

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, October 26, 1972

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

ASSENT TO BILLS

His Excellency the Governor, by message, intimated his assent to the following Bills:

Fruitgrowing Industry (Assistance),
Industries Development Act Amendment,
Methodist Church (S.A.) Property Trust.

PETITION: SOUTH-EAST ROAD

Mr. **RODDA** presented a petition from 109 persons protesting against the proposed suspension of work on the main road between Millicent and Lucindale, known as Main Road No. 298, and urging the Government to make available money for the maintenance, sealing and construction of the unfinished portion of the road.

Petition received and read.

QUESTIONS**NORTH HAVEN DEVELOPMENT**

Dr. **EASTICK**: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation say whether he has taken any steps to preserve the area known as the Forty Acre, which could be destroyed under the Government's North Haven residential plan? It is reported that the Minister has received, or is to receive, a petition on this matter, and I wish to know whether, in connection with his portfolio, he has taken any steps to preserve this area, which is recognized as an interesting area from the point of view of nature study and which, in the words of the Director of the Botanic Garden, is the "only remaining large piece of natural scrub in the region that preserves elements of the original vegetation and is a relic worth preserving". It is on that basis, knowing of the action to be taken in the area, that I wish to know whether the necessary precautions have been taken before planning is taken too far.

The Hon. G. R. **BROOMHILL**: Much consideration has been given to this area over the last three or four years and much interest has been shown in it by teachers and students of a nearby school. I have had officers of the National Parks and Wildlife Service and of the Museum examine the area to see whether it has any unique features that warrant purchasing the land in question as an open-space area or as a national park. It seems that the area, although

interesting to the children who gain some enjoyment out of visiting—

The **SPEAKER**: Order! There is far too much audible conversation. The honourable Minister of Environment and Conservation.

The Hon. G. R. **BROOMHILL**: The area is of considerable interest to the schoolchildren who visit it especially to see the lizards there but, from an ecological point of view, it does not seem critical that the entire area be preserved. However, there is perhaps a need for some of the best and most representative sections of the area to be left in a natural state, and possibly under the contemplated scheme regarding this area a section could be retained as an open-space area that would be available to residents in the district.

TERRORISM

Mr. **CRIMES**: Has the Attorney-General a reply to a question I asked on September 19 about terrorism in Australia?

The Hon. L. J. **KING**: The Chief Secretary states that the South Australian police maintain contact with all known sources that are likely to provide reliable information regarding the activities of terrorists or other subversive persons or groups of persons. Based on the information received from the various sources, appropriate action has been and will continue to be taken in maintaining all possible surveillance over groups that may indulge in terrorist activity in this State.

FILM CLASSIFICATION

Mr. **MILLHOUSE**: Will the Attorney-General make a further statement to clear up the misconceptions which appeared in the statement he made in this House on Tuesday with regard to the incident over the entry of a girl to a theatre to see an R classified film? In answer to my question on Tuesday about the matter, the Attorney made a long reply in which he was most critical of the parent concerned. He quoted extensively from a police report, and also said that the parent had not taken the opportunity to reply to the letter that the Attorney had written to him on, I think, October 19. I am now informed by the parent that in fact on Monday at lunchtime he posted at the General Post Office a reply to the Attorney which, in the ordinary course of the post, the Attorney should have received no later than Tuesday morning. Since that reply has been sent to the Attorney, I understand that a further letter has been delivered personally to him replying to the allegations and criticisms he made in this

House. I therefore raise the matter to give the Attorney an opportunity to right the injustices which are obvious from the strong statement he made on Tuesday. I can assure him that the parent concerned is most perturbed and alarmed at the way in which the Attorney has handled the whole matter.

The Hon. L. J. KING: True, I have received a reply to the letter to which I referred in the course of my answer. I understand that this reply would have been posted before I gave the answer in the House. Of course, it had not reached me at the time I gave that answer. However, I can only add that there is nothing in the reply that causes me to qualify in any way the answer which I gave and which consisted of reading verbatim the police report on the matter, with the exception of three or four sentences that were excluded for the purpose of preserving the anonymity of the person concerned (I might say that this person has expressed his appreciation of this). I might also say that in the reply the parent concerned has questioned some and denied other statements in the police report. I do not intend to take the matter any further. As I have said, the only further action I can take would be to table the police report with or without the correspondence. To do that would be to disclose the identity of the person concerned. I do not mind that, but he does not want that course to be taken. I should be pleased to do that to put the matter beyond doubt. I must say that there will come a time, if I am to be continually challenged on the matter, when that course will have to be taken, for I am not willing to endure indefinitely the sort of challenges coming from the member for Mitcham and preclude myself from the justification that would be involved in actually tabling the police report.

Mr. Millhouse: Do you think—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Mitcham has asked a question. He can ask only one question at a time, and he is not going to continually interrupt. I now warn him. The honourable Attorney-General.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The only point of fact that I would qualify is in respect of what I previously said, because I drew the inference from the original question asked by the honourable member that the 18-year-old youth had been called on to make the declaration, the form of which the honourable member handed to me. However, I am told by the parents that it is not so, that the youth did not make an actual declaration as to his age.

I accept that as fact and withdraw my previous statement, but I thought that was the inference to be drawn from what the honourable member had said. In all other respects the reply I gave stands. I read from the police report and I am willing to table it. I adhere to my criticism of a parent's action in permitting a 15½-year-old girl to attend a theatre in contravention of the law, putting the theatre management in the position of possibly being involved in trouble, and then raising the matter in the House and naming the theatre management. I cannot accept that as proper, and I have said so in the House and in correspondence with the gentleman concerned. He apparently takes a different view and considers that his course of action was perfectly all right. On that point we must differ. Although I regret that I had not received the parent's reply at the time I replied to the honourable member's question, there is nothing in his reply to make me qualify anything I said, except on the one point to which I have referred.

SULPHUR DIOXIDE

Mr. HOPGOOD: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation say whether the high level of sulphur dioxide recorded in the air at O'Sullivan Beach and Christies Beach by the Public Health Department's monitoring system was caused by an agent other than sulphur dioxide? I quote from a letter written to the Director-General of Public Health by the General Manager of the Port Stanvac oil refinery, as follows:

Towards the end of April this year we received a copy of a report by Mr. G. F. Sweetapple, Scientific Officer to the Assistant Director-General of Public Health, listing with comments atmospheric smoke and sulphur dioxide measurements for the last quarter of 1971, collating results of tests done by the department on samples collected from various stations in the metropolitan area, Adelaide, Port Pirie and Mount Gambier. One of the most important facts highlighted by this report was that the highest daily SO₂ reading of any sampling station was recorded at Christies Beach. It was also noted that the average daily SO₂ readings for both Christies Beach and O'Sullivan Beach sampling stations were higher than for any other sampling station in South Australia. Since this refinery is the major industry in this area likely to emit SO₂ we were naturally concerned, and initiated a study here in an endeavour to establish the contribution of the refinery to the high measured readings.

He then goes on to talk about smoke emissions, and that reference I will omit. The letter continues:

The readings reported by the department were compared with wind velocities and direction records which are always kept here. Our intention in doing this was to try and establish a relationship between the rise and fall in SO₂ readings at O'Sullivan Beach and Christies Beach, and wind direction and velocity. It was hoped that, if such a relationship existed, it would show whether refinery operations were causing the high readings at the two sample stations concerned. Refinery records of the operation of various individual units in the plant were also examined to determine whether high SO₂ readings corresponded to unusual operating conditions on these units. On only one day during the whole of the last quarter for 1971 could a high sulphur dioxide reading be linked with refinery operations: this was on November 11, when there were light north to north-east winds, and, because of a most unusual unit condition at the time, a small quantity of hydrogen sulphide produced in the refinery was being oxidized by burning to sulphur dioxide at the top of our flare stack. It was also noted, however, that many of the higher readings (3 to 4 p.p.m.) occurred on days when there were strong winds or storms coming from the directions of south-south-west to north-west, that is, off the sea.

Mr. Evans: This seems to be a long—

The SPEAKER: Order! Is the honourable member for Fisher making a point of order? If not, he is out of order in interjecting.

