

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, July 29, 1970

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

### QUESTIONS

#### ROAD TAX

Mr. GUNN: It has been reported to me that the Government has decided to increase the incidence of the ton-mile tax on South Australian road users by reducing the limit of exemption from eight tons to four tons. Because of the long distances between places in my district served only by road transport, any such action would detrimentally affect residents. Will the Minister of Roads and Transport confirm or deny this report?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I know of only one suggestion that the limit for the ton-mile tax should be reduced from eight tons to four tons and that was in the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Report that was adopted by the Hall Government and strongly resisted by the then Opposition.

Mr. Gunn: You deny it, do you?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Well, I think I am going a fair way towards doing that. This Government certainly does not intend at this stage to do anything about the tax, and this is one reason why the people of Eyre Peninsula will benefit from the election of the Labor Government.

Mr. GUNN: I am concerned about the qualification in the Minister's statement that the Government does not intend to alter the road tax exemption to four tons "at this stage." Will the Minister say what he means by "at this stage"?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: "At this stage" means at this present time.

#### DERNANCOURT FORD

Mrs. BYRNE: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport find out whether the two adjoining councils or the Highways Department are responsible for maintaining the ford across the Torrens River at Reid Road, Dernancourt?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be pleased to get the information for the honourable member.

#### TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Mr. HALL: Yesterday in this House I raised the matter of the responsibility for the story in the *News* of July 17 and in the *Advertiser* of July 18 about the announcement

then made in the Premier's name that investigations would be made into futuristic types of transport for the Adelaide metropolitan area. The Minister of Roads and Transport has since denied that any such announcement was made, and yesterday the Premier said that he had not made the announcement. On inquiring further, I found that the Australian Broadcasting Commission in this State had made an announcement, from which I now quote, as follows:

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan, today gave further details of plans to make Adelaide a testing area for public transport. He said that the aim was to perfect a plan which would take away the desire of people to drive cars to work. Some of the methods to be considered are a computerized travel service known as "dial a bus".

Further references were also made as the news report continued. No denial was made until the remarks of the Minister of Roads and Transport were made on television earlier this week. It is of serious consequence to the public that they be aware of exactly what the Government's programme is. From my experience while Premier I found the press staff invariably sought my approval before they released stories in my name to the press and news media. Therefore, will the Premier confirm or deny that the basis of the story to which I have referred, in which he is reported to have said that there would be an investigation into futuristic types of transport, was approved by a member of his press staff as a proper presentation of Government policy to the community?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I made it quite clear yesterday what were the bases of this report. During the previous week I was interviewed for a magazine story in a Melbourne newspaper. In the course of this some statements were made that were enlarged upon by the correspondent concerned, and material was used that he later looked at but did not refer to me. I do not suggest that his story was inaccurate in detail, but its emphasis was probably not what I would have approved. As a result of this interview, cable services to all news media in South Australia included a story of the kind that appeared on the front page of the *News*. I was not particularly happy about the emphasis given and, as a result of this, a reply in more detail as to the future and the nature of the investigation was given by the Minister of Roads and Transport in this House last week. That reply, which was approved by me, represents the position accurately.

Mr. Hall: Was it approved by your press staff?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Certainly the reply given in this House was approved by me.

Mr. Hall: No, the one that I have asked the question about?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The one about which the Leader has asked me a question was not, so far as I am aware, approved by my press staff. As far as I am aware, what happened is that the cable services carried the story from the *Melbourne Age*. That is the entire basis of the material which appeared on the front page of the *News* and which was later repeated on the A.B.C. and in the *Advertiser*.

#### WESTERN TEACHERS COLLEGE

Mr. CUMBE: Earlier this year, when Minister of Education, I had the pleasure of attending at the Western Teachers College and having a conversation with representatives of the Students Representative Council who I thought were outstanding examples of young people attending our teachers colleges today. One matter referred to me was the need for a pedestrian crossing on the South Road, because the college was divided. As the Minister will recall, unfortunately the Principal was injured shortly after that on this crossing. I subsequently authorized, at Government expense and for the first time, the installation of a crossing opposite the Western Teachers College in order to provide access across South Road. This was done in conjunction with the then Minister of Roads and Transport. However, as I have not yet seen any action in this matter, I ask the Minister of Education whether he will obtain an urgent report on what action is being taken by his department or by the Government in this connection. If no action is being taken, will the Minister see that this matter is expedited?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: A few weeks ago I visited the Western Teachers College, and I am sure that the honourable member will be pleased to know that the Principal is now back on deck again and looking well, despite having to hobble about as a consequence of the accident. So far as I know, the whole proposal is going ahead. I presume that the construction will have to be carried out by the Highways Department or the Thebarton council. However, I will find out what stage work has reached and inform the honourable member. I can assure him that when this matter has come up I have indicated that

I support it and that there is an urgent need for the crossing; and, certainly, no-one that I know of at Government level has done anything to delay the installation of this crossing.

#### VICTOR HARBOUR RAILWAY LINE

Mr. JENNINGS: I wish to make it clear that my question is prompted not by any district interest in the matter but rather by my interest as a member of the Public Works Committee. During the term of office of the previous Government, investigations were made by the Public Works Committee into the possible closure of the railway line between Mount Barker Junction and Victor Harbour, and the committee recommended that, as no alternative transport had been suggested, the line should not be closed. Has the Minister of Roads and Transport studied the report of the committee, and can he say whether he has any proposals for the future use of this line?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I have studied the committee's report and have had discussions with the Railways Commissioner, because I believe that this line could be of tremendous benefit to South Australia, particularly in the field of tourism. Perhaps I may be pardoned for saying that I am delighted that the Public Works Committee made this report, because I believe it was completely justified. I am pleased to be able to say that the Railways Commissioner is currently working towards the objective of providing a package deal day return trip for tourists to Victor Harbour. The idea will be that people will be able to buy a ticket, which will cover the cost not only of the rail service but also of a meal at Victor Harbour. In fact, I am hoping that it may even go a little further and provide one or two other amenities. It is expected that this scheme will be given a trial in the September school holidays, and I am reasonably confident that, with the prior publicity to be given through radio, press and television advertising and through the South Australian Government Tourist Bureau, this venture will be successful in promoting tourism.

#### PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Can the Minister of Roads and Transport say whether his practice will be to ask members of his Party to ask Dorothy Dixer questions about other members' districts?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: That rather serious allegation by the honourable member has no foundation at all. The question was not a Dorothy Dixer, as the ex-Minister implied. Although the train to Victor Harbour serves

his district, I remind the honourable member that the line to Victor Harbour serves many other districts as well. More important, the project to which I have referred relates to the advancement of tourism, affecting people throughout the whole of the State and the Commonwealth and, as such, this has no bearing whatever on the honourable member's district. I completely refute his allegation that the question was a Dorothy Dixier. As a result of certain actions that I took a week or two ago to keep the honourable member informed, I thought we had a reasonable understanding. However, if the honourable member's attitude in this case is to be his attitude in future, the Government will go its own way and Opposition members can just go hopping.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member for Albert Park.

Mr. Rodda: Is that a threat or a promise?

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: It is a threat and a promise: the honourable member can take it whichever way he likes.

The SPEAKER: Order! I called the member for Albert Park to ask his question. As he has the same rights as all other members, he deserves to be heard.

#### WEST LAKES SCHEME

Mr. HARRISON: On page 39 of the *Advertiser* of July 11, 1970, appears a report on and a drawing of the West Lakes scheme. The drawing shows how West Lakes Limited plans to site houses in cul-de-sacs along the seafront between Port Adelaide and Grange. As only walkways are shown giving access to the beaches, can the Minister of Works say whether provision has been made for roads so that the travelling public may have access to the beach front and parking facilities for vehicles?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Offhand, I cannot answer the honourable member's question in detail, but I shall be happy to take up the matter for him. He may be interested to know that I am meeting representatives of West Lakes Limited at 4.15 this afternoon. In addition to the matter he has raised, I have many other matters to discuss with those representatives.

#### BURNSIDE INTERSECTION

Mrs. STEELE: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to the question I asked last week about the installation of traffic lights at the intersection of Greenhill and Portrush Roads, Tusmore?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am pleased to be able to inform the honourable member that

roadwork, including the installation of traffic signals at the intersection of Greenhill and Portrush Roads, is expected to be completed by December of this year.

Mrs. STEELE: I am dismayed and amazed to hear that work on this intersection is expected to be completed by December. To my knowledge, this work has been in progress for six or eight weeks, and, if the Minister's reply is correct, it means that work on this busy intersection will take six or seven months. As I pointed out to the Minister last week, this is causing considerable inconvenience to traders in this busy area, as well as causing much traffic congestion. Many derogatory remarks have been made to me, as the member for one of the districts abutting this intersection, regarding the slowness of the work being done. As many people are interested in this matter, will the Minister give reasons for the delay and the length of time that it is expected this work will take? Also, will he please try to expedite the work in hand?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I imagine the period of time it is expected this work will take has been caused by the amount of work involved, including the installation of traffic lights. Like the honourable member, I fully sympathize with the people concerned, particularly the traders, and, while this statement will be of little satisfaction to them, I can say that the same sort of inconvenience is caused to traders in other districts. However, I am satisfied from the investigations I have made in other localities that the degree of interference and inconvenience caused is always kept to a minimum. Everyone realizes that these works cannot be undertaken without some inconvenience being caused, but the Highways Department and most councils with whom I have been associated have always tried to minimize it as much as possible.

Mrs. Steele: I think the Minister will agree that six months is a fairly long time for this work.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I think the honourable member would agree that much work has to be done on this intersection. However, I do not think cross-fire across the Chamber will help the position. It would be better if I spoke to the Highways Department personnel again to see whether this work can be expedited, and on receipt of their report I will inform the honourable member.

#### SOCIAL WORKERS

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Social Welfare a reply to my recent question about

the appointment of a full-time social worker at Port Pirie?

The Hon. L. J. KING: During May this year, the Acting Director of Social Welfare visited Port Pirie and discussed the possibility of obtaining office accommodation with shared typing and receptionist services for a resident welfare officer in a Government building there. Unfortunately it would be difficult to make suitable arrangements in either of the two buildings inspected (occupied by the Local and District Criminal Courts Department and Marine and Harbors Department) and the matter has been referred to the Public Buildings Department for investigation and report. When suitable office facilities can be arranged, the Public Service Board will be asked to call applications for a position of resident welfare officer at Port Pirie. As I fully appreciate the need for a resident welfare officer in Port Pirie, I have asked the Acting Director to continue his efforts with the Public Buildings Department to make this possible.

Mr. CURREN: It has been brought to my attention that there is a need to appoint a full-time welfare officer to reside in the Upper Murray district. This need is emphasized by the fact that juvenile offenders dealt with in courts in that area must be committed or remanded to institutions in Adelaide. Will the Minister of Social Welfare ascertain whether a suitable officer can be appointed to this district?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I am most conscious of the need for a social welfare officer in the district to which the honourable member refers, but a similar need also exists in other parts of the State. The great difficulty in this respect is the acute shortage of qualified social welfare workers. I will consider this matter and give the honourable member a more detailed reply soon.

#### CLAPHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. EVANS: I understand that the Minister of Education has a reply to the recent question asked by the member for Mitcham regarding the Clapham Primary School. In the absence of the honourable member, and as the children of some of my constituents attend that school, I should be happy if the Minister would give that reply.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The question of outside access doors to the toilets at the Clapham Primary School was referred to the Public Buildings Department some time ago, as a similar problem exists not only in five other schools of the same design but also in

a number of schools scattered throughout the State. The use of toilets when grounds are used for sporting activities becomes a problem of responsibility and supervision, which has caused considerable difficulty. The Public Buildings Department is now submitting its proposals to the Education Department for urgent consideration. Two other projects at this school have also been considered by the two departments, namely, modifications to the staff room facilities and alterations to an activity room. It is intended to combine these three works and to engage a private architect to prepare design documents. It is hoped that the modifications involved can be commenced early next year.

#### TUMBY BAY JETTY

Mr. CARNIE: I believe that the Marine and Harbors Department plans to demolish part of the Tumby Bay jetty. The Minister of Marine may have seen recent reports of mineral discoveries near Tumby Bay which, if they prove to be of worth, could mean that this jetty may be needed and, indeed, that it may need up-grading. Will the Minister therefore delay any action being taken on the Tumby Bay jetty until the extent and grade of these mineral deposits are known?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am not aware of any plans, although there may well be some, to demolish part of the Tumby Bay jetty. In view of the honourable member's question, I shall be happy to examine the matter and bring down a report.

#### COMPULSORY UNIONISM

Mr. HALL: Recently, the member for Flinders has twice asked questions about the Government's attitude towards preference to unionists or compulsory unionism. I have before me a copy of Industrial Instruction No. 300 entitled "Preference to unionists", issued over the name of the Chairman of the Public Service Board. The main part of the instruction is the same as that contained in a circular issued in 1965, to which the member for Flinders referred earlier this session. The more recent instruction, dated June 22, 1970, states:

Heads of departments are informed that Cabinet has decided that preference in obtaining employment shall be given to members of unions. Therefore, a non-unionist shall not be engaged for any work to the exclusion of a well conducted unionist if that unionist is adequately experienced in and competent to perform the work. Cabinet also desires that, where possible, present employees who are not unionists be encouraged to join appropriate unions. It is intended that the provisions of this instruction shall apply to all persons (other

than juniors, graduates, etc., applying for employment on completing studies) seeking employment in any department and to all Government employees.

The following is the new section:

It is not intended that this instruction should apply to the detriment of a person who produces evidence that he is a conscientious objector to union membership on religious grounds. Industrial Instruction No. 271 is hereby cancelled.

I draw the Premier's attention to the last important section, from which one could draw the strong inference that it will be applied to the detriment of persons who have no objections on religious grounds to joining a union. Indeed, it could have no other meaning. As the Government considers that, if persons are unemployed or in any other particularly difficult circumstance, preference will be used against them, and as the Government considers that a person must have a union ticket as a meal ticket, will the Premier say what coercion will be used against present employees of the Government who are not union members? Further, will the Government extend valid objections to objections on other than religious grounds, in view of the Premier's statement that he considers a person's conscience (not only an objection on religious grounds) to be sufficient justification for refusing to register for National Service?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It has been the tradition that Governments of this State, including those led by liberal rather than conservative Premiers, have realized the benefits that accrue to the State from having employees involved in the work of trade unions. Indeed, in the past Liberal leaders in this State have been prominent in assisting the establishment of trade unions to obtain for the State the kind of industrial stability that is a major basis for attracting industry and employment here. Sir, the Government is returning to a position regarding industrial instructions that has obtained during much of this State's history, that position having been revoked only by the Governments headed by the present Leader of the Opposition and his predecessor. In our instruction we are making a provision similar to that adopted by major industries in this State.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: But milder.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Our provision is much milder than the provision insisted on by General Motors-Holden's. The Government considers that people who obtain the benefits of representation by trade unions ought to contribute to the cost of obtaining those

benefits and we consider it wrong for such people to load upon their fellow workers the financial responsibility of representation to obtain improved conditions and then simply to say, "Well, I am just going to object. The rest of you can pay for it and I will take the benefits." We do not consider that that is a sensible basis on which people should proceed and, consequently, although a provision is made that we will countenance a religious basis for objection, otherwise we consider that persons ought to be in a union. This will be the clear attitude of the Government to those employed by government, just as it is the attitude of major industries in South Australia to their employees.

#### RIDGEHAVEN SCHOOL

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked on July 23 about the stage that has been reached in the establishment of a technical high school at Ridgehaven?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Education Department is well aware of the need to provide additional secondary schools in the Ridgehaven and Tea Tree Gully area to relieve the pressure on Modbury High School and to cater for the rapidly expanding school population in that district. It is intended to include in the first instance one such school on the 1970-71 design programme. A brief is being prepared for submission to the Public Buildings Department in order that that department may prepare the necessary sketch plans.

#### NARACOORTE REMEDIAL CLASS

Mr. RODDA: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question, asked last week, regarding the provision of a remedial class at the Naracoorte Primary School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It is not intended to form a remedial class at Naracoorte Primary School, as the children are being catered for in the normal classroom situation. However, there are sufficient children for an opportunity class and this will be established as from the beginning of the third term this year. Accommodation and a suitable teacher are available. As soon as the teacher is appointed, an officer of the Psychology Branch of the Education Department will visit Naracoorte to meet and talk to parents.

#### NURSES

Dr. TONKIN: As one reason given for the present critical and alarming shortage of hospital beds in South Australia is the shortage

of junior trained staff, will the Attorney-General ask the Minister of Health how many nurses who completed their training at the Royal Adelaide Hospital last year are still on the hospital staff and what action is being taken to encourage new graduates to join the trained staff of the hospital?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain that information from my colleague.

