HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, August 30, 1973

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

ASSENT TO BILLS

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

Fire Brigades Act Amendment,
Planning and Development Act Amendment,
Police Regulation Act Amendment,
Young Men's Christian Association of Port Pirie Act
Amendment.

OUESTIONS

HOSPITAL ESCAPEE

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Premier say whether he has determined which Minister or Ministers failed to ensure that the public was adequately informed of the escape from hospital custody of Michael David Mitchell? This is a subject of considerable public disguiet, as I believe members will have realized through the number of telephone calls they have received today. On other occasions, the opportunity has been given to announce the escape of this type of person, and the fact that this person has been apprehended in Victoria less than 24 hours after the announcement made yesterday suggests that an earlier announcement would have been advantageous. In 1971, the Attorney-General directed that Mitchell was "not to be given leave or transferred without the Attorney-General's express permission", and he also stated that Mitchell did "not have a violent or dangerous disposition". The police report today, as evidenced in this morning's newspaper, is that at the time of his escape from hospital Mitchell was regarded as being dangerous. I believe that all aspects of this incident demand a complete and frank statement by the Premier. Indeed, anything less than this will be unacceptable to the House or to the public of South

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: In March, 1970, the Supreme Court placed Mitchell, on a charge of manslaughter, under the control of the then Minister of Social Welfare until the age of 18 years. At the same time, he was placed on a bond for three years, with supervision to commence from his eighteenth birthday. This bond would have been supervised by the Adult Probation Service from May 9, 1972, but in May, 1971, Mitchell absconded and was committed by the Juvenile Court on June 11, 1971, to McNally Training Centre for two years. That order expired on June 11, 1973. Following a request from the Community Welfare Department, Mitchell was examined by the Mental Health Services in early June, 1973, and was transferred from McNally Training Centre to Hillcrest Hospital on June 8 following certification. That is, he was not incarcerated following the sentence: he was a certified mental defective, and he was in Hillcrest Hospital in consequence of that fact. On August 10 last, Mitchell absconded from Hillcrest Hospital and, on his absconding, the Police Department was immediately notified by the Public Health Department. At that time the Police Department did not request of the Government that any publicity be given to the matter. In fact, Mitchell was arrested at Traralgon (Vic.) on a housebreaking charge. He had been in Victoria for the past two weeks, and the announcement in South Australia of the police searching

for him had nothing to do with his arrest in Victoria on a housebreaking charge. What precisely the Leader is at, I do not know. It has nothing to do with the abduction of the two little girls—

Dr. Eastick: That wasn't what I meant, and you know it. The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It was referred to in a press report.

Dr. Eastick: It wasn't mentioned in this House.

The SPEAKER: Order! Standing orders shall prevail concerning all members and will be adhered to. The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: As to the other matters, all departments concerned have proceeded in their normal way, and Mitchell has been arrested following his absconding; he has been on a couple of other occasions, as a matter of fact, which have led in two cases to further dealing with him.

Mr. HALL: Will the Premier say what action he will take to restore public confidence in the deplorably lax conditions his Government has allowed in respect of the supervision of Michael Mitchell? Further, can the Premier say whether this person viciously attacked at least one person (using a knife and iron bar as weapons) while free from a Government institution, and does the Premier now agree with the remarks of the Attorney-General that Mitchell does not have a violent or dangerous disposition when, on October 5, 1971, he is reported in the News as saying, "The danger comes from periods when he absconds"?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: As far as my information serves me, I do not believe that the allegations of the honourable member are correct. I should be grateful if the honourable member would give me more details of his allegations and I will have them investigated. They certainly have no basis in information given the Government on this matter.

Later:

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have a further report on the circumstances that have been alleged in this House this afternoon by the member for Goyder in relation to the boy Mitchell. The honourable member suggested that Mitchell had been responsible for menacing people with an iron bar and a knife, but the reports of departmental officers can in no way substantiate any such suggestion. The facts in relation to Mitchell are that, at the age of 16 he was convicted of manslaughter of a small girl; he is simple; the girl with whom he used to associate often teased him; and in the circumstances of the case, where her death occurred, she apparently teased him and called him gobbledegook; in a fit of rage he held her head under the water, he said, to stop her from saying that to him. He is quite simple, and he was committed to care as a result. There is no suggestion that he is, in normal circumstances, in any way violent: the only fear is that, because he is simple, his reactions to people's teasing him for his simplicity can be irrational.

It was in these circumstances that, following his care in McNally Training Centre, he was certified and committed to Hillcrest. When he absconded, the police were notified and, if they then believed that it was proper for publicity to be given to that escape, it was of course in their hands to give publicity to it. The police did not believe that that was necessary at the time, and in this I believe that they were responsible. In due season, Mitchell was found in Victoria, where he had been for two weeks. Frankly, I cannot believe that there is the slightest basis for the honourable member's suggestion of lax administration in

this matter; nor do I believe it proper that allegations which have no substance in them at all as to the nature of this young man's activities should be made in this House.

WEST LAKES

Mr. HARRISON: Will the Minister of Marine consider arranging a visit by members to West Lakes with a view to inspecting the progress made on that project at this stage?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: In my capacity as Minister of Marine, I am responsible for liaison between West Lakes Limited and the Government on matters in which the Government is involved. However, I have no authority to speak on behalf of the West Lakes organization concerning the arrangement of an inspection, although I am certain that the Managing Director of the West Lakes project (Mr. Curtis), to whom I will convey the honourable member's request, will be only too pleased to arrange the inspection requested by the honourable member to view the progress made on work on this large undertaking. This worthwhile development, which will eventually house about 20 000 people, will feature a manmade lake, which, in the future, will probably be used as a rowing course and as such will be of world standard. If Mr. Curtis agrees to the inspection tour, I will let honourable members know when suitable arrangements can be made for that tour to take place.

RESTRICTED FILMS

Mr. COUMBE: Can the Attorney-General say what is the Government's policy with regard to the screening of restricted films? Today's newspaper contains a report stating that the Commonwealth Attorney-General (Senator Murphy) is soon to attend a conference of Ministers from the various States. He is reported to have said, in relation to the screening of R films, that the upper age limit of 18 years, which prevails under the present legislation in this State, will be considered with a view to reducing it. As this subject is of great concern to many parents in. the community, I ask what is the policy of the Government on this matter and what attitude will be adopted by our representative at this conference.

The Hon. L. J. KING: True, tomorrow in Canberra the Commonwealth and State Ministers concerned with these matters will meet at a conference at which the question of age limits will be discussed. I have read of a suggestion, not by the Commonwealth Attorney-General but by an organization, that the upper age limit should be reduced to 16 years. There has certainly been no communication to me suggesting that the view of the Commonwealth Attorney-General is that the age should be reduced. This morning, I read the report to which the honourable member has referred, and I was not at all sure what it was conveying. Although it referred to the lowering of age limits, it went on to say that some other States might wish to follow the South Australian example and reduce the lower age limit from six years to two years. It may well be that that was what was in mind in the early part of the article where reference was made to lowering the age limit. All I can say is that I have had no suggestion from the Commonwealth that it favours a reduction of the limit from 18 years to 16 years. The view adopted throughout by this Government has been that the appropriate age is the age of adult responsibility, which is 18 years. There has certainly been no suggestion of any change of attitude by the South Australian Government. If the question does arise at the conference, the view I will take is that the appropriate age for a decision of this kind is the age of adult responsibility (whatever that may be from time to time), which in South Australia is 18 years of age.