Mr. EVANS: I will take a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Other members are not allowed to read for so long.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Minister of Environment and Conservation.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I am sorry that the honourable member could not inform me fully of the contents of the letter, because it seemed to contain an interesting principle. However, I shall be pleased to ask my colleague to discuss the matter with officers of the Public Health Department, and I will inform the honourable member of the result of the investigation.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

Mr. CUMBE: Is the Minister of Environment and Conservation, acting on behalf of the Minister of Labour and Industry who is temporarily absent, aware that a statement was made earlier this year on behalf of his colleague announcing the establishment of a research group to examine training needs, particularly in industry and commerce, and in some Government departments in this State? The statement indicated that recommendations would be made on these needs, and that it was hoped that a report would be available towards the end of this calendar year. I therefore ask the Minister whether this report

has been completed and, if it has not, when it will be available.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I am aware of the committee to which the honourable member has referred, but I am not certain whether it has proceeded with its inquiries. I will obtain a report for the honourable member, next week if possible.

DENTAL CLINIC

Mr. RODDA: Can the Minister of Education say what progress has been made in providing a dental clinic in the Penola area that would also serve Kalangadoo and Nangwarry? We had the benefit of the Minister visiting this area in the past three weeks, so that I do not have to elaborate on the need to look after the dental requirements of children in that area, but there is a deep interest by parents in having this clinic established.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

ABATTOIRS

Mr. VENNING: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to the questions I asked yesterday about improving slaughtering facilities at the Gepps Cross abattoir?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The General Manager of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board has informed my colleague that the reason that shift work has not been introduced, apart from the problems associated therewith, is that during July and August there was an easing in the numbers of cattle for slaughter at Gepps Cross, and as a result of opinions expressed by various producer interests that rain in pastoral areas would reduce the availability of northern cattle in October (which is supported by a heavy cancellation of rail van bookings) the management has tried to regulate slaughtering with weekend overtime, when necessary. However, the reverse has happened in agricultural areas where, because of continued dry weather conditions, many cattle have had to be marketed.

For the successful operation of shift work, a full supply of cattle for day work and afternoon shift over a lengthy period is necessary, as extra slaughtermen and labour must be engaged and suitable arrangements made in respect of inspection staff. Furthermore, it is doubtful whether operators would guarantee numbers of cattle for slaughter, and, in the circumstances, the abattoir management considers the present overtime arrangements satisfactory. In so far as the honourable

member's question relates to sheep and lambs, the General Manager states that the present facilities, consisting of three chains, are fully used in local trade requirements and seasonal lamb slaughterings, including overtime at weekends. No shift work on sheep and lamb slaughtering is intended, and the current award of the abattoir conciliation committee provides that sheep and/or lamb slaughtermen shall not be required to work overtime on week days, Monday to Friday inclusive.

Mr. CARNIE: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture whether he has considered reviving a system of auctioning carcass meat similar to the system previously operated by Nelsons Meat and, if he has, whether the new auction will be controlled by private enterprise or the proposed new meat authority, and whether carcass meat will be sought from outside abattoirs or whether it will concentrate on Gepps Cross?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will take the matter up with my colleague and let the honourable member know.

Mr. ALLEN: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture what was the average daily rate of absenteeism from Monday to Friday at the Gepps Cross abattoir for the months of July, August, and September, 1972; what day of the week had the highest rate of absenteeism; what was the average number of men employed on overtime on Saturdays and Sundays; what was the average number of men employed during this period; and how many man-hours were lost as a result of strikes? Producers have asked me to obtain this information, as they are concerned at the restrictions on deliveries of livestock at a time when they are anxious to sell surplus stock as a result of the adverse season.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I hope that the management of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board can get the information. The board will probably have to set aside one man to get it.

FRUIT FLY

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my recent question concerning fruit fly eradication on a nation-wide basis?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: At the meeting of the Australian Agricultural Council held in August my colleague drew attention to the difficulties experienced by South Australia in its efforts to keep out fruit fly and the considerable cost of eradicating infestations when they occurred. He also impressed on the Minis-

ters of those States where the pest was established the urgency of applying stricter control measures to reduce the risk of spread to South Australia. In the ensuing comments the consensus of opinion was that eradication of the two pest species (Mediterranean and Queensland fruit flies) in all parts of Australia was impracticable. The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization representative indicated that his organization might examine the feasibility of maintaining a buffer zone around infested danger areas to contain spread from these areas. Meanwhile, the South Australian Government will continue to implement the strict eradication procedures within this State which to date have proven effective.

AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONNAIRE

Mr. CARNIE: Has the Minister of Works received a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my recent question about an agricultural questionnaire?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Agriculture states that the questionnaire distributed to farmers in the Edilillie district sought information on aspects which would assist in identifying community groups as well as on technical aspects of production in the area. The purpose of the information sought in section I of the questionnaire was to enable the Agriculture Department to have adequate and efficient communication with each group for the passing on of relevant technical material. While no further such survey will be conducted in the Edilillie area, an assurance that similar surveys will not be used in other areas cannot be given. The technique of identifying and assisting groups of farmers is accepted by Departments of Agriculture in Australia and overseas, and is recognized as being a valuable and effective way of assisting primary producers. Participation by farmers in such surveys is, of course, completely voluntary.

ROAD ACCIDENTS

Dr. TONKIN: In the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, will the Minister of Environment and Conservation ask his colleague when the report of the *ad hoc* committee set up to advise the Government on the need for investigations into the role of alcohol in the cause of road accidents will be available to members?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will refer the question to the Minister and ask him to provide the information requested.

BUSH FIRES

Mr. CARNIE: Has the Minister of Environment and Conservation a reply to my question of October 19 concerning the Bush Fires Act?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I have discussed this matter with the Minister of Agriculture, who states that the matter was considered at a meeting of the Bush Fires Advisory Committee held last week. The committee is of the opinion that there is insufficient justification for it to recommend an amendment to sections 49 and 54 of the Act following the introduction of daylight saving, particularly as other sections confer on authorized fire control officers power to give directions prohibiting the lighting or maintaining of fires in potentially hazardous conditions.

Mr. EVANS: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture whether it is intended to use the bush fire spotter plane to detect bush fires this summer and, if it is, how many hours a day the plane will be used? The spotter plane has proved successful in the past in detecting fires in the early stages, and this is one of the main reasons why major catastrophes have not occurred. Because of the increased population in the Hills area and the existence of much dense scrub at present, it is important that we retain this service.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will inquire.

SHARK NETS

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Premier say whether the Government will make available special grants to seaside councils so that they can set up protective shark nets for a 12-month trial period to ensure the safety of swimmers when they are in the water at our popular metropolitan beaches? Shark nets are used in some parts of New South Wales and, although shark attacks are rare in this State, most parents have a constant fear for the safety of their children when they are in the water. Shark nets would provide protection and alleviate much anxiety at present experienced by parents. This House has recently passed legislation giving more protection to children in regard to swimming pools, so why not give protection from vicious shark attacks, at least for a 12-month trial period?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know how we could do that on a 12-month trial basis. If the expenditure for shark nets were to be made, it would be a committed expenditure.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Would you pull the nets out if they were no good?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know what use they would be after the trial period in those circumstances, but I will examine the honourable member's suggestion. I know that there are several proposals for dealing with potential shark attacks off the metropolitan beaches. We will consider all these and I will inform the honourable member.

JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

Mr. MILLHOUSE: My question is addressed to the Minister of Community Welfare.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: He who represents the Minister of Health.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: No. I ask the question of the Minister in his own capacity, and not as the Minister representing the Minister of Health as the Minister of Works is trying to prompt me. Will the Minister say whether consideration has been given to the recent suggestion by Dr. Keith Le Page regarding the treatment of delinquent young people? In a letter to the editor of the *Advertiser* towards the end of last month, Dr. Le Page suggested that the Mental Health Services should be responsible for the rehabilitation programme in respect of young people placed in institutions because of delinquency. His letter continues:

The Community Welfare Department should be devoting its entire resources to work in the community, supporting inadequate and sick families and thus stemming the flow of young people to institutions.

