

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, August 21, 1973

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

AGENT-GENERAL ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

CROWN LANDS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

HOUSING AGREEMENT BILL

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

LOTTERY AND GAMING ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

POLICE PENSIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

PETITION: SURFING REGULATIONS

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON presented a petition from 31 persons who stated that the Noarlunga District Council's proposed by-law to restrict certain types of surfboard on beaches under its control would create hardship to those wishing to enjoy the only suitable surfing area on the south coast between North Moana and the Onkaparinga mouth and would discriminate against those who participated in this sport and recreation. The petitioners prayed that the House of Assembly would disallow the regulations when they were laid before it.

Petition received and read.

QUESTIONS**QUESTION PROCEDURE**

The SPEAKER: Before calling for questions, I point out to members that, recently, questions have been far more lengthy than they should be. In accordance with Standing Orders, members should ask a question and briefly explain it without debating the subject matter. That will be the future procedure to be adopted, so that there will not be lengthy comments and debate on the question. Another practice that seems to be increasing is that some members after asking a question give an explanation, then end the explanation by asking four or five questions. That procedure, too, must cease.

ISLINGTON WORKSHOPS

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Premier say whether any incentives have been offered by the Government for the relocation of Clyde Industries Proprietary Limited in South Australia, and whether, with the establishment of this industry in South Australia, all future locomotive production

for South Australian needs will be undertaken at the works of this company? I support the decision made by Clyde Industries to come to South Australia as it will be to our benefit to have this type of industry and this type of expansion in this State. However, the Lees report on the railways system states at page 201:

Objectives of the workshops: these may be summarized as to provide a service to the Traffic Branch by ensuring that:

- (a) Sufficient locomotives, railcars, freight and passenger vehicles are manufactured or purchased to carry all South Australian Railways traffic. (This can be done efficiently only if the Traffic Branch carries out timely and accurate traffic forecasts.)
- (b) Locomotives, railcars, and rolling stock are regularly maintained in safe working order and are modified and repaired as necessary.
- (c) Locomotives, railcars, and rolling stock are available for work as required by the Traffic Branch.

Subsequently, on page 202, the report states:

The committee recommends that the Islington workshops be organized, equipped and staffed only to serve the needs of the S.A.R. "Outside" work should only be done if, because of shortage of railway work, resources are temporarily available.

Therefore, it becomes necessary to know whether, following the information given in the Lees report concerning the future of the Islington workshops, the manufacture of railway locomotives is to continue at this workshop. It is on this basis that I ask my question concerning not only the relocation of this part of Clyde Industries but also whether the workshop will be providing locomotive units for South Australian needs.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The matter of the relocation and rationalization of Clyde Industries has been the subject of discussion for some time between the company and the South Australian Government, and I met the company quite some time ago. The company was informed of the incentives and assistance available in South Australia for industry purposes but, in deciding on relocation, it required no assistance from us, simply because its internal resources are sufficient for it to be able to proceed with its rationalization without governmental assistance. The basis of the company's relocation was that there would be a restocking of diesel locomotives in Australia immediately by the Commonwealth Railways.

As the Leader will know, South Australia is the centre of the Commonwealth Railways system. Clyde Industries had to relocate its locomotive engine plant in two places, one being here in order to cope with the eastern seaboard States other than Queensland, and with South Australia and Western Australia; so that the major part will be here. There was a relocation of some of the activity to Queensland to cope with the provision of narrow gauge locomotives in that State, which the Leader will know is in many respects a narrow gauge State. That was the basis of the activity there. The future of work at the Islington workshops is necessarily bound up with the proposals, at present under negotiation, with the Commonwealth Government, that the Commonwealth Railways system will embrace the country railway system at present operated in South Australia by the South Australian Railways. In all the discussions that have taken place, matters concerning the use of our present facilities, maintenance of employment, ensuring that there is no redundancy of staff, and the like, are to the fore.

Dr. Eastick: What about manufacture?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is necessarily part of the discussion. The proposals resulting from the report from which the Leader has quoted are being considered by the joint committee (detailed previously to the House)

undertaking discussions with the Commonwealth Government on the possible takeover by that Government of our country and interstate railway system. One cannot say more than that at this stage. I have the report and recommendations of the Lees committee, but necessarily this is a matter of considerable discussion at present. I cannot give the Leader any more information than that at this stage.

CRIME RATE

Mr. WRIGHT: Will the Attorney-General say whether he has seen recent press reports emanating from the Australian Crime Prevention, Correction and After-Care Council's conference indicating an increase in the crime rate in Victoria? Further, can he say whether the rate of serious crime in South Australia is increasing to a greater extent than the rate of growth of the State's population, and can he produce statistics indicating recent trends in the State's crime rate?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I can give the honourable member some information about the topic to which he has referred. The crime figures for 1972-73 have not yet been completely collated. However, based on the crime figures which appear quarterly in the *Government Gazette*, and taking breaking offences as an index, it is apparent that, in the last three quarters of 1972-73 financial year, there has been a decrease of up to 1 per cent between that year and 1971-72. In the fiscal year ended 1972, breaking offences were 25 per cent above 1971, whereas the fiscal year ended 1973 showed an overall increase of only .46 per cent over 1972. Taking into account the selected crime figures published in the *Government Gazette*, the 1972-73 figures indicate a rise over 1971-72 of only 3.7 per cent compared to a 17.7 per cent rise between 1971-72 and 1970-71. It is apparent, therefore, that while no actual decrease has occurred other than in the last quarter of 1972-73 in regard to breaking offences, and that is the 1 per cent decrease, there has been a levelling out in the rate of increase. The reason for this decrease is open to conjecture, but it is not unreasonable to suggest that recent reorganization has been one significant factor in the levelling out process. This suggestion is supported by reason of the fact that reorganization in the metropolitan area became most significant in the June quarter of 1973 when the greatest decrease in breaking offences occurred.

PREMIERS' CONFERENCES

Mr. COUMBE: Does the Premier support the holding of meetings between all State Premiers and the Prime Minister of Australia? Although the Prime Minister has indicated that the practice of holding annual Premiers' Conferences should cease, I point out that there are two sides to this matter, because a decision on holding the conferences involves the wishes of the Premiers themselves as well as those of the Prime Minister. Have the State Premiers been consulted about this suggestion, and does the Premier support the principle of all State Premiers meeting with the Prime Minister to consider financial, legislative or other procedural matters?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member has said that the Prime Minister has indicated that he believes that annual Premiers' Conferences should cease, but I do not know what is the honourable member's authority for that statement. Indeed, I have been able to obtain no confirmation whatever that the Prime Minister has made any such statement: all that has happened is that there has been a press report by an unnamed reporter that he believes that this is the Prime Minister's view. There has been nothing more than that. The Prime Minister

undertook at the last Commonwealth election, before that election and subsequently, that there would be constant and full consultation with the State Premiers on all matters of mutual concern and interest, and that consultation with the Commonwealth Government would not decrease but would increase under his Government. I cannot—

Mr. Coumbe: What happened?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot believe that the Prime Minister would so repudiate the clear undertaking he has given to the Australian people.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Premier say what urgent action he has taken, or will take, to elucidate clearly the Prime Minister's attitude towards Premiers' Conferences and towards the future of State Governments? During his reply to the question asked by the member for Torrens, the Premier said that he could not find any source for the report in the *Advertiser* yesterday made by an unnamed reporter. The reporter's name, stated in a by-line to that article, was that of Brett Bayly. This matter has been raised in the community and is in line with current Labor policy and its attitude towards State Governments generally. It is a matter of concern.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That was a comment, and I object.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr. Tonkin: I should like a reply.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is not in line with current Labor Party policy.

Dr. Tonkin: Of course it is.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is no Labor policy whatever—

Dr. Tonkin: That figures!

The SPEAKER: Order! Members must realize that when a Minister is replying to a question there shall be no interjections whatsoever, and any member who infringes that rule will be warned accordingly. The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is no Labor Party policy whatever which states that there will be an end to Premiers' Conferences or other consultations between the Commonwealth Government and the State Governments. In fact, the specific statements of Labor Party policy are to the contrary, and I have cited those to the member for Torrens earlier today. The joint statements by the Prime Minister and the Leaders of the State Labor Parties, including me, have made perfectly clear that there will be increased and constant joint consultation; in fact, there has been far more joint consultation in the last seven months than we knew in the previous three years of Liberal Government in Canberra.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is not the case that it is Labor Party policy to end Premiers' Conferences. In fact, such a policy would be contrary to Labor policy, and I would oppose it if ever any member of my Party were to advance it publicly. I can only say to the honourable member that I have been able to discover no source for the statements made by newspaper reporters.

EFFLUENT USE

Mr. OLSON: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked on August 14 about the re-use of effluent from the sewage treatment works at Royal Park?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As I said in reply to the honourable member on Tuesday last, I would certainly like to see the effluent re-used. Unfortunately, however, reclamation and re-use of the high quality effluent from Port

Adelaide treatment works is limited by its salinity. Infiltration into the sewerage system of high salinity groundwater from the older parts of the Port Adelaide sewerage system near the Port River estuary results in an effluent salinity of 3 500 mg a litre. This is about twice that which may be used effectively for irrigation purposes, even for salt-tolerant crops and grasses. Small quantities of effluent are used for washing-down purposes and blended with mains water for some lawn watering at the treatment works. The cost of reducing the high salinity is prohibitive. In other words, it cannot be re-used for the purpose that the honourable member has suggested.

STRATHALBYN WATER SUPPLY

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 1 about the Strathalbyn district water supply and a scheme to supply water through the Murray Bridge to Hahndorf main?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: For several years consideration has been given by the Engineering and Water Supply Department to providing a branch main from the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main to serve Callington and Strathalbyn and the country lands between these towns, including the areas of Hartley and Woodchester. Implementation of such a scheme has been dependent upon the economics of the matter and the commissioning of the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main. As I have said previously in reply to a question by the honourable member, a basic scheme to supply the areas mentioned, incorporating three minor variations, has been designed and estimates of cost and revenue statements prepared. However, in view of the small return of about 0.4 per cent on the capital cost of over \$750,000 involved, a detailed survey of likely benefits to be obtained from the scheme is presently being carried out. It is expected that a proposal for reference to the Public Works Committee will be ready by the end of this year. The honourable member has also raised the question of the quality of water presently supplied to the Strathalbyn area, stating that the source of supply from Lake Alexandria is becoming more polluted. In view of increasing public awareness and protective legislation, it is difficult to foresee this. Water from the Angas River and tributaries stored in the Strathalbyn reservoir is the other source of supply for the town. A comparison of the existing supplies to Strathalbyn, with the water in the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main, can be made on the average salinities of each supply. The average salinity of water pumped at Murray Bridge is only fractionally less than the Lake Alexandrina source, which in turn is approximately one-third that of the Strathalbyn reservoir. Consequently, apart from problems experienced with turbidity on windy days at Lake Alexandria, this source of supply compares favourably with water pumped at Murray Bridge. On numerous occasions, the department has been asked to supply water from the Lake in preference to water from the Strathalbyn reservoir.

MUSEUM

Mr. HALL: Can the Premier assure the House that the Government will act urgently to either rehabilitate or relocate the Museum Department in new premises? Members of the museum staff have expressed feelings of unrest about the inadequacies of the present premises and there is no doubt among those who have inspected the premises that they are cramped and unsuitable for the expert work carried out within them. The old armory building behind the museum occupies a site that is suitable for extensions to the present building. It is generally reported that the Premier favours the establishing of yet another restaurant

in the armory building when it is restored, and this is causing concern among the people who work in the museum.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The proposal to redevelop the buildings behind the present museum building, incorporating the area occupied now by the armory, has been the subject for some time of a special working party investigation headed by Dr. Inglis, the former Director of the museum. The original proposals propounded under the previous Government were for a new building which would have destroyed the old armory, which was classified A by the National Trust. The re-establishment and refurbishment of the old armory building is a very important project to us. Its satisfactory re-establishment and the relocation of new buildings for the museum have been the subject of investigation for some time. The committee has reported not, I think frankly, very satisfactorily and, as a result, further work has been undertaken on the re-establishment of the museum premises so that the valuable work to which the honourable member refers can be carried out without destroying a historic building so important to us. The armory means a great deal to this Government and to the people of South Australia. Only this morning I saw Mr. Justice Hope, who is heading an inquiry into the preservation of the national estate, and he praised the work of the South Australian Government as being outstanding in Australia in preserving the national estate. So we do not intend to continue the vandalism which the honourable member and his Government perpetrated.

WHYALLA COURTHOUSE

Mr. MAX BROWN: Will the Minister of Works obtain for me information on the proposed finishing date of the renovation of the old courthouse building in Whyalla? To my knowledge, work under the contract is well under way. However, I have been told that, until work is completed, various court hearings in Whyalla will be delayed, causing some inconvenience in relation to general court work in the area.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Although I cannot say offhand when work will be completed, I will obtain a report, and I hope I can bring down a reply tomorrow.

NEWSPAPER REPORTS

Mr. RODDA: I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. RODDA: Several people in my district have queried reports that appeared in the *Advertiser* on Saturday and again yesterday. Since returning to the city last evening, I have been further questioned about allegations made in these reports. I refer, first, to the report in Saturday's *Advertiser* which stated, amongst other things, that the Country Party had approached Messrs. Nankivell, Rodda, and Gunn, and that it was understood that that Party had given the Liberal and Country League members until Monday to consult their districts and make up their minds. A report in yesterday's *Advertiser* referred again to the Nankivell, Rodda, and Gunn trio, stating that it was understood that the Country Party had stipulated today as the deadline for an answer to its offers. There is no truth or substance in these reports. The Country Party has never approached me, not last week or at any other time. I was elected on the principles and platforms of the Liberal and Country League; I stand by those principles now and will continue to do so. I agree with what my colleague the member for Glenelg said, as quoted in Monday's *Advertiser*:

As far as I am concerned, the only aim before us is to defeat the Socialist Government and this cannot be achieved by divided Liberal factions fighting each other.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is commenting, and that is not permitted in the course of a personal explanation.

Mr. GUNN: I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. GUNN: Reports in Saturday's and Monday's editions of the *Advertiser* alleged that I had been approached by the Country Party to join that Party. The statement is incorrect: no such approach has been made to me. Even if this had been true, I would have rejected the offer out of hand, because I am proud to be a member of the L.C.L., which is a composite Party representing city and country interests alike. I was in no way contacted by the *Advertiser* to ascertain whether any approach had been made to me. Whoever gave this information to the reporters or other staff of the *Advertiser* did so knowing it to be completely untrue. The *Advertiser* should realize that the freedom of the press is a fundamental liberty in a democracy that should be cherished at all times: it is not a licence to engage in deliberate misrepresentation and personal denigration.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member sought leave of the House to make a personal explanation, and it is in relation to that explanation only that leave was given by the House.

Mr. Millhouse: Go on, Bill, you'll have to say something.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. KENEALLY: Can the member for Mallee say whether the fact that he has not sought your leave, Mr. Speaker, to make a personal explanation—

The SPEAKER: Order! I cannot permit that question. The honourable member for Mallee.

Mr. NANKIVELL: Are you calling on me, Sir, to reply to the question or with regard to a question I might wish to ask?

The SPEAKER: Questions may be asked at the discretion of the Speaker. Soon after today's sitting commenced, the honourable member sought the right to ask a question; I am calling on him in that regard.

Mr. NANKIVELL: I seek leave to make a personal explanation, and I regret that the member for Stuart, who almost prompted me, is not present.

Leave granted.

Mr. NANKIVELL: I wish to state that the report referring to me in Saturday's *Advertiser* is not true. It is true in the sense that I had dinner with Mr. Petch and his wife; she is an excellent cook. This was a long-standing invitation. I happened to be on one of my normal routine tours through my district, as can be verified from the several people on whom I called and to whom I spoke that day. With regard to my having been approached by the Country Party directly, that is false. I have had no contact directly with Mr. Matheson or any other executive officer of the Country Party. In that regard, I believe that the report that appeared in the *Advertiser* was not only misleading but was also unduly mischievous; and it reflected on me personally.

Mr. PAYNE: Will the member for Flinders, as the Leader of the Country Party in this House, comment on the facts that have just been outlined in the personal explanation made by the member for Mallee?

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Mallee has just made a personal explanation, which is not subject to further debate or questioning.

Mr. KENEALLY: Can the member for Flinders say whether the Country Party has made any direct approach to members of the Liberal and Country League asking them to join his Party?

The SPEAKER: Whilst calling on the member for Flinders as a result of a question asked of him, I point out that the honourable member does not have to reply to the question if he does not wish to do so. The honourable member for Flinders.

Mr. BLACKER: I take it that the question was asked as a result of the events that have occurred in the last week. With that fact in mind, I am not aware of any such approach having been made to any member. I left Adelaide on the 5.25 p.m. plane last Thursday and, to my knowledge, the executive committee was not called together for that purpose.

KINDERGARTEN LAND

Mr. HOPGOOD: Can the Minister of Education say whether there have been any developments with regard to the Government's policy of making over Education Department land, where it is available, to kindergarten committees? Members will be aware that, when the Government adopted the policy of granting subsidies to kindergartens, based on capital expenditure, it was also announced that Education Department land could be made available to kindergarten committees. As I understand that one or two problems have arisen in relation to this matter, committees in my district are anxious to obtain a clear statement from the Minister about the current position.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will look into the honourable member's question and see how soon the statement he requests can be made.

JAPANESE LANGUAGE

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Will the Minister of Education approach the Japanese Government, or cause an approach to be made to it, for financial support for the teaching of Japanese at a tertiary level? A couple of months ago I was approached by several parents of children at the Daws Road High School who live in my district and who expressed disappointment that their children would not be able to continue with Japanese when they left school and went to university. The children have completed their Leaving and are studying for their Matriculation. They believed when they took up Japanese that they would be able to study it as part of the degree course at one or other of the universities. The Minister will remember that I wrote to him asking whether anything was being done about teaching Japanese at colleges of advanced education. I also wrote to the Vice-Chancellors of the two universities and to Dr. Evans of the Institute of Technology, but I received no definite information from any of those gentlemen. Part of the reply I received from the Acting Vice-Chancellor of Flinders University (Professor Clark) states:

Preliminary talks have already taken place between Flinders University and the University of Adelaide exploring the possibilities for the provision of different languages by the two institutions, with students to be shared between them. These discussions have indicated that Indonesian and Chinese are the languages most likely to be introduced. That was the tenor of all the letters I received. I understand that in fact 62 children at high schools and independent schools are at present studying Leaving Japanese, and 32 are studying Matriculation Japanese. A survey has shown that 27 are interested in studying Japanese at first-year university level in 1974, 37 or 38 children being interested in studying it in 1975. I understand that, through Conzinc-Riotinto of Australia Limited, the teaching of Japanese at secondary schools is assisted financially by the Japanese Government, no doubt as part of its promotion of

Japanese culture and interests in Australia. This seems to be entirely praiseworthy. Apparently part of the difficulty associated with teaching Japanese has to do with finance, as one would expect. It may be that, if it were approached, the Japanese Government would be willing to extend to tertiary level the programme of financial support it now provides for the teaching of Japanese at secondary level.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I share the honourable member's concern about the state of Asian language teaching at our universities. I would certainly like to see the development of courses in Japanese, Chinese and Malay-Indonesian at our universities soon. At present the only tertiary level study of an Asian language is, I think, of Malay-Indonesian at the Adelaide College of Advanced Education. Certainly, I shall be pleased to take up the matter in the way the honourable member suggests. Before doing that, however, I think I should consult the universities and the Chairman of the Australian Universities Commission (Professor Karmel) to see precisely how such assistance would fit in with present plans that might be broader.

INFLATION

Mr. JENNINGS: Has the Premier a reply to the question which was asked last Thursday by the member for Davenport about what he called the economic decline in South Australia and which he apparently does not intend to follow up today?

Members interjecting:

Dr. Tonkin: Give him a chance.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do have a reply. The member for Davenport has had an opportunity to indicate to you, Mr. Speaker, that he has a question to ask, but apparently he has not given that indication.

Mr. Becker: What about the gentlemen's agreement?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: What gentlemen's agreement?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do have a reply to the mis-information which the member for Davenport gave the House last week. I intend clearly to demonstrate how much of an example of mis-information that was. The Minister of Education made an accurate interjection in the middle of the member for Davenport's question regarding the average weekly earnings in South Australia. The honourable member had pointed out the decline in average weekly earnings of employed males in South Australia of \$4.90, from \$96.20 for the December quarter of 1972 to \$91.30 for the March quarter of 1973. However, the average Australian decline in wages between December and March (and these figures must have been known to the honourable member, because he would not have obtained the South Australian figure without getting the Australian average) was \$6.60.