#### NEPABUNNA MISSION

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs a reply to my recent question about the provision of additional equipment at the Nepabunna Mission?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The matter of the request from Nepabunna Mission has been considered fully by the Aboriginal Affairs Board. The board recommended that, subject to obtaining a guarantee by the United Aborigines Mission Incorporated to furnish competent maintenance staff acceptable to the department, Commonwealth funds be sought to provide Aboriginal housing, with associated water and electrical supplies and an adequate sewerage system. On April 30, 1970, approval was given by the then Minister of Aboriginal Affairs for this department to commence negotiations with the United Aborigines Mission Incorporated, in accordance with the recommendation of the board. There has been some delay in the commencement of these negotiations due, I am informed, to the amalgamation of the former Departments of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs and to other reasons. Arrangements were made for the negotiations to commence on July 24, 1970. When the terms are agreed upon, a submission will be forwarded to the Commonwealth Government seeking finance to implement the total housing and associated services project at the Nepabunna Mission.

#### MARDEN HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. SLATER: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked recently about completion and occupation of the Marden High School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: After listening to the honourable member, I think he should be making representations to the Minister of Health, and I wish him a speedy recovery. The reply to his question is that, although the Marden High School is expected to be completed in September this year, it will not be occupied until the first school day next year.

#### CIGARETTES

Mr. MATHWIN: As the dangers of smoking are all too apparent and it is important that all possible action be taken to point out these dangers, particularly to young people, will the Premier consider having warnings of these dangers displayed on the packets of brands of cigarettes that are advertised on radio and television?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Basically, this is a question for the Minister of Health, and I will refer it to my colleague.

#### INDUSTRIAL PROMOTION

Mr. BECKER: The Premier has been reported in the press as saying that an additional appointment will be made by the Government of a roving ambassador to assist this State's Attorney-General in London to promote South Australia's potential overseas. Can the Premier say whether an advertisement seeking applicants for this position will be placed in the newspapers?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I think the honourable member means the Agent-General in London: we have the Attorney-General here and do not intend to export him. I have received a submission from the Public Service Board only this morning about this position and a similar position in the Asian area; but it has yet to be considered by Cabinet, so I cannot fully reply to the honourable member about it now. The recommendation of the board is that this not be a Public Service position, and it makes that recommendation on the basis of information it has received from the Commonwealth Department of Trade. When Cabinet has made a decision I will give the honourable member a full reply.

#### SOUTH-EASTERN FREEWAY

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my question of July 23 about the use of Highways Department road-making machinery on the South-Eastern Freeway?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Most of the heavy equipment that was withdrawn from the freeway before the winter was, in fact, hired from private contractors. The Highways Department units removed are either being repaired or being used on other projects. A substantial number of heavy earth-moving machines is still working between Stirling and Hahndorf, and the equipment numbers will be built up again when weather conditions become more suitable. There will be no additional length of the South-Eastern Freeway open to traffic by the

end of the coming summer. The Stirling-Verdun section is the next length to be opened and this will be during early 1972.

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my recent question about the difficulty experienced by motorists in seeing dividing lines on the South-Eastern Freeway?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Commissioner of Highways reports that officers of his department realize that road marking loses some effectiveness under adverse conditions such as occur with a wet pavement and reflected light. Investigations are already proceeding to determine whether more suitable lane markers are available, so as to increase the visibility of lane lines under these conditions. It is the objective of the Highways Department to provide the most modern facilities to make operation of the freeway as safe as possible, and the further improvements will be carried out if more suitable markers are available.

#### PIANO SALESMAN

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I have received a complaint from a constituent of mine, a solicitor in the Barossa Valley, concerning the activities of a representative of Atlas Piano Services, a company which I believe is based in Canberra. The practice of this salesman (if we can call him that) is to telephone a householder, ascertain whether he has a piano, and, if he has, offer to sell it for him at a fairly high price. In one instance the price was \$1,200. Having gained access to the house, the salesman tells the householder that the piano needs extensive repairs. He then removes the keyboard section. One quote that was given was \$268 for repairs. The salesman will accept a cheque immediately for the repairs, and in one or two cases this has been given to him. He then asks the householder to sign a contract giving him an option to purchase. In one case the keyboard section was removed and was to be returned within seven days (by July 8) but this has not been done. Apparently, no pianos are sold. Inquiries have been made of piano dealers, who indicate that repairs to a keyboard section would not cost anything like the sum charged by this salesman. I believe that he was questioned by the Nuriootpa police, but that he said he would not answer questions and that he had a letter from a Canberra solicitor. As these activities seem to be most questionable, will the Attorney-General examine them and take any action necessary to curb them?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will investigate these activities to ascertain what action can be taken to remedy the situation.

#### HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Mr. PAYNE: A group of about 30 Housing Trust cottage flats is situated near Walter Avenue, Mitchell Park, in my district. The flats are referred to as "Handicapped Village", because the people living in these flats are physically handicapped and many are confined to wheelchairs. In spite of their severe handicap these people have formed a social club, and wish to go on outings to National Park, Belair, and Moana. Transport is no problem, because special buses are available from a Government department, but there are no suitable toilet facilities at these places for handicapped people. Will the Minister of Social Welfare arrange to provide suitable toilet facilities to cater for these handicapped people (and other handicapped people) at these places?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I think all members would agree that the initiative displayed by these people, who suffer from such handicaps and who are trying to keep their interest in life and arrange outings for themselves, is to be greatly commended. I understand the difficulties that confront them with respect to inadequate toilet facilities at places to which excursion trips may be arranged. I do not know what can be done, but I shall investigate the matter, which will have my most sympathetic consideration.

#### EXCURSION FARES

Mr. VENNING: I guess the Minister of Roads and Transport knows that within a few weeks there will be a Royal Show in this State from September 4 to September 12 inclusive. Will the Minister confer with the Railways Commissioner to ascertain whether it is possible, during that period, to make rail concession fares available to rural people? The show will be held during the school holidays but, although I realize that children travelling during the school vacation can obtain concessions, these do not apply to parents. It would assist people in rural areas, particularly at this time, if some consideration could be given to running special trains, similar to those that operated years ago, as they proved of great benefit to people living in rural areas. Will the Minister ascertain whether it is possible to run special day excursion trains to serve country people wishing to visit the Royal Show?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am not sure whether the honourable member is asking for excursion fares or special trains.

Mr. Venning: Excursion fares.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: He is asking merely for excursion fares and not special trains; I shall be pleased to take up the matter.

#### AGED COTTAGE HOMES

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Attorney-General recently referred to Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated, in what I would consider to be a critical manner, regarding its agreements with tenants. Following questions asked by me and others in this House and following certain statements that have been made in the matter, the Attorney-General has been negotiating, as he calls it, with Aged Cottage Homes. As this organization, as far as I know, only has to deal with the Commonwealth Government, I do not see where the State Government fits into this at all.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member cannot comment; he must now ask his question.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I am trying not to argue the point but simply to express the point of view that I have expressed before in leading up to my question. The Attorney-General has referred to negotiations, and he has met members of the board of Aged Cottage Homes who have received correspondence from time to time from the Chief Secretary. The last letter members received stated, in part:

It will also be necessary to communicate with those occupants who may be concerned in the matter. I will feel free, by reason of the last paragraph in your letter, to make available to any occupants who may be interested the contents of your letter and the preceding correspondence and the formal statement of your client as a whole.

As Aged Cottage Homes has not admitted that the State Government has a right to inquire into its dealings and has at the same time strenuously (and, I think, effectively) defended its attitude as being a high-minded and sensible one, this passage in the letter seems to me to be rather aggressive, and I am wondering whether it means that the Chief Secretary or the Attorney-General intends to canvass tenants of the organization or whether it does not mean that at all but simply means that the correspondence will be available to those who are interested. I remind the Attorney-General and the House that some time ago I asked on behalf of Aged Cottage Homes for the names of the tenants who were worried about this matter, and the Attorney-General told me that he could not give me those names. I point out, however, that many people attended a meeting which, I think, was held as a pre-election meeting (at any rate, it was a meeting attended by

the people concerned), yet the Attorney-General says he cannot give me the names, whereas from the letter to which I have referred names are obviously available to the Attorney-General.

Mr. Langley: In whose district is this?

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Aged Cottage Homes organization spreads over many districts, as the honourable member should know.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member cannot answer an interjection; he is out of order in doing so.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Does this suggest that, on the part of the Government, there will be any canvass of tenants?

The Hon. L. J. KING: First, let me say that I made my attitude to this matter clear in my maiden speech and subsequently in answers to questions asked by the honourable member and also by the member for Mitcham. It is for the honourable member to assess, as he wishes, how he terms that attitude. He chooses to term it critical, but I have already explained my interest in the matter. Concerning the interest of the State Government, let me say at once that, whatever may be the attitude of other people, I take the view that the State Government has an interest in the welfare of all the people of this State, particularly the welfare of aged people who may not always be in as good a position as others to protect their own interests. I make no apology for the fact that, as a Minister, I have taken an interest in this matter.

For that reason, I have been in consultation with the Chief Secretary and have made available the good offices of the Government to try to negotiate a satisfactory settlement of the issues that exist in this area. I intend to contact the occupants of Aged Cottage Homes who were members of a deputation to the Chief Secretary, and to communicate to them details of the correspondence that has been exchanged, including the five-page explanatory statement of Aged Cottage Homes. Also, I intend to ask of those occupants who formed the deputation whether they wish me to take up any further matter with the management of Aged Cottage Homes, and I intend to invite them to indicate to the Chief Secretary whether any other occupants of the homes may wish to have matters taken up with the management. My purpose in the matter is to try to effect a satisfactory solution of the problems that have arisen, and I certainly do not intend to undertake (nor does the Chief Secretary intend to



undertake), on behalf of the Government, any canvass of occupants associated with Aged Cottage Homes.

### INSURANCE

Mr. LANGLEY: An article appeared in this morning's *Advertiser*, headed "Insurance Company Crashes" and stating, in part:

Motor vehicle insurer, Cambridge Insurance Company Proprietary Limited, was wound up yesterday with debts of more than \$309,000.

Is the Premier considering taking steps to ensure that insurance companies in this State are in a sound financial position and that their commitments to policy holders can be met?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: A Bill, of which notice has been given, will deal with one aspect of this matter and the House will probably have an opportunity to consider it later today. We have no general control in South Australia of insurance companies except under the Companies Act and this applies to various companies and not only to insurance companies. I will consult with the Attorney-General as to whether any action under the Companies Act should be taken in this case and whether, in view of what has happened on this occasion and of previous failures of some insurance companies and insurance brokers, it is advisable to introduce further legislation on the matter.

### NEW INDUSTRY

Mr. HALL: Last week, I asked the Premier a question about Fasson Proprietary Limited, a company with which negotiations had proceeded while I was head of the previous Government concerning its establishing in South Australia. As, since that time, the Premier has announced that this company will establish here, I shall be grateful if he will give me any information that he can concerning the extent of its establishment.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The major piece of machinery to be used by Fasson is designed and manufactured in Germany. Fasson originally intended to order this machine in Germany which would have permitted production to commence at Elizabeth in December, 1971. It has now been ascertained that a Sydney manufacturer has been licensed by the German company to manufacture this type of machine. Subject to satisfactory negotiations with the Sydney manufacturer, Fasson is expected to be able to install the machine and commence production in July, 1971. The plant is expected to employ 70 people hired locally and provision will be made to ultimately increase factory capacity by 300 per cent. Optimum production levels will depend on

the creation of a large export market and the company will be assisted in this field by the South Australian Government.

### PORT ADELAIDE TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Mr. RYAN: For a considerable time, the Port Adelaide Girls Technical High School has been negotiating with the Education Department with regard to establishing a playing arena on about 14 acres of land that was formerly owned by the Marine and Harbours Department. After many representations had been made to that department, it transferred the land to the Education Department so that a playing field for this school could be established. After long and protracted negotiations about the matter, the Education Department asked the Public Buildings Department to survey the land involved as a first step towards providing the playing field. It was then found out that the Highways Department was interested in the land. As a result, there may be a long delay before the Highways Department decides whether it will continue to be interested in the land. In view of the long delay involved in developing this playing arena for the school, will the Minister of Roads and Transport find out from the Highways Department what it intends with regard to this piece of land?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Although this sounds a rather complex problem, no matter how complex it is I will get the information for the honourable member.

### PROSPECT INTERSECTION

Mr. CUMBE: I refer to the intersection of the Main North and Regency Roads, Prospect, both of which have been widened, Regency Road having been widened in recent years. However, at the traffic lights at this intersection there is still a bottleneck. Recently, land on two sides of the intersection has been acquired by the Highways Department. The third side of the intersection is already rounded where the new Bank of Adelaide building has been erected, but still further acquisitions of land and property must be made. Will the Minister of Roads and Transport obtain a report on what progress has been made in overcoming this bottleneck, and set out the likely programme of work to complete this job?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be pleased to do so. I concur with the honourable member: I think this intersection certainly ranks with the worst intersections in the metropolitan area. As well as getting the information, if it is humanly possible I will expedite any remedial work that needs to be done to solve the problem.

### PETROL TAX

Mr. CRIMES: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to a recent question of the member for Mawson about petrol tax?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: At the Premier's Conference in June, 1970, the Premier stressed the need to provide more flexibility in the use of funds for roads and transport to ensure that moneys would be available to develop public transit systems. In planning the requirements for transportation in large urban areas, the Premier emphasized the fact that it is no longer reasonable to regard separately the provisions for roads and highways, and the provisions for public transport.

### WILD LIFE CONSERVATION

Mr. EASTICK: A Commonwealth House of Representatives Select Committee has been appointed to inquire into the following matters concerning wild life conservation:

- a. The need for an urgent and comprehensive survey of wild life populations including birds, mammals of the land and water, and reptiles, and their ecology to enable conservation measures to be effectively applied to threatened species.
- b. The adequacy of the several systems of national parks, reserves, etc., of the States and Territories to ensure that at least minimum areas of the major animal habitats and the wild life of the continent are preserved, held securely, and are properly managed in the national interest.
- c. The effects of pollution and the widespread use of pesticides on wild life population.
- d. The effect on the population of kangaroos of the trade in meat and hides and the effect of other industrial exploitation on wild life.
- e. The need for international and interstate agreements for the effective conservation of migratory animals.
- f. The threat presented to wild life by the large numbers of domestic animals gone wild, particularly in northern Australia.
- g. The need for a Commonwealth wild life conservation authority.

The resolution on the appointment of the committee provides "that the committee recognize the control in these matters exercised by the States and seek their co-operation in all relevant aspects". Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture whether the Government intends, through the appropriate departments, to make a submission to this committee? Also, what does the Government think about the possibility of the creation of a Commonwealth wild life conservation authority usurping State powers?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As well as the Minister of Agriculture, this matter concerns the Minister of Lands, as the Minister responsible for national parks in this State, and possibly the Minister of Local Government, who is concerned with pollution, as that comes within the province of the State Planning Office. I shall be happy to refer the honourable member's question to these departments and to obtain a reply for him.

### BERRI CARAVAN PARK

Mr. CURREN: Some time ago the Berri council decided to purchase a fruit property near the town of Berri on which to establish a caravan park and recreation facilities. Can the Minister of Local Government say whether the Government will subsidize the purchase price of this land?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Yes, the Government is not only prepared to do that but has also approved a grant of \$12,500 under the Public Parks Act to the Berri council for the extension of recreation reserves. All that is now required is for the council to proceed with the necessary machinery matters involved in publishing in the *Government Gazette* that this land will be used for parks or recreation areas. When that is done, the money will be made available to the council.

### LANGHORNE CREEK WATER BASIN

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Premier, as Minister of Development, a reply to my recent question about the Langhorne Creek Basin?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Investigations of the Milang-Langhorne Creek ground-water basin this year have been severely restricted due to lack of geological staff. One bore hole has been drilled and two pump tests carried out. Periodic readings of water levels in a number of observation bores are being taken, but no proper analysis of data so far obtained has been made. Additional resignations in the last month have made it impossible to programme further work in this area in the immediate future, but it may be possible to re-assign staff to the area following completion of the present phase of technical investigations on the Northern Adelaide Plains.

### PORT PIRIE SCHOOLS

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked recently regarding the paving at the Port Pirie High School and at the Warnertown Primary School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: A group contract for paving at various schools including Port Pirie High School and Warnertown

Primary School has been let. The contractor has started at the most northerly of these, at Leigh Creek, and is working south. It is considered desirable that the programme be maintained in this way for reasons of economy and expediency. It is hoped that the work at Port Pirie and Warnertown will commence in about four to five weeks.

#### BIRDWOOD MATRICULATION CLASS

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Will the Minister of Education see whether a Matriculation class could be established at the Birdwood High School, as I have had repeated requests from school and parent bodies regarding this matter?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The annual review of the establishment of new Matriculation classes is being undertaken at present, and the necessary information to enable it to take place is being gathered. I will bring the honourable member's question to the attention of the departmental officers, and I will certainly consider the possibility of establishing a Matriculation class at this school. The honourable member will appreciate the problems that exist in this area and the difficulty facing the department in establishing more than five or six Matriculation classes in any one year. However, I am concerned to ensure that the programme of establishing Matriculation classes in country schools, and particularly in some metropolitan technical high schools, is proceeded with as rapidly as possible.