Dr. Le Page points out in his letter that he has made this suggestion previously, and many of us know that. I wonder whether the Minister has discussed the matter with the Minister of Health, as prompted by the interjection from the Minister of Works.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I am pleased that the honourable member has addressed this question to me in my capacity of Minister of Community Welfare, not as the Minister representing the Minister of Health, but I am even more gratified to think that at last he has discovered that I am he who represents the Minister of Health in this place, because that seems to have escaped him on other occasions. Although I am aware of the views that Dr. Le Page holds on this question, I cannot agree with them. The Community Welfare Department receives invaluable support and assistance from Mental Health Services in the treatment of juvenile offenders, and I referred to some of that assistance when

replying to, I think, the member for Kavel in the House last week. I do not see any advantage in the Mental Health Services taking over the whole subject of the treatment of juvenile offenders in institutions. Where juvenile offenders are mentally disturbed, they receive the care and treatment of the Mental Health Services. When they are sufficiently disturbed to require treatment in a mental hospital, that course is taken. When they are better served in a juvenile treatment institution but with care and treatment from the Mental Health Services, they receive that. Generally speaking, the children who are in institutions under the control of the Community Welfare Department are morally or socially disturbed rather than mentally disturbed, although often all three factors are present. I am satisfied, and I think both the Community Welfare Department and Mental Health Services are satisfied, that these children and the community are best served by the continued treatment of the children in institutions under the control of the Community Welfare Department, with the maximum co-operation from the Mental Health Services and with full emphasis on medical treatment of those offenders who need that treatment.

FURTHER EDUCATION

Mr. COUMBE: I refer to the reply that the Minister of Education gave me yesterday to my request for information about legislation that he intended to introduce this session, particularly regarding the Further Education Department (incidentally, I fully support the principle of that). Will the Minister say whether his reply means that this department has been operating, in effect, without legislative support or authorization? If it does, why was not the validating legislation introduced before this time?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: No, it does not really mean that, and I am sure that the honourable member would not suggest that I would be guilty of such a thing. I am also sure that he would not believe anyone who had suggested that to him. I could not contemplate that the honourable member should think so unkindly of me as to think that I might countenance thoughts of that kind. The position simply is that the Further Education Department, as it is called, has been operating effectively under the Education Act, as the old Technical Division operated. The only change, apart from a change of premises and the provision of better accommodation, has been that the Director of Further Education

now reports directly to the Minister, instead of through the Director-General, but the legality of the department's operations is provided for under the Education Act and the Public Service Act in exactly the same way as it was provided for when the department was the Technical Division of the Education Department. I am sure the honourable member will be relieved to hear that.

REGIONAL EDUCATION OFFICES

Mrs. STEELE: Can the Minister of Education say how many regional education offices are now operating and whether the Government contemplates establishing further such offices? Yesterday, in reply to a question, the Minister referred to the fact that part of the old Murray Bridge High School would be used as a regional office of education. The first two such offices, established at Whyalla and Mount Gambier when I was Minister of Education, have undoubtedly proved their efficacy for disseminating knowledge by the Education Department to the public and to parents, as well as serving their primary function. I imagine that the Minister is convinced of the service they render to education.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It has already been announced publicly that the Lower Murray and Mid-North regional offices will be established as from next year.

Mrs. Steele: Where?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: At Murray Bridge and Clare. Applications have recently been invited for the position of Regional Officer, now to be known as Regional Superintendent, for each of these two areas. I think that the applications close either this week or next week; I am not sure. We are convinced of the need to develop further the regional system and in addition, of course, to develop substantially the powers of the regional office. Initially, when regional offices were established the officers were given more delegated authority in relation to primary school matters than in relation to secondary school matters. That position was altered at the beginning of this year, when senior education officers from the Secondary Division were appointed as deputies at both Whyalla and Mount Gambier. More authority is now being delegated to these regional officers, and I think the process must go still further.

CHAIN OF PONDS HOUSES

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Will the Minister of Works say how many properties have been

acquired at Chain of Ponds and how many properties are still to be purchased in connection with the overall programme of preventing water pollution in that area?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Offhand I cannot say exactly how many properties are still to be purchased, but I think I can accurately say that the majority has been purchased. I believe that yesterday, if not the previous day, some of the houses purchased were demolished. However, whether or not that has occurred I am not sure.

Mr. Goldsworthy: It was started some time ago.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will obtain an up-to-date report for the honourable member and let him know what progress has been made. He will be aware, as I suppose every other member will be aware, that I said that of necessity the purchase of these properties would be spread over 10 years from the date of commencement of the scheme, and that still applies. However, it seems that the fact that some people have started to sell their properties to the department, not many houses remaining to be acquired, has had a marked influence on the decision of people to sell now and to re-establish as soon as possible.

WEST LAKES FOOTBALL PARK

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier give me some information on the further development of the West Lakes scheme? I understand that, now that certain amendments have been made to the Industries Development Act, the South Australian National Football League will approach the Industries Development Committee for a Government guarantee of about \$2,000,000 to finance the commencement of the football park project at West Lakes estimated to cost \$5,600,000 with no provision for an escalation of costs during the 10-year stage of the development. I understand that the league has found a lender to provide the money it seeks, guaranteed over a 20-year term at a rate of interest slightly in excess of 8 per cent. Repayments will be about \$250,000 a year, including principal and interest, and I believe that to enable football to commence at West Lakes further moneys will be required, probably necessitating further Government guarantees. In view of the importance of the project and the effect of the huge financial burden placed on the league and its clubs, could not the Government offer financial assistance to the league at more advantageous terms or conditions or, alternatively, consider undertaking this project itself on somewhat similar

terms and conditions as apply to the Adelaide Festival Centre project?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The short answer is "No". The South Australian National Football League can apply for a Government guarantee in the same way as other non-profit-making bodies may now do under the Industries Development Act. It is required of the organizations concerned that they meet the criteria laid down in that Act regarding the recommendation of a guarantee to the Treasurer. It would be beyond our capacity to provide for public moneys to be spent on a specific sporting facility limited to a certain area and, in fact, we have never received such a request from the South Australian National Football League; it certainly has never suggested that such a provision be made by the Government. The league has been told that, if it requires a Government guarantee to help it obtain an advantageous interest rate on its loan, it must meet the requirements of the Act, and a recommendation would have to be made by the committee, the Treasurer having no power to give a guarantee except on such a recommendation. Further, the committee has never proposed a guarantee in respect of a loan involving an interest rate exceeding 8 per cent. The honourable member apparently knows more about the application than I know, because I certainly did not know of the details that he has given the House.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: The Act was only assented to this morning.

Mr. Millhouse: Don't have a private conversation.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member converses privately but tries to restrain other people; that is his mode. The Government does not intend to erect a stadium at West Lakes on the same basis as that of the festival theatre. Any sporting body which is non-profit-making and which can meet the criteria now laid down in the Industries Development Act should make its application and it will be considered in the normal way.

SADDLEWORTH POLICE STATION

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Attorney-General obtained from the Chief Secretary a reply to my recent question about the continued use of the police accommodation at Saddleworth?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Chief Secretary reports that a new police station and associated residential accommodation for one police officer is being constructed at Riverton. There are no immediate plans to erect a second residence in Riverton. On completion of the

new building, the present police station at Saddleworth will cease to operate as a police station but will house a police officer who will work from the Riverton police station. The Saddleworth building is old, dating back to 1871, and has a limited future for police accommodation.

WEEKEND SENTENCES

Mr. GUNN: Will the Attorney-General say whether the Government has considered adopting a plan that has been announced by the Victorian Government whereby certain types of prisoner will be housed in various gaols and be able to serve their sentences at weekends? It seems that allowing certain prisoners to serve weekend gaol sentences would enable them to maintain their families and would not have such a detrimental effect on the lives of their wives and children.

The Hon. L. J. KING: This matter has been under consideration for some time, and I have answered questions in the House on several occasions. The difficulty in implementing it is the absence of adequate accommodation to house prisoners of this type. It is not really satisfactory to have a prisoner out in the community working during the week and then going each weekend into an ordinary type of prison. Some special type of accommodation is needed to fit in with the general pattern of life being imposed on the prisoner. This whole topic has been considered and investigated by the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, which will report on this aspect of its inquiry (namely, on penal methods) soon, certainly this year. I have no doubt that that committee will make recommendations on this topic, and the Government will be guided by them. However, I think I should sound this note of warning. Even if the committee recommended that some such scheme should be instituted and the Government accepted that recommendation, it would still not be possible to implement the scheme immediately; it would be necessary then to plan the appropriate physical accommodation and type of institution for housing prisoners of this type during the periods in which they would actually be confined in gaol.