The average Australian drop in wages between December and March was \$6.60, from \$104.10 to \$97.50 a week, so that the average in South Australia was less than the Australian average. As pointed out by the Minister of Education, this was a seasonal movement in line with previous years and due largely to the change in the amount of overtime worked in factories in the pre-Christmas *versus* post-Christmas periods. This factor of seasonal variation in average weekly earnings can be removed from the statistics if the March quarter of this year is compared to the March quarter of 1972. In this more significant comparison, average weekly earnings in South Australia, March to March, rose by 9.5 per cent compared to an Australian average of 9.3 per cent.

On the whole question of average weekly earnings in money terms in our State *versus* other States, it is important

that all members realize that the lower cost of living in South Australia means that one must not take actual dollar earnings as an accurate measure of real standards of living. Those who are familiar with our lower costs of housing, and lower costs in travelling the generally shorter distances involved here than are present in the bigger capital cities, will know that a similar standard of living in Adelaide can be achieved with a somewhat lower money wage or salary. Many food and other items' costs are markedly lower in Adelaide. This point was a major consideration in the rejection by the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs in South Australia of the doctors' proposal, which sought to raise local doctors' incomes up to the Sydney and Melbourne money levels. Had the proposals of the doctors been agreed to, local doctors would have been on a significantly higher standard of living than their counterparts in other States at the expense of their patients who earn, on average, lower money incomes than those in other States.

Let me now turn to what the honourable member said about the consumer price index. Between the June quarters of 1972 and 1973, the rise in Adelaide prices was 8.7 per cent compared to a six-capitals average of 8.2 per cent. However, as can be discovered by the detailed information provided by the Bureau of Census and Statistics, the change in meat prices, which was very important in all States in pushing up average prices, was particularly significant in South Australia. In the June quarter of 1973, half of the index points increase in Adelaide was due to the rise in meat prices.

The impact of meat price rises constantly varies from State to State depending on local supply problems, stock build-up, previous slaughtering patterns, etc. In previous years, with wool prices at low levels, many sheep farmers reduced their flocks. Recently, with excellent wool prices there has been a strong move to rebuild flock size, and this has resulted in lower slaughtering. There is a world-wide shortfall of meat supply compared to demand and, as a consequence, meat prices are rising rapidly throughout the world. Meat prices are not proclaimed items under the control of the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs. It would be economically inefficient and self-defeating to attempt to control meat prices by setting domestic prices that are quite out of line with demand. This is because such a policy could adversely affect meat supplies in the future by removing the incentive to expand meat production, which is probably our best hope for bringing prices back to more normal levels.

If the effect of meat prices is removed from the consumer price index, Adelaide would have had a lower percentage increase than the six-capitals average, both during the June quarter 1973 alone and also in the 12-month increase between the June quarters 1972 and 1973. If a longer period is taken, and this will give a reflection of trends not so affected by the short-term factor of meat price fluctuations, the following comparisons can be made. In the three years from the June quarter of 1970 to the June quarter of 1973, the Adelaide consumer index rose by 19.6 per cent, whereas the six-capitals average rose by 21.1 per cent. Taking a much longer period, for example since 1964-65, Adelaide consumer prices have risen by 40.1 per cent compared to the six-capitals increase of 43.3 per cent. In both these comparisons, starting from lower absolute levels of prices in Adelaide than in other States in the first place, the percentage price rises over time have also tended to be less.

I refer now to what the honourable member said about iron ore and coal production. The falls in South Australian

production of iron ore and coal between the years 1969-70 and 1971-72 reflected the general down-turn in the Australian economy that occurred over that period. Our coal and iron ore production was geared to the Australian economy, whereas overall Australian iron ore and coal exports continued to rise because of long-term export contracts set on a rising pattern years before. In 1973, a substantial improvement in local economic activity has occurred, and production of all major items is very buoyant. The figures quoted by the honourable member are thus out of date and have no relevance to current conditions.

Concerning employment, South Australia has had a remarkably fast rate of growth of employment in the year ended June, 1973, from 408 700 persons at the end of June, 1972, to 426 500 at the end of June, 1973, a 4.4 per cent expansion. This was the second highest growth rate in employment of the six Australian States and easily exceeds the 3.2 per cent growth in total Australian civilian employment over the comparable period (from 4 507 000 to 4 653 400). I refer the honourable member to publication reference 6.12 of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics for June, 1973, from which, I assume, he took his selected figures contained in his question, to me last Thursday.

I refer now to exports. The figures for the nine months to March, 1973, the latest available period, reveal South Australian exports reaching \$385,000,000, or a 34.5 per cent increase over the corresponding period a year earlier. In fact, this nine-months achievement was almost equal to the full year 1971-72 performance. These figures do not indicate a stagnating economy but instead one which is sharing the buoyant export conditions prevailing throughout Australia.

I turn now to the matter of industrial expansion. In addition to the very large project announced last week relating to the Penfold expansion, most of which will be in South Australia, two other major approvals of factories to be built by the Housing Trust, worth \$1,400,000 and \$620,000 respectively, will be announced by me shortly. The Clyde Industries shift of its electric locomotive assembly plant from Sydney to Adelaide was announced last evening. Of more general significance is the fact that in the full year 1972-73 the value of total building approvals in this State rose by 19.5 per cent, that is from \$256,900,000 to \$307,000,000. This level of demand for new dwellings and other buildings is hardly consistent with the gloomy picture of State activity painted by the honourable member. Also, I point out to the honourable member that during that year we had a level of factory building from Government funds that was 100 per cent greater than in the last year of a Liberal Government.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

The SPEAKER: Order! I point out that the practice that has operated in this House for many years is that a member rises only if he receives a call from the Chair, and that will be the procedure adopted by me.

Later:

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I seek leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: The actions and statements of the Premier and of the member for Ross Smith implied that I was not willing to ask the Premier for the reply to my question of last week about industrial stagnation in this State. I did intend to ask the Premier for the reply this

afternoon, and I had already said this to the member for Alexandra and the member for Chaffey, who sit behind me.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: You don't tell them.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. DEAN BROWN: After crossing the floor and requesting it, I have just received a copy of the official memorandum telling me that the reply was available. Earlier I had received (and I acknowledge receiving it) a handwritten note. I fully intended to ask that question, Mr. Speaker. The actions of the Premier and of the member for Ross Smith have set what I consider to be an unfortunate precedent and their actions show that this issue—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member cannot comment on rulings given or on previous remarks. The honourable member is making a personal explanation and, as such, it can be accepted only in that form.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I conclude by indicating clearly that I fully intended to ask that question.

FISHING LICENCES

Mr. CHAPMAN: Can the Minister of Fisheries say which of the following fishing permits or licences, albeit in strict adherence with the requirements of the legislation, are transferable or saleable from one fisherman to another: lobster, abalone, prawn, and scallop? I am informed that for several reasons, including the department's policy on the overall economic future of the fishing industry, there are certain limitations on the issue of additional permits. From representations I have received, it seems that this point is quite understood throughout the industry, but in recent correspondence I have been asked to clarify the matter concerning the transfer of existing licences between members of the industry, especially by gift or sale.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The rock lobster and prawn authorities are transferable, as I am sure the honourable member will know. Abalone permits are not transferable and must be given up if the abalone fisherman concerned leaves the industry. I think the basic reason for that is that the equipment and capital outlay of the fisherman is significantly less in the case of abalone than it would be in the case of prawn or lobster. There is to my knowledge no separate scallop fishery. There is an inland water fishery, concerning which authorities are issued. Rock lobster, prawn, abalone and inland waters are where permits apply. If the honourable member would at some stage explain the question concerning scallops, I should be happy to give a reply.

WARDANG ISLAND

Mr. BECKER: My question is supplementary to the question asked by the Leader of the Opposition on August 14 last about Wardang Island. Will the Premier say whether the Aboriginal Affairs Department handed back control of Wardang Island to the Lands Department prior to Mr. Pryce's applying for the lease? I refer to part of a report at page 52 of the first edition of the *News* of August 16 which states:

The Premier's statements in Tuesday's session of Parliament about the granting of a perpetual lease to Mr. H. G. Pryce being a disgrace has left many people bewildered. I understand it was the Aboriginal Affairs Department which handed the island back to the Lands Department in the first place. Mr. Pryce applied for the lease, and after several conditions—including a big works programme—were met the island was gazetted for lease.

I refer also to the Premier's reply to the Leader at page 292 of *Hansard* and to the personal explanation by the member

for Mitcham at page 293. Will the Premier say what is the true story and, as the report to which I have referred did not appear in editions following the first edition of the *News* of August 16, will he say whether the Government had the report suppressed in those editions?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The reply to the last question asked by the honourable member is "Certainly not": I was not aware of the statements in the report, and the Editor may not have continued it because he found out what I am now about to tell the honourable member. The report was without reference to my department, and I was not aware of the matter until the honourable member raised it. Apparently the honourable member has not researched this matter. The land at Wardang Island was originally part of the Point Pearce Aboriginal Reserve, and in about 1952, under the Playford Government, it was transferred to a leasehold basis under the Lands Department. At that time there was no Aboriginal Affairs Department in South Australia: there was a thing called the Aborigines Protection Board, and that board in those days was a board which one can only regard, with some degree of hindsight, as being one of the misfortunes of South Australian history. The way it administered Point Pearce was impossible, arrogant, paternalist, and against the interests of the Aborigines.

Mr. Millhouse: It was not arrogant.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It was, and thank goodness we have seen the last of that. Without consultation with the Aborigines, the then Aborigines Protection Board, which did not include Aboriginal interests from Point Pearce, informed the Government that it did not consider that Wardang Island was an economic proposition to be continued as part of the Point Pearce Reserve, and its control was then removed by Government decree, without any consultation with the Aborigines concerned or compensation to them, and leased for sand mining.

Mr. Coumbe: That's not right, either.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Of course it is. That was not the lease to Mr. Pryce: it was a company which then exploited sand mining on Wardang Island for a considerable period. When the lease was due to be relinquished, the Aboriginal Lands Trust, which had in the meantime been formed under a Labor Government, informed me as Minister of Aboriginal Affairs that it wanted to get Wardang Island back, and the document containing the request that it be returned to the Aborigines was placed in the file of the Lands Department before we left office in 1968. Subsequently, the Liberal Government leased Wardang Island to Mr. Pryce.

Mr. Millhouse: You're stretching it a bit when you say that. You've left out one step.

The SPEAKER: Order! I warn the honourable member for Mitcham. The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have recounted the history of this matter to the House, now and the other day. As to the matter raised by the member for Mitcham, I am, trying to go through the file just to check on what he had to say.

MEATMEAL

Mr. BLACKER: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, a reply to the question I asked on July 31 about the high prices of protein sources for stock feeds and especially the price of meatmeal produced by and sold from the Government Produce Department at Port Lincoln?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Agriculture states that as long ago as April this year, when prices began to fluctuate violently, he had discussions with local manufacturers of meatmeal and, with the consent of the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs, an agreement was reached for the determination of a common price that would be charged by all producers in South Australia. This price, which was for a product having a minimum protein content of 50 per cent, is adopted by the Port Lincoln works of the Government Produce Department. My colleague states that the high prices being offered to exporters result from a world shortage of protein stock feeds and, in order to prevent export to the detriment of local producers, the General Manager of the Government Produce Department has been requested to keep in contact with other meatmeal producers and to conduct a monthly survey of prices. In order to be fair to exporters, a local price well below that available for export is determined from month to month, and no prospective exporter can obtain an export licence until his local clients have been supplied with their normal quotas. It has, however, been necessary to maintain some relationship between local, interstate and export prices. I am informed that as a result of the Minister's intervention, despite the current high prices, meatmeal rates in South Australia are still well below prices being charged for 50 per cent protein meatmeal in the Eastern States.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

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

That Standing Orders be so far suspended as to enable Questions on Notice to be proceeded with forthwith.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I support the motion as I did a fortnight ago, and I again express the hope that this will become a regular practice in the House and, if the only reason it was not done last Tuesday was because of the few questions on the Notice Paper, I am sure that members will oblige the Government by putting more questions on it. I do ask that this be a regular practice, because it obviously gives members a far better opportunity to follow up, with supplementary questions, the replies given to Questions on Notice. I ask you, Mr. Speaker, whether the Standing Orders Committee has yet been called together to consider a change in the Standing Orders so that there will be no doubt about this matter.

Motion carried.

WATER RATES

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. What have been the percentage increases in charges for water in each of the last three financial years?
2. How have these increases been made up?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The increases in the price of water for each 1 000 gallons (4 546 l) over the last three years expressed as percentages, were as follows:

	Rebate	Excess
1970-71	35c	35c
1971-72	40c (14.3 per cent)	35c
1972-73	40c	40c (14.3 per cent)
1973-74	45.46c (13.65 per cent)	45.46c (13.65 per cent)

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): Why does the Government not intend to act on the recommendations in the Sangster report on water rating?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Government has already acted in part on recommendations contained in the Sangster committee report on water rating.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Under what condition is the Sangster report on water rating available to members of the public, and where?

2. Why has the report not been printed?
3. What would be the estimated cost of printing the report?
4. What has been, so far, the total cost to the Government of the Sangster inquiry into water rating?

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

1. The Sangster committee report is available for perusal by members of the public at the Minister of Works Department.
2. The report on its own would be of no value without a detailed evaluation.
3. The cost would have been from \$2 to \$5 a copy, dependent on the number printed.
4. \$32,520. However, costs borne by the department have not been isolated. This report was commissioned by the previous Liberal and Country League Government.

ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Have discussions been held between the State Government and the Commonwealth Government concerning the transfer to the latter of Aboriginal affairs in South Australia?
2. If these discussions have been held—
 - (a) who has taken part?
 - (b) when have they been held?
 - (c) what agreement, if any, has been reached?
 - (d) have they been completed?

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

1. Yes.
2. (a) The Commonwealth Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and his officers and the State Minister of Community Welfare and his officers.
- (b) At various times since April 6, 1973.
- (c) Agreement has been reached that the Commonwealth Government shall assume responsibility for specifically Aboriginal affairs; State services, such as health, education and community welfare, will continue to be provided by the State for its Aboriginal citizens as for its other citizens.
- (d) No, the detail of the definition of the respective responsibilities of the Commonwealth Government and the State Government has not been finally settled.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Can the Minister of Community Welfare say what are the specifically Aboriginal affairs, the actual responsibility for which, it has been agreed, should be assumed by the Commonwealth Government? The Minister said that agreement had been reached with the Australian Government to assume responsibility for specifically Aboriginal affairs. The Minister referred to the services that were not to be so assumed, such as health, education, and community welfare, but he did not cover the meaning of the term “specifically Aboriginal affairs”. I am not sure from the next part of his reply whether the details have been worked out and what is involved in “specifically Aboriginal affairs”, but if this has not been worked out I should be pleased if the Minister would give a broad outline of what is meant by the phrase.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The reply given to the Question on Notice meant what it stated: I think it was quite clear. Agreement has been reached on the principle that the Commonwealth Government will assume exclusive responsibility for specifically Aboriginal affairs: that is, for policies and programmes relating specifically to Aboriginal people as Aborigines. The State will retain the responsibility for

providing the usual State services to all citizens, whether Aboriginals or non-Aboriginals. In the latter part of the reply I stated that as yet details of the definition of the respective responsibilities of the Commonwealth Government and State Government had not been finally settled: that is, there are grey areas, in which it becomes a question whether the matter is to be regarded as specifically a matter of Aboriginal policy or programme, or whether it should be treated as one of the ordinary services provided by the State to all citizens. This applies particularly to community welfare, because community welfare policies and programmes, although available to all people in the State falling within the criteria, are fashioned to meet problems of particular groups in the community, and Aborigines are one such group. These issues have to be hammered out in discussions between Commonwealth and State officers, and these discussions are now in progress. Details of the financial implications of these matters also have to be worked out. Basically, the agreement in principle is as stated in the reply and the phrase “specifically Aboriginal affairs” refers to policies and programmes of the Government that are directed to Aboriginal people as a people.

PUPIL-TEACHER RATIO

Mr. COUMBE (on notice):

1. What was the overall ratio of pupils to teachers in departmental schools for each of the years 1967 to 1973 respectively in—

- (a) primary schools?
- (b) high schools?
- (c) technical high schools?

2. What was the average class size for the same periods?

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

1. Pupil-teacher ratios are these:

Year	Primary	High	Technical high	Area and special rural
1967	29.6	21.0	16.3	21.4
1968	28.7	20.5	15.8	21.0
1969	28.3	20.5	15.4	20.6
1970	28.4	19.4	14.6	19.5
1971	28.4		17.7	18.3
1972	26.6		16.2	18.1

The ratios are based on age-grade census enrolments (as at August 1 each year) and the numbers of teachers at the end of the year. These ratios are in no sense an indication of average class size, as the numbers of teachers concerned include many who are not class teachers. As the calculation is based on the August age-grade census and the number of teachers at the end of each year, 1973 figures are not available. As a result of the progressive conversion of technical high schools, separate figures have not been calculated since 1970.

2. Average class size 1967-72 (applicable to primary ordinary classes only) is as follows:

1967.....	35.1
1968.....	34.0
1969.....	33.9
1970.....	33.5
1971.....	33.0
1972.....	31.7

Opportunity, special classes, demonstration, special rural and rural schools, where classes are usually smaller than in ordinary schools, are excluded, as are classes in area schools. Relevant information on secondary schools is not available as it would have to be on a subject basis. The information on class size is processed as a consequence of an investigation made in July of each year. The figures for 1973 are not yet available.

ELECTIVE OPERATIONS

Dr. TONKIN (on notice): What is the current waiting time for elective operations at each of the Royal Adelaide and Queen Elizabeth Hospitals in respect of general surgical, gynaecological and other special surgical procedures?

The Hon. L. J. KING: It is not possible to give an answer as to the current waiting time, as this varies with the seriousness or otherwise of the patient's condition. Malignant, or possible malignant, conditions are always given highest priority. Emergency admissions are often of a volume which necessitates cancellation of waiting list admission arrangements.

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Attorney-General, or perhaps one of his colleagues, kindly explain to the Minister of Health the meaning of the word "elective" as used in the term "elective operations"? I hope that, when the meaning of the word has been explained to the Minister of Health, he will revise his reply to my question about the waiting times for elective operations at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. From the reply given, I believe that the question was misunderstood. Perhaps the Minister's colleagues would do him a service by explaining the meaning of the word to him.

The Hon. L. J. KING: No.

SOUTH ROAD ACCIDENTS

Mr. HOPGOOD (on notice):

1. How many accidents have occurred in the last 12 months at each of the following intersections:

- (a) States Road and Main South Road, Reynella?
- (b) Main South Road and Reynella by-pass, Reynella?
- (c) Chandler Hill Road and Main South Road, O'Halloran Hill?
- (d) Black Road and Main South Road, O'Halloran Hill?

2. How many injuries and fatalities, respectively, have resulted from these accidents?

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill, for the Hon G. T. VIRGO: The number of accidents reported during the 12-month period ended December 31, 1972, is as follows:

Location of intersection	Total No. of accidents	Persons killed	Persons injured
Main South Road-States Road . .	6	—	1
Main South Road-Reynella by-pass (northern end).....	6	—	1
Main South Road-Reynella by-pass (southern end)	2	—	—
Main South Road-Chandler Hill Road.....	13	1	8
Main South Road-Black Road . .	11	—	2
Total	38	1	12

Accurate statistics for 1973 are not yet available.

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

Mr. DUNCAN (on notice): In the last six months of operation of the Industrial Code, 1967-1972, and in the first six months of operation of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1972—

- 1. How many applications were made to the Industrial Commission?
- 2. How many consent awards were approved by the Industrial Commission?
- 3. How many industrial agreements were registered by the Industrial Commission?
- 4. How many award applications or award variation applications were contested in the Industrial Commission?

5. How many sitting days were involved in considering contested award applications or award variation applications?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: The replies are as follows:

	Industrial Code, 1967-1972 Last six months of operation	Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1972 First six months of operation
1. Number of applications	209	166
2. Number of consent awards.....	18	13
3. Number of industrial agreements.....	13	45
4. Number of contested Awards.....	12	18
5. Number of sitting days	112	138

PAROLE BOARD

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

- 1. Who are the present members of the Parole Board?
- 2. When was each of such members appointed?
- 3. Which members sat to consider the latest application of Rupert Max Stuart for parole?

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

1. The Honourable Sir Roderic Chamberlain, Q.C. (Chairman); Margaret Joan Bronte Pulsford, M.B., B.S.; Adam Wladyslaw Jamrozik, B.A. (Hons.), A.U.A.; Florence May Wallace; and William Baker.

2. Chairman—April 1, 1970. Members—April 12, 1973.

3. W. Baker, F. M. Wallace, and A. W. Jamrozik.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Has a report pursuant to section 42g of the Prisons Act been made concerning Rupert Max Stuart and, if so, when?