#### PROCLAMATION DAY

Mr. BECKER: I understand that the Government has received requests for an additional public holiday, and that a review is being undertaken. As the celebration of the State's Proclamation has been held in my district every year since 1836, will the Premier assure me that the Proclamation Day holiday will be retained?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I seem to remember that some alterations were made regarding this last year. At any rate, the matter will be examined. Naturally enough, days of historical importance to South Australia are important to the Government.

#### MANOORA RAILWAY DAMS

Mr. EASTICK: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport obtain from his officers a report as to the current need for the Manoora railway dams? Will they be required for future railway business, and what is their capacity?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be pleased to obtain that information for the honourable member.

#### WISANGER WATER SUPPLY

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The Wisanger district (on Kangaroo Island) suffers severely from lack of water. Only seven or eight of its residents have applied for water to be connected to their properties, and some of them have been offered a supply by the Engineering and Water Supply Department. Following that offer, I met the residents and, while those who were offered water were pleased with the prospect of getting water, they were concerned that some of their neighbours would not be supplied because their properties are too high, even though they are getting water from the mains through their own polythene lines. That does not show that such persons can be served satisfactorily, but it is an indication. I have written to the Minister of Works more than once about this matter, and I know that he is considering it. As the season is particularly dry and dams on Kangaroo Island have not filled, can the Minister say whether I may expect an early reply?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I recall this matter and share the honourable member's concern about the residents of the area. I have not yet received a report from my department but, as the honourable member has now raised the matter, I will have it treated as urgent. If I cannot give the honourable member information this afternoon, I will try to give it tomorrow.

#### QUORN ROAD

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my question about work to be undertaken on the Quorn-Wilmington road?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Depending on the availability of funds, it is proposed to commence reconstructing and sealing the Wilmington-Quorn Main Road 156 in the 1971-72 financial year. At this stage, it is intended to undertake the work through the resources of the two councils concerned, the District Council of Kanyaka-Quorn and District Council of Wilmington, and it is expected that works will be completed during the 1974-75 financial year.

#### MURRAY RIVER TRIBUTARIES

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question about the flow into the Murray River from the Darling River and other tributaries of the Murray?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The flows into the Murray River from the main tributaries are as follows:

<i>Junction</i>	<i>Flow acre feet</i>
Darling River at Burtundy . .	65,000
Murrumbidgee River at Balranald	1,400,000
Murray River below Wakool Junction . . . . .	3,816,000
Water flowing to South Australia	4,470,977

The Murray River discharge below Wakool Junction includes the contribution from all the tributaries upstream, such as the Mitta Mitta, Kiewa, Ovens, Goulburn, Campaspe, Loddon and Edward Rivers.

### PIPES

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my question of July 22 about old Engineering and Water Supply Department pipes alongside the Port Germain highway?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The pipes in question were sold to a company by the Engineering and Water Supply Department. The pipes were sold on an *in situ* basis; that is, the purchaser removes the pipes from the road reserve if and when he is able to dispose of them. The purchaser has refused to remove the pipes other than in this way. Unfortunately, councils, in which road reserves are vested, have no power to order the removal of the pipes. In view of this, the Local Government Act Revision Committee considered this problem and recommended that any material left on a road reserve without licence for longer than 28 days should become the property of the council. This would enable a council either to order the removal of the material or to sell it and retain the proceeds. Consideration will be given to the introduction of this legislation.

### POLITICAL LEVY

Mr. MATHWIN: Yesterday the Minister of Labour and Industry stated, when replying to my question about political levies, that he had never heard of this matter. Perhaps I may assist the Minister by referring him to the Amalgamated Engineering Union rule book, which has been in force since September, 1967. Page 50 states—

The SPEAKER: Order! I do not think the honourable member can ask the Minister to reply to a question from a rule book of a trade union.

Mr. MATHWIN: Very well, Sir. This rule book states that the political levy is drawn. Can the Minister say whether payment of the political levy is compulsory and, if it is not, why it is deducted from the workers' wages?

The SPEAKER: Does the Minister desire to reply to that question?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I think the honourable member still is not clear about the relationship in which he intends to put this question. I think he may be confusing a political levy with sustentation fees which some unions pay to the Trades and Labor Council and the Australian Labor Party and which are a matter between union members and the particular union. I am not exactly sure, from the loose reference that the honourable member has given today, what he wants to know. If he makes the position clearer, I shall be pleased to reply again, but that is all I can say at this stage.

### KEITH SUBWAY

Mr. RODDA: The local residents and persons employed in the Railways Department are grateful for the action taken to lengthen the railway yards at Keith, which has now been added to my district. However, a subway is needed so that pedestrians can avoid walking across the tracks, and I understand that the Minister of Roads and Transport has already corresponded with the council about this matter. Can the Minister say whether any progress has been made towards providing this facility, which I understand will be expensive?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am relying completely on my memory when I say that the subway has been approved and will be installed in the forthcoming year at a cost of \$40,000. However, I will check those details and, if they are not correct, I will inform the honourable member.

### TEACHER TRANSFER

Mr. COUMBE: I am only too sadly aware of the difficulty experienced each year in the Education Department in placing teachers in certain schools and in relation to transfers. This week I had referred to me the case of a teacher who had applied for a future transfer from Whyalla. Unfortunately, she was unexpectedly given only 24 hours' notice to leave her class at Whyalla, make domestic arrangements, pack clothes, and travel 300 miles to the city to take up an appointment. Although this may be an isolated case, will the Minister of Education consider allowing sufficient notice to be given of transfers that occur during the term (not at the end of the term); so that inconvenience will not be caused to teachers? As I am sure the Minister realizes that transfers at short notice lead to personal difficulties, will he ask his officers to ensure that longer notice is given wherever possible?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I have asked that that be done. If the honourable member will give me further details of the transfer he has mentioned I shall be pleased to ascertain what happened, and let him have a reply.

#### WHEAT AND BARLEY

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to the question I asked on July 22 about when barley and wheat dividends will be paid?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The report that I have received from my colleague covers not only this question but also the question asked by the member for Rocky River. The Australian Wheat Board states that discussions are currently being held with the Commonwealth Government concerning claims in respect of the undermentioned incomplete wheat pools. Subject to the outcome of these discussions, it is expected that final payments will be as follows:

29 Pool (season 1965-66)—A very small amount, but not more than  $\frac{1}{2}$ c a bushel.

30 Pool (season 1966-67)—About 1c a bushel.

1967-68 Pool—About 1.3c a bushel.

On present indications it seems likely that the second payment from the 1968-69 wheat pool will be about 7c a bushel, and that this will not be paid until about July, 1971.

With regard to barley, the final advance on barley of the No. 30 pool, season 1968-69, will be paid on Friday, August 14, 1970, when individual cheques will be posted direct to all growers. The final advance will be paid at the following rates:

Bagged barley—5.32c a bushel on all varieties and grades.

Bulk barley—4.81c a bushel on grades received in bulk.

#### WOOMERA ROAD

Mr. GUNN: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my question of July 21 about sealing the Port Augusta to Woomera road?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Depending on the availability of funds, it is intended to complete the construction and sealing of the road between Port Augusta and Woomera within the next five-year period. Work will commence shortly on the 30-mile length between Port Augusta and Hesso and on a 12-mile section extending southward from the end of the present sealed road at Wirrappa.

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#### STRATHALBYN POLICE STATION

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Attorney-General obtained a reply from the Chief Secretary to the question I asked on July 15 about a new police station at Strathalbyn?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Chief Secretary states that land has been acquired in Commercial Road, Strathalbyn, as the site of a new police station, courthouse and residence. Approval has been given for the Police Department to proceed, through the Public Buildings Department, to prepare plans for the new buildings. The actual erection of the buildings will, of course, depend upon the availability of Government moneys.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on the motion for adoption.

(Continued from July 28. Page 371.)

Mr. EVANS (Fisher): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply to the Speech given so ably by His Excellency the Governor's Deputy, Sir Mellis Napier. I join with others in expressing my regret at the recent illness of His Excellency the Governor, but we are all pleased that he is well on the way to a quick recovery. I sincerely appreciate the help that you, Mr. Speaker, have given to me during the short time that you have been Speaker, and I congratulate you on being appointed to the highest honour that can be bestowed by this House. I congratulate the Government on its election and I hope that it enjoys a short term of office, although while the Labor Party is in office we will respect it as a Government.

I sincerely appreciate the help that I am sure Ministers will give during the next few months (if it be that long) or for the next three years, if the Government's term extends that long. I know that Ministers will do their best to govern this State in the way that they think best for the State, although I am sure that we will not always agree with them. I have been a member for only a short time, but I congratulate all new members on being elected. I also congratulate them on the able way in which they have spoken in this Chamber, and I am sure that much ability is present among them.

I thank those people who helped me, particularly those in the District of Fisher, during the campaign preceding the recent State election. As I had accepted other responsibilities,

I did not have as much time as I normally have to devote to the campaign in my district, but I appreciate the help that was given to me by many people in my district. I make the same promise now as I have made before: I shall represent all the people of the District of Fisher and the people of South Australia and help in any way I can.

Mr. McKee: They won't believe you.

Mr. EVANS: It is not a matter of whether they will or will not. I know that the member for Port Pirie seldom believes anyone. To the Clerk of the House, the Acting Clerk and staff, I express my sincere thanks for the help they have given me during the last 2½ years, and I know they will always help me in the future. I apologize to *Hansard* for the work it has to do in keeping up with me at times and in trying to make my speeches read more sensibly than perhaps they are sometimes put.

In my area there are certain problems, just as there would be problems in the district of the member for Mawson and perhaps those of the members for Tea Tree Gully and Elizabeth. In districts where there are developing areas, I believe there are more problems for a member of Parliament than there are for a member who represents established areas. In Blackwood and the surrounding area, one of the great problems at present is the need to install sewerage, and I am pleased to see that the Public Works Committee has recommended the first stage of a sewerage scheme for this area. I know that the people of the area as well as I will be pleased when the scheme is completed. As it will be a long-term project, to be carried out in three stages, it will be many years before the work is completed. However, at least the present project is a step in the right direction.

I now refer to those parts of the Hills that are considered to be a playground for the city people. People living in these areas are perhaps expected to make sacrifices, to preserve the scenery that the city people like to admire, and to supply the parks where city people like to spend weekends, engaging in parties or picnics. Although the Hills people appreciate others using these areas, local residents find some things hard to take. The first matter to which I refer is the great danger that exists during the summer months when people often show little respect towards those who have their homes and properties in the Hills. As most of the bush fires that occur start in picnic grounds, national parks or general

recreational areas, I believe that it is a responsibility of the Government and those administering our national parks, or whichever authority owns the properties concerned, to provide fire breaks around those properties.

I express my satisfaction with the way in which the Engineering and Water Supply Department provides fire breaks around its properties in catchment areas so that if a fire breaks out there is some chance of controlling it before it causes damage to neighbouring properties. If a farm is burnt out, the farmer loses his home, sheds and paddock feed, and a considerable financial burden is placed on him. The person responsible for lighting a fire is seldom caught, and there is little chance that a farmer will be compensated for his loss of feed and other property. The Engineering and Water Supply Department is really the only department that effectively tries to protect its property and, therefore, neighbouring properties from fire.

The national park at Belair is probably the source of most fires that start in the Blackwood and Stirling areas, and over the years many people in the vicinity have requested that a fire break be provided around this park. Some people may object to this and say that the natural beauty would be destroyed if such a fire break were provided, but it is a large park and a chain-wide break around it would not affect its natural beauty. A problem exists just outside my district in that of the member for Heysen, an area which I recently represented and which I am sure is in good hands (possibly nearly as good as those it was in in the past): I refer to the Kuitpo Colony forest areas.

Many councils in the Hills are faced with a problem concerning Woods and Forests Department forests in agricultural areas. The farmers concerned are confronted with the problem of vermin and pests, which breed in forest areas, coming on to their land. In the past, no action has been taken by the department to construct vermin-proof fencing at the common boundary between its property and that of the adjoining landholder. In the past, if a landholder wished to make his property vermin proof, he would have to do the work himself.

However, when I previously asked a question about this matter the Minister concerned assured me that if a farmer were to make his property vermin proof the department would be happy to co-operate. I accept this as a sensible and sane approach to the matter.

Another problem associated with land acquired by the Government relates to noxious weeds and particularly to the control of African daisy. No effective measures are taken to control noxious weeds on land owned by the Government. Indeed, as a landholder myself, I tend to adopt the attitude: "What is the use of cleaning up the weeds on my property if the adjoining land belonging to the Government has noxious weeds on it?" Who will take the responsibility here: is it the landholder or the Government?

The Government gives councils power to make laws, but councils cannot control this matter. In many cases the land on which noxious weeds are found is completely inaccessible, preventing the use of any of the conventional methods of weed control, and weeds must be controlled more or less by hand picking. If the Government or the council concerned does not take the responsibility in relation to noxious weeds on such land, why should an adjoining landholder have to control the weeds on his property, if he is not using that land at the time for agricultural purposes? I believe that noxious weeds, particularly African daisy, constitute a serious problem on the eastern slopes of the Adelaide Hills that will not be solved easily, and I believe that the Government departments concerned should set an example if they wish others to co-operate.

Last year, the Government to which I belonged issued an instruction through the Engineering and Water Supply Department regarding water catchment areas. This instruction, with which I agreed at the time and with which I still agree, represented an interim measure until some better method of controlling pollution and of finding out exactly the source of that pollution could be found. I do not envy the present Minister in charge of this matter, and I will not be hurling any abuse at him regarding the action that should be taken, but this matter should be investigated thoroughly before any further action is, in fact, taken. The instruction given provided that no subdivision should be carried out in the water catchment areas of the Hills involving under 20 acres except where a title existed before April 1, 1970. If a farmer or someone else wishes to cut off an acre or more from a title involving more than 20 acres, he can do so; but, apart from that, no subdivision under 20 acres can be carried out in any area outside the defined township area.

There is much ill-feeling in the Hills districts regarding the interpretation of "township area",

and I think the members for Heysen and Kavel would support me here. It was originally believed that the township areas would be defined and that three groups of people would be involved in defining a township area, namely, the State Planning Office, the Engineering and Water Supply Department, and the local district council or corporation concerned. However, it seems that the instruction will be implemented simply by the Engineering and Water Supply Department's agreeing to the decision of the State Planning Office. The Minister of Works is shaking his head, so I hope that this is not the case. However, many people in the Hills areas concerned believe that a council will be told what is the extent of a township area and that that is all there is to it. Some of the old areas defined as township areas are too small. In some cases they may be too big. However, I point out to the Minister that there is much dissatisfaction in the Hills about this matter. At a public meeting attended by 248 people, I said that, if pollution is the problem in the Hills that I believe it is, we should stop all subdivision within the catchment areas except within the township areas. Of the 248 people, 17 agreed with me and 231 did not. However, I do not always agree that the majority is right in cases such as this. Many people are personally involved, and I know how they will suffer through action in this respect but, in my opinion, we cannot justify cutting up the Hills into 20-acre allotments, which is virtually the position under the present provision. That is only a short-term policy until we find a better method. Therefore, I strongly believe that, if pollution is as serious as we believe it to be, we should not have any subdivision within the catchment areas except within the township boundaries.

Another problem is that, if a subdivider or some big combine buys 100 acres in a catchment area and the council permits the building of houses if the body concerned puts in its own treatment works, I doubt whether the Engineering and Water Supply Department or the State Planning Office can stop this if it is done under strata title. In other words, I doubt whether the regulations can stop large estates of 100 acres being cut into allotments on which houses are built and sold under strata title. I understand that some people have invested much money in buying land in the residential areas of the Hills, and some people may think of this method of overcoming the regulations. Therefore, I think it would be wise for the Minister to look into

this matter and try to prevent people finding a way around the regulations, to the detriment of ordinary people who have paid money for a property.

I believe that the biggest mistake we made in Parliament was to provide reticulated water in the Hills catchment area. Although this area has a rainfall of over 40in. a year, which is one of the highest rainfalls in the State, reticulated water was brought in, which meant that people installed septic tanks and bought automatic washing machines. Much more effluent flowed from septic tanks and there was a greater use of indestructible detergents that poured into the reservoirs from the areas of Stirling, Crafers, Heathfield (where I live), and Bridge-water. The provision of reticulated water was possibly a mistake. If we had realized then that pollution would be a problem, we could have restricted subdivision and not provided reticulated water. However, we cannot reverse what has happened. At present church organizations conduct youth club activities right on the edge of the streams that run into reservoirs, and that is wrong. Although most of the church groups do good work, their presence in these areas cannot be justified. We must say to farmers, "You cannot keep pigs or cows unless you do certain things to control pollution," while we allow other people to use the area as a playground during weekends throughout the year.