TRANSPORT POLICY

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation ask the Minister of Roads and Transport (who is absent today) whether he intends, before Parliament rises, to make any constructive announcements at all of practical measures aimed at relieving

Adelaide's transport difficulties? Although this Government has now been in office for 2½ years, apart from indulging in some window dressing by instituting a departmental inquiry and the Breuning report, and apart from making various predictions of varying degrees of credibility about the modes of transport to be enjoyed in future by citizens, the Minister of Roads and Transport has given no indication at all of having taken any practical steps to solve our public transport problems. The appointment of the Director-General of Transport does represent the one positive step taken by the Government, but it is feared that the Minister is keeping from the public the benefits of any proposals, which must by now have resulted, until after Parliament has adjourned, so that they can be used in the election campaign.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I shall be pleased to refer the question to my colleague, who will no doubt be happy to take the opportunity once again of pointing to the many areas in which he has taken action; obviously the honourable member has not been listening when these announcements have been made.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation who, as is his right, is vitally concerned with the quality of life, summarize the improvements in the way of life of the citizens of South Australia resulting from improvements to the public transport system instituted by this Labor Government?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I do not know whether the honourable member expects me to give complete details of what has been done about the environment, but I think he will know that a decision was made to prevent the carrying out of the proposals of a previous Liberal Government that would have completely destroyed the environment of the travelling community and of those who would have suffered the inconvenience and hardship imposed by the freeway proposals that the honourable member apparently supported. I believe that that decision alone is particularly important, and I point to it as a classic example of the sort of action this Government has taken.

TRUST MONEYS

Mr. EVANS: Will the Attorney-General ascertain the total of moneys held in trust by the Master of the Supreme Court that have been deposited by Government or semi-government departments while the results of court hearings to establish the value of properties being acquired have been awaited?

When a dispute occurs between the owner of a property and a Government department that wishes to acquire that property, moneys are deposited with the Supreme Court. As I believe that considerable sums may be involved, it would benefit all members to know how much is held in trust while these court decisions are awaited.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I am not sure whether the honourable member wants to know the sum at present held.

Mr. Evans: Yes.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain the information for the honourable member. I should point out that money is paid into court in these circumstances because the Government desires to obtain possession of the property. The money is then invested and bears interest, which is available to the property owner when compensation is awarded. Although I do not know what point is being made, I will certainly obtain the information.

FESTIVAL INVITATION

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier say whether the Government has invited Her Majesty the Queen or members of the Royal Family to visit Adelaide for the 1974 Festival of Arts? I understand the world title of the Fireball International Yachting Championship will be held at Glenelg during the period of the 1974 Festival of Arts. As host club, the Glenelg Sailing Club is well advanced in its publicity for the 1974 world championships, and it would assist that club, as it would no doubt assist the organizers of the Festival of Arts, if an approach had been made to the Royal Family. If no such approach has been made, will the Government consider making it?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No request has been made, and any request for a visit to Adelaide of any official personage would depend on the recommendations of the Adelaide festival board. So far I have not received any submissions from that board.

WATERSHED REGULATIONS

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation say whether he intends to introduce this year amendments to the Planning and Development Act regarding the minimum area of subdivisions in certain districts? Some time ago the Minister announced that such legislation was being considered and the Minister of Works was somewhat amazed at the statement. Will the legislation be introduced before Parliament adjourns?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: If the honourable member had been present a few minutes ago, he would have heard me give notice that on Tuesday next I would introduce a Bill to amend the Planning and Development Act. When that Bill is introduced, the honourable member will be able to see the content of the amendments.

MISTREATMENT OF CHILDREN

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Does the Attorney-General know, or will he find out, how many convictions have occurred in the last 12 months for the offence of maliciously causing physical damage to young children? From time to time disturbing reports appear in the press of convictions of parents, guardians and other adults who maliciously and grievously harm young children. A report in today's press refers to such an instance that has recently occurred in Queensland, where a nurse appears to have maliciously wounded several infant children, even breaking bones of some. I have also read reports that this is a widespread malaise in society in Great Britain. I therefore seek from the Minister not only the number of convictions obtained for wilful injury to infant children but also any evidence that the Attorney may have showing how widespread is this problem in South Australia. This matter is of considerable concern to members of the community.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Unfortunately, the number of convictions obtained does not tell the whole story. The great problem concerning child beatings and injuries received by children is that in many instances suspicion (probably well founded) that an injury has been deliberately and wilfully inflicted is aroused, but it is not possible to establish that this is so. There is a considerable body of opinion among general practitioners, who come into contact with children whose injuries may be the basis of suspicion that an injury was wilfully inflicted, that the incidence of child beating of a serious kind is much higher than appears from the number of convictions obtained. Measures have been taken by this Parliament to try to improve that situation by imposing certain responsibilities in respect of the reporting of offences of this kind. I will certainly obtain the information in respect of the number of convictions.

WHEAT

Mr. VENNING: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my question concerning proposals made by

the wheatgrowers' federation for negotiations between State and Commonwealth Governments for a further wheat stabilization agreement?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states that in the past it has been the practice for the Australian Wheatgrowers Federation to submit proposals, which may be used as a basis for negotiations between State and Commonwealth Governments, for a further wheat stabilization agreement. No details of any proposals for a further agreement have been received, and the Government would not be able to commit itself to any undertaking in this matter. However, the Government supports the principle of wheat stabilization, which in the past has benefited growers and the industry generally.

Mr. GUNN: Will the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, say whether he knows whether the Government has any plans to amend the Wheat Delivery Quotas Act and, if it has, can he assure the House that wheat farmers in marginal areas will be given adequate time to make up any short-falls that may occur because of a bad season?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Government intends to amend the Act, and I think the matter the honourable member has raised will be included in the amendments.

LEARN-TO-SWIM CAMPAIGN

Mr. HALL: Can the Minister of Education say whether it is a fact that this summer the learn-to-swim campaign will have to be conducted in swimming pools and not in the open sea and, if that is so, can he explain how children in areas such as Yorke Peninsula, where there are very few swimming pools, are to take part in the campaign?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: No such decision has been made. It may be that some people have been discussing the effectiveness of the learn-to-swim campaign in the open sea, and this may have been the cause of some speculation on the matter, but I am not sure. True, a pool is a much more satisfactory place for the teaching of swimming than is the open sea. I am sure that even the honourable member would have worked that out, although perhaps he may need the advice of some of his colleagues to reach that conclusion.

Mr. Hall: Are you covering up or are you just saying "No"?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am saying that no decision has been made. No recommendation has been made to me and I have not considered the matter.

Mr. Hall: In other words, you will oppose such a recommendation?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I did not say that. The honourable member can work out clearly what my reply means: it means that no decision has been made and no recommendation has been made to me on the matter. When a recommendation has been made I will certainly consider it and, when the decision is made, I will certainly see that it receives adequate publicity. However, I have not even had the matter drawn to my attention at this stage. I am only speculating in saying that there may have been some discussions among officers of the department that the learn-to-swim campaign, or at least those aspects of it carried out in the open sea along the beaches, is not as satisfactory as those aspects of the campaign carried out in pools.

WEST COAST JETTIES

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister of Marine say whether, in view of the controversy that resulted when the Minister's department decided to part-demolish the Tumby Bay and Port Haslam jetties, any other jetties or facilities owned by the Marine and Harbors Department on Eyre Peninsula are to be demolished?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not know of any, but that does not mean that consideration has not been given to the future demolition of certain structures on Eyre Peninsula. If and when the department decides that it is time for a certain structure to be looked at and for its future to be decided, no doubt a recommendation will be made to me before any action is taken and I will have to decide as I did regarding the Tumby Bay and Port Haslam jetties.

HANDICAPPED CHILDREN

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister of Education say whether any decision has yet been made to provide better transport arrangements for children attending the Somerton Home for Crippled Children? I asked this question on October 12 last and referred especially to two cases involving children attending the home. The transport arrangements applying to those children are especially onerous and create much hardship. One child involved has to travel four hours a day from Elizabeth to the home and

back again. I have not yet received a reply from the Minister although when I did ask the question he replied to it in part, saying he would communicate further with me in respect of the matters raised.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I have not yet received a report on the matter. The transport arrangements that are made regarding the Somerton Home for Crippled Children are not entirely under my control. The Crippled Children's Association has its own buses, and these are organized by the association and are not subject to control by the department. Some children attend the home by taxi transport under an arrangement made with the department, but the use of buses is a matter that concerns only the association. This means that, in preparing a report, my officers have to get in touch with the association and discuss the matter with its officers, so the bringing down of a reply is that much slower than it otherwise would be.

