

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, September 22, 1970

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

## APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2)

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of the general revenue of the State as were required for all the purposes mentioned in the Bill.

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: ROYAL COMMISSION

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): I have to inform the House that at Executive Council this morning a Commission was issued in the following terms:

To the Honourable Charles Hart Bright, a justice of the Supreme Court of South Australia: Whereas on Friday, September 18, 1970, public disorder occurred at or near the intersection of North Terrace and King William Street, Adelaide, at which time and place persons connected with a demonstration known as a "moratorium demonstration", members of the South Australian Police Force, and other persons were present: I, the said Governor, with the advice and consent of the Executive Council of the said State, do hereby appoint you to be a Royal Commission to inquire into and report on:

1. (a) What persons connected with the said moratorium demonstration were in charge of the arrangements and plans made prior to the commencement of the said moratorium demonstration for the conduct of the said moratorium demonstration?

(b) What were those arrangements and plans?

(c) What information was disclosed to the police prior to the said moratorium demonstration by persons connected therewith?

(d) After the commencement of the march which took place during the said moratorium demonstration and prior to the conclusion of the public disorder abovementioned, what arrangements or plans were put into effect and what orders or instructions were given by persons in charge of or asserting positions of authority with respect to the said moratorium demonstration?

2. What arrangements and plans were made by the police with respect to the proposed moratorium demonstration?

3. (a) What happened at or near the said intersection on the occasion in question?

(b) Why did it happen?

4. (a) What are the legally permitted limits of public demonstration?

(b) What changes, if any, should be made in the law on this subject?

5. What, if anything, can or should be done to prevent a repetition of public disorder in connection with a public demonstration?

And I give you full power and authority to do all such other acts and things as may be necessary and as may lawfully be done for the due execution of this Commission.

## QUESTIONS

## ELIZABETH WEST HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. CLARK: Will the Minister of Education obtain a report on the provision, as soon as possible, of the new library and classroom complex at the Elizabeth West High School? With your concurrence, Mr. Speaker, and the agreement of the House I should like to briefly explain my question by reading, for the Minister's information, part of a letter that I have received from the Secretary of the Elizabeth West High School Council. The letter states:

The staff and council of the above high school are much concerned about the ever-increasing shortage of classroom accommodation. This state of affairs is aggravated by the increasing student intake, which in the near future will make the total enrolment approximately 1,250. This problem will still persist, even with the addition of the new boys' and girls' craft centres and five transportable classrooms. It was anticipated that the new library and classroom complex, as drawn up for the Elizabeth West High School, would have been commenced by now or at least at the same time as the Daws Road project. However, it looks as if this action will not materialize. The addition of this complex is essential, for the following reasons: (a) to eliminate the shortage of accommodation; and (b) to enable the school to become fully comprehensive.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The additions and the library complex for this school are on the design list, and the additions are not expected to be available for occupation until the end of 1973. That is certainly a long way ahead and, in view of the honourable member's comments in asking his question, I shall consider this matter in detail to find out whether there is any possibility of an earlier completion date for this project.

## TRADING HOURS REFERENDUM

Mr. HALL: Will the Premier say what is the Government's policy in relation to possible prosecution of those persons who failed to vote at the referendum on Saturday?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The normal provisions, in accordance with the Act, will obtain.

Mr. EASTICK: I ask the Premier what defence have the persons whose names appeared incorrectly on the referendum electoral roll for the District of Light, because they were not domiciled within the boundaries of the defined metropolitan area as appearing

in Bill No. 21 of this session, and who may receive a "Please explain" notice from the State Returning Officer. It was indicated in the debate on this Bill that there is an area of the Mudla Wirra District Council which is contiguous with the Gawler corporation area and which interposes between the Gawler corporation area and the Munno Para District Council area, and which is south of the Gawler River. Persons living in that area found on Saturday that their names were on the roll but that they were not entitled, under the Act which passed through this place, to be on the roll, and some received what appeared to be a computer-prepared card advising them of their responsibility to vote.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If in the defining of the areas some mistakes were made, the people concerned would obviously not be liable for prosecution if they were not people within the description of the Act. If any of the honourable member's constituents do receive an "explain" notice from the State Returning Officer and their answer is that they were not properly put on the roll because they were outside the boundaries provided in the Act, I suggest they give that reply to the State Returning Officer and that is likely to be the end of the matter.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: In Saturday's *Advertiser* the Minister of Labour and Industry was quoted as saying that he had legislation ready to introduce at the earliest possible moment to put into effect the result of the referendum on shopping hours. We are now told that the Minister has today begun drafting legislation which it is understood will give the people the shopping hours for which they voted. I think the Minister should clear up the confusion because the Opposition is as interested in this as is the Government.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I shall be pleased to clear the matter up for the honourable member. The quotation in Saturday's *Advertiser* was not correct: I told the reporter that I was preparing draft legislation and he omitted the particular word "preparing". At that time I was preparing draft legislation and that preparation is continuing.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I wish to ask a question of the Minister of Labour and Industry about an amendment to the Early Closing Act, and with your permission, Mr. Speaker, I point out that it is supplementary to the question asked by the member for Alexandra. As I understood the Minister's reply to the honourable member, he said that he was misquoted in the *Advertiser* and that, in fact, he was still in the process

of drafting legislation to amend the Early Closing Act. I think that was the substance of the Minister's reply. I recall that some weeks ago the Minister said that immediately after the referendum he intended to introduce a Bill to give effect to the decision of the people as expressed in that referendum. He said that on August 13, and it is reported at page 707 of *Hansard*. In view of his previous statement, does the Minister still say he was misreported by the *Advertiser* the other day, or does he say that the statement he then made is an inaccurate statement? If it is not an inaccurate statement, what has occurred to make him and the Government change their minds upon the immediate introduction of a Bill to amend the Early Closing Act?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I point out to the honourable member that the Government was aware, following the debate that took place, that legislation regarding many aspects of shopping hours would be required. The honourable member's comment is referred to in the second reading debate. Since then, recommendations to be incorporated in the draft Bill, which has been worked on in my office, have been prepared. When the draft Bill is completed, the Government will introduce it at an early stage. I will inform the honourable member when we will introduce it.

#### ROYAL COMMISSION

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I should like to ask a question of the Premier concerning the appointment of counsel to assist the Royal Commissioner, and I refer to the announcement that the Premier made a short time ago. I see in this morning's newspaper that the Government has invited or has, in fact, appointed Mr. Xavier Connor, Q.C., of the Victorian bar to assist the Royal Commissioner, Mr. Justice Bright, in his task. I note from that report and from my knowledge (not personal knowledge) of Mr. Connor that he is actively engaged in politics in the Australian Labor Party. I therefore ask the Premier why—

Mr. Ryan: Is this the question now?

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I therefore ask the Premier, first, why the Government has gone outside this State and ignored the many legal practitioners in South Australia who could capably and properly have undertaken this task. Secondly, I ask why the Government has chosen to assist the Royal Commissioner, in such a delicate political matter as this, counsel who has strong affiliations with the

Australian Labor Party or, indeed, with any political Party.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There are two parts to the honourable member's question: first, why the Government has gone outside South Australia for senior counsel to assist the Commission. The answer to this is that the honourable member will be well aware that, in the course of this Royal Commission, people prominent in South Australia will be called before the Commission as witnesses. It is desirable, therefore, in the Government's view to have counsel assisting the Commission divorced as far as possible from the local scene, that is, someone entirely independent of it who will be able to carry out his duties, therefore, in the ordinary traditions of the bar without any sort of personal involvement with those he will have to question or in the matters to be considered by the Commission. The second part of the honourable member's question concerns why the Government has chosen someone who happens to be, amongst his other qualifications, a member of the Australian Labor Party. I point out to the honourable member that membership of the Australian Labor Party does not disqualify people from engagement at the bar or appointment to the bench.

Mr. Clark: Or of the Liberal Party.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is so. Indeed, it has been quite common in South Australia for people who are members of the Liberal Party to be appointed to the bench by the Liberal Governments. I do not think there is anything wrong with that, but I do not, in the same way, think there is any disqualification regarding a member of the Labor Party being involved in the work at the bar. I point out to the honourable member that, from his knowledge of Mr. Connor (if he has, as a barrister, any knowledge of Mr. Connor), he will be forced to acknowledge Mr. Connor's qualifications, independence and impeccable background. Mr. Connor is the immediate past President of the Bar Council of Victoria; he has a wide and extensive experience in practice; he is an Army colonel; and he has never in his life been involved in a moratorium activity.

#### BOLIVAR EFFLUENT

Mr. GROTH: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked on September 15 regarding the offensive smell coming from the Bolivar treatment works?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Since the end of April this year operating personnel at the Bolivar works report no on-site odours of any

significance. The sludge digestion tanks were commissioned in April, and raw sludge was diverted from the temporary sludge lagoons, which were the main cause of odour. The letter to which the honourable member referred mentioned odour problems on hot summer days; this could refer to last summer before the sludge digestion tanks were commissioned. The only other alternative appears to be an unsatisfactorily vented sewer in the Parafield Gardens area, giving rise to local odour as a result of unusual inversion effects. If the Parafield Gardens Progress Association wishes to contact the Operations Engineer at Bolivar (telephone 58 1066) when the odour is noticeable, he will be pleased to investigate the matter immediately.

#### WATER RATING COMMITTEE

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Minister of Works say what progress is being made by the committee set up by the former Government to examine this State's water rating system, and how long he expects it will be before the committee can give a report on this vital subject?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As I have had no recent contact with the committee, I cannot now answer the honourable member's question accurately. In reply to a previous question he asked, I told the honourable member that I expected the committee's report to be delayed slightly because of the visit to Japan of its Chairman (Mr. Sangster, Q.C.). However, I shall be happy to see what progress is being made and when the committee's report will be brought down.

#### INTAKES AND STORAGEES

Mr. LANGLEY: Will the Minister of Works say what are the present storages in this State's reservoirs?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: At present there is a total storage of 36,250,200,000gall. and the maximum quantity that can be held is 41,438,000,000gall. The total storage at this time last year was 31,842,900,000gall., so it will be seen that there is a considerable improvement in the quantity held this year which is due mainly to the recent good rains. The individual holdings are as follows: Mount Bold 10,422,500,000gall.; Happy Valley 2,925,200,000gall.; Clarendon Weir 67,300,000gall.; Myponga 5,836,600,000gall.; Millbrook 3,620,600,000gall.; Kangaroo Creek 2,980,500,000gall.; Hope Valley 675,000,000gall.; Thorndon Park 129,900,000gall.; Barossa 909,300,000gall. and South Para 8,683,300,000gall.

NURSES

Mrs. STEELE: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary to inquire into the possibility of employing in our public hospitals trained and certificated nurses who have attained the age of 60 years? I know that some women who have attained the age of 60 have, in response to the call for trained nursing staff, returned to our public hospitals and undertaken a refresher course after which they have been employed in the wards of the hospitals. I understand they have been advised that they cannot be employed for periods longer than three months because they are over 60 years of age. Many of these women are very active; in fact, I suggest they are more active sometimes than women many years their junior. It has been the practice in the Education Department to re-employ women over the age of 60 years up to the age of 65 years after their formal service is completed, and they have been gainfully employed in our Education Department schools.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will take the matter up with the Chief Secretary as soon as he returns to duty and let the honourable member have a reply.

Dr. TONKIN (on notice):

- 1. How many trainee male nurses are there in general training hospitals at the present time?
- 2. At which hospitals are they training?
- 3. How many male nurses have graduated in general nursing from these hospitals in each of the last five years?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The replies are as follows:

1. and 2. The numbers of trainee male nurses in general training hospitals at the present time, and the hospitals at which they are training, are as follows:

	General	Nurse Aide
Royal Adelaide Hospital . . . . .	20	4
Queen Elizabeth Hospital . . . . .	8	—
Mount Gambier Hospital . . . . .	3	—
Port Lincoln Hospital . . . . .	2	—
Port Pirie Hospital . . . . .	5	1
Repatriation General Hospital . . . . .	—	9
Whyalla Hospital . . . . .	1	—

3. The numbers of male nurses who have graduated in general nursing during the last five years are as follows:

	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Royal Adelaide Hospital . . . . .	3	1	1	3	5
Queen Elizabeth Hospital . . . . .	1	—	—	—	1
Adelaide Children's Hospital . . . . .	—	—	—	1	1
Port Augusta Hospital . . . . .	—	—	1	—	—
Mount Gambier Hospital . . . . .	—	—	—	—	1

Mr. CARNIE (on notice):

- 1. When does the Government intend to set up a nurses training college as recommended by the Truskett committee?
- 2. Has the Government purchased the land?
- 3. If so, where is the land situated and what did it cost?
- 4. When will the college be commenced?
- 5. When will it be operational?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Truskett committee was a committee of inquiry headed by Dr. Truskett, a retired Director of Education in New South Wales. This committee was set up by Mr. Jago (the Minister for Health in New South Wales). The report of the committee was tabled in the New South Wales Parliament on August 13, 1970, and, as far as is known, has not yet been released for general information. However, as the Truskett committee was set up by the New South Wales Government, its terms of reference would accordingly be confined to New South Wales, and the South Australian Government will not,

therefore, be bound in any way by the recommendations of that committee when these become available. The development in South Australia of a tertiary nurses college for post-graduate training in such subjects as nursing education, nursing administration and ward management is currently under investigation by the College of Nursing, Australia, and Government authorities.

TEA TREE GULLY LAND

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Lands to my recent question concerning an area of land at Tea Tree Gully?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The State Planning Authority has purchased 181 acres of land previously owned by Mr. R. M. Ellis, which is bounded generally by Perseverance Road and the North-East Road. This land has been purchased by the authority for eventual development as public open space in terms of the Metropolitan Development Plan and the

Planning and Development Act, and is designated in the proposed Anstey Hill major district open space and is in the north-west corner of the proposed reserve. The land is held in the name of the State Planning Authority.

### WHEAT QUOTAS

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my recent question on wheat quotas?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The task of the Wheat Delivery Quotas Inquiry Committee is to examine all aspects of the present system of wheat delivery quota allocations with a view to advising a just and equitable method to eliminate as far as possible alleged anomalies which have occurred. The terms of reference of the committee are deliberately wide. They are, in general, "to inquire into and report on the bases of allocation of wheat delivery quotas as laid down in the Wheat Delivery Quotas Act, 1969, and as administered by the Wheat Delivery Quotas Advisory Committee and the Wheat Delivery Quotas Review Committee constituted under the provisions of the Act taking into consideration all matters which affect the allocation of quotas . . .". It is thought that the inquiry committee would, therefore, have sufficient scope within its terms of reference to consider the problem described by the honourable member if it saw fit so to do.

### PATAWALONGA BASIN

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of September 15 about preventing pollution of the Patawalonga basin?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Arrangements will be made for the design of a trash-rack on the Sturt River and, on completion of this design, a rack will be manufactured. Some preliminary investigation will need to be made on the type of screen for suitability, and it will probably be several months before the rack can be manufactured and installed.

### SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Premier take up with the Commonwealth Minister for Customs and Excise the matter of taking steps to assist local writers by means of imposing a tariff on school books and other children's books imported from overseas. An article about textbooks appears in this morning's *Advertiser*, under the heading "Plea to use Australian Text-books". I also refer to a letter sent by Rigby Limited to a friend of mine who has written

some material in this connection. Part of the letter states:

The production costs are so high that it is difficult for us to compete with the flood of low-cost material imported from overseas.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will have the matter examined. A tariff on books can operate somewhat to the detriment of the Australian community in some ways. However, I will not forecast the eventualities. If the honourable member will let me have the letter, I shall have the matter examined and see whether a representation should be made to the Commonwealth Government.

### NOISE NUISANCE

Mr. JENNINGS: Has the Premier a reply to the question I asked some time ago about a noise nuisance in the Kilburn area?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Following a question by the honourable member on June 17, 1969, about noise nuisance in Kilburn, an inspection was made by an officer of the Public Health Department. He reported on August 1, 1969, that the source of the noise complained of was found to be an air compressor in the factory of Bradford Kendall Limited. The Bradford Kendall Limited management agreed, following consultation with the Industries Assistance Branch of the Premier's Department, to fit an air intake snubber to the air compressor to reduce the noise level. The original noise levels and the levels following the installation of the air intake snubbers were compared with recommended levels set out in the British Standards 4142, 1967, as follows:

Method of rating industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial areas.

The modification to the air compressor resulted in a reduction of noise level which satisfied the criterion set out in this standard. The report concluded with the observation that "this implies that it is reasonable to expect that no further complaints should be received of noise from this source".

The honourable member raised a further question in the House about complaints received that noise from Bradford Kendall Limited's air compressor is still unbearable. An inspector of the Labour and Industry Department was directed to investigate these new complaints. He said in his report of August 5, 1970, that he had interviewed the Town Clerk and the Chief Building Inspector of the Enfield City Council on August 3, 1970, and that they had received no complaint about noise since July, 1969. He inspected the air compressor room of Bradford Kendall Limited

on August 3, 1970. In addition to air intake snubber, a deep six asbestos screen has been fitted to the west of the compressor room door. This screens the noise of the compressor from the Housing Trust area. He said that it was possible to talk in normal tones 30ft. from the compressor room wall. He then drove alongside the nearest house due west of the compressor room. He could hear the compressor but the noise was not excessive. The Enfield council expressed its appreciation of assistance from the Public Health Department. In view of the history, it would appear that further tests in the vicinity of this factory are not warranted.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. CARNIE: Can the Minister of Local Government say when he now expects the report of the Local Government Act Revision Committee to be ready? As he said, in a reply to a question in another place on August 20, that it was expected that the report would be ready by mid-September, can he now say when it is expected that it will be released?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: No-one regrets more than I do that the delivery of the report has not materialized as expected. However, on each occasion that I have given the expected date. I have done so in good faith on information provided by the printer. The last information I received was that 50 copies, sufficient to distribute to members of this House, would be available on Thursday, September 24, followed by the remaining copies becoming available over the succeeding three weeks. I can only give that information on the basis that it is the information provided to me by the printer. I sincerely hope that the delivery date will be adhered to. As only 50 copies will be available initially, I intend to make them available to members of this House. As soon as further copies are available, they will be supplied to members of the Legislative Council, and then councils will be supplied.

#### HOUSING TRUST FLATS

Mr. PAYNE: Will the Premier, as Minister of Development and Minister in charge of housing, consult with the Housing Trust with a view to reviewing current policy on the letting of multi-unit flats? One of my constituents, a deserted wife with a child eight years old, is currently living in a semi-detached Housing Trust house. Recently she wrote to the trust requesting a transfer to a flat unit when one became available, because, as she

was commencing a nurse-training course to equip her to earn her living, she was unable to cope with the gardening and other work around her present house. The trust replied by letter saying that it was not its policy to let flats to families with young children.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will inquire and get a reply to the honourable member.

#### AGRICULTURAL DISPLAY

Mr. EVANS: My question relates to the display of the Agriculture Department at the Adelaide Royal Show and to the method of calling for quotations for the development of that stand. I wish to refer to particulars handed to me by a person who believes that there appear to be some variations in the present practices relating to this display. The *Stock Journal* of September 17 states that the department's display was described as a waste of taxpayers' money at the annual meeting of the South Australian Stud Beef Cattle Breeders' Association. This criticism was directed at a display of cross-bred calves produced by artificial breeding. A photograph with the article showed "Friesian" incorrectly spelt and there were other grammatical errors in signs explaining the display. It appears that the advertising contractor's work was unsatisfactory in some respects, and the display has been called a waste of taxpayers' money by a responsible rural association. As further background, I am informed (and this is not political, as the practice has gone on for some years) that quotations are not called for the preparation of the department's display, the contract having automatically gone to Rodney N. Robertson Proprietary Limited for several years. This year, the Bushfire Research Committee bucked at its share of the cost. The price charged by Robertson's for painting a background panel was \$100; with 1 gall. of paint, two field assistants did the job in an afternoon. The price charged by Robertson's for building a model house as part of the department's exhibit was about \$3,000. The model was built by Government guests at Yatala; costing at tradesmen's rates suggests that \$1,000 would have been a reasonable price for the job. Robertson's quotes for other sections of the display in the Agricultural Hall were accepted. Although it has been pruned back a bit, there is no doubt that this firm does very well out of this annual contract with the Agriculture Department, and it has no competition. As other reliable firms in the field could do this and as I know that the department in one instance was let down by the firm, will the

Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture what amount the Agriculture Department paid to the advertising contractor Rodney N. Robertson Proprietary Limited for preparing the department's exhibit in the Agricultural Hall for the 1970 Royal Adelaide Show? Will he also find out whether the usual Government practice of calling for three quotations before letting a contract to private enterprise was followed in this case?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be pleased to take the matter up with my colleague and bring down a report for the honourable member as soon as possible.

#### VIDEOTAPE RECORDERS

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister of Education say when videotape recorders/monitor receiver sets will be made available to schools on Upper Eyre Peninsula?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: This matter has been under consideration, as the honourable member would know, and I expect to be able to make a detailed announcement soon. When I am able to do that, I will tell the honourable member.

#### PORT PIRIE HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. McKEE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question about painting work being carried out at the Port Pirie High School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Public Buildings Department has conducted an inspection of the painting requirements at the Port Pirie High School and an estimate of cost of the work is being prepared. The painting will be undertaken by departmental labour and is expected to commence towards the end of November.

#### MEDICAL HONORARIES

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary when the Government intends to begin phasing out the medical honorary system in hospitals in this State?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain a detailed reply for the honourable member.

#### STONEFIELD RURAL SCHOOL

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: My question refers to the transport of children from the closed Stonefield Rural School to the Eudunda Area School. As a result of a question asked by the Hon. B. H. Teusner, former member for Angas, of the former Minister of Education, it was agreed that a toolshed in the Stonefield school could be used by the children as a shelter shed while waiting for the school bus.

The Minister of Education will appreciate that in this locality children are subject to extremes of climate: it is very hot in the summer and extremely cold and wet in the winter. It has been reported that, as a result of the closure of this school last year because of a drop in attendance at the school, the department is disposing of the school property. Will the Minister say whether that report is correct—

Mr. Ryan: Question!

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: —and, if it is, whether the department will provide alternative accommodation for the children?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I shall be pleased to examine this matter for the honourable member.

#### SCHOOL PAMPHLET

Mr. MILLHOUSE: My question, to the Minister of Education, concerns the activities of schoolteachers within schools and their views on Australia's involvement in the war in Vietnam, and, with your permission and the concurrence of the House, Mr. Speaker, I seek leave to explain my question. Sir, I have been sent, by a teacher in a country school—

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Mitcham.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have been sent, by a teacher in a country high school, a brochure which is headed "Stop the war machine" and which is published, according to the note at the bottom, by the Teachers Moratorium Committee, 305 North Terrace, Adelaide. The brochure canvasses the subject of Australia's involvement in Vietnam (and on that I say nothing, of course), but on the second page, under the heading "What should a teacher do?", one paragraph which I desire to quote states:

The teacher must discuss his reason for support of the moratorium with his fellow staff and his students and he should, where possible, regardless of fears of victimization and loss of pay, absent himself for the half day from his school. If he does not act either through discussion or demonstration or both, he fails to educate and instead he indoctrinates through silence.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Mitcham cannot go on forever quoting from a pamphlet. I think he should frame his question.

Mr. Ryan: Didn't he ask it?

The SPEAKER: Order! When the Speaker is addressing the House he will address it in silence. The member for Mitcham broadly

outlined his question and referred to a pamphlet, and he said he wanted to explain the question. The explanation does not entitle the honourable member to quote from the pamphlet, and I ask him to ask his question of the Minister and to make the pamphlet available.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I wonder whether you would mind if I—

The SPEAKER: Order! I just made clear that, when the Speaker is on his feet—

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I thought you were sitting down.

The SPEAKER: With great respect, I was not sitting down, and the honourable member shall not rise until I occupy my seat. The honourable member for Mitcham.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I wonder whether you would mind if I quoted one more sentence?

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. Jennings: Then another, and then another.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: No.

The SPEAKER: Order! I have told the honourable member for Mitcham that he has quoted sufficient to enable him to ask his question, and he can make the pamphlet available. I am asking the honourable member to ask his question.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Very well, Sir. The gist of this is that—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Well, I cannot explain the question without giving at least the gist of it.

The SPEAKER: Order! Specifically, what is your question?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The question is as follows: what is the policy of the Government in the circumstances I am trying to outline? You only let me get half way through.

Mr. Ryan: That's too far.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I realize that you are in a very difficult situation.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order! I am giving the honourable member the right to proceed and he is not permitted to comment. I ask him to proceed.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The final part that I desire to quote is as follows:

If, after informing himself about the Vietnam war, a teacher recognizes our involvement in that war is immoral, he is obliged, as an educator, to communicate his informed beliefs to others, especially senior high school students soon to control our society by vote and soon to murder and be murdered. He should inform them strongly—

Mr. Jennings: It's a long sentence!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: That is all I desire to quote, and I hope you will forgive me if I have taken too long, but that was the gist of the report. I ask the Minister of Education—

The SPEAKER: The honourable member has asked the Minister the question.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Well, I have said that I want to ask him what the policy of the Government is in this matter.

The SPEAKER: You have asked what is the policy. You may follow it up with a further question, but you have asked what is the policy.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I was only going to ask what action the Minister will take on the matter if I give him the pamphlet.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: If the honourable member bothered to follow statements reported in the press and on radio and television, as well as answers to questions in this House, he would know what is the Government's policy on this matter. For the benefit of the honourable member (because I am sure other members are aware of the position), I will again state the policy that applies. If the honourable member will listen, he will appreciate what the policy is, and his question will be fully answered.

Mr. Clark: Perhaps he doesn't want to hear the answer.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Minister is replying.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: A memorandum was sent to all schools setting out the views of the Education Department (and therefore of the Government) on this matter. It was stated at that time that approval would not be given for the distribution of pamphlets within South Australian Government schools. In the course of this it was also stated that parents had a right to expect that their children would not be subjected to partisan propaganda while in attendance at school, and the memorandum went on to say that, whatever their source might be, pamphlets would not be permitted to be distributed within schools. The memorandum continues:

This is altogether different from the policy on curriculum, particularly evident in social studies and current events programmes, that encourages students to think for themselves and which may involve discussions of the pros and cons of various contentious issues in a class or a current events setting. This latter policy is operated by the heads at their own discretion and, of course, permits the use of visiting speakers putting different points



of view. Heads willingly accept the responsibility and can be relied upon to act in the best interests of their schools, both children and parents . . .

The implications of that policy are clear: a teacher in a class or current events setting, where a contentious issue has been legitimately raised, has to be concerned to ensure that all points of view on the matter are considered. If visiting speakers are brought into a certain school (as the honourable member will be aware, he having been a visiting speaker at high schools on numerous occasions), the school will as a normal practice ensure that various points of view are expressed. Indeed, members of this House have often visited high schools and discussed various political problems with senior students at those schools. If, for example, the member for Mitcham were invited and attended a school as a visiting speaker, someone else who would put the contrary point of view would also be invited. The whole of that approach implies that the Education Department and the Government do not approve of teachers who try to put their own partisan viewpoint over to the students by ramming it down their throats.

The whole purpose of the discussion of contentious issues is as this memorandum has stated: to enable students to make up their own minds after considering the various points of view involved. That is the policy I support, and it implies that I do not support the point of view set out in the pamphlet from which the honourable member has quoted. I am sure that the honourable member, if he cared to check back over the last few weeks, would find, through statements I have made and through comments made in this House, that that was the position stated previously as well.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: In view of the policy which the Minister has enunciated, I ask him whether he has taken any action concerning the pamphlet to which I referred and from which I quoted. If he has not, now that I have brought the matter to his attention will he take action and, if so, what action will he take?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The answer to the first part of the question is "No". Secondly, I do not intend to act until I receive complaints. Thirdly, I have not received any complaints at this stage.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: In view of the Minister's reply that he has not yet had a complaint, will he consider my two questions as a complaint, and be prepared to take action? If he is, will

he tell the House what action he intends to take?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: All that the honourable member has done is complain about a pamphlet. I do not mind what pamphlet the honourable member cares to bring into the House; I have no doubt he can find some complaint to make about it. This particular pamphlet proposes hypothetical action to be undertaken by a teacher. As the honourable member has no evidence that any teacher has acted in this way, until he is prepared to bring detailed evidence to my attention I do not intend to do anything about the matter.

Mr. Millhouse: Are you going to wait until something happens before you take action?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member is being particularly dense, even more dense than he is usually. He has brought to the House a pamphlet to which he takes objection. I have indicated that the passages he has read out are in conflict with the policy of the Education Department. The honourable member has no evidence of any teacher's currently acting in the way that that pamphlet suggests. Until he brings such evidence to my attention or to that of the department or until someone else brings forward such evidence, I do not intend to take any action (nor should I) in the matter.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: In view of the Minister's reply to me, I seek your leave, Mr. Speaker, and the concurrence of the House to explain this further question.

Mr. McKee: Question!

The SPEAKER: Order! "Question" having been called, the honourable member must ask his question.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Well, Sir, that is not how you treated me previously, but if that is your ruling on this occasion I shall ask the question. Because the circumstances, as related to me by the teacher who sent me the pamphlet, amount to a complaint and to a pretty clear indication that the advice in the pamphlet was being acted on by teachers, and because, as the Minister will acknowledge, it is better to avoid an evil than to have to remedy it once it has occurred, will the Minister have inquiries made about the circulation of this pamphlet and make it clear to all teachers that they should not act on the advice set out in it?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: No. The Government's position on this matter has already been made clear. I have confidence in the teachers and headmasters of our schools

to act in a sensible way on these matters. I know that the member for Mitcham does not—

Mr. Millhouse: That is not so.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: —and that the difference between the honourable member and me in this matter is that he would set us all off on a wild goose chase and start an inquisition when it was not necessary to do so and even though such an inquisition carried out by the Education Department in this matter would have a deleterious effect on the general morale of the teaching profession. I should hope that the points involved in this matter would now be clear to the honourable member.

### INDUSTRIAL CODE

Mr. CUMBE: In view of the announcement made by the Minister of Labour and Industry that he intends to introduce legislation to amend the Industrial Code, I ask the Minister whether he intends to amend Division III, comprising section 37 and subsequent sections, concerning the living wage. Following the decision of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court a couple of years ago to introduce a total wage, this Division has become rather cumbersome and redundant in some respects and, in fact, does not work properly.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The answer to the honourable member's question is "Yes"; we are at this stage considering amendments to the relevant sections.

### CAR SALES

Mr. PAYNE: Will the Attorney-General express an opinion on either the legality or ethics (or both) of the practice of finance companies giving the names of prospects to vehicle sales firms, as a result of which practice people's names are apparently being supplied on the basis of those concerned being good sales prospects? The salesman concerned, for instance, then sends the following telegram to the prospective client:

Ring Robin Barnes, Rick Hosking Motors  
... re motor car—

and a telephone number is supplied. This type of telegram has led to some confusion on the part of the people receiving it. Having queried this matter with the firm of Rick Hosking Motors, I was told that names were being supplied as I have stated.