The National Fitness Council is a great body doing excellent work, and it should be given more assistance. However, it has just opened a new sports stadium, at a cost of about \$30,000, on the bank of the Onkaparinga River. Everything is good about this except that the site is on the bank of a stream that flows into the mouth of a reservoir. The Commonwealth Government has established the Woodside Army Camp in the catchment area of the Hills reservoirs. I know that the camp has a treatment works but the Engineering and Water Supply Department engineers say that effluent from any treatment works (whether a septic tank or from the Woodside Army Camp) causes the eutrophic situation that we have in our reservoirs. Pollution is caused by algae which feeds on nitrogen (I think that the department referred to pollution of water by nutrients). Therefore, how can we justify having youth clubs and an army camp in the catchment area when we say to people to whom we sold land under free title, "We are now going to restrict you"? Yet that is what we are doing.

In the long term we must face up to this situation.

I believe that the greatest injustice perpetrated on people in this area is that no Government in the past (although I hope a Government will do something about this in the future) accepted the responsibility of perhaps compensating a council for the loss in rates resulting from the Government's acquiring land in its area. I think that the member for Kavel would say that about 30 per cent of the area of the Gumeracha council is owned by the Government for water resources and for the Woods and Forests Department. The Woods and Forests Department is a paying concern, competing with private enterprise, but it does not pay any rates or taxes to the council, which is made up of local people who have helped to provide for the roads used by the department. However, there is no recompense by that department.

Mr. Clark: It's the same with reservoir land.

Mr. EVANS: Yes, and national parks. Of course, it is many years since the Belair National Park was privately owned, so that park is really not involved. However, in the case of large tracts of land in the catchment areas which have been acquired in the last 10 years for Woods and Forests Department plantations and which were ratable previously, the loss of rates places a burden on the citizens in the particular council area concerned. For example, the Meadows council has within it the Kuitpo Colony and sites for the Mount Bold, Happy Valley, Clarendon and Baker Gully reservoirs. In the case of the new Clarendon reservoir, 45 ratable properties will be taken over by the Government, with no compensation being paid for the loss of rates incurred by the council. I believe that this is unjust. Much of the Meadows council area is not supplied with reticulated water, yet people there helped to pay for the water supplied to other people in the State. I do not think any member can justify this type of action by the Government.

While talking of pollution in the Hills area, I shall refer to the hills face zone and the development of the State generally. Over the years there has been much controversy about whether the hills face zone should be left as a green belt with a break between the plains development and the Hills development. I wish to comment on the effect that quarries have on our life and on the aesthetic quality of our city. Many people object to the quarries. Some members may say that, as I was brought up in quarries to some extent,



I have sympathy for them. However, I do not believe I have any great sympathy for them; possibly I hate them. Any member who has worked in them knows what they are like. There is no pleasure working in them. However, as an effective means of finding the material necessary to develop the State and make its roads, they are an essential item for our society. Quarry material is like gold, only it is in bigger quantities, and it has to be found. We have been fortunate in the past to find it close to our developed areas, although its extraction has spoilt the natural beauty of the areas concerned.

The Government would be justified in promulgating a regulation to force people to beautify sections of the quarries after they have been worked. Much of the hills face zone could also be replanted with trees and shrubs. It is possible that in 20 or 30 years people will be allowed to erect on the hills face zone houses on three-acre and four-acre allotments. Although this may sound hideous today, in years to come the pressures of society might force this to happen provided, say, that people plant indigenous trees on three-quarters of their allotment and that the house is built of a specific design and is painted in cool colours so that it is hidden from view. I believe this could easily eventuate.

I believe, too, that if we can find another source of quarry material close to the city, there would be some justification for phasing out quarrying in the hills face zone. We should examine sincerely where else we can quarry this material in the catchment area without polluting the streams that feed our reservoirs. The catchment areas of this State will eventually consist of about 600 square miles. Quarry material cannot be obtained from the plains around Port Wakefield, and we cannot continue operations around the Linwood and Brighton areas for many more years because, as we heard from the member for Brighton, and as we probably will hear from the member for Mawson in months to come, such operations are interfering with people in the area. We can obtain supplies only from where we are getting them now. We should try to ensure that these operations are carried on in a sane and sensible manner and that the surface of the hills face zone is not opened up more than is necessary. Perhaps the contractors could dig to a greater depth and work from behind the hills face instead of in front of it. Because operations in the hills face zone have practically reached their maximum height, the area will not look any

worse in the future than it does now. It could look worse only to one flying over the ranges in an aeroplane. We face the problem of people complaining and saying that the quarries should be shifted if it is feasible or possible to do so. I agree, but I do not believe that it is feasible or possible at present.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Of course, the area could be beautified.

Mr. EVANS: I agree that after an area has been worked out it should be beautified, even if a certain amount of timber needs to be planted. If in the future this is the case, the matter should be negotiated with the quarry proprietors. There should not be a straight-out ruling that they shall do something, without initial discussions being held. Some of the quarry proprietors own large tracts of land, some of which will never be useful to them for quarrying. I am sure that, if they were approached in the proper way and asked to fence such areas so that they could be left as natural reserves where people could see the natural flora, we would meet with success.

People have in the past always condemned quarries, without suggesting that the Government should negotiate with the quarrying contractors. Quarry material costs the average person \$1.20 a ton at the bin, and the delivery cost is about \$1 a ton. If the quarries close to the city were closed down and such material had to be carted to Adelaide from a quarry, say, 50 miles away, the delivery charges could be increased five-fold. It would therefore cost \$4 or \$5 a ton for cartage, and only \$1.20 at the bin. This would considerably increase the capital cost of much work that is undertaken in this State. This matter must be examined sensibly and discussed with the quarry owners; a gun should not merely be held at their heads.

The Minister of Education recently answered a question regarding the Education Department helping the communities of Stirling and districts to build only one swimming pool, instead of providing a subsidy to build pools at each of the 10 public schools in the area. He made the point that it would be necessary to have learn-to-swim pools in every school, but I am sorry that I must disagree with the Minister in this respect. If a pool is built at each school, more responsibility is placed on the respective headmasters. Many of these schools are only small with two or three teachers on the staff, and they would not be large enough

to justify the employment of a full-time swimming instructor and, of course, it would be inconvenient to have such an instructor at the school for only part of the time.

However, if there was one central heated pool (it would need to be heated because this is the coldest part of the State), a full-time swimming instructor could be employed. This would relieve each headmaster of the additional responsibility, and the children could be transported by bus to the central swimming school. I strongly stress that it would be wrong to erect a swimming pool at each small school in the hills. Some people have already started to raise the necessary \$8,000, which is half the cost of their swimming pool. If the cost of all these pools was combined, \$160,000 would be available to erect a central swimming pool. For this reason, action should be taken now so that the necessary money can be available in two years. These people would then have a starting point from which they could work towards their goal.

I sincerely thank the E. & W.S. Department for the help it gave the Happy Valley Primary School and, in particular, the Chandler Hill subdivision, which was offered a water supply system that would be installed at departmental cost, provided it raised \$3,500. I am pleased to say that these people have achieved their goal and that next Friday they will hand a cheque for that sum to an officer of the Minister's department. I therefore trust that they will have water for the coming summer season, to enable them to beautify the area as well as to protect their houses from the fires that usually start down on the plains.

In reply to a question by the member for Hanson, the Premier recently said he did not believe it was necessary to have a Ministry of Sport and Culture. I said about 12 months ago that we needed a Minister of Sport. However, I should be pleased to accept the addition of culture and recreation to that portfolio. I do not agree with the Premier's statement that three Ministers (the Minister of Development, the Minister of Social Welfare, and the Minister of Local Government) can administer this field. They might have been able to do so 20 years ago, but in these days when we are talking of a 35-hour week, four weeks' annual leave, and 10 days' sick leave a year, the people have more idle time and we need more Government administration and help in culture and sport. That applies not only in South Australia but throughout Australia.

Mr. Venning: How many weeks' holiday did you have before you came here?

Mr. EVANS: Some people say that I am having one long holiday now, and I may deal with that later. The main stream flowing through my district is the Sturt River, and we will be proved to have been wrong in concreting the Sturt River, thus pushing the water out to sea. In future we will have to investigate forcing this water back into the underground basin, even if we have to put it in ponds on the surface until it flows back. We cannot justify running this water out to sea, because we will need it in the underground basin. We have taken the easy way out, whereas the more difficult way of dealing with the matter would have been more beneficial ultimately.

I wonder how Government members justify some of their statements about the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Report. The Government is bringing a famous doctor to South Australia to review that report. Originally, the Government said that the plan would be withdrawn, but now it has said that it will be reviewed. The Government will tell Dr. Breuning more or less what it wants him to do. I am sure I quote the Minister of Roads and Transport correctly as saying, "Let us get a man who knows what he is talking about and let us give him a clear open go to come up with what is right."

Mr. McKee: That lets you out!

Mr. EVANS: I never wanted to be in it, but perhaps the member for Pirie would have less chance than I would have of being in it, unless he had Captain Nelson's help. How can the Government justify bringing this man here, paying him \$12,000, and telling him what to do, when the Minister says that he should be given a clear, open go?

Mr. Clark: He'll have terms of reference.

Mr. EVANS: The member for Elizabeth may mention terms of reference, but the Minister has said that Dr. Breuning should be given a clear open go. This man will have no more of an open go than the member for Elizabeth has in the way he votes in this House. Just before the last State election, members of the present Government said that the M.A.T.S. plan would be withdrawn, and it was withdrawn for seven days. However, then the Premier said that four freeways were necessary, and now the Minister of Roads and Transport has said that the Government would not have masses of concrete freeways in the city. Those four freeways must be built of concrete.

It is also said that we need a good flexible transport system. Will the service buses run only on rails? The buses from Elizabeth

will travel on the freeway, as will buses coming from the south. I am aware of the pollution and traffic congestion problems, and freeways will help to overcome the difficulties. The time taken to travel to Elizabeth from Christies Beach will be halved and the absence of fumes caused by stopping and starting and not travelling at a uniform speed will disappear, so reducing the pollution problem. I have sufficient faith in scientists to know that pollution from motor vehicles will be reduced or a different method of motivation will be provided in our vehicles. There is more possibility of our achieving this than there is of our having a computer system of transport by which 100,000 people will hop into a bubble car when they cease work and be taken all around the city.

I wish to refer now to the carnage on our roads and to the irresponsible attitude of the Parliament and members of the community to this matter. I do not agree that only young people cause the problems of which the Chairman of the Australian Road Safety Council (Sir James Darling) speaks in the council's journal *Report*, but there are some shortcomings. Sir James states:

There are three main causes which either separately or in conjunction create accidents. These are inexperience, conceit and alcohol.

Alcohol concerns me more than does any other factor. I have a drink, and I do not claim to be an angel. Any bumps on my coat are there because of bad tailoring, not because wings are growing. The Premier said recently that alcohol was not the only cause of accidents on the road, as he had found out, to his financial loss. I agree with that, but alcohol is the biggest cause of accidents. Sir James Darling states:

Over and over again one sees young drivers doing quite idiotic things on the road with the utmost confidence. It is the confidence too often of the ignorant. When this confidence is reinforced by alcohol and the judgment and reflexes correspondingly dulled by the same agent, the possibility of disaster is multiplied. There have been many pieces of research carried out which show quite definitely the impairing of a driver's capacity by amounts of alcohol even lower than the .05 or .08 standard prescribed by law.

In this State .08 per cent and in Victoria .05 per cent are the standards prescribed by law. Sir James Darling continues:

Too often the inexperience in drinking is joined to the inexperience in driving, with horrible results. A young man of 18 in these days gets everything at once, the right to freedom from school or parent, a girl friend whom he wants to impress, a motor car, which will go very fast, upon a very small cash

deposit, and comparatively high wages without corresponding responsibilities. It is not surprising that all this goes to the head.

The Minister a moment ago mentioned the findings of different organizations in relation to the causes of accidents. I refer to the Victorian figures, because I believe that, in future, we will discuss the rights or wrongs of lowering the age of majority to 18 years. I do not object to people having the right to vote at 18 years, because I do not think it affects their lives. They vote one way and then if they wish to change their vote they can do so in three years. It does not matter. I do not object to their being able to sign contracts, although they will have to be careful that they are not taken for a ride by some of the cool Alects in the world today.

However, I am concerned about two things. At present a person cannot marry without parental consent if he or she is under the age of 21 years. Responsible people will not marry at 18 unless they are sure of themselves, and there have been many successful marriages involving people of this age. However, the irresponsible people are more likely to marry at 18 years without their parents' consent. For a youth to come home and ask mum and dad whether he can marry a girl because he wishes to do so means that this action can be some sort of a deterrent to an irresponsible marriage. Statistics show that where both persons are under the age of 20 years the chance of marital breakdown is 100 per cent more. I turn now—

Mr. Jennings: Don't drivell on.

Mr. EVANS: If I drivelled on for as long as the member for Ross Smith did in speaking about personalities (although he has said that he decries doing that) I should sit down. During the whole of his speech the honourable member did nothing but speak of personalities. If he is quiet I shall continue. Dr. Gerald Milner told a conference in Melbourne recently, when discussing the road toll question, that, in the past 21 years in Australia, 1,000,000 people have been injured and 47,000 killed on our roads. He pointed out that this year one in 150 people would suffer serious injury, that in their normal lifetime one person in 12 will suffer serious injury in a road accident, and that several of the other 11 would suffer less serious injury. He also said that one in 60 people will die on the roads and that at least 50 per cent of the accidents that have occurred in the past and will occur in the future could be avoided if alcohol were not taken.

Accidents are avoided by avoiding alcohol, and that is the point I emphasize to the Minister, who has now left the Chamber. As alcohol is considered to cause 50 per cent of the carnage on our roads today, I believe that it is time that spot breathalyser checks were introduced. I do not care whether it affects members or people outside the House. If we are a responsible society we must accept that people are killed and injured on the roads in 50 per cent of the cases because we are not responsible enough to pass and enforce a law so that the police can make spot checks of drivers at any time. This would ensure that people would drive sanely.

I know that different quantities of alcohol affect people differently and that some people can drive sanely, but that is no justification for us to say that it does not matter and that we will check on them after they have had an accident, if they are conspicuous while driving a motor vehicle, or sleeping at the side of the road. We must accept responsibility now and, as a Parliament, we must be willing to help save the lives of those who are not prepared to save their own lives. Also, we must protect the lives of every innocent person on our roads who does not drink alcohol. If we are not willing to do this we are not responsible people: I believe that it is time we faced up to this problem.

I was interested to hear Government members speak of freedoms and say that we have rights. The member for Glenelg asked a question about political levies, but I was interested to notice that the Minister of Labour and Industry did not know that there was such a thing as a political levy in unions.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: I did not know what his question was. I told him to ask another question later.

Mr. EVANS: I was interested to know that, recently, the Government issued an instruction to the Public Service heads of departments that unless a man belonged to a union he would have to take second preference. I have a short letter sent out by the Australian Labor Party, Peake District Assembly, Hindmarsh Sub-branch, Hindmarsh. Two prominent names are shown on the top of the letterhead: Mr. Hutchens, Secretary, and Mr. G. Pearson, President. I am sure that that would not be the Sir Glen Pearson whom we all respect so much. The letter states:

We ardently believe in freedom from want—It seems that if a person wants a job and goes to a Government department he will be told that he must join a union or take second preference.

Mr. Rodda: That is compulsion.

Mr. EVANS: It is compulsion of the lowest order. Why not say straight out to people that unless they join a union they cannot get a job? It is wrong for the Premier to say that industry believes that everyone should belong to a union. The reason that employers suggest that their employees join a union is that they know that if an employee is not a member of a union there will be strikes. Therefore, for the sake of industrial harmony, the employer suggests that everyone should join the union. That has no element of freedom, and no Government member can justify that action, although, because it serves his political ends, he may believe that he must.

The other comment made by a Government member on freedom was about freedom from hunger. How can there be freedom from want and hunger if a person cannot get a job, particularly if he has a conscience that leads him to believe that he should not join a union and pay a political levy? I believe in the trade union movement, as a movement: I believe that it is extremely important that every worker wishing to be represented by a group has a representative group. I also believe that if a person does not wish to have a representative group representing him, or if he does not wish to belong to it, he should not be placed in the position in which the only way that he can get a job is by being a unionist. The member for Unley would apply that to a cricket team if he could. The person is compelled to pay the union fee. Also, as we have heard from the member for Glenelg today, not only does he pay that fee but also he has to pay a political levy.