NON-DELIVERIES

Mr. WELLS: Will the Premier have investigated the circumstances surrounding the non-delivery, between Wednesday, August 22, and Monday, August 27, of coca-cola, and drinks manufactured by George Hall & Sons Limited, and also the circumstances surrounding the fulfilment of an order to a wholesale tobacconist last Monday? This morning I was approached by two of my constituents, each of whom is the proprietor of a delicatessen. They bitterly complained that Coca-Cola Bottlers and Halls Drinks had ceased delivering their products as from last Wednesday, had withdrawn sales representatives from the road from last Wednesday also, and had made no deliveries whatsoever until last Monday. Of course, that date embraces the period during which the increased prices in the rate of soft drinks apply. My constituents further complained that on Monday last a tobacco representative saw them and, especially in the case of one constituent who placed his normal order, informed them (after he had accepted the order) that he could not supply the items ordered because his company's stock was completely exhausted, and it did not have a cigarette left in store. That was at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, yet later in the same day the order was delivered, the representative saying that he had managed to fulfil the order but, of course, the order was supplied at the new price. My constituents believe that this is an attempt to evade the intention and operations of the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs, as well as the provision in the recent Commonwealth Budget. As I, too, believe this to be the case, I ask the Premier to have this matter investigated. Further, as I have full authority to tell the Premier the names of the people concerned, I ask that, if these allegations are substantial, prosecutions shall be launched.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: As I am not sure that there is a basis for prosecution under the Prices Act, I shall have the matter investigated for the honourable member.

WHYALLA WELFARE CENTRE

Mr. MAX BROWN: Will the Premier obtain a report about the length of time the working committee established to plan the Whyalla community welfare and art centre intends to leave the preliminary plans open for inspection and receive suggestions from the general public before it makes firm plans about the first five-year stage of development? The Premier is aware that the overall preliminary plan is now available in Whyalla for inspection by the general public, but I am concerned that if too much time is taken on this phase considerable delay could result, thus holding up a most important development in Whyalla.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get an accurate report for the honourable member. I assure him that, although the plan is open to public comment and the questionnaire is being circulated, additional planning work is being done—tentatively, of course, because it will be assessed in the light of the replies to the questionnaire. However, I assure him that there will be no delay. I will find out For the honourable member the period for which the proposal will be open to public comment.

KEITH POLICE

Mr. RODDA: Will the Attorney-General discuss with the Chief Secretary the appointment of another police officer to Keith? I have been told that at present only one police officer is on active duty in the Keith area, the sergeant of police being absent on sick leave. The police station at Frances has been closed and Keith is situated in an area where there should be adequate police supervision. Furthermore, I have been told that the police motor cars in that area do not have radio control. Leading citizens in Keith have told me that they are apprehensive about this lack of police supervision, and I should be pleased if the Attorney would bring the matter to his colleague's attention

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

SOUTH ROAD ACCIDENTS

Mr. HOPGOOD: In the absence of the Minister of Transport, will the Minister of Environment and Conservation obtain for the House details of any plans that the Highways Department has to more adequately sign-post or redesign the intersections of Main South Road with States Road, Reynella by-pass (northern end), Reynella by-pass (southern end), Chandler Hill Road, and Black Road? The Minister, in reply on August 21 to my Question on Notice about this matter, stated that during the calendar year 1972 the number of accidents at each of these intersections was 6, 6, 2, 13 and 11, respectively. Although the Chandler Hill Road intersection has been improved considerably, including improvements to lighting, the intersection of Main South Road and Black Road, in particular, still causes concern to local motorists.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I shall be pleased to get that information for the honourable member.

BELLEVUE HEIGHTS SCHOOL

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked during the Loan Estimates debate about when Bellevue Heights Primary School will be opened?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The new primary school at Bellevue Heights is scheduled for availability towards the end of 1975. It will be appreciated that this is a proposed availability date that may be varied by circumstances outside our control. Because Bellevue Heights Primary School will be involved in teacher training with Sturt College of Advanced Education, it is proposed that discussions will be held with the Director and staff of the Sturt college so that facilities provided at Bellevue Heights may be in line with the training programme organized by the college. These discussions are planned to take place within the next fortnight.

ALEXANDRA SCHOOLS

Mr. CHAPMAN: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question about school work projects to be carried out in the District of Alexandra?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: No major projects are included in the 88 single items listed on the 1973-74 Loan Estimates for the District of Alexandra. However, included under the heading "General—Minor Alterations and Additions", the following projects have been provided for in the total of \$4,150,000: change-rooms at Parndana Area School, \$32,000; office accommodation and extensions to the science laboratory store at Mount Compass Area School, \$2,640; and provision of common room, pottery room, and woodwork and metalwork rooms and provision of shelter shed for Victor Harbor High School. The Victor Harbor projects are currently being designed, but as yet no estimates have been compiled. Provision has also been made for preliminary investigation and design of a six-teacher open unit for Kingscote Area School.

WEATHER STATIONS

Mr. BLACKER: Has the Minister of Education, in the temporary absence of the Minister of Works, a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my recent question on weather stations on Eyre Peninsula?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Minister of Works states that the establishment and location of weather stations are the responsibility of the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology. Nevertheless, he took up the honourable member's question with the Minister of Agriculture, who states that a survey is being conducted at present on an Australia-wide basis to review and rationalize district meteorological boundaries and nomenclature. In South Australia, following discussions between officers of interested Commonwealth and Slate departments and instrumentalities, proposals have been drawn up for a division of the present western agricultural district into four separate areas having regard to climate, weather, topographical features, human activity, and other related factors. Subject to acceptance of this recommendation and official promulgation of new boundaries and district names, the bureau will be able to adopt the changed organization. The Regional Director of the Bureau of Meteorology in South Australia has told the Minister of Agriculture that for some time Cummins has been considered a suitable site for an extra reporting station in the area and, in the event of the proposed new district boundaries being accepted, would be fairly centrally located in the suggested new Lower Eyre Peninsula district. Pending a decision by the Commonwealth Government on the general question of new stations, the bureau intends to establish Cummins as a meteorological observing station as soon as the necessary equipment can be installed and staff trained.

IMMIGRATION

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Premier, in his capacity as Minister in charge of immigration, say whether there has been, or whether there is at present, any special advertising campaign on the Continent or in the United Kingdom by the Immigration Department in an effort to attract to this State migrants who are qualified tradesmen, particularly those who are qualified in the building trades? I have brought this matter up a number of times, and I am sure the Premier is well aware of the present shortage of tradesmen, particularly those employed in the building industry. In reply to a recent question, the Premier said that migrants were very hard to get. Is a special campaign being conducted?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not think there is a special campaign. Advertisements are published from time to time in the United Kingdom as to the need for immigrants in special categories and I will get an accurate report for the honourable member as to the effect of such advertisements.

RURAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. RUSSACK: Has the Minister of Education, in the temporary absence of the Minister of Works, a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my recent question on rural unemployment?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Australian Government provided a grant to this State of \$940,800 under the rural unemployment relief scheme for expenditure prior to September 30, 1973. As no further grants were provided for the metropolitan unemployment relief scheme beyond June 30, 1973, the Australian Government agreed to a portion of this amount being used to phase that scheme down. As I have a table showing details, I ask permission to have it incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