The Hon. L. J. KING: As the honourable member has described this practice in his question, it seems to me to be a most undesirable practice. Although I cannot for the moment think of any way in which the practice would infringe the law, I will certainly look into the matter for the honourable member and give a considered reply.

### DEMONSTRATIONS

Mr. HALL: I wish to ask a question of the Premier about the conduct of future demonstrations and processions in Adelaide and, with your permission, Mr. Speaker, and that of the House, I ask leave to explain my question. The Premier is reported to have said last evening that the—

The SPEAKER: Order! The Leader has stated that he desires to ask a question about the conduct of future demonstrations in Adelaide, and I will have to rule that question out of order.

Mr. HALL: Sir, on what basis do you rule me out of order in asking the Premier a question about a policy he is reported to have enunciated in this morning's newspaper? This has nothing to do with the matter that is the subject of the Royal Commission.

The SPEAKER: If the Leader will state the question precisely, I shall be better able to rule, so I ask him to state his question.

Mr. HALL: Mr. Speaker, may I, with your permission and that of the House and without touching for a moment on something to take place in the future, present to you the subject matter of the question.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Ask it!

Mr. HALL: I understand that between 250 and 300 students have this afternoon marched in a procession from the university along Rundle Street and King William Street, and back along North Terrace presumably to the university. In view of the Premier's statement that, pending the report of the Royal Commission on appropriate procedures to be adopted in the future, the organizers of all processions and demonstrations must fully inform the Government, the police and other appropriate authorities of their intentions and satisfy them that public order will be maintained, I ask the Premier whether he was informed of the procession that has just been held.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, I was not. I was told of this demonstration, but not by its organizers. After learning that the demonstration was taking place, I immediately contacted the officer in charge at the city watchhouse (Superintendent Voegelang). I understand that the demonstration has been and gone. It must have been about the shortest demonstration in the history of Australia: by the sound of it, the demonstrators must have sprinted. However, if they have broken the law I expect that action will be taken against them.

**JUVENILE AID PANELS**

**Dr. TONKIN:** Will the Minister of Social Welfare say what progress has been made in the proposed introduction of juvenile aid panels in the treatment of young offenders in this State?

**The Hon. L. J. KING:** As I have previously indicated, this topic will be the subject of legislation to be introduced in this House. Preliminary studies are now being undertaken prior to the preparation of that legislation. Although I cannot say definitely, I expect the legislation to be introduced later this session.

**PARA HILLS ROAD**

**Mrs. STEELE:** Will the Minister of Roads and Transport ascertain who is responsible for the reconstruction and maintenance of Nelson Road, Para Hills? One of my constituents, who is employed at the Weapons Research Establishment and who uses this road daily to get to his place of employment, has asked me whether I would obtain this information for him. Because of the use made of it by heavy trucks and semi-trailers, the condition of this road is rapidly deteriorating. On inquiring of the Highways Department, my constituent was told that the road was not its responsibility, and he was invited to contact the Salisbury corporation. He did so and was told that, because the road was used mainly by vehicles from outside the district, the responsibility for its upkeep was not that of the corporation but that of the Highways Department. In support of this claim, a tally had recently been conducted at a peak hour; from this it was learnt that 174 vehicles from outside the district compared with about four from inside it had used the road. In the interests of the people who use this road, will the Minister clarify this position and take steps to see that someone accepts the responsibility for the maintenance and reconstruction of this road?

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** Yes.

**LAND SALESMEN**

**Mr. HOPGOOD:** Will the Attorney-General have his department inquire into the possibility of drafting legislation to protect the interests of land salesmen? My question arises from a report I received that, when a land salesman terminates his employment with an agent, he often has to take civil action to recover commissions owing to him.

**The Hon. L. J. KING:** I will consider this matter, and I am prepared to discuss it further with the honourable member to see whether an alteration of the law is needed.

**CANBERRA TOURIST OFFICE**

**Mr. NANKIVELL:** Has the Premier a reply to my recent question regarding the establishment in Canberra of a branch of the South Australian Government Tourist Bureau?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The department does not have a branch office at Canberra. However, there are branch offices in Melbourne and Sydney. For financial reasons the department has not seriously considered starting an office in Canberra, as the number of tourists there is less than that in most major capital cities. The department's next logical move would be to Brisbane or Perth, if expansion were being considered.

**MODBURY DEATH**

**Mrs. BYRNE:** Has the Premier an interim reply to the question I asked recently regarding a tragedy that occurred in the Modbury North section of my district, involving the death of a young girl?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The death of this girl was reported to the City Coroner, who is currently having inquiries made. The Coroner intends to hold an inquest as soon as these inquiries are completed. He will fix a date for the hearing as early as possible, but certainly early in October.

**EGG PRODUCTION**

**Mr. McANANEY:** I understand that last year representatives of the poultry industry asked that a restriction be placed on egg production, but that the request was refused by the Government. I understand also that the industry is now asking that poultry farms be licensed. Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture what action the Government contemplates in this regard?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** Yes.

**RURAL YOUTH ADVISER**

**Mr. CARNIE:** Will the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, say when it is expected that the Public Service Board will report on the investigations currently being made into the appointment of a rural youth adviser on Eyre Peninsula? On July 28, in reply to a question asked by the member for Eyre, the Minister said that, because of lack of finance, the stationing of a rural youth adviser on Eyre Peninsula was not considered practicable at that time. He further said that a request for the creation of a new advisory position on Eyre Peninsula to be financed from State revenue was currently being considered by the Public Service Board.

I should be pleased if the Minister will obtain for the member for Eyre and me a copy of the board's report.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will obtain a report from my colleague and supply it to the honourable members.

#### DENTAL CLINICS

Mr. BURDON: Will the Minister of Works say whether the Public Buildings Department intends to call for tenders for the erection of dental clinics, or is it intended that this work will be done by its employees? As the Minister would realize, it is Government policy to set up dental clinics throughout the State. I have been approached regarding the possible calling of a block tender for their construction. If the work is to be the subject of public tender, I ask that the tenders be called within the respective areas.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am not aware of the situation the honourable member has outlined but I will inquire immediately. Where possible, I should like to see the department do its own work but it may be more convenient, or cheaper, to have the work done after calling for tenders.

#### BREAD

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Attorney-General received a reply to the question I asked on August 25 concerning the return of unsold bread? A similar question has since been asked by the member for Mitcham and, as this is an urgent matter, I ask for a reply as soon as possible.

The Hon. L. J. KING: As I have not received the reply the honourable member desires, I will take up the matter with my colleague's department and try to obtain the reply for him.

#### COMMONWEALTH WORKS

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Premier ascertain the total cost of the large buildings that are being constructed by the Commonwealth Government in this State for the Postmaster-General's Department in Waymouth Street and for the Australian Broadcasting Commission at Collinswood? Will he also ascertain when these projects will be completed?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will inquire, but I think that I probably have the information readily available because I have had a survey made of projected Commonwealth works in South Australia in order to try to get the Commonwealth moving in this area rather more than it has been moving. As the

honourable member will know from reports to him while the previous Government was in office, the total of Commonwealth works expenditure in South Australia has fallen to about 4 per cent of the total, and this is a very serious situation for South Australia.

#### POLLING BOOTHS

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Attorney-General consulted with the State Returning Officer in relation to the more convenient re-siting of polling booths within new electoral districts? I refer the Attorney-General to the *Hansard* report of July 23 of the question I asked and the reply he gave on this matter.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I raised this matter following the question I received from the honourable member and I will take up the matter again.

#### MORGAN SLIPWAY

Mr. ALLEN: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport assure the House that, before a final decision is made to transfer the craft slipway from Morgan to Murray Bridge, he will give the residents of Morgan the opportunity to make submissions in favour of its retention? On August 13, in reply to my question relating to this proposal, the Minister replied that the matter was being considered because of several circumstances. When I was in the area last week, the residents of the township expressed concern about this proposal. They consider that, if this plan is proceeded with, it will be disastrous to the town in general because the employees of the slipway own their own houses and, if they are forced to leave the district, it will necessarily mean there will be many vacant houses there. Local residents consider that the slipway at Morgan is the central point on the river for repairs to river craft.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be pleased to take up the matter and bring down a report.

#### WHEAT PAYMENTS

Mr. McANANEY: It has been understood that there would be a distribution of money for over-quota wheat produced last year. As many people are anxiously awaiting this money, will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture when the distribution will take place?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be happy to obtain a report from my colleague and to bring it down as soon as possible.

### BOAT RAMPS

Mr. CUMBE: Will the Minister of Marine consider having established at Outer Harbour a second boat ramp particularly for trailer boats? At present there is one main boat ramp, which is used for the launching of small boats, especially those carried on trailers.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Torrens, who is asking a question, is entitled to the courtesy of members on both sides; he is entitled to be heard in silence.

Mr. CUMBE: Much congestion is caused at this boat ramp, the approaches to which were recently improved, by the many people who use it, and more will use it during the summer season. Also, some danger exists on the water side of the ramp as a result of the proximity of the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron. Therefore, will the Minister consider having established at Outer Harbour a second boat ramp, quite apart from the ramps provided at and near Garden Island, to assist the general public? Will he see whether work can be completed before the coming summer season, when many boats will use this facility?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be happy to consider the honourable member's request. Although I cannot recall any approach having been made to me by people who use the facility, I accept what the honourable member has said and I shall be happy to examine the matter.

### RAIL CROSSINGS

Dr. EASTICK: In reply to a question last week, the Minister of Roads and Transport said that he had a list of railway crossings at which warning devices would be installed in 1970-71. Will the Minister make that list available to all members, or does he require specific questions about individual railway crossings?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be only too delighted to make the list available to all members who are interested in it.

### SHEEP DISEASES

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture what steps are being taken to prevent cysticercus ovis and cheesy gland (or C.L.A.) in sheep? As there are many rejects in respect of these diseases, possibly this is why Australia has suffered losses in its export market to the United States of America. As much money has been provided by farmers for research to be carried out into various diseases, will the Minister obtain from his colleague a report

on what progress the department has made in eliminating or preventing these diseases?

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

### COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Mr. JENNINGS: Has the Minister of Social Welfare a reply to the question I asked some time ago regarding financial aid for community projects?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The provision of recreation facilities in any area is primarily the function of the local government body. Under present policy as from July 1, 1970, a council can apply for a subsidy for the purchase of land for such a project and also for a development grant. If a council owns land acquired prior to July 1, 1970, it can apply to the Director, Tourist Bureau, for a subsidy for a swimming pool. A council is responsible for the good government of an area and should consider the needs for recreation as a whole, irrespective (and here I refer to the honourable member's question) of whether under-privileged areas are involved. The Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs Department has undertaken some community development work. Departmental officers have recently endeavoured to stimulate community interest in various activities and projects in the Mansfield Park area where local residents have formed a committee with a view to having a swimming pool built. There is also interest in the development of an existing reserve for recreation purposes. Activities already commenced include after-school activities on two days a week, a youth club one night a week and lunch-time interest groups at some schools. Interest groups for adults are under consideration. Some small expenses for these activities are being met by the Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs Department. An after-school activities project at Norwood has been conducted by the department for some years. An annual grant is made to the National Fitness Council for distribution to other organizations to assist with the training of youth leaders and the establishment of youth clubs. The amount provided on this year's Estimates is \$50,000.

### EYRE PENINSULA ROADS

Mr. GUNN: In view of the large amount of work that needs to be done in the Western Division, can the Minister of Roads and Transport say why the Highways Department has reduced spending in that area?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The question is in the form of a statement which is incorrect.

Mr. GUNN: Will the Minister say why there has been a reduction in funds allocated to local councils on Eyre Peninsula? I point out that, whereas \$1,883,000 was allocated last year, only \$1,458,073 is proposed to be allocated this year.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

Mr. GUNN (on notice):

1. How many miles of sealed road were completed on Eyre Peninsula as at June 30, 1970?

2. How many miles of road are intended to be sealed in that area in the financial year 1970-71?

3. How many miles of road are to be sealed in the Western Division in the next five years?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The replies are as follows:

1. Number of miles of sealed roads on Eyre Peninsula as at June 30, 1970: 927 (including town streets).

2. Fifty-three miles of road are proposed to be sealed on Eyre Peninsula this financial year, 1970-71.

3. It is proposed to seal approximately 300 miles of road in the Western Division during the period 1971-75 inclusive.

The mileages given in answer to Questions 2 and 3, represent only those works which are to be financed by the Highways Department. The length of road to be sealed by councils, using their own funds, is not known.

#### DROUGHT RELIEF

Mr. CURREN: Can the Premier say whether any reply has been received from the Prime Minister to the submissions made to him about four weeks ago for financial assistance in the way of drought relief for South Australian farmers? I ask this question because I have been told that a South Australian Liberal and Country League member of the Commonwealth Parliament, when replying to a question about when the Commonwealth Government would make funds available in South Australia for drought relief, said, "Dunstan has already received a grant of \$5,000,000."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have had no reply from the Prime Minister concerning the submissions on drought relief that I detailed to this House when I sent the submissions to the Prime Minister. In the last week I have written to the Prime Minister,

stressing the urgency of this matter and asking for a reply, but I have not received it. As to the suggestion that the amounts received as advance grants from the Grants Commission are payments in respect of drought relief in South Australia, if that statement was made by a Commonwealth member of Parliament for this State that member knows better than to say that to his constituents. The amounts that we have received from the Grants Commission were designed to put this State in a budgetary position comparable with the positions of the two standard States in respect of general State services and had nothing to do with special drought provisions. The submission made by the South Australian Government for \$6,000,000 as special drought relief is not related to the payment of \$5,000,000, and any amount we get ultimately from the Grants Commission will not relate to drought payments.

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Premier say whether South Australia has not received early payment of drought assistance in 1967 and at present because the other States declare an area to be a drought area, thus starting the work of getting drought assistance, and then the Commonwealth Government has always come to the assistance of those States readily? I think this is why we do not get an early reply: we do not make any effort on our own behalf.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The application by this State for drought relief is in the form in which it had been made successfully previously by South Australia, and we have certainly not had any suggestion from the Commonwealth Government that we should follow some other course. We obtained drought relief in 1967, and we ought to obtain it now.

#### MINISTRY

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Premier say whether he will consider following the example of the Western Australian Government, which has introduced a Bill to establish a Conservation Ministry? There will be no complete protection of our wild life and natural environment until such a course is followed.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I expect that a Bill to provide for an additional Minister will be before the House later in the session. As the honourable member knows, I have had many requests to provide diverse kinds of portfolio.

Mr. Coumbe: And applicants?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Well, I have not yet seen the field that will be starting, but, as the honourable member knows, the Government is greatly concerned about conservation and, when portfolios consequent on the establishment of an additional Ministry are allotted, that matter will certainly be considered.

#### PROFESSIONAL SALARIES

Dr. EASTICK: Will the Premier say whether a major proportion of the \$5,000,000 grant received from the Grants Commission will go towards the payment of professional salaries?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It will certainly involve payments to persons employed in the various services so that this State may upgrade its social services, which over a long period (about 27 years) were acknowledged by the then Liberal Governments of this State to be the worst in Australia, as much less was being spent on them in comparison with expenditure by other States. To upgrade those services we must employ additional persons and provide salaries that will encourage them to come here to provide the services. One does not run Government services without the persons who are able to provide the services. I should think that work in the fields of health and education, and in the provision of additional teachers, nurses and medical staff, was a means of providing additional services for the people of the State.

#### BIRTH CERTIFICATES

Mr. WELLS: Will the Attorney-General seek to rectify an anomaly in the administration of the office of the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages? A constituent's son changed his name by deed poll in 1954, when he was 18 years of age. That person, who is now married, with seven children, is able to secure employment but must first present a birth certificate. When he went to the appropriate office he found that his name had not been changed on his birth certificate and no notation of the deed poll change had been made. Although the officer admitted that this should have been done, a payment of \$5 was required to make the change in respect of a birth certificate to be issued now. This is a large sum for a man with seven children to have to pay.

The Hon. L. J. KING: If the honourable member gives me the name of the gentleman concerned, I shall inquire and find out what I can do to rectify the position.

#### PREMIER'S TRIP

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I refer to the Premier's visit to other States at the end of last week and at the weekend. The fact that the Premier made this visit has been well publicized. I understand that on Friday he went to a function at the United States Embassy in connection with trade promotion and that he then had talks with his Labor colleagues in other States. I doubt that any results flowed from the latter talks, but can he tell the House whether any results have flowed from his first visit by way of trade contacts or improved industrial development prospects for this State, and, if they have, can he indicate those results?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I had discussions in Canberra not only with persons at the United States Embassy on matters that have been raised in this House concerning the meat trade from this State but also with the Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industry regarding citrus exports. I am sure that both discussions will have useful results.

Mr. Millhouse: Will you tell us about them now?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No. The honourable member expects me to give the details of confidential discussions before the results have been achieved. He seems to think that one never has discussions with anyone except in the case where he had those discussions and where no results were ever achieved. I had some extremely useful discussions in Sydney, and on Sunday I flew to Melbourne, where I interviewed Mr. Connor in his chambers before returning to South Australia to inform Cabinet, and the honourable member has seen the results of this.

#### MEAT EXPORTS

Dr. EASTICK: My question deals with the meat industry, a matter with which the Premier dealt as part and parcel of his discussions in Canberra last Friday. Can the Premier say whether the inability of this State (in fact, of much of the Commonwealth) to obtain overseas markets for sheep carcasses involves a problem of labour procedure and not of abattoir facilities?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Grave concern has been expressed by the Commonwealth Government at the fact that, I think, about 40 abattoirs in Australia, so far, are condemned by the United States authorities. What is more, as the United States authorities concerned are not directly under diplomatic control it is a matter largely of independent administration. We are trying to establish the basis on which

those authorities will be prepared to license our abattoirs in future and on which they will try to list in total the nature of their objections. At present, I cannot tell the honourable member much more than that, except to say that we are trying to establish the basis on which a further inspection of the facilities of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board in Adelaide will be requested. However, we need to get as comprehensive information as we can on the basis on which the authorities have raised objection, because it seems to us that the objections go much further than merely relating to the health procedures normally observed in the abattoirs.

#### NORTH ADELAIDE RESERVOIR

Mr. CUMBE: Is the Minister of Works aware that the North Adelaide reservoir was recently drained for the purpose of cleaning it? Will the Minister obtain for me a report on the condition of this reservoir, which is a very old and rather historic type of structure? Also, will he assure me that the repairs carried out on the reservoir will mean that it is now perfectly safe and that it will function correctly?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will obtain a report for the honourable member and see whether I can give those assurances.

#### BUTTER

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture what efforts have been made in this State to have butter made more spreadable? I understand that in New South Wales one can now procure spreadable butter and that this has increased sales considerably. I point out that the use of this process would be a great help to dairy farmers in South Australia.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will ask my colleague for a report.

#### AERIAL BAITING

Mr. ALLEN: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Lands whether the Government intends to continue the present method of aerial baiting in connection with wild dogs and, if it does, whether the Government will try to obtain a better class of bait for this purpose? Members may recall that, dealing with this matter at length during the Address in Reply debate, I said that some pastoralists in the North were not particularly happy with the type of bait being used presently. Indeed, these pastoralists consider that much more research should be carried out into the type of bait used in aerial baiting.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will obtain a report from my colleague.

#### ABORIGINAL RESERVES

Mr. GUNN (on notice):

1. Which Aboriginal reserves did the Minister visit recently?
2. What was the date of the visit to each reserve?
3. By whom was the Minister accompanied on those visits?
4. Why were members of this Parliament for the districts concerned not informed of the intended visits and given the opportunity also to be present?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The replies are as follows:

1 and 2: Coober Pedy Reserve on September 7; Indulkana Reserve on September 8; North-West Reserve on September 9; Ernabella Mission and Oodnadatta patrol office on September 10; and Marree Reserve and Nepabunna Mission on September 11.

3. Mr. I. S. Cox (Director of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs); Mr. D. S. Busbridge (Deputy Director of Aboriginal Affairs); Mr. G. F. Keneally, M.P.; Mr. A. E. Baker (Press Secretary); and my 15-year-old son.

4. In general, I try when visiting a member's district on official business to notify that member so that he has the opportunity of being present on appropriate occasions. This course has been followed in the case of my projected visit to the western part of the State and was followed previously when I visited the South-East. The business of the tour referred to in the question was confined exclusively to visits to Aboriginal reserves and settlements in remote parts of the State, and consisted largely of consultations with departmental officers.

My party (apart from my 15-year-old son) consisted of my advisers, including the member for Stuart, whose advice I avail myself of in Aboriginal matters. My intention of visiting these areas was widely publicized and no member of the House approached me for an opportunity to be present on any occasion. It did not occur to me that members in whose districts I happened to be would wish to be present. Problems of transport and accommodation on reserves, as well as adherence to time table, would have arisen, and it is extremely doubtful whether practicable arrangements could have been made. I need hardly add that no discourtesy was intended.



## SOCIAL WELFARE

Dr. TONKIN (on notice): Further to the reply given by the Minister on September, 15, 1970, in answer to a question relating to the various categories of staff employed in the Social Welfare Division of the Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs Department, what case load is being carried at present by members of the various categories therein enumerated?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The current work load of the 89 social work staff employed in the Social Welfare Division of the Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs Department is as follows:

- (1) Supervision of State children: the number of children at August 31, 1970, was . . . . . 3,370
- (2) Supervision of children released on bonds with probation supervision: the number of children at August 31, 1970, was . . . . . 886
- (3) Children receiving voluntary counselling . . . . . 124
- (4) Immigrant children under guardianship supervision . . . . . 21
- (5) Family problem cases: the number during 1969-70 was . . . . . 1,495
- (6) Adoption inquiries: the number during 1969-70 was . . . . . 1,094
- (7) Circumstance reports prepared for Juvenile Courts: the number for 1969-70 was . . . . . 2,451
- (8) Miscellaneous inquiries, including relief inquiries, children's homes, and foster parents' licences, etc.: complete statistics are not available.
- (9) Some specialist officers in the Social Work Branch are engaged in group and individual counselling work and in assisting with assessment procedure at the major institutions.

Case loads of social work staff who are engaged full-time, or almost so, in supervising juvenile offenders vary according to the locality and other circumstances. The average number of cases for male officers in this category is 81 and for female officers 48. Because of the variety of their duties, it is not practicable to state "case loads" as such for other social work staff. Psychologists in the department saw 1,229 children during 1969-70. Some children were seen at the request of Juvenile Courts but most were referred by the department's social workers for assessment and treatment. Statistics are not available of the number of children referred to the Mental Health Services for psychiatric examination and subsequent treatment, where necessary.

## LAND RENTS

Mr. GUNN (on notice): Is it intended that consideration be given to reviewing the rents of developing scrub blocks allotted by the Lands Department over the last seven years, with a view to reducing rents on account of the serious position of lessees, because of the wheat quota system?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Over the last 12 months the Lands Department has been reviewing the rentals of broad-acre perpetual leases that commenced within the past few years. In carrying out this review, consideration has been given to the economic conditions applying in the primary-producing industry. It is not intended to conduct a further review but any applications for reductions in rentals on an individual basis would be considered on their merits.

## GLENELG SCHOOLS

Mr. MATHWIN (on notice):

1. How many pupils attend each of the following schools: (a) Paringa Park Primary; (b) Paringa Park Infants; (c) Brighton High; (d) Glengowrie High; (e) Glenelg Primary; (f) Glenelg Infants; (g) Warradale Primary; (h) Warradale Infants; (i) Morphettville Primary; and (j) Morphettville Infants?

2. What is the number of male and female staff of each school?

3. What is the estimated intake of the above infants' schools in the years 1971, 1972, and 1973, respectively?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The replies are as follows:

1. (a) 587; (b) 219; (c) 1,059; (d) 852; (e) 673; (f) 238; (g) 523; (h) 196; and (i) 381.

	Males	Females
2. (a)	8	13
(b)	0	8
(c)	23	28
(d)	22	22
(e)	5	17
(f)	0	8
(g)	5	13
(h)	0	7
(i)	5	12
(j)	No infants department at Morphettville Park Primary School.	

	1971	1972	1973
3. Paringa Park . . .	75	65	60
Glenelg . . . . .	80	73	65
Warradale . . . . .	75	65	60
Morphettville Park . . . . .	65	60	55

## TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Mr. HALL (on notice):

1. What are the academic qualifications held by Dr. Breuning, and where were they obtained?

2. What major works have been constructed, supervised, or planned by Dr. Breuning in the United States of America?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The replies are: as follows: 1. The academic qualifications held by Dr. Breuning are: a Master of Science in Civil Engineering, obtained from the Technical University, Stuttgart, Germany; and a Doctor of Science in Transportation Engineering with Regional Planning and Business Administration, from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. 2. Dr. Breuning has been engaged in a variety of tasks and with many construction and planning organizations after gaining his qualifications. For instance, he was engaged by the Montreal Transportation Commission to work with the Consulting Engineers, DeLeuw Cather & Company, on the Montreal subway programme, part of which is the Expo express, one of the most advanced automatic rail systems in the world. Dr. Breuning served as a consultant in highway economics on the Canadian Colombo Plan team in Burma.

While serving as Professor of Civil Engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he consulted to such well respected firms as Peat, Marwick, Livingston & Company, and to the Mitre Corporation in long-range systems planning and traffic research. He served as Director, Highways Transportation Programme, project transport, involving the direction and administration of an inter-disciplinary research programme related to highway transportation development.

#### DESALINATION

Mr. Carnie, for Mr. RODDA (on notice): What investigations are being carried out by the Government for desalination of waters in the Adelaide water district?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Engineering and Water Supply Department is maintaining a constant surveillance of the International Technical Press, in which articles on the latest developments in desalination occur. Any article that indicates the possibility of economic processes being developed which would be satisfactorily adapted to the State's problems are followed up.

#### SOUTH-EAST POTENTIAL

Mr. Carnie, for Mr. RODDA (on notice):

1. What planning has been done to investigate South-East ground waters?

2. How is it intended to develop the area in agricultural concept with planning as stated in the Government's policy speech?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The replies are as follows:

1. A comprehensive investigation commenced in early 1969 for the assessment of water resources of the South-East region of South Australia. The estimated total cost of the investigation to be programmed over a period of seven years is \$375,000. The project is being undertaken by the Engineering and Water Supply Department and the Mines Department, with specialist assistance from the Bureau of Meteorology, the Commonwealth Scientific, Industrial and Research Organization and Flinders University.

2. Until a realistic assessment of available water has been obtained, it is not possible to develop detailed plans for its use but it is proposed to seek the advice of the Agriculture Department concerning the practicabilities and economics of its use in primary production, having regard to water quality and cost of extraction and delivery.

#### WESTERN TEACHERS COLLEGE

Mr. CUMBE (on notice):

1. Has the Government finalized steps for the acquisition of land for the new Western Teachers College?

2. If not, when is it likely that negotiations for acquisition will be completed?

3. What is the likely date of commencement of this project?

4. What is the projected date of occupation of the completed buildings?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The replies are as follows:

1. No.

2. It is not possible to say.

3. The commencement date depends on additional financial assistance from the Commonwealth. If finance is available, it is hoped to commence siteworks early in 1972.

4. See No. 3. If finance is available, it is hoped that buildings will be ready for occupation at the beginning of 1975.

#### MURRAY RIVER STORAGES

Mr. Carnie, for Mr. RODDA (on notice):

1. What computer studies will be commenced to ascertain the benefits of operating the Chowilla and Dartmouth dams?

2. Who is to finance these computer studies and when will the results be available?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The replies are as follows:

1. Some studies to investigate the system, yield and comparative costs for combinations of storages of varying capacities at Chowilla and

Dartmouth have been completed, and interim results considered by the River Murray Commission.

2. These studies, which are financed from River Murray Commission funds, will be a continuing activity and are being used for the development of an operational model.

### TOURISM

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. What general progress has been made by the Government in research and promotional work by the Tourist Bureau?

2. What research is currently being undertaken?

3. Which areas have been researched and with what result?

4. Which of the areas already researched or being researched are to be promoted?

5. By what means are these areas to be promoted?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The replies are as follows:

1. Approval has been given for the appointment of a Research Officer in the Tourist Department, but so far a suitable person with the necessary academic qualifications and experience has not been found. The Government is in the process of appointing an officer who will specialize in tourist development work. The applications are already in, and are currently being considered. In the 1970-71 Expenditure Estimates, the allocation for tourist advertising has been increased from \$72,000 to \$100,000.

2. A limited but inadequate amount of tourist research work is now being carried out. That will change after the officer is appointed. The main research is an estimate of the number of interstate and oversea visitors to South Australia each year. Assistance is being given to an advanced university student in a research project at Wilpena. Other statistics collected include visits to wineries in the Barossa Valley.

3. See answer to No. 2.

4. All parts of the State with tourist potential and facilities for visitors are being promoted.

5. The areas are promoted in widely varying ways, including paid advertising, literature, sound colour films, photographs, illustrated articles, posters, window displays, information and booking services in Adelaide, Melbourne and Sydney, advice and encouragement to local tourist promotion committees, Government grants to local governing authorities for improved tourist facilities and swimming pools, Government grants to country tourist offices, and co-operation with private enterprise and other community bodies.

### HOUSING PROGRAMME

Dr. EASTICK (on notice): What progress has been made by the Government in providing emergency short-term housing for general tenancy, and for pensioner tenancy, in the District of Light?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The South Australian Housing Trust on behalf of the State Government administered an emergency housing scheme in the period from 1950 to the early 1960's, when these dwellings were disposed of by the Government. All the trust's rental accommodation has been built with money obtained over long term (mainly through the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement) which is repayable over 53 years. In the Light District the trust has concentrated mainly in the Gawler area where to date 226 rental houses have been built. Vacancies occur from time to time in these houses, and these are reallocated to applicants requiring rental housing there. The current waiting time for rental housing in Gawler is approximately nine months.

Construction is progressing on the erection of a further 10 rental houses in this town and it is expected that the first two of these will be handed over this week. As a result of a recent survey the trust proposes to commence construction on a further 20 rental houses during the current financial year. The trust is aware of the need to provide pensioner accommodation in Gawler and is currently endeavouring to obtain options to purchase suitable land on which to erect cottage flats for age pensioners. It is intended initially to erect about 15 of these units once the land is obtained and siteworks completed.

### PRISONS

Mr. CARNIE (on notice):

1. When does the Government intend to set up committee of inquiry into State prisons and detention centres as forecast by the Premier in his policy speech?

2. Who is it intended will comprise this committee?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Negotiations for obtaining suitable persons to conduct this inquiry are proceeding but have not yet been completed.

### TELEVISION TAKEOVER

Mr. BECKER (on notice):

1. Is the Minister of Labour and Industry aware of the possibility of the television station S.A.S. channel 10 being taken over by an interstate company?

2. Has he investigated whether the continuity of employment of all employees of S.A.S.

channel 10 will be protected if the takeover move is successful?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The replies are as follows:

1. Yes.

2. In discussions between representatives of the boards of both companies, an assurance was sought by the Board of S.A. Telecasters Limited that all staff would be taken over and given continuous service with the new company. This assurance was given. Continuity of service for purposes of annual leave is covered by the respective awards and long service leave by the Long Service Leave Act, 1967.