The member for Albert Park, who is now interjecting, spoke out before the election and said that he objected to the Communist influence that had infiltrated trade unions. I congratulate him on his attitude and on saying that he objected to this situation. However, this attitude does not justify the action of making a man pay a levy to a political party with whose principles he does not agree. The only way the person concerned can get out of it is by writing to the secretary and contracting out of it. Instead of this, a person should have to write in and say that he wishes to contribute to that political Party. That is true democracy, if members opposite want to talk about one vote one value and about freedom. Do not tell me that a man is not victimized if he does not pay the political levy.

Mr. Langley: Name one!

Mr. EVANS: Mr. Hursey and his son in Tasmania were forced out of a job on the wharves by the trade union movement.

Mr. Langley: You're wrong. Name one in this State!

Mr. EVANS: If the honourable member wishes, I will find them for him. Here are the people who talk of freedom but there is no freedom at all. Some of my colleagues believe that I am wrong in referring here to a certain matter, a matter to which I have referred before, namely, the privileges that we as Parliamentarians enjoy. I believe that I should make my point again today, because this is a matter of principle. I said, when we received our \$1,000 increase in salary last year, that I was not sure that we were all justified in receiving that increase, but I accepted the tribunal's report, and I was not going to set up myself in an ivory tower as did the then Opposition Whip when he suggested that I pay my increase back.

I believe that I am entitled to the same privileges as those to which any other member in this House is entitled. I have previously spoken to the Speaker of this House about the stamps used by members, and I intend to use the stamp allowance in the same way as others are using it, unless the system is changed. I will go no further into that matter now. However, many members are now representing smaller districts, although mine is one of the largest city districts. We all receive a free bus pass and a free train pass to go anywhere in Australia. We now have 28 city Parliamentarians instead of 13. On the other hand, the member for Eyre represents 48 per cent of the State in area and the district represented by the member for Frome is also huge, about which the former member for Frome, who is now in the other place, would know. Since this Government has taken office it has appointed press secretaries. It is to increase the number of typists in the House, and rightly so, because the number of members is increased.

However, we all received in our mail boxes yesterday a letter stating that Cabinet has approved the provision of air travel to members as follows: each member of either House (56 in all) is to be entitled to six single journeys a year between any two centres in this State. I am talking of members outside the Ministry and of those apart from the Leader of the Opposition in this place and in the other place. I believe that 56 members are affected by this concession; in the case of the others, special circumstances apply. We

have been given six single journeys a year between any two centres in the State, but for what purpose?

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: Perhaps so that you can broaden your mind a little.

Mr. EVANS: With 28 Parliamentarians, instead of 13, representing the city area, we have more time on our hands; we are still receiving the same electoral allowance of \$1,400, and we still have our private motor cars. This new privilege will be used for political purposes, for Party meetings and fishing trips.

Mr. Ryan: By whom?

Mr. EVANS: By the members of this place and the other place. However, if this privilege is available to members, I will make use of it in the same way as other members use it, but I do not believe that it is justified. I will not agree to this sort of thing. Regarding the Leader of the Opposition in both Houses, regardless of which side of politics he belongs to, I believe that the recommendation made is justified, but that is not so in the case of the rank-and-file members. This concession would have been justified for the member for Eyre, the member for Frome and perhaps the member for Mount Gambier but, otherwise, it merely represents a "perk" for a few of us who live in or near the city. Although I express my disappointment at what has occurred in this regard, I nevertheless support the motion.

Mr. RYAN (Price): In supporting the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, I say that I am pleased to be on the Government side. What do we try to achieve in politics? The ultimate is to be a member of the Government Party. Members opposite will realize, just as we have come to realize from experience, that there is nothing more frustrating in politics than being a member of the Opposition. What can the Opposition, unless it is the Liberal Party, do to implement its policy? The Liberal Party, when it was in Government, took what was good out of Labor policy, implemented it as its own, and claimed the credit for it.

Mr. McAnaney: Is there anything good in it?

Mr. RYAN: I could give many instances of where this has happened. Being a member of the Government Party, one has the opportunity of at least having a say in what the Government's policy will be and of voting to implement that policy. I am amazed at the remarks of the member for Fisher, who dealt with personalities. When a member

makes a speech along these lines, he must expect to be criticized by someone opposite who has different opinions. The member for Fisher is apparently a snake in the grass; he is anti-everything, including progress.

Mr. Rodda: Qualify that.

Mr. RYAN: The member for Fisher has a motor car, so he does not want to go back to the horse and buggy days. Members of Parliament should decide issues as they affect the whole of South Australia and not as they may affect individual districts. How can we be conversant with what is happening outside our own district if we do not look at some of the projects going ahead in other areas? Time does not permit us to use the travel concessions normally made available to members of Parliament and, in addition, there are many places within the State to which one cannot travel, using the free bus pass or gold pass for travel on the train. But when we at least try to raise our standards to those of the Commonwealth Government we are criticized for doing so.

Mr. Harrison: That applies to efficiency, too.

Mr. RYAN: Yes. The member for Fisher complains of a salary increase, but how hypocritical can one be? He says, "I'll take what is available to other members; I will criticize it, but I will have it." Years ago Moses Gabb refused to take an increase and at the next election when he was defeated he immediately went to the Treasurer and said, "Can I have my back pay?" I think the member for Fisher is probably in the same category. This salary increase was determined by a tribunal. It was said that the reasons given for supporting the motion could be sectional, because of the representation of members on the Government side. However, what is in His Excellency's Speech is just the opposite: it is not sectional but deals with the needs of all the people in the State. Some of the things referred to have been implemented by Liberal Governments. One paragraph that is of the utmost importance states:

Amendments to the Industries Development Act will be placed before you to provide that in appropriate cases on the recommendation of the Industries Development Committee the Government may directly or in concert with other interests purchase an equitable share in industries seeking establishment or expansion in this State.

When we were in Opposition, without success I referred to assistance to industry. This sort of thing happens in practically every other State in Australia and every country in the British Commonwealth, and it has proved extremely beneficial. When I saw what was taking place in some of the countries I had

the honour to visit a couple of years ago, I asked the previous Government to consider similar legislation in this State but, as a frustrated Opposition member, I was told it could not be done. Some Opposition members may say that this is Socialist policy, but they should not say that, because a similar policy is now followed by the Commonwealth Liberal Government under Mr. Gorton. Although some back-bench members of that Government criticize this policy, it is still that Government's policy, and it should be the policy in this State.

Askin in New South Wales and Bolte in Victoria have similar legislation. As it is one of the means by which they attract industries to their States at the expense of South Australia (for they are prepared to take shares and bear some of the responsibility, and have some say in controlling and developing industries), how can South Australia compete unless we have a similar policy? Before members opposite accuse this Government of implementing Socialist legislation, they should consider what happened in the days of previous Liberal regimes in this State. Did not Sir Thomas Playford take out shares in Cellulose Australia Limited? Unfortunately the Government's interest in that company was recently sold by another Liberal Government. For many years, those shares were held in the name of the South Australian Liberal Government. I do not think the management of that company would have said that it suffered in any way as a result of the Government's investment, for this investment was to its advantage. I am sorry that a previous Liberal Government decided to withdraw the financial interest it had in that company. However, the present Government will proceed with a policy which is not new in this State but which has operated for many years.

When referring to Socialism, new Opposition members say, "This is ghastly; it is something we cannot have; we cannot have complete Government control of an enterprise." However, they should realize that one of the greatest State enterprises is the Electricity Trust of South Australia which, with the help of the Labor Opposition and against the wishes of some of his own members, Sir Thomas Playford initiated as a Socialist scheme. As he could not get sufficient support in his own Party for that scheme, he relied on support from Labor members.

Mr. Clark: He had some trouble with another place.

Mr. RYAN: Yes, until he was able to do what people are now doing to Holden dealers: he twisted the arm of one honourable member and got him to change his vote. What a retrograde step it would be if the Electricity Trust were to be given over to private enterprise. No member opposite would say that that should be done. Thank goodness that, with the Labor Government in power, that will never happen.

Much of His Excellency's Speech applies to most people in the State. The Speech referred to, and the Premier has given notice of introducing, a Bill to provide for a State insurance office. If such an office is established, will it be available only to the industrial workers of the State? I believe that many who will take advantage of this office will be people who normally vote for the Liberal Party: they will be seeking the security offered by such an office.

Mr. Harrison: They haven't got security now.

Mr. RYAN: No. Only this morning we read of a private insurance company's going through the hoop, involving many unwitting and innocent people in heavy loss as a result. Unfortunately those people had no security. The member for Torrens knows as well as I do that over the years several private insurance companies in this State have gone west, as have the interests of those people who have dealt with those companies. If the Bill to provide for a State insurance office is passed and the office is established, it will provide security. The Savings Bank of South Australia, which is guaranteed by the Government, offers security, and, as it is one of our great institutions, people invest their money in it. I suggest that just as many Liberal as Labor voters use that bank because of the security it offers. Not only would the State insurance office be guaranteed by the Government, as is the Savings Bank, but it would also be run by the Government. Reference has been made to personalities. Yesterday I heard one of the worst attacks on members that I have heard. In attacking everyone who did not believe in the Liberal viewpoint, the member for Davenport referred to the previous occupation and upbringing of many members on this side, saying that they came through the trade union movement, of which they were representative. This was said cynically. She referred to members on this side coming into this place with this background and matching themselves with Liberal members. How shocking!

Mr. Rodda: But you are not a trade unionist.

Dr. Tonkin: I am a trade unionist.

Mr. RYAN: And so are most members opposite, who pay \$3 a year to be members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. What is the difference between an association and a union?

Mr. McAnaney: It isn't compulsory.

Mr. RYAN: Can any Opposition member say that he has not joined that organization?

Mr. Eastick: I can.

Mr. RYAN: The honourable member should be ashamed of himself.

Mr. Coumbe: The C.P.A. helped you.

Mr. RYAN: My word it did, and I am proud to belong to it. Any organization that sets out to look after the interests of the people who belong to it should be encouraged, and people should be encouraged to join it. Unlike the member for Fisher, I do not make wild statements about something I do not know about. He talked out of the back of his neck, as he usually does, saying that he did not want to make insinuations. He spoke about political levies, but he cannot cite an instance in this State. He referred to the Hersey case, but what he did not say about compulsory unionism in that case was that it was because of Commonwealth legislation that the Herses had to be members of the union.

Mr. Rodda: Do you believe in it?

Mr. RYAN: Of course I do, and even if it were voluntary I would still join it for the satisfaction I would get from it. If I disagreed with what my organization was doing, I would voice my opinion within that organization, not outside of it; I would not run to my member of Parliament and ask him to raise the matter on my behalf. Such people have not got the guts to voice their own opinion. Commonwealth legislation, which has been amended by the Gorton Liberal Government, provides that waterside workers must (not "shall" or "may") belong to a union before they can obtain employment on the waterfront. That Act is administered by a Commonwealth Government department, so why does not the member for Fisher explain the circumstances rather than drag a red herring across the path trying to get Labor members to rise to the bait?

Mr. Evans: Why don't you go to your shack?

Mr. RYAN: When I do, I go in my own car. The only trouble is that my shack is in a district, the political representation of which I am most dissatisfied with. Indeed, I

am absolutely disgusted with my political representation in that district, which happens to be the district of the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. Clark: And you go there with a female.

Mr. RYAN: Yes, but it is my legally wedded wife. The member for Alexandra has the narrowest viewpoint that one could wish to hear. He even objected this afternoon to someone asking a question about tourism in this State. Then, only five minutes later, he got up and asked a question about elderly citizens' homes, of which there are at the most only one or two in his district. Some such homes are situated in my district and, seeing that the honourable member raised this matter, I, too, will mention it, although it affects not me but a person in the honourable member's Party. All members know the person who runs the show. At least members on this side are prepared to tell the truth and speak up on behalf of these elderly citizens.

I do not want to remain silent, like the member for Victoria. I am receiving my salary for speaking up on behalf of the people in Price District, and I intend to do my duty in this respect. I am not going to complain about my salary. All members earn their salary, and probably in the future we will have to go to the people and ask for it to be reviewed. Members of Parliament are the same as everyone else: they take their case to a tribunal, whose decision they must accept. This system is far better than that which existed many years previously, when this Parliament had to consider members' salaries. At least that stigma has gone, and our salary is now determined by a legally constituted salaries tribunal.

This morning I received a deputation from people in my district who live in elderly citizens' homes. On entry they had to pay \$2,900 and they also had to sign a contract pursuant to which they would pay for the rest of their life \$1.50 a week for maintenance. These people were in their home for only a few weeks, when they were told that that maintenance charge would be increased by \$1 to \$2.50 a week. They have now received a circular from the organization saying that the rate is to be increased again by \$1.50 to \$4, and that in no circumstances should they approach their member of Parliament to complain about the matter because by doing so they would wreck the system. Yet the Liberals talk about democracy!

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: Which organization are you talking about?

Mr. RYAN: The elderly citizens' homes organization, which wants to disfranchise its tenants politically. This means that the maintenance charge these people have to pay has risen to \$4. They were also told in the circular that there would be a 25 per cent increase in 12 months, taking the charge to \$5.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: Why did you bring the elderly citizens' homes into this?

Mr. RYAN: Why should I not do so? I am complaining about what is being done.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: But why?

Mr. RYAN: Because my constituents are not happy about what is being done to them. I am their political representative, and I will speak on their behalf if I believe they are correct. They are in my district, not that of the member for Alexandra.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: You mentioned this organization in connection with my name.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Price is making the speech.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: It is a different organization from the one I am concerned about.

Mr. RYAN: I mentioned the name of the organization and the people concerned. Their rent is to rise to \$5 in 12 months, and they are complaining bitterly about this. Only a stone's throw away from these homes are some Housing Trust pensioner cottages, which are owned by the South Australian Government and which were built and are being administered by the trust. The tenants in these homes are paying \$4 a week rent. They do not have to pay \$2,900 to occupy the homes, and they do not lose that amount on their death. These people signed an agreement (not a contract) on entering these pensioner cottages. On the other hand, the people that approached me agreed originally to pay a \$1.50 maintenance charge, but it is now \$4 and is going to rise to \$5. For single pensioners, \$5 a week is a big slice out of their income.

Also, although I do not know whether it is a legitimate complaint, these people are not considered as ratepayers. They do not pay rent, although they pay its equivalent each week. This, they consider, is a financial injustice. Why should not these people make representations to their member of Parliament to rectify their complaints, irrespective of what they are instructed not to do in the circular they received? They merely want justice in this matter. The member for Alexandra talks about freedom and political justice, yet an organization such as this says to these people,



"Do not approach your member of Parliament because you will wreck the show."

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: I think Mr. Hurford, M.H.R., was a director of the elderly persons' homes organization.

Mr. RYAN: Also, what else is Sir Keith Wilson, besides being a member of the Liberal Party? I know he is a member of the Liberal Party, and that is why we are getting the view of the member for Alexandra. If he were a member of the Labor Party, it would be a different matter, but the honourable member can only think Liberal, Liberal, Liberal.

Mr. Harrison: They've got as much freedom as the animals in the zoo.

Mr. RYAN: Yes, and the animals are locked up so that they cannot get out. His Excellency's Speech is only a statement of what the Government will do. It is prepared not by His Excellency but by the Government, with the advice of the Ministers, and deals with the implementation of Government policy. The Speech is prepared in the same way when the Liberal Government is in office, but His Excellency's Speech in opening the present session has been given to him on the advice of Ministers who are members of the Labor Party. The statement has been made many times that members, particularly new members, are here today because of the action of the Leader of the Opposition. However, the position is the opposite: most of them are here today because of the policy of the Labor Party. In the 30 years that the Liberal Government was in office, electoral reform was mentioned (and then only hinted at) only when pressure was applied by the Labor Party. The only electoral reform the Playford Government knew was 100 per cent advantage to the Liberals and 100 per cent disadvantage to the Labor Party.

Mr. Harrison: It was as bad as the one-arm bandits in Sydney.

Mr. RYAN: It was worse, because a person can win on them, whereas it was practically impossible for the Labor Party to win an election in South Australia. Nevertheless, on several occasions we almost achieved the political impossibility of winning Government. I have been here since 1959—

Mr. Coumbe: Far too long!

Mr. RYAN: I could reply to that but, being a gentleman, I would not do so. Whilst I came up through the trade unions, I had some education and I shall let that prevail at this stage. Although many members on this side went through the trade unions, their education would equal that of any members on the other

side. We got an education the hard way, through the university of hard knocks, and that is the best education anyone can get. It is education obtained from actual experience. We do not represent ourselves or our education: we represent the viewpoint of the people who put us here. The election in 1959 was the only election I had participated in successfully in which the Labor Party was defeated numerically, and since then our Party has not lost an election. Whilst we have not been the Government all that time, we have not been defeated by the Liberal and Country League. In the four State elections since 1959 we have not been defeated.

Mr. Slater: Next time it'll be five straight.

Mr. RYAN: Yes. However, we did not gain Government on all those occasions. We can be proud that, when we have won on the numbers, we have won in our own right and have not had to rely on the support of someone over whom we had no control. We would not want to govern if our Caucus meeting, instead of making decisions, had to consult a so-called Independent, and await his reply before doing anything.