2. If a report has been made, what are the contents?

3. If a report has not been made, is it the intention of the Minister to require that such a report be made, and when?

4. Will any such report be made public?

5. If it is not the intention of the Minister to require that such a report be made, why not?

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

1. Yes. The last two reports were dated March 16, 1973, and August 15, 1973.

2. It is not intended to divulge the contents of these reports.

3. See No. 1.

4. No.

5. See Nos. 3 and 1.

MARION LAND

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Does the Government propose either to negotiate for the purchase of the land the subject of the appeal to the Full Court in *Lady Becker v. the Director of Planning and the Corporation of the City of Marion* or to acquire the said land pursuant to the Acquisition of Land Act?

2. If so, which course of action is to be taken, and when?

3. If no such action is contemplated, why not?

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

1. No.

2. See No. 1.

3. The area in question is near the O'Halloran Hill reserve of 360 acres (154 ha), and it is not considered

that the land in question would be an essential addition to that proposed recreation area.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Has the Minister considered the comments of His Honour the Chief Justice and the other judges in giving judgment in the Full Court in the action by Lady Becker against the Director of Planning and the Corporation of the City of Marion?

2. If so, does he agree with Their Honours' comments on the operation of the Planning and Development Act and is it intended to take any action to rectify the matters complained of?

3. If action is intended, what action will be taken, and when?

4. If no action is to be taken, does the Minister intend to consider the comments and, if he has not yet considered them, why not?

5. If the comments have not been considered when does the Minister intend to consider them?

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

1. Yes.

2. The Crown Solicitor is preparing a report on the judgment, following which any action deemed necessary will be undertaken as soon as possible.

3. and 4. See No. 2.

5. See No. 1.

DOCTORS' FEES

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Is it intended to make prices orders, pursuant to the Prices Act, against any medical practitioners other than Dr. John Whiting and, if so, who are these practitioners?

2. If these orders are to be made, when will they be made and why?

3. Has any complaint yet been laid against any medical practitioner for a breach of a prices order and, if so, against whom and when?

4. If a complaint has been laid, what date has been set for the hearing?

5. If a complaint has not been laid, is it intended to lay any complaint? If so, when and in what circumstances?

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

1. The issue of prices orders against medical practitioners will be considered as and when evidence is obtained that a practitioner has charged fees in excess of those recommended by the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs.

2. See answer to No. 1.

3. No.

4. See answer to No. 3.

5. See answer to No. 1. The Commissioner reports that the overwhelming majority of doctors has agreed to comply with his recommendations.

AYERS HOUSE

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): What assistance, financial or otherwise, has the Government given to Mr. Cramey to establish and operate restaurants in Ayers House?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No direct financial assistance or guarantee has been given to Mr. Cramey to establish and operate restaurants in Ayers House. Under the terms of the lease, the lessee is required to purchase, from the Government, tables, chairs, carpets, curtains and sundry fittings for the sum of \$20,000, payable by quarterly instalments over a period of five years, together with interest at the rate of 7½ per cent on the balance outstanding at the

end of each quarter, but no payment of principal is required for the first 12 months. The payment of this money is in addition to the rent to be paid in terms of the lease.

MATRIMONIAL FEES

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): What arrangements, apart from the actual payment of the money due, have to be made between the State and the Commonwealth for the making good by the Commonwealth of revenue lost to the State as a result of the non-collection of fees in matrimonial suits?

The Hon. L. J. KING: It is necessary for the States and the Commonwealth Government to agree on the administrative procedures to be adopted for the payment by the Commonwealth Government of revenue lost.

STATE INSURANCE

Mr. EVANS (on notice):

1. Does the State Government Insurance Commission reinsure through brokers with any insurance company that has its headquarters outside Australia?

2. If so, what is the total amount of reinsurance moneys invested outside Australia by brokers on behalf of that commission?

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

1. The only type of reinsurance effected through reinsurance brokers with overseas companies is as described on page 195 of *Hansard* of August 7, 1973. That is fire catastrophe and excess of loss reinsurance. The reason this is placed with overseas companies is because of the limited facilities available in the Australian insurance market to accept such type of reinsurance.

2. It is assumed that the words "moneys invested" mean premiums. Of the total premium of \$500,000 paid for catastrophe reinsurance, \$148,000 was placed in Australia and the balance of \$352,000 was placed overseas.

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Dr. TONKIN (on notice): For what reasons did the numbers of lay, nursing and resident medical staff at the Royal Adelaide Hospital more than double during the period 1960 to 1970, while the yearly inpatient total increased by only 30 per cent during that time?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The main reasons for the large increase in staff as compared to the increase in inpatients since 1960 are:

- (1) Hours of duty of nursing staff were reduced from 48 a week to 40 a week.
- (2) Introduction of study blocks within working hours for student nurses.
- (3) Annual leave increases for all types of staff.
- (4) Expansion of student nurse intakes to provide staff for Modbury Hospital.
- (5) Achievement of more adequate staffing levels, establishment of new services, and necessary expansions of existing services.

NORTHFIELD HOSPITAL

Mr. VENNING: Will the Minister of Works inquire into the matter and consider assisting to have the heated swimming pool at the Morris Hospital at Northfield repaired and opened for the benefit of patients at the hospital? At the Morris Hospital at Northfield, a heated swimming pool has been constructed, I understand, by service organizations in this State. It was opened a year or two ago but as recently as three months ago it fell into disrepair. The heating system has broken down and still is not working. The pool is of great assistance to the spinal injury patients at Northfield and I know that it would be greatly

appreciated if the Government or the Minister could inquire and help in the matter. When I inquired before today through the various avenues, I was given to understand that the time for handing over had not arrived and that those who had constructed the pool still had some responsibility there.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The first point that I want to make in reply to the honourable member is that the pool was not constructed entirely, as the honourable member said, by service organizations. The sum of, I think, \$12,000 was subscribed by the Lions Club (and this was greatly appreciated) towards the cost of the pool, but the total cost was many thousands of dollars more than that. I think the first request that the pool be constructed, was made in 1965 and I, as Minister of Works, gave instructions for construction to proceed, because I considered it a necessary facility for the rehabilitation of the people who would use it. I am referring here to paraplegics. I am surprised to learn that the pool is not yet in operation.

Mr. Venning: It has been, but it broke down.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: If it has broken down, I will see what can be done to repair it as soon as possible. I am surprised that, if the honourable member has inquired of the department, action has not been taken. I will see that action is taken and I will tell not only the honourable member but also the member for the district.

CHATTEL MORTGAGES

Mr. ALLEN: Will the Attorney-General say whether he has investigated any form of registration of chattel mortgages or other encumbrances over motor vehicles whereby innocent buyers may search records to see who is the true owner, and whether the Police Department or any other Government department can supply any figures to show how many people in the past have been affected by the actions of unscrupulous persons in this regard? It has recently been drawn to my attention by a constituent that the law relating to the purchase of motor vehicles encumbered by chattel mortgage gives no protection to a buyer who purchases without notice of the defect in title. As the law presently stands the *bona fide* purchaser for value is not protected against a mortgagee's claim. No recording is made of chattel mortgages with the Registrar of Motor Vehicles or elsewhere, so the intending purchaser is denied the right to ascertain by diligent investigation who is the true owner. Consequential losses to a person in this position are extremely heavy, as in many cases the mortgagor is a man of straw, having concealed the defect in title. In order to retain the vehicle, the ultimate buyer is faced with having to pay out the chattel mortgage in addition to having previously paid for the vehicle.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I fear that the honourable member did not study very closely the legislation for which he voted in the House during the last Parliament, because this House passed (I think the honourable member voted for it: he certainly did not vote against it) the Consumer Transactions Bill, which provides that a *bona fide* purchaser for value without notice of a defect in title will obtain a good title to the chattel in the circumstances mentioned by the honourable member. When that legislation comes into force (and those provisions will come into force, on present planning, on November 1) the problem to which the honourable member refers will cease to exist because the *bona fide* purchaser

will then obtain a good title and will no longer suffer the loss to which the honourable member refers.

This is a much more effective way of protecting the innocent third party than any system of registration of chattel mortgages. Indeed, a system of registration of chattel mortgages sufficiently comprehensive and sufficiently thorough to protect the third party would be quite impracticable. The honourable member need only consider the extent of the operation of the Lands Titles Office and compare the number of blocks of land individually owned with the number of motor vehicles individually owned in the community to have some idea of the extent of the operation of a registration system that would be sufficiently thorough to protect an innocent third party. Moreover, there would be insuperable difficulties in keeping accurate the information on the register and, if the register were not completely accurate, it would only have the effect of misleading people who relied on it and went into transactions on the faith of the register.

I think a Government which sponsored legislation of that sort would have to take the additional step of being prepared to underwrite the register and say that, if the register was in error and somebody suffered loss as a result, the Government would foot the bill. That would involve a substantial cost to the taxpayer. So, the course that was taken in the Consumer Transactions Bill, which has passed through the Parliament and which will be in operation on November 1, was simply to say that the innocent third party will obtain a good title free of encumbrance, leaving the mortgagee to protect himself by any appropriate means. In practice, the credit providers (the finance companies) will insure the title, which they can do at a relatively small cost. Doubtless, this will reflect itself to some extent in the credit charge made on the credit contract, but the ultimate result will be far more satisfactory, because it means there will be a spread of the risk and we will no longer have tragic cases of people paying out large sums of money for motor vehicles, or any other chattel for that matter, subject to an encumbrance.

A.L.P. CAMPAIGN

Mr. LANGLEY: Can the Premier say whether the Australian Labor Party conducted an intensive industrial campaign in the Fisher and Mawson Districts in favour of the Liberal Movement candidate as stated in today's *Advertiser*? As a member of the A.L.P., I find hard to believe what Mr. Burdett, the newly elected member for Southern, said about the Liberal Movement being assisted by the A.L.P. Members or the Parties opposite have always opposed a good Government like the A.L.P.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The A.L.P. did not conduct any campaign in the district, and there was certainly no intensive industrial campaign as has been suggested by the newly elected gentleman.

Mr. Venning: That is not—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. Venning: Where did you get that tie?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I got it in Singapore.

Mr. Gunn: It's a wonder you didn't have to get your hair cut.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am careful not to wear that peculiar colour of puce that has become a new political colour in South Australia. I can assure honourable members, and the Hon. Mr. Burdett when he duly arrives here, that, when there is a Labor Party campaign against him, he will know it. I will admit that there may

have been some of our people who went to the poll and decided they should at any rate cast a vote for the least of the evils presented to them.

PENSIONERS' GAS PRICES

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Attorney-General a reply from the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs to my recent question about pensioners who use more than 30 therms of gas having to pay the full price for all the gas they use?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I referred the honourable member's question to the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs, and he in turn obtained a statement from the General Manager of the South Australian Gas Company. The statement I am about to give has been provided by the General Manager of the South Australian Gas Company, who states:

The South Australian Gas Company introduced a pensioner concession tariff in May this year. This was at the time of a general increase in tariffs, the first since 1956. The pensioner concession is based on a similar scheme being used by the Victorian Gas and Fuel Corporation, where a concession for usage up to 20 therms bi-monthly operates. No concession to pensioners had previously applied in this State, and Victoria is the only other State providing such assistance. The South Australian pensioner tariff applies to consumption up to 30 therms for bi-monthly reading and is also more liberal in its operation in that it extends to war widows and T.P.I. pensioners.

An early estimate of the number of pensioners involved was about 5 500, but more than 21 000 consumers have notified their pensioner entitlement. As a result, the actual concession estimated at \$25,000 is now thought to be in excess of \$84,000 a year. A random sample of 100 pensioners claiming entitlement shows that only 6 per cent of these will not get any benefit.

The breakup is as follows: entitled to pensioner tariff throughout the year, 66 per cent; for at least half of the year, 23 per cent; from two to four months, 5 per cent and no entitlement, 6 per cent.

The company will review the present concessions as soon as their cost and effectiveness can be accurately assessed. The matter raised by the member for Glenelg will receive consideration when this review is undertaken.

That refers to the question of limiting the full charge to the quantity in excess of 30 therms.

HIGHBURY SEWERAGE

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 8 about the sewerage of an area of Highbury, including Paradise Grove and Paradise Close?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: A sewerage proposal to serve the small group of houses in Paradise Grove and Paradise Close, Highbury, is dependent on the subdivision of land to the west of the area. A proposal to subdivide portion of the area was lodged recently, but at this stage it is not known whether and when this will proceed or when the balance of the area will be subdivided. Consequently, it is not possible to consider a scheme to sewer Paradise Grove and Paradise Close until a decision has been made by the potential subdividers whether the subdivisions will proceed.

FESTIVAL THEATRE BOOKINGS

Mr. EVANS: Has the Premier a reply to my question about a complaint made by a constituent in relation to bookings at the Adelaide Festival Centre for the Leningrad Kirov Ballet?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Adelaide Festival Centre Trust has reported that the large advertisements appearing in newspapers were placed by the entrepreneur, Edgley Dawe Attractions Proprietary Limited, not by the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust. The trust produces a

directory advertisement each weekend that gives general information about each coming attraction in the theatre. In this instance, the hirer excluded from sale on the opening night of each ballet about 40 per cent of the house, and on the other nights of the ballet season about 25 per cent of the house. The hirer allocated those seats to the press, house, and party bookings, and to subscribers to the Australian Elizabethan Theatre Trust, the Australian Opera and Friends of the Festival.

It follows that the seats available first for mail bookings and subsequently for over-the-counter sales are limited in number, depending on the popularity of the attraction, to those previously circulated by the hirer. The trust agrees that the wording "preferential bookings" used by the hirer on what is no more than a mail booking form is misleading. The trust has arranged with the hirer that in future the words "mail bookings" will be used.

COBDOGLA BASIN

Mr. ARNOLD: Will the Minister of Works ascertain from the Engineering and Water Supply Department why it has not drained the Cobdogla evaporation basin? During the past two months, the department has used the opportunity created by a good flow rate in the river to drain whatever basins it could. From my observations, I know that the Cobdogla basin is one of few that have not been drained. Since the lowering of the lock has done much to improve the quality of the water in the backwaters of Lake Bonney above lock 3 and has helped to safeguard the properties of irrigators, who operate below lock 3 and at and below Waikerie, for next summer, I ask the Minister why the department has decided not to drain the Cobdogla basin at this stage.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Obviously there must be a reason for this, and I will ascertain that reason from the engineer who manages the Murray River and who, I am sure the honourable member will agree, does his job very well.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation say whether any officers of the State Planning Office, the State Planning Authority, or the Minister's department intend appearing, in an official capacity, before the Royal Commission on Local Government Boundaries? I have used the phrase "in an official capacity" as I recognize that, as ratepayers, individuals have the opportunity to appear before the Commission in their own right. I am particularly interested to know whether any of the officers to whom I have referred will appear on behalf of these authorities to give any explanation to the Commission of the difficulties that may arise if present local government boundaries, which are the natural boundaries of the present Adelaide metropolitan area or of the outer metropolitan area, are disturbed in any redistribution. The Minister will understand that perhaps several boundaries could be altered to benefit some councils in what could be termed the contiguous area between the outer metropolitan area and the Adelaide metropolitan area, but, if this alteration were made, there would be some difficulties in the regulations concerning land-use arrangements in council areas in the Adelaide metropolitan area. It is for these reasons that I ask the Minister whether this matter has been considered officially and whether representations will be made that would eventually benefit the community involved.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: At this stage I should not think that any such persons would appear before the Commission. I believe that the State Planning Authority has considered placing submissions before the Commission,

but I should not think anyone representing the authority would appear before it. However, I will inquire and inform the honourable member if anything is different from what I have just said.

FIRE BRIGADE CONTRIBUTIONS

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Attorney-General a reply from the Chief Secretary to the question I asked on August 9 about problems that may arise as a result of increased contributions by councils to the Fire Brigades Board?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Chief Secretary is aware of the increased cost of contributions to the Fire Brigades Board and the councils' concern. Fire brigade costs have increased because of changes in wage rates and conditions of employment. Consideration has been given to the creation of one fire district in the metropolitan area and for rating to be on the basis of assessed annual values. However, it is not intended to change the present system at this stage.

PORT ELLIOT SCHOOL

Mr. CHAPMAN: Will the Minister of Education regard the replacement of the toilet, ablution, and eating facilities at the Port Elliot Primary School as urgent? Having received correspondence from those responsible at this school, I am informed that on November 1, 1972, the school doctor, after inspecting these premises, condemned them for further use by the children. Also, I am informed that on November 14, 1972, the health inspector at Port Elliot also condemned the premises and described them as antique and unhygienic, and from information contained in the correspondence I understand that the septic systems were installed in the early 1940's and the buildings are of a much earlier vintage.

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

ELECTRIC BLANKETS

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Works a report on the number of deaths caused by electric blankets, and also a report on the safety of such blankets? In a recent radio report it was announced that five deaths had been attributed to the use of electric blankets, and some experts considered that further inquiry should be made.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Electricity Trust of South Australia is responsible for checking electric blankets in South Australia. They are prescribed articles under the Electrical Articles and Materials Act, 1940-1967. Consequently, each type of electric blanket sold in South Australia must be tested to ensure that it complies with a Standards Association of Australia approvals and test specification. A similar situation applies in the other States. The specification sets down rigorous safety standards, including a fire risk test. There is also a requirement that the heating element must be enclosed in a fabric of not less than 80 per cent wool content. Provided the normal precautions detailed in the manufacturer's instruction sheet, which must be supplied with every blanket, are followed, there should be no fire hazard involved in using an electric blanket manufactured to Australian standards. Of course, electric blankets can be stored during the summer in such a way that they are damaged. So, people should take care to see that the blankets are stored properly; preferably, they should be left on the bed.

Mr. Mathwin: Under the mattress.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: There is no special reason why they should be removed. They are slept on in the winter, so there is no reason why they cannot be left on the bed in the summer. I assure the honourable member

that every precaution is taken in this State, and the same standards apply as in Victoria. It is sad to think that the deaths have occurred. If the Electricity Trust can obtain a report on the incidents, I shall let the honourable member and other members know exactly what happened.

ABORIGINAL CONGRESS

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Community Welfare a reply to my question of August 8 about the Aboriginal Congress to be formed by the Commonwealth Government?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The National Aboriginal Consultative Committee is being established by the Australian Government, and the Commonwealth Electoral Office is assisting with arrangements for an election to be held in the near future. The total proposals for the National Aboriginal Consultative Committee have been prepared and recommended by an all-Aboriginal Steering Committee, with representatives from all States, which was established by the Commonwealth Minister for Aboriginal Affairs for this purpose. The National Aboriginal Consultative Steering Committee states that both enrolment and voting by Aboriginals will be voluntary. Aboriginals desiring to enrol as electors must complete an electoral claim form. Qualifications for enrolment are that the applicant is not under the age of 18 years and has been resident at the address in the electoral district in which he seeks to enrol for a period of not less than one month preceding the date of his claim to enrol. The electoral claim form prepared for the National Aboriginal Consultative Committee provides the following Commonwealth definition of an Aboriginal:

An Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander is a person of Aboriginal or Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal or Islander and is accepted as such by the community with which he is associated.

Candidates for election to the National Aboriginal Consultative Committee must be Aboriginal as defined by the Australian Government and require nomination by not fewer than six Aboriginals entitled to vote at the election in any electorate. Candidates will be required to lodge a nomination fee of \$10, and candidates receiving at least 20 per cent of the successful candidate's votes will have their nomination fees refunded. I understand that there will be 41 electorates throughout Australia, four of which will be in South Australia, and that the single-member constituency electoral system will be adopted. The first past the post voting system will be followed.

PESTICIDES

Mr. HOPGOOD: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about pesticides?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Lands states that the draft legislation referred to is essentially legislation of a public health nature. It refers to protective measures that must be undertaken to protect contractors and their employees against the harmful effects of handling the concentrated forms of organophosphates and chlorinated hydrocarbons. These two types of substance are particularly hazardous to the operator, as in their concentrated form they are volatile and readily absorbed by the skin. The compound 1080 is not one of these substances, however. It is non-volatile and is not absorbed by the skin. More particularly, in the form in which it is available to landholders (0.04 per cent), there is considered to be no public risk.

EYRE PENINSULA HOUSING

Mr. BLACKER: Has the Premier a reply to my question of July 25 about the housing programme for Eyre Peninsula?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Housing Trust has active programmes in both Port Lincoln and Cummins.

However, the cost of building brick-veneer houses is usually prohibitive. The trust has generally found it necessary to use "labour only" contractors, with the house components being supplied from the trust's depot. Currently the waiting time at Port Lincoln for double units is about 12 months, and it is slightly more for single units. At the moment 14 houses are under construction, and it is expected that another 50 will be commenced during this financial year. However, there is a possibility of a slight delay whilst new sites are prepared and planning approval is sought. At Cummins, sufficient houses have been approved to meet the known requirements.