RURAL SCHEME

The following amounts have been granted to participating authorities under the rural scheme:

authorities under the rurar scheme.	\$ 6,000
Angaston	6,000
Balaklava	4,000
Barmera Barossa	10,000 2,800
Beachport	6,000
Berri	10,000
Blyth	6,400
Brown's Well	3,000
Burra	6,400 2,800
Bute Carrieton	1,000
Central Yorke Peninsula	16,000
Clare	4,400
Cleve	3.000
Crystal Brook	5,600
Dudley	2,000
East Murray Elliston	4,000 7,000
Encounter Bay	6,000
Eudunda	3,600
Franklin Harbor	8,000
Gawler	14,000
Meadows	1,000
Meningie	5,500
Millicent	20,000 4,800
Minlaton Mobilong	3,000
Moonta C.T	8,000
Mount Barker	2,600
Mount Gambier C.T	17,500
Mount Gambier D.C.	6,000
Mount Pleasant	5,000
Mudla WirraMunno Para	5,000 5,000
Gladstone	4,000
Gumeracha	2,800
Hallett	2,400
Jamestown C.T	3,600
Jamestown D.C	4,500
Kadina C.T	4,700 5,600
Kadina D.C Kanyaka-Quorn	2,400
Kapunda	5,600
Karoonda	1,400
Kimba	2,000
Kingscote	4,400
LacepedeLameroo	3,300 4,000
Laura	3.800
Le Hunte.	7,500
Lincoln	25,000
Loxton	10,00
Lucindale	2,300
Mannum	3,500
Mannum Marne	5,300 5,800
MarnePort MacDonnell	3,000
Port Pirie C.T.	45,00
Port Pirie D.C.	10,00
Port Wakefield	3,000
Redhill	3,20
RenmarkRiverton	15,00 3,40
Robe	3,40
Robertstown	5,00
Saddleworth and Auburn	3,00
Sedan	7,40
Snowtown	4,80
Murray Bridge	25,000 6,000
Murray Bridge Naracoorte C.T	10,00
Naracoorte C.T	4,50
Onkaparinga	2.00
Orroroo	5,40
Owen	2,50
Paringa	3,00
PenolaPeterborough C.T	4,70
Peterborough C.TPeterborough D.C	5,80 3,90
1 CO10010ugu D.C	3,90

	3
Pinnaroo	3,000
Port Augusta.	40,000
Port Broughton	4,200
Port Germein	12,000
Port Lincoln	30,000
Spalding	3,500
Strathalbyn D.C	4,800
Streaky Bay	6,000
Tatiara	4,000
Truro	3,000
Tumby Bay	20,000
Victor Harbor.	3,700
Wallaroo	15,000
Whyalla	35,000
Yorketown	12,000
Education Department	25,000
Further Education Department	5,000
Community Welfare Department	5,000

LAND AND VALUATION COURT

Mr. WARDLE: In the temporary absence of the Attorney-General, can the Premier say whether it is possible to withdraw money from the Land and Valuation Court within two weeks of its being deposited with the court? In the designated area of Monarto several valuations are being made, and at least four farmers have options on properties in the South-East. On my information, it would seem that by the middle of September the notice of acquisition expires, when the State Planning Authority can pay into the Land and Valuation Court the sum it considers the properties to be worth, although there may be no agreement with the owner that he will accept that price. From September 13 to September 30 these gentlemen may, if they can obtain the money from the court, pay a deposit on the properties they are considering buying. Could that money be withdrawn within 14 days of deposit?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: From memory, I understand that they can get it only if they accept it in settlement of the amount of acquisition. However, I will ascertain whether we can expedite the matter for them.

NORTHFIELD HOSPITAL

Mr. VENNING: Before asking the Minister of Works a question, may I ask you a question, Mr. Speaker? Recently it has been most difficult to hear the Premier speaking, because of his amplification system, I believe. Perhaps that could be attended to.

The SPEAKER: Order! All I can say in reply to the honourable member's question is that I have no control whatever over the voice or the volume of the voice of the Premier.

Mr. VENNING: Something is wrong with the Premier's amplification system. My comment is not personal, but something is wrong.

The SPEAKER: Order! This is not the subject matter of a question, but now that the matter has been raised, may I explain that it has been realized that the amplification system in this House does not meet requirements. Negotiations and discussions have taken place with officers of the Public Buildings Department, and it is expected that, while the House is being renovated, early next year a new, modern, and probably the most up-to-date amplification system in any Parliament of the Commonwealth is likely to be installed.

Mr. VENNING: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Has the Minister of Works a reply to a question I asked some time ago about the swimming pool at Northfield Hospital?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The hydrotherapy pool at the Morris Hospital was constructed under a contract that was let by the Public Buildings Department. The

contractor was instructed to undertake remedial work following the break-down of the original fibre glass coating. However, this work was not satisfactory. The pool has since been recoated. In addition, the heating problems have been attended to. Allowing for a curing period for the coating, the pool will be available by the end of the first week in September, in about a week.

JAPANESE CAR PLANTS

Mr. COUMBE: Is the Premier aware of conflicting views about establishing Japanese car manufacturing plants in this State? It has been reported that the Premier has written to the Prime Minister of Australia suggesting that the Japanese car plants be not established in South Australia (that is, if they were to come here anyway)—

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: I did not say "in South Australia"

Mr. COUMBE: —and detailing his reasons, which I followed quite well. I notice that the Secretary of the South Australian Branch of the Vehicle Builders Union (Mr. Abbott) is reported as saying that these plants are only (and I emphasize "only") to be established in this State because of employment and because South Australia has a special place in the car manufacturing industry of this nation. Therefore, I ask the Premier how he reconciles his reported views with the opposing views of the trade union concerned.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No opposition in view occurs between me and the trade union concerned. Trade unions in South Australia have expressed concern at the suggestion that this country should have far more car plants, proportionately, in relation to the size of the domestic market than has any other country in the world, saying, in fact, that in view of the nature of the present major investment in car plant capacity in Australia there is a case for rationalization of car plant manufacture rather than its proliferation. The point of view advanced by the unions is one that I support. If it is decided that there shall be additional manufacture in Australia, the logical place for that manufacture to take place would be here, where some use of existing plant capacity could occur and where the major componentry for the whole of car manufacture already exists. If the effect on employment in Australia of additional car plant manufacture is to be minimized, that car plant manufacture should occur here. There is no conflict in the two views, and I have put exactly that position to the Commonwealth Government.

POINT McLEAY RESERVE

Mr. EVANS: At the request of the member for Mallee, and with his permission, I ask a question on his behalf of the Minister of Environment and Conservation. Has the Minister a reply to a question asked by the member for Mallee on August 14 about Point McLeay Reserve?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: A direct grant of \$204,000 has been made by the Australian Government to Point McLeay Aboriginal Housing Society Incorporated for the upgrading of housing on Point McLeay Reserve. This grant was made in response to a detailed submission that was made by the Point McLeay Housing Society to the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs. Similar grants by the Australian Government are available to housing societies established by Aboriginal groups throughout the Commonwealth. These grants are to enable the housing societies to undertake programmes of building or purchase of houses to meet the housing needs of Aboriginal groups or communities. So far 10 Aboriginal housing societies have been established in South Australia

and have received direct grants of varying amounts from the Australian Government.

PATAWALONGA LAKE

Mr. BECKER: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation, representing the Minister of Transport, suggest to the south-western suburbs drainage scheme authority that it ask the contractor working on the Patawalonga dredging scheme to prevent silt being spilt on nearby roadways? At present contractors are dredging in the Patawalonga basin. This entails dredging silt from the bottom of the lake, depositing it on trucks, and carting it away to the Adelaide Airport. During the wet weather nearby roads, especially Adelphi Terrace, are made extremely dangerous through the spilling of a considerable quantity of the silt, and on a day such as today the dust nuisance is intolerable. Indeed, many constituents have complained to me that the dust is penetrating their houses and damaging property. Will the Minister ascertain what action can be taken to request the contractors concerned to avoid these spillages that are making conditions unbearable for local residents and creating a traffic hazard, especially on Adelphi Terrace?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will certainly take up the matter and see what can be done to solve the problem.