### LIBRARIES

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (on notice):

1. When will the Government proceed to set up a committee to inquire into the expansion of library and information services?

2. Who will be on the committee?

3. When will the inquiry commence?

4. When will the findings be available to Parliament?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The replies are as follows:

1. It is not intended to set up any committee for the present. The Mander-Jones report on institute libraries has been widely circulated and submissions are being received. The report of the committee inquiring into the State Library is expected shortly.

2. to 4. *Vide* No. 1.

### POINT PEARCE MISSION

Mr. FERGUSON (on notice):

1. Is it intended that the Aboriginal Lands Trust will take control of the Point Pearce Mission Reserve?

2. If so, when will this control take effect?

3. What type of land tenure will it have over the reserve?

4. If the reserve is taken over by the Aboriginal Lands Trust, will all of those officers now employed on the reserve be retained?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The replies are as follows:

1. On November 17, 1969, a decision was taken at a meeting of the residents of the Point Pearce Aboriginal Reserve to request the transfer of the Point Pearce Aboriginal Reserve to the Aboriginal Lands Trust. The Aboriginal Lands Trust, during its November meeting, resolved to accept the transfer and requested the then Minister of Aboriginal Affairs under section 16 of the Aboriginal Lands Trust Act to effect the transfer. Following further consideration and consultation with the Minister

of Aboriginal Affairs, the Aboriginal Lands Trust submitted an application to the Commonwealth Office of Aboriginal Affairs, Canberra, for a grant to enable the trust to commission W. D. Scott and Company Limited to undertake a resources survey in detail of Point Pearce and in general of this State's southern Aboriginal reserves. Therefore, the effecting of the transfer of the Point Pearce reserve to the Aboriginal Lands Trust has been delayed to enable the trust to first consider the report on the resources survey at present being undertaken by W. D. Scott and Company Limited. It is anticipated that this report will be available to the Aboriginal Lands Trust by October 31, 1970. A positive answer to this question cannot, therefore, be given until the results of the resources survey have been evaluated.

2. and 3. *Vide* No. 1.

4. The findings and the evaluation of the resources survey will have considerable bearing as to whether or not and to what extent the Aboriginal Lands Trust desires to take over the lands of Point Pearce reserve and whether or not the trust desires to take over the administration of the reserve settlement as well as surrounding farming lands. The extent of this takeover, which is controlled by, first, the lands trust's wishes and, subsequently, the degree of my concurrence, will obviously determine the number and the nature of the officers remaining in departmental service on Point Pearce reserve.

### DARTMOUTH DAM

Mr. McANANEY (on notice): Has any planning or preliminary work for the proposed Dartmouth dam been carried out by the River Murray Commission since this State refused to ratify the agreement ratified by the other three members of the commission?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: A detailed investigation of the Dartmouth dam site has been carried out by the Snowy Mountains Hydro-Electric Authority and a preliminary plan prepared for a rock-filled dam. No further work has been carried out since April, 1969, on this phase of the investigation, although continuing computer studies are being made for the operational model.

### AGED COTTAGE HOMES

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. When was the Minister of Social Welfare or anyone on his behalf or on that of the Government last in negotiation with Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated?

2. What was the result of those negotiations?

3. Will there be further negotiations? If so, when and on what subject?

4. If there will be no further negotiations does the Government consider the matter concluded?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The replies are as follows:

1. A reply is now being prepared to a submission to the Chief Secretary dated September 9 from Aged Cottage Homes Incorporated.

2. Negotiations are continuing.

3. Dependent upon the prevailing negotiations.

4. As No. 3 above.

#### GARDEN SUBURB

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Has the Government come to a decision on the future local government arrangements for the Garden Suburb?

2. If so, what is that decision?

3. If not, when will a decision be made?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The replies are as follows:

1. and 2. No decision has been made.

3. The committee appointed by the previous Government submitted an interim report on July 23, 1969, setting out the problems associated with amalgamation between Mitcham and the Garden Suburb. These problems had not been solved when the present Government took office. As any decision by the Government will not be purely an administrative move but one which will affect the daily living of many people, all implications must be carefully considered before any action is taken. The question has been discussed and further information is being obtained but a decision will not be made until the Government is satisfied that all interests have been fully considered.

#### BRANCH FROM SANDERGROVE TO MILANG RAILWAY (DISCONTINUANCE) BILL

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO (Minister of Roads and Transport) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to provide for the discontinuance of the railway between Sandergrove and Milang and for other purposes. Read a first time.

#### THE ESTIMATES

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

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of Supply.

Mr. HALL (Leader of the Opposition): I wish to raise a matter of grievance. The build-up to the events of the last few weeks and the Premier's attitude towards the South Australian Police Force had their beginnings in an initial antagonism developed by the Premier towards the police as far back as 1961. On numerous occasions the Premier has levelled criticism at the police and attempted in devious ways to reflect against police officers and to reduce their authority. It was not merely the Premier's legal inclination being displayed in his repeated attempts to deprive the police officers of their authority to move people on. He has resented this authority being given to the police because, in April, 1961, he himself was ordered by a police officer to move on when he became involved with a group of youths loitering on Norwood Parade. Details of this incident appear in *Hansard* in the Premier's own words in his speech during the Address in Reply debate on August 2, 1961.

By the Premier's account, he had been assisting the local police sergeant in his contact with local youths when another patrol car saw the gathering outside a local milk bar and asked the group to disperse. I believe the Premier personally resented that he should have been accosted by the police in this way and treated like any normal citizen, and that this resentment has built up until today we see him as a radical Socialist with a strongly ingrained dislike of police administration. This attitude is coupled with that of his Party, which has shown over the years that it will always put itself before the welfare of the people it is supposed to represent. Over the last four months, we have seen in South Australia an example of this attitude whereby the Labor Party denied South Australia its water guarantee by hypocritically voting in the House for two dams or nothing. The Labor Party knew full well that this policy could not be implemented, but it used this tactic in its efforts to force an election. Now, we have seen from the Government the most erratic and inept display of administration imaginable on a growing number of major issues; it has descended to a low level in its administration of the State.

In addition to all the things that have been permitted on this level, the Minister of Local Government indicated last week that we would go back to allowing voting by a cross, if the Government had its way. Provision for this will be included in legislation to be introduced in this Parliament. That is what the Government thinks of the intelligence of the people of this State: it will allow voting by a cross. We have seen the Labor Government become a laughing-stock in its attempts to meet union demands on trading hours. It has now announced that it will introduce legislation to give effect to the results of Saturday's useless and unnecessary referendum, which was aimed from the start at closing up the basic shopping freedoms that have been enjoyed for years by people to the north, south and east of the city. This also smacks of the old Labor tactic of any means to achieve an end being used by the South Australian Labor Government in its attempt to unseat the Commonwealth Liberal and Country Party coalition Government. This Government's cynical, untruthful and unwarranted attacks on the Commonwealth have shown a total disregard for South Australia's welfare. The Government has shown that it does not care whether people suffer, whether community standards are lowered, or whether freedoms are suppressed, so long as the Labor Parliamentary machine moves towards its dream of national manipulation and control. The Government's attitude towards law and order in South Australia and the irresponsibility over Friday's moratorium demonstration—

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Leader knows perfectly well that any reference to matters affecting the events in the streets last Friday is *sub judice* and therefore out of order.

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition is out of order.

Mr. HALL: On a point of order, Sir, the terms of reference of the Royal Commission, to which I respectfully draw your attention, are as read out by the Premier today and properly reported in today's *News*. Paragraph 1(a) states:

What persons connected with the moratorium demonstration were in charge of the arrangements and plans—

Subsequent reference is made that is connected with that paragraph. I do not charge the Premier with being connected in relation to the

plans arranged for the demonstration. Paragraph 1(b) states:

What were those arrangements and plans?

I do not intend to touch on what those plans and arrangements were. Paragraph 1(d) states:

After the commencement of the march—

I do not intend to touch on matters subject to that paragraph: I will not deal with what happened after the commencement of the march. Paragraph 2 states:

What arrangements and plans were made by the police with respect to the proposed moratorium demonstration?

I do not intend to touch on those points. Paragraph 3(a) states:

What happened at or near the intersection on the occasion in question?

That is not included in my address. Paragraph 3(b) states:

Why did it happen?

I do not wish to touch on that subject.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: That isn't the question.

Mr. HALL: I happen to have the floor on a point of order. Paragraph 4(a) states:

What are the legally permitted limits of public demonstration?

I do not intend to canvass them. Paragraph 4(b) states:

What changes, if any, should be made in the law on this subject?

I do not intend to touch on that. Paragraph 5 states:

What, if anything, can or should be done to prevent a repetition of public disorder in connection with a public demonstration?

I do not intend to touch on that. Therefore, in discussing the Premier's attitude towards this subject, the necessity or otherwise for appointing the Commission, and whether it is valuable to the community I do not believe I will touch on matters that will come under the terms of reference of the Commission.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): I understand the Leader to be saying that the attitude of the Government, and particularly my attitude, had some effect on the events of last Friday. If the Leader is saying that in this House, then he is referring to a matter that is *sub judice*, because the question "Why did it happen?" embraces any conceivable causative matter. If the Leader is suggesting that there was any cause resulting from action by the Government for what happened last Friday, his proper course is to appear before the Royal Commission and not to discuss it in this House.

The SPEAKER: I uphold the point of order taken by the Premier.

Mr. HALL: I must disagree to your ruling, Mr. Speaker, and I shall write out my reasons. I move:

That the Speaker's ruling be disagreed to on the ground that the matters to which I desire to refer are not included in the terms of reference of the Royal Commission.

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition has moved dissent to my ruling on the ground that the matters to which he desires to refer are not included in the terms of reference of the Royal Commission. Is the motion seconded?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes.

Mr. HALL: I have stated, in reading from the relevant parts of the report concerning the terms of reference of the Commission, that what I was saying and what I intended to say did not touch on the matters involved. I believe that the reasons for the Premier's avid support for your ruling are self-evident, and that he does not want discussed any matters associated with the Government's activities before the moratorium march, the subject of the Royal Commission, took place. Therefore, he would inevitably support your ruling, Sir. I again refer you to these matters. Nothing has been put before the House by you, Sir, as to the point on which I have transgressed. The first term of reference begins with, "What persons connected with the moratorium demonstration". Was the Premier connected with it? Did he march, or did any of his members march? Not to my knowledge.

Mr. Jennings: Did you?

Mr. HALL: No, I did not march. I came back, after the demonstration had taken place and when the marchers were pinned down on the steps of Parliament House, and after I had finished my engagement. I say that the words "What persons connected with the moratorium demonstration" do not come within the ambit of my remarks. The next question is, "What were those arrangements and plans?" They were arrangements and plans connected or involved with those who were connected with the moratorium demonstration. Then we have the words, "After the commencement of the march". I remind you, Sir, that I am not dealing with that subject. The next words are "What arrangements and plans were made by the police". I did not deal with that.

I need go no further: it is self-evident that none of these things refer to the subject matter of my address. Mr. Speaker, I suppose that you can, and that you now will, insist on your ruling, but I should like guidance in words

as to where I am transgressing. If the House is to accept a ruling such as you have given without any guidance as to where the member is transgressing, we are all left in a most difficult situation. I believe that no good purpose will be served in the name of free speech unless we are to know what we are doing incorrectly. As a simple soul reading what is put before me, I cannot see where I am transgressing. Before I continue, would I be in order in asking you, Sir, on what point I have transgressed?

The SPEAKER: If the Leader wants to proceed with this dissent he can so proceed, and I will give my ruling and reply to him then.

Mr. HALL: This is a most unsatisfactory situation for the Opposition. It means that any subject that touches on the moratorium march last Friday is taboo. It would not be surprising, of course (and it is not surprising to the Opposition), to know that the Government has taken this course to avoid criticism on this issue: there is no doubt about that. We know the Government intends to set out—

The SPEAKER: Order! The Leader has moved dissent to my ruling. He must not digress: his comments must be relevant to the motion.

Mr. HALL: I cannot understand where my address has impinged on the terms of reference of the Royal Commission set up, apparently, in an all-embracing manner to study last Friday's moratorium march. I submit that, surely, I can refer to the moratorium itself in canvassing whether or not my remarks impinge on the moratorium; otherwise, we are without debate under this ruling.

Mr. Payne: You could talk about the Budget: that is important, too.

Mr. HALL: Obviously, the Government is responsible to the people and therefore to Parliament for all aspects of administration under its control. The Premier, as Leader of the Government, and Ministers in his absence and during his presence have all made statements that impinged on the eventual build-up towards Friday's moratorium march. They have had an effect on that march.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Leader is referring to the moratorium march, which is the subject of a Royal Commission. He is out of order in pursuing that line, and I warn him that he must stick to the subject matter of the motion before the Chair.

Mr. HALL: The Premier is not the subject of that Royal Commission. It is quite by the

way whether I consider that he should or should not be. In fact, I consider that he should be, but that is another matter, and he is not. Therefore, surely—

The SPEAKER: The Leader must stick to the motion.

Mr. HALL: I have moved to disagree to the ruling of the Speaker, on the ground that the matters to which I desire to refer are not included in the terms of reference of the Royal Commission. The matters I desire to refer to include the Premier's behaviour before the moratorium march took place.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Royal Commission has been appointed to investigate the whole proceedings prior to and after the events of Friday. Therefore, the Leader must not refer to that matter. He is out of order in referring to it, and I again draw his attention to that fact.

Mr. HALL: It would be most difficult to disagree to your ruling, Mr. Speaker, within a debate on the disagreement to a ruling.

The SPEAKER: The debate must be confined to one disagreement at a time.

Mr. HALL: Yes, I consider that to be enough, too. I find it extremely difficult to refer, Sir—

The SPEAKER: If the Leader finds it difficult, I suggest that he refrain from trying to transgress the Standing Orders.

Mr. HALL: I am concerned at the moment at the trend in this Parliament and, of course, that is one of the reasons why I am moving this motion of disagreement. The Opposition has a real role to play, and I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, that in regard to the subject matter I have tried to discuss there is a tremendous public involvement and a tremendous public support of an Opposition voice on the subject, a support evidenced by the many calls and letters that members of the Opposition have received. The public does not understand why subjects which are not directly related to what I am forbidden to mention but which are really concerned with events prior to what I am forbidden to mention cannot be mentioned, because those matters are still very relevant to the argument and to the process of rule by the Government of South Australia. It seems a very peculiar situation that I cannot continue with a statement which is, in effect, an attack on the Premier's behaviour and Parliamentary and administrative performance.

The SPEAKER: The Leader is out of order.

Mr. HALL: Surely not in grievance time, when I am attacking the Premier's performance and administrative ability?

The SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition has moved dissent from my ruling, and I have stated that he is not permitted to refer to the question of the moratorium held on Friday, because it is the subject of a Royal Commission, the appointment of which has been announced in this House. I ask the Leader of the Opposition to confine his remarks to the motion before the Chair.

Mr. HALL: I refer again to the terms of reference and say that there is nothing in my statement that impinges on them. Therefore, in my opinion your ruling is incorrect. I consider, Sir, that it would have been better if we had had your reasons earlier, for we would have known exactly what your ruling was. All we know is that it prohibits us from speaking; it does not give any detail, and is merely a blanket prohibition. Your refusal to allow me to speak on the occasion in any way prohibits me, really, from proceeding further with this argument. I find it most unsatisfactory, I say respectfully, to disagree to a ruling the basis of which I do not know, except that it is just a general prohibition.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham): I support the Leader in what he has said and should like to add one or two comments to the points that he has made. As I understand your ruling, Mr. Speaker, it is to the effect that there is to be no mention whatever in this House of the moratorium or of events that led up to the moratorium. If that is the interpretation you are now putting on Standing Orders, I am fortified, respectfully, in my disagreement with you because, if that is the view you are taking, you are very severely curtailing the rights of members of this House, and not only the rights but also the duty of members of this House to debate matters that are of paramount interest and concern to the people of this State. No more important event has taken place in South Australia in recent times than the moratorium.

I respectfully suggest to you, Sir, that the terms of reference of the Royal Commission do not preclude any debate whatever in this place. I would not for a moment disagree that we cannot discuss the particular matters concerning the moratorium which are set out in the terms of reference; but, Sir, if you read those terms of reference carefully you will see that they refer only to certain aspects of the moratorium and not to every aspect of it. There is no mention in those terms of reference, for example, as the Leader has pointed out, of the actions of the Premier.



Indeed, one member on this side will move that this should be an additional term of reference. There is nothing in here about the Premier's actions or activities concerning the moratorium.

What is there in these terms of reference which precludes us from debating this matter? There is nothing. Also, there are other aspects of the moratorium not covered in the terms of reference. It may be that the Government hoped to cover every aspect of the moratorium in drawing the terms of reference. If so, the draftsman has done a very poor job indeed, because he has not covered every term. My respectful submission now is that, unless a matter is specifically covered in the terms of reference, we are entitled (indeed, we have the duty) to debate it in this place. I think that is the first and most important point of all, and I hope that you will be willing to have another look at the ruling you have given. I notice that it was the Premier himself who took the point of order on the Leader, and it is fairly obvious from that that one of the prime objectives of the Government in having a Royal Commission is to stifle debate in this place. That is the reason why we are having a Royal Commission. The Government wants to avoid any reference to or any debate in this place about the disgraceful events of last Friday. That has not always been the view—

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member is out of order. With great respect, you have already ruled that the Leader cannot cover this kind of thing. Members on his side of the House would be only too keen to say a few things to honourable members opposite upon this particular subject, and feeling on this side runs fairly high concerning the matter. However, we are not allowed to discuss that, and we are sticking to Standing Orders.

The SPEAKER: The member for Mitcham must confine his remarks to the disagreement motion moved by the Leader of the Opposition and not transgress on the question of the investigation of the moratorium, which is the subject matter of a Royal Commission.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Sir, this is not the first time that the rights and privileges of members, at the time when a Royal Commission has been appointed, have been debated in this place. You were not a member of the House in 1959 when the matter was raised and certain opinions were expressed on the propriety or otherwise of reference to these matters. I was interested in the original point of order that

the Premier took: he said that this matter was *sub judice* and, therefore, could not be discussed in this House. I intend to quote from *Hansard* of September 2, 1959, because what is said here, bearing in mind the context of the Stuart Royal Commission, is what I believe to be the situation. Members will recall that in that case there had been a trial for murder, and a Royal Commission consisting of three Supreme Court judges was subsequently appointed. The relevant extract from *Hansard* is as follows:

Matters which are *sub judice*, that is, under the judge, should not be discussed in Parliament.

With that, of course, there can be no complaint. *Hansard* continues:

That has always been accepted by members on this side of the House and has never been contested; but when the whole process of litigation has been gone through and the Executive, in the exercise of its prerogative, decides that a Commission of Inquiry shall be held—

and that is the position now—

that is no longer a matter before the judges as an independent judiciary. The Commission of Inquiry is a Commission appointed by an Executive Government for which the Executive Government is responsible, and it is responsible also to this House.

Mr. Clark: Wasn't he ruled out of order for saying that?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: No. The passage in *Hansard* continues:

Therefore, if there is public disquiet about the proceedings of commissioners so appointed, or about the appointment itself, or about the terms of reference of the inquiry, then the Executive should be accountable to this House, and this House should have the opportunity to discuss the matter and advise the Executive. That right, which was sought by members here yesterday, was denied, and denied by the sheer weight of members of the Government Party voting with the Ministry. I think that is completely contrary to the traditions of British Parliaments. The tradition of British Parliaments is that a responsible Government must be responsible to the elected representatives of the people, and those elected representatives of the people should have the right to express in this House the views they represent.

That is a quotation of the remarks of the then member for Norwood.

Mr. Lawn: It was not upheld by the Speaker.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: There was no point of order. The honourable member was speaking during the debate on a no-confidence motion and expressing his own view of the rights and

duties of this House when a Royal Commission has been appointed. But when he is in the opposite situation he apparently—

The SPEAKER: Order! I have repeatedly warned honourable members about the practice of pointing at members and provoking them across the Chamber, a practice which does not seem to me to be good conduct, and I intend to see that it ceases. The member for Mitcham.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I apologize for that; I am afraid that I used as my example the Premier's action towards me last Thursday. I will try to desist, and I hope that he does the same. What I have read out apparently expresses the personal views of the Premier at that time. I do not know whether he has changed his mind now. He complained then that he had been steamrollered. He did not say he was wrong or that the House was right; all he said was that that view had not been acceded to, because of the sheer weight of numbers. If he is denying it, let him now acknowledge that what he said in 1959 was accurate.

*Members interjecting:*

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I certainly concede now that it is accurate.

Mr. Lawn: You didn't in 1959, though!

Mr. Clark: This is most convenient!

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Are you serious?

The SPEAKER: Order! I ask members to allow the member for Mitcham to continue in silence.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: You are very kind, Sir. Does the Premier now say that what he said in 1959 was incorrect?

The SPEAKER: Order! We are debating the motion to disagree to the Speaker's ruling.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes, Sir, and it was the Premier who took this point originally. I am pointing out that in 1959 he said something that is exactly contrary to what he is now saying. He believed at the time that he was right, and he does not now say that he was wrong. Either he must acknowledge that he was right in what he said in 1959, or he is being entirely hypocritical today in taking the point of order on the Leader of the Opposition. That is the point, and in the circumstances I cannot think of a better (but for the Government Party a more embarrassing) authority to quote than that. I do not think that I need do more than that. I merely repeat that the terms of reference here are not all-embracing. It is permissible for us, if we wish, to discuss those matters that are not covered by the terms of reference. That

is the right and the duty of members of this place. It was the view which was strongly and eloquently expressed by the member for Norwood in 1959 during the debate on the no-confidence motion and, if he is sincere in upholding the rights of this place, he will withdraw his objection to what was said by the Leader and support the motion.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The terms of reference of the Royal Commission into the events of last Friday are all-embracing. The preamble points to the existence of public disorder, and one of the terms of reference asks as baldly as this: why did it happen? That, therefore, includes all conceivable allegations that might be made by anyone concerning anything that had an influence on the events that occurred.

Mr. Millhouse: Do you intend to give evidence?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If I am called before the Commission, certainly I will give evidence before it and, if the honourable member has any allegations to make, he has his recourse before the Commission. But the fact is that everything relating to the events of last Friday of any kind is within the terms of reference of the Commissioner.

Mr. Clark: Previously, he was arguing that this wasn't so, but now—

The SPEAKER: Order! I ask that members listen to what is being said. The Premier is on his feet; the member for Mitcham has had his say; and I ask Government members to maintain order.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If the honourable member or anyone else has any allegations to make about anyone in relation to last Friday's events, he has his recourse to a tribunal, which the member for Mitcham must admit is a free, fair and properly constituted tribunal. The honourable member has referred to events in this House at the time of the Stuart Royal Commission. At that time, there had been no rulings in the House on matters considered to be *sub judice*. I argued in the House to the Speaker that matters concerning the details of the inquiry were not *sub judice* and I was ruled against. The member for Mitcham voted in favour of that ruling.

Since that time, there have been many rulings in this House concerning matters that were *sub judice*, and it is quite clearly established in the practice of this House over many years that the contention I argued for in 1959 is not the one that is the practice of this House or accepted in it. Therefore, I cannot argue that way any longer: the case that I

then put has entirely gone. There is ample precedent to the contrary—precedent that has been constantly upheld by the honourable member, and it ill behoves him, in view of his actions in this House upon previous matters when he has been supporting a Liberal Government, to accuse others of hypocrisy. The honourable member may laugh: not many other people will, in view of its conduct.

Mr. Millhouse: You are trying to—

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The proper course in this House has been ruled upon by you, Mr. Speaker, and it is the duty of members to uphold that situation. It would be quite contrary to all the rulings and practices of this House if matters that are now the subject of a properly constituted public inquiry became matters for debate in this House. The proper tribunal, having been appointed, is elsewhere.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN (Alexandra): I support the motion to disagree to your ruling, Mr. Speaker, on the ground that the matter to which the Leader of the Opposition wished to refer was not a part of the Royal Commission's terms of reference. I say that despite what the Premier says. There is a degree of frustration when, in Opposition, we are trying to discuss a matter of public interest that was pronounced upon before the incident happened (and, in our opinion, was exaggerated as a result of that) and was also pronounced upon in the press after the incident happened by the Premier, who made a judgment.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The honourable member is endeavouring again to canvass the very matters upon which you have ruled.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member must confine his remarks to the motion to disagree to my ruling that the moratorium demonstration is the subject of a Royal Commission and reference to events before or after it is not permissible.

Mr. Millhouse: This makes the place a farce.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Having made those submissions, to which I shall not refer again, I point out that the Government sat all yesterday determining its course of action in order to get a Royal Commission appointed before this Parliament could meet to discuss the matter. Where do Parliament's rights lie if we cannot discuss this matter now until after that Royal Commission has

reported? We do not know how long it will take.

Mr. Millhouse: It can take any length of time.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member cannot discuss the matter and ask, "When can we do this?" I have given a ruling and the honourable member must address his remarks to that ruling.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Does this apply even though the Premier has already passed a judgment on the actions of the police?

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member must not stray from the motion. I ask him to confine his remarks to it.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I can only say I do not know where in the terms of reference there is any matter relating to the actions of the Government, although there is detail about the actions of other parties. I gave notice today of a motion to be moved tomorrow, to add to the terms of reference. If this ruling is upheld, there is absolutely no point in my making any statement when that motion is called on, because I shall not be able to speak to it.

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): The ruling you have given, Mr. Speaker, is obviously correct. The terms of reference ask why the events of Friday last at the intersection of North Terrace and King William Street happened. Obviously, that involves an examination of the events that preceded the occasion in order to determine what factors contributed to what happened. In those circumstances, a debate in this House about statements made by either the Premier or anyone else bearing on what may have occurred at the demonstration obviously comes within the terms of reference of the Royal Commission. It is obvious that a debate in this House on matters of that sort could only bedevil the inquiry that the Royal Commissioner is required to make. How can he satisfactorily embark on an inquiry when matters directly relating to the subject matter of his inquiry have been the subject of a discussion in Parliament preceding the inquiry?

The obvious purpose of the ruling that has been followed in this House is to ensure that the Royal Commission can do its work untrammelled and unhampered by discussions taking place on the same topics outside the precincts of the Royal Commission. Mr. Speaker, the ruling you have given is in accordance with what I understand to be the practice of this House. It is apparent that the references which

the Leader of the Opposition wished to make and which were ruled out of order would have directly related to matters that would be under consideration by the Commission. For those reasons, I support your ruling.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (Kavel): Mr. Speaker, I, too, as a new member of the House, like the Attorney-General, will speak briefly to this motion. What puzzles me, after my short term in this House, is just what is the function of Parliament in a situation like this. The Attorney-General has stated that the terms of reference preclude discussion of any of these matters. Just what does impinge upon the terms of reference of this Commission? Does the Premier's behaviour when he was asked by a police officer to move on some years ago impinge on the subject matter of this Royal Commission? I think it does. Is this to be ruled out of order?

The SPEAKER: That is not relevant to the motion. The honourable member must confine his remarks to the motion.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I am endeavouring to follow the Attorney-General's remarks by asking what impinges on the terms of reference of this Royal Commission. If one carried this to its logical conclusion, the behaviour of the Premier over a good many years could be referred to.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member is out of order in discussing that.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I am asking for clarification. Just where is the line drawn?

The SPEAKER: Order! I am not here to listen to requests for clarifications of rulings. If the honourable member is not capable of discussing the matter in accordance with Standing Order, I suggest that he resume his seat.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: The terms of reference of the Royal Commission, as I see it, are to give the Commissioner some guidance on the matters he is to inquire into. In those circumstances, I should have thought that matters not specifically mentioned in those terms of reference could be debated in this Chamber and that that was a proper democratic function of this Parliament. However, it appears to me that the Government is deliberately attempting to curtail debate for perfectly obvious reasons. I will not elaborate further, but I cannot agree with your ruling, Mr. Speaker. I support the motion.

The SPEAKER: Does the Leader wish to reply? If he does, he closes the debate.

Mr. HALL: Mr. Speaker, will you give some sort of ruling before or after I reply?

The SPEAKER: I have given a ruling.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order! The Leader has moved a motion of dissent from my ruling. If he desires to reply to the debate he can do so; however, if he does, he will close the debate.

Mr. HALL: I wish to raise a point of order, Mr. Speaker, before I exercise my right of reply. I am having difficulty in framing my point of order because of interruptions coming from the Government benches. Will you, Mr. Speaker, give details at any stage of these disagreement proceedings of specific points as to why I may not proceed, or are we to leave it as it is?

The SPEAKER: As I understand the practice of the House, no debate is allowed on matters before a Royal Commission. The Leader of the Opposition has discussed such matters, and I have ruled his remarks out of order. It is not the Speaker's function to justify the rules of the House: it is his function to interpret and apply them. If members do not like the rules that they themselves make, their remedy is to take action to alter the rules that they consider to be objectionable.

Mr. HALL (Leader of the Opposition): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your additional remarks in relation to your ruling. I do not agree with the way you have interpreted and applied the rules, and that is why I have moved this motion. It is extremely fortunate for the Government that it has stumbled on these terms of reference. If your ruling is upheld, Mr. Speaker, the Opposition will be stifled. We are soon to discuss (if we get on to it this afternoon) that part of the Estimates dealing with the Police Department. One would wonder, under your ruling, whether we would even be able to discuss that matter—whether it would be possible in future even to consider a vote of money for the Police Force—because of the stringent rule you are now applying. It would be difficult, in debating the Estimates, not to refer to police duties, which would include duties carried out last Friday.

Your ruling, Mr. Speaker, seems to have such a blanket effect that I am doubtful whether the House will be able to carry on if you continue to apply it as you are now applying it; if you do that, you will make this House ineffectual and, if the motion is carried, the Opposition will be stifled. The most important question in the public's mind cannot be debated in its forum by its elected members: the matter must go to a commission of inquiry, where a long drawn out process of law will obviously

be applied to the question, to the very great financial benefit of the members of the legal profession who will be involved. We are told by the Premier to forgo our rights of freedom of speech and to submit ourselves, although we are untrained in the law, to the Commission. I suppose we can pay our own legal expenses, too, if we like. This is what is given as some small morsel of democracy, some little chip off the corner, for Opposition members seeking satisfaction in this House and seeking replies from the Government on a question vital to the conduct of public affairs and civil order in South Australia. Is it any wonder, therefore, that we disagree to your ruling? We speak not just for ourselves: we speak (or we would do so if we could) for hundreds of thousands of South Australians. If this ruling is upheld our rights will be denied. I therefore disagree to your ruling, Mr. Speaker.

The House divided on the motion:

Ayes (19)—Messrs. Allen, Becker, Brookman, Carnie, Coumbe, Eastick, Evans, Ferguson, Goldsworthy, Gunn, Hall (teller), Mathwin, McAnaney, Millhouse, and Nankivell, Mrs. Steele, Messrs. Tonkin, Venning, and Wardle.