DAIRYING INDUSTRY

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Some time ago I asked a question about the dairying industry. The Minister of Works indicated, well before the Premier ever did, that he now had a reply to that question. Will he give that reply?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Agriculture assures me that he has every confidence in the future economic existence of the dairying industry in this State, which in his opinion is completely sound. He points out that dairy farmers in South Australia rely on the sale of liquid milk for human consumption and manufacture of cheese as their main source of income, and both these products have an expanding market prospect. However, the Minister points out that the content of the dairy spread now being developed at the Northfield laboratories of the Agriculture Department is predominantly butterfat, and it is hoped that, provided this product can be marketed commercially at a competitive price, sales of butterfat in this State will increase significantly. The policy enunciated by the Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industry, when he announced the phasing out of the bounty on dairy products, will ensure adequate protection to any *bona fide* dairy farmers who may find themselves seriously disadvantaged by the withdrawal of subsidies.

VIRGINIA BASIN

Mr. HALL: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about the Virginia water basin?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Because the reply is long and because Question Time has almost finished, I seek leave to have the reply inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

VIRGINIA BASIN

The status to June 30, 1973, of the three-year study by the Agriculture Department into the suitability of Bolivar effluent for irrigation in the Virginia area is as follows. Investigations have been in progress for 20 months and the following conclusions can be drawn from the work carried out:

1. Wherever effluent was used for irrigation, on pastures, trees, vegetables and vines, there was a rapid increase in salinity.
2. Although the work has been in progress for a short time, it seems that soil salinity will reach an equilibrium value. At this equilibrium value salt-tolerant crops can be grown.
3. This equilibrium value is unstable. Highly skilled management will be needed to maintain soil salinity at a reasonable level. Only well drained soils should be used. Drainage may be necessary, and soil amendments may be needed. A continuing service of research and extension will be needed to monitor changes in soil salinity and to advise growers on corrective measures.

4. A preliminary soil survey has already delineated areas most suitable for irrigation with effluent.

Further investigations are needed to define the drainage requirements of the soils, and another season of experience with a range of crops to confirm that an equilibrium has been reached is necessary. Interim recommendations, subject to confirmation by these further investigations, are as follows:

1. Lucerne: Effluent water could be used for growing lucerne on well drained soils.
2. Potatoes and onions: Effluent water could be used for growing potatoes and onions on well drained soils.
3. Glasshouse tomatoes: Excellent crops have been grown but further investigations into salinity are required.
4. Almonds: It is doubtful whether effluent is satisfactory for the long-term irrigation of almonds. Sodium and chloride levels in the leaves were high at the end of the second season.
5. Vines: High levels of sodium and chloride in the leaves suggest that, under the management conditions investigated, effluent cannot be recommended for vines.

The Agriculture Department states that the field studies will be completed by about April next year and that the final report will be available in June, 1974. I turn now to the public health aspects. Following an appraisal of bacteriological and virological examination of Bolivar effluent, the Director-General of Public Health gave approval for the use of Bolivar effluent for potatoes, orchards, vineyards, fodder grasses and fibre and seed crops under controlled conditions. Dr. Woodruff also gave approval for the flood or furrow irrigation of tomatoes. However, the Director-General of Public Health has stated that the effluent will need to be effectively disinfected before it could be cleared for general irrigation use in the Virginia area. This is in line with international opinion. Chlorination, heating and gamma irradiation with cobalt 60 have been considered. Chlorination appears to be the most economical method, and the Bolivar Water and Water Pollution Control Laboratories of the Engineering and Water Supply Department are carrying out disinfection studies using chlorine. The results of these studies will be forwarded to the Director-General of Public Health for his opinion.

I turn now to the question of economics. The capital cost of reticulating effluent throughout the Virginia area was estimated in 1970 at \$4,500,000. Together with operating and disinfection costs, the overall cost of supplying effluent in the Virginia area was then 21c for each 1 000gall. (4 546 l). These costs have not been updated to allow for escalation, but this will be done when results from other studies are being completed. I turn now to other studies. The Government has consistently adopted the view that the underground water of the Northern Adelaide Plains should be preserved as a State asset. On the other hand, the Government is concerned at the very real problem of the people of the area because of the over-exploitation of this important water resource. It is believed, therefore, that every effort should be made to maintain the present activities in the area at least at the current level in order to avoid personal hardship. To assist it in its considerations, the Government has recently initiated additional investigations including:

1. A study by the Engineering and Water Supply and Mines Departments into the technical and

economic feasibility of obtaining supplementary water supplies for the area.

2. A study by the Agriculture Department into the real value to South Australia of the market gardening industry in the Northern Adelaide Plains.
3. Continuing investigations into the probable effects of groundwater restrictions in the Northern Adelaide Plains on the socio-economic status of the people of the area and the possible methods open to the Government to alleviate these effects.

The results of all studies will be available next year and should provide a sound basis on which to approach the solution to this difficult problem.

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

The SPEAKER: Call on the business of the day.

SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

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

That the members of this House appointed to the Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation have leave to sit on that committee during the sitting of this House on Thursday next.

The purpose of this motion is to enable the committee to visit Millicent for the purpose of taking evidence on Thursday of this week.

Dr. EASTICK (Leader of the Opposition): I support the motion on the basis that it refers to one day, and one day only. I believe that the original intention should always be maintained: that is, that standing committees do not normally meet during sitting hours. On that basis I am happy to support the motion.

Motion carried.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

GILLES PLAINS SPECIAL SCHOOL

The SPEAKER laid on the table the report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence, on Gilles Plains Special School.

Ordered that report be printed.

CONSTITUTION CONVENTION

Adjourned debate on motion of the Hon. L. J. King:

That, whereas the Parliament of South Australia by joint resolution of the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly, adopted on September 26 and 27, 1972, appointed 12 members of the Parliament as delegates to take part in the deliberations of a convention to review the nature and contents and operation of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia and to propose any necessary revision or amendment thereof; and whereas the said joint resolution provided that eight such delegates should be appointed by the House of Assembly and four should be appointed by the Legislative Council; and whereas the said joint resolution further provided that the eight delegates appointed by the House of Assembly should be the Hon. J. D. Corcoran, the Hon. D. A. Dunstan, Dr. B. C. Eastick, Mr. S. G. Evans, Mr. E. R. Goldsworthy, the Hon. L. J. King, Mr. T. M. McRae and Mr. R. G. Payne; and whereas the said joint resolution further provided that each appointed delegate should continue as a delegate until he ceases to be a member of the Parliament or until the House by which he has been appointed otherwise determines, now it is hereby resolved that this House determines that Mr E. R. Goldsworthy shall cease to be a member appointed by the House of Assembly as a delegate to the said convention and that Mr. R. R. Millhouse shall be such delegate in place of Mr. E. R. Goldsworthy.

(Continued from August 7. Page 203.)

Dr. EASTICK (Leader of the Opposition): I believe that this motion before the House is nothing but political chicanery, and I cannot and do not support it. The Attorney-General stated:

In moving that the House adopt this motion, I wish to stress at the outset that the reasons for its introduction are to bring the composition of the South Australian delegation into conformity with the spirit of this convention as it has developed from its conception . . .

He then indicated that other aspects required action at this time because of the conference to be held in Sydney early in September. He continued:

In August, 1971, Sir George Reid, the then Attorney-General for Victoria, wrote to me setting out initial suggestions for the convention, including proposals that all representatives should be State Parliamentarians—

certainly, there is no argument about that—

that they be elected by their respective Parliaments, and that their "number should be large enough to reflect all Parties and differing views within the Parties".

The stress there is on "Parties". The Attorney later stated:

On that occasion I expressed the view, to which I still subscribe, that "if any proposed change (to the Constitution of the Commonwealth) is to come about it will have to command the virtual unanimous support not only of the Commonwealth and the States but of all political Parties; history shows there is no prospect of constitutional amendment unless that unanimity is present . . . ; the widest possible point of view must be represented if the convention is to be of any value at all".

No-one will be at variance with those remarks, because they state the basic facts. However, the Attorney-General's present attitude and the alteration he seeks to make clearly destroy the concept that he was so quick to defend and to represent to this House. He stated:

The Attorneys-General—

referring to the Attorneys-General of all the States—

expressed their view that the various Parliaments in making their selections should endeavour to make their delegations representative of the widest possible spectrum within their Parliaments and that the delegations should consist of influential members of Parliament.

The Attorney-General now seeks to take from the delegation's total representation of eight members of this House one of three country representatives and to replace that country member by a city member. He seeks to replace the member for Kavel by a member of the legal profession. The present representation of eight members from this House includes the Premier (a member of the legal profession), the Attorney-General (a member of the legal profession) and the member for Playford (also a member of the legal profession), yet the Attorney-General now seeks to replace the member for Kavel with the member for Mitcham, another member of the legal profession. In addition, a member of the legal profession (Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill) is among the four representatives from another place who will also be members of the delegation.

Far be it from the general attitude expressed by the Attorney-General that he wants to obtain a complete spectrum of the views of members of this House: he seeks to destroy the opportunity for a country member to express his views by replacing him with another city member, and he thereby increases the number of members of the legal profession in a total delegation of 12 from four to a total of five. I believe, therefore, that no-one can accept that the Attorney is doing what he says he should be doing in respect of ensuring the widest possible spectrum of representation on this delegation. I now refer to the statement by the Attorney that initially the opportunity was given to the Opposition to determine its representation. The Attorney stated:

However regrettable it might be that the Opposition representatives were all members of the dominant faction in the L.C.L. and that the minority faction was entirely excluded from representation, it remained a matter for the Opposition itself.

I believe it remains a matter for the Opposition on this occasion. There has been no approach whatsoever from Opposition members who are not members of the Liberal and Country League, with the exception of the member for Flinders, a Country Party member, seeking membership on the delegation. The only information given to Opposition members about this matter is that given by the Premier and subsequently by the Attorney-General. No direct application has been made by either the member for Goyder or the member for Mitcham regarding this delegation. There has been a discussion between the member for Flinders and me, the honourable member having sought representation as a member of this House under the banner of another Party; indeed, he was elected to this House as a member of the Country Party. It is interesting to note that, at page 89 of *Hansard* on July 31, the member for Mitcham said:

I try to regard every member in this place, whatever his Party, as a friend, and I say to my friends in the Liberal and Country League that I will talk to anyone at any time in an effort to improve the present situation, because none of us must ever forget that the real enemy, our real political enemy, is the Australian Labor Party: all we should do is aim to get the Labor Party out of office at both State and Commonwealth level.

The general sentiment of that remark cannot be disputed by any Opposition member, but it makes a mockery of the whole situation when the representations for the member for Mitcham to become a member of the delegation have had to be made to the Opposition by the Premier and the Attorney-General. The Attorney-General indicated that he had made representations to me in respect of the delegation, and he said:

There being, of course, two minority groups on the Opposition side, a further problem is obviously raised. I took the opportunity of discussing with both the member for Goyder and the member for Flinders, and indeed the member for Mitcham, the situation that arose in an effort to see whether those members could themselves agree upon a representative to replace one of the Liberal and Country League members of the delegation.

This is the Attorney-General, a Government member and member of the Labor Party, saying that he was the one who was making the necessary arrangements. He continued:

Unfortunately, they were not able to agree and it therefore fell to the Government once again to make a decision in the matter.

Earlier, the Attorney-General said:

The Premier discussed this matter with the Leader of the Opposition and inquired whether the Leader of the Opposition was prepared to agree that one of the delegates who was a member of the Liberal and Country League would make way for a representative of the minority groups on the Opposition side. The Leader of the Opposition was not agreeable to that course.

I place on record that the Leader of the Opposition, in discussions with both the Premier and the Attorney-General, clearly indicated that, if the composition of the delegation was to be altered, the member for Flinders, in my view and in the view of various other Opposition members, should be considered, as he was a person who had sought to be elected to Parliament under a Party banner and had been elected by his constituents as a member of the Country Party. The other two members (the member for Goyder and the member for Mitcham) had not sought to go to the people of this State as members of an Independent Party: they were elected to Parliament as members of the L.C.L., and, subsequent to their election last March as L.C.L. members, they had, of their own volition,

decided to remove themselves from the L.C.L.'s ranks and place themselves on the cross benches as a group, which now refers to itself as the Liberal Movement but which has not won an election in any State or Commonwealth election.

The SPEAKER: Order! I think the Leader is getting a little wide of the mark, because this is a debate on a motion dealing with the appointment of members of this Parliament to a delegation. I cannot allow the Leader to let the debate drift into one on Party politics.

Dr. EASTICK: With all due respect, Sir, I point out that the Attorney-General, in discussing this matter in the House on August 7, clearly referred to the responsibilities of people to groups and to members' responsibilities to Parties. It was clearly indicated to both the Premier and the Attorney-General that the Opposition did not appreciate any alteration in the delegation concerning its three members from this side but, if the Government required an alteration, the person to be considered should be a member who had been elected to this House under a Party banner and who had clearly gone to the people of the State and had put his position clearly as a member of a certain Party. I believe that both the Premier and the Attorney-General would be pleased to acknowledge the statement I made to them: it was not, as has been stated, that I did not agree to that course. I indicated a course of action, if it was the Government's intention to alter the situation. Therefore, by virtue of the discussions I had with the Premier and the Attorney-General, I would have supported the removal of an L.C.L. member from the Opposition number, if it was still the Government's intention to interfere with the delegation's membership, and his replacement with a member who had clearly gone to the people and been elected in his own right. The Attorney-General also said:

The choice for exclusion has fallen upon the member for Kavel, only because my information is that he would not be available, anyway, for the first session of the convention. Therefore, if the Government was forced into the position of having to make the choice that the Liberal and Country League itself was not apparently prepared to make, it had to make it on some basis, and the fact that the member for Kavel would not be available for the first session seemed to be good enough.

I acknowledge openly that, when discussing the matter with the Attorney-General, I said that the member for Kavel would be overseas on a study tour at the time of the first full meeting of the Constitution Convention and that, if it was the Government's intention to make this change (not at our wish or with our concurrence), he would be available to attend not the next meeting but subsequent convention meetings because it was expected that the convention would meet over a period of about five or six years. My colleagues and I believe it important that this position be clearly understood. One wonders why the Premier and the Attorney-General saw fit to interfere in this way, without first checking or ascertaining from the people who had approached them regarding representation on the delegation, whether those people had made their position clear or had attempted in any way to discuss the matter with the Opposition groups or Parties. I can tell the Attorney-General that no such approach has been made and that the Opposition does not accept what the Government has done. The Attorney-General has sought to correct the situation to suit his own convenience, namely, to complete the composition of the delegation to go to Sydney. However, I suggest that, before this motion is considered any further and members opposite commit themselves to a vote, they make certain they know what the issues are on which they are voting.

One of the first and most important principles concerning total membership of the convention was that there should be no political benefit or advancement for the Parties concerned; that it was in the best interests of the Australian community that, if need be, membership of the convention be reviewed and alterations recommended. There is, unfortunately, a strong realization in other States that the Australian Labor Party is tending, or attempting, to caucus all the discussions. I trust the Attorney-General can deny that that is so, but I suggest—

The SPEAKER: Order! The Leader is getting away from the debate. The honourable Leader of the Opposition.

Dr. EASTICK: I hope the Attorney can indicate clearly that South Australia will be represented by six people nominated by the Government Party and six people nominated by the Opposition Parties. In the representation that the Attorney-General now asks us to accept there has been Government interference. If this representation is approved, it will be approved by the Government's using numbers on a matter that should clearly be kept away from the political scene. As I said earlier, I oppose the motion.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham): I have listened with interest and no surprise to the speech of the Leader of the Opposition. Perhaps I can make one comment on the last point he raised, that this should not be a political matter. I have never known any matter to be treated so politically as this one has been. The whole basis of his opposition to this motion is to keep me, as a member of the Liberal Movement, out of the convention. If that is not a political matter I do not know what is a political matter.

Dr. Eastick: Prove it.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The Leader of the Opposition is helping me. I do not think he means to, but he is helping me by showing so clearly, as his speech did, his personal dislike of me. If ever any matter has engendered personal antagonism, both in this place and in another place, it is the selection of members to represent the Opposition Parties at the Constitution Convention. As I have indicated, it is predictable that the L.C.L. should take the attitude it has to this motion. It was last year, when the Party of which I was then a member failed to nominate me as one of its delegates to the Constitution Convention, that I realized fully the depth of the division of feeling within the then Liberal and Country League. Although I do not want to puff myself up, it seems to me that, as a former Attorney-General, as a member of the legal profession, and as one who has recently argued a case of constitutional importance before the High Court of Australia, I merited some consideration for inclusion in the delegation, and at that time I certainly made it known among my then colleagues that I was anxious to be appointed.

Mr. Wright: You did not have the numbers, though, did you?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: We did not.

Mr. Hall: Not in here.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: No. I was deliberately overlooked (I certainly did not begrudge the Leader his membership of the convention because he was, for good or for ill, the Leader of the Party), but when the member for Fisher and the member for Kavel were preferred to me for membership of the delegation I realized, as I say, how deep the divisions within our Party had become, and that is nothing new: I have said it before publicly. It is, therefore, quite ironical that the Leader today should complain that no direct approach has been made to the L.C.L. for a change in the composition of the delegation. What hope

in the world or in hell would there have been of any assent or agreement to a change in the composition of the delegation to let me be a member of it?

Dr. Eastick: Did you try?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: No, I did not try, and I do not put forward any excuse for not trying. In view of what I have said, there would have been no chance whatever, and I challenge the Leader or one of his followers to get up and say there would have been any change in the delegation by agreement. However, before the first session of this Parliament began, I wrote a letter to the Premier canvassing the matter of membership of Parliamentary committees and also of the delegation from this House to the Constitution Convention. I asked him what the Government's attitude would be on these matters and said, in as many words (I am sorry I do not have the letter here to quote from), that I was anxious to be selected as a delegate to the Constitution Convention and pointed out, as I have since in my questions in the House on the matter, that the object of the exercise was that all shades of political opinion should be represented at the convention.

The Leader has put forward two reasons (both, in my view, specious) for opposition to this motion, apart from that of personal antipathy which shone through his speech. The first is that a country member is to be replaced by a city member. Well, the remedy for that is in the hands of the L.C.L. itself, but I am sure the member for Fisher will fight as hard as he can to see that that remedy is not taken. If that is all that the L.C.L. was to be worried about, the member for Fisher could leave the delegation and let the member for Kavel take his place; but such is the rivalry between those two that I think it unlikely that that will happen. The other reason given by the Leader is that yet another member of the legal profession is to be a delegate from this Parliament to the Constitution Convention.

Mr. Hall: At least, they have no chance of putting one in.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: No, and this remark is on a par with the comment made by the Leader of the Opposition when announcing his shadow Cabinet some weeks ago, that it did not matter at all that there was no member of the legal profession in his Party: it was of small consequence—he could handle all legal matters, anyway. One wonders whether even he believes that to be so. I remind the Leader that the Commonwealth Constitution is a legal document. It has, during the last 70 years, been subjected to more scrutiny by the courts of this country than has any other legal document prepared in Australia. If the Constitution is to be altered, it is essential, regardless of whether other people like this, that those alterations be considered by members of the legal profession. After all, the lead in drawing it up was taken by members of the legal profession in the 1890's, so I suggest that there is no merit whatever in that point made by the Leader.

The same sort of attitude has been evident amongst the members of the L.C.L. in another place. I remind you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, of what happened there. We will test the actions of the L.C.L. in another place against the criteria used by the Leader of the Opposition today on this matter. The Hon. Mr. Potter had actually been appointed a delegate from another place to the Constitution Convention when he joined the Liberal Movement. Within a day the L.C.L. members in another place pulled the rug from under him and he was summarily dismissed from that position.

Mr. Hall: It wasn't political, I understand!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: It was not political at all! If that was not an example of politics at its worst, I do not know what was. I point out to the Leader that the fact that the Hon. Mr. Potter was a member of the legal profession had not in the first place been given as a reason for appointing him to the convention.

The Hon. L. J. King: In other words, they just discovered it afterwards.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: That is right: the position was to the contrary in the first place. The other members of the L.C.L. in another place had the opportunity about a week ago to make amends for that and to show what they boast, namely, that a new spirit is abroad in their Party. They had the chance to put the Hon. Mr. Potter back as a delegate to the Constitution Convention, because the man whom they chose to substitute for him, the Hon. Mr. Hart, lost his seat at the 1973 State election.

It would have been a perfect opportunity for the L.C.L. members in the Legislative Council to show this new spirit that they have said is permeating their Party, but they ignored the Hon. Mr. Potter, who resigned from the Liberal Movement and retained membership of the L.C.L., and instead of appointing him as a delegate they appointed a person without, so far as I know, any legal knowledge, namely, the Hon. Mrs. Cooper.

The Hon. L. J. King: What period of penance do you think they have assigned to Mr. Potter?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: An indefinite period. All the L.C.L. members who have stayed in the Liberal Movement will never be forgiven for what they have done, and the bad feeling is obvious that persists towards both those who gave in and knuckled under and those of us who chose not to do that. The snub given to the Hon. Mr. Potter a second time is as good a proof as the opposition voiced by the Leader to this motion.