EASTERN SUBURBS RAILWAY

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Can the Minister representing the Minister of Transport say whether any long-term planning is being considered by the Transport Planning and Development Branch research team with a view ultimately to having the eastern suburbs served by an underground railway system? If it is, can the relevant plans be made public at this stage? With the concurrence of the House, and also that of the member for Ross Smith, I point out that people in the eastern suburbs generally are opposed to further road widening, and I fully appreciate their point of view. Furthermore, the Adelaide City Council is opposed to widening roads through the park lands. As public transport to and from the eastern suburbs is inadequate at this stage, I ask the question, being concerned about the likely transport problems of people in the Davenport District and in the eastern suburbs generally.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will check to see what information can be provided for the honourable member.

SPECIAL SCHOOL

Mrs. BYRNE: Will the Minister of Education consider renaming the proposed Gilles Plains Special School the Modbury South Special School? The report of the Public Works Committee, dated August 21, recommends the construction of a special school at Gilles Plains at an estimated cost of \$515,000. Under the heading "Location of School", the report states:

It was the original intention to build the permanent Gilles Plains Special School on the site presently occupied by the temporary Gilles Plains Special School. This location, however, does not provide the facilities necessary for adequate pupil involvement within the community and with children of normal intelligence. Consequently, a new site has been obtained adjoining the Modbury South Primary School and closer to community facilities.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I should have imagined That, in the normal course of events, if the special school were to be located near Modbury Primary School such a renaming would take place. However, I will have the matter investigated and bring down a reply as soon as possible.

CHILD-CARE CENTRES

Mr. HALL: Can the Premier tell the House whether his Government, the Commonwealth Government, or both Governments, intend to establish day nurseries in this State and, if it is intended, what effect those day nurseries will have on existing nurseries and child-minding centres? A person involved privately in running a day nursery has found that he is unable to ascertain what the Government intends in this regard, and he is concerned that Government agencies may run day nurseries in opposition to his type of operation. He would therefore like to know whether any substantive facts can be given about what is intended in this matter. Although the person concerned is not being critical (at least not at this stage), he wishes to know whether such nurseries are to be built, whether they will be leased to private operators or run by Government, or just what the future holds for those who operate existing nurseries. If the Premier would like me to direct the question to the Minister of Community Welfare, to whom perhaps I should have directed it, anyway, I should be happy to do so.

The Hon. L. J. KING: At present there has been no official indication from the Commonwealth Government as to its precise intentions regarding the establishment of children's day-care centres. However, inquiries have been directed from the Commonwealth Social Security Department to the State Community Welfare Department concerning whether bodies, organizations or people in South Australia in certain areas are willing to organize child-care centres so as to qualify for Commonwealth financial assistance. So far as we are aware at present, the only initiatives have been for the purpose of stimulating organizations or individuals to organize and promote non-profitmaking child-care centres with a view to receiving Commonwealth financial support in that regard. I do not know of any other information that has been obtained from the Commonwealth Government. However, I will now check with the department to see whether any further information is available and let the honourable member know

SCHOOL BURSARS

Mr. BECKER: Can the Minister of Education say why he has taken nine months to complete the appointment of school bursars? I understand that the closing date for applications for the position of school bursar was November 15, 1972, and that 24 positions were advertised. In July, I wrote to the Minister about the matter and his reply stated that 17 of the 24 positions had been filled. A constituent of mine who has raised this matter is concerned about why it has taken nine months for these appointments to be announced.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am not entirely certain about all the factors that are involved in relation to this matter. I know that numerous discussions took place about precise qualifications and the suitability of certain applicants. There were arguments whether female as well as male officers were qualified for the position. Because of the many positions and applications, the overall matter of determining recommendations was difficult. As I am not clear in relation to all the factors involved, I will see what information I can obtain for the honourable member.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Minister of Labour and Industry a reply to my recent question about the terms of reference of the committee established to prevent exploitation in industry?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: The appointment by the Australian Government of Committees on Discrimination in Employment followed that Government's decision, with the agreement of the six State Governments, to ratify International Labour Convention No. 111. The convention is unusual among International Labour Office standards since it requires the declaration and pursuit of a policy rather than compliance with specific standards. The convention, which is concerned only with discrimination in employment and occupation, requires ratifying countries, first, to declare a national policy designed to promote equality of opportunity and treatment in respect of employment and occupation with a view to eliminating any discrimination in respect thereof, and secondly, to pursue the policy in accordance with the range of action specified in the convention. For the purpose of the convention, "discrimination" includes any distinction, exclusion or preference made on the basis of race, colour, sex, religion, political opinion, national extraction or social origin which has the effect of nullifying or impairing equality of opportunity or treatment in employment or occupation. Committees on Discrimination in Employment have been appointed by the Australian Government in each State on a tripartite basis with an independent Chairman, two Government representatives, and one trade union and one employer representative. One of the two Government representatives has been nominated by the State Government concerned and the other by the Australian Government. The main function of the State committees will be to consider allegations of breaches of the national policy relating to discrimination in employment and occupation.

In a statement that the Australian Minister for Labour (Hon. C. R. Cameron) made in the House of Representatives last May, he indicated it was envisaged that allegations, however they are raised (including approaches direct to the Minister for Labour or by way of representations from a Commonwealth or State Parliamentarian, or by complaints to Government departments or the committees), will be investigated initially by the secretariat established to service the Committees on Discrimination in Employment. The secretariat is located in the Australian Department of Labour. Where a complainant has recourse to other forms of redress (for example, through proceedings before a court or an industrial tribunal or to existing appeals machinery), he or she will be advised of the available avenues and the complaint will ordinarily not be pursued if these avenues have not been exhausted. If the complaint cannot be dealt with in this way, the investigation officers of the secretariat will seek information from the parties. In the cases of discrimination covered by the convention, they would then attempt to resolve the matter by using their good offices. Where this intervention does not produce a solution, the matter will be referred to the State committee which will operate in whatever manner it considers most appropriate to resolve the matter in accordance with the declared policy. Where a matter cannot be resolved in this way by the State committee, it will be free to send it to the national committee. From the above detail it is evident that the operations of the committee will supplement rather than overlap or override State legislation on discrimination.

ROCK MUSIC FOUNDATION

Mr. EVANS: Can the Premier say whether the Government is seriously considering making moneys available for the creation of a rock music foundation in South Australia? Last Friday's *Advertiser* contains the following report by Greg Kelton:

The South Australian Government has been asked by 23-year-old Adelaide rock promotions director, Mr. David Turner, to set up a rock music foundation.

The sum referred to in the article is \$200,000. I understand that a further report was included in another newspaper over the weekend. This matter is of concern to the community, as there is a shortage of money for important projects, with the consequent need for some order of priority.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The suggestion rocked me; there is no provision for it in the Budget.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE PARKING

Mr. CHAPMAN: In the temporary absence of the Minister of Works, can the Premier say who has the controlling authority over the parking of cars in North Terrace directly in front of Parliament House? In the event of unauthorized parking in this area, can action be taken without the ordinary exercise of the City Council's parking by-laws? When was action last taken against a motorist for unauthorized parking in this area? What was the outcome, if any, of that prosecution? Will the Premier arrange for an inquiry to be held into the parking of vehicles in front of Parliament House with a view to reducing the number of cars parked there that do not have the visual disc authority which I understand is required?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Car parking in front of Parliament House is under the control of the Minister of Works. If provisions relating to parking are breached, there is no necessity to rely on City Council by-laws. I will ask the Minister of Works to investigate the matter and get a report for the honourable member.

RAILWAY TRAVEL

Mr. HALL: Will the Minister representing the Minister of Transport take action to prevent the Railways Department from selling first-class tickets to passengers who are then placed in second-class compartments? I have received a letter from a person who is most irate about the fact that his wife and daughter bought two first-class tickets to travel by train to Naracoorte; the first-class compartment being filled, they were placed in a second-class compartment, with a first-class sticker being placed on the window. Another person with a second-class ticket, on entering the second-class compartment (now stickered with a first-class sticker), was told to leave. This person is obviously (and from what I can see, properly) irate at the taking of his money and the classifying of people who can occupy a second-class carriage which is labelled as a first-class carriage. I ask the Minister to take appropriate action.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will certainly have this matter examined. I would appreciate the honourable member's telling me when this incident occurred so that the department can more closely check it.

