley say when he is going to control the number of grocer shops, butcher shops, and cycle shops, and when we will have a totally controlled economy?

Mr. Langley: And electricians and plumbers, too!

Mr. HALL: Yes, all of these, because the honourable member is committed to this form of control.

Mr. Langley: No, I am not.

Mr. HALL: Not if they are electricians, but the honourable member is in respect of everyone else. Let us make no mistake about the control of petrol stations. No special circumstance in the petroleum trade requires the member for Unley and his Party to institute this control. One thing that will result from the honourable member's policy will be a higher price range to the consumer. Controls have always done this in a situation of free supply. In the present situation of petroleum supplies the best thing would be to consider urgently whether we need price control on them at all, because petrol is now being sold in Melbourne at about 8c or 10c below the normal price. I drove along Dandenong Road a week ago and saw Japanese petrol at a discount of 8c, and we know that it comes from an Australian refinery. People paying the full price for petrol are subsidizing this sort of sale in Melbourne, so that the best thing to do is to get some of it here. The honourable member should introduce real competition in the petroleum industry, and not fix artificially high prices.

Mr. Langley: Didn't the price of shoes go up?

Mr. HALL: The more I have seen of control of petrol prices the more difficult do I find it to justify the proposition that it keeps prices down. No-one in the Government can demonstrate that it does. At this moment I do not urge the Government to take price control off petroleum products, but I urge that it consider this possibility, because I now believe (and my belief is subject to an inquiry and a report, so that I do not urge action on my belief) that it is possible that the South Australian and Australian petroleum price is higher because of price control instituted in South Australia.

If we introduced real competition between the companies we would see a reduction in the present price. Therefore, we cannot, with this type of attitude to control, afford to revert to the 1965-68 disaster for South Australia.

We cannot afford the position where the next Government (whether Liberal or Labor) is left with the accumulated deficit that the Liberal Party found when it came into office in 1968. We cannot afford to have a recession in industry and the inefficiency in the Industrial Development Branch that was apparent when the present Premier was in control previously. We may well have a fresh wind of democracy, but that will depend on how this Government administers the State. How sweet this wind blows for the next three years will depend on the type of administration the Labor Party gives this State: whether it blows South Australia into a happy land or into a land that has been looted and crippled by Socialist thought and action remains to be seen.

Mr. HARRISON (Albert Park): I have much pleasure in supporting the motion so capably moved by the Attorney-General and so capably seconded by the member for Spence. I congratulate the Premier and his Ministers on their appointments, and also you, Mr. Speaker, on your election to your high office. I consider it an honour to have been elected a member of this Parliament, and I thank the constituents of Albert Park District for the strong support they gave me as a candidate endorsed by the Labor Party. I sincerely trust that my efforts here will benefit those people personally and the State generally. The problems that have been referred to me in the six weeks that I have been in office are many and varied and relate mainly to housing, education, transport, Engineering and Water Supply Department valuations and excess water payments and workmen's compensation cases. I am confident that, as a result of the policies enunciated by the Premier, every effort will be made during the life of this Parliament to alleviate these vexing matters.

Workers who are unfortunately involved in an accident while carrying out their employment in accordance with instructions and supervision find themselves, through no fault of their own, on a reduced rate of pay. In these circumstances, a tradesman can be in the unfortunate position of receiving \$16 a week less than he would receive if he was still on his existing margin. Many injured workmen have been receiving over-award payments, so that the loss of earnings is even greater than it would otherwise be. One can

imagine what effect this problem has on a worker's recovery and on his ability to return to employment on a full rate of pay (the full rate of pay which, in my opinion, he should have been receiving since his injury occurred).

This fact is commonly known to all those associated with the trade union movement as well as to the doctors and welfare officers who are trying to help the people concerned back on the road to recovery. The problem becomes one of mind over matter, which often has an even worse effect than the accident itself. As a trade union official, I found that the greatest problem was to get people back to work and on their normal rate of pay. We have found that all the worrying that the worker experiences is brought about purely and simply because he has not known how to meet his financial commitments. After all, the workers of today live from week to week, and their standard of living depends on the wages they receive. When a worker is suddenly cut adrift from his capacity to earn his normal weekly rate of pay he starts to worry. Suffering from an injury is bad enough, and so is the worry that is caused, but when the two are combined we can see how it affects the individual. His Excellency's Speech forecast that something would be done about the Workmen's Compensation Act, and I sincerely hope that the present Act will be thrown out and an entirely new Act implemented under which all the existing anomalies will be removed.