Mr. Venning: You're a trouble maker.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The member for Rocky River, of course, personifies this attitude by his interjections in this House. What has happened today regarding the L.C.L.'s attitude is in line with what was done on a much smaller matter soon after the division occurred between them and us. At the first meeting of the Parliamentary Party after the 1973 election, I had been appointed to be a delegate to the National Fitness Council.

When the division came and I was no longer a member of the L.C.L., the L.C.L. had second thoughts about the matter. I had already been nominated to the Minister of Education as the Opposition representative on the National Fitness Council and appointed by him. At its next meeting, the L.C.L. decided that I was no longer worthy to be a member of the council, so it replaced me, it thought, by the member for Fisher. I do not blame him: he is always ambitious for preferment and I suppose he saw this as another step forward.

However, the Party did not write to the Minister of Education and say that I had been replaced. The member for Hanson, as Secretary of the Party, wrote direct to the Secretary of the National Fitness Council, stating that the member for Fisher, not I, was to be the nominee of the L.C.L. As it turned out, I had already discussed the matter with the Minister of Education and he said I would remain the Opposition representative on the council. That is because, after all, the Opposition now (and, indeed, the most active and effective part of the Opposition) comes not from the L.C.L. but from the three of us who sit on the cross-benches.

This was a petty example of the same sort of thing as we have had today. It is a pity that members of the L.C.L.

do not realize that the Constitution Convention is a matter of very great importance in the history of Australia. If we are to continue a federal system of Government, quite obviously the Commonwealth Constitution must be overhauled and, if we cannot do that, it is hardly worth while going on with it in the long run. The convention will mean much hard work.

This is not, as the L.C.L. apparently thinks it to be, a perk for politicians. This appointment will carry with it a heavy responsibility. I do not wish to say any more about this, except one thing. I ask the Attorney to explain, when he replies to the debate, what preparatory work it will be necessary for members of the delegation to undertake before we go to the convention on, I think, Sunday week and to explain what attitude he expects the members of the delegation to adopt: whether there is to be caucusing, as the Leader of the Opposition has suggested, or whether we are to act together or in any co-ordinated way. It goes I suppose almost without saying, but not quite without saying, that I support the motion.

Mr. HALL (Goyder): I, too, support the motion, knowing that its carriage will enhance greatly the contingent that will go to the convention from this House. I, like my colleague, am not surprised that the Leader of the Opposition should react as he has done. He is following the politics of fear and today, by his opposition to this motion, is showing that that is the only way in which he can react to the challenge that faces his Party.

Mr. Nankivell: What rubbish! It's the usual tripe.

Mr. HALL: The L.C.L. in South Australia had decided to call our Party not the Liberal Movement but the Movement. They still show a kindergarten attitude to the members who sit here. They cannot face the issues, but instead deal in words and play with names.

Mr. Nankivell: You should talk about that!

Mr. HALL: The Leader has claimed that there is no politics in this matter as far as he is concerned. As the member for Mitcham has clearly pointed out, on every occasion that the question of an appointment has arisen that has involved the consideration of the L.M. (whether inside or outside of the L.C.L.), the ruling has been the same: to flatten anyone with connections with the L.M. That is deliberately political, and that has been the position on every occasion that a question of this type has arisen. Either the Leader is being completely hypocritical or he has been brainwashed by his superior in another place.

Mr. Nankivell: When will you lose that record?

Mr. HALL: The honourable member had best stick to personal explanations, which themselves could do with much examination.

Mr. Nankivell: Are you challenging my veracity?

Mr. HALL: I will let the honourable member's own conscience deal with the issue. The position of the L.C.L. and the Leader with regard to this appointment is that the L.C.L. does not believe in full mandates; it has never believed in them. Until 1965, the L.C.L. governed for 32 years with a weighted boundary system. The weighted franchise system of the Upper House disappeared only this year. Now the Leader wants to refuse in this House full franchise for all Parties. Why on earth does he say that the L.M. should not have one spokesman? He can give political reasons, such as saying that we were not elected as L.M. members, but we chose to leave the L.C.L. because we were told to behave ourselves as a few people wanted us to behave, or get out; we chose to retain our honour and get out.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! This debate must deal with the motion before the Chair relating to the representation of this House at a convention. Only that subject matter may be dealt with now.

Mr. HALL: I take your point, Sir. However, I respectfully suggest that I was replying to points raised in this debate by the Leader, who followed a political path. The position is that the L.M. deserves to have a representative at this Constitution Convention, because in the early promulgation of its policies in this community it made a great feature of its belief in the federal system. The L.M. has set about studying the matter. Clearly our policy warrants the inclusion of a representative of our Parliamentary team at this convention.

I have much pleasure in supporting the motion. Although the L.C.L. in this House cannot provide a legal representative, because it has no lawyers within its ranks, the L.M. is proud to provide the expertise of a previous Attorney-General, a man who has always advocated modernizing but retaining the federal system. As I have said earlier, we believe that the appointment of the member for Mitcham will enhance the studies to be undertaken at the convention and will, by providing a legal representative, fill a gap in the Opposition representation from this House that would otherwise exist.

Mr. COUMBE (Torrens): I think it is about time we got back to the motion. Undeniably, the motion could be described as representing a marriage of convenience. Frankly, the Opposition cannot accept the motion which, in its present form, seeks to reduce our delegation at the Constitution Convention. I say plainly that we deplore this attempt to replace one of our members, namely, the member for Kavel, and to thus diminish our representation. I very much regret the comments of the members for Mitcham and Goyder, who really introduced politics into this debate. The motion should not be discussed at a political level, yet those members chided the Leader of the Opposition for what he had said. We deplore the action of the Government in moving this motion. I certainly do not intend to sink to the level of petty pique that we have just seen; I deeply regret that this note has crept into the debate.

Although the motion specifically names members of the House, we should attempt to avoid personalities, an approach that would be in marked contrast to the one adopted by the previous two speakers. We should deal with the facts of the matter. We intend to follow this course and to avoid at all cost any display of rancour. After all, as this matter affects the Parliament and the people of the State, it should be above personalities. As it involves a review of the Commonwealth Constitution, it will affect everyone in the country and their descendants for generations to come. However, the L.C.L. Opposition is being asked to give up one of its representatives who was appointed last year in this House. I remind honourable members that the motion last year was passed unanimously, following only brief formal debate. The personnel referred to in that resolution were accepted unanimously.

Now a new proposition has been put forward by the Attorney-General, whose arguments for doing so were rather specious. Although one would have expected a rather brief speech in relation to this motion, the Attorney-General went to considerable lengths to attempt to justify his position, as one can see by looking at the number of paragraphs occupied by his speech in *Hansard*. This leads one to the inescapable conclusion that the Attorney found it difficult to justify the motion.

Mr. Millhouse: If an approach had been made to the L.C.L. for a member of the L.M. to take the place of one of the L.C.L.'s members as a delegate, would that approach have been acceptable?

Mr. COUMBE: That is a hypothetical question.

Mr. Millhouse: It was posed by the Leader.

Mr. COUMBE: It would be entirely up to the honourable member to make the approach.

Mr. Millhouse: I see, you won't answer me directly.

Mr. COUMBE: The honourable member should not try to shift the onus. When speaking to the original motion on September 26 last year, the Attorney-General is reported at page 1562 of *Hansard* as having said:

The delegations should consist of influential members of Parliament and should be representative, as far as possible, of all views represented in Parliament.

Originally, eight members were appointed from the House of Assembly and four from the Legislative Council. From the House of Assembly, five members were from the A.L.P. and three from the L.C.L.; from the Legislative Council, one member was from the A.L.P. and three were from the L.C.L. Therefore, each major Party was to have six members, a fair and equitable concept of representation of the two major Parties and the Houses. No-one cavilled at that representation at all; it was agreed completely. This plan was accepted, but the representation envisaged in it has been somewhat upset. By this motion we are asked to delete the member for Kavel who, as the Leader said, represents a country district. Previously, we had a representation of eight to four out of a total of 12, but now we will have nine to three. I am concentrating on the point that we regard the terms of the motion as suggesting that we are to lose one of our members. It has been suggested, possibly as an interim excuse, that, because of his Parliamentary duties and as the member for Kavel is overseas now, he should be replaced. However, the Attorney in his speech correctly suggested that, if a member were absent inadvertently, a proxy delegate could be appointed for him. We are willing to do this and to nominate a proxy for the member for Kavel, who is absent.

The Hon. L. J. King: If you nominated the member for Mitcham it would solve the problem.

Mr. COUMBE: I take note of the Attorney's suggestion. I realize that he always makes suggestions that suit himself.

Dr. Eastick: He will defeat the motion for that purpose.

Mr. COUMBE: This motion is a marriage of convenience, and we deplore the fact that the Opposition is being asked to give up one of its members. The Attorney-General is trying to hoodwink us so that we will fall into the neat trap that leading members of his profession are so adept at using.

Mr. Millhouse: I don't think even you believe what you are saying.

Mr. COUMBE: Would the honourable member care to see me afterwards?

Mr. Millhouse: Yes, I will.

Mr. COUMBE: I have been a member for many years, but I am not used to people talking to me in that vein. The three major Parties in Australia with members in the Commonwealth Parliament are the Liberal Party of Australia (of which the L.C.L. is the South Australian division), the Australian Labor Party and the Country Party. The Democratic Labor Party is not represented in all Parliaments. All the major Parties have a national organization throughout the country, and an examination of the representation of delegates from other States (and those details are freely available to members if they wish to do their homework) will show that the three major Parties are included in the Commonwealth delegation and in

some State delegations. However, in South Australia, where the L.C.L. represents both city and country districts, we are being asked to give up part of our representation. I believe firmly that the L.C.L. is the only Party truly representing both country and city interests, because it is as plain as a pikestaff that other groups represented here have made it clear that they have restricted representation, whether it be in the city or in the country, and have an interest in a particular area of this State. I am proud to say that my Party is founded on a national basis, as are the A.L.P. and the Country Party, and it represents all sections of the community.

The SPEAKER: Order! I think the honourable member is getting away from the subject of the debate.

Mr. COUMBE: The basis of the motion is to ask the Opposition to cede one of its members and thereby lose one of its delegates. Why does not the Attorney-General, if he wants to promote the nominee suggested in the motion, agree to one of his Party's delegates being omitted? Let us be fair—and I can see one or two Labor members laughing—

Dr. Eastick: The Liberal Party in Victoria does not have a majority.

Mr. COUMBE: That is so. After examining the representation of other States, it is obvious that the Liberal Government in Victoria does not have a majority of members on the delegation.

The Hon. L. J. KING: It does not in this Parliament, if you count them.

Mr. COUMBE: No, but it is in a minority in Victoria of its own choosing. In this Parliament numbers were equal. Why does not the Government omit one of its members instead of insisting that we should omit one of ours? I have tried to keep personalities out of this debate, as I do not wish to sink to that level. As far as possible, I have not introduced Party politics, but have tried to debate this matter on the level on which it should be debated, because it is an important issue. We, as a Party, deplore the motive and spirit of the motion, in that we are being asked to omit one of our delegates who, we believe, should be fully entitled to represent our point of view at this important convention. This member was last year unanimously and without question elected as a member of the delegation.

Mr. McANANEY (Heysen): I wish to discuss one aspect of this motion, that is, whether we should have more legal representation at this convention. To me it will be dealing with problems of people, how section 92 of the Constitution will relate to marketing boards, and other similar matters. I do not take a parochial attitude, because other important aspects must be considered. At the convention more experts will be available to draft any agreements that may be made than are available from members of the legal profession in this House, who have not had practice in drafting this sort of agreement.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: Don't you believe in having legally qualified people to draft the resolutions?

Mr. McANANEY: They are people. I would not discriminate against a lawyer, but I suggest that four to one against is not a fair representation of a cross-section of the community. Members of the Liberal Movement claim to have a different opinion, but that Party would have been more successful if it had put up better ideas. It is a small group that cannot accept a majority decision.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member should be dealing with the motion.

Mr. McANANEY: I am referring to what has been allowed to go on before. I cannot see how members of

the Liberal Movement can be included, because they were elected to this Parliament not as members of the Liberal Movement but as members of the L.C.L. They have not shown that they have any new and different ideas from what they had before, and I cannot see any reason for their being represented. They have spoken about a mandate: a mandate from whom? At present they represent themselves only, but if they survive the next election they will have a mandate here as members of the Liberal Movement and would have a claim for representation. I will be amazed if the members for Adelaide and Florey, who believe in loyalty, support the nomination from this side. If the member for Mitcham had been loyal to his Leader, both publicly and privately, he would have got my vote at that stage. The only reason he has not got my support is that he was disloyal, and I cannot see members of the trade union movement on the other side supporting this nomination unless they have been bludgeoned into it by the Cabinet.

The SPEAKER: If the Attorney-General speaks now he closes the debate. The honourable Attorney-General.

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): A great deal has been said already on both sides of this question and I hardly think it is necessary for me to reply at any great length. However, one or two things have been said which call for some comment. I confess that I found the reasoning of the Leader of the Opposition most difficult to follow, but I must comment on one or two things he said. First, I reiterate that it is absolutely true that the Leader told me that he was not agreeable to the course proposed, namely, the omission of a delegate from the Liberal and Country Party to make way for a delegate to represent the minority groups in the House. He said it, and indeed it has been his attitude here today in the House, so I hardly think there can be any question that that has been his attitude throughout.

Dr. Eastick: What about what was said about Mr. Blacker?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I shall come to the member for Flinders in a moment. Let us be quite clear about it. The Leader of the Opposition told me, in answer to my direct question, that his Party would not agree to the omission of an L.C.L. member of the delegation to make way for a representative of the minority groups. There was no qualification about it. It made no difference whether it was the member for Flinders or the member for Mitcham; the L.C.L. did not agree to the omission of one of its members. The Leader said it again today, as did the member for Torrens, so there is no question about that conversation. When I told him that the Government took the view that it was necessary for there to be a representative of the minority Parties, the Leader of the Opposition told me that it was the view of his Party that, if the Government insisted on that view, it should be the member for Flinders, and not a member of the Liberal Movement group.

Mr Millhouse: Anybody but the Liberal Movement!

Dr. Eastick: I said it was a person who had come into the Parliament under a banner.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Leader of the Opposition has said that today in the debate, but he did not say it to me. However, I suppose the circumstances would call for it. After all, I do not wish to be drawn into this little dispute between the right wing forces in South Australia, but I must comment on that interjection, because if the course followed by the L.M. members at the last election was anything like the course followed in my own electorate, they sailed under the L.M. banner; in fact, they did everything in their power (and perhaps understandably) to

conceal that they were members of the L.C.L. at all. One could search their literature (and there was plenty of it) and not find any reference to the L.C.L. or to the Leader of the L.C.L. It was L.M. literature from start to finish and the man shown on it as Leader was the member for Goyder. That appeared not only in the literature in my electorate of Coles but in all other places.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. L. J. KING: Whatever else may be said about how members got into the House, there is no doubt that the members for Goyder and Mitcham got in under the banner of the Liberal Movement, and so did a few others who are no longer—

Mr. BECKER: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Attorney-General has made the insinuation that I campaigned in my electorate as an L.M. candidate. The literature I had in my electorate, at my own insistence, would show that it was—

The SPEAKER: What is the point of order?

Mr. BECKER: The Attorney-General has misrepresented my campaign.

Mr. Millhouse: He said exactly what happened.

The SPEAKER: Order! I cannot sustain the point of order. I draw the attention of the Attorney-General to the fact that the debate in progress concerns the motion. The honourable Attorney-General.

Mr. BECKER: On a point of order, Sir, the Attorney-General said that some of us campaigned in the last State election under the banner of the L.M. I claim that is a misrepresentation because the literature put out in my electorate had on it "endorsed L.C.L. candidate".

The SPEAKER: Order! I cannot and will not sustain a point of order that insinuations were made against people without naming the individuals concerned. The honourable Attorney-General.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The conscience of the member for Hanson must be troubling him. I did not mention the member for Hanson at any stage. However, I dare say he knows the fit of the cap better than I do.

Mr. Becker: You know the position jolly well.

Members interjecting:

The Hon. L. J. KING: Let me refer to some very odd comments to the effect that a reason put forward in support of this motion is that it was desirable to have another member of the legal profession on the delegation. I did not put that forward as a reason, and to my knowledge no-one else has, but I completely fail to understand the criticism by the Leader of the Opposition that somehow in a Constitution Convention it is a disqualification to be a member of the legal profession.

Dr. Eastick: You said you were looking for a broad spectrum. Is five out of 12 a broad spectrum?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Leader of the Opposition either did not listen to what I said or is misinterpreting it for his own purposes. What I said (and he has the opportunity to check it) is that it was the understanding of the Attorneys-General throughout that the widest possible spectrum of political opinion should be reflected in the delegation to the Constitution Convention. It had nothing to do with occupation, nothing to do with living in the city or in the country. We were speaking of political opinion, and that is clearly expressed in what I said previously. The Leader will find it in *Hansard*. It had nothing to do with the occupation of the person concerned. Let me say that quite clearly.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: The L.C.L. is at a disadvantage in not having a lawyer.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not know whether the Leader of the Opposition suggests he is better qualified to deal with legal matters than lawyers are, but I gather that the member for Mitcham doubts that. However, let me say that I agree with the member for Mitcham that matters relevant to the Constitution are very much questions in which lawyers have special qualification and special professional expertise. Whilst I would not for a moment think that there should be a predominance of lawyers as delegates at such a convention, I would think that any Constitution Convention that did not have a considerable number of lawyer politician delegates would be at a great disadvantage. I cannot accept for a moment the suggestion that somehow legal knowledge and legal professional training could be a disqualification for the purpose.

The reason why the name of the member for Mitcham appears in this motion is not that he is a member of the legal profession but that he is a member of a minority group and that the minority groups themselves were unable to agree on who should be their representative. The Government was left in the position of having to make a decision which would give the delegation the widest possible representation of political opinion in this House.

Dr. Eastick: With seven out of 12 delegates?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not understand what the honourable member means. He knows full well there are six members of the Government Party in the overall Parliamentary delegation.

Dr. Eastick: Nominated by the Government.

The Hon. L. J. KING: And there are six right wing members, whatever right wing group they belong to. The Leader of the Opposition has criticized the involvement of the Government in this matter. The Premier is the leader of the delegation, and he and the Government have a responsibility to see that the spirit in which this convention was conceived is implemented in the delegation that is sent there, at any rate from this House.

It is regrettable that the members on the other side, from whichever faction they come, are so incapable of managing their affairs that they cannot settle among themselves who should be their representatives on the delegation. The Government's involvement in this matter has been occasioned by the default of the Opposition, which was unable to settle the issue for itself. So, it fell to the Government to make a decision, which members on the other side should have been able to make for themselves. If there had been any sense of responsibility or fairness on the other side of the House, this whole issue would have been resolved there, and the Government would never have been involved in it at all. It is our responsibility, if the Opposition cannot discharge the responsibility that devolves on it, to do it for the Parliament.

Mr. Coumbe: Are you enjoying yourself?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Yes, because someone has to point out to members opposite, who were sent here by their constituents to discharge a responsibility, that it is about time they started discharging that responsibility. If members opposite show no greater sense of responsibility in discharging their duties at the Constitution Convention than they have shown in participating in the selection of our delegation, they will do their constituents and the people of the State a great disservice.

Dr. Eastick: They have not been given the opportunity to determine the matter from this side.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I find that statement completely incomprehensible and unintelligible; moreover, I did not understand a great deal of the Leader's speech.

Dr. Eastick: There has been a directive from the Government.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Government has put forward a motion to ensure that, as far as is practicable, all political viewpoints represented in this House will have some representation on the delegation. If that is a directive from the Government, it is a directive under which it became our responsibility to make a decision when the Leader and his Party did not show the sense of responsibility and fairness that should have motivated them to make it themselves.

Mr. Dean Brown: That is not right. What about the Country Party?

The Hon. L. J. KING: What about the Country Party, which is a minority group in this House? The member for Flinders describes himself as a member of that Party. He was given the opportunity, with the two members of the Liberal Movement group, to decide among themselves who wished to represent the minority groups, but they could not decide among themselves. The Government then decided that our motion would have to provide for a nominee from the minority group having the greater number of members in this House. Here again, not only can the L.C.L. not settle this matter with other members on its side, but the two minority groups cannot settle it among themselves, either. Yet they complain that the Government has become involved in the matter.

Dr. Eastick: You have another deal.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Regarding the question of the member for Mitcham about the delegation's duties, if this motion is carried and the honourable member becomes a member of the delegation, I shall be happy to tell him about the arrangements and information communicated to the other members of the delegation. As to whether there will be any Party caucusing at the convention, I will say only one thing. I intend to discuss with those who share my attitude to politics and to society the issues involved in this Constitution Convention. I am pleased to say that members of the Labor Party consult together, talk to one another, and try to arrive at a common understanding that will lead to a correct solution of the problems facing the country, and I hope this Constitution Convention will be no exception to that.