Noes (26)—Messrs. Broomhill, Brown, and Burdon, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Clark, Corcoran, Crimes, Curren, Dunstan (teller), Groth, Harrison, Hopgood, Hudson, Jennings, Keneally, King, Langley, Lawn, McKee, McRae, Payne, Ryan, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, and Wells.

Majority of 7 for the Noes.

Motion thus negatived.

Mr. HALL (Leader of the Opposition): I accept the crushing defeat that Government members, voting according to Party lines, have given the Opposition on this matter. I will not pursue the line that I was pursuing, and I will accept the verdict that I may not allude to those subjects. There are other instances of wasteful Government expenditure. One has only to look back to last Saturday to find the most ridiculous Government action that the State has seen for decades. The Government, being pushed by union influence on one side and public interest on the other, accepted a position in the middle and joined, through its union influence, with big business interests in Adelaide in achieving a "No" vote at the referendum. However, I think that the currents ran more deeply than that. When the referendum on shopping hours was being discussed, we heard from the Premier that the average expenses of a family would increase

by \$2 a week if Friday night shopping was provided. That was a completely unsubstantiated assessment. Also, we heard the Minister of Works say (I am not sure whether or not he said it in this House) that 70 per cent of the people involved in the referendum would vote "Yes". The Government was therefore on the side of the angels—on the side of freedom! The Labor Party claims credit for introducing 10 p.m. hotel closing and for providing freedoms in South Australia, so it was putting itself on the side of the angels in saying that there would be a "Yes" vote and that it would have provided this great reform. However, it went so very wrong for the Government; to its great embarrassment, the vote was "No".

*Members interjecting:*

Mr. HALL: If I can get a word in between these embarrassed interjections from members opposite, I will say that we have had the spectacle of a member opposite representing a northern area, in reply to a question whether he could lose his seat as a result of the vote at the referendum, saying that he could well lose his seat. Which way will the Government jump this time? It has been jumping so frequently that it has hardly had its feet on the ground. It will be interesting to see whether the Minister of Labour and Industry brings in a Bill in accordance with his statement on August 13 (this was different from previous statements) that the Government intended that there should be uniform shopping hours within the enlarged metropolitan area. Let us see what he does now that the vote has gone wrong. The Minister said:

It is proposed that a further Bill will be introduced immediately after the referendum to give effect to the decision of the people as expressed in the referendum.

The junior Minister got over-clever. He was a little too clever in asking this stupid question at the referendum and in thinking he could fool the people. Perhaps he did fool them because I do not think he got the answer the people wanted to give. We all know that the answer they wanted to give (no doubt this is what confused the Minister of Works, causing him to make his assessment about the "Yes" vote) was that they wanted no change, but they were unable to give that answer because the question did not give them an opportunity to do so. They did the best they could in trying to decipher this stupid question. I will give the Minister credit for letting them answer by using a "1"; he believed they had enough intelligence to do that. However, the Minister

of Local Government announced last week that the Government would alter its assessment of the ability of the public to vote, as it would ask people in future to vote by using a cross in one square only. This is an obvious attempt to get a Labor Party member elected in some areas by making it first past the post. Therefore, there will not be a real result but a corner vote, bringing about the election of Labor Party members in many districts. However, I must not get too far away from the subject of the referendum. I understand that I am allowed to express my views on this, at least.

Mr. Millhouse: The Government could have a Royal Commission on this.

Mr. HALL: It could appoint a Royal Commission, if there were enough judges in Australia. Perhaps we could even get judges from America, and we could appoint enough Royal Commissions so that Parliament could be shut and everything could be left to these Commissions. If we can find enough lawyers to argue the cases and to protect and guide us before these Commissions, that is what we can do. I will now get back to this stupid question to which people in the greater metropolitan area did their best to reply. It will be interesting to see what legislation this colossal waste of \$70,000 will produce from the Minister. I intend to move a motion that will allow members to vote individually on this matter, and I hope that members will address themselves to it so that the view of the people they represent can be fully and properly stated.

Mr. Millhouse: They'll want to preserve their seats later on.

Mr. HALL: I do not care about their motives; at least they will be able to represent their electors. If they do represent their electors, the Government will get a direct request from the House not to interfere with the Friday night shopping that exists (week-end shopping does not appear to be involved). By this means, we will have a request to the Minister, before he brings in legislation (and this will save him the embarrassment of changing his mind for the tenth time in 10 weeks), to frame legislation in accordance with the wishes of the House. Although this matter of shopping hours is of interest to the public, it is not the most important matter. Other matters have had and will still have a great influence on the progress of this State. It is a sad thing for South Australia that the Prime Minister accuses the Premier of this State of being untruthful about a matter of such vital importance to the State's develop-

ment as the guarantee of water supplies for South Australia.

It makes one wonder how a logical group of Cabinet Ministers can get themselves into so many political and administrative fixes as this Government has done in the last four months. I can only liken that to a multi-stage rocket: the first stage was fired at the election and was successful but the other stages have failed to ignite. However, disagreement in Cabinet and the failure to apply themselves to the subjects before them must have produced the present situation. I remember that when the Premier first came to office he said he would not waste time discussing certain issues in the morning like the previous Cabinet had done. He said he would not have time for this type of talk about subjects that they were involved in in governing the country. There is a lack of communication among Government members that has been quite apparent for some time, and that is being shown in the administration of the State and in the conduct of this House.

Mr. Coumbe: What about press officers?

Mr. HALL: They can speak for themselves, as they have done recently, although some have still to answer for their actions but I must not say where. It is interesting to read the reply the Prime Minister gave in Canberra to a question asked of him concerning the Premier's involvement in the Dartmouth dam negotiations, as follows:

Yes, I have noticed the flights of fancy in which the Premier of South Australia has indulged in regard to this matter. The House might be interested in the history of it. The Premier of South Australia wrote to me asking me to arrange a conference between himself, myself, the Premier of Victoria and the Premier of New South Wales. I replied to the Premier of South Australia on August 17—although I notice that he has publicly stated that he has never had any reply—saying that I had been in touch with the Premier of New South Wales and the Premier of Victoria and would let him know subsequent developments. I had passed on to those Premiers Mr. Dunstan's request for a meeting.

The Premier of Victoria wrote to me in August agreeing to a meeting but, in the meantime, by some means about which I am not at all clear, apparently the Premier of South Australia got into direct touch with the Premier of New South Wales—on a matter which he had asked me to handle for him—and correspondence passed between these two Premiers. The Premier of New South Wales had the good manners and courtesy to provide me with copies of the letters that he was writing to the Premier of South Australia on this matter, but the Premier of South Australia provided me with no information, no copies of any letters, and no indication that

he was dealing directly with the Premier of New South Wales. In short, the discussion between the Premier of New South Wales and the Premier of South Australia was that the Premier of New South Wales did not believe that there should be a meeting of Premiers with the Prime Minister at this time and that he preferred that there should be a meeting of Ministers first. I do not know what the Premier of South Australia replied to those letters because, as I have said, he at no time let me know that he was engaged in this correspondence.

Subsequently I have written to the Premier of South Australia—having given him time to cross the wires up by getting into a matter which he had asked me to handle for him direct—and have indicated to him the views of the Premier of New South Wales, and have suggested that there should be a Ministerial meeting, which we would be happy to attend. I believe that anyone reading or hearing that sequence of events would not for one moment believe that any politics was being played by the Commonwealth Government, which has made no statement about this matter, it being, in our view, one which was confidential between the Premier and ourselves—and that apparently does not apply to the approach of the Premier of South Australia.

I would also believe that anyone regarding the history of this matter would see it as another instance of the Premier of South Australia not being specifically and deliberately untruthful, except in the one matter of saying that he had not had a reply, but of making statements which give a completely untruthful impression of what has been going on.

That is the statement of the Prime Minister. I remind the Premier that the Prime Minister is one of the parties that he has to convince that he is right if he wants to renegotiate the agreement about the Dartmouth dam.

Mr. Coumbe: That is right. You usually approach them with goodwill.

Mr. HALL: Of course. I suppose that the Premier can react to this and show us letters that prove somehow or other that the Prime Minister did not reply to him on August 17 in the terms that have been stated, or he can do other things to stir up the Commonwealth. This is stir-up-the-Commonwealth time. We have a Senate election soon and the results of that election are far more important to the Labor Party than is a guaranteed water supply for South Australia. There is no doubt about that and no doubt about the choice the Premier would make if he had one. So we shall stir the Commonwealth and, I suppose, come back some time after that and try to renegotiate these things that the Premier said not long ago would only take a few months to renegotiate.

It is typical (and I think the *News* editorial states that today, and members can read it) that the Government has tried to escape every

major responsibility that has been thrust upon it. It does not want to make a decision: it does not want to face up to things without some sort of crutch. The crutch for shopping hours was the referendum, but it was bad luck for the Government that the crutch broke and let it down on its face. However, we can consider many issues in the same way. We had the railway issue that was said to be inadequate in so many aspects. The Railways Commissioner today insists that he wants all the northern lines included in the agreement, and objects to the Maunsell report because of its retention of the narrow-gauge Wilming-ton and Quorn lines with triple-gauge yards at Gladstone and Peterborough, and the introduction of a dual-gauge yard at Snowtown. This is the sort of crutch the Premier and his Government lean on for any sort of criticism of the Commonwealth. The Premier knows that it is impossible to get a direct link with the major line to the other States by insisting that the narrow-gauge lines too, should be standardized now. That is foolish.

For shopping hours, he went for a referendum; in relating to disorder he is doing something else that I cannot mention. I suppose I would be allowed to say that he has appointed a Royal Commission. These are the crutches the Government leans on and, whilst it does, South Australia suffers; perhaps not so much now, because I suppose if we miss one year in constructing the Dartmouth dam it may not matter so much. However, if we miss two years in the significant development of this State it could be serious. We shall have to be thankful if we are blessed with many years of good rainfall in the catchment areas of the Murray River. This is a gamble that the Government has taken in the same way as it did with the result of the referendum vote. However, what if the gamble on our water supply has the same result as the gamble on the referendum?

It will not be the Labor Party that suffers so greatly: South Australia will suffer, because we need that guaranteed water for this State and, if in the last year before we get it there is a drought, it will have a severe effect on the economy of the river districts and of South Australia. This Government, and specifically the Premier, will be entirely responsible for the lack of the water that will be required to fulfil our irrigation and domestic requirements. It will be his responsibility if we miss by one year. Let us hope for his welfare and peace of mind that the gamble pays off, but at this stage it still is a gamble. What we could lose

would be the livelihood of hundreds of people and the convenience of tens of thousands of people. I can only say, within the limitations of your ruling, Sir, that the Premier has been guilty of a failure to act constructively in his administration of the affairs of this Government. He has been charged by the people to govern and, in fact, he has assumed responsibility by the election that he sought, but he has thrown that responsibility aside and will not bear it or allow his Cabinet to bear it, and the only thing one can do in these circumstances is ask the Premier to resign. The Premier should resign for the sake of the State of South Australia and the people who inhabit it.

It would be different if he were facing up to the issues and making some mistakes in doing that. It is a far greater failure not to face them at all and to let this State drift in the administrative and political stream of Australian life. We have become entirely discredited in Canberra, an area from which the Premier continually seeks assistance. Only today he mentioned that the Commonwealth Government was spending in South Australia only 4 per cent of its construction activity expenditure, yet he expects to get more money for South Australia, despite his personal attitude to the Prime Minister. On all counts, especially in the light of the tremendous disquiet among the public today, the best thing the Premier can do for South Australia is resign.

The SPEAKER: The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Mr. Speaker—

The SPEAKER: If the Premier speaks, he closes the debate.

Mr. Hall: No, there is no closure of the debate. The member for Mitcham had risen.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: This is a grievance debate. I moved the motion.

The SPEAKER: The Premier had the call.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Well, I do not want to keep honourable members out of the debate if they want to speak.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member for Mitcham.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham): I am pleased that the Premier does not intend to curtail further the right of Opposition members to speak.

Mr. Clark: Are you suggesting he has done that?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes.

Mr. Clark: I thought it was the Speaker's ruling, and I would say that you are reflecting on the Speaker.

The SPEAKER: Order! I am going to ask the honourable member for Mitcham to withdraw that remark. I want to make quite clear that, as Speaker, I had not had a list of speakers supplied to me by the Whips, and I called the Premier. The Premier then saw that the honourable member for Mitcham wanted to speak. The Premier resumed his seat and I think that, in fairness to himself and the House, that remark should be withdrawn.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: There was no reflection on you, Mr. Speaker, and I gladly withdraw if you consider there was. I support the Leader's remarks. It is almost unbelievable that a Government which less than four months ago came into office with the best majority that a Government has had in this State for many years, full of self confidence and full of its own plans, has so soon fallen into such serious error on three important topics, if not more. We have the question which is the subject of the Royal Commission, the moratorium; we have the question of trading hours in South Australia; and we have the question of the renegotiation of the Dartmouth dam agreement. It is extraordinary for members of this side to sit here and see the change in attitude of members of the Government Party, not only members on the back benches but also Ministers of the Crown who sit immediately opposite us.

I may say (and I do not do this just to reflect on members opposite) that in the 15 years that I have been here I have never seen in the Party sitting opposite me such a change of demeanour as there has been in the last 10 days. It started last week, when things started to go bad on the moratorium, and now it has been reinforced by what happened on Saturday in the shopping hours referendum, and what I have said does not take any account of the Dartmouth dam controversy. We now hear openly talk of the Premier's going. It has been in the newspaper. The Leader has made the same comment today, and I have no doubt that this is now a real probability, looking at members opposite and the way they are reacting today, in contrast to their arrogantly self-assured and cocky attitude only a couple of weeks ago. That is a general comment I make and members can like it or lump it.

Mr. Lawn: Cocky like you.



Mr. MILLHOUSE: The member for Adelaide has not got much to talk about either, in view of what has happened to him during the last few months. There is only one specific matter that I rise to debate at this time, and it is the matter that I raised with the Premier this afternoon by way of question. That concerns the appointment of Mr. Connor as counsel assisting the Royal Commissioner, Mr. Justice Bright. No-one could complain of the appointment of Mr. Justice Bright as the Royal Commissioner if we accept that there has to be a Royal Commission on this matter. Of course, I do not accept that: I consider it a completely unnecessary step. In effect, we are setting up a Royal Commission because the police did their duty. The Royal Commission will be a waste of time and money. It is utterly unnecessary. This has the undesirable effect of stifling debate in this place. Whether that is the intention or not, that is the effect that the appointment has.

I do not want to argue those points. We must accept the position. We are out of office now and we are reminded constantly by members opposite, such as the member for Pirie, that the losers can do what they like. We are powerless to affect this situation but, leaving those matters on one side, I protest most vigorously at the appointment of an outsider to assist the Royal Commissioner. When I asked the Premier about that this afternoon, he gave the weakest reply that one could imagine. He said, first, that he had got an outsider, ignoring the bar of this State and the whole legal profession here, because he felt that the person appointed should be, so far as possible, someone without any sort of personal involvement in the matter, because prominent persons in South Australia were likely to be called to give evidence. If that goes for counsel assisting the Royal Commission, why does it not go for the Royal Commissioner also?

Does not the Premier consider that Mr. Justice Bright knows many people in Adelaide and that the persons likely to come before him will be known to him? However, there is no suggestion by the Premier that Mr. Justice Bright will be embarrassed by this and, indeed, he will not be embarrassed by it, because his training, background, whole outlook, and so on, will prevent that. I do not suggest for a moment that he will be embarrassed, but, if he will not, why cannot counsel in South Australia be retained to do this job? There is no reason why this should not have been done. There are both senior counsel and senior

juniors, perhaps we may call them, who could have been retained for this, without going to the Victorian bar. This action is an insult to the legal profession in South Australia and it is one which I feel very keenly about and about which I consider my profession will feel keenly, too. It is completely unnecessary if the only reason for it is the reason, weak as water, given this afternoon by the Premier.

Now, let us come to the other objection I have to the appointment of Mr. Connor, and I say here and now that I have no reproach to make of the man or of his professional ability. But it is most unfortunate, to say the least, that an active member of the Australian Labor Party or any Party should be retained in a matter such as this. What did the Premier say about this? He referred to the fact that previous Liberal Governments have appointed to the Judiciary those who have been members of political Parties. That is perfectly so: both sides have done that, and both sides must do it, because many members of the legal profession take part in political activity, as well as carrying out their professional duties.

But appointments to the bench are one thing: an appointment to assist a Royal Commission in matters which are, above all else, political is another thing, and that is what we have here. Mr. Connor will be required to assist the Commissioner to inquire into matters in which the A.L.P. particularly is involved. This will be undoubtedly one of the major matters to come before the Commission, if what has been said by the Premier and the Attorney-General this afternoon is correct; and yet the Government has seen fit to appoint someone who is an active member of the A.L.P. in Victoria.

Mr. McKee: You'd rather have a Liberal?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I would not rather have a Liberal. The member for Pirie nearly always misses the point. I believe that, if we must have someone, we should have someone else. There are plenty of people at the bar here; or if the Government prefers to go away from South Australia, as apparently it does, there are plenty of people who are not active in politics on one side or the other and who could have been retained for this purpose. I remind the Premier that not only must justice be done but that it must be seen to be done. The fact that this man has such an active and current connection with a political Party will, rightly or wrongly, be misconstrued by many people. What did we find in this morning's newspaper? This was

the point that was stressed in the report of Mr. Connor's appointment: that he is a member of the A.L.P. and that he is a member of the 12-man committee set up by the Federal Executive to reform the A.L.P. in Victoria. I can say no more; I can do nothing about this, but I protest most vigorously that the Government has passed over—

Mr. McKee: In other words, he would not give an honest opinion.

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Mitcham is on his feet.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I protest that the Government has passed over the legal profession in South Australia, and I protest at the appointment of one who is active in politics to assist in such a delicate assignment as this, an assignment in which the confidence of the public, if there is to be any point to it at all, must be had and retained by those who take a leading part. However, it will not be possible for Mr. Connor, simply because of his political connections and activities, to have that confidence. I think this is a bad mistake on the part of the Government, and it is one more mistake piled on top of the other mistakes to which I have referred.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (Kavel): I consider that it is the obligation and responsibility of Opposition members to speak on matters in the public eye at present.

Mr. Lawn: An obligation to waste time!

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: If the member for Adelaide thinks that some of these serious matters coming to the attention of the House are a waste of time, I do not think he will find many people in agreement with him.

Mr. McKee: He meant your contribution would be a waste of time.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: The member for Pirie makes no contribution of any significance whatsoever, so I take his interjection as a compliment.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: If he cared to listen—

Mr. McKee: Listen to you? What do you think I am? I'm going out of the Chamber now.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: One of my preconceived ideas on coming into Parliament was that the Opposition had a role to fulfil (a useful role; in fact, an essential one in the democratic process), namely, to question the Government and to point out weaknesses in its functioning, and I believed that in these circumstances the welfare of the people as a

whole would benefit. However, I must say that it has been a source of some regret to me that since coming into this House this view has had to be modified somewhat.

Mr. Ryan: You could resign!

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: We are accused of wasting time. I remind the honourable member who has interjected that the democratic process is deliberately a fairly slow process; it is not desirable, from the point of view of the law makers or those who have to live subject to the laws, that legislation should be rushed through this House. I do not take interjections of Government members seriously: we know perfectly well the reasons for them. I believe that it is the function of the Opposition to behave responsibly and to point out weaknesses in the Government's behaviour.

Mr. Coumbe: There are plenty of them, too.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Yes, and the public of this State is looking to us to expose these weaknesses. What is the Government's behaviour in these circumstances? It wishes to stifle reasonable and responsible debate. Although I do not intend to reiterate the points made by previous speakers in this debate, I believe that, if ever there was a time in the history of this State when the people had a real and proper grievance against this Government, it is now. I will not refer at length to the various matters that have been raised, but what has happened in the life of this Government that is significant and important? We have had this referendum, which I would say was a fiasco.

The Minister of Labour and Industry said that, as a result of the information he had received, he had changed his mind about shopping hours. However, he was not prepared to introduce legislation on the basis of that information: instead, he decided that the Government would hold a referendum, and influential Government spokesmen confidently predicted a 70 per cent "Yes" vote. The referendum has now been held (the Government's handling of the whole operation was quite inept), and the result is clear; but is this Government prepared to act? We have not seen much evidence yet that it is prepared to act. The Government proposes now to set up a Royal Commission, to which, as a result of the ruling given, we cannot refer in any detail. I should think it would be the view of many people that this Commission was set up before the first sitting day of Parliament, following the events that took

place on Friday, for the sole purpose of limiting the discussion that could take place in this House.

I believe that the public of South Australia is looking to us to discuss this matter now, not at Christmas time, or at the end of the year when, as reported by the Premier, the findings may be known. This matter is pertinent at present. Why were the galleries crowded this afternoon? Why was every available position in the press gallery occupied when we came into the House today? The answer is that it was expected that these vital matters, affecting the lives of the people in the community, would be aired. However, as a result of what has transpired here today, we cannot air many of the peripheral matters.

Mr. Coumbe: They are vital matters.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: They are essential matters in this democratic process. The people of this State have many vital grievances that should be aired at present. In the light of the Deputy Premier's glowing policy speech before the last election, country people expected early action. However, what action has been taken? What is there in the Budget to help these people? The Premier has written a letter to Canberra! The Government is not even prepared to do as much as it did in 1967 to set the ball rolling. The most fundamental grievance that South Australians have is directed at the Premier, who was elected on the basis of the Labor Party's policy speech. The following unequivocal statement was made in that speech:

Every citizen has to live subject to the law. Since that statement was made, the Premier, in regard to National Service, has advised young men to defy the law of the land. What sort of leadership is that?

Mr. Venning: It is not leadership at all.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: What kind of contribution is this to the well-being of the community? Advocacy of defiance of the law is one of the most fundamental problems that has faced Parliaments in this country. In the events leading up to last Friday—

The SPEAKER: Order! The question of the moratorium march has already been decided by the House, and the honourable member cannot refer to it in this debate.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I am referring not to the moratorium march but to events of the past week. Events preceding events of the past week have shown that the Premier will, when the occasion suits him, advocate defiance of the law. I do not think he has given the right type of leadership in this

State. The public expects us to debate these matters, but the behaviour of Government members has stifled debate. The behaviour of Government members entitles the public to have a grievance.

The SPEAKER: Order! If an honourable member misbehaves in this House it is a reflection on the Speaker. If that happens any member should raise the point at the particular time.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I am not in any way reflecting on the Chair: I am commenting on the behaviour of Government members in this House. The people who have elected members to this House have every right to feel dissatisfied with the behaviour of Government members.

The SPEAKER: If the honourable member reflects on anything in this Chamber he should be specific, not ambiguous.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: From memory, I believe that Government members have referred to Opposition members as liars and, on an occasion last week, as snakes.

The SPEAKER: That matter has been dealt with. The point must be taken promptly after the incident.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Mr. Speaker, may I quote what a political commentator has said about replies to questions asked in this House?

The SPEAKER: If the honourable member is out of order or does not comply with Standing Orders, I will tell him.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Regarding the behaviour of the Hon. Mr. Virgo in replying to questions, the article (in the *Stock Journal*) says:

Mr. Virgo began his reply by saying, "If an apology should be forthcoming it should come from the honourable member for the complete and deliberate untruths he has just uttered," and later referred again to "a question that contains so many untruths." This type of reply seems to be a standard reaction from Mr. Virgo when he is asked an awkward question.

Mr. Lawn: A statement like that is not out of order: it was done by Liberal and Country League members for years when they had control of the Chair.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: The article continues:

It has been said before he must learn abuse is not a substitute for information when a question is asked . . . . The dignity of Parliament is not upheld by abuse and it is a waste of valuable time when any member spends some minutes replying to a question that could have been answered in 10 seconds.

This is an example of the sort of treatment that Opposition members have received from the Government. The interjections of Government members do not worry us in the least: all they do is to bring Government members into disrepute in the eyes of the public. The Government has much to answer for. These things have been highlighted in no small measure through the events of the last week.

Mr. EVANS (Fisher): We have noticed for the first time in this State that we can carry the title of having a runaway Cabinet and a runaway Premier. When the Cabinet comes up against a difficult issue it runs away from it at the first opportunity. When the Leader of the Opposition was speaking this afternoon, the member for Whyalla interjected and said that the Leader had run away from a certain issue last Friday. However, the honourable member's interjection was completely unfounded, because the Leader at least stayed within distance of that issue at the time. He did not run away to the South-East or to Sydney. If the situation had arisen at the time originally advertised, the Leader would have been nearby.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: How would that have been arranged?

Mr. EVANS: The expressed attitude of Government members (both now and when they were in Opposition) is that they believe in freedom and in the rights of the individual. Now that Labor Party members are in Government, there is an Opposition made up of individuals representing individuals in the community. At every opportunity the Government has restricted the rights of individuals in this State.

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

Mr. EVANS: When the Government has a major issue to face, instead of facing it, it runs away from it. As I have said, we have a runaway Government with a runaway Premier. Whether in Opposition or in Government, members opposite have always spoken about the rights and freedoms of the individual. However, since members opposite have been in power, they have issued a direction to the Public Service stating that preference shall be given to trade unionists, and this is virtually compulsory unionism. Anyone who can call such compulsion by the name of freedom has a poor idea of what freedom really is. Over the last 10 years or 15 years, the Premier has always spoken about the freedoms and rights of the individual. Yet now, as Premier, he has agreed to a direction being given to the

Public Service that will mean that a person is virtually prohibited employment in the Public Service unless he belongs to the trade union movement.

The Minister of Education used to speak about double standards, and I believe this is a case of a double standard of the Government. A person going to a Government department to obtain employment has no freedom or rights; he is told that, if he has qualifications or ability identical to the qualifications and ability of another person and if that other person happens to be a trade unionist or is prepared to join a trade union, that person will get the job. The Premier should know better than this. This direction should be withdrawn; heads of departments should not be obliged virtually to compel a person to join a trade union before that person can obtain employment.

I have another reason for calling the Government a runaway Government. Recently I heard the leader of a group that was asking for funds say that the organization was short of funds because the Labor Party had run away from this group, leaving it without support. I do not intend to name the organization, but this is another case of a group in the State complaining because the Labor Party has run away from a responsibility that it used to have, leaving this organization without support. I do not support this organization, but I have never supported it and have never agreed to do so. However, the runaway Government used to support it. The present Government has appointed a Royal Commission to deal with something that has arisen in the State. At the same time, about 100 people are facing certain charges. Although they are still subject to the committee's decision, a Royal Commission has been appointed to investigate the circumstances in which these arrests were made.

I wonder whether it is right that a Royal Commission should be appointed while the courts are still looking at charges laid against people as a result of an action they did or did not take. I believe that setting up this Royal Commission has denied people who wish this subject to be aired the right to have their members on this side air any grievance they may have on this issue. I know that some people will be satisfied because they have denied the Opposition that right to discuss this issue. I know that they will be satisfied, and smile and smirk because they

have achieved this, but if they have a conscience they will not sleep soundly until the issue has been disposed of.

Dr. Tonkin: The people will know about it.

Mr. EVANS: I am sure that the people will know, but I am not sure that they will know all that goes on in this respect. I know that it has been said that, if anyone wishes to say more they can appear before the Commission and say it, but the issue could be a dead issue before that happened and that would be disappointing to many people.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: To you in particular.

Mr. EVANS: I am always disappointed if the rights of an Opposition in any Parliament are restricted, and the rights of this Opposition have been restricted today. The member who made the interjection knows that: he made the interjection as quietly as possible so that it might not be heard. He hopes that the voice of the Opposition will not be heard, but we assure him that it will be heard and that in future the people will look at the action of the present runaway Government as an action that can be considered in bad taste, an action that no responsible Government should take.

I comment on one other issue, a referendum held recently in this State, and I believe that no restriction has been placed on debating that issue. People were asked whether they were in favour of nine o'clock closing on Friday evening: they were not asked whether they wanted shopping hours to stay as they were. They were asked that question because the Government was in a difficult position: the trade union movement, which gives the Government its financial backing and most of its electoral support had it in a corner. The trade union movement wanted to shut shops in fringe shopping areas that opened until nine o'clock on Friday evening, and in some places on Saturday afternoons and Sundays, and the Government promised the group that it would do that. However, four or five Government members represent these areas, and those seats were not won by a large majority. A 6 per cent or 7 per cent swing would put them in jeopardy, and the member for Playford admitted that he could lose his seat as a result of the referendum.

Mr. Venning: He's in the hot seat.

Mr. EVANS: He is not the only one in a hot seat. Why did the Government have a referendum? It did so because it wanted to square itself off with the trade union movement

and be able to say that most people believed that they should have nine o'clock closing on Friday evening. However, this move failed. Although the Government was sure that it would succeed, it did not count on the organizations that worked against it or on the effort and money spent by certain organizations, including the trade union movement in relation to effort in particular—

Mr. Lawn: I am pleased with the result. I voted "No" myself.

Mr. EVANS: —to defeat the "Yes" vote. The member for Adelaide has said that he is pleased with the result. I hope that, when he campaigns in the districts of Elizabeth, Playford, Mawson, and Tea Tree Gully, he will tell the people that he is pleased with the result in favour of a "No" vote. I hope he tells them, as a member of the Australian Labor Party, that he would like to restrict the freedoms they have had in the past. I notice the member for Adelaide is getting strange looks from his colleague as if his colleagues are telling him that it is time to pipe down. The honourable member knows that. As one who has been a member for a long time, he knows that he has made an error by making that statement. The Government went to the people because it was frightened of the trade union movement and it was squaring off by saying that the majority of the people wanted it.

The referendum was lost to the "No" vote. Now in all probability, although we can only surmise that this will happen, a decision will be made that in districts like my district of Fisher, where voting is about even on each side, only a slight majority having voted "Yes", and a district in which people have not had 9 o'clock trading in the past, the people may have 9 o'clock closing. About 18 months ago a petition was taken up in the Stirling council shopping area and submitted to the former Minister of Labour and Industry. In a counter petition, the people opposed any extension of trading hours. We may find that, because most people in the District of Fisher voted "Yes" on Saturday, although by only a small majority, they will be able to have late trading. I do not object to that, because I believe in it.

Persons in other districts that favoured late trading may also be able to have 9 o'clock trading. Will a decision be made now on the basis of individual districts, or on the basis of the greater Adelaide metropolitan area as a whole? The junior Minister, the Minister

of Labour and Industry, who usually interjects in debates on these matters, is silent, because he knows that he is in a difficult position. He knows that his Leader and his Government as a whole have also said that they will take notice of the majority of the people on any issue. A majority of the people in the Adelaide metropolitan area voted "No" last Saturday, and we have wasted about \$60,000 or \$70,000 belonging to the people. We will eventually also waste money on the Royal Commission that has been appointed. I challenge the Government, if it wants to know the feelings of the people, to squander another \$70,000 to get the opinion of all the people by having an election. Not long ago I heard members opposite challenging the Government at that time to have an election. We did that and, having lost, we accepted defeat.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: You couldn't do anything else.