TEACHERS

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Can the Minister of Education say whether the Education Department now has sufficient teachers to staff all schools fully? In the last day or so I have had two reports of teachers going to the Education Department to inquire about teaching positions with the department. Both of these persons are young women from overseas, and I understand that they are properly qualified. Each one has been told that no more teachers are required in South Australia, that South Australia, alone amongst the States, has sufficient teachers, and that there are no positions for them.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Have you been told this in relation to an appointment now or an appointment next year?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Now. I have had more information about one case, but the other instance was mentioned to me by one of my colleagues in the House. The first case concerns a girl, I think from Holland, who is well qualified and speaks perfect and idiomatic English. She has been told recently that no teachers are required in South Australia because we are all right, although other States may require teachers. I understand that she was applying for an immediate position in our schools.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: This question needs to be answered in a couple of ways. When the Education Department states that there are no vacancies at present for a certain

type of teacher (and I imagine from the honourable member's question that this was probably for a primary school teacher)—

Mr. Millhouse: I think so, although I'm not sure.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: —it does not necessarily mean that there are no vacancies for teachers at the beginning of next year. The honourable member would appreciate that we are now in the middle of the third term, when classes have been organized and are fully staffed. Additional teachers can be employed only if new time tables are arranged and perhaps extra classes formed. In many schools, even though we would like to employ more teachers, the problem of re-timetabling and reorganization that would be involved is too difficult to tackle several times during the year. Staff establishments are set out at the beginning of the school year, and a situation could arise during the year when there were no vacancies, and this would apply to applications for teaching positions, particularly when they are made in the third term.

Normally, vacancies are being created during the year by resignations, but these occur mainly at the end of the first and second terms. There could be other cases at some schools where additional teachers, if available, could not be employed, even though we wanted to employ them, until we provided extra classroom accommodation. The improvements that have been made in the staffing situation in recent years have started to put pressure on accommodation in several places. For instance, in the district of the member for Tea Tree Gully we staffed a school more generously this year, and this produced an accommodation problem that was not apparent last year.

However, it is clear that the number of vacancies available for teachers at the beginning of the school year is greater than the number of vacancies at other times, because it is then that we can plan the reduction in class sizes and the additional appointment of teachers that is possible within the existing budgetary limits. True, we are moving into a situation at present where the supply of primary school teachers from colleges, from re-employment, and from overseas, is sufficient to meet our needs, and we can be more selective in appointing primary school teachers than we were previously. It is conceivable that next year we could have a surplus of primary school teachers, in the sense that more people could apply for positions than we have places available.

Mr. Millhouse: You won't employ them?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: If more people apply than we have jobs available, we shall be unable to employ everyone who applies, and we shall be able to be more selective and appoint only those who are best qualified. On the forecast we have made, that situation is likely to arise next year. Whether or not that position arises next year, we shall be in the situation where we may not be able to accept teachers at various times, particularly because of the inability of schools to re-timetable during the middle of the term, so that we may have a situation where positions are not available.

BALAKLAVA HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. HALL: Will the Minister of Education speed up the unsatisfactory progress being made on building the open unit at Balaklava High School, and can he say why the delay has occurred?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I intend to visit Balaklava on Friday, November 10, when I shall be able to see what is the position. If the honourable member is sufficiently respectful, I may be willing to take him with me. As I am to visit Balaklava to open the open-space unit that has been constructed at the primary school, I will inquire about the situation at the high school and, if possible, obtain a report for the honourable member before I make the visit. I am intrigued to know that the honourable member is still interested in Balaklava.

BLACKWOOD ORCHARD

Mr. EVANS: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation ask his officers to inspect the area known as the Blackwood Experimental Orchard to ascertain whether or not it is suitable for use as a recreation or open-space area? At the moment this area is a forest reserve. On October 17 the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, informed me that it consisted of 52 acres in section 665 in the hundred of Adelaide and that four acres of pines was planted in 1952 and 20 acres of pines was planted last year. People living in the area are afraid that when the pines are reaching maturity there will be a risk of fire caused by children playing with matches in the area. The orchard is in a densely populated area and there is a serious risk that, if a fire occurred there, it would spread quickly to nearby houses, which would probably catch fire spontaneously because of the heat that would be generated. Perhaps the Minister could ask the Minister of Education

whether the area is suitable for educational purposes, perhaps for a new high school or technical school or as a site for the Coromandel Valley Primary School. The people living in the area are most concerned about the orchard being planted with trees which are highly flammable and which are not indigenous to the area.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I shall be pleased to consider the matter.

GLAZIERS' DISPUTE

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Will the Premier say whether he knows what stage has been reached in the glaziers' strike? Glaziers have been on strike for some time, but the matter has not been publicized. Recently I asked the Minister of Labour and Industry about it, but he did not seem to know that the strike was on.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know. This is a dispute concerning a Commonwealth award, not a State award. I have not had a report from the Minister of Labour and Industry concerning it but I expect that I will receive one shortly. Naturally enough, we are concerned about any form of industrial unrest in South Australia, and I suggest to the honourable member that if he wants to get something done about it he might use his good offices to see that the Commonwealth Minister for Labour and National Service gets off his backside and does something.

Mr. Goldsworthy: What?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: What we do.

Mr. Millhouse: What is—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Mitcham is rudely interrupting proceedings.

GLENELG TRAMS

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation, in the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, say what progress has been made in the programme for upgrading the Glenelg trams? I understand that at the moment three renovated trams are in operation. I ask the Minister whether the Government intends to continue to have the whole of the fleet repainted in such drab, lousy colours—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is commenting.

Mr. MATHWIN: The new colours do nothing to encourage the public or tourists to use the trams.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will refer the question to my colleague. I believe the honourable member asked a similar question about four or five weeks ago. In view of the obvious colours that the honourable member is so fond of displaying in this House, there seems to be a doubt that the Minister is likely to be impressed by his comments.

TEACHING METHODS

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question about methods of teaching reading?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It is assumed that the honourable member is referring to what is termed the "phonic" method and the "look and say" method when he refers to "phonetic sounding" and "memorizing" method. With the "phonic" method children learn the sounds of letters, and blend or synthesize them and discover the word. Using the "look and say" method, children learn the word from its shape and pattern. For many years now the more general initial approach has been to introduce reading through stories that children tell to the teacher, and the children recognize that the words record the event. Subsequent teaching of reading uses both methods, "look and say" and "phonic". Children, however, need to have developed the prerequisite skills before formal reading is commenced. Pressure to learn before this has happened can arouse a negative attitude to reading. Teachers use appropriate pre-reading experiences to develop their skills. Parents who read and enjoy books and communicate this to their children do much to establish positive attitudes towards reading in their children.

The Education Department, of course, is aware that many children do find difficulty with reading, as indeed they always have. Much research is going on into the reasons for such difficulties and into ways of overcoming them. Inservice conferences on the teaching of reading are being held for teachers. A reading resource centre with consultants has been established to assist teachers of reading. It must be understood that, just as children learn to walk and talk at different ages, they will also learn to read at different times, and a desire to help children to learn to read more quickly could cause problems for some. Testing of reading standards using standardized tests indicates that reading standards are as high among today's primary children as they have been in the past. If parents are worried about

their children's progress they should discuss the problem with the school. Where special help is indicated every effort will be made to supply it.

UNIVERSITY PROJECT

Mr. HALL: In view of the statements made by the Minister of Education in a Labor Government before 1968 concerning the planning that had reputedly then gone into preparing for the establishment of a third university, will the Minister of Education say whether he or his department have done anything about the matter in the 2½ years he has been in office?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Yes, we have.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Will the Minister say what the Government has done about a third university?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: We have had an inquiry in relation to when the third university will be necessary, and that was based largely on what growth potential existed at Flinders University and on the growth of colleges of advanced education. The previously suggested location is not considered to be satisfactory, and alternatives are being considered. We estimate that the third university will be required between 1980 and 1982, so I think members opposite will appreciate that, even if nothing happened when they were in office, we have done something.

Mr. HALL: Will the Minister say, first whether the new university to be established in South Australia is to be operational by 1982 or whether that is merely when construction will commence; and, secondly, whether he is considering Murray New Town as the site for this university?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The reply to the first part of the question is that 1982 would be the time when students would have to be admitted. The reply to the second part of the question is that consideration will certainly be given to providing tertiary education facilities generally at Murray New Town.