I hope that I will be able to discuss with my Labor Party colleagues from other States and from the Commonwealth sphere the problems facing this country from a constitutional viewpoint. If my Labor Party colleagues in South Australia's delegation also take that view and want to have discussions with Labor Party members who form parts of delegations from other States, in those circumstances there will undoubtedly be discussions between people on this side of politics. We take pride in the fact that, sharing a common political philosophy, we consult together to ensure that our philosophy and our attitude to society are reflected in the resolution of the great issues that face the country. If members on the other side are unable to talk to their political colleagues, that is their affair, not ours, but it will not prevent the Labor Party members from consulting with one another.

Mr. Venning: Sit down. You are talking a lot of rubbish.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I am sorry that the honourable member is not enjoying this. The delegation from this Parliament will have the opportunity to meet during the convention. It met this morning, and it will meet again during the convention, as desired by the delegation members.

The House divided on the motion:

Ayes (26)—Messrs. Broomhill, Max Brown, and Burdon, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Corcoran, Crimes, Duncan, Dunstan, Groth, Hall, Harrison, Hoppood, Hudson, Jennings, Keneally, King (teller), Langley, McKee, McRae, Millhouse, Olson, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Wells, and Wright.

Noes (16)—Messrs. Allen, Arnold, Becker, Blacker, Dean Brown, Coumbe, Eastick (teller), Evans, Gunn, McAnaney, Nankivell, Rodda, Russack, Tonkin, Venning, and Wardle.

Pair—Aye—Mr. Virgo. No—Mr. Goldsworthy.

Majority of 10 for the Ayes.

Motion thus carried.

PUBLIC PURPOSES LOAN BILL

In Committee.

(Continued from August 15. Page 375.)

First schedule.

Public Buildings, \$60,100,000.

Dr. EASTICK (Leader of the Opposition): Although more money is available now than was available last year for the school works programme, these works are subject to the current inflationary trend. Has the Minister of Education the cost for each student accommodated so that we may determine how many more additional student places can be provided now or whether, as a result of inflation, fewer student places will be made available, because of the reduced purchasing power of the money expended?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON (Minister of Education): We have requested the Commonwealth Government to make available a further \$1,500,000 of the Schools Commission's funds for the six-month period January 1 to June 30, 1974. If it accedes to that request (and I see no reason why it should not) we will get a little more in the first six months of the two-year period and a little less in the last 18 months. I believe the total financial provision would permit an increase in the number of places provided. If that additional funding is not available this financial year, then I am not sure of the position. There has been an increase in building prices this year in comparison with last year, and this must have some effect on the amount of work obtained for the money expended. I point out, however, that at this stage last year the provision for school buildings, technical colleges and teachers colleges was \$23,300,000. This year the figure is \$28,500,000, but does not include teachers colleges, which are included in advanced education buildings. In making the comparison of prospective provision of places at this stage of the financial year, I say it is significantly greater than it was at the same time in the last financial year.

Mr. COUMBE: Public Works Committee reports show that the cost of schools is continually rising. The building trade refers to an escalation figure of up to 17 per cent annually, and there is less competition by tenderers this year than occurred last year. As the cost of building a school increases and the cost to provide pupil places increases, how much more are we actually getting from the increased funds allocated? Is the increased efficiency of construction and methods of the Public Buildings Department reflected in these figures; that is, is it effecting an improvement in the ratio between net and gross? Can the Minister elaborate on that point?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: True, the ratio between net and gross has been improved and the overall building operation is more efficient than it was. Of course, the Education Department does not have a vested interest in

the inflation of prices of school buildings, because it ends up getting less. The tendering climate has altered this year in comparison with last year, and there is no doubt about that. However, to some extent we have used the increased financial provision in not just providing additional places but upgrading the quality of what we are doing within schools. The new high schools being built are of a higher standard in terms of the overall provision of facilities than was the case even a couple of years ago. The gymnasium hall area, music suite, and library resource centre are basically parts of the school, and even staff accommodation has been upgraded, particularly in high schools. Although one might question whether this was desirable, I am willing to justify the actions we have taken. They were necessary improvements in standards. To the extent of the increased financial provisions of today compared to those of three years ago and to the extent that that has been taken up by inflation or in upgrading the facilities put into schools, we are not providing for an increased number of students, but we are providing the same percentage increase in the number of spaces.

Mr. HALL: Under the heading "General", \$1,560,000 is allocated for prefabricated buildings, which is a separate item from the allocation of \$440,000 for transportable units. When in Opposition, the Minister was a strident critic of prefabricated buildings. However, it would seem that the Government is not only erecting prefabricated buildings but is adding to them to a significant degree. What is the Minister's attitude, and why, in this golden age, is he increasing the use of the very same accommodation he criticized so stridently when in Opposition?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Although I admire certain of the characteristics of the member for Goyder, I am often puzzled by him. In the last year of his Government the allocation for school buildings, including teachers colleges, was \$13,800,000, and the allocation was \$12,500,000 in 1969-70. This year's allocation is \$28,500,000, which is a dramatic improvement. The Commonwealth Government, through the operations of the Schools Commission, is making funds available in a way that no other Commonwealth Government ever contemplated. So there is not the same requirement for me to criticize the Commonwealth Government as there should have been for the member for Goyder, when Premier, to criticize his Commonwealth colleagues for what they did in the field of education. Regarding prefabricated buildings, we are making increasing use of transportable buildings of one kind or another, increasing the use of Samcon, and also a new form of construction, called Elmcon, which has been developed by the Public Buildings Department.

Mr. McAnaney: That's shocking.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Perhaps the honourable member would like to inspect the Mount Burr Primary School, which has just been built with Elmcon. The use of asbestos cladding will not be repeated elsewhere. It would be a mistake to conclude that, from the one example of asbestos cladding, all forms of Elmcon with any other kind of cladding are shocking. The wooden classroom, which has been a feature and an eyesore of education ever since the Second World War, will no longer be built.

Mr. Hall: When?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: We do not intend, apart from those under construction now, to continue building wooden classrooms.

Mr. Hall: What!

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am glad that the member for Goyder has come into the debate, because he needs to improve his mind on education. He doesn't know much

about it. We intend to continue, particularly in the smaller schools in country areas, to provide wooden craft blocks and science buildings, which provide excellent accommodation. Those members who have that kind of building in their district will know that they work well and provide excellent conditions within the buildings; they are functional and serve their purpose well. However, the traditional timber classroom will be discontinued, but we will still have certain wooden buildings for specialist purposes, for instance, craft blocks, science blocks and library facilities. Elmcon is being phased in, but it will not be of the asbestos cladding type building at Port Augusta, which we hope to improve. We will continue to build Samcon schools, particularly in country areas, where, because of the air-conditioning, they provide comfortable accommodation.

Mr. McANANEY: Although the Minister of Agriculture has announced a new building for the Emergency Fire Services, I cannot see any line that provides for this building. What are the Government's plans for this building and when is its construction likely to commence?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): I am not sure whether money has been allocated for this building this year. The land on which it is to be built has been purchased or is in the process of being purchased (I think the land is to be transferred from the Railways Department). True, a new headquarters is to be established. I am not certain what is involved in the building or whether plans must be prepared and submitted. If that was so, by the time the plans were drawn up, the Government approved the design, and the matter was considered by the Public Works Committee, there would not be time to spend money on it in this financial year. Other Government buildings, such as the Motor Vehicles Department and this building, have a far greater priority.

Mr. EVANS: Can the Minister of Education say when tenders are likely to be let for the building of Bellevue Heights Primary School? Further, I ask the Minister whether it is necessary to delay work on Coromandel Valley Primary School for 12 months beyond the beginning of 1975. I understand the school has received a notice from the Minister that, whereas the school was to be opened at the beginning of 1975, the opening will now be delayed for one year.

At a meeting with some members of the school council at the school earlier this year, the Minister said that there was every possibility that the new school would be available in September, 1974, but he thought that the beginning of 1975 was the best date to state. I understand that the delay until 1976 has been caused mainly by revising in respect of the new site for the primary school. The present school will be overcrowded, and I understand that a neighbouring church has been asked to permit the use of church property so that transportable buildings can be placed there until the new school is available.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will get the information on the first matter to which the honourable member has referred. Regarding Coromandel Valley Primary School, I assure him that we appreciate the urgency of that situation and that we will be pushing ahead with the project. The honourable member would appreciate the difficulties about the site and the problems involved in any redesign of that school, because of the relatively narrow frontage and because the new buildings must be built amongst existing buildings.

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Minister of Education say what inter-relationship there is regarding the use of facilities by the various kinds of school? For instance, are high schools, primary schools, or technical high schools used

for further education courses, or does the Government intend to duplicate school facilities, further education being a separate entity and the other schools being separate entities? Further, can the Minister say whether courses commenced in technical schools will provide satisfactory units for courses subsequently taken in schools of further education? If further education schools are to be duplicated, but not in the same area, it may be necessary for a person who commences, say, a beef husbandry course at Urrbrae Agricultural High School and later goes to another school to combine the units from Urrbrae with the units at the school of further education.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Everyone knows how much further education work is done in our present schools.

Dr. Eastick: Will it continue?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: That is obvious. It is continuing and expanding all the time, but further facilities are required in the further education area for use while the school is being otherwise used. We have increasing requirements for apprentices, senior technician courses, and certificate courses, and other demands for what may be described as leisure-time courses where these can be conducted during the day, when it is not possible to use the local school. There is a need to provide extra facilities and those facilities, in turn, double up. Craft shops used for apprentice training during the day can also be used for leisure-time courses in the evening.

I assure the Leader that facilities in the area will not be wasted. The relationship between further education courses and secondary school courses at school is rarely close. Further education courses cover many subjects and, in the example the Leader has given about farm management type courses and there being some overlap between, say, Urrbrae Agricultural High School and the further education centre, I think this could be dealt with on the spot.

Dr. Eastick: Are they permitted to do this?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: There is no prerequisite to undertake a course in further education and no minimum standard is imposed. If a person wanted to get a certificate in a specific area and wanted to have a school subject accepted as part of the certificate, the South Australian School Certificate Board would have to agree. That procedure would be necessary if the person wanted to take out the certificate as a qualification. If a person did work at school and was not interested in a specific paper qualification, wanting to undertake other courses (say, Farm Management 2 rather than Farm Management 1), I do not think there would be any difficulty about his doing that. The courses at school are rarely well integrated with courses at either the tertiary level or the further education level.

Mrs. BYRNE: On August 7, in reply to a question by the member for Rocky River, the Minister said eight school swimming pools had received a subsidy and had been constructed during the past three calendar years. Does the department ensure that adequate safety fences are erected around these swimming pools, and that they are chlorinated and filtered satisfactorily?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: As swimming pools must be constructed to Public Buildings Department standards, the erection of appropriate safety fences and the provision of adequate filtering and chlorination are already covered in terms of present policy.

Mr. VENNING: The sum of \$400,000 is provided for the payment of subsidies towards swimming pools, canteens, recreation halls, etc. How will this money be spent? When the Gladstone Swimming Pool Committee applied to the Education Department for assistance towards the purchase

of a new chlorination plant for the swimming pool, the application was refused; the only assistance the school could get was by way of a Tourist Bureau subsidy.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: In the list of schools given to the honourable member in reply to his question on August 7, two secondary schools (Mitcham Girls Technical High School and Thebarton Boys Technical High School) were referred to. Swimming pools for those schools were approved by the former Liberal and Country League Government. There was such an escalation of costs in each case and such an increase in the commitment of Education Department funds that about two years ago it was decided not to continue with the subsidy scheme in respect of swimming pools at Government secondary schools. The pools at the two schools to which I have referred were the last constructed at secondary schools. Of the cost of about \$40,000 for the Mitcham school pool, nearly 70 per cent of the cost was supplied by the Government, and similar circumstances applied in the case of the Thebarton school. At present, we will subsidize councils on a \$1 for \$1 basis up to \$80,000 in the construction of pools for community use, so long as they are located reasonably close to local secondary schools. The money available in this way is for constructing new pools and facilities where none exists at present.

Dr. TONKIN: I am disappointed that the Minister of Works is no longer in the Chamber, as I should like some worthwhile information with regard to the extent to which the \$304,000 allocated for alterations and additions at the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the \$290,000 allocated for major extensions and alterations at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is being spent on additions to ward blocks and surgical facilities. To help me prepare questions for discussion on this matter, I have asked several questions about staffing at these hospitals. To help find out whether or not the sums allocated were sufficient, I asked one question about the waiting time for elective operations at these hospitals. The waiting time for elective surgery is a measure of a hospital's surgical efficiency; from this information one may determine whether or not facilities are adequate. However, today the answer I received was that it was not possible to give the information I sought. That reply is balderdash. I have received answers to questions that were much more complicated and difficult to understand. From memory, in other years I have received replies in relation to the waiting time for elective surgery. I do not know whether the Minister misread the word "elective". Even if the Minister does not know what the word means, his officers should.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: On a point of order, Mr. Chairman. The honourable member is trying to start an argument about something that has nothing to do with the Loan Estimates. He cannot point to any provision relating to elective surgery.

The CHAIRMAN: There is no point of order.

Dr. TONKIN: Thank you, Sir. It is not possible to determine whether these moneys are justified.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: What do you mean by "elective surgery"?

Dr. TONKIN: It is non-urgent surgery; patients are placed on a waiting list. This medical term is commonly used and is known by the Minister of Health and his officers.

The CHAIRMAN: I think the honourable member should come back to lines dealt with in the Loan Estimates, and not become involved in matters not dealt with there.

Dr. TONKIN: Thank you, Sir. Nevertheless, I should like to hear from the Minister at some time what are the waiting lists for elective surgery. By the time I get the information, however, it will be too late for me to use it during this debate.

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

Mr. MATHWLN: I am disappointed that I cannot find on this line an allocation for Paringa Park Primary School. The Minister of Education, who is familiar with this school, will know that it comprises timber-frame classrooms. The part of the school destroyed by fire some years ago was replaced by a Bristol-type aluminium unit with a lifetime of up to 20 years, but the Enfield school of the same type, built at about the same time, has since been replaced.

The CHAIRMAN: The honourable member must speak to the line. If he wished to refer to something not on the line he should have done so in the second reading debate.

Mr. MATHWIN: I am seeking information and asking the Minister to review the whole matter and to see that work proceeds on this school. It has been on the list previously and money has been allocated. Why is it not on the list now?

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I suggest that the honourable member should ask a question on this matter some other time, not now.

Mr. MATHWIN: I ask your indulgence, Mr. Chairman. The school is in great need and an allocation must be made so that it can be rebuilt or at least rejuvenated.

The CHAIRMAN: The honourable member must speak to the line and only on matters included in the line. I cannot permit the honourable member to speak on a matter not included in the line.

Mr. MATHWIN: Perhaps the Minister can say whether provision for this school has been included in the allocation of \$4,150,000 for minor alterations and additions, or in the sum of \$1,200,000 for preliminary investigations and design. There is a great need for the school to be brought up to standard. The female teachers must use the toilets provided for students. The Deputy Headmaster operates from a bookroom in the administration block and a typist works in a storage cupboard, while the library is vastly inadequate and undersized. The Public Works Committee, in one of its reports, suggested that the school was in a good condition, but since then plans have been put in hand for the building of a new school on a site in an area being developed by the joint efforts of the State Government and the Brighton council. The very fine parents organization takes a great interest in the school, which has an excellent staff.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member would be aware that the department had plans for completely rebuilding this school on a new site but that those plans were rejected unanimously by the Public Works Committee. We have been investigating currently an upgrading proposition for the school, involving as a first step the replacing of the timber-frame classrooms with a six-teacher open-space unit, and upgrading the remainder of the school. However, no final determination has been made and therefore it has not been possible to include it anywhere in the lines; it is neither in the \$4,150,000 nor in the \$1,200,000.

The most active consideration is being given to the problem of Paringa Park Primary School and I assure the honourable member that I am as concerned as he is about it. In determining priorities for replacement we are influenced in our decisions by those situations where

school numbers are expanding and where, as a consequence, there is pressure on existing facilities. The system will work in that way, and that would explain in particular the replacement of the school at Enfield. The attendance at Enfield was increasing but the accommodation was totally inadequate. For that reason the replacement of that school was dealt with earlier than the replacement of some other schools.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Minister of Works say why the first stages of the redevelopment of the Glenside Hospital, costing \$4,000,000, and the redevelopment of the Northfield Wards of the Royal Adelaide Hospital, costing \$17,000,000, are not included in the Loan Estimates? Can I take it from the Treasurer's second reading explanation that these projects will go ahead soon, even though no funds are allocated for them on this line? I also refer to the items "Purchase of land, \$200,000" and "Preliminary investigations and design, \$500,000". I am not sure whether those provisions apply to the group laundry or to hospital buildings generally. If they apply to hospital buildings generally, in what areas will the sums be spent?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member is correct in assuming that at present no money is planned to be spent this financial year on the redevelopment of the Glenside Hospital and the Northfield Wards. As a matter of financial management, we must complete the Flinders Medical Centre, costing about \$40,000,000; the emphasis must be placed on that project. I shall obtain details for the honourable member about planning for the redevelopment of the Glenside Hospital and the Northfield Wards. Of course, the situation may change, and we must be flexible. I will also let the honourable member have details concerning the items "Purchase of land" and "Preliminary investigations and design".

Dr. TONKIN: I was pleased to hear the Minister say we must be flexible. Regarding the provision of \$423,000 for additions to the Modbury Hospital, has it been considered that that sum could perhaps be better employed in the immediate redevelopment of the Glenside Hospital? It seems that the Modbury Hospital is coping well with the demands made on it and, therefore, perhaps the additions to that hospital are not as urgently required as is the redevelopment of the Glenside Hospital.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be perfectly happy to put the honourable member's suggestion to the medical authorities. I should not imagine that they would have stipulated the expenditure of \$423,000 if they had not considered the Modbury Hospital additions to be of higher priority than the Glenside Hospital redevelopment.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Can the Minister of Education say when a replacement building will be provided for Marryatville Primary School? The school buildings are at present on two sites, making it extremely difficult for the headmaster and the staff to administer the school. Further, can the Minister say when the 12 temporary classrooms at the Linden Park Demonstration School are to be replaced with permanent brick structures? At present there are four temporary classrooms at the Burnside Demonstration School and, because of a probable increase in the attendance at that school, I believe that further temporary classrooms are to be provided. Can the Minister say when permanent brick structures will be provided to replace the temporary classrooms at that school? I have previously referred to the effect that the elimination of State aid to independent schools will have on the attendance at the three primary schools I have mentioned.

Because the attendance will probably increase, immediate consideration should be given to expanding the accommodation at those schools. Can the Minister assure me that the accommodation will be of the highest possible standard?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will get information for the honourable member regarding the present position at the Burnside, Marrayatville and Linden Park schools. However, the honourable member would appreciate that the backlog left over from the past in the school-building programme will occupy the Education Department for about another eight years, and, in determining which schools get priorities in replacement, their existing conditions must be considered. The honourable member referred to four temporary classrooms at Burnside and 12 such classrooms at Linden Park, but he must appreciate that there are schools in the State where there are no permanent structures whatsoever. There is only one permanent structure at Paringa Park, and there are other schools where there are no permanent structures at all.

I am sure that the member for Davenport as well as the member for Glenelg will point out to the people in their districts the necessity for giving priorities to those schools where the conditions are worse than the schools to which reference has been made; for example, the Naracoorte Primary School (for which the contract has been recently let) is entirely comprised of temporary buildings, there not being a solid construction building there. The Lameroo school currently under construction has not a solid construction building on it and, if the member for Glenelg knew anything about conditions applying elsewhere, especially in some country areas, he would not be beefing as hard as he is, because there are clearly cases that must be given priorities. Whether it is a school in my district or that of the member for Glenelg or the member for Davenport, priority will be on a basis of need, the basis that should apply. There are schools in the Eyre District which have priority over schools in the Glenelg and Davenport Districts. Those are the cold hard facts.

Mr. Mathwin: Your district is all right.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member is just starting to indulge in one of his really crass displays of ignorance. Darlington Primary School and Dover Gardens Primary School have temporary buildings. Indeed, Brighton High School, which is in my district and which the honourable member knows fairly well, has over 50 per cent of its students in temporary accommodation, yet that school has received nothing on these lines. Whether members generally like it or not, building priorities will be decided on a reasonable basis, and I believe it is the responsibility of individual members in their own districts to support that policy because, now that we have reasonable funds to spend, the job will be done properly and in the kind of order that should be kept. At the same time I assure the member for Davenport that the problems he has raised will be looked into.