A person today goes to work with the fear that if he is injured he will get into a financial mess. In some cases, a worker who is injured at his job is told by his boss that, unfortunately, his bonus and over-award payments have gone, that nothing can be done about it and that he must stop work. When a doctor later gives him a note to go back on light duties, this man approaches his supervisor and asks for a light job which, nine times out of 10, is not available. If the person concerned wishes to obtain any sort of job at all that will give him more earnings than the payments he receives under workmen's compensation, he hawks his labour around to various employers, asking for a light job, and the answer he receives generally is, "If we had any light jobs at all we would give them to our own people who are already on workmen's compensation; so there is no job for you."

That man returns to the insurance office with the little book that he has had to keep in which he has entered all the names of the people to whom he has applied for a light job;

the book is stamped officially by those people, and is then presented to the insurance company. We have had a job on our hands to fight for these people to be retained on workmen's compensation, meagre as the compensation payments are. Through ignorance, these men are sometimes not aware that they can obtain social service payments to help them until they solve their problems of obtaining workmen's compensation. Sometimes it takes weeks for a man to receive workmen's compensation payments again. An employee who is hurt in the course of his employment through the negligence of an employer or the company, or is injured by the employer's equipment, may receive a legal opinion that he has a chance to win a negligence case against the employer.

However, if he takes the matter up, the moment the employer is served notice his workmen's compensation is stopped, and he does not receive another cent until he proves his case. In the meantime, he must go back to receiving social service payments. The position would not be so bad if it took only a couple of weeks or a month; that is bad enough, but the pile of workmen's compensation cases is so high that a case can take 2½ to 3 years to be heard and sometimes it is longer than that, particularly if the case is disputed and involves much legal wrangling. These matters relating to workmen's compensation concern me and many of my constituents who are suffering from a disability at present, and I sincerely hope that, when the Workmen's Compensation Act is finally being considered by the House, they will be taken care of.

Another problem that has confronted me, and most likely other members, deals with housing. This afternoon a member asked a question about the number of houses that were planned for a certain area. I do not think the Housing Trust has kept pace with the needs of the community. Both migrants and people born in Australia do not receive sufficient assistance from the Housing Trust. They have to wait for nine months for a house at Elizabeth and for three years for a house in the metropolitan area. If young people cannot obtain a house they have to seek help from their parents.

In my district many married people between 18 and 21 years of age have nowhere to go because, on their relatively low wages, they cannot afford high rents for flats. If they do obtain a flat they have a rope around their necks for the rest of their lives: out of their wages of \$40 a week they have to

pay about \$16 in rent. Soon, they have a family of one or two children and they are stranded for the rest of their lives. Of course, some of them hope to get a house in the metropolitan area after waiting for three years. Why are they in this position? They have committed one sin—marrying when they were under 21 years of age. Both the Labor Party and the Liberal Party support the proposal that people of 18 years of age should be permitted to vote, and I support it, too. The two Parties support the proposal that people of 18 years of age should be able to marry without parental consent. In addition, the Parties support the proposal that people of 18 years of age should be able to enter into hire-purchase contracts—and get into a mess! If people of 18 years of age are to be permitted to do those things, surely they should receive adult wages at that age. We must consider this matter seriously.

In my district transport problems hit people in the lower income brackets, not the middle or top income brackets: the people affected are workers in the semi-skilled or un-skilled classifications. The Municipal Tramways Trust should be ashamed that every day in my area people complain about first-section and second-section fares. In times gone by it was possible to obtain a transfer ticket so that a person could go from one bus to another without incurring the relatively high charge for another first section. However, the system of transfer tickets suddenly disappeared.

When the transport inquiry is undertaken I hope the voices from Seaton Park and Royal Park are heard in regard to this matter. If they are, it will be possible for a person to travel wherever he likes and pay only once the relatively high first-section part of his fare. I am concerned about the plight of many waterside workers and workers at General Motors-Holden's and Philips Electrical Proprietary Limited. The same problem is encountered by workers at Carr Fastener Proprietary Limited. These people may be on the first bus they catch for only a couple of minutes, having had to pay a first section fare. When they leave the bus and get on another bus they must pay another first section fare to their destination. People living at Rosewater must pay a first section fare on a bus and then another first section fare on the bus they catch to go down Torrens Road from Port Adelaide. I sincerely hope that these problems are considered and overcome by those inquiring into transport, for they represent a blot on the public transport system of

the State. I believe we should encourage and make our public transport systems popular so that, instead of putting fares up when there is a wage increase, increased patronage may result in a cheaper fare. That is a better solution than an increase in fares, which causes hardship to people who have to use public transport.