Mr. Rodda interjecting:

Mr. RYAN: Would the honourable member repeat that? The member for Victoria has a habit of mumbling and, if I cannot understand him, I cannot reply to him.

Mr. Clark: I have found that, too.

Mr. RYAN: Yes. It has been said that the new members are here and the Labor Party is in Government because of the action of the Leader of the Opposition. This statement is ridiculous. Could the Leader of the Opposition have brought in electoral reform in this State without the support of the Labor Party? He did not have a hope of getting it through without our support, and he knew that. When we were in Millicent in 1968, electoral reform was forced on the present Leader of the Opposition because of the overwhelming support of the people of this State for the Australian Labor Party. The 1970 election was one of the few in which all districts except one were contested by a Labor candidate and an L.C.L. candidate. There had been a redistribution, and the Labor Party was returned with 54 per cent of the vote. In 1968, we obtained about the same percentage of the vote, and in 1970, although it is true that more districts had been formed, the Labor Party could come back with 27 members, as compared with the 1968 result of 19 members of the Labor Party and 19 members of the L.C.L.

In every Parliament since I have been a member of the Labor Party has introduced Bills for electoral reform, because the matter has been most important to us. During the campaign in the Millicent District the present Leader of the Opposition said, "If you return us there will be electoral reform." The Labor Party said that it would continue its efforts to achieve electoral reform, and the vote in support of our candidate and our policy was overwhelming. I agree with members on this side who have said that, if the result in Millicent in 1968 had been different, no electoral reform Bill would have been introduced by the L.C.L., even though Mr. Hall had said that he would abide by the decision of the people of Millicent. When the last electoral measure was before this Parliament, it was carried only with the assistance of the Labor Opposition. We could have wrecked the Bill and prevented reform. Despite all this, Opposition members say, "The Government is in office today only because of the brave action of the present Leader of the Opposition in introducing the electoral reform Bill."

Mr. Venning: That's perfectly right.

Mr. RYAN: I have never met anyone else who believes that left is right. Members opposite would not have a clue. I do not know whether the member for Rocky River took notice of a stipendiary magistrate's remarks, published in a newspaper recently, about what he thought people who led marchers were.

Mr. Venning: That's a different type of march.

Mr. RYAN: Yes, if one is a farmer, one is with the majority of the people! The same applies if one is a Liberal.

Mr. Clark: Freedom of association.

Mr. RYAN: Yes. Although we did not have democracy 30 years ago, we have it now.

Mr. Venning: There's nothing wrong with compulsory unionism, is there?

Mr. RYAN: Nothing. For the benefit of the member for Rocky River it is compulsory for him to be a member of the Liberal Party, and it is compulsory unionism that enables him to be a member of this Chamber. He cannot be a member of the House of Assembly unless there is compulsory unionism in the Liberal Party, because he has to join it. He must be a member of the Liberal Party before he is eligible to be an endorsed candidate for that Party. It is the same in the Labor Party. However, we do not run away from this. We must be members of the Labor Party if we are to be members of this House, and of the other place, the House of political review.

Mr. Venning: Wasn't Mr. Casey a member of the L.C.L.?

Mr. RYAN: People who live in glass houses should not throw bricks. What about Mr. DeGaris? He was Secretary of the local branch of the A.L.P. when he sought endorsement for the Liberal Party.

Mr. Rodda: That's not true.

Mr. RYAN: Yesterday, the member for "Goitre", or rather Goyder, asked whether we had endorsed a candidate who was a member of the Liberal Party. Why not tell the truth? Or was he telling the House a half truth and hoping that the people would believe him? Obviously, that is the policy of the Liberal Party.

Mr. Venning: What did it cost you to fly the A.L.P. flag in that district?

Mr. RYAN: Does the member for Goyder know how people become members of the Liberal Party? We know the facts: some people have been nominated by their parents.

Mr. Gunn: Grannies!

Mr. RYAN: Yes, and because there are many of them on the Liberal side the Liberal Party is in Opposition. It has not kept up with the thinking of the people of this State and has not progressed as a political Party. We have, and that is why we are in Government today, and why we have not been defeated in the last four elections. I know of cases where children are signed up by their parents when they leave school, and are given a bank order, but the individual does not know that he is a member of the Liberal Party.

Mr. Ferguson: What sort of candidates do you get?

Mr. RYAN: Our candidates have nothing wrong with them, but the Liberal Party got DeGaris. The member for Davenport sold what the people thought were raffle tickets, but they found later that they were members of the Liberal Party. This is how people get into the Liberal Party. At least raffles will be legalized by this Government so that people will not buy an illegal raffle ticket in order to be a member of the Liberal Party.

Mr. McKee: What about the member for Eyre?

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: Fancy winning him in a raffle!

Mr. RYAN: Who would want to win him? I would ask for my money back if I did that because I would not be satisfied with the result. The Hon. T. M. Casey is a member of this Party and abides by Party decisions, the same as we all do. Members of the

Liberal Party have to abide by decisions of the Party if it holds meetings, but I understand that the Party does not hold meetings. It does not hold a Caucus meeting because that is something sinister. The Liberal Party holds a Party meeting or a get together, and members do not vote. If someone objects to something that someone else suggests, it is ruled out because there is an objector.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: The executive instructs them what to do.

Mr. Rodda: Is the member for Price getting his orders from the Minister?

Mr. RYAN: I am not getting orders. On this side we concur with one another, but an overriding principle involved is that at least we speak to one another. Does this occur in the Liberal Party?

Mr. Venning: Yes.

Mr. RYAN: Members of the other place cannot speak to members of this House, because this is the House of the common people.

Mr. Gunn: Rubbish!

Mr. RYAN: The member for Eyre has much to learn, and perhaps he will learn in the university of hard knocks. I now turn to two important matters referred to in His Excellency's Opening Speech, one of which concerns the Minister of Roads and Transport.

Mr. McAnaney: You'll have to help him out of his troubles.

Mr. RYAN: The Minister is not in trouble. We iron out our troubles as a Party and we come here as a united Party, and Lord help any Liberal who tries to split our ranks. The matter to which I refer concerns traffic lights. For some years the Adelaide City Council—and digressing for a moment, a person has to be an endorsed Liberal candidate to be the Lord Mayor of Adelaide, so that our Lord Mayor is elected by compulsion, because he has to join the Liberal Party.

Mr. Mathwin: Compulsory voting in council elections is not the same?

Mr. RYAN: During the election campaign that matter was discussed freely but, apparently, the member for Glenelg is like his football team and is going further and further down.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Cut it out.

Mr. RYAN: The Labor Party did not hide this matter during the election campaign, but went to great lengths to tell the people what we would do if we were elected to Government. We have been elected with probably the largest majority the Labor Party has ever had, and we will now implement our policy. I hope that will help to solve the problems of the member for Glenelg.

Mr. Venning: What about Divine providence?

Mr. RYAN: The good Lord, looking at the House of Assembly and seeing a Labor Government, decided to create a drought. How far can one get in politics? People talk about education, but it is time that members were educated on the needs of the people rather than thinking about their own political viewpoint. Education! I think some members must have been expelled from school!

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: What about traffic lights?

Mr. Rodda: Have you got any lights at the Black Diamond Corner?

Mr. RYAN: Yes, but how long did it take to get them?

Mr. McAnaney: Some member!

Mr. RYAN: It was only as a result of my efforts as a member that those lights were ultimately installed. Unlike the member for Heysen, I do not believe in keeping barbers out of a job. Under the present legislation, the Highways Department pays a percentage of the cost of installing traffic lights, and the local council or councils concerned pay the balance. However, generally the people who use these lights are not ratepayers living in the area in which those lights are installed. For example, most of those who travel across the intersection of Port Road and Woodville Road, at which traffic lights are installed, are not ratepayers of Woodville; they may live in Semaphore, or they may even live on the other side of town and travel through the intersection on their way, say, to Port Adelaide.

Ratepayers are asked to contribute 50 per cent of the cost of installing traffic lights and, when lights are installed at an intersection situated on the boundary of two council areas, there is an argument about who will bear the cost. Such an argument is now going on in my district concerning the intersection of Addison Road and Grand Junction Road, which is the boundary between Port Adelaide and Woodville. Both councils involved say that the motorists using the corner are neither ratepayers of Port Adelaide nor of Woodville, and they have a legitimate argument. Traffic lights are essential today; they have at least prevented some accidents from occurring, and, as a safety measure, they should be the responsibility of the State. Indeed, it is the State that collects the revenue from motorists, whichever way that revenue is collected. Traffic lights are provided as a benefit to the motorist, to prevent accidents, and to create to some degree

a steady flow of traffic, allowing some people a right of way that they may not normally have under the Road Traffic Act.

Traffic lights should be the responsibility of the State and not of councils. Unfortunately, it is not the cost of installation that is the greatest worry to the taxpayer: it is the cost of maintaining traffic lights once they have been installed, and this cost is borne by ratepayers. One does not say that, because a school is erected in a certain district, it should be the responsibility of the ratepayers of that district; it is a State responsibility. Likewise, road traffic matters are the responsibility of the State and not of the individual. Parking in a street, or something of that nature, may be the responsibility of the taxpayer, but council members have asked me to express the view that traffic lights should be the responsibility of the State.

I will certainly refer this matter to the Minister concerned, and I hope that he sees the merit of what I am saying. I am expressing an opinion in this place not only on my own behalf but also on behalf of the people I represent, and I am doing this as forcibly as I can. We have been told of a shortage of manpower in the Police Force and, in this connection, I have previously made representations to the Police Commissioner, who has adopted a policy of using mobile police units rather than always having police located at a police station. There may be many advantages in doing this because, if something happens, the Police Department can be contacted, and an officer can be at the scene in minutes, whereas if one has to contact a police station the officer may be out and not able to be contacted for some time.

Although law and order in South Australia is probably as good as it is anywhere else in Australia, I am told that one of the reasons for a deficiency in this regard relates to a shortage of manpower. We see the ridiculous situation of local councils and others making by-laws and insisting on certain requirements, yet expecting the police to implement their decisions. The South Australian National Football League, which introduces a regulation that an oval shall not be used at quarter and half time, requires members of the Police Force to enforce that regulation. I am not saying that police would not be at the oval—

Mr. Coumbe: Are you referring to children on the oval?

Mr. RYAN: Yes. It is the responsibility of the Police Force to implement decisions made by various bodies.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: Why not let the poor kids on to the oval?

Mr. RYAN: I am not commenting on that. We have a shortage of police here, but we are tying them down to certain jobs and, even though people may not be breaking a law, the police are nevertheless required to implement decisions made by other bodies. I think this is totally unfair, and it happens in many respects other than the one to which I have just referred. We sometimes see a police officer directing traffic at a certain intersection when he could be released from that duty and more suitably employed elsewhere. I hope that my comments will be brought to the attention of the Minister concerned and that, while we have the manpower shortage that we have had in the past few years, at least we will make the best of the manpower that is available. I hope that the services of police officers, who are doing a good job, will at least not be used unnecessarily.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON (Minister of Education): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, and I support also the remarks made by other members relating to your accession to the Speakership, Mr. Speaker, and to the accession by the member for Adelaide to the position of Chairman of Committees. We are confident that both of you will do exactly the kind of job that we expect of you, namely, a first-rate job, showing full impartiality to all members of the House. I congratulate particularly the mover and seconder of the motion, namely, the Attorney-General and the member for Spence, both of whom did a fine job, and I am sure that all members appreciate that in those two gentlemen we have two fine additions to the House.

In general, I do not think that this House has known previously a group of maiden speeches of such a high standard from both sides. Clearly, events have brought about a fundamental change in the nature of the membership of both political Parties. I believe that that can only be good for the future of democratic Government in this State. I assure those members who have spoken about education that their comments will receive attention. I refer specifically to the remarks of the member for Peake, who put tremendous effort into his comments about education; I believe he showed considerable knowledge and a willingness to indulge in constructive criticism, his remarks being valuable indeed. The member for Kavel referred to the Nuriootpa

High School. Earlier in the session he asked me a question about this school and, in my reply, I said:

To my knowledge, the school buildings at Nuriootpa are not at present on the design list. However, I will ask my officers to look into the matter with respect to Nuriootpa and see what the current position is so I can inform the honourable member.

Without waiting for my reply, the honourable member contacted one of the officers of the secondary division of the Education Department and was informed that the school was on the list. The fact is that the Nuriootpa High School re-building is on the list of projects within the secondary division, waiting to be placed on the design list. However, it is not on the departmental design list: it is on the priority list of the secondary division. I said that in my reply to the honourable member on July 22, when the member for Davenport asked a question on behalf of the member for Kavel. I want to make it clear to all members what applies in relation to design programmes. I want to make this clear particularly because the honourable member yesterday, referring to the school at Nuriootpa, said:

This school consists mainly of these wooden structures. I understand that this school is on the design priority list for 1970-71.

I have already pointed out that that is not the position but that the school is on the secondary priority list; it has not been added to the departmental design list at this stage. The honourable member continued:

I was pleased to find that a new school on an eminently suitable open site is planned for Nuriootpa, to be completed in 1973, and I trust that the work will be completed on schedule.

Mr. Goldsworthy: That is in relation to the primary school.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Yes. I want honourable members to understand clearly the position that applies in the department. Each division of the department has a list of projects that it would like to get started. The department has a departmental design list of projects that are in the design stage with the Public Buildings Department; that is, sketch plans or detailed working drawings (all the activities that go on in the design of a school building before the actual calling of tenders) are being prepared on those projects. From the time when a project goes on to the departmental design list, there can be a delay of up to, say, three years before building is actually completed on major projects involving solid-construction buildings. The delay

may be even longer; how rapidly projects can be proceeded with always depends on the overall availability of funds. Even apart from that, inevitably delays are associated with the design stage and with the process of gaining Public Works Committee approval for any particular project. The physical planning of the project takes time. It is important that people be correctly informed in relation to the stage any particular project has reached, and that the department be not too optimistic in predicting when projects will be completed. If a project is completed ahead of time, that is fine and no one is upset; the people concerned can use the new school buildings earlier than they expected to be able to use them. However, if people are told that a project will be completed at a certain date and it is not finished until six months or a year later, that can lead to a general expression of dissatisfaction with the department. The Education Department bears the brunt of it even though the Public Buildings Department and the builders concerned are the people responsible for the actual completion of the project because, once the design stage of a project is proceeded with, the Education Department has little more to do with it. I make these points because I believe it is important to try to give reasonably accurate predictions of the likely time that any project will take, and to err on the conservative side rather than to be excessively optimistic.

The member for Kavel also said that we were making promises in relation to various matters, such as more and better qualified teachers, reductions in class sizes, and so on, and that he hoped we would now be able to fulfil them. Let me make it clear to the honourable member and to other members opposite that members on this side have always emphasized the need for Commonwealth aid for education, a need that was emphasized in every policy statement issued on this subject during the election campaign. Year after year in this House Labor members have raised the matter of Commonwealth aid, indicating that real progress in achieving educational standards in this State will not be achieved until we obtain substantial Commonwealth aid, not just for capital expenditure but also for recurrent expenditure. The member for Elizabeth has spoken about Commonwealth aid for education from the first day he became a member of the House, about 18 years ago. Labor members have had great difficulty over the years in getting members of the Liberal Party

to recognize that the basic problems of education cannot be solved without substantial Commonwealth assistance. I am pleased that members opposite now recognize this. In answer to the member for Davenport, and also partially to the member for Torrens, I make the point that, on every occasion that I spoke when in Opposition about educational problems and the problems of gaining additional finance, I raised the issue of Commonwealth aid. This has been done consistently.

Mr. Goldsworthy: In the policy speech you said it was to be from your resources.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: We said that we would mobilize the support of teachers and others to secure effective Commonwealth aid for education. That was in the policy speech, and the honourable member has quoted out of context.

Mr. Goldsworthy: I quoted from the paragraph in the policy speech.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: If the honourable member cares to read the general context in which that paragraph is to be found, he will also discover set out there the vital need for the provision of Commonwealth resources for education.

Mr. Goldsworthy: You said you'd do all these things from your own resources.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member is deliberately misrepresenting what was said in our policy speech.

Mr. Goldsworthy: To the contrary.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I happen to know what was in the policy speech. I am a member of the Party and I was associated with the formation of the policy. The honourable member is simply not telling the truth of the matter.

Mr. Goldsworthy: Rubbish.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: If he is going to descend to that kind of argument, the honourable member will not make a very deep impression on others in this House. I ask him to check what was said in the earlier speech and to check the passages regarding Commonwealth aid; if he does so he will find that what I have said is the truth. If he cares to check the speeches made by members on this side, he will find that we have consistently raised the need for Commonwealth aid.