Mr. EVANS: I issue that challenge to members opposite now and I shall be interested in whether they accept defeat. The Deputy Premier, who has a big smile on his face, went to Millicent last Friday, when trouble was arising. I invite him to ask the people of the State what they think about the present issues.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: I'm used to running away from these things, you know!

Mr. EVANS: I think that is true, and I am glad that the Deputy Premier admits it. I believe that at this stage I have expressed most of the grievances I have that really matter, although there are many others that I could raise, such as those involving the Chowilla dam and the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study, if I wished to go back over the same old ground. The Premier, who is always speaking of the freedom and rights of the individual, knows that his Government is doing everything in its power to curb the rights of the Opposition in this respect, and I only trust that you, Mr. Speaker, will do all that you can to protect those rights.

Mr. McANANEY (Heysen): I wish to raise two or three points to which other speakers in this debate have not referred. Once again, history is repeating itself: the same bungles that the Labor Government made when in office in 1965-68 are being made today, and this is most obvious in regard to drought relief. During the most recent major drought that occurred, the States of New South Wales and Victoria, which by comparison did not experience a more severe drought than the one experienced in

South Australia, spent large sums of their own money before seeking assistance from the Commonwealth Government, because the Governments of those States had the right attitude: they knew from past experience that, if they took the initiative and had sufficient drive to make plans to help primary producers in time of drought, the Commonwealth Government would always play its part in the matter. But what does this Government do? Bearing in mind the fact that it has \$363,352 in a fund allocated by Parliament to spend when necessary in the event of a natural disaster, such as a drought, this Government has done nothing. It has not declared a drought area or made any plans whatsoever to help the farmers.

The Government knows full well that the Commonwealth Government has always toed the line when a request has been made. If there is an indication that a State Government has grown up sufficiently to look after its own interests, the Commonwealth Government will do everything possible. However, this Government says, "The Commonwealth Government is not giving us a fair go; it doesn't answer our letters," and I think this is a pusillanimous attitude.

This Government can be held in great disrespect through its lack of action in many matters. This so-called wicked Commonwealth Government (this Government which it is claimed is a bit slow in its approach and in answering letters!) will come good; it has always done so in the past when a State Government has stated a definite case and shown intelligent reasoning. Indeed, this is borne out by the large sums of money handed out following the last Premiers' Conference. The Premier knew about the farmers' problems and walked in the thousands-strong march that finished at the *Advertiser* sound shell in Elder Park, where speeches were made about the rural situation.

Those farmers had the full co-operation of the Adelaide authorities, having asked permission to hold the march and having said what they wanted to do. The people who took part in that march received every possible assistance, and no-one in Adelaide was bothered by them.

Mr. Venning: How many farmers were arrested?

Mr. McANANEY: The farmers complied with the law of the land. A person never gets into trouble when he complies with the law and has a respect for it. I have never heard of anyone getting into trouble when he obeyed the law. Some of us break the law at

times and no-one sees us, and we get away with it. However, when we openly defy the law we are in trouble.

Because I live near the lake I know how much South Australia needs the Dartmouth dam. We must have it before the next dry period, but the Government is doing nothing to get it. In reply to a question today the Government said that detailed investigation of the Dartmouth dam site had been carried out by the Snowy Mountains Authority and a preliminary plan had been prepared for a rock-fill dam. Only a preliminary plan! Much investigation needs to be carried out, but it is being delayed month after month by this incompetent Government that is not getting any reaction at all. More and more evidence is building up every day that the proposed Chowilla dam will never be built.

Mr. Lawn: Who was going to build it?

Mr. McANANEY: Scientific studies have been made into the river flows. The reply that I referred to earlier went on to say that no further work had been carried out since April, 1969. Instead of laughing, Government members should realize that Adelaide may have to go without water in the future because of the Government's failure to build the dam. The Premier, when Leader of the Opposition, said that a month after the election everything would be going along lovely. All he is doing now is saying the Prime Minister has not written a letter to him, and he is writing letters all over the place. Because everything has become confused, it is difficult to arrange a meeting.

It is reprehensible that the Budget does not increase some kinds of expenditure in the same proportion as the bountiful Commonwealth Government has increased its reimbursements to this State. Whatever the Premier may say, his actions in recent months can be seen as blatant hypocrisy, gross irresponsibility, and the gravest ineptitude, and he has been unable to see the consequences of his deceitful actions. This is one of the most accurate statements I have made in Parliament during the seven years I have been here.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): I am very grateful for the concern that has been expressed for me by the Leader of the Opposition. He has suggested that, for my own sake, let alone that of those whom he calls my doleful, cast-down colleagues, I should resign as Premier of the State. I appreciate his deep motivations, Mr. Speaker, and I very much regret that his concern for

me is not expressed in terms which I feel it possible to accept. There have been some things said by members opposite, such as the remarks by the honourable member who has just resumed somebody else's seat, which I imagine he would have felt when he wrote them would wound me to the quick. I regret to say, however, that he was no more successful in that than was the Leader of the Opposition.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: Do you really think he wrote those things?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, I do not: I think someone wrote them for him and, unfortunately, it was not a very successful sort of effort.

Mr. Coumbe: Your speech sounds like a valedictory.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Well, it is not, and I regret to disappoint the honourable member on that score. I want to distribute a little kindness and light to members opposite before I deal with some of the things that have been said today, because when I get to those I am afraid kindness and light may not be what I am shedding—light perhaps, but kindness, no.

The Leader of the Opposition has seen fit, after a certain exercise this afternoon which seemed to be unsuccessful, to deliver an attack on me personally on two scores. The first of those was that I had been grossly inept in wasting vast sums of Government money in taking the opinion of the people about shopping hours in South Australia. I regret that the Leader is not here to listen to what I am about to say because I listened to him with great attention; and, as he is not here, I hope he is listening elsewhere because I have a few things to say for his benefit this evening. He said I was jumping all over the place, as were the rest of my Ministers—that we were a jumping lot over this business of shopping hours. I am interested to know that the Leader has remained so constantly in one place on this issue! I find it difficult to credit because, having read the things that the Leader has said, and having read about the things the Leader has done on this issue, I can only term him the most callisthenic member this House has ever seen. What was the position of the Leader on this, and what was the position of the members of his Party opposite? Presumably he was speaking for at least some of them?

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: That was denied on one or two occasions.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It was stated by his Party on North Terrace that he was not speaking for the Party. At any rate, he said some things which I presume had the support

of some members opposite. The Leader, when he was Premier of this State, had consultations with the trading interests of South Australia, and members of the Retail Traders Association went to see him. He consulted with the traders at Elizabeth, and he had some submissions from Lazy Lamb. He said then that he thought something should be done. Then we saw what it was that he did. With that marked courage and concern to grasp the nettle of a difficult public issue, he introduced, through his Minister (who unfortunately also had some things to say about me this afternoon but is not here to listen to what I have to say in reply), a Bill into this House. The Leader and his Minister then struck out. What they did was to introduce a Bill that did absolutely nothing about trading hours whatsoever. The Party opposite had a policy speech that did not mention the issue at all: not a word did it say.

Mr. Venning: That's water under the bridge.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member does not like to hear about this. We on this side have been sitting here all the afternoon listening to things that were water under the bridge before. Now we are having a little water in reply, and I hope the honourable member will listen. Having got into Opposition, the Leader, no longer having any responsibility to the people of the State for any Executive action (and I am glad to see he has now come into the Chamber), announced that trading hours should be extended everywhere.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: On Friday nights.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: On Friday night, weekends, the lot. This was to happen right throughout the State, including the inner metropolitan area. Then, when we got the Bill into the House to provide for holding a referendum to find out what people wanted, the Leader did not include in his amendments any question to be asked at the referendum about whether people should be able to vote to maintain the *status quo*. He is now saying that our referendum questions were stupid.

Mr. Coumbe: They were.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is interesting to find out what the Leader proposed in his amendments as the questions to be asked at the referendum, because not one proposed to ask the people whether they wanted to maintain the *status quo*. These amendments are still on members' files, and they can be checked. The Leader proposed to cut out the restriction for holding the referendum in the metropolitan area. It was

not a question of getting uniform shopping hours in the metropolitan area: it was to be uniform shopping hours for the State! Then he said, "Are you in favour of shops being permitted unrestricted trading hours?" There was no question of maintaining the *status quo*. What the Leader was advocating was that we should have unrestricted trading hours in South Australia—shopping 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Having failed to get that in, the Leader found that his members in the Upper House were not willing to go along with that sort of thing. Those members suddenly decided that they were not quite supporting the point of view the Leader had put in this House, and the people on North Terrace in the Liberal and Country League building were not supporting it, either. At the time of the referendum, the Leader then said that he would spearhead the "Yes" vote. He was going out on a great campaign to say to people in the metropolitan area of South Australia, "This is how you should vote; I am your great saviour, as the Leader of the Liberal Party in South Australia, and this is how I advocate that you should vote." He did not refer to the *status quo*. He said, "I want you at least to have Friday night shopping everywhere." The people in the inner metropolitan area of South Australia would not have a bar of him.

Mr. Coumbe: You aren't going to blame him, are you?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not entirely blame him for what happened in the inner metropolitan area. There was a certain adverse reaction, but that was not the reason for what happened. What I did not like about what happened in the metropolitan area was the kind of deliberately misleading advertisement that appeared during the referendum campaign. I have no sympathy or support for the people who inserted those advertisements, because I believe they set out to deceive people, as to the effect of their vote in the referendum, in order to try to shut down traders in the outer areas.

Mr. Coumbe: Who was that?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The people who authorized the advertisements, and the honourable member can read as well as I can who did it. Now that the referendum vote has been recorded, we suddenly see another change of heart by the Leader. The Leader started off by advocating unrestricted trading hours and then switched to Friday night shopping for everyone in the metropolitan area. Now he says he wants the *status*



*quo*. The referendum vote (although the Leader says it was wasted money) was interesting to the Government, because it has achieved something. On television the Leader told me and the people of South Australia that the Government should introduce legislation for Friday night shopping everywhere in the metropolitan area and he would support it.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: He said that he knew everyone wanted it.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: He said there was no need to have a referendum, because everyone wanted it. Now he says, after the referendum, that it was a waste of money but that it has changed his mind. He says that what people voted for was the *status quo* and that the Government has wasted its money in finding that out. What the Leader is now advocating, as a result of the referendum vote, is exactly the policy enunciated by this Party at the last election.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: Are you going for uniform shopping hours in the metropolitan area?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This Government will introduce legislation to give effect to the will of the people, and the honourable member will be able to vote on the legislation when it is introduced.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: I just asked a simple question.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: And the honourable member had a simple answer. On the score of the Leader's being utterly consistent and the Government jumping all over the place, the Leader asks me to resign. I am sorry, but I must disappoint him. The second matter on which the Leader suggested I should resign was the subject of the negotiations with the Commonwealth Government concerning the River Murray Waters Agreement. The Leader saw fit to read in this House a statement that the Prime Minister saw fit to make to the House of Representatives last Thursday. If there was any untruthful statement made during these negotiations it was that of the Prime Minister, and I will give chapter and verse. In his statement the Prime Minister said that I had requested him to arrange a meeting among him, me, and the Premiers of the other States on this agreement. That is untrue: I asked him for nothing of the kind. I wrote to the Prime Minister on July 8, and the only reference to the meeting in that letter was the following paragraph:

In order that agreement may be achieved, I request a meeting of yourself, the Premier of New South Wales and the Premier of Victoria with me during the next month.

No request was made that he was to arrange the meeting. I requested him to meet me, and I wrote in exactly the same terms to the Premiers of Victoria and New South Wales—and the Prime Minister knew it. I did not get a reply from the Prime Minister immediately.

Mr. Ryan: That is unusual!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not get replies from the Prime Minister quickly: as a matter of fact, on July 27, I got a reply that was written not to me but to my Secretary, as follows:

Dear Mr. White, I have been asked to acknowledge the letter of July 8 from the Premier (Mr. Dunstan) to the Prime Minister concerning the amendments to the River Murray Waters Agreement. The Prime Minister will be writing to the Premier on the matters raised as soon as possible. Yours sincerely, Ainslie Gotto.

That was the reply that I got during the month in which I asked that the meeting be held. I got replies from the Premier of New South Wales and the Premier of Victoria, but the first statement of any kind that I got from the Prime Minister was on August 17, the month after the month in which I had asked that the meeting be held, and I had written to the Prime Minister on July 8. The reply that I got was not a reply as to the substance of my letter but simply stated:

Dear Mr. Dunstan, I refer to your letter of July 8 requesting a meeting this month with the Premiers of New South Wales and Victoria and myself on matters relating to the River Murray Waters Agreement. I am in touch with the above Premiers on the matter and will be in touch with you as soon as possible.

I had been in touch with the other Premiers and knew perfectly well that the Prime Minister had been in touch with them.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: He knew you had.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes, he had been told. There was then a whole series of telephone calls by officers of my department, the Prime Minister's Department, the Premier's Departments in Victoria and New South Wales, and the Department of National Development, seeking to expedite the meeting that I had asked for in my letter of July 8. I received no further word from the Prime Minister. I received it from the Premiers of Victoria and New South Wales, certainly, but not from the Prime Minister until after he had made his attack on me last Thursday. He told the House of Representatives that he had replied to me and said that he was willing to have a meeting. However, he did not tell the House of Representatives that the letter had

been written on September 17 and that he knew perfectly well that I had not got it. That is the sort of treatment I have had from the Prime Minister. Honourable members opposite suggest that I should resign because I resent that sort of treatment for this State! I do not matter: it is this State and the things that we are trying to negotiate on behalf of he people of this State that matter. What sort of treatment have I had from the Prime Minister? I have had the same sort of treatment as the Leader of the Opposition got.

Mr. Jennings: And complained about.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes. My relations with the Commonwealth Government are not difficult. I have the very best of relations with some Commonwealth Ministers. Mr. Gorton saw fit to make a statement to the press. After he had initially admitted there had been a Treasury recommendation for a special grant to South Australia, he gain-said that and said that there had not been anything of this kind. That was untruthful, because I had had it directly from Cabinet Ministers in the Commonwealth Government that there was a recommendation for a \$3,000,000 special grant to this State, but this was vetoed by the Prime Minister. On the advice he had received from his own Prime Minister's office, but not from the Treasury, he told us to go to the Grants Commission, because he thought we would not get anything.

Mr. McAnaney: Together with the three other small States.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: We went to the Grants Commission, and Mr. Gorton was very unhappy about what it recommended as an initial grant. He knows that the amount will escalate considerably when the full investigation is made by the commission in respect of this year's grant.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I resent the fact that this State received the treatment that it received at the Premiers' Conference and, if members opposite were dinkum, they would resent it, too. When they were in office and received bad treatment from the Commonwealth Government, they were not condemned by us. I did not go out to the people of South Australia and say, "The Premier is incompetent." I resented the treatment that he received as Premier of South Australia.

Mr. Clark: You made it known publicly, too.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes, and I supported the protests the then Premier made. If members opposite were genuine, they would do the same about the treatment being received by this Government from the Commonwealth Government. However, they do not. What are the other things that I have put to the Commonwealth Government? In June, within a week of this Government's taking office, I wrote to the Prime Minister in the terms I disclosed to this House about the standard gauge railway, and that submission had been backed up by industry throughout South Australia. It was not a submission based on the standardization of narrow gauge railways in the Northern Division: it was a submission based on having industry in the metropolitan area of Adelaide attached to the standard gauge line, and it was made on the basis that this could be done within the cost recommended by the Maunsell report.

That letter was written in June, but I have never had a reply; four months has elapsed in this matter, which is absolutely vital to the State. Am I supposed, then, as Premier of this State, to say that the Prime Minister has been terribly kindly and courteous to me? Surely, as the elected Leader of this State, it is my job to say that South Australia is not being treated courteously or properly.

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: Particularly when Mr. Sinclair, when he came here to open the Country Party conference, blamed South Australia for holding up the programme.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is right. The only statement made from the Commonwealth Government on this subject by any one of its Ministers has been the statement of Mr. Sinclair at a Country Party conference in South Australia. I have not had a reply from the Minister. Then we have the position of drought relief. What happened regarding our submissions on the South Australian economy, backed up, as they were, by industry and commerce in this State? The Chambers of Commerce right throughout this State, in country as well as city areas, backed up the representations which were made by this Government but which were ignored by the Commonwealth Government. What do members opposite expect me to say here: that this is kindly, sensible, considerate and fair treatment from the Commonwealth Government?

Mr. McAnaney: Get out and do something like the other States do. Why should you have special treatment?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am not asking for special treatment: I am asking for proper treatment. At the Premiers' Conference the strange thing (and I put this to the honourable member, because he ought to check it with his own Party) was that considerable resentment was clearly expressed by Liberal Premiers concerning the treatment meted out to South Australia. If members opposite were as concerned about its treatment as were some of their colleagues in other States, they would be getting behind the Government of South Australia, instead of playing politics in the way they are doing.

Mr. McAnaney: What are you doing?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am trying to get something for South Australia, and I wish the honourable member would get behind this State, instead of carrying on in the way he did this afternoon because, if there was anything that was absolutely patent this afternoon, it was that members opposite were not in the least interested in what happened to the citizens of South Australia and to their advancement. All they were interested in was trying to make a political point, and the political points they made this afternoon were such that they will get no kudos from the people of South Australia. Members opposite will be shown up for what they are.

Motion carried.

In Committee of Supply.

(Continued from September 17. Page 1485.)

PREMIER AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT

Immigration, Publicity and Tourist Bureau Department, \$882,257.

Dr. EASTICK: Although last week the Treasurer said that there had been a considerable backlog of works to be undertaken in respect of Tourist Bureau subsidies, nevertheless in 1969-70 there was underspending on this item. How does the Treasurer correlate his reply with the information given in these Estimates?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): Immediately I took office I had to sign many cheques that had previously been unsigned. The amount that was underspent last year has been carried over to this year.

Line passed.

Department of the Public Service Board, \$757,412.

Mr. HALL: Earlier, in connection with the Premier's Department, I asked the Treasurer why there had been an increase from \$56,000 to \$89,000 in the salaries for the Administrative Officer and clerical staff. In his reply he said that the new policy secretariat was

included in this item. Under the Statutes Amendment (Public Salaries) Act the salary of the Chairman of the Public Service Board has been increased to \$16,995 and the salary of Commissioners has been increased to \$14,420. Can the Treasurer explain the conflict that has arisen? Is a Commissioner getting additional payment under the policy secretariat item?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: In addition to the amount Mr. Bakewell receives as a Public Service Commissioner, the amount paid to him for heading the policy secretariat is \$2,000 a year.

Mr. Hall: I take it that would come from the Premier's Department and the other would come from the board.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is right.

Mr. RYAN: I refer to the line "Overseas visits of officers". I am not criticizing the fact that we are sending officers abroad, because I think it is educational and that the State will get its reward from such visits. Last year we voted \$650, and \$580 was spent. This year the figure has increased to \$4,500. Can the Treasurer say who will be going abroad and what is the reason for sending such officers abroad?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Mr. I. J. Lees is going overseas in connection with the recruitment of professional and sub-professional staff. We are endeavouring to recruit overseas in areas where we have been unable to recruit staff, and this means that we must send an officer overseas to do it.

Line passed.

Miscellaneous, \$181,970.

Mr. HALL: The sum of \$150,000 is allocated for performing arts. Has the Premier a consolidated figure as to what this would equate under the various headings?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The previous figure was about \$100,000. There has been an increase of \$50,000 in the performing arts grant for this year. The precise allocation of these amounts has not been spelt out in the Estimates because they will be subject to an application after the appointment of the Cultural Grants Officer. We expect this appointment to be made within the next 10 days. We will then be looking at the entire performing arts grants area. There has been within that figure an increase to the Adelaide Festival of Arts, but otherwise no additional figure has been committed out of the grant until all the applications for performing arts grants have been considered.

Mr. HALL: I take it that the Cultural Grants Officer will be an employee of the Premier's Department and that his duties will be solely to deal with those groups seeking Government assistance or co-operation.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The new officer will have a wide series of duties. This position has been advertised, and we had an enormous number of applications. It is expected that those applicants on the short list will be interviewed next Monday. The officer concerned will be an officer of the Premier's Department but dealing with the line for performing arts grants previously paid through numbers of lines—through the Tourist Bureau, through the Chief Secretary's Miscellaneous line, or in some cases under the Minister of Education line—to the Arts Council of South Australia. He will be responsible for making recommendations in this area. He will sit on the committee recommending to the Adelaide City Council the proposals for the festival hall, and he will be our liaison officer with the Adelaide City Council on this. He will be a member of the board of the South Australian Theatre Company when the Statute is passed, which we hope will be within the next year. In addition to his work in the performing arts grants area, he will be responsible for liaison with the Federal Council for the Performing Arts. His Chief Executive Officer is Dr. Battersby. In addition to work of this kind, he will be required to undertake feasibility studies in tourist development and promotion, and there are numbers of feasibility studies awaiting his attention as soon as he is appointed. In this, he will have the assistance of the research officers in the policy secretariat and in the Industrial Development Branch.

He will be responsible to the Premier for the final presentation of the feasibility studies in tourist development areas. This is a means of our obtaining work in the area of tourist research which, so far, we have been unable to obtain. Although there is a post created in the Tourist Bureau for a research officer, we have been unable to obtain anyone within the terms of that particular post as created. In this office, combining the two duties, we have been able to recruit people at a level of executive ability which exceeds that of the research assistant provided in the Tourist Bureau appointment originally, and in consequence we expect to have someone available in this area who will be able to carry out the work for which the Director of the Tourist Bureau has been looking for some time.

Mrs. STEELE: I refer to the provision of \$150,000 for "Grants and provisions for the performing arts". I have worked out the total of the various items involved that were previously to be found under provisions for the Chief Secretary and the Minister of Education. Although that total is \$153,100, this year we are allowing for only \$150,000. Therefore, we are providing less than we spent last year. The items I have listed are \$45,000 and \$4,000 for the Adelaide Festival of Arts; \$8,000 for the Eisteddfod; \$2,000 for the Adelaide Highland Games; \$40,000 for the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust; \$900 for the Nuriootpa school band competition; \$6,200 for the South Australian Band Association; \$40,000 for the South Australian Symphony Orchestra; \$2,000 for the Adelaide Repertory Theatre; and \$5,000 for the Arts Council. I believe that the idea of consolidating these items under one Minister is a good one. During my term of office, I intended to bring this before Cabinet. I discussed the matter with the Minister for Education in New South Wales, where there is an Arts Advisory Council, which is appointed to advise the Minister on just what grants should be made to the performing arts.

One virtue of this arrangement is in relation to the fact that these grants for organizations in the entertainment and cultural field are usually made initially to get these organizations established. Therefore, they are not continuing allocations, as in the case in South Australia, for instance, of the Nuriootpa school band competition. The New South Wales grants are paid for several years, by which time the organizations are on their feet and then someone else gets a cut of the cake. For instance, in the case of the Adelaide Repertory Theatre, for which I have a high regard, I understand that the \$2,000 that has been on our Estimates for years and years was originally made so that this organization could establish its own theatre in Angas Street. Representations made to me when I was Minister of Education suggested that other organizations should have financial help from the Government. One is the Australian Dance Theatre, promoted by a South Australian, which, amongst other things, provides excellent sessions for schoolchildren to learn about the ballet. These grants should be initial grants, and when the organization is established these grants should then be given to other new and growing organizations.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Can the Treasurer give me information about the allocation to

the Nuriootpa school band competition and the South Australian Band Association? As the school band competitions are to be held next month can the Treasurer say when the secretary will be notified that the grant will be forthcoming? Also, is the allocation to the South Australian Band Association contingent on the appointment of the new officer?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I expect no change in the grant to the Nuriootpa school band competition. The items taken over into this line occur in two places: one in "Chief Secretary, Miscellaneous", at page 33, where there is a total of \$97,100 and the other at "Minister of Education, Miscellaneous", at page 58, where there is a total of \$7,000. My instructions were to increase the line by \$50,000, and that is what the Government intends. I think my calculations should be correct, but if they are not I shall be interested to see the calculations made by the member for Davenport. We have already committed an extra \$30,000 to the Adelaide Festival of Arts.

Mrs. BYRNE: I am pleased that \$10,120 is provided for the Builders' Licensing Board. For some time I have been anxious for this board to be established, and I greatly regret the delay that has occurred in the last two years. Approaches made to me in the last two weeks about defects in houses indicate the need for such a board.

Mr. McANANEY: Can the Treasurer say whether any money has been allocated to the Adelaide Film Festival this year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No particular commitment has been undertaken. I have had a quick look at the figures given to me by the member for Davenport. I think, possibly, the answer to her question is that the allocations to the Adelaide Festival of Arts previously have not been on the basis on which they will now be made. The festival has asked that we allocate money to them, not simply in one large amount for each festival but over a period between festivals. There has been a total increase in the amount allocated in respect of the next festival but it is being paid in instalments, and this creates the difference between what the honourable member has calculated and what is on the Estimates.

Mrs. STEELE: The Estimates show a payment of \$45,000 for the Adelaide Festival of Arts and a payment of \$4,795 for illuminations and decorations. The column dealing with what is proposed for 1970-71 shows asterisks and the explanation given at the bottom of

the page is that these items are now included in grants and provisions for the performing arts under "Miscellaneous".

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Instead of this being a once-for-all payment to the festival, which occurred only every two years previously, we have now agreed to an increase in the amount for the next festival but to spread it over a two-year period. That means that we do not pay as much this year as we would on the basis of a once-for-all total amount.

Mrs. Steele: It is difficult to see that on paper.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I appreciate the difficulty, and the reason is that, because we have had a whole series of applications for grants to performing arts, we have taken them into one item and have said that we will not make the allocations until we have an officer sort out a logical basis for each application. If one thing comes out of our present allocations to performing arts, it is that there is no logic in the allocations at all and if we are to provide funds to professional and semi-professional companies, such as the Australian Dance Theatre, which is most important to South Australia, we ought to have an established policy on which to judge our performing arts grants.

I do not know whether the honourable member, when she was a Minister, read the document that Mr. Holland prepared on some of our performing arts grants, but, frankly, a performing arts grant to get people along to enjoy the spectacle of tossing the caber is, perhaps, not a particularly good basis for a performing arts grant. Everyone can reflect on why it was originally given in this area, but there seem to be more important areas in which we should be spending our money so as to assist professional and semi-professional companies. That is why it has all been taken into one, and an officer is to be appointed to recommend policy in this area and to administer these grants.

Mr. HALL: The Treasurer said earlier that \$150,000 was now to be provided for the performing arts, whereas about \$100,000 was provided last year under the various lines before being consolidated, as they have been this year. However, as I understand it, the annual payment to the Festival of Arts (the sum is being split in two and will be made twice as frequently) is to come from the \$150,000. Therefore, the statement that \$100,000 was available last year for the situation we are now considering is not correct.

On quickly skimming through the various lines, I find that \$97,000 was provided in miscellaneous items last year under "Chief Secretary", and there was an additional sum, bringing the total to \$156,795. This includes allocations to the Adelaide Repertory Theatre, the Arts Theatre, the Marching Girls Association—

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: That is to come off.

Mr. HALL: If we subtract the allocation to the Marching Girls Association, we get \$154,795. That means the allocation for the performing arts is being reduced by about \$5,000. The Treasurer, in justifying this, is saying that the allocation to the Festival of Arts will be made twice as frequently, that is, annually, but if this had been done previously the allocation would amount to \$140,000, as compared with the \$150,000-odd available this year. It is wrong to use \$100,000 as a comparison.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: Your Minister said that the grant for the Marching Girls Association was only one small grant, because of the fact that there was a convention here; normally, the Marching Girls Association would not be getting it.

Mr. HALL: I accept that. If we subtract that grant, it leaves \$154,795 to be devoted to the performing arts under headings similar to those appearing last year which will be consolidated into the one line this year. If we subtracted half the figure provided last year for the Festival of Arts, we would subtract about \$25,400, so that \$140,000 would be the figure to use as a strict comparison with the sum provided last year. Therefore, the increase this year amounts to about \$14,000 or 10 per cent.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Previous grants to the Adelaide Festival of Arts were made in respect of the particular year; they were made not annually but biennially, and the grant last year for the festival was \$49,000, but normally that would not come into this year's Budget at all. If we had continued the budgeting practised by the Leader's Party and practised when we were in office previously, the grant for the performing arts would be slightly over \$100,000. We have made it \$150,000, and that includes a grant this year towards the costs of the festival eventually.

We are not giving exactly half this year, but we have arranged with the festival organizers that we are giving a contribution this year towards their running costs at this time, and this gives an opportunity for necessary forward planning to be carried out. At the

same time we have increased the total amount to \$150,000 because it is likely that in the first year of operating a new policy of assistance to professional and semi-professional companies we will not have a heavy call, but we expect a much heavier call in the next year, as the policy becomes established. As we will be paying for only a part of a year this year, that seems to be a reasonable provision. We may exceed this line somewhat, depending on the recommendations made to us. At this stage it is difficult to forecast but, after consulting with the Under Treasurer, I thought that this was a reasonable provision.

Mr. HALL: Because I am feeling very charitable tonight I am willing to accept the Treasurer's explanation of the process he followed. He is providing this year, ahead of time, some of the money that the Festival of Arts will need for producing the festival in two years' time. If payments for the festival in the next two years are to run in the same way as they have run in the past, \$25,000 of this provision is a payment before time to the Festival of Arts. Therefore, for comparison purposes, one should take \$25,000 from the sum allocated this year. After this has been done there will still be something for the Treasurer properly to claim as an increase, but it would halve the increase that he is claiming.

Line passed.

CHIEF SECRETARY AND MINISTER OF HEALTH  
State Governor's Establishment, \$46,310—  
passed.

Chief Secretary's Department, \$71,873.

Mr. COUMBE: The accounts of the Commissioners of Charitable Funds have been a bone of contention for several years. Page 197 of the Auditor-General's Report says that receipts for the year ended June 30, 1970, amounted to \$216,565, and expenditure was only \$50,000. The report states:

During the past five years the accumulated funds have increased by \$781,993. During that period \$79,411 has been paid for patients' comforts and equipment, etc.

The Auditor-General recommends that the commissioners do something about disbursing their funds, because they have considerable investments and bequests. Has the Treasurer any plans for an alteration of the procedures that have been adopted for several years, alterations that would give greater benefits to the patients in the various hospitals? This was the purpose for which the commission was set up. I realize that there have been changes in

personnel, but considerable amounts have now accumulated.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The amounts shown in the hands of the Commissioners of Charitable Funds have given me much concern. This is not a new matter for members. I can remember raising it myself on several occasions, and I have raised it since I have been Treasurer. Part of the problem facing the commissioners is the form in which some of their assets are held. There are proposals—and feasibility studies have been undertaken—for development of some of these assets. Some of the assets are bound on trust so tightly that it is very difficult to deal with them other than by making a very considerable investment, and in these circumstances some of the commissioners at any rate have wanted to keep a fair amount of liquid funds in order to make the best use of some of the assets that they have in trust.