Mr. Millhouse: He asked about a university.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: In making decisions on this matter, one looks at the provision of colleges of advanced education and technical colleges, as well as universities. As the honourable member may appreciate, more students are involved in the two former categories and, consequently, from the point of view of servicing the local area, they may be relatively more important than the university.

Mr. Hall: My question concerns the university itself.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I know what the question is, but my reply concerns universities and colleges of advanced education. I am sorry if the honourable member does not like the reply.

Mr. Hall: What reply?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I sometimes have great difficulty with the member for Gouger, and I understand that some of his colleagues have difficulty with him, because he fails to appreciate the meaning of simple words. The provision of the necessary tertiary education facilities will be considered and—

Dr. TONKIN: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. The Minister is unnecessarily debating the reply and not adhering to the question.

The SPEAKER: I cannot uphold the point of order. The honourable Minister is entitled to explain his reply in order that the honourable member for Gouger may clearly understand it.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am grateful to you, Mr. Speaker, for helping me to try to get the member for Gouger to understand that tertiary facilities include universities. I should have thought that the honourable member would work that out.

SWIMMING POOLS

Mr. McANANEY: I have asked the Minister of Education several times about a report on Swinburn swimming pools, and I think I asked my most recent question in July, when the Minister said he would be able to reply to me soon after that. Has the Minister a report on these pools?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I thought I wrote to the honourable member during the show adjournment on this matter, but I will

check for him. If it turns out that I have written to the honourable member, perhaps he will be good enough to open the letter.

LIQUOR IDENTIFICATION

Mr. CARNIE: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary whether the Government will introduce legislation to ensure clear identification of the contents of bottles of wine and brandy, as desired by the Federal Wine and Brandy Producers Council. A news item in the *Advertiser* of October 13 states that the President of the council hopes that all States will introduce legislation on this matter. This matter has concerned me for some years and I had considered introducing a private member's Bill on it. However, as legislation, to be effective, would have to be on a Commonwealth-wide basis, I did not do so. I consider that winemakers would need to show on the label the grape variety or varieties, the varietal percentage, and the area of origin. As this has now been requested by the federal organization of wine producers, will the Government introduce such legislation?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will refer the matter to my colleague.

DRUGS

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Attorney-General a reply from the Minister of Health to my question regarding offences of breaking, entering and larceny in pharmacies?

The Hon. L. J. KING: My colleague states that legislation requiring pharmacists to install steel safes in the premises for the storing of dangerous and addictive drugs became operative in June, 1971, and the notices referred to were displayed in chemist shop windows in April, 1972. I ask leave to have the statistics requested included in *Hansard* without my reading them. The figures are self-explanatory.

Leave granted.

BREAKINGS

Month	Total breakings on chemist shops		Instances where drugs taken		Where drugs taken from safes	
	1971	1972	1971	1972	1971	1972
January	11	9	6	2	—	1
February	4	6	4	2	—	—
March	9	—	6	—	—	—
April	3	3	2	2	—	—
May	8	10	5	1	1	—
June	5	7	6	—	—	—
July	9	3	2	1	1	—
August	11	13	3	1	—	—
September	11	11	2	—	—	—
Total	71	62	36	9	2	1

ABORIGINAL EDUCATION

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister of Education say what plans his department has to provide pre-school education on the Aboriginal reserves in the North-West of the State? I understand that the Commonwealth Government provides funds for this purpose.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: We are in the process of building pre-schools at several locations, and plans for these were finalized after a special conference, arranged by the department, was held at Port Augusta with the Aboriginal tribal leaders from these areas. The work is either in progress or about to start, and I will check the precise details for the planning and time tabling and bring down the information for the honourable member.

ENGLISH EXPRESSION

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Will the Minister of Education say what is being done or what he thinks can be done in our schools to improve the English expression of students leaving our high schools? At a high school parents and friends gathering in my district last Monday evening I heard the Minister give what I thought was an interesting address. If I may be permitted to say so, I thought it was the best address I had heard the Minister give.

The SPEAKER: I hope the honourable member does not dwell on that matter unduly.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I shall not dwell on the subject but, in my opinion, it was one of the Minister's better efforts. He did say that, in his experience (and it also applies to my experience), many students who went on to tertiary courses could not express themselves satisfactorily, either orally or in writing. This is a major problem, and the Minister made passing reference to it on Monday evening. I am wondering what is being done and what can be done to improve the English expression of students as they go through primary and secondary schools.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I may say that in this House each afternoon I count the number of split infinitives and floating participles used, but inevitably I lose count. Of course, as most questions are asked by the Opposition, I can understand why I have that experience.

Mr. Goldsworthy: What about—

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: For example, the Premier has never been known to split an infinitive. I once accused him of doing it, but he was horrified and nearly hit me on the nose.

Mr. Millhouse: You just had to accept what he said, I suppose.

The SPEAKER: Order! Interjections are out of order.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Yes, Mr. Speaker, but it is good that the honourable member occasionally can make a good interjection, and I congratulate him. More seriously, the problem of English expression and its teaching is extremely difficult, because any student who has difficulty with expression cannot have those defects remedied in a short time: the remedy usually requires a concerted effort over a period of years. Much depends on the quality of teaching at the primary level, and many of our problems in more recent years have arisen from the fact that the large class sizes at the primary level often produce a situation where teachers can give little individual attention to students in their grade who have special difficulties.

More recently we have had an increasing emphasis on the role of remedial teaching, and I think it has been recognized that the ability of teachers to develop sound principles of expression will be enhanced considerably at the primary level through, first, reduction of class sizes, which will enable more attention to be given to the problems of individual children, and secondly, the provision of more adequate facilities with respect to general remedial activity within the school. I therefore see this whole matter as a long-term problem that will take many years to solve. However, in view of the honourable member's interest in this matter and the fact that he may have some more urgent problems in this area that require attention, I will discuss the matter with my officers and see whether any further points should be made concerning it.

OVERLOADED VEHICLES

Mr. BECKER: In the temporary absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, I ask the Minister of Environment and Conservation whether he will ask his colleague to request the Highways Department to authorize summonses against the drivers of overloaded motor vehicles, instead of against owners of those vehicles. A constituent of mine who has a fleet of about 15 trucks has, within a period of a few months, received three summonses in connection with the overloading of his vehicles by two drivers. I understand that my constituent has often instructed his drivers that in no circumstances are they to leave quarries or depots in vehicles that are overweight. Sections 145 to 149 of the Road Traffic Act, which refer to this matter, provide

no defence for the owners of overloaded vehicles. My constituent is concerned that, as a result of the careless actions of his drivers and of summonses subsequently being served on him as the owner of the vehicles in question, he may be forced out of business.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will refer the matter to the Minister of Roads and Transport.

JUVENILE COURT PANELS

Mr. McANANEY: Can the Attorney-General say whether justices of the peace are included in the panels set up in conjunction with the Juvenile Court or whether those panels consist of personnel drawn from Government departments? I am aware of objections stating that all personnel comprising these panels are people connected with Government departments, and it is considered that it would be better if the members of the panels were drawn from a wider section of the community.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The juvenile aid panels consist of one social worker, drawn from the Community Welfare Department, and a police officer. There is provision in the Act for the appointment of a justice of the peace, that provision having been inserted, I think, as a result of an amendment in this House, on the basis that there may be occasions when it is not possible to secure the services of a police officer of sufficient experience and suitability for this type of work and that in those circumstances it may be desirable that a justice of the peace take the place ordinarily occupied by a police officer. Therefore, it is only in the rare cases that a justice of the peace sits on a juvenile aid panel. Perhaps some misconception of the scope and operation of these provisions has led to the honourable member's question.

VICTORIA SQUARE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Premier, as Minister in charge of tourism, make a statement on the development of the Victoria Square site, on which an international-standard hotel is to be established in order mainly to stimulate tourism in this State and also to provide additional accommodation facilities?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The consortium that was making submissions for an indenture in relation to the Victoria Square site is currently due to make its submissions to the Government, and we have asked for those submissions to be expedited. I understand from the consortium that it is trying to make

a joint operation comprising a major development in another capital city as well as the one here and that its submissions depend on its success in respect of the project in the other capital city.

Mr. Evans: Doesn't it also depend on the fact that you have upgraded the number of rooms?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, not at all. There has been no change in the Government's requirements relating to that matter. Certain of the preliminary plans have been submitted to us for approval, but I have not received the submissions. Indeed, I have had proposals from other bodies interested in the site, but naturally I have not negotiated with them while negotiations have been proceeding with the present consortium.