MOBILE LIBRARIES

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Minister of Education received the report he promised to obtain in reply to my question of August 8 concerning the re-equipment of Municipal Tramways Trust buses as mobile libraries? Last year I asked the Minister a similar question about the use of these buses by handicapped people. I am pleased to say that this matter was investigated and those buses are now in good use. On August 8, I asked the Minister whether he would get a report on the further use of buses as mobile libraries. I understand that a full investigation has been made and that the report is favourable.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Certain preliminary investigations have been undertaken on this proposition, especially by a person in our community who has been most involved in the establishment of mobile libraries and who is known to both the honourable member and me. I understand it is possible to convert M.T.T. buses for use as mobile libraries but, before taking the matter any further, as I knew that the buses were of excessive width and that there might be difficulties in using the buses as mobile libraries on suburban or country roads, I referred the matter to the Minister of Transport for a report from the Road Traffic Board. I have since been told of certain requirements that the board would insist on if such vehicles were to be used as mobile libraries, particularly outside the metropolitan area. As a consequence of that report, I have referred the matter back again to the State Librarian for further consideration by him. Clearly, if serious restrictions are applied by the Road Traffic Board on the use of such buses as mobile libraries, we must determine whether or not the buses can be used under such restricted conditions. When I receive an assessment from the State Librarian and the Libraries Board I shall be happy to give the honourable member further information.

COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Minister of Education indicate whether a decision has been made on the closing of schools in 1974? Will the schools to be closed be offered for sale or will they be retained for departmental use?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: No decision has been made on the possible closure of schools in 1974. We have now reached the stage where the number of schools that can be closed is not great, and those that will be closed will close mainly as a consequence of the upgrading of the receiving school: for example, we intend to close Brentwood school when the receiving school (Minlaton Primary School) has been upgraded. However, until the upgrading of the receiving school takes place, Brentwood will remain open. There are several similar situations. The stage has been reached where decisions concerning the future of such schools will be made as and when the need arises rather than as a set of decisions at one time of the year. I will certainly see whether any recommendations have been made for the 1974 school year. Regarding the latter half of the Leader's question, the schools that have been closed in the past have been disposed of: they have been handed over to the local council or to a trust or they have been sold. However, in the last 18 months there has been an increasing demand by other schools in search of camp sites for small schools that have been closed. Provided the parent school taking them over keeps them in good order and ensures proper maintenance of the buildings and grounds, this can be arranged. There are several instances where existing schools have taken such schools over and, in view of this, we are adopting a much more cautious policy on the disposal of closed schools. I am sure the Leader would appreciate that it benefits the local community when a school is closed if some activity is generated from outside in relation to that facility.

Dr. Eastick: A permanent family would be useful.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: That is important and, if a house is associated with the school, that raises different issues again. Nevertheless, the idea of fostering an interest from other schools is valuable and is something we shall be doing from now on.

LAND YACHTS

Mr. BECKER: Can the Minister representing the Minister of Transport say why permits issued by the Registrar of Motor Vehicles to the owners of land yachts were revoked and why such strict regulations have been enforced? The Adelaide Land Yacht Club has 16 craft which club members sail on the beach at Port Gawler. The local council has given approval for the club to sail on the beach and the area is cordoned off so that there is no danger to the public. I understand the Road Traffic Board has suggested that certain alterations be made to land yachts, and this suggestion has resulted in the club having to cease operations. Will the Minister look at this matter and have it reviewed?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I shall be pleased to have the matter examined, although I should have thought that the prime reason for this decision being taken related to safety on beaches. The honourable member in his explanation said it was considered there was no danger. However, as I am not certain of the speeds that these craft attain on beaches (I imagine they could reach high speeds), I will have the matter examined and see whether we can provide the honourable member with information on why the decision was made and whether it can be reconsidered.

NATURAL GAS

Mr. GUNN: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation make the same strong protest to the Commonwealth Government as he did to the previous Commonwealth Government if it goes ahead with measures included in the Budget to apply an excise duty on gas used in motor vehicles? The Commonwealth Budget introduced by Mr. Snedden last year provided for an excise duty on petroleum gas and I recall that at that time the Minister of Environment and Conservation strongly criticized the decision. In explaining this year's Budget, Mr. Crean said:

The question whether an excise duty should be levied on liquefied gas used in motor vehicles is being kept under study.

Will the Minister, if he is of the same opinion as he was last year, protest at what Mr. Crean has said?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Yes, most certainly. I shall be contacting the Commonwealth Government and the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment and Conservation to put forward the same views as I and other members of the Government expressed last year when suggestions were made that there should be an excise on this product. I consider that we took a proper view last year, and I adhere to it. I hope that any representations made will be dealt with properly when the consideration referred to is being undertaken.

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2)

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended the House of Assembly to make appropriation of such amounts of the general revenue of the State as were required for all purposes set forth in the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1973-74 and the Appropriation Bill (No. 2), 1973.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act for the appropriation of revenue of the State for the financial year ending on June 30. 1974, and for other purposes. Read a first time.

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

That this Bill be now read a second time.

I present the Government's Revenue Budget proposals for 1973-74, which forecast aggregate receipts of \$611,636,000, aggregate payments of \$622,890,000 and, accordingly, an estimated deficit of \$11,254,000. The forecast of payments comprises an estimate of \$612,890,000 at wage and salary rates effective at the middle of August, when departmental figures were settled in their final form for printing in detail in the Estimates, and a round sum provision of \$10,000,000 for the possible cost of new salary and wage rate approvals which may become effective during the rest of the year. The recent gazettal of increased salary rates for clerical and associated groups, following similar increases in the Australian Public Service and in some other States, will cost about \$2,500,000 in 1973-74. This cost is the first major impact against the round sum provision of \$10,000,000. The necessary departmental appropriation for this and other awards will be arranged under a special provision which is incorporated in the main Appropriation Bill each year.

As to the longer term situation of the Consolidated Revenue Account, members may recall that at the beginning of 1972-73 there was an accumulated deficit of \$5,624,000, that early in the year we learned of a recommendation by the Grants Commission for a completion grant of \$7,500,000 in respect of the period to June 30, 1971, and that the 1972-73 Budget was planned against the background of an effective small surplus of \$1,876,000. The Budget forecast for 1972-73 was for a deficit of \$7,518,000, including a provision of \$7,000,000 for future wage and salary awards. Half-way through the year it appeared that the deficit would be considerably in excess of that forecast but, because of some very big and unexpected increases in revenues and some economies on the expenditure side of the Budget, the final result showed a great improvement. The deficit was held to \$3,911,000. An attachment to the printed Financial Statement gives details of the major movements and trends last year.

The recorded deficit of \$5,624,000 at June 30, 1972, the subsequent receipt of a completion grant of \$7,500,000, and the holding of the 1972-73 deficit to only \$3,911,000, taken together, have resulted in the accumulated deficit on Consolidated Revenue Account at June 30, 1973, being recorded as \$2,035,000. This year, again, we have learned of a completion grant to be received shortly, following a recommendation of the Grants Commission. The completion grant in respect of 1971-72 is to be \$4,900,000, so that in framing the 1973-74 Revenue Budget we have had in mind that the accumulated result in cash terms is effectively a small surplus of \$2,865,000. Of course, we are confident of receiving a completion grant in respect of 1972-73 also, but the amount will not be known until early in 1974-75. If the Government's forecasts for this current Budget are reasonably accurate, the Consolidated Revenue Account will be in deficit to the extent of about \$8,400,000 at June 30, 1974, and we will have the prospect of receiving shortly thereafter a completion grant in respect of 1972-73. Three weeks ago I introduced the Loan Estimates for 1973-74 and the Public Purposes Loan Bill. Members will recall that the Government planned to hold in reserve the accumulated balance of \$8.523.000 held at June 30, 1973. and to reserve about \$2,930,000 from the increased Loan funds becoming available in 1973-74. The aggregate of \$11,453,000, if achieved, would be an adequate cover for foreseeable revenue deficits.