Mr. Coumbe: Especially the Martin one.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes. There is a good deal of argument about this. I have not been able, in the short time I have been in office, to resolve this situation. However, I assure the honourable member that I am as concerned about it as he is, and I hope that we will be able to resolve it before there is another report from the Auditor-General in similar terms.

Line passed.

Department of the Public Actuary, \$30,949;  
Auditor-General's Department, \$364,526—  
passed.

Government Printing Department, \$1,197,822.

Mr. COUMBE: In view of the progress by the Public Buildings Department on the building of a completely new printing office at Netley, can the Treasurer say when this building can be completed and the changeover effected? I have asked this question under this line because I could not find it under "Minister of Works".

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not have the information with me, but I shall inquire and get the honourable member the present forecast.

Line passed.

Police Department, \$12,271,196.

Dr. TONKIN: I notice that the subscription to the International Criminal Police Organization has risen sharply from \$746 to \$2,727. Can the Treasurer say whether this is simply an increase in the normal rate set out by Interpol or whether there is some other reason for the increase?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is provision made in accordance with the estimate supplied by Interpol. I have no more information than that. We base the payment made on the estimate supplied by Interpol.

Mr. McANANEY: I refer to the line "Emergency Fire Services". The District of Heysen, along with the District of Fisher, is one of the most important areas in this regard because it contains most of the fire danger spots. A very fine local organization has been built up, with much voluntary support, in my area. However, the people there consider that the headquarters of this organization is not equipped to the same degree, and that much more money should be spent to equip the head office with such things as radio, plotting rooms, and all the necessary equipment and staff to ensure proper co-ordination with local authorities and overall direction in fire fighting when necessary on the occasion of a major fire. These bodies feel strongly about this. Although the amount allocated last year was not quite spent, an increase is provided this year. Can the Treasurer say what equipment will be purchased this year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Under "Purchase of plant and equipment" provision is made for a transceiver, which was not available from the manufacturer during 1969-70. Also, there is replacement of a trailer pump unit, the present unit having reached the end of its economic life.

Mr. McANANEY: The Bushfire Research Committee comes under the control of the Agriculture Department and receives a large grant of \$50,000. Fire-fighting associations in the Hills believe that all bodies concerned should be under the control of one Minister so that the various activities might be combined. These associations believe that they are perhaps more closely in touch with research and with what is necessary to combat a fire than is the Bushfire Research Committee, although I am not belittling the efforts of that committee in any way. It would be of great assistance if these activities were combined under one Minister. However, within which department they could be combined is another matter. The Emergency Fire Services offices are in the police headquarters building. The police operations room is very good, and the equipment available can be used for various purposes. The full activities of fire-fighting services should be combined.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: No provision is made for oversea visits of officers. As

\$12,000,000 is provided for the Police Department, I should have thought that someone would be going overseas. I presume that, if the Commissioner believed it necessary to send an officer overseas, there would be no barrier to that officer's going. I also refer to the provision for the purchase of motor vehicles. About eight or 10 years ago, vehicles in the Police Department's fleet became run-down. Since then the fleet has been kept up to date with modern vehicles. I notice that the net cost of the replacement of vehicles in the fleet is declining. I presume there is no need for concern and that the fleet will not be allowed to run down as it did once before.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Commissioner has not proposed any oversea visits of officers this year, and that is why no provision has been made. As with other departments, when some matter arises where it is proper to send an officer overseas it will be considered. Concerning the net cost of replacement and purchase of motor vehicles, the Commissioner reports that it has been found that, by up-dating the motor vehicle fleet over recent years to enable Holdens and Valiants to be replaced after 30,000 to 35,000 running miles and heavy duty vehicles at the end of their economic life, better resale values can be obtained, enabling savings in the cost of replacements and effecting the most economical running of the vehicles before the need for expensive maintenance. To maintain this programme provision has been made to replace 165 vehicles and 58 motor cycles at an estimated capital cost of \$376,910 for which proceeds from resale are estimated to be \$216,230. In fact, the fleet is being kept up, and from experience gained in the turnover of vehicles it is found that savings can be made by new procedures.

Mr. McANANEY: A reduction has occurred in the number of cadets in the last two or three years and the allocation applying to this line has not increased much more than the salaries a man would have increased. Can the Treasurer say where the additional personnel for the Police Force will be recruited from?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Provision is made for the payment of 26 pays for the cadets on strength at July 1 plus allowance for automatic age increments plus provision for penalties applicable under the new Police Award. Provision is made for the replacement of about 155 cadets due for promotion to probationary constables during 1970-71 and the appointment of additional cadets to increase the

total in training to the predetermined establishment of 450.

Mr. BECKER: The Government's contribution to the Police Pensions Act is \$345,000 an increase of \$4,351, whereas salaries have increased by \$1,364,299. Can the Treasurer say whether this allocation is sufficient?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It was as provided by the Government Actuary.

Mr. McANANEY: There seems to be an 8 per cent increase in the sum to be spent on cadets but the number in training is to be increased from 406 to 450. As there have been increases in salaries, this does not seem to balance. Can the Treasurer explain this difference?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It depends at which time of the year recruitment and intake occurs. However, I do not have those figures but if the honourable member wishes me to obtain them I will do so.

Line passed.

Prisons Department, \$2,197,516.

Mr. CUMBE: The Committee will recall that the Women's Rehabilitation Centre was established recently at Northfield and women prisoners were moved from the Adelaide Gaol. Despite that, the allocation for salaries and wages for the Adelaide Gaol shows a slight increase on last year. These are only modest items, but our Government and, I think, the previous Labor Government had plans for the future of the Adelaide Gaol. Can the Treasurer say whether his Government is considering development, demolition, or any other way of dealing with the problem of the Adelaide Gaol?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot give precise information at present about plans for the future of the Adelaide Gaol. When the Chief Secretary and I investigated conditions there a considerable time ago, we concluded that the sooner we could do away with it as a gaol institution the better. There was a slight problem, as the National Trust wanted to keep the gallows.

Mr. Coumbe: You believe in keeping the gallows?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, only as a museum piece. I believe in letting people see what we ought not to use. All I can say now is that during this financial year there will not be any marked reduction in the number of prisoners. In some areas, there will be an increase. Taking the averages of people committed to gaol, we can expect some increase in the number of prisoners over the present financial year. However, I am referring only to the short-term position, and I hope we



shall be able to do something definite soon about the gaol. Regarding the increases shown on page 19, there has been an unusually large number of call backs and overtime because of escorts and the guarding of persons accused of murder. Eight new prison officers have been appointed for the chain roster system that has been established at the gaol and there is provision for a proposed Prison Industry Officer for weed control in the vegetable gardens. Regarding the increases shown on page 20, the daily average of prisoners has been reduced from 264 to 227 and the expenditure on laundry has been reduced by \$4,000 during rebuilding, but it is expected that the laundry will be in full production again soon, that this will cause increased costs, and that there will be more prisoners.

Line passed.

Hospitals Department, \$34,313,261.

Dr. TONKIN: There is a fairly marked increase (from \$14,754 to \$36,359) in the provision for the item "Planning and Development". I should be pleased if this increase relates to planning and development for the Flinders University hospital. Doubtless, Modbury Hospital will take up some part of the amount. Can the Treasurer give the proportionate amounts covered by the increase?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, I cannot. The increase arises out of reorganization of the central office, and some new offices created during 1969-70 in planning and development, but I cannot say whether this relates to Modbury, the south-west or any other area of hospital planning. However, the sum relates to the reorganization of the central office and to additional offices which, I think, are not allotted specific areas.

Dr. Tonkin: This is mainly staff?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

Dr. TONKIN: I note a moderate increase in the provision for salaries of the Medical Superintendent and other officers in both the Royal Adelaide and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals. Can the Treasurer say what proportion, if any, of this increase is related to the payment of honorary medical officers and when it is intended to make this payment?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Provision is made for the proposed payment in 1970-71 to honorary medical staff and, as was the case with the previous Government, it is expected that that payment (I am speaking from memory) is to begin in January, 1971. Speaking again from memory, I believe the undertaking given previously was that we would commence payments to honorary medical staff at

that time, and the payment is in respect of a portion of the financial year 1970-71.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Treasurer say whether it is intended to pay all categories (all specialties) of honorary medical officers as from January, 1971, or is it intended to pay only honorary physicians who, I understand, were the first people to ask for this payment?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: As I do not have that information, I will inquire and let the honourable member have a reply.

Mr. COUMBE: Can the Treasurer say when the Strathmont Centre, which will be a valuable asset to the Mental Health Services in South Australia, is likely to become operative? I take it that it will become operative in stages, and \$449,055 is being provided this year as against \$4,576 spent last year.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is expected that the Strathmont Centre will become progressively operative from December, 1970.

Mr. NANKIVELL: While it seems that the salaries paid to the Superintendents at the Glenside and Hillcrest Hospitals bear some relation to the salary that might be expected of a medical officer, I should like the Treasurer to explain how the Enfield Hospital can employ a superintendent at \$4,400. Is this person a full-time or part-time officer?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot say; the only information I have on that line is that it is normal expenditure plus reclassification of office. I can only assume that it is a part-time post.

Mr. Coumbe: It may be a lay superintendent.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Possibly.

Dr. TONKIN: Regarding the library services mentioned in the general section of this line, can the Treasurer say whether these services are for patients or nursing staff? Until recently the libraries available in nurses homes were not of a high standard; that remark relates not only to textbooks but also to recreational reading. I believe that steps were taken to improve the standard of libraries two or three years ago. I think nurses should be given the opportunity to use well stocked libraries. Can the Treasurer say whether this need has been taken into account?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The only information I have on that item is that there is provision for an enrolled training school at Eden Park. Provision has been made for a new patient record system that will be used in all country, Government and Government-subsidized hospitals. I regret that I do not have any detail concerning library services, but

I will obtain that information for the honourable member.

Dr. TONKIN: The increase from \$112 to \$15,500 in the provision for special domiciliary services at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is considerable and, if it means what I think it means, I strongly support it. Can the Treasurer say whether the services to be provided are to be an extension of the pilot services at Murray Bridge and Port Lincoln?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Provision is made for a special project under the State grants (paramedical and home care services) legislation.

Mr. McANANEY: Last year the actual payment in connection with the salary of the Administrator of the Royal Adelaide Hospital was only \$4,287, because the Administrator was seconded to do special work. Because the full amount of the Administrator's salary is provided this year, I should like the Treasurer to say whether Mr. Rankin will be going back to the Royal Adelaide Hospital or a new Administrator will be appointed.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot tell the honourable member that. This item provides for payment for a full year for the officer appointed during 1969-70.

Line passed.

Department of Public Health, \$1,629,600.

Dr. TONKIN: Under "School Health", the salaries for the Principal Medical Officer, medical officers, and so on show once again a considerable increase to \$610,000. I know that there has been a considerable increase in the number of services given by the school medical services and examinations to private schools. I also know that there has been a considerable degree of activity in the dental services given to our schools. Can the Treasurer give me the break-down of these figures?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The increased expenditure in 1969-70 due to total wage and other salary adjustments, the retention of full establishment of medical staff for a full year, an increase in dental staff due to appointment of dental therapists and dental students on completion of training, and a smaller dental staff turnover and fewer resignations than in previous years account for this increased amount. Provision has been made in the current year for existing staff for a full year, the expected appointment of 16 dental therapists and two dentists on completion of training, and associated staff.

Mrs. STEELE: I refer to the line "Reimbursement of fares and expenses of officer

on loan from overseas". Can the Treasurer give me particulars of this line?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The expenditure in 1969-70 was on fares and expenses of Miss J. Murphy on return to New Zealand following completion of a period of loan from the New Zealand Government to assist in training dental therapists. Provision made in the current year is for similar expenses for Miss Trewheeler, the remaining officer on loan from New Zealand, who will complete her period of loan at the end of 1970.

Mr. GUNN: I notice a reference to school dental services but I cannot see any reference to dental clinics or dental services for outlying areas. Can the Minister of Education say what is the Government's attitude to providing services under this line to areas where there are no dental services whatever, such as in my district where there is only one resident dentist?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON (Minister of Education): Dental clinics have been established and are being expanded in some country areas. First, a dental clinic is built in a school and the first task of the nurses employed in the clinic is with the children in that school. Then, gradually, on a first examination the children in neighbouring schools are covered. This has meant that the first priority has been given to country areas where there are significant numbers of people. This puts outlying areas at a disadvantage, and it also puts the metropolitan area at a disadvantage. The presumption in relation to the metropolitan area is that there is easier access to dentists or dental services, although, as most honourable members will appreciate, the cost of dental services means that for many children no adequate attention is given at all.

How we are going to cope with the provision of dental services in outlying areas is a difficult question. Provision may have to be made for children from outlying areas to come in on a special occasion to the nearest dental clinic. In some outlying areas, the problems involved would be difficult indeed, for the amount of service that would be provided relative to travelling time would probably make it a most uneconomic proposition. At this stage there are not enough dental therapists trained to provide a proper coverage even of the areas where dental clinics are already established. The honourable member would appreciate that the course for dental therapists was started only in 1967 as a result of legislation passed by this Parliament. I

think that next year will be only the second year of dental therapists graduating from the school of dental therapy. So the whole scheme is very much in its infancy. The honourable member can rest assured that the problems of people living in outlying areas will be considered; some solution will have to be found.

Dr. TONKIN: Will the greater part of the \$610,000 provided under "Principal Medical Officer, etc." be spent on dental services rather than medical services?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

Mr. GUNN: I think the Minister misunderstood me. My question concerned providing dental clinics for the general public, because there are no such services in my area. What plans does the Government have in this regard?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I do not know of any plans in existence in relation to this matter. The whole approach in this area has been, first, to recognize the great shortage in the provision of dental services throughout the State and to decide that a real effort must be made with regard to the children of the State to start with; hence the introduction of this scheme. I am certain that the matter can be taken up with the Chief Secretary.

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Treasurer considered subsidizing the training of dentists, under a cadet scheme, for this purpose?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have not seen a proposal from the department on this. If the honourable member is able to develop a proposal that may be economic for us to introduce, I am sure we will be interested to see it.

Line passed.

Miscellaneous, \$8,736,495.

Mr. EVANS: For maintenance for "Meals on Wheels" \$5,000 was allocated last year and \$5,000 was spent; this year no provision is made. The capital grant last year was \$17,000 of which \$8,938 was spent; this year's allocation is \$8,500. I know that a grant of 10c a meal has been made to Meals on Wheels. Has this had some bearing on the State Government's decision to cut down this expenditure? Has it been part of the Commonwealth Government's plan, in making this allocation, that the State Government shall cut down its allocation? What is the reason for this reduction?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I speak with some knowledge of the development of Meals on Wheels because I was its first President

and was involved in the organization from the outset. The basis of the State Government's grant to Meals on Wheels has been that the Government has made grants towards any deficit in the funds of Meals on Wheels from its operation, and there has been an investigation by the Auditor-General each year into the operations of Meals on Wheels, and a recommendation is then made for covering the deficit. That has changed with the passing of Commonwealth legislation. As Meals on Wheels Incorporated will receive about \$37,000 from the Commonwealth Government in this financial year, pursuant to the Delivered Meals Subsidy Act, 1970, and the organization's estimated deficit in 1970-71 was \$34,330, no deficit has to be covered by the State Government. Concerning capital expenditure cost, the organization has applied for a subsidy towards the cost of a kitchen at Christies Beach on a \$2 for \$1 basis, and this has been granted.

Mr. CUMBE: Can the Treasurer say whether the \$4,257 spent last year for the Travellers' Aid Society represented a capital grant for its headquarters in Kermode Street, and whether the \$1,000 allocated this year is the normal grant?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is so.

Mrs. STEELE: Can the Treasurer say whether the \$22,000 allocated to the Phoenix Society is for a specific purpose, as the grant has been increased from \$12,575? I know from my experience that the society appreciates this increase.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This grant is on the basis of a subsidy towards operating costs based on reimbursement at the rate of \$250 a week for employees plus provision for a special disability grant of \$4,000. It is on the basis of what work the society undertakes and the number of its employees. This society does valuable work, and we all appreciate the work the honourable member has done for this society.

Mr. LANGLEY: The allocation for Aged Citizens' Clubs of \$100,000 is a large increase on previous grants. Can the Treasurer explain this increase?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is a financial provision to subsidize the establishment of aged citizens clubs and includes a \$1 for \$1 State subsidy, to a maximum of \$6,000 and a Commonwealth subsidy to a maximum of one-third of the total cost of the project. The increase is as a result of expected added expenditure this year.

Mr. WARDLE: Has the Treasurer information about the increased allocation for transport concessions to blind and incapacitated soldiers?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is to cover charges for periodical tickets issued by the Railways Department to blind and incapacitated men on certificate of the Repatriation Department and payment made to the Municipal Tramways Trust for free transport of blind and incapacitated soldiers. The amount of \$247,000 provided in 1970-71 includes an amount of \$83,281.74 on account of the 1969-70 year but not paid until July, 1970 (hence the low payment in 1969-70 of \$74,251). There was a carry-over into this financial year.

Mr. EVANS: I am pleased that the Commonwealth Government has given \$37,000 to the Meals on Wheels organization in this State. I think the Treasurer knows that many of the kitchens are running on a shoestring budget and that many persons make sacrifices and give donations to maintain the service. In this way, the State saves money and persons are kept out of hospitals. I know that the previous practice was to make a maintenance contribution only when a loss was shown, but Meals on Wheels could use some of the \$13,000 that we did not have to pay last year to meet the costs of deliveries and, particularly, welfare officers who travel long distances and have high expenses for petrol costs.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I appreciate the great sacrifices made by many people in the Meals on Wheels organization by way of time and personal expenditure. However, if we establish the principle that the honourable member mentions for Meals on Wheels, we must also establish it for the large number of other organizations that do similar work in South Australia. In those cases, a similar case can be made out regarding personal sacrifice and time given to social work. On present budgetary limits, it would be difficult to provide that extra money. Whilst there has been a marked increase in expenditure in the health and hospitals area this year, the expenditure is not nearly enough and we will have to make a marked further increase in the Budget next year. Given the financial problems facing the State, it will be difficult for us to establish a new principle of helping those who voluntarily assist in this social work. If people associated with Meals on Wheels consider there is some basis for assisting people who are in hardship because of their sacrifices to help others, we can consider whether some such principle can

be established, but we have not had a submission of that kind yet.

Dr. TONKIN: I take it that the increase in capital payments from about \$271,000 to about \$424,000 relates mostly to subsidies payable to community and other hospitals. Can the Treasurer say whether this is correct?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: A rehabilitation project has been under way at the Kalyra Sanatorium since 1968. The Government is meeting the full cost of the project which is recoverable from the Commonwealth Government under the tuberculosis arrangement. The sum of \$200,000 has been provided in 1970-71 to enable this project to continue. For the Australian Inland Mission Frontier Services, \$2,667 is provided in 1970-71 towards additional rooms for a dentist and a dental clinic at the Outpost Hospital at the Andamooka opal field. The sum of \$6,750 has been provided in 1970-71 in connection with the Lyell McEwin Hospital to cover repayment of a loan to the Elizabeth corporation. The sum of \$3,246, provided as the full cost of expansions to the tuberculosis laboratory at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, will be recouped from the Commonwealth Government under the tuberculosis arrangement.

For the Mothers and Babies Health Association there is a subsidy for the building of new health centres on a \$2 for \$1 basis, plus full reimbursement for the replacement of motor vehicles. The grant has been increased from \$31,842 last year to \$47,300 this year as a result of the changeover of an additional number of motor vehicles in 1970-71 and also the purchase of property in Charlotte Place. Additional information I have is that sums provided in 1970-71 are to cover \$2 for \$1 subsidies towards minor items of furnishings and equipment and that major capital projects are met from Loan funds.

Dr. EASTICK: When speaking to the first line I indicated that I would be seeking information on current maintenance charges, and I instanced the Adelaide Children's Hospital Incorporated. Although sums have been made available from the Hospitals Fund, in the main they have been no greater than previous sums, and in some cases they have been less. When the question of a lottery was promoted in 1966 it was said that the sums that would be available through the special Hospitals Fund would increase the total amount available to hospitals. It was even suggested that, as a result, people would not need to support these organizations to the same degree. Actually,

some of the hospitals, particularly the Adelaide Children's Hospital, experienced a decrease in the public support that they received.

Between 1962-63 and 1963-64 there was an increase in maintenance for the Adelaide Children's Hospital of slightly less than 13 per cent; between 1963-64 and 1964-65 there was an increase of slightly less than 37 per cent; between 1964-65 and 1965-66 (the last year of total maintenance out of Consolidated Revenue) there was an increase of 13 per cent. From 1966-67 onwards, the base rate available to the Adelaide Children's Hospital has been the same as that stated in the figures—\$1,885,000. The amounts made available, including those from the special Hospitals Fund, in 1966-67 represented an increase of 8.7 per cent; in 1967-68 it was 13.1 per cent; in 1968-69 it was slightly less than 8.3 per cent; and in 1969-70 it was slightly less than 7.8 per cent. I congratulate the Government that in 1970-71 there is an estimated increase of 19.6 per cent in the amount available. However, much of this apparent increase will be immediately lost because of the increases in salaries and wages. Can the Treasurer say whether the people of the State were under a misapprehension in connection with what they thought the Hospitals Fund would do?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There was much political talk from all sorts of people at the time of the introduction of the State lottery, but the Government was not responsible for that talk. Many people said the State lottery would do away with collections for charities. Other people said that Queensland had free hospitalization in public wards as a result of the Golden Casket, but that was never suggested by the South Australian Government in connection with this State. In fact, any examination of lottery revenue would make it clear that it could not be achieved.

The honourable member, in his examination of the additional assistance given to the Adelaide Children's Hospital, went back to a time which, frankly, was atypical; that was the time of the previous Labor Government's increase in hospital expenditure. Between 1965 and 1968 we increased hospital expenditure, apart from payments out of the Hospitals Fund, by 55 per cent per capita. That was a most abnormal increase. The reason for it was that we had been grossly underspending in hospitals expenditure previously. If the honourable member examines the Grants Commission's analysis he will see that South Australia up to 1965 under-spent, per capita, every other State of Australia

in health and hospitals consistently from 1945 onwards.

In order to get to the level of the other States or to make some start towards it, we had to make very marked increases in expenditure, and this occasioned the kinds of deficit budgeting which we were running at the time and which for the overall provision of funds in South Australia we thought was sensible in view of the fact that we needed to channel money out to try to stimulate activity here. However, that meant that for a two-year period at least we had a marked increase in hospitals expenditure which simply could not be sustained, given the kinds of increase in general rates of revenue that the State could expect. With a general increase in the revenue rate of around 8 per cent or 9 per cent, we cannot in all areas give an increase of between 19 per cent and 30 per cent and expect to be able to meet it forever. In consequence, the honourable member can see what happened. Money was paid out of the Hospitals Fund, but there was not during that first year a similar increase in the amounts from Consolidated Revenue that had previously occurred in the two atypical years, and thereafter the increase has been in the last two years rather less than the general amount of increase in the total revenue expectation.

We have given the hospitals as good an increase this year as we can give. I agree that one of the problems facing all hospitals administration this year will be the very marked increase in expenditure that we need to make in salaries and wages. This is a grave problem, and we are trying to cope with it with the kind of increases we are giving. However, as I have said to the member for Bragg, despite the fact that there is a very marked increase in hospitals expenditure this year there is a great increase in outgoings. The rate of increase in hospital services does not make the Government happy at all. This is a general problem that faces the State. I do not suggest that we have any short answer, but I hope that next year I shall be able to do a bit better.

Dr. TONKIN: Returning to the previous query I had regarding subsidies to hospitals for capital works, I take it that there has been no change in the Government's attitude towards church-governed non-profit hospitals, and that these will remain on a \$1 for \$1 subsidy basis instead of the \$2 for \$1 basis applying to community hospitals. I feel very strongly about this. The church-governed hospitals are non-profit hospitals, and they perform an extremely valuable service in the community.

I have canvassed this matter before in this place. They not only look after patients and charge fees no higher than the average community hospital, but they also provide an extremely valuable service to the community in training about 120 nurses each year. I am rather disappointed that there has been no change, as I understand it, in this matter, and I should be very grateful for the Treasurer's reassurance that perhaps the matter will be considered before the next Budget is introduced.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I shall certainly look at it, but I cannot at this stage make any promise to the honourable member.

Dr. TONKIN: I refer now under the same heading to the line "Alcohol and Drug Addicts Treatment Board". I am extremely disappointed to see that the increase in proposed expenditure is less than \$10,000. The degree of activity of the board has been building up steadily since its inception, and I understand that the amount of work being done is rapidly overtaking the staff available. For instance, I understand that the medical officer is giving lectures to various community organizations almost every evening, and I am sure that this is not covered by his salary. Can the Treasurer say what extension of staff will be necessary within the next six months or 12 months and, if extra staff is necessary, whence funds to provide for it will come?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Provision for 1970-71 includes an allocation for the salary of a full-time Secretary. The amount shown is in fact the net expenditure; it is the net cost largely of running St. Anthony's Hospital. What have now been taken into account are the estimated fees at St. Anthony's Hospital which have been deducted from the total cost. The honourable member will see that the actual total expenditure will be greater than the increase shown.

Mr. COUMBE: Of course, this board has been considering for some time acquiring a property in Hill Street, North Adelaide, to be used for administrative purposes only. Several people expressed fears to me, as the local member, that some patients would use this property. However, the Chief Secretary assured me that this would not be the case and that the building would be used only for administrative purposes. Further, I understand that correspondence was conducted with the Adelaide City Council to the effect that the board could occupy these premises for a certain time pending redevelopment planned for the upper part of North Adelaide. Where in the Estimates is shown the rental being paid for the property or the sum paid for its purchase?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: From memory it was a purchase, and I think it may have been from Loan. I will find out for the honourable member and let him know. This was certainly intended to be an administration centre. The Government went into the matter carefully, and we saw no reason for people at North Adelaide to hold the fears expressed in regard to the establishment of the centre.

Mr. McANANEY: Why has no provision been made this year for the South Australian Sea Rescue Squadron, which received \$3,000 last year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The grant for 1969-70 was for a \$1 for \$1 subsidy towards the central control building, and that was a once-and-for-all grant for a specific purpose.

Mr. MATHWIN: Why is no allocation made this year for "Contribution to Metropolitan County Board"?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is reimbursement of fines collected by the Metropolitan County Board and paid to the court by the board, as it is not legally entitled to fines.

Dr. TONKIN: Do I understand the Treasurer to say that St. Anthony's Hospital is to operate if not at a profit at least with a balanced budget?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is not expected that it will balance its budget, but the estimate is that, as a result of fees charged, there will be a reduction in the net expected expenditure that would have occurred if the total cost had been to the Government without receiving any fees.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Treasurer explain the considerable discrepancy in the figures quoted in actual payments and the proposed expenditure for the Mentally Retarded Children's Society?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I think this is probably a carry-over payment. It is a \$2 for \$1 subsidy towards equipment for the junior hospital at Mount Gambier, and I think it is likely that the bills have not come to hand.

Dr. EASTICK: The Treasurer said that there had been no promotion by the then Government relating to additional moneys being available from the Hospitals Fund. During the debate on the Totalizator Board legislation on August 10, 1966, *Hansard* reported the following statement:

In view of the Premier's recent public statement that such a provision is not to be regarded

as a substitution for the hospital funds usually appearing in the Budget presented to Parliament each year, we are to assume that the provision authorizes payments to hospitals in South Australia, over and above those at present made.

This seems to vary from the reply the Treasurer gave that the previous Labor Government had promoted the fact that additional moneys would be available.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: So there have been. The Government made it clear that payments out of the Hospitals Fund either from receipts from lotteries or from the Totalizator Agency Board would have been in addition to the normal payments made from Consolidated Revenue, but it could not be suggested that the payments from Consolidated Revenue would escalate constantly at the abnormal rate that had occurred during the previous two years, because they could not. What we did in the Budget I introduced in 1967 was to make clear what payments were from Consolidated Revenue and from the Hospitals Fund, so that members could see that there had been no reduction in the amount paid from Consolidated Revenue and that the amount paid from the Hospitals Fund was extra. That has always been the case.

Line passed.

#### ATTORNEY-GENERAL

Attorney-General's Department, \$598,501.

Mr. COUMBE: Since the Licensing Branch was established two years ago consequent on the new Licensing Act, I have been told that undue delays have occurred because of the number of cases to be dealt with and, on occasions, the time taken. This is not necessarily the fault of the judges, who do a good job. In many cases, lengthy evidence must be taken and the number of applications to the court is increasing. As these matters have caused people to complain to me about the unduly long time they have to wait to have their cases finalized, can the Treasurer say whether any undue backlog is occurring in the court, and, if it is, whether it can be overcome?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am not aware that the present backlog is worse than it has been. The enormous spate of applications made immediately the new Licensing Act came into force has been dealt with as expeditiously as possible, additional members having been appointed to the bench to work full-time to deal with them. These additional members have been working on that full-time basis ever since. I appreciate that in many cases there is a considerable waiting time but

it would be unwise to so build up the court as to have an unnecessary establishment later. However, I will ask the Attorney-General whether there is some way of reducing present delays.

Mr. CARNIE: I refer to the increase from \$27,488 actually paid last year to \$45,987 proposed this year for salaries and wages and related payments for solicitors and clerical staff. Is this increase of about 67 per cent mainly because of increased salaries or increased staff, or both?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is because of both. Salaries have been increased, two solicitors have been appointed, and the salary of the Attorney-General's press secretary is included in the item.

Dr. EASTICK: I refer to the provision to meet the cost of courses of instruction for justices, for which \$20 more than was expended last year is proposed. It is highly commendable that justices be given instruction, and the Correspondence Branch of the Education Department, which handles this course, advises justices that the courses are available. Even though a person is enrolled for the course, he is denied the right to continue the course once it is known that he is a justice of the peace merely by virtue of the office he holds in local government. I should hope that this course would be made available to all persons who, at the time of applying, were *bona fide* justices of the peace; whether they are on a permanent or temporary role is not the point at issue.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If the honourable member is saying that, if a person becomes an honorary justice of the peace because he is, say, the Chairman of a district council, he is not given the right to proceed with this course, I am certainly not aware of that situation, and I will take it up with the Attorney-General. When I, as Attorney-General, initiated this course, the intention was to provide it for anyone who could use it.

Line passed.

Crown Law Department, \$340,414; Public Trustee Department, \$428,529; Supreme Court Department, \$322,331—passed.

Local and District Criminal Courts Department, \$1,036,560.

Mr. COUMBE: This line refers to the replacement of the former Local Court and Adelaide Magistrates Court jurisdictions, following the relevant legislation passed in this Chamber. Can the Treasurer say where one finds the provision for the additional judges in the three-tier system who have beer.

appointed to carry out the extra work in this new department?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I imagine that the judges are provided for under special Acts. All the ancillary staff are provided for in the item "Secretary, Clerks of Court, Reporting, Accounting, Clerical and other Court Staff". Provision is made for an increase in court business.