One of the great difficulties the Labor Party had with the member for Davenport, when she was Minister of Education, was to get an admission of the vital need for Commonwealth aid for education. We finally got the survey established; this was the final thing that determined attitude and changed opinions. It

was established under six Liberal Governments and it demonstrated the gap between the finance needed to provide properly for education and the finance available; it was a gap of about \$200,000,000 over five years in South Australia, and of \$1,400,000,000 for the whole of Australia.

South Australia's need is the greatest in relation to recurrent expenditure. We face a problem with the current Commonwealth Government in getting it to recognize our need for direct aid in respect of recurrent education purposes. So far, it has concentrated on the capital side and it seems that, if no help is to come from the Commonwealth Government in the forthcoming Budget, we will get only capital assistance. I know that the member for Torrens, when he was Minister of Education, put strongly to the Commonwealth Minister for Education and Science our need for aid for recurrent purposes. Such aid is essential. We have for many years had the spectacle in this State, which has been repeated in every other State, of expenditure on tertiary education rising by 20 per cent a year. That is the kind of percentage increase that has been found necessary at that level in order to achieve decent standards. The cost of primary, secondary and technical education under the control of education departments has risen by an average of 10 per cent or 11 per cent a year.

A growing gap has developed throughout education systems in Australia between the way needs at tertiary level are being met and the way they are being met at the primary and secondary level. If we receive only capital aid from the Commonwealth Government, that gap in the treatment of needs will not be effectively closed. The member for Torrens said yesterday that he hoped my request for a grant of \$7,000,000 from the Commonwealth Government for the current financial year for capital in respect of school buildings would not wreck the whole scheme. I made that request to the Commonwealth Minister on the basis that, as a consequence of the Commonwealth Government's credit squeeze, there was likely to be more slack in the building industry than at the time the original assessment was made, and further that, as a consequence, we considered we could spend \$7,000,000 and not just the \$4,500,000, which was the estimate the then Minister of Education had obtained from the Treasury and the Public Buildings Department. That was the basis for the requested increase. A further reason for the request was that the immediate application for

assistance for South Australia to the extent of \$4,500,000 represented only 9 per cent of the total request by all States, yet we had 11 per cent of the number of children in Government schools in Australia.

Regarding the survey as a whole, the needs of South Australia show a gap of \$200,000,000, as against the Australian gap of \$1,400,000,000, so the proportion of total needs in South Australia that the survey shows is 14 per cent, when all we were requesting immediately was 9 per cent. In my submission to Mr. Bowen I pointed out that South Australia had fared badly in the past, when grants were made to both Government and independent schools on a 75-25 basis, because in South Australia we had 86 per cent of the children in Government schools; and, secondly, that if grants were to be made to the States on a total population basis South Australia would get only 9 per cent of the money, whereas, if they were made on the basis of the number attending Government schools (when the grants are only for Government school purposes), we would be entitled to about 11 per cent.

That was also part of the argument in requesting increased assistance. If that request could wreck the application for Commonwealth assistance, all I can say is that the Commonwealth Minister and the Commonwealth Government must have been playing the dirtiest politics imaginable. However, I do not consider that to be so. I am sure that the Commonwealth Government will consider this matter and that, insofar as it distributes capital grant money to the States, it will do it on the basis that it thinks fair and just. That is how it should be done and, until the contrary is shown to be the case, I expect the Commonwealth Government to do it that way. The member for Torrens also knows that some States made additional requests and that at one time the total request for immediate advances for capital purposes was as high as \$67,000,000, and South Australia's request was left at \$4,500,000. This was a further reason for increasing to \$7,000,000 the immediate grant requested, to ensure that we were not left out in the cold and that our case was considered fully.

I shall emphasize a few points about the survey. I can take points from it without committing myself absolutely to the standards adopted in the survey. The survey shows a total requirement by South Australia of about \$761,000,000 over five years and, as I have said, it shows that, on the normal rate of growth that has applied to State advances in the

past, we are likely to be short by about \$200,000,000. The survey shows that, in the provision of ancillary staff, teacher aides, student counsellors, guidance officers, and the like, we need to increase our expenditure on an annual basis 20 times over the five-year period, increasing it from \$1,000,000 a year to \$20,000,000 a year.

The needs requirement for this staff would be \$20,000,000 in 1975, as against an expenditure of \$1,000,000 in 1970, and it is in this area that progress will require Commonwealth assistance. If we are left to our own financial devices, we shall not be able to provide the \$20,000,000 for these services in 1975. That is an inescapable conclusion of the survey: the progress that we will be able to make in providing these services will continue to be as slow as it has been in the past. I made this point when I was in Opposition, and I make it again in Government. It is completely substantiated by the conclusions of the survey.

We see something of the same kind of picture regarding the provision of equipment because, under the conditions of financial stringency that have applied to education for many years in this State, the additional money made available each year for education is first committed in meeting extra salaries of existing staff and of the extra staff needed for the increased number of students in the following year. If an extra 10 per cent is made available for education, most of that is automatically taken up in meeting increased salaries of teachers. The increase in these salaries has averaged about 3 per cent or 4 per cent a year (and I consider that the increases should have been higher) and, in meeting these inevitable commitments and providing improved staff standards to try to lower class sizes, we have not enough left for improvements in the rate of purchasing equipment, and for increasing the number of para-professional staff. Nothing substantial is left to make the kind of improvement that we all recognize to be necessary.

This has been the history of State education in South Australia and I consider that it is likely to continue to be the history of the rate of improvement of standards until we get increased Commonwealth aid. I consider that members on both sides have a duty in this matter of national importance. Members opposite can often speak to their Commonwealth colleagues in a way in which we cannot. I ask members of the Liberal and Country League in South Australia who are

aware of the problems in our schools and who know the present needs of education to do all in their power to convince their Commonwealth colleagues that aid by capital grant alone is not enough, that aid in respect of recurrent expenditure is also necessary, and that a Government, whether State or Commonwealth, has a basic responsibility for the standard of education in both Government and independent schools, because a Government has a basic responsibility to ensure that every child in the country can get a standard of education that will enable him to develop his capabilities to the fullest possible extent. Under our Constitution that responsibility lies with the States and it was never contemplated that the Commonwealth Government would become as financially dominant as it has become. The States on their own can no longer completely discharge their responsibility for education. If the Commonwealth Government supports the States it must pursue part of that responsibility, and that responsibility does not lie in meeting the needs of one sector of the population, namely, the needs of independent schools. It extends over all schools, and I ask members on both sides to ensure that the Commonwealth Government is told that it cannot afford to neglect this responsibility in future.

Mr. LAWN (Adelaide): I did not intend to speak in this debate until I heard what was said by the "Knocker" (as he is known), the Opposition Whip, who, after congratulating members on this side as well as his colleagues on their election to Parliament and congratulating the front bench of Ministers on their election to Government by the people of South Australia, set about knocking the Cabinet, his colleagues here, and his colleagues in another place. I decided I should say a few words about what he said. After saying something about the Government's evident intention of providing more typing facilities in this House, he said that would be worth while. I do not disagree with him on that. However, he then said he had heard that the Government also intended to provide air trips for members (47 members he said) and there would be six single trips or three return trips for 47 members plus 20 in another place. He obviously did not consider that those 20 members were entitled to the air trips and he did not think that he or other members of this House were entitled to them.

I do not think that I shall avail myself of these trips, so there will not be 67 members participating. It is argued that the Government intends to give members the chance to

visit a part of the State to inspect a particular area in order to broaden their knowledge so that they may better discuss matters in this House. This would mean that the member would have a better knowledge than he has today. The Government intended that members should have available to them six single trips or three return trips. For instance a member (and he could be from either side) might wish to inspect Leigh Creek to see what the State is doing. However, the member for Fisher showed that he was trying to knock his own colleagues and other members by saying that these trips could be used to enable the member to go fishing. He did not mean fishing: he meant duck shooting, and we all knew to whom he referred. I do not think any member here (and I do not know members in another place as well as I know them here)—

Mr. Jennings: Do you talk to them?

Mr. LAWN: Yes. I know of no member that I would accuse of using these air travel facilities to go fishing, duck shooting, or anything else. The Government has decided to give members the chance to broaden their knowledge of activities within the State, if they desire to exercise their right and use these facilities, and I doubt that members will do what the member for Fisher has suggested.

Mr. Jennings: He may have a guilty conscience.

Mr. LAWN: He has a guilty conscience, and that was evident this afternoon by way of interjections. When the Parliamentary Salaries Tribunal was about to meet last year the honourable member said that he would not accept an increase in salary. He must have a guilty conscience, because he made it clear today that he had accepted it. Members had wondered whether he had accepted this increase, but he brought the matter into the open today and said that he had accepted it. He also referred to preference to unionists, and I should like to comment on what he said. Before becoming a member, the honourable member was (and I do not know whether he still is) an employer of labour.

Mr. Jennings: He is a garbage man.

Mr. LAWN: Yes, in the Hills district. He is also a member of the Liberal Party, which we know is not imbued with the idea of salary increases of any description to anyone, or with improving the standard of living or conditions of employment. Nor does that Party honestly believe in conciliation and arbitration. It is only because this idea is forced on that Party that it agrees to continue with it. I



remember in 1929, when the Bruce-Page Government stated in its policy that it would abolish the arbitration system in the Commonwealth, that it was defeated overwhelmingly.

Mr. Jennings: Bruce even lost his seat.

Mr. LAWN: Of course. Some people honestly think that they are not worth a salary increase. For 32 years before 1965 the Government was in the hands of the Liberal Party, and salaries of members of this Parliament were altered in this period only after the Government had appointed a committee to inquire and to make recommendations. Then Parliament had to legislate to put into operation the recommendations to the Government. This was the practice in other States and the Commonwealth, as well as the practice of the Playford Government. However, shortly before the downfall of the Playford Government the Parliament of Tasmania introduced a system whereby Parliament passed a Bill setting up a tribunal that would treat members of Parliament the same as other sections of the community were treated, that is, salaries (but not conditions of employment) would be fixed by an independent tribunal. When the Labor Party came into Government in 1965 we passed a Bill setting up a tribunal in South Australia, and appointed as head of the tribunal, if not a member of the Liberal Party, an ex-member of that Party who had been a member of this House.

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

Mr. LAWN: As I said earlier, shortly before the change of Government here in 1965 the Tasmanian Parliament set up a wage-fixing tribunal to determine the salaries of members of Parliament. We followed suit here in 1965, and since then the Western Australian Parliament has also seen fit to appoint a similar tribunal to fix the salaries of members in that State. Seeing that the people of Australia believe in conciliation and arbitration, the action of the Government here in setting up a tribunal was fully in accordance with the wishes of the people of this country. As I explained earlier, not only did Bruce lose the Government of Australia in 1929 on this issue of conciliation and arbitration but he also lost his own seat. I advise the member for Fisher, who was not a member of this Chamber in 1965, that when the original Bill was passed by this House it did not include the provision now contained in section 16, which states:

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act the tribunal may vary the basic salary of members but no determination made by the

tribunal under the provisions of this Act shall provide for different rates of basic salary as between members.

The principle that wage-fixing tribunals follow is to fix a rate for the job, not a rate for the individual.

Mr. Clark: Probably it is just as well, here.

Mr. LAWN: I will come to that in a moment. The provision to which I have just referred was inserted in the Bill as the result of an amendment made in the other House, and at a conference between the two Houses it was agreed that that provision be inserted. There was a suspicion in our minds at the time that the members of the Legislative Council, not knowing much about arbitration and not realizing that a rate was fixed not for the individual but for the job, were a little afraid that if this tribunal was set up to fix salaries they might get a much lower salary than would members of the working House.

Mr. Jennings: Perhaps they thought they might have to pay some back into Consolidated Revenue.

Mr. LAWN: Yes, if it was made retrospective. They would not agree to the Bill without this provision. Anyway, as the provision was only meeting the general standards set by all wage-fixing authorities, the managers from this House did not object to its insertion. The remarks of the member for Fisher this afternoon were, in effect, an admission that he did not think he was worthy of an increase 12 months ago.

Mr. McKee: But he accepted it.

Mr. LAWN: Yes, he did. However, as I say, the rate is fixed for the job. Some members might have wondered what the honourable member had done since last July, but he made it clear this afternoon.

Mr. Jennings: What about his reference to stamps?

Mr. LAWN: The honourable member referred to stamps, this afternoon. After congratulating members on both sides on their election to Parliament, he congratulated Government members on their election to Cabinet rank and then started to knock the Government and even his own colleagues. I will not develop further the reference he made to stamps, but it is a complaint that he has against a colleague of his who did not come back after the election.

Mr. Ryan: Don't they call him anti-Evans?

Mr. LAWN: Yes. The last matter with which I wish to deal is preference to unionists. I do not know whether the honourable member, or other members opposite who oppose the Government regarding preference to unionists, have

ever worked in industry for a boss. When I started work at 13 years of age I had an award rate of pay and a 48-hour working week, but that is about all the benefits I had pursuant to the terms of the award under which I was working. All the other conditions favoured the boss, and there was practically nothing he could not do. I worked a 48-hour week, six days a week, and there was no such thing as payment for holidays or for sick leave when I started.

Mr. Groth: No guarantee of a week's wages, either.

Mr. LAWN: No. As a matter of fact I was on hourly hire; I could be sacked at an hour's notice.

Mr. Jennings: You were many times.

Mr. LAWN: Yes. There was no annual leave, no long service leave and no compassionate leave. The award was binding on the employer respondents and applied to each and every employee, so that, whatever benefit the award provided, every employee received it. That was just at the end of the First World War. Since that time, the trade union movement, mainly by arbitration and by organizing and setting up a political Party, has been able to achieve payment for holidays, and this is a wonderful thing. When the union officials met the employers and filed a claim for payment for holidays, the employers said, "What! Pay a man for not working?" They ridiculed us, thinking we were stark, raving mad. These are the people represented by members opposite, who oppose preference to unionists. We obtained payment for public holidays.

I am referring here to private enterprise, not to Government undertakings. Then, 20 years later, we received three and a half days holidays a year. We had obtained payment for public holidays, including Christmas Day, December 28 and January 1, during the Christmas stand-down, and the rest of the days were all unpaid. But we obtained payment for the three and a half days between Christmas Day and new year's day, and that was our first achievement regarding annual leave. This achievement of the trade union movement was binding on employers and employees. Therefore, non-unionists as well as unionists enjoyed what the union had obtained.

Annual leave was then increased to a week and, by virtue of the action of Australian Labor Party Governments in the Eastern States it became a fortnight. During the war, Jack Holloway, who was the Minister for Labour and National Service in the Commonwealth Labor Government intended

to issue a regulation on behalf of the Commonwealth Labor Government prescribing a fortnight's annual leave for all munitions workers. Mr. Justice O'Mara said to the Minister, "Wouldn't it be better if I approved that through the court instead of the Government's issuing it by regulation?" The Minister agreed, and it was arranged that he have a talk with Mr. Justice O'Mara, which he did in Melbourne. As Jack Holloway walked away from that discussion, the heads of other judges bobbed out of doors. They waited until he had gone, and then they dived on Mr. Justice O'Mara, saying, "What was he down here for?" Mr. Justice O'Mara said, "The Minister was down here seeing about getting a case referred to me to determine the question of annual leave." They got together and decided that it would be a Full Court matter. I heard some of the argument in Melbourne, and they were at each other's throats.

The trade union movement succeeded in obtaining a fortnight's annual leave. During these years the trade union movement gained a break-through before various tribunals when it obtained compassionate leave. I particularly remember one case involving Commonwealth Railways employees that was heard before a Public Service Arbitrator. In regard to compassionate leave and one or two of the other matters to which I have referred, that arbitrator specifically provided that the awards would apply only to financial members of the appropriate union, because he realized that unionists paid contributions to their union to provide officials to argue these matters before the appropriate tribunal and that the non-unionist was therefore not entitled to the provisions of the awards. As I have said, private awards bound employers and each and every employee. The trade union movement obtained the award I have mentioned, and I do not see anything wrong with the Public Service Arbitrator's applying it only to union members.

Sick leave was then introduced. First, one week's sick leave was granted and, if a person had no sickness for three years, he could accumulate a maximum of three weeks' sick leave. Also during the war years, the Curtin Government introduced social services. After the first week, unemployment and sick leave benefits were paid by the Social Services Department. I was then a union official and, in those years, doctors told me how patients were going to them in the early stages of a sickness, whereas this had been unknown in previous years. They said that, as industry was paying for

one week's sick leave and after one week the Commonwealth Government, through the Department of Social Services, was paying not full pay but something, illnesses were being attended to much more quickly. A man, instead of working on the job until he just about died before he would stay at home and see the doctor when he had unpaid leave, which meant nothing coming into the house, only starvation (and we were not very far from starvation even in those days) went to see his doctor directly he felt ill. I am talking now about the 1940's, when life was a mere existence for many people. Doctors told me (and no doubt one member opposite will agree with this) that workmen were going to see a doctor early instead of waiting until they could hardly stand up and then having a doctor call on them at home. The doctors said, "We are getting patients early and the illnesses are not lasting as long as they used to." That is progress.