In presenting the Revenue Budget for 1973-74, and in giving to Parliament the most important financial statement of the year, it is appropriate to ask, and to seek to answer the question, what are the Government's aims, and to what extent are they constrained by financial limitations. From our policy statements at election time, from our record over the past three years, and from our achievements in the previous period of three years in office, it would be clear that this Government's primary aim is to improve the quality of life for all South Australians and, at the same time, to ensure that each person has the greatest possible opportunity as an individual to determine how he or she will seek that improvement and what life style he or she will pursue. Much of what we seek can be accomplished with virtually no direct impact on the Budget. Legislation to give reasonable protection to the consumer is vital in a social sense, but in a budgetary sense it is insignificant, the costs being limited to a small increase in staff in certain specialized areas. Likewise, policies which relate to the improvement of industrial relations, to the reduction of discrimination, to the easing of censorship and to many other important social issues have little or no budgetary impact.

However, when we think of improved quality of life in terms of more and better educational opportunities, of easier access to health facilities of higher standard, of the chance for under-privileged people to get financial assistance, advice and support, and of the ordinary citizen's right to the services of the law, including police protection, we are thinking of areas in which there is a heavy budgetary impact. I have made clear many times that the Government believes it has a responsibility to plan and implement continuing expansion and improvement in the areas of social services which I mention. While there have been difficulties in finding adequate finance for what is urgently required, and we foresee continuing difficulties in future, it is likewise our responsibility to see that the necessary funds are forthcoming. I will return to this matter in a moment. First, I want to give some indication in purely financial terms of what has been achieved in recent years.

In 1969-70, the last year before we came into office, the total expenditure of the Education Department was \$65,131,000. This year, in the Estimates of Expenditure, members will find proposals aggregating \$128,091,000 for the department. If we add the provisions for teachers colleges, now shown separately because they have become autonomous, the total becomes about \$137,881,000, and comparable with the \$65,131,000 of only four years ago. Of course, the proposals for this year include about \$3,650,000 to be provided by the Australian Government on the recommendation of the special committee headed by Professor Karmel. In 1969-70 the total expenditure of the Hospitals Department was \$28,020,000. The proposals before members for 1973-74 are for expenditure of \$64,721,000. In 1969-70, the activities of the then Social Welfare Department and the Aboriginal Affairs Department involved a total expenditure of \$5,401,000. For 1973-74, the renamed Community Welfare Department has a proposed appropriation of \$12,511,000. In 1969-70, the expenditure incurred in the maintenance and operation of the Police Department was \$10,769,000. The Estimates provide a total appropriation of \$19,185,000 for

However, it is not only in the traditional social service areas that we have approved vastly increased financial provisions in this attempt to improve the quality of life. The proposals before members for the activities under the Minister of Environment and Conservation (that is, the department and the associated miscellaneous lines) aggregate \$2,659,000 for 1973-74. In this area we have not only expanded established functions but have moved into new activities to protect and enhance the environment. If we look back four years to 1969-70, we find that the expenditure on functions which now fall in this area was less than \$800,000. Of course, a bald statement about financial provisions does not tell the story about what is happening in physical terms, but it gives an indication. Time and space do not permit an exposition here of all that has been done in the past three years or is proposed this year. The annual Budget statement gives a limited amount of information about physical progress in the explanation of departmental expenditure proposals. So it is this year, and I will give information about the major 1973-74 proposals in a moment.

More information is available in other ways; for instance, in annual reports, in answer to questions in Parliament, and in Ministerial announcements. But, as we all know, the real test is the individual's experience and reaction to the quality of service offered when he or she seeks it in education, in health, in the protection of the law, in assistance against hardship, or in some other area of Government-provided service. I suggest to members that, in the totality of these things, the ordinary South Australian is far better off because of this Government's efforts. Naturally, I do not claim that increases of a certain order in Budget appropriations have led to an increase of the same order in real terms. The figures I have quoted include provisions for significant increases in wage levels and for rising costs of all kinds of materials and services. Nevertheless, after allowing for these, there remain very large increases for real improvements, larger increases than had been approved in any previous comparable period, and considerably larger than would be required simply to keep pace with population growth.

Corresponding to the increased wage levels and higher prices on the payments side of the Budget there is a natural increase in the revenue yields from State taxes and charges. Further, there is a natural increase in those yields as a result of the growth of population. The normal growth in the volume and value of business, then, generates increased revenues which are available to meet a part of the increased costs to the State Budget. This contribution, however, falls far short of our minimum revenue needs, and, as members know from my previous statements, the Government is prepared to take steps to secure the further revenues necessary rather than to see social services curtailed short of acceptable standards. Our efforts to secure those further revenues are in three main ways; first, in increased financial assistance grants; secondly, in increased special grants; and thirdly, in increased State taxes and

As to the first way (that is, increased financial assistance grants), it is our view that the necessary increases in State financial resources should be raised from the community in the most equitable way. In general, we believe that a contribution by way of income tax is more likely to be fair and equitable than a contribution made in any other way. So many State taxes and charges suffer from the disadvantages of lack of progression in scales or limited area of impact that it is more difficult for us to achieve fairness and equity. It follows that, in concert with other State Governments, we have fought strongly for an improved share of the rapidly increasing revenues from income tax, which has been under the control of the Australian Government since 1942.

At the Premiers' Conference at the end of June last, the Prime Minister informed State Premiers that in 1973-74 the Australian Government was prepared to pay financial assistance grants in accordance with the statutory formula, and to make a small supplementary grant of \$25,000,000, of which South Australia's share is about \$2,800,000. This small supplement is not enough to meet the minimum needs of the States. The financial assistance grant, as determined in accordance with the formula, is to be reduced by \$12,000,000 in 1973-74, this being the estimated relief to our Revenue Budget as a result of the Australian Government's taking over financial responsibility for tertiary education from January 1, 1974.

As to the second way of securing further revenues (that is, in special grants on the recommendation of the Grants Commission), members will recall that South Australia made an application to the commission in July, 1970, after a period of 11 years as a non-claimant State. It was our judgment that an examination of our standards of service and of our revenue-raising efforts would show justification for a further contribution from the Australian Government, if we were to be able to achieve the standards of New South Wales and Victoria. Our judgment was vindicated and we received advance grants of \$5,000,000 in 1970-71, \$7,000,000 in 1971-72 and \$13,500,000 in 1972-73. Following detailed examination by the commission during 1971-72 of our accounts for 1970-71 and consideration of accumulated deficits, we received, early in 1972-73, a completion grant of \$7,500,000 in respect of the period to June 30, 1971. Following detailed investigation last year of our 1971-72 accounts, the commission has recommended a completion grant of \$4,900,000 for the period to June 30, 1972, and we will receive this shortly.

The Government is confident that, when the 1972-73 accounts have been examined, the commission will recommend a completion grant which we will receive early in 1974-75. For 1973-74 the commission has recommended an advance grant of \$15,000,000 for South Australia. We believe this to have been estimated on a rather conservative basis and we are hopeful that in due course there will be a supplementary or completion grant. One can see at a glance from these figures that the special grants are of such a magnitude as to be a most valuable, indeed an indispensable, addition to the financial assistance grants. Like the financial assistance grants, they are found from the general revenues of the Australian Government, primarily income tax, and this could be considered an equitable way of supporting our social services.