Mrs. BYRNE: Regarding school buildings, I am pleased with the progress made in the Tea Tree Gully District. Major works completed during 1972-73 include a brick building at Modbury Primary School, \$140,000; a brick building at Para Hills East Primary School, \$125,000 (although this school is not in my district, most of the children attending it live in my district); and a \$450,000 brick construction project at the Tea Tree Gully Primary School. Referring to the heading "Major works in progress at June 30, 1973", a \$170,000 Samcon construction building is in progress at Holden Hill Infants School, a \$225,000 brick construction building at Ridgehaven Infants School, and a \$66,000 Samcon construction building at Surrey Downs Primary

School. A new school being built at Banksia Park is estimated to cost \$1,380,000, in brick construction. This high school is certainly needed. All these schools are in my district, which is an expanding area, although we have officially opened only the one school, at Dernancourt.

I refer to the heading "Major Works for which Planning and Design is proposed during 1973-74". Work will involve Holden Hill North Primary School, Redwood Park Primary School and Vista Primary School. The Minister of Education notified me only last week that Vista Primary School, to be built at St. Agnes, has been designed in open-space construction so that teaching areas can be separated into units of whatever size is appropriate to the programme of the school. The proposed building provides open teaching spaces equivalent to 18 classrooms, in three groups of six, with associated withdrawal rooms and practical areas, a general activity area and a central resource area serving all learning stations. This will be a magnificent school. Can the Minister say what is intended regarding Holden Hill North and Redwood Park Primary Schools under this heading?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I shall be pleased to obtain a reply for the honourable member.

Dr. EASTICK: The Cadell Training Centre is to have \$145,000 spent on alterations. One might assume that the decision to spend this money was taken before the release of the first report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee of South Australia which, at page 198 of that report, dealing with the centre, states:

For reasons both of correctional accomplishment and of expenditure which would be better diverted to other projects, we recommend that Cadell be phased out and replaced by more suitable minimum security programmes of the various kinds which we recommend elsewhere in this report.

This report was presented recently and any expenditure that was contemplated previously may now need reconsideration. Can the Attorney-General say whether the provision of \$145,000 means that Cadell is to remain in service for a considerable period to fulfil the function it presently fulfils? Can the Attorney-General say what part or parts of the report will be accepted?

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): As the report of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Revision Committee has only recently been produced, I have been unable to evaluate it or to make decisions about it. Indeed, the Government is not anxious to make hasty decisions about a report that obviously requires the opportunity for comment and evaluation not only by the Government departments involved but also by interested members of the public who are able to make a valuable contribution to the directions that our penal system should take in the future. Consequently, the Government has not taken any decision on the committee's recommendation concerning the future of Cadell Training Centre. As the Prisons Department is the Ministerial responsibility of the Chief Secretary, not of the Attorney-General, I am only able to speak here as the Minister representing the Chief Secretary. As I do not know what these alterations are, I do not know whether they amount to an urgent upgrading of conditions that perhaps would have to be carried out whatever might be the long-term decisions on the future of Cadell.

I am sure that, unless they are alterations required for the centre's effective operation in the short term, they will not be proceeded with pending a decision on the future of Cadell. If the alterations amount to a substantial extension of the centre, I am sure that they will not be proceeded with until the Government has decided Cadell's future. It could be that at least some of the alterations will

be necessary even in the short term. However, in deciding about penal centres, we are necessarily talking of the long term, because it involves buildings, and that, in turn, involves planning, finance, etc. If the Government accepts the recommendation that the centre should cease operating as a correctional centre, it is certain that that recommendation cannot be implemented for some years, because alternative arrangements would have to be made even if the decision were taken now. However, it does not necessarily follow that the provision for alterations is inconsistent with a decision to accept the committee's recommendations. I shall ascertain from the Chief Secretary the nature of the alterations, and let the honourable member know what decisions have been taken.

Mr. HARRISON: Kilkenny Primary School is included in the allocation of \$3,644,000 for major additions to school buildings. Even though the school is not in my district, it is on the boundary and fills a long-wanted need of schoolchildren in the Albert Park District. Can the Minister say what is the position regarding Woodville Primary School, concerning which certain feasibility studies have been carried out and which he visited with a deputation that I lead?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Although certain upgrading propositions are being considered, I will obtain a detailed report for the honourable member.

Mr. COUMBE: Appreciating the Minister's comments about priorities for schools, I believe that real problems surround existing schools that are long past their useful life, particularly in the metropolitan area. Although there was a programme a few years ago to replace some of them, can the Minister of Education say what is the Public Buildings Department's present policy on replacing some of these older schools, which I know the Minister would agree, as they are long past their useful life, cannot be refurbished economically? No doubt the only possibility would be to demolish them.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The policy is a pragmatic one. There are schools where effective development of the site dictates a complete replacement. For example, contracts have been let for the replacement of Goodwood Primary School. There are other schools where upgrading of existing solid construction buildings will be possible as a means of producing first-rate conditions. Where the site is a reasonable one and where existing buildings can be upgraded, it is possible to provide first-rate conditions at about one-third the cost of a replacement school. That will be done at Woodville Primary School, and it will be done at Nailsworth when the Nailsworth Girls Technical School moves out. The old Nailsworth technical school buildings can become the basic primary school and be upgraded to provide first-rate conditions. No doubt the honourable member is aware of the job that has been done with the warehouse at Kilkenny Primary School.

The only general answer I can give is that there are other schools, particularly in inner-suburban areas, where the site is so restricted that the only alternative is to purchase property, say, at the rear of the school, demolish existing houses, and replace the school on the land so vacated. When the old buildings have been demolished, grassed areas can be created at the front of the school. It is sometimes necessary to do that because of traffic noise problems. The honourable member is no doubt also aware of the situation at Thebarton Primary School, where an old building had to be demolished for that reason. There is no single answer to the question: each situation must be examined and assessed, and an appropriate decision reached.

Mr. CHAPMAN: The sum of \$60,100,000, involving 88 single items, is provided under the line "Public Buildings". Can the Minister of Education say whether any of this money is to be spent on projects in the Alexandra District? Can the Minister also say whether any of the \$1,200,000 allocated under "General" for preliminary investigations and design is to be spent on projects in my district?

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

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister say whether the \$335,000 in respect of dental clinics is for the proposed dental clinic at Glengowrie? I know that several clinics will be built throughout the State, and I am wondering how far the \$335,000 will go, what priorities have been set, and whether the new clinic to be built at Glengowrie will be in this programme.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will arrange for the Minister of Works to get a report for the honourable member.

Mr. HOPGOOD: I seek information from the Minister of Education about the procedure that his department adopts in naming schools.

Dr. Eastick: What item is that?

Mr. HOPGOOD: I refer to the provision of \$28,500,000 for school buildings. Problems arise about naming schools. I think the Postmaster-General's Department probably caused a problem for the Education Department a few years ago when that department changed district names. Consequently, some extremely large areas are in one district and it is necessary to use such words as "North" or "South" with the name of the schools, in order to differentiate.

Braeview Primary School, which is on the list, will not be built in the area generally known as Braeview. So far as the Postmaster-General is concerned, Braeview does not exist. Morphett Vale Primary School is at Hackham, and we also have Morphett Vale Town Primary School, Morphett Vale East Primary School, and another school for which the name "Stanvac" has had to be adopted rather than "Morphett Vale West" or "Morphett Vale North".

The new high school being built adjacent to Stanvac Primary School will be known as Morphett Vale High School, and this will cause nomenclature problems later when the site near the old Emu Winery is developed as a second high school in Morphett Vale. Some other name will have to be chosen, possibly Yetto (at one time there was a railway siding of that name there), or Emu Downs.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Local submissions are considered. The Minister makes the decision on names but it is subject to consultation with the new Geographical Names Board. Generally, we can reach reasonable agreement with the board but sometimes problems arise about particular names which the board wants to use but which we do not consider appropriate. We do try as much as possible, given the past history of certain areas, to keep in line with the recommendations of the Postmaster-General on the names to be applied to particular postal divisions.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Last week the Leader of the Opposition sought information about how the amount of \$120,000 would be spent on the Agriculture Department undertaking at Northfield. The Minister of Agriculture replied by letter to the Leader of the Opposition and from the reply it became clear that money would be spent in the dairy branch, the agronomy branch and the horticulture branch. As these branches comprise about three-quarters of the Agriculture Department complex at Northfield, does this indicate that basically the whole department will stay there? The Minister implied that in his reply last week.

Furthermore, can the Minister of Works clarify the position about what sections of the department will stay at Northfield, because there is much confusion about this matter? The Press Secretary to one Minister indicated clearly that the Agriculture Department would be moved from Northfield to Monarto. Then, in reply to a question, we were told that the matter was before Cabinet and that no decision would be made until the Callaghan report had been tabled and considered. Last week the Minister said that some sections of the department would remain at Northfield. I think the position is highly unsatisfactory.

I should also like to know what other applications were made for capital expenditure at Northfield. I understand that the people there have requested much more expenditure than is involved in the \$120,000. No provision is made for roadworks (at an estimated cost of \$40,000), sewerage (at an estimated cost of \$15,000), potting sheds for the laboratories (at an estimated cost of \$120,000), or for a coldroom (at an estimated cost of \$100,000). In an earlier speech I pointed out the consequences of this lack of expenditure by the Government at Northfield and the effect on agriculture, particularly the horticultural industries, in relation to the expenditure for the coldroom.

If the agricultural industries in this State are to survive, it is extremely important that expenditure be made in research areas. In reply to a question I had asked several weeks ago, the Minister indicated that the dairy industry was in a plight at present because of the proposed removal of subsidies by the Commonwealth Government and the current discussions and considerations to remove margarine quotas. The Minister said in his reply that the use of butterfat in this State would increase because of the new mixture of vegetable oils and butter fat, to be known as butterine. At Northfield, owing to the expenditure by the Government in the past, some of this work has been done.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: You're not suggesting this is on the line, are you?

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: He was out of order last week and he's been out of order for the past 10 minutes.

The CHAIRMAN: I draw the honourable member's attention to the fact that he may ask a question only in relation to the line.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: The point I make is about what other capital expenditure the people at Northfield requested.

The CHAIRMAN: The honourable member may ask a question in relation to the line on the Estimates.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I am asking what other expenditure was requested.

The CHAIRMAN: The honourable member must ask a question in relation to this line. The honourable Minister of Works.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am most impressed by the honourable member's performance.

Dr. Tonkin: We're not impressed by yours.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I did not ask that honourable members should be. Today the Leader of the Opposition received from the Minister of Agriculture a written reply. Although the Minister asked me whether I wanted to give the reply in this Chamber, I said that, as the matter had been raised in the debate on the Loan Estimates, it was appropriate for the Minister to write to the Leader. Apparently the letter has now been handed to the mem-

ber for Davenport, who has no doubt been elected as Opposition spokesman on agricultural matters, as he has so many contacts with regard to that matter.

Mr. Nankivell: You're wrong.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I thought the honourable member referred to the letter.

Dr. Tonkin: That's correct.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I take it that it has been handed to him, as he is the elected spokesman on these matters.

Dr. Tonkin: That's where you're wrong.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not really know who the spokesman is. The member for Davenport is spruiking about it; I guess it is because he has so many contacts.

Dr. Tonkin: He is concerned.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: He is concerned to see what mileage he can make out of it. The answers have been provided to the Leader. If he is not satisfied with the answers he got, he can ask for further information and not leave that to one of his newer stooges, who is not a very effective stooge. I do not intend to tell the honourable member what was requested and given. With regard to the Estimates, he has the reply in black and white; he can put his own construction on it.

Mrs. BYRNE: It has been suggested that perhaps the additions to the Modbury Hospital, amounting to \$423,000, are unnecessary. As it has not been specifically stated in this place what the department will do at the hospital, I ask for that information.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will find out precisely for the honourable member.

Mr. NANKIVELL: For minor alterations and additions, etc., to school buildings, the provision this year is \$1,600,000 more than was provided last year. Are additional funds being made available for headmasters to spend at their discretion, or has the cost of contracts increased? This year \$1,500,000 is provided for the purchase of land, whereas last year the allocation was \$500,000. Is this because of the additional cost of land in the metropolitan area or is it because of the need to purchase many additional sites of land in anticipation of the future needs of the department?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: With regard to the second matter, last financial year we over-spent considerably on land purchases for a variety of reasons, including site purchases and the expansion of existing sites where property became available. Indeed, the situation reached the stage where several purchases were agreed to subject to payment after the end of the financial year (this indicates how we ran out of funds). We have tried to make a more generous financial provision this year, although even \$1,500,000 may not be sufficient to cover the purchases that will have to be undertaken in various places.

Mr. Nankivell: How much of this \$1,500,000 is over-spending from last year?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The land purchase commitment is vague in any one year, it depends how much comes in by way of agreement and how much the court determines should be paid on compulsory acquisition. It is not possible to give an absolutely precise answer, except to say that most of the \$1,500,000 is probably already committed. If I make any more decisions along these lines between now and the end of the financial year, the same position will arise again.

Neither explanation of the honourable member is correct with regard to expenditure on minor works. More funds are provided so that more work can be done. We are proposing a change of emphasis to switch more of our

activity in the minor works area to upgrading existing buildings. We hope we will be able to get a significant expansion of that kind of expenditure during this financial year. Early last financial year, the minor works programme was computerized. This really demonstrated for the first time just what was the excess of demands, over and above the amount of funds available, by schools for minor works. The overall position at present is that I think that the requests that have come in or are known at present amount to slightly more than \$7,000,000 as against the allocation of about \$4,000,000, which is about \$1,500,000 more than was provided last year. We intend establishing stricter priorities within the minor works programme, and that process is taking place at present. In the meantime, we have told schools that, if there are more requests, because of the current situation they are not likely to get much change soon.

Dr. TONKIN: Will the \$200,000 provided for work on the new forensic science building include the facilities for forensic blood grouping, and so on, currently being carried out by officers of the Red Cross at the transfusion centre?

The Hon. L. J. KING: When the forensic pathology section in the new building is completed and the building is operational, it will include the forensic blood operation. The \$200,000 is merely a beginning.

Mr. COUMBE: What is the position with regard to the package deal scheme planned by the Public Buildings Department? For some years, there has been discussion among the various States and the Commonwealth about uniform tendering methods. As I understand that negotiations are completed, will this system now operate and how will it operate in the interests of economy and efficiency not only of Government departments but also of the tendering trade?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The reply to the first part of the question is that the package deals were successful. As to the second part, there has been some solution of the problems relating to uniform tendering procedures. However, I should do more justice to this important breakthrough in procedures than I am able to do by replying off the cuff. It has taken a tremendous amount of negotiation and discussion between the various building authorities, State and Commonwealth, as well as private, to arrive at a solution. The matter has been resolved only recently. If we are not actually doing so right now, we will be able to go to tender shortly under this procedure. The package deal has been successful. I outlined this aspect to the member for Glenelg in reply to a recent question. The department has acquired valuable experience and information in developing its own constructing authority, and the whole point of the package deal in the first place was to gain experience. The Minister of Education can confirm that the deal was successful in most respects, if not in all. Because I know his interest in this as an ex-Minister, I shall give the honourable member an accurate summary of what has happened and what progress has been made.

Mr. VENNING: The Minister of Education announced last year that 37 homes for teachers and staff would be built throughout the State within the 12-month period, which I think would have expired now. A new residence for the headmaster at Crystal Brook was to be constructed, but nothing has taken place there as yet. When will this matter be taken care of, and what progress has been made on this programme?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The programme is being expanded according to the availability of funds. The financial provision for the current financial year is \$700,000 for new residences, \$250,000 more than in the last financial

year. We need a crash programme to build about 200 houses for teachers in country areas, costing about \$4,000,000, but such a programme could not be sustained within one financial year without detracting most seriously from the school building programme. It is a question of expanding the construction and purchase of teacher residences at a reasonable rate which does not conflict with other aspects of the school building programme. The \$700,000 proposed for this financial year will permit the erection or purchase of about 45 houses, an expansion on last year's figures, but we are still a few years away from having a reasonable situation.

Dr. EASTICK: I appreciate the action of the Minister of Agriculture in replying so quickly to the questions I asked him through the Minister of Works last week. A copy of the Minister's reply was made available to the member for Davenport, because he had expressed an interest in this line, and I am sure the Minister of Works would be the first to accept that any member who has been in this House for a longer period should make available what information he can to a member who, having been here a shorter time, is making certain inquiries. In his reply to my question, the Minister of Agriculture informed me that the proposed expenditure of \$120,000 at the Northfield Research Centre included the completion of the cattleyards associated with the Folland Avenue dairy, completion of the weeds research complex comprising a glasshouse and service building (this facility is partly paid for from industry funds), construction of a glasshouse service building for the horticultural research area, and a number of minor works, the most significant of which is the construction of a store for flammable liquids.

The construction of the glasshouse service building for the horticultural research area was part of a programme referred to by a recent deputation to the Minister. The deputation comprised apple and pear growers as well as cherry growers, and the Minister was informed of their fears about difficulties which could arise if the programme, which had extended for nine years or 10 years in research on apples, pears and cherries, were to be removed from the Northfield site and taken elsewhere, possibly to Monarto. The Minister's reply suggests that the Agriculture Department intends at least to continue with the horticultural research that has taken place. The deputation I took to the Minister pointed out that the total horticultural research covered not only the growing of the trees and the nature of the fruits but also the storing of the fruits to obtain maximum benefit and knowledge for the industry. Obviously a cold store is not to be built on this occasion, but can the Minister say whether the Minister of Agriculture recognizes the need for the cold store if the research centre is to have maximum benefit?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Leader has been given replies to questions regarding what is to happen at Northfield and the current expenditure contained in these lines. He is branching out into much broader questions covering policy.

Dr. Eastick: It is a part of this programme.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: It is not a part of the programme, and the Leader knows that. The future of the Agriculture Department, along with that of other departments, is currently under consideration. I shall not attempt to answer the questions the Leader has proposed about the future of the Agriculture Department. However, I shall get the information for him.

Mrs. BYRNE: In Appendix I, "Major works for which planning and design is proposed during 1973-74", reference is made to Gilles Plains Special School, and I think the

school is incorrectly named. Is that a reference to the special school that is being built adjacent to Modbury South Primary School?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be happy to obtain the information for the honourable member.

Mr. COUMBE: The sum of \$1,200,000 is proposed for work on the redevelopment of Parliament House, which we all hope will suit the needs of members. At present members are being inconvenienced because of the work going on and because of the noise. Can the Minister of Works fully explain what is involved in the work?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I have told members many times about the work currently proceeding on this building. First and foremost, the air-conditioning system is being replaced with a far better system. The honourable member knows that the hammering that is heard in the day-time is connected with providing a fourth floor to house the air-conditioning plant. Secondly, the plumbing in the older part of Parliament House will be replaced this year. Thirdly, the electrical wiring must be replaced. The remainder of the expenditure will involve upgrading some other parts of the building, including certain offices.

Mr. Coumbe: Will a new roof be provided?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: A new roof was installed over this Chamber five or six years ago, and there is now no need for a new roof over any part of Parliament House. Because the electrical system is overtaxed at present, it has not been possible to provide some electrical facilities. We hope that the installation of the new air-conditioning system, the plumbing work, and the electrical work will be completed this financial year, but the office accommodation will be upgraded next financial year.

Dr. TONKIN: I pay a tribute to the workmen of the Public Buildings Department who have been engaged on the redevelopment of Parliament House; I only regret that the work was not commenced earlier in the year when Parliament was in recess. A Reader in Medicine, Dr. Murrell, has been appointed to organize a system of community medicine based on the Modbury Hospital. An adequate system of community medicine and domiciliary care will help to keep people out of hospital and significantly reduce the need for capital expenditure. At present Dr. Murrell has little more than an office. Can the Minister of Works say whether the sum allocated will provide Dr. Murrell with the necessary facilities to implement an effective system of community medicine?

Mr. GUNN: Mr. Chairman, I draw your attention to the state of the Committee.

A quorum having been formed:

Mr. RODDA: I was informed today by my Naracoorte office that a radio report in the South-East had stated that \$400,000 was to be spent at the Struan regional centre. As I know that there have been difficulties in connection with maintenance at that centre, can the Minister say what work is proposed for it?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I cannot say how a provision of \$10,000 can be stretched to \$400,000, but I will inquire to see what was meant by the report that the honourable member referred to. Perhaps the sum of \$400,000 is to be spent in the future, but it is not provided for in the current Loan programme.

Mr. MATHWIN: I seek information about dental clinics but, on asking this question of the Minister of Education, I got no reply. I now ask the Minister of Works whether the \$335,000 allocated to dental clinics includes a clinic at Glengowrie. What priorities, if any, have been applied to the establishment of these clinics?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This sum includes not only the construction of permanent clinics but the construction of mobile clinics. It is expected that, at the beginning of the next school year, four mobile clinics will be available, but where these will be located and where the permanent clinics will be located I do not know. I hope that one of the mobile clinics will be located in my own district (although this depends on all the girls currently studying to be dental technicians passing their exams). I will let the honourable member know about the one at Glengowrie school.