FAMILY PLANNING

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation ask the Minister of Roads and Transport whether, in the absence of any apparent Government action to improve the transport situation in this State, he will consider financial support from his department for family planning clinics? This suggestion, which I have made once before in this House, may provide an indirect and long-term solution to our transport problems. However, in view of the prolonged inactivity of the Minister in this regard so far, perhaps he would agree to take this action.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: No, I will not take up the matter with my colleague. However, if he sees the question in *Hansard* and thinks that it warrants a reply, he may reply to it.

WARDANG ISLAND

Mr. HALL: Can the Minister of Community Welfare say why it has been necessary to insert in the *Advertiser* of March 21 an advertisement calling for applications for the position of Manager at Wardang Island? Can the Minister say how much damage has been done to the facilities at that island and how much it will cost to restore them to their original condition? Does this island have a viable future as a tourist resort?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Wardang Island is now the responsibility of the Aboriginal Lands Trust, the management of that island now being a matter for that body. Inquiries concerning the island should be directed to the trust. If the honourable member wishes me to do so, I will take up the matters he has raised with the trust to find out its views on them.

ADOPTIONS

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Minister of Community Welfare say whether any consideration has been given to providing financial assistance to certain foster parents, who may then be able to afford to legally adopt suitable children who have been fostered in their care? It has been put to me that a few people are in every other respect willing to adopt children but simply cannot afford to do so. Some form of financial assistance would make it possible for them to adopt these children, rather than have them as foster children. Although I realize that difficulties could be involved in this matter, I shall be interested to hear whether the Minister has considered it.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I think that great difficulty would be involved in accepting the principle that the Government should subsidize or contribute towards the living costs of parents who have adopted children, and I do not know how it would be possible to distinguish between one family and another in this regard. I suppose that most parents believe that there is some financial problem in maintaining, educating, and bringing up their children. However, I am willing to look at the matter to see whether the suggestion is capable of being implemented. I certainly appreciate the problem that faces foster parents who, as foster parents, receive a subsidy and then, if they adopt the child and make it their own, lose the subsidy and have to assume the financial responsibility. This is a problem. At first glance, it seems to be inseparable from the whole position with regard to adoption. There may be some way of easing the transition from foster parents to adopting parents.

GLENELG BUILDING

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier say what action he has taken to promote the completion of the building at Glenelg known as the round house?

Mr. Mathwin: Goretzki's gamble.

Mr. BECKER: This building was originally intended to be a multi-storey hotel but, because of financial difficulties, it is only half completed and is now becoming an eyesore. Is the Government doing anything to promote this project to investors from other States or overseas?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, we are not. I hear a sneering chortle from the member for Mitcham. What is it that the member for Hanson suggests that the State should do?

The honourable member knows what is our policy in relation to development.

Members interjecting:

Mr. Millhouse: You've completely misunderstood—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Mitcham is not answering this question: the honourable Premier is answering it. I wish the honourable member for Mitcham would give the honourable Premier the courtesy he deserves instead of rudely interrupting all the time.

Mr. Mathwin: He's been talking for five minutes and hasn't said anything.

The SPEAKER: Order! I will not warn honourable members again. If there are any interjections, I will name the honourable members, irrespective of the side of the Chamber on which they sit. The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am sure that the member for Hanson is aware of the basis on which industrial development assistance is given. There has not been an application for assistance for any viable project to be developed on that site. If, in the interests of that area the honourable member has a proposal to put to the Government, we shall be interested to hear about it. No Liberal Government in South Australia has gone around with some shonky site development and sought to promote interest in it amongst investors in other States or overseas to shore up such a project to some degree. That has not been the policy of this Government, either.

Mr. Becker: What if you had an inquiry about some potential investment in development?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: When we get such requests we have to consider whether viable development is available. We have certainly not found that to be the case on that site at the moment. If the honourable member has some proposition, I suggest that he do something about it.

NORTH TERRACE SITE

Mr. VENNING: Can the Premier say what is the present position with regard to the development of the site of the old South Australian Hotel, opposite Parliament House on North Terrace? This question may be similar to that just asked by the member for Hanson. In the interests of the development of North Terrace, I should like to know whether the Premier can say what is likely to take place there.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The development on the North Terrace side opposite Parliament House has proceeded without any application being made to the Government in relation to it. I was shown the plans by the Ansett company, which intended to develop the site. In view of the unfortunate trading results in the last 18 months of most of the large motel and hotel chains in Australia, I understand that one of the intending major investors declined to proceed with its investment on that site. Therefore, work is not proceeding on that site until the consortium can be completed. On the other hand, the other major hotel development on North Terrace, the Holiday Inns development, has not only obtained its licence, its finance and its approval: it has had a tourist and motel certificate granted by me.

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

The SPEAKER: Call on the business of the day.

PRICES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Prices Act, 1948-1971. Read a first time.

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

That this Bill be now read a second time.

It extends the Prices Act for a further year commencing on January 1, 1973. The Prices Act has continued in operation since 1948 and has been of significant benefit to the people of this State. Maximum prices are fixed for a number of goods and services, some of which are important to people on low incomes and to primary producers. A number of arrangements exist with industries with regard to advice and discussion before proposed price increases are implemented. It is considered important that a restraining influence be exercised on price increases and to ensure that the favourable cost structure in South Australia compared to other States is maintained.

Of considerable benefit to wine-grape growers is the fixing of minimum prices for wine grapes. As required by the provisions of the Prices Act, a separate report on consumer protection covering the year to December 31, 1971, has been presented to Parliament. For the six months to June 30, 1972, 1,359 complaints were deemed to warrant investigation compared to 984 for the same period in 1971. Legislation commencing since January 1, 1972, and being administered by this branch includes the Door

to Door Sales Act from March 1, Secondhand Motor Vehicles Act from April 1, Mock Auctions Act from April 6, Misrepresentation Act from May 18, and the Unordered Goods and Services Act from July 1. The extension of the operation of the Prices Act will enable the continuation of the price fixing and consumer protection provisions now contained in the Prices Act.

I will now deal with the clauses of the Bill. Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 amends section 53 of the principal Act by extending the operation of the Act to December 31, 1973.

Mr. MILLHOUSE secured the adjournment of the debate.

MARKETING OF EGGS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from October 12. Page 2059.)

Mr. WARDLE (Murray): I support the Bill, the purpose of which is obviously to produce a better quality egg through the creation of much more efficient preservative and handling methods. The many processes through which an egg passes until it reaches the consumer's table are not generally known by the public.

Many people have worked diligently to help prepare this legislation. The Bill is valuable because it conveys what the producers and others who have worked closely with the producers believe to be necessary changes to the Act so that the producer will obtain a better price, so that his product will be handled more efficiently, and so that the consumer will obtain a product in a better form, certainly at no greater cost and even at a lower cost.

Apart from the individual attention of many people interested in this legislation, basic agreement has been reached between two large egg-producing organizations, the United Farmers and Graziers of South Australia Incorporated and Red Comb Co-operative Society Limited. With the approval of the majority of members of those organizations, I believe that this legislation should be accepted in the spirit intended. True, some people in both organizations will disagree with minor aspects of the Bill, but I believe that most producers believe that the passing of the Bill will be in the best interests of their primary industry.

The number of egg producers has decreased over the years, and egg production is not so much the sideline that it was in years gone by. In the 1930's, most agriculturists appreciated the income that could be obtained from producing eggs, because the pounds and shillings

that came into the home helped to put food on the table and to keep the family clothed, especially when adverse conditions applied to other forms of primary production. However, egg production, like other primary production, has become more specialized over the past 30 years and there are now fewer producers. Egg production is no longer carried out by many hundreds of small producers and the bulk of production in South Australia now comes from a relatively small number of larger producers.

It is reasonable for a man, who has spent all his life and who has placed his whole investment in a special project, to expect some protection. On the other hand, one could argue that private enterprise should survive amidst all competition and in all circumstances. In the present situation of the egg industry, which is so heavily overproduced, it is reasonable to give protection to such an individual, particularly if he has no chance to diversify. In the last 12 months, 275 producers have discontinued producing eggs and, at present, about 2,281 producers are still in business. It may also be said that this legislation will help the producer, but unless it reduces charges and reduces the difference between the price the producer receives and the cost to the consumer, it will not have achieved its objective.