Of course, the commission does not recommend special grants to cover a claimant State's deficits, irrespective of how they come about. We can expect grants only to the extent that they may be required to enable us to achieve the overall standards of New South Wales and Victoria. We are not absolved as a State from the normal responsibility to control expenditures carefully and to make reasonable efforts to raise revenues. We do have a measure of flexibility as to how we will do that but, in general terms, if we seek continuing improvements in our standard of services we must be prepared to make continuing efforts to raise revenues. The inevitable result of a failure to make that effort would be deficits of unmanageable proportions.

As to the third course of securing further revenues, that of levying increased taxes and charges, no Government takes pleasure in this, but we have been prepared to do it as necessary. It is quite unavoidable that we do so in 1973-74, and I believe the community understands the

reasons for this action. The five major increases in taxes and charges, all of which have been announced previously, will yield about \$18,400,000 in a full year. The decision to increase pay-roll tax from $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent was agreed unanimously by all Premiers at the recent conference within minutes of the final decision of the Australian Government that it would limit the supplementary grant to only \$25,000,000. The other four increases we considered inescapable were in water rates, marine and harbor charges, the levy on sales of electricity, and hospital charges. I will give a brief comment on each when dealing with estimated receipts in a moment.

I had indicated earlier that, in this Budget statement, it would probably be necessary to announce further tax increases. Three weeks ago, when the Loan Estimates were presented, it seemed that the deficit could be about \$13,000,000 and I thought it might be prudent to close that gap a little by seeking additional revenues from such measures. Since then, all major sources of receipts have been reviewed again, and it seems that the buoyancy of late 1972-73 is being sustained in some areas. The estimates of receipts have been reviewed upwards and the Budget gap is now estimated at \$11,254,000. We propose, in consequence, to refrain from introducing any more tax measures at this stage, to keep a careful watch on Budget trends, and to take such action as seems appropriate from lime to time.

RECEIPTS

Revenue Account receipts in 1973-74 are expected to increase by \$90,770,000 to a total of \$611,636,000. The principal categories of receipts and the increases over 1972-73 are as follows:

	Increase	Total
	\$	\$
Taxation	22,147,000	137,716,000 248,015,000
Public works and services	46,780,000*	248,015,000
Territorial	177,000	3,415,000
Commonwealth grants	21,666,000	222,490,000
	£00 770 000	0(11 (2(000
	\$90.770.000	\$611.636.000

^{*} Including an increase of \$7,500,000 in the railways transfer.

Taxation: A new assessment of part of the State is expected to yield an extra \$750,000 in land tax, but this will be substantially offset by the cost of the 50 per cent remission for pensioners and by the fact that much less in the way of outstanding accounts remained to be collected at June 30, 1973, than 12 months previously. The net increase has been estimated at only \$138,000. Revenue from stamp duties is most difficult to estimate this year. especially in the area of conveyances of property, where such a high level of activity took place in 1972-73. Apart from the normal problem of attempting to project into the future from a base which seems to be in no way typical, there is the further complication of trying to assess the likely effects of the Government's proposals to restrain the increase in price of building allotments. Whereas increases in volume and value of transactions last year led to an increase in receipts from stamp duty on conveyances of about 60 per cent over the previous year, I have estimated that there will be a slowing down of speculative activity and that the increase in receipts over 1972-73 will be about 20 per cent.

For instruments on which collections more nearly followed a normal pattern last year, a continuation of the trend has been accepted as the most likely outcome. For stamp duties of all kinds the estimate of \$36,435,000 is \$5,232,000 above last year's actual receipts. By far the

biggest increase in revenues from Stale taxation is estimated in the field of pay-roll tax. I have referred to the unanimous decision of the six Premiers at the recent conference to increase the rate of tax from 3½ per cent to 4½ per cent, with effect from September 1. The increase in nine months cash collections from the higher rate is estimated at \$8,800,000, and the full year's effect at \$11,500,000. This factor, together with increasing wage and salary levels and a growing work force, should raise about \$49,000,000 in 1973-74, an increase of just over \$14,000,000.

Public works and services: Under the heading of public works and services there are three main categories of receipts: returns from business undertakings, recoveries of debt services, and miscellaneous fees and recoveries. In 1973-74, increases and total receipts in each category are estimated to be as follows:

	Increase \$	Total \$
The operation of public undertakings: Normal receipts from services, etc	_ 6,617,000	95,872,000
affect the Budget result	7,500,000	30,000,000
Recoveries of interest	14,117,000	125,872,000
and sinking fund	2,852,000	40,418,000
Other departmental fees and recoveries	29,811,000	81,725,000
	\$46,780,000	\$248,015,000

Public undertakings: Pilotage rates, tonnage rates and conservancy dues charged by the Marine and Harbors Department were increased by 50 per cent and wharfage charges by an average of about 25 per cent as from last month. It is expected that these increases will yield about \$1,300,000 this year and about \$1,500,000 in a full year. This factor and the handling of a greater quantity of grain are expected to raise the receipts of the department by \$1,876,000 to a total of \$9,200,000. Railways Department receipts are estimated to increase by \$1,090,000 to \$36,500,000 in 1973-74. Increased earnings are expected from most areas of activity and particularly from the carriage of grain, but some decline is expected in the carriage of superphosphate, for which returns were abnormally high last year.

The prices of rebate and excess water were increased from July 1 last, from 40c for 1,000 gall. to 10c for 1 000 litres, which is about 45.5c for 1,000 gall. At the same time some properties were revalued, and the combined effect of the higher water prices and the revaluations is expected to raise about an extra \$2,000,000. New and extended services may bring in a further \$1,300,000, but this may be counterbalanced by concessions to pensioners of much the same order. The overall estimate is for an increase of \$1,958,000 to a total of \$41,600,000. Sales of electricity by the Electricity Trust of South Australia will be subject to a levy of 5 per cent instead of 3 per cent for the last three quarters of this year, which will yield an extra \$1,200,000 to the State Budget in 1973-74. The full year's effect is estimated at about \$1,600,000. Allowing also for the effect of an increase in aggregate receipts from sales of electricity, an increase of \$1,458,000 in the levy to a total of \$3,700,000 is estimated. At the time the increase in levy on the trust was announced, it was pointed out that the trust, because of rising costs, would have to

reassess electricity charges during this year, and within the short term. An announcement will be made by the trust tomorrow about an increase in tariffs for electricity in the State

Dr. Eastick: Ten per cent?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It will be about that.

Mr. Coumbe: I said it would be.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Recoveries of debt services: Recoveries of interest and sinking fund are expected to total \$40,418,000, which would be \$2,852,000 above actual receipts last year. The major increase is expected from amounts placed on short-term deposit with banks. Sums held at the Treasury in trust and deposit accounts are larger than at the same time last year and this, together with higher interest rates, should ensure the Government an investment income of about \$5,000,000.

Other departmental receipts: In departmental fees and recoveries the forecast is for a particularly sharp increase of \$29,811,000, from \$51,914,000 last year to an estimated \$81,725,000 for 1973-74, but much of this increase will not yield additional cash resources. The three major increases, which may be seen in the detailed Estimates of Revenue, are \$25,802,000 for various education services, \$1,167,000 for hospital services, and \$764,000 for public health services. Of the \$25,802,000 for education services, the greater part falls in the area of universities and colleges of advanced education. Sharply increased contributions would have been received from the Australian Government in the normal course towards the annually increasing grants to these institutions and towards the additional grants to cover costs of increases in salaries and wages arising from the Campbell inquiry and the national wage decision. This year, because of the arrangements for the Australian Government to take over financial responsibility for tertiary education from January 1 next and for tertiary fees to be abolished from that date, the special purpose grants are being increased by a further \$14,500,000. That increase will be of no net benefit to the State Budget, because about \$12,000,000 is to be deducted from the financial assistance grants as otherwise calculated, and about \$2,500,000 will be required for payment to educational institutions in lieu of the fees they will no longer receive.