Mr. COUMBE: The sum of \$1,036,560 is provided for the new Local and District Criminal Courts Department this year, compared with actual payments of \$909,543 last year. I presume that part of the increase is accounted for in the salaries of the new judges.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No; it is accounted for only in respect of the ancillary staff. The judges are provided for under special Acts.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Treasurer say whether consideration has been given to upgrading the status of the Juvenile Court Magistrate? In most other centres I have visited, that officer is a judge at the intermediate level.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The provision for procedure in the Juvenile Court revolves around the implementation of the report of the Social Welfare Advisory Council. I cannot promise the honourable member that there will be an upgrading of the position of the Juvenile Court Magistrate this year. We should like to implement the general principles of the report as quickly as possible, and that will to some extent lessen the direct work done by the court itself.

Line passed.

Registrar-General's Department, \$609,287; Miscellaneous, \$110,458—passed.

#### TREASURER

Treasury Department, \$140,187; Prices Branch, \$175,363; Superannuation Department, \$226,934; Agent-General in England Department, \$146,530; Valuation Department, \$763,299; State Taxes Department, \$545,467—passed.

Miscellaneous, \$26,288,388.

Mr. HALL: I notice that provision is made for the payment of \$450,000 to the Municipal Tramways Trust as a contribution towards working expenses. Also, \$14,500,000 is provided for the Railways Department, and this is an increase of \$500,000 on the actual payments last year. We know the necessity for supporting the railways. The accounts must be put right, so we have to be involved in this sort of payment. With the service pay that

has been granted, I should have thought that this extra additional payment might have been even greater. I noticed a comment by the Minister the other day that railway revenue was up a little in the first few months of the year. Does the Treasurer believe that the amount required next year for the Railways Department will be contained within this figure or that it will be greater? Secondly, can he refresh my memory regarding the \$450,000 for the tramways trust? This is the first payment of this type for several years at least.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Our aim is to reduce the prospective deficit of the Railways Department to a figure that could possibly be eliminated by efforts in reducing expenditure or raising revenue. The extra payment we are making here is with the aim of making some efforts in the railway area in accordance with the demands that undoubtedly will be made upon us by the Grants Commission, efforts which will, I hope, still maintain our freight advantages.

The \$450,000 for the Tramways Trust is to cover the prospective loss of the trust caused largely by over-award and service pay increases and a new award for drivers and conductors. It is largely a matter of wages and salaries. The over-award payments that are being made are in line with those that have been made in other States by the Commonwealth and the States of Victoria and New South Wales to their railway workers. Service pay in South Australia has always been across the board to daily-paid and weekly-paid employees in Government service. Therefore, when the decision was made to bring the South Australian railway workers into line with the Commonwealth railway workers and the New South Wales and Victorian railway workers, this had to be extended to the Tramways Trust. The basis of our service pay is slightly different, but as it was to give comparable benefits it had to be extended to the Tramways Trust. If fares were not to be increased (and we did not believe that they should be), this meant that an additional payment had to be made to the Tramways Trust to cover the difference. Also, there has been a further increase in the award to tramway workers.

Mr. HALL: I may have been in error. I had imagined that there was some payment initiated again for capital purposes, but it might have been in the Loan Account.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: I don't think we have made a Loan payment.



Mr. HALL: I can look this up in the Loan Account. However, this raises a new proposition in this Budget compared with the last few Budgets. Here we have a subvention from the Government as a direct subsidy to the running costs of the Tramways Trust. We are already widely involved in subsidy situations in many directions. We are involved in a heavy subsidy in regard to water supply operations and we provide a very heavy subsidy to the Railways Department of \$14,500,000. Other subsidies include the subsidy to the swamp lands irrigation areas. Surely there must be a limit to the number of subsidy situations we can get into, because eventually we end up by imposing unpopular taxes to make up for what we pay by way of subsidies. If some social injustice is involved, we can properly account for this type of procedure, but in many instances we get ourselves into a rather foolish situation in that we take money out of the same pockets that we put it into.

I know that the Government may have in mind a policy to stimulate the use of public transport by providing subsidized Tramways Trust services, as we provide heavily subsidized suburban railway transportation. However, without being too dogmatic as to the propriety of this, I wish to know whether the Treasurer envisages a continuing subsidy on operating results or whether this subsidy, which is not small, is merely to help the trust over a difficult period.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: At this stage it is difficult to forecast what the trading results of the Tramways Trust will be. Forecasts by the trust have not always been entirely accurate, having tended at times to be pessimistic; rather more favourable results than expected have been achieved. However, I can say that it is widely the case today that public transit systems in large city areas have to be subsidized as a social service, otherwise there is a substantial section of the populace that is simply not able to move about in the city. With falling patronage on public transport in most city systems in the world, it is most difficult to achieve constantly a balanced trading situation and to give adequate service. The alternative to giving some subsidy to the Tramways Trust this year was to put up fares. That would bear very heavily on those sections of the community using the bus services now, because bus fares in Adelaide are not low, and they take a substantial slice out of the pockets of those people who use the bus services.

Also, it could quite easily lead to a further falling off in patronage without the desired

increase in revenue. The Government thought it wise this year to give the subsidy. We hope that the trust will do better in trading operations than the present forecast. However, at this stage we can only wait and see.

Mr. McANANEY: In connection with the Railways Department, the loss on actual working expenses of suburban services has increased from \$3,314,000 to \$3,708,000, although about 27,000 extra passengers were carried during that period. This is an amazing loss for the carriage of so many people, and something must be done about the suburban railway services. This money could be used to solve education problems and increase grants to hospitals. The Municipal Tramways Trust does not carry as many passengers as the railways services but its loss is much less. We cannot ask the Commonwealth Government for additional financial assistance when, at the same time, such amazing losses are being made on our railways services. Perhaps the fares should be increased, but there must be some way of operating these services at a reduced loss. If a more businesslike approach was adopted I am sure that the loss would be reduced.

Mr. HALL: Has the Treasurer any details about the \$300 provision for refunds on account of State income tax?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: When uniform taxation was introduced the Commonwealth Government paid the State any money outstanding at that time and, believe it or not, accounts are still being finalized, and any refunds to taxpayers must be reimbursed to the Commonwealth.

Mr. BECKER: Can the Treasurer say whether the provision made in "Miscellaneous" for cheque books for departments is for stamp duty on stamp books, or for printing or overprinting of cheque books?

Mr. McANANEY: I read the wrong line. I was dealing with train mileage instead of passengers, but the correct position is worse than I stated. The passenger mileage on suburban lines has decreased from 13,790,000 to 13,441,000, so the highly subsidized railways service is being used by fewer people. Although fares have not increased during the last year, the number of passengers has decreased. Fewer people are using what we are told must be provided as a social service. The closing of country passenger services has reduced the loss on country lines by \$600,000 and, although the present Minister of Roads and Transport claimed last year that not one railway line should be closed, he has told us

now that lines should be closed. Can the Treasurer say what lines the Government intends to close or what efforts it will make to reduce this heavy burden on all the people of South Australia?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The cost of carrying suburban passengers is of grave concern to the Government but there is no short answer. This total system cannot be changed overnight but I think that, when the report of our transit investigators is tabled, the honourable member will see that the Government is considering this matter.

Mr. McANANEY: I understand that the expert that the Government brought here said in Melbourne on his way home that private enterprise should take over the transport system in South Australia. He must have a high opinion of private enterprise if he thinks it can make a success of our railways. Surely some effort must be made immediately to improve the position. Will any committee be set up to investigate the loss on the railways and how the services can be combined, perhaps, with the Municipal Tramways Trust services, so that fewer trains will run when they are not required or so that more trains can operate in peak periods? These losses should be cut because they result in a reduction in expenditure on other social services.

Line passed.

MINISTER OF LANDS, MINISTER OF REPATRIATION  
AND MINISTER OF IRRIGATION

Department of Lands, \$4,091,732—passed.  
Botanic Garden, \$360,792.

Mr. CARNIE: Can the Minister of Lands explain the reason for the substantial increase in allocation for the line "Botanical, Technical, Clerical and General Staff" from \$89,893 actual payments last year to \$260,098 proposed this year?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): This increase has arisen because wages are being included in this line for the first time. Wages previously formed part of the grant for running expenses. In addition, payroll tax is now included under "Salaries," etc., instead of under "Contingencies".

Line passed.

Miscellaneous, \$364,061.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Can the Minister comment on the progress being made in the activities of the Royal Zoological Society of South Australia? While I was the Minister of Lands, the society was interested in implementing many plans, but it would certainly have wished to be able to do more than

it could through the grant it received. However, it was able to raise a little money through increasing the admission fee into the zoo. Can the Minister say whether the society may look forward to a bigger increase in the future? In addition, I should like the Minister to comment on the line "Grant for survey of north-western area" under "Other Miscellaneous Payments". I take it that this area is the national park that was proclaimed in about April last, comprising about 5,000,000 acres of land along the Western Australian border, south of the Aboriginal reserve. Can the Minister say whether that is correct?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: First, I agree that the board of the Zoological Society has done an excellent job. My information is that grants are provided at the same level as that of last year, and the Treasurer has decided that the society should meet increased wages and other costs for three years (1968-69 to 1970-71) and that grants will remain at the present level during that time. The society's revenue has increased and it is expected that it will be at least sufficient to absorb higher costs. A small increase is provided to cover higher water costs. The grant for the survey of the north-western area is proposed in order to co-operate with the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization in a research survey into the north-western sheep country as a follow-up of work carried out by R. W. Jessup in 1945-50. It is expected that the work, which commenced in 1970, will take about two years.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I realize that the north-western area is not the reserve to which I referred. A detailed botanical survey was carried out in the area about 20 or 30 years ago, before there was much stocking of the area, and the present survey, which I understand is being undertaken in order to see what has happened in the meantime, should provide information of considerable interest.

Mr. GUNN: Does the grant towards running expenses of national parks and wild life reserves include provision for the erection of fences to protect properties that border those parks and reserves?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The grant for running expenses has been increased by \$10,000 because of higher costs and additional areas under control. Also, \$20,000 has been included under a five-year grant programme from 1969-70 approved by Cabinet to assist the commission to plan for the future. Like the farmers whose properties border parks and reserves, the National Park Commissioners are

anxious that vermin proof fences should be erected. I take it that there has been no change in the policy that, where fences are to be provided, the National Park Commission provides the material and the owner of the adjoining property erects the fence.

The real need is actually to purchase areas as quickly as possible so that they can be set aside before they are lost forever. Consequently, the commission must devote most of its resources to this purpose (I believe it should do this, anyway). At the same time, it recognizes that there are real difficulties involved for owners of adjoining properties. The commissioners hope that they will eventually be able to provide adequate fences and fire breaks inside parks, not on the farmers' properties. The commission is working towards this end, but I cannot say that it will happen quickly in the honourable member's district.

Dr. EASTICK: Regarding the provision for water and sewer rates in connection with the Royal Zoological Society of South Australia and the provision for council rates on soldiers' houses, are these *ex gratia* payments?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: We have provided for a small increase to cover the higher water charges. The zoological society actually pays the water charges to the Engineering and Water Supply Department. Under the Advances for Homes Act, the Crown is liable for council rates on soldiers' widows' houses erected under the Act.

Line passed.

#### MINISTER OF WORKS

Minister of Works Department, \$45,273.

Mr. CUMBE: Regarding the item "Administrative and Clerical Staff", actual payments last year were nearly \$19,000 but this year the provision is \$33,468. Because I know something about the department and the volume of work there, even allowing for extra clerical staff, an increase of almost 100 per cent seems extraordinary. Can the Minister explain how this enormous increase is warranted, and can he give details of the various items that make up this total of \$33,468?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): The provision is for salaries of the Assistant Secretary, clerks (I think there are three automatic scale clerks at present), a shorthand typist, and a press secretary. The salary of the latter would be included in this figure, and as he is an A-plus journalist his salary would be a fairly substantial one, although I am not certain of the figure. I

take it that, apart from that, the increase would be accounted for by general increases in salaries or things of that nature. I do not think the staff is any different, apart from the addition of the press secretary, from what it was when the member for Torrens was the Minister. I have applied for an addition to the staff, but this request has not yet been granted by the Public Service Board. This application is due in the main to an increase in the volume of work. That is certainly no reflection on the work done by the honourable member when he was the Minister. However, there has been an increase in the volume of work, and if we can justify the need for this additional staff the Public Service Board will no doubt make the appropriate recommendation. However, it has not yet done so.

Mr. CUMBE: I am not satisfied with that answer. I am the first to admit that a tremendous amount of work goes through the office of the Minister of Works, and that Mr. Brooks, the Secretary of the department, is one of the outstanding secretaries in the Public Service. The Assistant Secretary, who is also known to me, is an outstanding officer, too. Speaking from memory, there were three male and three female officers on the staff when I was the Minister, and even if we added one additional male and one additional female the figure required for salaries would not approach \$33,000. The Minister has said that a press secretary, an A-plus journalist, has been added. This increase in expenditure does not make sense to me, because it is proposed to almost double the allocation for this line. If the Minister cannot explain this matter now, I ask him to provide a more detailed explanation later, for this figure seems to be out of all proportion.

I point out that at the time I was the Minister of Works and Minister of Marine I was also Minister of Labour and Industry, and a small part of the work involved in the latter portfolio rubbed off in this department, yet it still coped. I admit that Mr. Brooks is grossly overworked and needs extra assistance. However, the proposed increase seems to me to be out of all proportion to the requirement for additional clerical staff. I think the Committee is entitled to know the salary of this expensive press officer, and I think it is entitled to further explanation of why this figure is being doubled.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I have no intention of withholding the information from

the Committee, and the only reason I cannot state the exact figure is that I am not certain of this press officer's exact salary. However, he is an A-plus journalist, and his salary would be at a rate prescribed by the Australian Journalists Association. I believe it would be over \$6,000. The honourable member will realize that the total of a full year's increases is included in this figure. As I am not able to explain the matter further, I shall be happy to get detailed information for the honourable member.

Line passed.

Engineering and Water Supply Department,  
\$15,344,559.

Mr. EVANS: Last year the sum of \$300,861 was spent on the item "River Murray locks", whereas this year \$630,000 is proposed for our share of this lock-keeping cost. What is the reason for this increase?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I can only say that this is the State's proportion of the Murray River maintenance expenditure as advised by the River Murray Commission. As I do not know why the sum has been increased, I will find out for the honourable member.

Mr. CUMBE: I point out that the Engineer-in-Chief is a member of the River Murray Commission. Recently there has been a rumour that much salt is coming down the river from Merbein in Victoria. In view of the high level of the river this is somewhat surprising. Recently, when I asked the Minister a question about possible flooding of the river, he said there would be no flooding. Subsequently, in the press however, he said that the river flats at Murray Bridge were likely to be inundated. Will the Minister comment on these matters?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am not aware of the rumour to which the honourable member referred about salt coming down the river from Merbein. Perhaps he is referring to Barr Creek, which is notorious for this; people there could take advantage of the high river and slip some salt through. Although I am not aware of this and have had no report from the department on it, I will make some inquiries. Regarding the likelihood of flooding or of inundation of the river flats, I had had a discussion with the Engineer-in-Chief and I was genuinely under the impression when replying to the honourable member that there was little likelihood of flooding as a result of the high river. Therefore, I felt obliged to make a statement

shortly afterwards that certain things were likely to happen.

I have in my bag details of the expected levels at certain dates and comparative figures for 1956. I was put in a position of having to make a statement which did not coincide with what I had told the honourable member. My latest statement indicated that there would be no real danger but that there would be minor flooding. This situation has not changed, but it is being watched closely by the department. The latest predictions I have indicate that at the Renmark town gauge the height on September 21 was 19ft. 2in. and the gauge reading estimated for October 25 was 23ft. At Morgan, the estimated gauge reading is 22ft. 6in. on November 4, and at present the reading is 13ft. 4in. At Blanchetown (lock 1), the estimated gauge reading for November 5 is 15ft. 6in. and the reading is now 9ft. 9in. At Mannum, the estimated maximum gauge reading is 112ft. 3in. for about November 9, and at present the reading is 109ft. 6in. At Murray Bridge, it is estimated that the reading will be 111ft. on November 10, but at present the reading is 109ft. 5in. I do not have a comparison to give the honourable member, but my previous statement indicated that minor flooding would occur but there is no real danger in the situation.

Mr. CUMBE: I thank the Minister for that information. I visited the river districts recently and saw how high the river was. When Mount Bold reservoir overflows, some of the water is taken to Happy Valley but the remainder runs to waste down the Onkaparinga River to the sea at Port Noarlunga. Can the Minister say what progress has been made on the design of the proposed unique Clarendon Weir reservoir to be built below Mount Bold reservoir, because the new reservoir will not have a catchment area but will be a storage reservoir? As this will be one of the last major reservoirs to be built, unless some new concept or technique is considered, can the Minister say what stage has been reached in designing this project, and when it will be referred to the Public Works Committee?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am not aware of the exact progress, although investigations and preliminary design work have been in progress for some time, as I notice from the 1969 annual report tabled recently. However, I will obtain up-to-date information for the honourable member.

Mr. EVANS: Because of the late rains our reservoirs are holding large quantities of water.

Kangaroo Creek reservoir will settle down, although at present its water is discoloured and causing some problems with colouring and silt. There is a substantial increase of about \$126,000 contemplated for this year for electricity for pumping in respect of the Mannum-Adelaide main and bores. Can the Minister state the reason for such a large increase?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: These Estimates were prepared before we knew that we would have such good catchments in the reservoirs. I assure the honourable member that we do not have to spend the money merely because it is provided, and we will try to save all the money we can.

Mr. COUMBE: My question may be hypothetical but I ask the Minister to assume that agreement is reached on the Dartmouth dam and that legislation is passed to enable planning by the River Murray Commission to proceed. In that case and as no money is provided here for the Dartmouth dam, will the Minister make money available by special grant or other means so that such work may proceed?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As the honourable member has said, the question is hypothetical, but I assure him that if we get to that stage there will not be any difficulty about finding money for it.

Line passed.

Public Buildings Department, \$10,230,500.

Mr. COUMBE: The Government authorized a firm of efficiency experts to examine the Works Division of the department, with a view to re-organizing it. This decision did not reflect on the officers of that division. In fact, I and many other people hold Mr. Doig in very high regard. However, because of the rapid expansion required in the division and the diversification of maintenance and repair work required on all Government buildings, including Parliament House, it was considered desirable that, as the efficiency of other divisions had been examined, consultants should consider the re-organization of this division. Can the Minister say what progress has been made in this matter and whether any recommendations made have been implemented or are likely to be implemented?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Consultants (I think W. D. Scott and Company) have been engaged for this work, particularly in relation to minor works. As the honourable member knows, possibly one of the most difficult matters to contend with in the Public Buildings Department is the many complaints from clients who are not satisfied (and I may say

they should not be satisfied) about the lapse of time that often occurs before work is done, particularly in country areas. About three weeks ago I received an interim report from the consultant who, in company with Mr. Dunn (Director of the Public Buildings Department) commented on the progress that he had been able to make. He will not make any firm recommendation until he has given me a general outline of what he considers should be done, but I think that in general terms this can be best summed up by saying that the Director believes that an effort should be made to decentralize the department's activity in this area and to strengthen the hand of regional officers in this regard.

I agree entirely with him on this matter and I consider that it should apply not only in the Public Buildings Department but also in the Education Department, so that we have people who are not, in effect, acting as post offices but who are able to make a decision and get on with the work. The honourable member will know as well as I that one of the difficulties confronting this department is the tremendous growth that has taken place, necessitating an increase in spending from between \$10,000,000 and \$15,000,000 in 1960 to about \$30,000,000 a year at present. When \$19,000,000 a year is being spent on education projects, it can be seen that it is indeed a tremendous programme. As a result of this, the department decided some time ago to plan on a five-year basis, for this is, in effect, the only way in which we can get anywhere near to keeping up with the proposed programme.

Although this presents problems and sometimes unfortunately leads to waste, the Director and his officers are aware of the shortcomings within the department, and everything is being done to try to overcome this situation as quickly as possible. When I became Minister I was particularly pleased to learn that the former Minister had employed a consultant in this area, because this is one way in which the department can improve its relationship with clients.

Mr. COUMBE: I am rather astounded at the increase from \$4,119 to \$11,000 in connection with the West Terrace cemetery, for the maintenance of which the Public Buildings Department is responsible (but in which I know there is no future, this being a dead subject!). Although this provision may refer to deferred maintenance work or to the provision of roads, I should like the Minister to explain the reason for the increase.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The increase arises because some buildings will be painted this year. Provision is made for the maintenance of the West Terrace cemetery, including office expenses and painting of buildings, but excluding salaries and wages.

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister of Works say whether it is planned to increase the staff of the Public Buildings Department on Eyre Peninsula? Because there is a chronic shortage of staff there, it is impossible for it to give the service required.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As I cannot answer the honourable member's question specifically, I will obtain a reply for him. We hope to provide more efficient services in the country. Country officers are dedicated; some of them have made themselves sick in trying to keep up with the work required of them.

Dr. EASTICK: Regarding the item "Planning and Design", only last week the Minister of Education said that forward planning for school buildings had been made in anticipation of a \$3,000,000 grant. If the planning required in respect of that amount of expenditure is undertaken, there will be a considerable reduction in planning and design in other fields.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The provision for salaries of the Planning and Design Division includes salaries for the Assistant Director (Mr. S. Ralph), architects, engineers, quantity surveyors, surveyors, draftsmen and administrative officers. Allowances have been made for annual increments, the filling of vacancies and new positions. We plan to try to attract additional staff to this section. At present we do not have the staff we need in it: we are putting about 45 per cent of our design work out to consultants. Whilst we cannot attract people to our own department (in fact we are losing people from our own department to our consultants), we are paying those consultants sufficient money to enable them to pay their people top salaries. This creates a big problem within the department. However, we are doing our best under present conditions.

Mr. Venning: Does this work out dearer or cheaper?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Much dearer, I am afraid. However, it is a fact of life that if we want to get the work done we must pay for it. I would much prefer the work to be done within our department, but we do not have the people and cannot seem to attract the professional staff we need to do the volume of work needed to be done this year. Consequently, about 45 per cent of our design work

has to go out to consultants in order to maintain the programme. The additional provision is not only to meet increased award payments, increments, etc., but also to try to fill vacant positions that now exist.

Dr. EASTICK: I do not think the Minister fully answered my question. If work is to be undertaken on the additional planning, other areas of planning must surely be suffering.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: No, they are not. It is a matter of employing more consultants.

Line passed.

Public Stores Department, \$451,970—passed.

Miscellaneous, \$306,000.

Mr. EVANS: I am keenly interested in the work of the Committee of Inquiry on Water Rating Systems. I note that fees and expenses last year amounted to \$1,843. I know that the committee was appointed earlier this year. What amazes me is that \$58,000 is allocated this year. This seems a terrific sum to spend, although if the committee comes up with the right answer I will agree that it is money well spent. Can the Treasurer say how this money is to be used?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This is what it is expected it will cost the Government for this inquiry. I remind the honourable member that the committee is headed by a Queen's Counsel, and Queen's Counsel do not come lightly, as the member for Mitcham would know. Also, there is an accountant (Mr. Wells) on the committee, and he does not come lightly, either. We expect great value from these people. This amount also covers the cost of members' allowances, the salary of the Secretary and typiste, fees and expenses, and accommodation costs of the committee, which was appointed last May.

Mr. EVANS: I refer to the line "Control of Waters Act—Expenses of administration". The sum of \$60,000 was allocated last year, and only \$18,286 was spent. This year \$80,000 has been set aside. Does this relate mainly to the catchment areas of the reservoirs in the Adelaide Hills?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This amount is provided for the expenses of administering the Act. The additional provision allows for the fitting and installation of meters for the control of water diversion from the Murray River. I think that about 1,000 of these meters are being installed along the river at present.

Mr. Evans: It does not relate to the Adelaide Hills?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: No, only the Murray River.

Mr. GUNN: Will the Committee of Inquiry on Water Rating Systems visit country areas?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I know that the committee intends to visit country areas, but I am not certain when and where. I will try to ascertain the intentions of the committee and let the honourable member know.

Line passed.

#### MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Minister of Education Department, \$28,875.

Mr. COUMBE: The provision for "Administrative and clerical staff" has been increased from an actual expenditure of \$9,739 last year to \$17,470 this year. I am the first to admit that the officers are first rate and I cannot praise them too highly. However, even if the administrative staff were almost doubled, we would not get to \$17,000. Obviously, provision for the press secretary is included. Will the Minister give the breakdown of this increase?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON (Minister of Education): There is the appointment of a press secretary, an office assistant, and a further male clerk. In recent years, the amount of work done through the Minister's office has been expanding. Over the last year or so (even over the last few months) there has been a further expansion. The work of the secretary of the department and of the clerk (Mr. Dudley) has been increasing all the time, and the extent of after-hours work has been growing. In addition to the appointment of the press secretary, the Public Service Board has approved the appointment of an additional typist and a male junior clerk. The sum of \$9,739 spent last year would cover the salaries of the clerk, shorthand typist and the two girl receptionists, who also do some typing and other clerical work. The increase is for the reasons I have explained.

Mr. COUMBE: If the Minister does not have the figures with him, I ask him to obtain for me a breakdown of the increase. I acknowledge that Mr. Combe and Mr. Dudley are grossly overworked and need extra assistance. Their hours of work were excessive and they were involved in extraordinary hours of overtime; this goes for a great many senior members of the Education Department. I am glad to see some relief being given in this regard, but even this does not account for the sum provided being almost doubled.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The total increase is \$7,731. The press secretary's salary is at the rate of about \$5,000, and the salaries

of the two extra staff members appointed, as well as increments, which do not apply to the full year, would account for the remainder. The press secretary is paid at the rate of a B grade journalist, that is, \$97.80 a week, and the remainder of the increased expenditure is divided among the additional two staff members, one a junior male and the other a typist. The estimate may be inadequate for the year when allowing for the increments applying to the salaries of existing staff. I hope the honourable member is satisfied now.

Mr. Coumbe: Yes.

Line passed.

Education Department, \$74,696,731.

Mr. ALLEN: Is the increase of \$130,000 for the running expenses of buses brought about by the increased cost of transport or are more school buses operating?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Provision has been made for new services and the extension of some existing services. This allocation does not cover only the increased costs of running existing services.

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister explain the decrease of \$16,000 allocated for scholarships?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: As the previous Government decided to discontinue Intermediate scholarships and exhibitions, they are now being phased out. We have continued a previous practice, and this year have provided for 10 full-time and 55 half-time release scholarships for teachers, and this offsets to some extent the phasing out of other exhibitions and scholarships.

Mr. EVANS: In replying to a recent question the Minister said that an investigation was being made into the granting of assistance to build community swimming pools. Can he say whether any decision has been made on this matter, and whether consideration has been given to assist a proposed scheme in the Adelaide Hills area?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I cannot report further on this matter now. Some detailed consideration has been given by the department, and later Cabinet will consider a subsidy for swimming pools. The half-size Olympic pool to be built at the Mitcham Girls Technical High School will cost about \$52,000, but as this project was approved by the previous Government we considered that we had no alternative but to continue it. That is particularly as the school committee was told last year that all it had to do was deposit \$14,000, which has been done. The whole matter of

the provision of swimming pools in secondary schools is being reconsidered and I cannot say what the outcome of this will be. However, it will affect the other negotiations to which I referred in answering the honourable member's question about his own area. I hope to be able to tell the honourable member of definite proposals within the next two months.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I refer to the provision for the purchase of cubicles and caravans as residences for teachers. Can the Minister explain the circumstances in which these cubicles and caravans are used? Further, curiosity prompts me to ask for the particulars relating to payment of damages and expenses to a high school teacher last year and also about payment of compensation for injury sustained by students.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Regarding the payment of damages and expenses to a high school teacher, the amount of \$2,500 was expended in 1969-70. The honourable member would have noticed that no provision was made in the Estimates last year for this item and no provision has been made this year. Whilst I would not make a statement here about the details, I shall give them to the honourable member privately if he wishes. The same comment applies to the provision for compensation for injuries. Regarding the provision of caravans, these are to be provided at the end of bus runs when the bus run is undertaken by a teacher driver and when no satisfactory accommodation can be provided for the teacher driver. Some teachers prefer to live in a caravan in these circumstances rather than to live in private homes. It is not the kind of situation in which we could legitimately approve the construction of a house.

Mr. Goldsworthy: Do they have to pay rent?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I cannot answer that, but I will find out. I imagine that some small rental would be paid on the normal basis. We also intend to provide some compensation for teacher drivers who live out of a main town, based on the distance of their residence from the school.

Mr. CARNIE: I note the large increases in provision for salaries. In the primary section the increase is more than \$2,000,000 and in the secondary section it is about \$2,500,000. I think the total overall increase is about \$6,900,000. Obviously, much of this is for payment of award increases, which is right and proper and well earned. Bearing in mind the serious shortage of teachers, I ask the Minister what proportion of this increase in

salaries is due to increased staff rather than to increases paid under awards.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I think I would have to do a detailed calculation on that for the honourable member. A significant part in each case is a consequence of the full-year effects of decisions taken in the previous year. For example, the expansion in primary education involves 180 extra teaching positions and 111 ancillary staff positions. Overall, I have estimated that we shall be getting a 4 per cent to 5 per cent increase in our teaching forces. There are problems here, because the output from our teachers colleges does not by any means match the number of extra new teachers required to be appointed each year, and overseas recruitment at this stage represents only a small proportion of the number of new teachers appointed each year. We are hoping to expand the overseas recruitment for this coming year to about 300, if we can get the right people.

The position is more difficult in relation to the primary division particularly, because it is in this division that we are still feeling the full effects of the transition from two-year courses of training to three-year courses of training. In fact, we will not obtain any increase in the output of primary-trained teachers until 1973. In 1972, as a result of decisions made prior to my coming into office, there will be no mid-year output of primary teachers, so 1972 will be a difficult year. For that reason, we are trying to obtain additional teachers for the primary division from overseas. In general, however, it is these teachers who are much more difficult to get from overseas.

Mrs. Steele: Teachers in Canada are now coming back here.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member may not be aware, but we have an officer who is on a scholarship in Canada and who is already authorized to recruit staff in Canada. We are also developing connections through the High Commissioner's office. In addition, an officer has gone overseas to recruit teachers in England and for the last two months of his trip he will be going to the United States, where we already have contacts, and also to Canada for recruiting purposes. We expect that we shall get some return particularly of Australian teachers who have previously gone to Canada for overseas experience.

Dr. EASTICK: I refer to "Purchase of office machines and equipment," for which \$47,000 is proposed this year as against



\$19,000 proposed last year, and I refer here to page 265 of the Auditor-General's Report where it is stated that almost \$4,000 worth of equipment was lost from the Education Department during the year under review. Will there be adequate provision for the identification of this added equipment so that it will not be so easy to remove it from the Education Department?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: That is not directly related to the Auditor-General's comment, which relates to the replacement of items that have been stolen from schools. Certain people cast an envious glance at tape recorders and similar equipment belonging to the Education Department and occasionally break in and take it. Ultimately, it has to be replaced.