People who need to attend a hospital urgently or who have a child in arms whom they must take to a hospital must use a taxi because of the way public transport operates. Whatever the route from one point to another, there is never another public transport service crossing that route. This matter should also be considered when the transport problems are dealt with. If these problems can be solved, more revenue will be returned by the tramways and railways. This position must be looked at seriously, because the greater the cost to the worker the less money he has to spend, and it is through his spending that money circulates and the economy is kept going. Unless we can make our public transport popular we shall be in an unfortunate position.

At the Islington railway workshops we have many tradesmen who can do a job the equal of that done anywhere in the world. The result of their work has to be seen to be believed, and is a great credit to them. Imagine their surprise when the new work they were receiving was cut down so much that they hardly saw a new job for some time. They became most concerned. It was rumoured that the Government of the day had suddenly stopped tendering for work. They were doing this work successfully, producing an article the equivalent of any article made anywhere in Australia, and producing it on a competitive basis. Strange that a Government department should compete successfully with private industry! However, in this case, because of their skill and the pride they take in their work, these chaps can do it, and I want to see that they are soon given an opportunity to do it again.

I intend to be brief, for I know that the hour is late and that there will be plenty of opportunities for me in the next three years to join in the debates in the House in a way which, I hope, will be accepted by both sides. In concluding this, my maiden speech, I wish to congratulate all the new members on their election and also other members on their re-election. I also want to thank the House staff for their courtesy and for the able assistance they have afforded all the new members of this House. Speaking as one of those members who have come into something

strange and new, I can say that they have eased our minds and been of great assistance to all of us. I support the motion.

Dr. TONKIN (Bragg): I support the motion. First, I convey my congratulations to you, Sir, on your election to the high office of Speaker. I also congratulate all new members of this House. I congratulate particularly the member for Gouger (Mr. Hall) on his election again as Leader of the Liberal and Country League. I am sure I speak for all members when I say that we were very sorry to hear of His Excellency the Governor's recent illness. We are pleased to hear of his continued progress back to health and trust that he will be completely recovered soon.

I think this is a good time to pay a tribute to His Excellency the Governor's Deputy, who once again performed his duties so ably at the Opening of Parliament. He has become almost an institution in this State, and for his long and distinguished service it is fitting that he should be commemorated by a bust placed outside the gates of Government House.

I regard it as a great honour to be elected the first member for Bragg in the Fortieth Parliament. Although it has been said that "Bragg" is not an entirely suitable name for a politician, I am extremely pleased and honoured that I should represent the seat bearing that name, which is a famous name in South Australia's history. Father and son (as you possibly know, Sir) were joint Nobel Prize winners in 1915, and I intend to place on record a very brief summary of their history. Sir William Henry Bragg was born in 1862 in Cumberland and was educated at King William College on the Isle of Man. He won a scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge, and in 1885, a significant year for South Australia, was appointed to the Elder Chair of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Adelaide. While in Adelaide in 1890 a son was born to him who was later to become Sir Lawrence Bragg.

Sir Lawrence Bragg was educated at St. Peter's College and the University of Adelaide and followed in his father's footsteps at Trinity College, Cambridge. Both men collaborated on studies on radioactivity, a new and advanced field in those days, and Sir William Bragg invented the X-ray spectrometer. Jointly they published a work on "X-rays and Crystal Structure" in 1915, while Sir William was Cavendish Professor of Mathematics at Leeds University, and it was as a result of this publication that they were awarded a Nobel Prize. Both men were awarded many honorary degrees and held distinguished offices in many

scientific societies. It is indeed fitting that the electoral commissioners saw fit to honour the name Bragg in naming this district.

The Attorney-General, in his speech, was kind enough to mention my interest in social welfare. I consider the two years that I spent as a member of the Social Welfare Advisory Council to have been extremely rewarding. I have learnt much about the work of the department, the needs in social welfare of the people of South Australia, and the need for additional trained social workers. Some of our social workers in the department are carrying case loads of more than 60 persons. This number is not uncommon overseas, but it is far too high anywhere and they must be given relief. We must make every effort in the department to recruit more social workers and we also need more elsewhere in the community. I should like action taken to appoint social workers to municipalities and, if necessary, to secondary schools throughout the community.