I now refer to the Auditor-General's Report and, for the benefit of those who read *Hansard*, I quote from page 182. I am sure that the chance to read *Hansard* is available to more people than is the chance to read the Auditor-General's Report. The report states:

The Egg Board, operating under the Marketing of Eggs Act, determines the price at which it purchases eggs from producers, fixes the wholesale selling price in South Australia, makes available supplies to the local market through its grading agents, and arranges with the Australian Egg Board for the export of eggs surplus to local requirements. The board has power to deduct levies from the proceeds due to producers to cover handling, administrative and other charges. Since the inception of the C.E.M.A. (Council of Egg Marketing Authorities of Australia) plan on July 1, 1965, the Commonwealth hen levy has provided means for equalizing returns from local and export sales. The hen levy imposed by and collected on behalf of the Commonwealth is, through the Poultry Industry Trust Fund, used to recoup the various State egg boards for export losses, freight, and other costs of transferring eggs from one State egg board to another, and other losses and charges as recommended by C.E.M.A. and approved by the Minister for Primary Industry, in addition to the administrative costs associated with the collection of the hen levy.

A handling and grading charge of 4.5c a dozen on all eggs received by the board's grading agents and a board charge of .5c a dozen on all eggs of value handled by grading agents are deducted from producers' proceeds. In fixing the wholesale selling price, the board adds to the gross price paid to the producer a wholesale selling margin of 5.5c a dozen, which is collected by the board from sales by grading agents. An additional 3c a dozen margin for cartoning and packaging is added to the wholesale selling price, this margin being retained by the board's agents for their cartoning and packaging costs. The board allows the grading agents 1c a dozen commission on the sales of eggs in shell. In respect of their own sales of eggs, exempt producers pay to the board a .6c a dozen selling permit levy, the board's .5c a dozen charge and the 5.5c a dozen wholesale selling margin, but they are allowed 1c a dozen remission charges.

Many producers are unaware of those details, and I have specifically quoted from the report in order to have them included in *Hansard*. I now refer to the position in South Australia concerning the surplus of eggs and the equalization payment under the Council of Egg Marketing Authorities of Australia plan, in which \$1 a head each year must be paid to offset export losses. This fund, which applies throughout the Commonwealth, has been generous to South Australia as we have benefited by almost \$2,000,000. Obviously, egg producers in the Eastern States will not be involved forever in such a subsidy to South Australian producers. South Australia has paid less into the C.E.M.A. fund than it has received from the fund. In 1969, South Australian distributors paid in over \$1,000,000 to the Poultry Industry Trust Fund, and in that year the increase in exports over the previous year was 29 per cent. South Australia received over \$1,400,000 in reimbursements from that fund.

At that time the average price of eggs on the Australian market was 49.85c a dozen and the average price on the export market was 12.83c a dozen. That tremendous disparity in price was caused mainly by over-production. As at July 1 this year, South Australia had paid about \$1,200,000 into the fund, and there was a 21 per cent increase in exports over the previous year. The average price on the Australian market was 44c a dozen and the average price was as low as 7.44c a dozen for export eggs. In the four-year period export sales increased by over 90 per cent and the price dropped from 12.3c to 7.44c a dozen.

The board constituted under the original Act comprises seven members, three of them producers elected by producers, two others with a knowledge of marketing, one other

with a knowledge of retailing, and a chairman appointed by the Government. Under this legislation, however, the number of members will be reduced from seven to six, and I do not think people who have had experience with boards will be disturbed about that reduction. Indeed, it has been said that the best committee is a committee of one.

Mr. Coumbe: Or three, with two absent.

Mr. WARDLE: I am not sure what is the difference, but a small committee is often more active, industrious and co-ordinated than a large one. The new board will comprise three producer members and three members appointed by the Government. In the Act it is specified that one member shall have a knowledge of marketing and one a knowledge of retailing, but the Bill has no such provision. Provided that the industry leaders have been in close touch with the Minister and have told him what type of people they require, and there has been agreement, I am willing to respect the wishes of the industry leaders and to allow those appointments to be made, believing, as they do, that it will be a more efficient board than the present board.

Mr. Coumbe: From which group will the chairman come?

Mr. WARDLE: He will be one of the three members appointed by the Government. We as laymen may have an opinion, but surely our opinion is not as expert as the opinion of those who are involved full time in the industry. I believe that we would be hypercritical if we did not believe that the industry leaders and the Minister would appoint to the board people who could best serve the industry. I believe it is important to have on a primary production board people from outside the industry who are expert in handling and marketing. So often our boards comprise people who mean well, who are expert in the production of the primary product but who are not expert in marketing and selling, and once the commodity passes through the front gate of the farm their expert knowledge is useless. They may have some knowledge of the world-wide demands and surpluses but they are not experts in the handling of the product.

The Act defines a producer, for the purposes of voting, as a person who keeps 250 or more hens, whereas the Bill defines such a producer as a person who keeps at least 500 hens. So this provision, in new section 4a (5), reduces the number of producers eligible to vote in the election of board mem-

bers. This will stop from voting the person who is involved in the industry as a sideline. I am referring to the person who collects eggs now and again, who finds eggs in the stripper, in the woodheap or under the wormwood hedge and collects them every few days, and whose prime income is not derived from egg production. This person has neither the habits nor the equipment to produce a fresh product that is immediately in the hands of the producer who can take it to cool storage and keep it there until it is collected and delivered to the distribution point and finally to the shopkeeper who sells it to the housewife. I believe that the larger the percentage of the income coming from egg production the more up to date will be the producer's methods and the better will be his product. Today 5,000 hens are looked upon as being a one-man viable farming unit, so the requirement of 500 hens is only 10 per cent of a viable unit. Therefore, it is not too much to expect someone who wants a vote in the election of a member of the board to keep at least 500 hens.

The requirement of at least 10 dozen eggs a hen having been delivered to the board is questioned from the point of view of all-in all-out farming where pullets are used and where the day-old chicken is not raised to the pullet stage by the producer. I am assured that, even in the case of all-in all-out pullet farms, the general period for which an egg producer keeps a pullet is about 11 months following its commencement to lay, so it is not very difficult to get the required number of eggs from the pullet in its laying life. It does not seem that this requirement will be a hardship for the producer.

Another new aspect of this Bill on which I want to comment is that the board may establish an egg floor. I consider that this provision was included because, if in future there is a monopoly in this State regarding an egg floor, the board may organize its own egg floor, but there is provision that the board shall not do so until it has given adequate notice, 12 months beforehand, to any firm or group that may be affected by its establishment. This requirement will allow any other competitor to organize its affairs and make its arrangements. Such an organization will know that in 12 months time it will have the board's egg floor as a competitor.

As I have said, I consider that the Bill will help produce quality eggs, and the eggs will be required to be delivered to the board. The board will have the opportunity to grade and stamp all eggs and by this method eggs

delivered to the consumer will be of a higher standard. Those involved in the production of eggs consider that, as the consumer receives eggs of better and better quality, this will help sell eggs.

The fluctuation and loss of certain poultry producers have caused the districts to become unequal, and the final clause of the Bill makes changes so that the three districts in South Australia will be more nearly equal in their representation. Whilst restrictions may in future have to be placed on the production of eggs because of the surpluses to which I have referred and the low price of export eggs, many provisions in the Bill will help the industry and perhaps give new heart to those involved in egg production.

Mr. McANANEY (Heysen): I support the Bill, in the main. It is unfortunate that the more important Bill regarding egg marketing, namely, the Bill to control production, has not been introduced. If we had had that legislation instead of the C.E.M.A. plan in operation, the problems of egg producers would have disappeared by now. All States have agreed on the control of production and, the sooner this

Bill is introduced and the Act implemented, the sooner we may get somewhere, because we will have planned production and sales. I think the Minister should tell us when he replies to this debate just when that Bill will be introduced.

If egg producers were producing the same quantity now as they were producing a few years ago, they would be living in luxury, because they would not have about 6,000,000 dozen eggs to export at a net return of 7c. The more production exceeds market demand, the more problems increase. Some sections of primary industry have controls on sales and price. If the Bureau of Economics makes a survey and tells producers that they should produce less in a certain year, some producers will do so but some will produce more.

There being a disturbance in the Speaker's Gallery:

Mr. McANANEY: I ask leave to continue my remarks.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.39 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, October 31, at 2 p.m.