Dr. Eastick: If that equipment is not marked it is easier for those people to retain it.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: This item relates to the purchase of office machines and equipment within the Education Department itself. Certain modernization procedures are necessary. If the honourable member would like the details I would be happy to obtain them for him.

Mr. GUNN: I am concerned about an area where the number of students is not sufficient for a school bus service. Would it be possible to provide smaller buses? In such areas it is difficult to keep the contract.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will be happy to consider the honourable member's proposition, but it would be much easier if he would be so kind as to provide me with the specific details of the case he mentioned. I will then be prepared to look into it and make a decision on it—and on the general principle involved. I, like all previous Ministers of Education, am very wary about wholesale extensions of bus services and new services. I am afraid that the sums of money involved in these services are such that there is no alternative to my being wary.

Mr. McANANEY: My question relates to the Oakbank Area School. Where tennis and basketball courts have been provided under subsidy and now require resurfacing, does expenditure for this purpose come under the subsidy scheme or is it fully provided by the department?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I think resurfacing of tennis and basketball courts is a matter for subsidy. However, I will be happy to check that point and provide the honourable member with the information.

Line passed.

Libraries Department, \$1,324,019; Museum Department, \$239,003—passed.

Art Gallery Department, \$186,531.

Mrs. STEELE: Regarding the item "Purchase of motor vehicle and equipment for mobile exhibition", can the Minister say what response there has been to that exhibition in country districts? As he is aware, the previous Government initiated this exhibition, which I think embarked on its first year of operations on March 17 during the time the Adelaide Festival of Arts was being featured. The itinerary planned for it took it to most of the larger country towns of this State. Is the Minister conversant with the kind of response it has had in country towns? The idea was, of course, that the art treasures of the State should be shared by both country and city citizens alike and that, as many people could not come to Adelaide to see the treasures at the gallery, the treasures should be taken to them. Can the Minister report on this?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I have had discussions with Mr. Appleyard on this point. I think the travelling exhibition has been successful, although the response to it has varied considerably from place to place. This depended to some extent on what basic interest there already was in the particular town prior to the arrival of the art exhibition. I believe that the response in Naracoorte, because of considerable local interest in that area, was better than elsewhere. Speaking from memory, it was intended that the exhibition should operate for eight months of the year. Honourable members will notice that there is an increase of almost 50 per cent in the provision for contingencies for this department, and some part of that relates to the increased costs as a result of the mobile exhibition. Therefore, while we save \$8,844 that was put down on the purchase of the vehicle and equipment for the mobile exhibition last year, a significant part of that occurs in running expenses this year. However, I will check on this matter for the honourable member and provide a detailed answer for her regarding the kind of response that the mobile exhibition has had in country areas.

Line passed.

Miscellaneous, \$19,025,810.

Mr. COUMBE: I refer to the provision of books for schools. We have already had the explanation in the Treasurer's statement about the free books scheme and also the provision of textbooks to secondary school students, who are to get only an extra \$2 in the first,

second and third years compared with superior arrangements proposed by the previous Government. The Minister said earlier that the Government intended to spend about \$250,000 (I think that was the figure) following the investigation into the needs of various independent schools. Obviously, the committee of inquiry the Minister has set up will take a little while to come to conclusions and make recommendations. However, I would hope that the committee would make some recommendation and implement part of the scheme before the end of this financial year. I cannot find in the papers before us any contingent provision for the implementation of this scheme. If it is here, I shall be happy if the Minister points it out. If it is not here, it means that the provision of \$10 that was to be made by the previous Government will be lost to the parents or the schools concerned. This \$250,000 may or may not be available this year. Of course, the \$250,000 would not be available for the whole year. Will the Minister point out where in these Estimates any contingent provision is being made for at least part of this sum to be paid for the benefit of the school or of the parents of children at independent schools?

*(Midnight)*

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I presume that the honourable member does not want me to talk about book allowances, as I would be out of order in so doing, because they were covered under a previous line. I will confine my remarks purely to per capita grants for independent schools. The provision for "Per capita grant—Independent schools" is for an increase of about \$156,500. It is always difficult to get a precise estimate of the sum that will actually be spent during a financial year. The committee is expected to make recommendations so that the first payment under this new arrangement can be made in the first term of 1971. It would be proposed, for example, that, if the committee recommended for a particular school \$18 per capita for the full year, we would pay three equal instalments of \$6 per capita each term. The payments are made by the Education Department to independent schools on the basis of returns that are submitted to the department after the beginning of each term. Normally the first payments at the beginning of each year would be made towards the end of February or early in March, and the time of payment would vary from school to

school depending on when the return certifying the number of children at the school was submitted to the department.

The payment for the second term occurs in the latter half of June and early July, so that inevitably there is some carry-over in the second-term payment into the following financial year. It is impossible to get a precise estimate of what is that carry-over payment to the second term. The two terms' payment based on \$250,000 is about \$167,000, and we have provided for this \$156,000. Therefore, we have assumed that there will be a small carry-over in the second-term payment into the following financial year, because our payment to each school is governed by the date on which the school submits to the department its return on the numbers attending the school.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Will the Minister explain what the Australian Presbyterian Board of Missions has done to him?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Nothing at all. However, the Education Department is taking over both Ernabella and Fregon schools from September 1, and it is that takeover by the department, over which negotiations have been proceeding for some time, that is the reason for the reduction in this allocation. The sum spent on these schools as a result of the takeover will be increased considerably.

Dr. TONKIN: A line for the South Australian Foundation of Alcoholism was passed under the Chief Secretary's Department. Why has the grant been split?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: This grant, relating to work carried out by the foundation in our schools, is largely a contribution to the cost of that work.

Dr. TONKIN: What work on alcoholism does the foundation do in our schools? I hope it is educational.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I presume that it is easier to influence someone before he becomes an alcoholic than it is after he becomes one.

Mrs. STEELE: I am disappointed that the grant made last year to the Family Life Movement of Australia has been discontinued. As this Sydney-based organization did much work in our schools, can the Minister say why the grant has been discontinued?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I understand that the grant to this movement was not made available until the latter quarter of the previous financial year, and that it will carry over for this financial year. If a further application is

made it will be fully considered, but no application had been made covering this financial year when the Estimates were drawn up.

Mrs. STEELE: This was almost the only organization that was prepared to provide sex education in our schools when it was difficult to persuade the various bodies to accept concrete proposals, and I was pleased that this hard-won grant was obtained.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member can rest assured that I am willing to give her the credit for initiating sex education in South Australian schools.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I refer to the item dealing with the inquiry into the future role of the Institutes Association of South Australia, carried out by Mr. Mander-Jones, whose report we have. Can the Minister say what the \$2,400 provided represents and whether something further is expected in respect of this inquiry?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: That is the fee payable to Mr. Mander-Jones.

Mr. HOPGOOD: I refer to the amount of \$8,000 provided as a grant to the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia. Provision for this association was previously made in the Estimates for the Immigration, Publicity and Tourist Bureau Department and, as I am a new member, I ask the Minister what provision was made for this in the previous Estimates and whether the amount provided this year is a significant increase.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The amount provided last financial year was \$5,000. There has been a partial alteration in the basis of the provision of the grant to the association's State centre. This is the grant made to the central organization of the association. The basic grant has been increased by \$1,000 and a further grant on a \$1 for \$1 basis up to a limit of \$2,000 will be made in respect of the State centre's outside income, so, if the State centre raises an additional \$2,000 from other income, we shall provide the additional \$2,000 to increase the amount from \$6,000 to \$8,000. Doing it that way will enable the State centre, from the increase in outside income and from the Government grant, to increase its total source of funds from \$5,000 to \$10,000. I understand that this proposition is acceptable to the organization.

Mrs. STEELE: I refer to the grant to the South Australian Oral School of \$45,000. Can the Minister give the reason for the increase in the grant? Until I became a member of Cabinet, I was President of the South Australian Oral School and, regrettably, I

then had to relinquish that position. My only interest in the school now is as one of its two Patronesses. The provision may be for classrooms that are badly needed.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The increase is related entirely to running expenses of the school. We dare not provide any funds to the school for capital purposes, because if we did that we would cut the school out of the Commonwealth Government subsidy. I think the school hoped to raise from outside sources about \$4,000, which will be put towards capital development purposes to attract a further \$4,000 from the Commonwealth Government, so the effective increase to the Oral School this year is substantial—an increase of \$12,000 on running expenses and about \$8,000 on capital. Our provision has been tailored to meet the running expenses of the school.

Mr. MATHWIN: One would have thought that the Government might be a little more generous towards the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia, as the Minister two years ago, ably supported by the Minister of Labour and Industry, said he thought the grant should have been \$10,000.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: If the honourable member cared to check the sum provided for the State Centre of the Surf Life Saving Association, he would find that \$2,500 was provided in 1962-64 but that the grant was increased by about 60 per cent to \$4,000 in 1965-68. In 1968-70, the provision increased only by about 25 per cent, from \$4,000 to \$5,000, and I believe that that increase was intended to last for three years. It was when that increase was proposed that the Minister of Labour and Industry and I commented on the matter. The increase of \$3,000 proposed this year is the biggest increase ever proposed for the Surf Life Saving Association.

Mr. Mathwin: With a proviso, of course.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Yes, but I understand that it is a proviso that can be readily met and that, indeed, it should be met. I think the people associated with the State Centre of the Surf Life Saving Association would be the first to agree that the proviso should be met, and I have no doubt that the member for Glenelg believes that it should be met by the constituent clubs of the surf life saving movement. In other words, those clubs have a greater responsibility to the State centre than they have shown in the past. It is reasonable that the Government, in providing what will be, in effect, a 60 per cent increase in the grant to the Surf Life Saving

Association, should do it in a way that gives the State centre the leverage over other sources of income. I am sure the scheme planned in this connection will be successful and will mean that the State centre this financial year will receive an extra \$3,000 from the Government and an extra \$2,000 from outside sources, totalling an extra \$5,000. This will for the first time start to compare with the kind of support given to State centres elsewhere.

Mr. GUNN: I have no doubt that much of the considerable increase in the allocation for the Flinders University will be spent on wages. Can the Minister say whether Professor Harcourt and Professor Medlin were paid for the time spent in occupation of the front steps of this place?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I should think that the whole \$1,000,000 was for the extra salaries to be paid to Professors Harcourt and Medlin. Actually, Professor Harcourt is employed by the University of Adelaide, and Professor Medlin, as the honourable member knows, is employed by the Flinders University. Both these universities are incorporated as independent organizations under special Acts of this Parliament. These universities have the right under those Acts to make their own statutes and regulations, which have to be approved in Executive Council. The honourable member would be aware that, as a result of the May moratorium, Professor Medlin was requested to return to the university salary appropriate to the week he took off at that time. I would think that the appropriate way to handle this matter would be for the honourable member to approach the members of this place who are members of the governing bodies of the universities.

Mr. Gunn: Aren't you going to inform the Committee?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I do not think I can direct the universities what to do in the matter, because I do not have the power to do that. If I issued a direction on the matter they would tell me politely and nicely to do the kind of thing the honourable member would like me to do. I therefore suggest that the whole matter could be handled much more tactfully, particularly if the honourable member were to approach the member for Bragg on this matter and ask him for a full report, because that member could provide a report much more quickly than I. I am not sure who represents the Opposition on the Council of the Adelaide University but, if a similar request were made to that member, I am sure that, again, it would

be handled much more tactfully, and the council concerned would be much more likely to do what the honourable member wanted it to do.

Mr. BECKER: Can the Minister say why the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia was included under his control instead of under the Tourist Bureau line, as it was previously?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It was previously included under the line "Immigration, Publicity and Tourist Bureau" but it has been transferred to the Minister of Education. There was some reconsideration by Cabinet of the appropriate organization in relation to these matters, and it was thought that the South Australian Amateur Swimming Association, the Royal Life Saving Society, and the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia should be treated as a group and go holus-bolus under the one Minister. The proposal was that the item be included under the control of either the Minister of Social Welfare or the Minister of Education, and the decision turned on the fact that the Royal Life Saving Society was heavily involved in work in schools. Consequently, it would have been ridiculous to take that away from the control of the Minister of Education. That was why I retained the South Australian Amateur Swimming Association and had the Surf Life Saving Association of Australia transferred to my control.

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister give a further explanation of the item "Hindmarsh Corporation—towards supervision and upkeep of playgrounds"?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: These are traditional grants that have been made for years and years. They are annual grants for the supervision and upkeep of the J. M. Reid children's playground and the J. D. Brown children's playground, which are playgrounds left in trust to the Minister of Education. They are maintained either by local councils or local committees. It is a similar type of arrangement to that which we have just altered in relation to the Kingswood recreation ground.

Mr. PAYNE: As a member of the Government, I express my pleasure at the substantial increase (about 25 per cent) for the South Australian Institute of Technology. In contrast to the tenor of remarks from the other side of the Chamber, I shall be only too pleased if the Minister's answer to my question is in the affirmative. Does any part of this extra amount allow for salary increases for any of the ancillary staff employed at the institute? I should be pleased to hear that

some of the money was going to the people working there.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: At this stage the provision of extra salary not already determined is not included in the Estimates. The standard practice is that we include in the Estimates only the salary payments that we know we are up for, and adjustments have to be made later in the year for salary changes that occur during the year. For example, the provision at this time last year for the institute was less than that shown at \$2,473,000, and Supplementary Estimates had to be passed early this year as a result of the salary increases following the Eggleston report. Therefore, it may well be that changes will have to occur during the year.

Mr. CUMBE: I refer to the line "Residential Colleges". Does this line refer to the residential colleges of the university, five of which are situated in my district, or is it related to the proposal to build residential colleges at Flinders University? If the line relates to the colleges in North Adelaide, will the Minister give me a dissection, either now or later, of the amounts provided?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will get the information the honourable member seeks. However, I can say now that this line does not relate to the residential colleges at Flinders University. The actual cost associated with that project would have been approved under our Loan Estimates programme and would not come under the recurrent Budget at all. This is a Commonwealth grant, and it is an increase of \$7,500 over 1969-70 expenditure. I think it relates particularly to the Kathleen Lumley residential college.

Line passed.

#### MINISTER OF LABOUR AND INDUSTRY

Department of Labour and Industry, \$713,827; Miscellaneous, \$15,050—passed.

#### MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF FORESTS

Minister of Agriculture Department, \$41,661; Agriculture Department, \$3,155,428; Agricultural College Department, \$482,199; Produce Department, \$803,224—passed.

Department of Fisheries and Fauna Conservation, \$261,566.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I have been rather disturbed to note the controversy in the press about the killing of kangaroos. Apparently the Minister of Agriculture and the Director of Fauna Conservation have also entered this controversy. They may have had good reasons for making these statements, but

either their statements or those of someone else have set off a chain reaction with regard to making kangaroos extinct and that sort of thing. The matter has now reached the stage where complete nonsense is being talked. I am interested in the preservation of fauna and would like to see no permanent harm done to any species. However, it should be recognized that, with regard to the question of kangaroo killing, there is tremendous significance in the dog-proof fence. Unless people get this into their skulls they will go on talking nonsense about kangaroos becoming extinct. Some types of marsupial are threatened, but the red and grey kangaroos are not threatened.

The kangaroos that are the subject of this controversy were bred inside the area protected by the dog fence, were watered by pastoralists, and were breeding to such an extent that their numbers were beginning to be as great as sheep numbers. In these circumstances, how can the Pastoral Board carry on its work in limiting the grazier to the quantity of stock he can carry and not have any control over the killing of kangaroos? There is room for some negotiation between the Fisheries and Fauna Conservation Department and the Pastoral Board. The problems of pastoralists should be carefully studied. A professional kangaroo shooter would starve to death in no time if his activities were restricted to areas outside the dog fence, where the conditions are as nearly natural as they can be and as they have been for thousands of years. Inside the fence kangaroos breed fast. I deplore the unreasoned criticism made by various graziers in respect of this matter. Some of the pastoralists who have been criticized are the best managers in the State.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): I am sure my colleague will note the honourable member's comments on this matter, as will the Director. I expect that they will have some comment to make on his statements. By and large I agree with the honourable member that this problem should be looked at in a rational way. I will draw the attention of the Minister to the honourable member's comments.

Line passed.

Chemistry Department, \$268,068—passed.  
Miscellaneous, \$1,824,937.

Mr. VENNING: Can the Minister say why the small amount of only \$500 has been allocated towards the expenses of the abattoirs investigation committee when, obviously, a thorough investigation is needed at present?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The members of the committee are the Auditor-General, the Chairman of the Public Service Board, and the Director of Lands, and the sum of \$500 is for fees and expenses, including provision for visits to other States. I understand that this sum is all that is required in order to allow the committee to complete its report.

Mr. VENNING: Can the Minister say to what address correspondence should be addressed from growers who wish to write to the Wheat Delivery Quotas Inquiry Committee?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Any correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary of the committee, care of the Minister of Agriculture Department. I will tell the honourable member later if a more specific address is required.

Mr. McANANEY: I understand that the committee inquiring into agricultural education has been meeting for several years and that a report should be issued at the end of this year. As its inquiries are almost completed, why is the extra amount allocated to it?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This provision is for fees and expenses of members and includes provisions for visits to other States. I have no further details but I will get the information for the honourable member.

Mr. BECKER: I refer to the provision for the payment of subsidy to councils towards the maintenance and expenses of operation of local fire-fighting organizations. I assume that this is where provision would be made to cover volunteer fire fighters nominated by the various councils in the case of accident. Can the Minister say whether any provision is made to cover volunteer fire fighters who are not nominated by councils?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This provision is a Government subsidy on the expenditure of councils in operating and maintaining the fire-fighting organization and includes provision for conversion to V.H.F. radio equipment.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: There is an Act covering the matter.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes, but I am not completely *au fait* with the situation and will get the information for the honourable member. The provision relates to persons nominated by a council, but I am not certain of the position regarding persons not nominated.

Mr. McANANEY: An amount of \$500 is provided for abattoir investigation. I understand that the committee that the Minister has mentioned reports every three years, and a

report was brought out recently. Is this a continuous investigation?

Line passed.

#### MINISTER OF MINES

Mines Department, \$2,332,976.

Mr. EVANS: I refer to the item referring to underground water investigations, test boring in undeveloped areas and conservation of underground water. Does this provision include the installation of meters in the northern Adelaide Plains, in the Virginia-Salisbury area, where there is controversy about underground water?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Minister of Mines): That comes under the Minister of Works. The Engineering and Water Supply Department is installing the meters and I do not think the matter to which the honourable member refers comes under this line. I do not think there is a contra line to the Mines Department for the installation of the meters. There will be a charge in respect of the meters but, as the honourable member knows, I arranged to reduce the charge from the original amount announced by the previous Government to \$16 a year, which means we will be leaving the total cost of servicing these meters. We did this to try to reduce the hardship on people in the northern Adelaide Plains area. From memory, there has not been a charge to the Mines Department. It has been paid out of the Engineering and Water Supply Department provision.

Mr. EVANS: While the Treasurer was temporarily absent, the provisions for the Engineering and Water Supply Department was discussed and, when I raised the matter then, the Minister of Works suggested that the matter would not be provided for in that department. I will refer here to the money spent on test boring and on carrying out the survey in the area. Although individual growers naturally vary the amount of acreage under crop each year, I point out that quotas were allocated on the basis of the acreage existing in one year rather than, say, over a five-year period that I believe should be the case. In addition, I point out that less water is required in areas consisting of the heavier type of soil than is required in areas of light soil, and I believe that the Mines Department should consider this aspect when it again investigates water allocations. Will the Treasurer have these matters examined?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: While it is true that the original survey was undertaken on the

basis of the crop existing in the year of survey, there was a subsequent revision of the results of the survey before final allocations were made, and the potential and needs of people in the areas concerned were taken into account in modifications that were made of the original allocations on the 1967 (I think it was) crop basis. In addition to the revision of the quotas, to cope with what were the needs of properties and what would be a fair thing in relation to those properties where anomalous conditions have been created by the decisions relating to the quotas, it has been possible to make representations to the department, and individual cases have all been examined in detail. Therefore, wherever possible, we have tried to get something that is fair.

I discussed the whole of this process at a meeting of growers in Salisbury with interpreters available, and the member for Goyder was there at the time, as also was the Hon. Mr. Hart. I think the member for Goyder will agree that we tried to answer every particular case that was brought to our attention and that we outlined the basis on which it should be handled. While there were still some people who were unhappy about their allocations (because what they were asking us to do was to cope with allocations for an increasing number of people on an area which could not carry them if we were to have water restrictions), we were able to satisfy many people that we had actually given a reasonable revision of their quota in accordance with the case they had put forward. Since that meeting a number of applications for revision of quotas has been considered and, where it has been possible to arrive at a reasonable revision that is fair to everyone concerned, that has been done. Other people have been invited to make appeals to the tribunal if they have been dissatisfied with what we did. I think the thing has gone very fairly.

I have been through many of these cases with Mr. Tuckwell and the Director of Mines. People in the area were given a time during which they could make their adjustments to the quotas. I postponed the operation of the restriction until November. (it was to have come in on June 30). The effect of the postponement has been that, in the first two years of operation, there will not really be an effective restriction. That, combined with our dropping of the charge for the meters, has been a very generous measure for the growers in the area, and it is as far as we can possibly

go, consistent with conserving the very real needs of the water basin. So, I do not think we can do more than we have done in this area. I assure the honourable member that every possible consideration has been given.

Mr. EVANS: I was not present, but I believe that during the meeting a boring contractor with a Greek name gave his name to either the Treasurer or one of his officers. That contractor said that, when the Little Para River flowed, he could, by drilling, flow the water back into the underground basin. I believe that the department said that this was not possible. Can the Minister say whether the offer was taken up to prove whether it was possible? If it is at all possible it should be taken up and as much water as possible should be put back into the basin. I agree with the Treasurer that it is a very desperate situation and that restrictions are necessary.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The man concerned was invited to come to the department and discuss his proposal. I have not seen a report since that time, but I will ask the Director whether there has been any further approach.

Mr. McANANEY: Regarding the increase in the provision for underground water investigations, I have been informed that exploratory work in the Langhorne Creck and Milang areas has been delayed because there has been insufficient staff. Will the Treasurer ascertain whether the size of the staff is sufficient?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I assure the honourable member that it is not sufficient. The previous Minister of Mines could tell the honourable member that people, particularly in this technical area, tend to be at a premium in Australia. The applications made to the Arbitrator did not result in a satisfactory salary for attracting technical staff. Since then the Government has made a number of moves to try to improve the position so that we can attract staff. However, I regret that we are not up to staff establishment in the Mines Department.

Line passed.

#### MINISTER OF MARINE

Department of Marine and Harbors,  
\$4,162,953.

Mr. RYAN: I notice that \$2,994 was spent in 1969-70 on the official opening of Port Giles, when nothing had originally been provided on this line. This year there is a provision for a further \$1,000. Is this the amount outstanding in relation to the expenses of the official opening?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Marine): Yes, it is a provision to cover expenditure outstanding as at June 30, 1970, relating to the official opening of Port Giles.

Line passed.

Miscellaneous, \$5,200.

Mr. VENNING: I view with concern the amount proposed under this line. It is not necessary for me to go into details regarding the necessity for port site investigations in this State. I note that \$23,175 was provided in 1969-70 and that the actual expenditure was less than half that amount, and the amount proposed for this coming year is reduced by half again. I thought the Minister would be aware of the needs for pushing on with the investigation into port sites in this State. Can he say why the amount provided for this purpose is diminishing when in fact it should be increasing?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This is a provision to cover any preliminary investigational work that is approved. I assure the honourable member that if there is any need for this amount to be increased, it can easily be done. I do not see that this indicates any slackening off in the investigation into port sites. As the honourable member would know, a special committee has been set up to look into the question of a second major port, and obviously this amount will cover any expense this committee may incur during this financial year. If it is necessary to launch a further preliminary investigation into other sites, money will be made available for this to be done.

Line passed.

MINISTER OF ROADS AND TRANSPORT AND

MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Minister of Roads and Transport and Minister of Local Government Department, \$591,929—passed.

Highways Department, \$5,357,643.

Mr. EVANS: I know the Minister of Roads and Transport would be disappointed if I did not ask at least one question on this line. I noticed yesterday on my way to Adelaide that departmental officers were inspecting the second run-off, the one nearest to the city, on the South-Eastern Freeway, and I believe they may have been doing this with a view to deciding whether or not it was necessary or desirable to improve the approach. Has the Minister any information on this matter?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO (Minister of Roads and Transport): I take it that the honourable member is referring to the run-off that he

wants cleared. I think I brought down a report saying that it was impracticable to do this. However, if the honourable member wishes me to look at this matter again I shall be pleased to do so.

Line passed.

Railways Department, \$38,066,163.

Mr. McANANEY: Can the Minister say whether he has plans to close any railway lines this year? I noticed that he had in mind that one railway line in particular should be closed.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I do not know what statement of mine the honourable member is referring to. The only action we are contemplating at this stage is to introduce legislation to give effect to the closure of lines closed by the previous Government. Yesterday I moved the first reading of yet another of those Bills.

Line passed.

Motor Vehicles Department, \$1,110,948.

Mr. EVANS: I have been led to believe that time study experts have been carrying out a study of the operations of the Motor Vehicles Department. Although I think that papers from the department are now sent out at a much faster rate, if this action has been taken to improve efficiency in the department I believe there must be some merit in it. Can the Minister say whether time study experts are carrying out, or have recently carried out, such an investigation in this department?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am not aware of any time and motion study experts undertaking an investigation in the department; in fact, if I were, I would have them removed tomorrow. I understand that some investigators are studying the methods used to see whether they are the most desirable, most economical, and so on. I think that we can always seek to improve the methods being used, but no time and motion study exercise is being undertaken.

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Minister explain the reference to police escorts?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I think it is purely a heading covering all sorts of things. I presume (although I do not know whether this is correct) that it refers to occasions when, because of the type of vehicle travelling on the road, a police escort is necessary under the terms of the Road Traffic Act. However, I will obtain the information for the honourable member and bring it down.



Dr. EASTICK: If the Minister's explanation is correct, one would expect that the cost would be recouped from the person requiring the escort.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: That would be the intention.

Line passed.

Miscellaneous, \$561,420.

Mr. HALL: Last year \$177,510 was spent under "Acquisition of properties for proposed roadworks under Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Plan, not yet approved". The Minister has been most vehement in asserting that the M.A.T.S. plan has been abandoned, but \$300,000 has been allocated for this line. Can the Minister explain his consistency, if any, in this matter?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I can understand the confusion in the mind of the Leader at this hour, but if he will cast his mind back to the actions of his Government he will recall that he moved a motion that endorsed the various routes associated with the M.A.T.S. plan but excluded the Hills Freeway and the Foothills Expressway in particular, although certain other matters were also deferred. The motion was carried on Party lines on the casting vote of the Speaker. Because of the wording of the Highways Act, the Highways Department was not entitled to use funds for the purposes of acquiring property on the routes deferred, and the previous Government followed the policy, the only course open to it, of using Treasury moneys to buy properties that had been affected by the Government's decision in releasing the M.A.T.S. plan and then deferring the question of the Hills Freeway and the Foothills Expressway. The amount of \$300,000 was involved in that, and later we will introduce amending legislation so that the money that has been paid from the Treasury can be recouped.

Line passed.

#### MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND MINISTER OF ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

Department of Social Welfare and of Aboriginal Affairs, \$5,946,813; Miscellaneous, \$210,824—passed.

#### APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2)

The Estimates were adopted by the House and an Appropriation Bill for \$288,376,974 was founded in Committee of Ways and Means, introduced by the Hon. D. A. Dunstan, and read a first time.

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

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

It is for the appropriation of \$288,376,974 details of which are set out in the Estimates which have just been dealt with by members. The Bill serves the same purpose and is in the same basic form as previous Appropriation Bills, but there are two variations in the wording of clauses 2 and 3 which I shall explain. The first variation is in the method of referring to the Supply Acts which have been passed by Parliament to enable the Public Service of the State to function until the Appropriation Act becomes law.

Previously, clause 2 referred to the issue of a specific sum of money, being the difference between the full appropriation required for the year (other than by Special Acts) and the amounts already authorized to be issued by the Supply Acts in respect of that year. Then in clause 3 (1) the previous practice was to refer to that specific sum and to the specific sums set out in the named Supply Acts, and thereupon to authorize the appropriation of the total sum so issued. This Bill now achieves the same purpose but it concentrates on the main point, the total of appropriation required. It refers to the Supply Acts and to the lump sums issued in general terms only and not specifically as in the past.

The main advantage of the new form is that amendment of the Bill would otherwise be required should it still be under consideration in another place at a time when a third Supply Bill might be found necessary. The appropriation by departments is set out in detail entirely as in the past. It has been customary for clause 3 (2) to provide that, if increases of salaries or wages become payable pursuant to any determination made by a properly constituted authority, the Governor may appropriate the necessary funds by warrant, and the amount available in the Governor's Appropriation Fund is increased accordingly. It has not hitherto been the practice to appropriate the additional payroll tax which arises therefrom, although the payment of that tax is quite unavoidable. Following the reorganization of the form of the Estimates to include payroll tax within the category of salaries and wages and related payments, it is convenient this year to arrange that the additional appropriation to cover the cost of wage awards be extended to cover also the cost of payroll tax arising directly therefrom. This is the second variation in the wording of the Bill.

The Leader of the Opposition will remember that it was necessary to sign special warrants relating to payroll tax; they were often for small amounts, but many of them had to be signed. This will cope with that situation, as it is inevitable that we must pay the payroll tax, and that payment varies with any variation in the award amounts. Clause 3 (3) provides that, if the cost of electricity for pumping water through the Mannum-Adelaide main, the Morgan-Whyalla main, and the Swan Reach to Stockwell main should be greater than the amounts set down in the Estimates, the Governor may appropriate the funds for the additional expenditure, and the amount available in the Governor's Appropriation Fund shall be increased by the amount of such additional expenditure. Following the recent rains and further run-off since early September, it is most unlikely that the special provision will be required this year, thank goodness.

Clause 4 authorizes the Treasurer to pay moneys from time to time up to the amounts set down in monthly orders issued by the

Governor, and provides that the receipts obtained from the payees shall be the discharge to the Treasurer for the moneys paid. Clause 5 authorizes the use of Loan funds or other public funds if the moneys received from the Commonwealth and the general revenue of the State are insufficient to make the payments authorized by clause 3 of the Bill. Clause 6 gives authority to make payments in respect of a period prior to July 1, 1970. Clause 7 authorizes the expenditure of \$5,150,000 from the Hospitals Fund during 1970-71 and of \$1,700,000 in the early months of 1971-72 pending the passing of the Appropriation Bill for that year. Clause 8 provides that amounts appropriated by this Bill are in addition to other amounts properly authorized.

Mr. HALL secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 1.19 a.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, September 23, at 2 p.m..