The trade unionist pays his contributions to get these benefits in industry. A term is used for people who take something without paying for it or get it on the cheap. Members opposite know that word. The trade union movement demands that a man pay for any benefit he receives. He need not necessarily join the union. Cases have occurred in South Australia where disputes have arisen over a person's refusing to join a union, and the union has accepted as a donation a year's contributions, which were the same as those that the members of the union were paying, without demanding that he join the union. What is wrong with that? The Australian Labor Party was formed from the strength of the trade union movement, and many of these reforms have emanated from legislation introduced by Labor Governments in the Eastern States. New South Wales was first, followed by Queensland and Victoria. I refer now to long service leave and annual leave. New South Wales led the way in initiating long service leave. Premier Cain of Victoria, a Labor Premier, introduced a much better scheme of earlier long service leave than even New South Wales and Queensland had, and they in turn followed him. Then the arbitration courts followed suit. Members opposite have been sneering at Mr. Hawke, the President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, for his suggestion of a 35-hour week.

Mr. Gunn: How would it affect the rural industry?

Mr. LAWN: I leave that industry to the honourable member to look after. I have no friends in the rural industry except those who work.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: What have the rural industries got over the years?

Mr. LAWN: I was a member of a union in which practically every employee (and there were several thousands of them) was employed on munitions production during the last war. There were retired farmers, or cockies, who did not sell their land, which was being worked for them while they were working in Adelaide on munitions. They would have been 65 or even 70 years of age, and their families were also working on munitions. They told us that they had never been better off in their life, and this was in the days of the Curtin Labor Government. They said, "Certainly, we must pay high taxes, but we are getting the money to pay them." Those persons had to join a union and, having experienced trade unionism, they came to our meetings and, at election time, they gave out how-to-vote cards on behalf of the Australian Labor Party. Those persons were members of my union.

I can remember when the working week was 48 hours, but my father worked 60 hours a week. Before his time, or perhaps when he was young, there was no limitation, but through the activity of the trade union movement the working week, in my memory, was reduced first to 48 hours and later to 40 hours. We are now talking of a 35-hour week. The trade union movement has obtained these improved working conditions for all persons working in industry, and there is nothing wrong in the unions demanding that all these persons pay their share.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: What about the concessions the cockies get on taxation, and everything else?

Mr. LAWN: Yes, the member for Eyre ought to consider the concessions that the cockies get in reduced rail freight on the cartage of phosphate, reduced taxation, and concessions in motor vehicle registration fees.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: You name it, they've got it.

Mr. LAWN: That is so.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: And they get the subsidies that Chifley provided for developing properties.

Mr. LAWN: Yes, but what subsidy does the worker in industry get from the Government? It may be said that he gets social services, but that is no subsidy.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: It is a right.

Mr. LAWN: Yes. Every man with a family has a right to a decent standard of living, but many workers and their families do not enjoy that standard. A man can barely exist on unemployed or sickness benefits from the Commonwealth Government.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: The farmers get a tax deduction on money put back into a property, too.

Mr. LAWN: As the Minister reminds me, money that a cocky puts back into a property is a tax deduction under legislation passed by the Chifley Government, but what thanks has the farmer given to the Australian Labor Party in the Commonwealth sphere? The farmers did vote for a Commonwealth Labor Government for a few years after Curtin and Chifley introduced these measures and gave them orderly marketing.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Labor passed the post-war reconstruction legislation and the war service land settlement legislation.

Mr. LAWN: Yes. Members opposite continually accuse the trade union movement of demanding that a person working in industry join a union and pay political levies, but they do not know what they are talking about. In the period of about 50 years that I have been a member of my union, no political levy has been paid by its members. Members opposite should not forget that the trade union movement is different from the Australian Labor Party. They also suggest that the Labor Government is requiring the Public Service Board to give preference in employment in the Public Service to unionists so that the Government can demand levies from them. I do not think the Public Service Association is affiliated to the Labor Party.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: It is not.

Mr. LAWN: So, it cannot demand a political levy and pass it on to the Labor Party. Some unions that are not affiliated to the Labor Party have daily-paid employees in private enterprise, and those unions would not impose a political levy and pass it on to us; some of them do not even subscribe to our policy.

Whilst Opposition members were making these statements, several of my colleagues challenged them to name one union as an example. This afternoon the member for Fisher was challenged to name one such union, but he could not do so. I therefore make no apologies for believing that a man working in the industry with which I have

been associated should join the union and subscribe to the cost of obtaining awards. Some of the largest industries in this State have for 52 years had compulsory unionism—not simply preference for unionists. These industries will not allow a man to start work unless he first joins the union.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: A closed shop.

Mr. LAWN: Yes. They will employ only financial members of a union. This system is applied not only in this State but throughout the Commonwealth. At least one firm I know, the largest in South Australia, has applied this system since 1918, and it has had only two complete shut-downs. If it had employed non-unionists, it would have had stoppage after stoppage: it knows that the system is in its own interests. That firm's experience has caused other firms in the same industry in South Australia and other States to demand that every man join a union before commencing work; consequently, they have had no disputes over non-union labour. If a man does not like the system he can get a job elsewhere. While I was the union secretary one large firm did have a stoppage over three non-unionists but, because we stopped work, two of the men joined the union straight away. The other man said that we could do what we liked, but the company told him that he had better get out. Since then the company has reached an agreement with the union, because it does not want any more stoppages over that matter. Surely it is reasonable that a man should pay \$5 or \$6 a year to get all the benefits of union membership. The Chifley and Curtin Governments were on the right track in regard to payments for sick leave; their system got the men back to work more quickly than would have otherwise happened. I support the motion.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): As His Excellency the Governor will be returning to duty on Thursday, July 30, it will be necessary for the Address in Reply to be presented to him and not the Governor's Deputy and, therefore, I move to amend the Address to read as follows:

To His Excellency Major-General Sir James William Harrison, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, Governor in and over the State of South Australia and its Dependencies in the Commonwealth of Australia:  
May it Please Your Excellency—

(1) We, the Members of the House of Assembly, express our thanks for

the Speech with which His Excellency the Governor's Deputy was pleased to open Parliament.

- (2) We express our deep satisfaction with Your Excellency's restoration to good health.
- (3) We assure Your Excellency that we will give our best attention to the matters placed before us.
- (4) We earnestly join in the prayer of His Excellency the Governor's Deputy for the Divine blessing on the proceedings of the Session.

Amendment carried; motion, as amended, carried.

### LICENCE SUSPENSION

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO (Minister of Roads and Transport): I move:

That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into, and report upon, the desirability of the introduction of a system of motor vehicle licence suspension, based upon a points demerit scheme and, if desirable, on what principles such a system should be based.

Members will recall that the last Parliament appointed such a Select Committee but, because of the prorogation of Parliament, the committee ceased to function and, regrettably, it had not completed its work. Hence, we are seeking to have a new committee appointed and, if this motion is carried, I have two subsequent motions, one of which will enable matters placed before the previous committee to be considered.

Motion carried.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO moved:

That the Select Committee consist of the Hon. G. T. Virgo, and Messrs. Lawn, McRae, Millhouse and Rodda.

Motion carried.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO moved:

That the committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to adjourn from place to place, and that correspondence previously received by the Select Committee on the Motor Vehicles Act Amendment Bill, 1969, and the minutes of evidence reported by that committee to this House on April 29, 1970, be referred to the committee; the committee to report on September 29.

Motion carried.

### MOTOR VEHICLES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Order of the Day, Government Business, No. 3: The Hon. G. T. Virgo to move:

That he have leave to introduce a Bill for an Act to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1959-1968.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO (Minister of Roads and Transport): As this Bill is to be introduced in another place, I move:

That this motion be now read and discharged.

Motion read and discharged.

### STATE GOVERNMENT INSURANCE COMMISSION BILL

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): I move:

That I have leave to introduce a Bill for an Act to authorize the establishment of a State Government insurance commission; to authorize such commission to carry on the general business of insurance other than the business of life insurance; and for other purposes.

In moving that the Bill be introduced, I have substituted the word "insurance" for "assurance" appearing in the original Notice of Motion. As the Bill contains a definition of "insurance" which includes "assurance", it is appropriate to move the motion in this amended form.

Motion carried.

Bill introduced and read a first time.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I move:

*That this Bill be now read a second time.*

Its object is to establish a State Government Insurance Commission with power to carry on the general business of insurance other than the business of life insurance. The Bill implements an important part of the policy of the Australian Labor Party. The insurance field is one which all other States in Australia have entered with two main objects in view, namely: (a) to keep premiums at reasonable levels; and (b) to ensure by competition that adequate service is given to the public. "Adequate service" does not merely relate to rates of insurance but to the conditions of policies, the ways in which claims against insurance companies are dealt with, and the ways in which insurance companies alter their liabilities unilaterally.

The Government has received complaints, most of which are concerned with the comprehensive motor vehicle and personal accident and sickness insurance fields. It is generally true that satisfactory service has been given to the public in fire and household insurance. However, in order to set a standard of service in the fields in which complaints are made, it is necessary for an insurance office to cover other profitable avenues of business. In the comprehensive motor vehicle field, it has been common for insurance companies to give notice of alterations in the amount of franchise payable or to impose additional premiums where owners of vehicles have made claims, despite the fact that it cannot be shown that they are accident prone. It had been brought to the

notice of the Government that certain companies had included in their insurance policies a condition in the following terms:

It is hereby expressly agreed and declared that notwithstanding anything contained in the within policy or in the proposal the company may at any time notify the insured by writing sent to the address endorsed on the schedule hereto or to the address of the insured last known to the company that the amount of the excess to be borne by the insured has been increased to a specified sum in excess of the figure shown in the proposal and in the schedule hereto and as and from the date of such notification such increased sum shall be the amount to be borne by the insured in respect of any one claim or series of claims arising out of any one cause or event.

This has worked a decided hardship in many cases upon people who have paid for adequate insurance coverage. There have been cases in which insurance companies have unfairly relied upon technical errors in the application for insurance to deny liability to the insured. There are cases where insurance companies, which are largely owned by hire-purchase interests, charge premiums on insurance of secondhand cars well above the ruling market rate, and the hire-purchase company recovers interest on the premiums. Hire-purchase companies have refused to write business unless the insurance is with its insurance company despite the provisions of the Hire-Purchase Agreements Act.

The difficulty of a proposed hirer in ascertaining his remedies under the Hire-Purchase Agreements Act is that he generally is not aware of the other companies offering insurance at lower rates, but it would be simple for him to become aware of the proposals of a Government insurance office and he would be able to get a better deal from a Government insurance office than from those insurance companies associated with hire-purchase interests, to which I have referred, though not necessarily from all insurance companies.

In the personal sickness and accident field, certain policies have been carefully drawn to exclude many classes of sickness which the average person taking out a policy would feel were covered. As was stated in this House when a similar Bill was before Parliament in 1966, a policy of one company provided, on the face of it, accident and sickness benefits amounting to several dollars a week, payable for not more than 26 consecutive weeks in the event of the assured's suffering temporary total disablement by accident or temporary total disablement by sickness, and an assurance benefit of several hundreds of dollars in the event of death or permanent total disablement.

Permanent total disablement, according to conditions on the back of the policy in small print, included "permanent total disablement by sickness" but later (in even smaller print) this was confined to the loss of the sight of both eyes caused solely and directly by diseases (other than venereal disease) contracted after the date of the policy and certified by a medical practitioner nominated by the company as being complete and irremediable, or the complete and permanent inability of the assured to follow any trade, occupation or calling, as a result of paralysis caused solely and directly by disease (other than venereal disease or paralysis of the insane) contracted after the date of the policy and which is certified by a medical practitioner nominated by the company as being permanent and complete in at least two limbs.

In consequence, a serious back injury permanently and totally incapacitating the assured, but not producing paralysis in two limbs, does not qualify.

This is the sort of careful exception which has been written into policies and designed to obtain premiums from assured persons in the belief that they are adequately covered, when in fact they are not. There is no reason why policies should not be designed effectively to assure to the assured person what he thinks he is paying for without careful exceptions, as to which many other examples could be given designed to evade liability for sickness or accident. The insurance offices in the other States have been able to give good service to the public, to give a general service of insurance by competition and to be of assistance to Government revenues in a modest way. The gradual build-up of business in a Government insurance office can be undertaken in the same way as with other insurance companies entering the field in South Australia, so that the establishment will not present the Government with financial or administrative problems.

There are two grounds on which the establishment of a Government insurance office in this State has been objected to. The first ground is that competition from a Government insurance office would not be effective and that it is unnecessary in view of the highly competitive nature of the field. If any organization has anything whatever to fear from competition by a Government insurance office since the field is so competitive, it is difficult to understand why it should be so alarmed at the thought of the establishment of a Government insurance office. The second

objection is that, because of the State Government finding itself in a situation of financial stringency, the provision of moneys for a Government insurance office would be an unwise burden upon the finances of the State. This particular allegation is ill-founded. The Government will not be faced with any considerable outlay in the establishment of an insurance office.

It has been stated by way of objection to this type of legislation that 99 per cent of insurance claims are settled amicably without court action, but this does not mean that amicable settlements are always reached, but rather that in most cases insurance companies rely unduly and place undue weight on an arbitration clause which invokes an extremely cumbersome, expensive, and difficult procedure. It can be subjected to interminable delays, and the members of the legal profession experienced in arbitration estimate that an arbitration is likely to cost the successful applicant at least \$300 (and this is a minimum) in irrecoverable costs. Undue reliance on the special arbitration clause in insurance company policies in South Australia, while ostensibly designed to provide a simple method of settling disputes on claims, does the exact opposite and is a means of inducing claimants upon insurance companies to accept the attitude of the insurance company, hostile to their interests, because they have no effective means of enforcing their claims. Particularly is this so with small claims. A specific example of a case of this kind was mentioned in this House when a similar Bill was before Parliament in 1966. A further benefit which other States have derived from a Government insurance office is that funds are made available for investment in semi-governmental loans that are important to the development of the State. As the work of the State Planning Office expands, loan monies of this kind will be increasingly required here. It would be absurd for South Australia to deprive itself of this important element in Government financing which occurs in every other State in Australia.

I shall now explain the clauses of the Bill. Clause 1 is formal and provides for its commencement on a day to be fixed by proclamation. Clause 2 contains the definitions necessary for construing the Bill. Clauses 3 and 4 establish a State Government insurance commission to consist of five members to be appointed by the Governor. Clauses 5 to 10 are machinery provisions. Clause 11 provides for payment of fees and remuneration as fixed from time to time. Clause 12 sets

out the powers and functions of the commission which are to carry on the general business of insurance in the State including third party insurance but not including the business of life insurance.

Clause 13 is a machinery provision. Clause 14 provides that the commission is to hold its property for and on behalf of the Crown. Clause 15 provides that policies issued by the commission are guaranteed by the Government of the State, any amounts payable by the State being repayable by the commission to the Government as and when funds for the purpose are available. Clause 16 enables the commission to invest its funds broadly in trustee investments or Treasury securities. Clause 17 requires the commission to pay the equivalent of income tax payments to the Treasurer and makes the commission subject to the normal provisions of the Stamp Duties and Fire Brigades Acts. Clause 18 requires the commission to carry to a reserve fund such portion of any profits which it may show in any year as is determined by the Chairman, the Under Treasurer and Auditor-General, and to pay to Consolidated Revenue any balance as directed by the Governor.

Clause 19 provides for the keeping of accounts and the auditing of the accounts of the commission by the Auditor-General. The annual report of the Auditor-General is to be laid before each House of Parliament annually. Clause 20 deals with the manner in which the funds of the commission are to be kept, and clause 21 confers a regulation-making power. The whole of the Bill is really of an enabling and machinery nature, the primary provisions being those which deal with the establishment of the commission and its powers and functions. I commend the Bill to honourable members.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### CONSOLIDATION BILLS

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer) moved:

That the House of Assembly request the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the appointment for the present session of a joint committee to which all consolidation Bills shall stand referred, in accordance with Joint Standing Order No. 18, and to which any further questions relative thereto may at any time be sent by either House for report.

That, in the event of the joint committee being appointed, the House of Assembly be represented thereon by three members, two of whom shall form a quorum of the Assembly members necessary to be present at all sittings of the committee.

That a message be sent to the Legislative Council transmitting the foregoing resolutions.

That the Premier (Hon. D. A. Dunstan), the Attorney-General (Hon. L. J. King) and Mr. Millhouse be representatives of the Assembly on the said committee.

Motion carried.

#### PARLIAMENTARY DRAFTSMAN

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer) moved:

That Standing Order No. 83 be so far suspended for the remainder of the session as to enable the Parliamentary Draftsman and his assistant to be accommodated with seats in the Chamber on the right-hand side of the Speaker.

Motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 8.22 p.m. the House adjourned until Thursday, July 30, at 2 p.m.