Mr. Mathwin: I am referring not to the school but to a dental clinic for the community.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As the honourable member is referring to the dental clinics run by the Minister of Health, I will make sure that that is understood and that the honourable member's query does not refer to the school dental clinic.

Mr. Mathwin: I refer to the needs of the community and for teaching purposes.

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

Mr. GUNN: I can find no reference regarding the future development of the Port Lincoln Hospital. Under the heading "Preliminary Investigation and Design", has the Government any plans in mind? On several occasions geriatric patients at the hospital have had to be moved to other country hospitals, much to their inconvenience, because of insufficient accommodation. Can the Attorney-General obtain information about the current position?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will get a report for the honourable member.

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister of Works say what is involved in the refurbishing of South Australia House? The sum of \$105,000 is provided for this purpose, yet these premises comprise only one large waiting and reading room and about three offices. Is South Australia House to be relocated, or are minor alterations only foreseen? Even complete redecoration would not involve such a large sum.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not believe there is to be any enlargement of the area occupied by South Australia House. The sum set aside is for refurbishing. We are going to upgrade that dingy place in the Strand which represents South Australia in London, to make it more presentable to the people who have to visit it. I will obtain details for the honourable member and let him know.

Mr. COUMBE: I refer to the \$149,000 allocated to the Botanic Garden Department for additions. Will these capital works be carried out at North Terrace or at Belair, or both, and what is the nature of them?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I cannot answer that question offhand, but I will find out for the honourable member and let him know.

Mr. WARDLE: I refer to the item regarding special schools. Will the Minister of Works have itemized the amount allocated to the Murray Bridge school?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will find out for the honourable member and let him know exactly what it is.

Mr. MATHWIN: The sum of \$100,000 has been allocated for alterations to the museum. Is it to erect additional buildings or for reconstruction of present buildings?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Treasurer referred to this matter this afternoon. As I will not hazard a guess, I will get a report for the honourable member.

Mr. BECKER: I seek information from the Minister of Works regarding additions to school open-unit buildings. Has any consideration been given to any other type of

building for schoolrooms? Several open-space schools in my district are not working as successfully as had been hoped. Some of them have been partitioned to create small classrooms. Can the Minister say whether his department is considering an alternative type of structure so that partitioning would be unnecessary?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Open-space units are designed so as to be readily converted at small expense to the normal egg crate type of school.

Mr. Becker: Is any other type of building likely to supersede the open-unit type?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: No.

Mr. MATHWIN: Is it Government policy to suggest to departmental planners that, when designing schools, priority should be given to building two-storey or three-storey buildings? As soon as some single-storey schools have been built they have become too small, thus making it necessary to erect temporary classrooms on the site.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The planners, who are given no specific directions, take all the relevant factors into account, such as the likely population increase, in deciding whether a multi-storey or single-storey school should be built. The departmental architects, who liaise with education authorities, are fully aware of all the points the honourable member has raised. The planners are allowed flexibility in planning. As the planners' designs are passed to the Minister of Education, to me, to Cabinet and to the Public Works Committee, I see no need to lay down a policy to guide them. Every school is treated on its merits.

Mr. BECKER: Under the item relating to minor new buildings, can the Minister say whether consideration has been given to providing change rooms at Plympton High School, whose council, parents and friends are grateful to the Government for acquiring Myer Oval for the school?

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

Line passed.

Environment and Conservation, \$2,300,000.

Mrs. BYRNE: I point out to the Minister of Environment and Conservation that there is no sense in his continuing to acquire reserves if they are not protected. I have read press reports that trail bikes and beach buggies have been used on some of our reserves. I have received complaints that trail bikes have been ridden frequently, even late on Sunday night, on a reserve in my area. Last night I received a telephone call from a person who said that a reserve bordered by Perseverance Road, North East Road, Range Road and Anstey Hill had had an old car and a load of dirt dumped on it. It is vital that we continue to acquire reserves for posterity, but we must at the same time preserve and protect those we have for the future. What additional reserves will be purchased this year?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL (Minister of Environment and Conservation): I am unable to provide a list of all the areas we intend purchasing during this financial year. Acquisition of areas of interest that come on to the market or that people offer is a continuing process. However, we must consider the total areas that are recommended. These are forwarded to the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Council for comment. As a result, we tend to purchase areas on a priority basis. I will obtain a detailed report on the areas under consideration for purchase at the moment. The maintenance and adequate policing of our national parks is causing me considerable concern.

The honourable member will appreciate that it was not until about 1956 that Governments in South Australia recognized that we were not purchasing sufficient national parks. Since then, much money has been expended towards

these purchases, with the result that we have exploded from three national parks in about 1956 to over 150 today, and these cover a tremendous area of land. During this period the manpower to protect and maintain the parks was not kept up to a reasonable standard, because all the finance available was directed to purchasing land before it was sold to some person who may have acquired it or developed it in such a way that it would be lost to the community. In recent years we have tried to correct this trend. During the past two years we have increased the number of National Parks and Wildlife Service employees by more than 20, most of these being rangers, and, where we establish a ranger in a country area to look after several parks, we provide him with a house and vehicle and that cost, together with his salary is high.

We have been increasing rapidly the staff to police and maintain the properties to which the honourable member has referred. Nevertheless, we are still trying to direct as much money as possible to purchasing parks. If we did not purchase them when they became available, they could be sold to private interests and lost to the community. In several areas, because of the activities with trail bikes, we intend to provide particular policing.

I have referred previously to the land at Hallett Cove that we have purchased. Complaints have been made about the area to which the honourable member has referred and also about Sturt Gorge, which is being purchased in sections. It is not a national park at present and, because of that, there is difficulty about controlling and fencing it. Even with additional manpower, it is difficult, in areas like Sturt Gorge, to provide proper policing without putting men in the area for the 24 hours of the day. Therefore, there is a need to fence and to call on police assistance to prevent the destruction that trail bikes can cause. We are aware of the problem and we are doing our best with the finance available.

Mr. Becker: Have you enough rangers?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: We have a ranger staff of about 25 in the State at present.

Mr. CHAPMAN: I share the concern expressed by the member for Tea Tree Gully about the further purchase of national parks. Perhaps insufficient consideration has been given to maintaining and managing areas that the Government already holds. No information about the estimated payments of \$350,000 is given other than the reference on page 12 of the Estimates. Therefore, I should like the Minister to say whether some of this money will be spent to maintain and manage reserves already held rather than on further purchases.

Regarding the provision for the Coast Protection Board, the Minister will know of two submissions that have been made to him requesting attention in the Horseshoe Bay area of Port Elliot and on the cliff face in front of the Kangaroo Island Hospital, which is a matter of concern to the local community, particularly in relation to the roadway fronting the hospital. Can the Minister say whether either or both projects are included in the \$450,000 to be made available for Coast Protection Board matters? Regarding the provision of \$1,500,000 for the State Planning Authority, I should like to know whether any of that amount will be for compensation to landholders and, if so, what amount has been paid and what amount is to be provided for such compensation.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The information that I shall provide for another honourable member about the areas now being considered for national parks will also be given to the member for Alexandra. In recent weeks, examinations have been made by the Coast Protection

Board of the cliffs at Kingscote and discussions have been held with the council. Work has been approved and will be undertaken during the present year to prevent erosion of the cliffs in that area.

I know that the Port Elliot area was to be inspected and reported on by the Coast Protection Board engineer. I cannot recall seeing a docket on the matter recently but I will check the position and let the honourable member know. Regarding compensation for landowners for any activities under the Planning and Development Act, funds are made available for this purpose as need be. In some years, when no action is taken, no claims may be made for compensation. In other years, when land is purchased or other sections of the Planning and Development Act are used, provision is made for the necessary compensation. No specific amount is set down for this purpose, because it is only a matter of assessment. The needs of the department are assessed from time to time and, if necessary, excess warrants can be issued to cover compensation payments.

Mr. MATHWIN: Regarding the provision of \$450,000 for the Coast Protection Board, what work does the Minister expect the board to do this year? Will any work be done in the Somerton Park area, where at present one area has no protection at all and the esplanade is extremely close to the eroded point? Will work be done there, perhaps along the esplanade in front of Minda Home? Will thousands of tonnes of sand be taken to those specific areas, where much sand was stockpiled recently?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The work of placing sand on beaches is not entirely completed. While some work has been done at Brighton, Somerton, and Glenelg, work must still be undertaken in the Henley Beach area to complete the contract for the 100 000cub. yds. (76 460m³) of sand.

Mr. Mathwin: That's the first phase?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Yes, of the protective work. In addition, considerable cost is involved in the management plan being prepared, and the remainder of the funds will be used on general protective work in several locations. Some work has already been approved. I am aware that some protective work is under consideration in the Brighton area with regard to facilities on the foreshore.

Mr. Mathwin: Toilets and so on?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Yes, and in addition another project is being considered for work near Repton Road. I do not have a list of all the works to be undertaken in the next 12 months. Several projects are similar to those I have referred to. Other works may arise that are more urgent than some of the many proposals that are now in a well-advanced stage before the Coast Protection Board. A total programme for 12 months has not been worked out. Many proposals are before the board, which will determine the order of priority. It will also consider other urgent work that arises.

Mr. COUMBE: A sum of \$1,500,000 is provided for the State Planning Authority. Not much has been heard recently about the Hackney redevelopment scheme, which was commenced in a blaze of publicity some years ago. In his explanation, the Treasurer stated that the Loan Estimates for 1972-73 provided \$500,000 for land acquisition in respect of the Hackney redevelopment scheme and the Monarto area. However, only \$55,000 was spent in relation to Hackney. What has been achieved in relation to this scheme, and what does the Government intend to do during the coming year? The Treasurer states that certain moneys will be set aside, some of which will be used for inner suburban acquisitions. However, I assume that most of the money provided will be used for the Monarto scheme, as

well as for other land acquisition. Why was only \$55,000 spent last year in relation to the Hackney scheme?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Work in relation to the Hackney redevelopment scheme has been progressing rapidly. During the past 12 months the Hackney Redevelopment Committee has undertaken additional studies about this scheme to ensure that the development takes place in a way that meets the approval of people living in the area. Some questions were asked whether these people were properly involved in the scheme. Over the last 12 months, the Government has been anxious to ensure that they are involved, and the committee has considered all the factors, sociological and otherwise, that have a bearing on the scheme. I am afraid I cannot say exactly what use was made of the \$55,000 spent on this project last year.

I am more familiar with the Monarto programme. Although \$500,000 was set aside for land acquisition with regard to the Hackney and Monarto schemes, it was pointed out that people could offer their land to the Government when they wished and be compensated then. During the year ended June 30, 1973, only \$21,000 was paid in respect of land acquisitions for Monarto. A similar situation could apply with regard to Hackney. Large sums will have to be spent in relation to land acquisition in the Monarto area, and I assume that a similar situation could apply with regard to Hackney. I contemplate that the moneys made available this year will be spent during the year because of the lead-up work undertaken in the Monarto and Hackney areas. I will provide more information about the Hackney scheme for the honourable member.

Mr. COUMBE: Is the Minister saying that he does not know how money will be spent in Hackney this year? I think we are entitled to know now what will happen with regard to Hackney.

Mr. WARDLE: I am interested in the Minister's comments about possible expenditure with regard to Monarto. Is it intended to spend money on the Monarto project, other than with regard to the purchase of land? Will money be spent on projects such as seeking the advice of planners throughout the world?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I think considerable expenditure will be involved this year in planning activities, but this is not covered by the line we are discussing. In addition to acquiring land and property in the Monarto area, it is contemplated that one of the first steps taken will be to establish a large nursery in the area so that we can undertake a heavy tree-planting programme there. Although there are extensive naturally wooded areas within the Monarto site, nevertheless there is a need for a greatly increased number of trees throughout the area and that is one of the areas of expenditure contemplated.

Mr. VENNING: The engineer from the Coast Protection Board met members of the District Council of Port Broughton and inspected the Port Broughton and Fishermen's Bay areas before deciding that certain things had to be done in those areas because of high tides washing over some of the housing areas. What is intended to be done on the northern beaches during the current financial year and what is the possible expenditure?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I do not have the figures before me immediately, but I will obtain them. Knowing that the board visited the area and decided that some protective work was required, I assume the work will be undertaken this year, but I will obtain details of the extent of such work and its likely cost.

Mr. MATHWIN: The Minister gave me some useful information in reply to my earlier question, and I thank him for it, but when he mentioned Repton Road, in the

Somerton Park area, I am not sure whether he said it was on the programme or on the proposed programme for further investigation. I ask the Minister to take into consideration that the esplanade area is open to storm damage. Although we have not had a storm this year the erosion over the past 12 months would have been between 3ft. (0.9 m) and 4ft. (1.22 m). The lifesavers are hoping to establish a building just in front of Minda Home and it has been proposed that a ramp should be placed in the area to give access to the beach. At present, children and adults going down to the beach take sand down with them, causing considerable erosion, and the wind blows the sand away. This matter is urgent, both as regards protection of the esplanade and the establishment of a ramp.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will refer this matter to the Coast Protection Board to see what detailed information I can provide for the honourable member.

Mr. WARDLE: I thank the Minister for his explanation regarding the possible establishment of a nursery at Monarto. Do I understand that the Minister has no figures at all or, if he has, will he give me figures in relation to anything regarding Monarto for the next year?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I have no specific amounts, but I expect that the area required for a nursery would be a large one. The initial expenditure, in view of the size contemplated, would also be large. I expect that expenditure for the purchase of the area and the establishment of the nursery would be about \$250,000, but that is only guesswork. Other expenditure will depend on the speed with which the recommendations of the steering committee, as they come before the Government, are implemented in relation to planning work throughout the year.

Mr. BECKER: What action does the Coast Protection Board intend to take on the foreshore along the beach under the control of the West Beach Recreation Reserve Trust? I refer to the area from north of the treatment works to West Beach, containing about the only sand dune of any reasonable size left to us, although even that is eroding rapidly through lack of vegetation. The problem relates to access to the beach for racehorses and craft using the Holdfast Bay Sailing Club, as well as the Sea Rescue Squadron. If plans are drawn up, could they include some sort of ramp to the beach?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I have had discussions with the Chairman of the trust, and the problems concerning the beach in that vicinity are of some magnitude, both from the point of view of the sand dunes and the beach in front of the dunes. The board has been considering this matter for some time and it has proposals for protecting the area either approved or in process of being approved. I will let the honourable member know what details can be provided.

Mr. BECKER: The restoration of the foreshore at North Glenelg has been completed, but we are waiting for the steps to go down on the beach. There seems to be a difference between the board and the council on the number of steps to be provided. As many people are using the beach, I ask the Minister when these steps will be installed. After the last dumping of 20 000 tons (20 320 tonnes) of sand the beach is in good condition, and if we do not have any winter storms the sand that is washed out slightly southward will come back, providing a beach 50 yards (45.72 m) wide. Have any off-shore reserves been established and is it contemplated that at some future time off-shore sand reserves will be used to replenish the beaches?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I shall obtain the information regarding the steps. Certainly, it is con-

templated that off-shore sources of sand will be used in the future. The sand from Taperoo has been used only as a means of filling in the areas urgently requiring sand to provide quick protection for the beaches. The determination of the location of off-shore sand deposits is somewhat complex; the quality of the sand and the distance from the shore require close attention in order that we may locate the reserves that are the best and the closest to the shore to provide for the economic dredging of sand on to the beaches. It was fortunate that we were able to find a supply at Taperoo to serve our needs in the short term. There will be a continuing need to provide sand along the beaches from off-shore sources.

Mr. BECKER: In view of the work completed along some foreshores, particularly Glenelg North, can the Minister of Environment and Conservation say whether from now on there will be continuing studies of our foreshores in connection with the drift of the sand?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Yes; we consider this to be a critical part of coast protection work. Four times a year Professor Culver views the coastline from an aeroplane; colour photographs are taken and put together so that we can have an overall record of the coastline. The purpose is to observe over a period exactly where the sand and the beach line are moving. That sort of research and other records are important parts of the Coast Protection Board's work.

Line passed.

Other Capital Advances and Provisions, \$24,550,000.

Mr. COUMBE: Last year the capital requirements of the Electricity Trust were expected to be about \$29,650,000, of which \$24,400,000 was spent. This year it is estimated that \$36,350,000 will be spent, of which \$3,000,000 is to be provided from Loan funds, and \$6,000,000 is to be raised by borrowing from financial institutions and the public. Last year it was estimated that \$20,650,000 would be raised from the trust's own resources, whereas this year the trust is expected to find \$27,350,000 from its own resources—a very big increase. It seems that the amount shown for current assets is not terribly impressive. The Auditor-General's Report for the year ended June 30, 1972, states that the trust's operations resulted in a loss of \$334,000 in 1971-72—the first loss since 1948-49. Further, we must remember that that loss was made in the year after the year in which the Government imposed a 3 per cent surcharge. Now we are being asked to consider the allocation for the trust in this year's Loan Estimates at a time when the surcharge is to be raised from 3 per cent to 5 per cent. Can the Minister of Works assure me that the sum to be raised from the trust's own resources can be fully met?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes; it can be met. If it could not be met, the Treasurer would not have made the statement that he made in his second reading explanation. I am confident that everything is in order.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Minister of Works say why \$500,000 has been set aside this year for transport research, when only \$130,953 was actually spent last year? In view of the frequent references of the Minister of Transport to the need for transport research, one would have imagined that a sum far in excess of \$131,000 would be used. It is a remarkably modest sum.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Transport is currently overseas with the Director-General of Transport. It is expected (as it was expected at the beginning of last year) that \$500,000 can be spent on transport

research. Possibly there will again be a shortfall at the end of this year. The Government is determined that the allocation will be spent on fruitful research into this vital problem.

Mr. COUMBE: I refer to the items "Municipal Tramways Trust" and "Transport Research". In previous years \$1,000,000 has been provided for the replacement of the M.T.T. diesel fleet, but \$400,000 was provided last year and that amount is provided again this year. The Minister has often said that public road transport should be upgraded, and I would have expected some forward planning or expenditure on the upgrading of the M.T.T. fleet. Road transport includes not only the radial routes we have at present but also, possibly more importantly, cross-country or circular ring routes. Therefore, if this planning is proceeding as I hope it is, one would have expected that the figure of \$400,000 would be increased. Before the Minister of Transport went overseas I asked him for a reply to a question on the Government's forward planning in this area, but as yet I have received no reply. I do not blame the Minister, because he is away, but I would have expected a reply from someone before now.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): At this stage I cannot give the honourable member more detail, but I will get a report for him and let him have it in a few days.

Mr. VENNING: I refer to the loan to the South Australian Meat Corporation. In 1972 the estimated payment was \$50,000, yet in 1973-74 there is an estimated repayment of \$7,000 and a credit of \$7,000. As I cannot understand that line, will the Treasurer explain it?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Last year we estimated that we would have to advance to Samcor the sum of \$50,000, but that was not required. Other advances were made to it, but not under this line. The honourable member will see that there is no proposed payment on this line to Samcor this year. In fact, Samcor is borrowing money otherwise than through this line. There are, however, outstanding Government loans previously made to the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board, whose liabilities have been taken over by Samcor. It is repaying \$7,000 this year, and that gives a credit of \$7,000 in this line.

Mr. COUMBE: I refer to the item "Non-Government Hospital and Institution Buildings". Sums are provided for Calvary Hospital and the Helping Hand Centre, yet no mention is made of any grant to the Adelaide Children's Hospital. I am aware of the design problems that have arisen as a result of inquiries by the City of Adelaide

Development Committee. Does the absence of any reference to the hospital mean that no contribution will be made in this financial year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: At this stage it is not clear what the amount will be that we will be called on to provide for the Adelaide Children's Hospital this year, but I expect there will be provision.

Mr. VENNING: I refer to the item "Non-Government Hospital and Institution Buildings". The sum of \$150,000 is to be spent on the Port Broughton Hospital. How will that sum be spent? I understand that plans are being drawn up for work at the hospital. Is work expected to proceed this year?

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

Mr. MATHWIN: The sum of \$230,000 is to be provided for the Crippled Children's Association towards moving from its present site to Islington over a period. Is that the full amount to be granted to the association in respect of its transfer to Islington?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not think so but I will get a report for the honourable member and let him know.

Mr. McANANEY: Regarding the financing of the festival theatre, only \$100,000 is owing. Does this mean that the whole of the cost of the festival theatre is to be paid for by interest-free grants from the Commonwealth Government?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Festival Theatre Trust is raising much of this money by means of semi-government loan.

Dr. EASTICK: The sum of \$929,000 is provided for new works as may be approved in connection with university and advanced education buildings. Can the Minister give details of this allocation?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The details of this proposal are contained in the programme for the triennium. This is simply a payment in accordance with the triennial programme of the Universities Commission.

Line passed.

Miscellaneous, \$3,455,000—passed.

First schedule passed.

Second schedule passed.

Clauses 1 to 11 and title passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10.3 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, August 22, at 2 p.m.