Of course, this cannot happen quickly but I consider that the efforts and expense could be well worth while, in the interests of both the mental health and the social welfare of all South Australians. As well as additional trained social workers, I consider that we need greater facilities for research, more and better accommodation, and better concepts of treatment for young offenders, and (if I may risk saying this) better office accommodation for the staff of the Social Welfare Department. One could almost say that members of the department managed to inform me fairly well while I was a member of the council, and I am extremely pleased that they did. Above all, I learnt that in any Government's social welfare programme the fundamental need is finance. The extent to which social welfare in a community can be advanced depends on the amount of money available, and this in turn depends on the overall prosperity of that community.

Sometimes it is thought, mistakenly, that social welfare is in some way the prerogative of a Socialist Government and that Socialism automatically advances social welfare. I agree with the Attorney-General that social welfare is society's right when illness or misfortune strikes, but this State's social welfare programme is just as much the concern of the Liberal and Country League members as it is the concern and present responsibility of members of the Labor Government. I sincerely hope that the State's financial affairs will be conducted satisfactorily so that adequate funds will remain available for the continued advancement of social welfare services.

I was extremely pleased to hear the Attorney-General say that the Government intended to introduce juvenile aid panels and that other aspects of the Social Welfare Advisory Council's report on juvenile courts would be implemented. I think it appropriate that the member for Spence (Mr. Crimes) should have seconded the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, because Catherine Helen Spence, whose name, of course, is well known in South Australia, was one of the major forces behind the establishment of the juvenile court in South Australia. We in South Australia can be proud that we had what is considered to be (and here I am open to correction by the Attorney-General or my colleagues) the first juvenile court in the world. Certainly, in the United States of America and Canada that is regarded as being so. I may say that, while overseas recently visiting juvenile courts in those countries, the name of South Australia opened every door. This is something of which we can be proud.

The difference between an adult and a juvenile court is fundamental; and it is one of emphasis. In an adult court the offence takes precedence. While penalties may be varied within limits, it is the offence that is considered primarily. In a juvenile court the individual is of prime importance. Young offenders need tolerance and special help; this is where a juvenile court exists to give them special consideration. At the same time, the community must be protected. It is a very delicate balance indeed and the court's function is not easy. If I may quote from an earlier Act:

Every juvenile court, in making any order against a child, shall have regard to the welfare and interests of the child.

This is a fundamental principle, which I fear has occasionally been lost sight of in the administration of juvenile courts.

Juvenile aid panels are functioning under varying names in Queensland, New Zealand, London and other centres. I am happy to say that during my trip overseas I found that many of the proposals that we have put into the Social Welfare Advisory Council report are being followed in centres in those countries. They vary but the ways of varying really add up to the same proposals as we have. Juvenile aid panels and the early warning programme are in some cases at the discretion of the probation officers or of the prosecuting attorney, but are all fundamentally based on the same system: in other words, it comes back to the old form of summary justice that was once meted out by the local constable, a

summary justice that I think nowadays could well be brought back for young children in this new way.

I can remember when I rode my bicycle without lights to the local scout hall. The local constable came to lecture us and, when we went to ride back, we found he had let our tyres down and taken our pumps. I have never forgotten that. It is the same principle as in the case of lads' stealing apples and being cuffed over the ears, and told, "Don't do it again". That sounds amusing but it involves a fundamental principle, a principle upon which a juvenile aid panel is set up.

It is believed that up to 65 per cent of young offenders offending for the first time will not offend again. This may be an optimistic estimate, but I believe it is probably somewhere near the mark. Provided the young offender has the nature of his offence explained to him, is suitably warned and is given the benefit of support from a social worker making a social investigation or a circumstance report, it is unlikely he will offend again in 60 per cent to 65 per cent of such cases. The establishment of juvenile aid panels will relieve the load on the Juvenile Court. This load has probably been the main reason why the fundamental principle of the court has been lost sight of at times. Young people tend to offend for three major reasons. The first reason is that they are ignorant of the law. The second is that they belong to a peer group or gang and, because of the peer group situation, they are dared to go shoplifting or joy-riding.

These are relatively easy matters to deal with, and those young people come within the 60 per cent to 65 per cent of first offenders. Thirdly, some young people who need help are those who offend in an attempt to gain the attention of their families or of society. They offend in order to shock people into listening to their troubles. I think the members of this third group reflect a lack of communication and family support in the face of the present stresses of life, and society must protect and help them as far as it can. I ask leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

PORT AUGUSTA TO WHYALLA RAILWAY AGREEMENT BILL

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.36 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, July 21, at 2 p.m.