However, real benefit to the State will follow from the receipt of about \$3,670,000 of special educational grants as recommended by the Interim Committee for the Australian Schools Commission, headed by Professor Karmel. Receipts by the Hospitals Department from patients' fees are estimated to increase by \$1,421,000 to \$12,600,000 in 1973-74, mainly as a result of the increase from September 1 of \$4 a day in charges to inpatients. This increase is expected to yield about \$1,200,000 in 1973-74, and about \$1,800,000 in a full year. On the other hand, there will be no direct contributions to the Revenue Budget from the Hospitals Fund, which will be needed fully in future for the benefit of subsidized hospitals. The increase in estimated receipts for the Public Health Department arises from the decision of the Australian Government to support the expansion of school dental services.

Hospitals Fund: Payments to Government and subsidized hospitals from the fund last year totalled \$5,814,000, and were financed by contributions of \$2,920,000 from the Totalizator Agency Board, \$1,896,000 from the Lotteries Commission, and \$1,016,000 from stamp duty in respect of third party insurances. In 1973-74 it is expected that \$6,750,000 will be available for distribution to subsidized hospitals, the extra funds coming mainly from duty on increased turnover of the Totalizator Agency Board. I

am dismayed at times to see people writing to newspapers or to other media asking where the money from lotteries is being distributed. It is published constantly that moneys from lotteries and profits from the T.A.B. go to the Hospitals Fund and are allotted in accordance with the terms of the Act, so that real benefits to the State flow from this. Anyone who thinks we can fund the total of hospital services in South Australia from returns from the Lotteries Commission and T.A.B. obviously do not bother to read the accounts.

Commonwealth grants: The financial assistance grant to South Australia has been estimated at \$197,300,000 this year on the basis of a possible population increase to December 31, 1973, as estimated by the Commonwealth Statistician and of a forecast that average wages throughout Australia may rise by 12 per cent in the year to March, 1974. All States have accepted the offer of the Australian Government to take full responsibility for financing tertiary education from January 1, 1974, and have agreed that amounts equivalent to the relief this measure affords their Revenue Budgets be deducted from the main revenue grant. In South Australia's case, \$12,000,000 has been deducted for this factor. Notwithstanding the submissions from all States that the financial assistance grants, as calculated and adjusted, fell far short of the requirements to meet essential commitments, the Australian Government was prepared to make available a supplement of only \$25,000,000 to be shared in proportion to the financial assistance grants. South Australia's share will be about \$2,800,000. An advance grant of \$15,000,000 to this State has been recommended by the Grants Commission and included in the Budget, while the recommended completion grant of \$4,900,000 in respect of 1971-72 will be credited against the accumulated deficit on Consolidated Revenue Account.

PAYMENTS

Provision is included in the Estimates of Expenditure for:

> Payments for which appropriation is or will be contained in special

Payments for which appropriation will

498,516,000 derive from the Appropriation Act...

\$612,890,000

The allowance of \$10,000,000 for possible further increases in wage and salary rates lifts the total of estimated payments to \$622,890,000.

Special Acts: The Government contribution to the South Australian Superannuation Fund is expected to increase by \$845,000 to \$6,955,000. The two factors responsible are, first, the normal annual increase due to greater numbers of former employees and a higher average entitlement on retirement and, secondly, a provision for a cost of living adjustment to all pensions which commenced prior to July 1, 1972. Members will be aware that the Government has promised to provide a superannuation scheme equal to the best scheme operated by any other Government, Commonwealth or State, in Australia, and a working party has been constituted to examine the various schemes in operation in other States, the proposals made for a new superannuation scheme for Australian Government employees and proposals made by the Public Actuary, with a view to devising a scheme which will give effect to the Government's undertakings. As soon as the working party's report has been examined by the Government and by the Superannuation Federation, drafting will commence and legislation will be proceeded with as early as possible and during this session. I was astonished to

see in the newspaper today, despite the assurances I gave to the House yesterday that the Government was keeping to the time table it had undertaken to the Public Service Association and the Superannuation Federation, a statement that we were not meeting our time table and that public servants were annoyed about it. There was no basis whatever for that report or statement. It was under the by-line of Greg Reid in the News this afternoon. There is absolutely no justification for it at all.

Mr. Coumbe: It did not come from this side.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I know that. I do not know how it arose, and I am not suggesting any honourable members have suggested such a thing. The plain fact is that the Government has kept to the time table which it undertook at the public meeting and which has been mentioned in this House in the last day or so. We are acting in accordance with that time table, and we will be presenting the measure to the House during this session in accordance with the undertakings given.

Social services—Education Department: In 1972-73 the actual payments for the department, including six months payments for the then teachers colleges, totalled \$108,740,000. Excluding the teachers colleges, which since January, 1973, have been separate colleges of advanced education in receipt of grants, the balance of payments was \$106,145,000. For 1973-74 this total has been increased by \$21,946,000 to \$128,091,000. The increase comprises the appropriation of special grants of about \$3,650,000 to be received from the Australian Government as a result of the recommendations of a special committee, headed by Professor Karmel, and \$18,296,000 additional allocation from State funds. Of the increase, about \$7,400,000 is required to meet the additional cost of wage awards effective for all of 1973-74 as against part only of 1972-73. The 1973-74 proposal of \$128,091,000 may be considered as \$116,771,000 for primary and secondary schooling and associated services and \$11,320,000 for further education.

With the funds made available in 1972-73, the department legislation.....114,374,000.....was...able to reduce the overall pupil/teacher ratio in primary, secondary and special schools from 20.4 in the previous year to 20.1. In primary schools this resulted in a significant reduction in average class size from 33 to 31.7, and in secondary schools in a greater diversity of organization to promote individual progression and small group instruction. In addition, a wide range of teaching aids and equipment was supplied to the 55 new open-space schools and units which were opened during the financial year, and other schools benefited from increased supplies of teaching materials. The provision of such non-teaching staff as consultants, guidance officers, and student liaison officers was increased, while teacher aides and other ancillary staff were appointed to selected schools, both primary and secondary, on a pilot basis. Two new country educational regions based on Clare and Murray Bridge were established in January, 1973.

> With the funds proposed from State sources in 1973-74, a further reduction in class size will be effected and educational services to children, including special provisions for slow learners, will be improved. The first education region in the greater metropolitan area with headquarters at Elizabeth will be established in January, 1974. The special new grants of \$3,650,000 from the Australian Government will be spent in accordance with agreed programmes of recurrent expenditure on schools, primary and secondary libraries, special education, schools in disadvantaged areas, and teacher development. The funds for teacher development are to be shared with non-government schools.

There will be a marked increase in ancillary staff, especially teacher aides, during this year. In further education, the Director has been responsible directly to the Minister of Education since January 1, 1972. It is intended that legislation enabling the establishment of a separate Further Education Department will be introduced in the current session of Parliament.

Since the appointment of the first Director of Further Education, there has been considerable development, and additional developments are planned. Progress and proposals for buildings have been dealt with in the Loan Estimates. As to courses, the department conducts apprentice, technician, and adult courses for about 80 000 students who take any of almost 1 300 subjects. An extensive range of certificate (technician) courses to provide training at the subprofessional level has been developed. Courses added in 1973 include animal care, commercial art, craft, rural studies, ornamental horticulture and photographic technicians. Apprentices living in the country who previously studied by correspondence are now being taught in "attendance blocks" to give them the same opportunity as metropolitan apprentices, and a Training and Development Branch has been established to co-operate with industry to provide courses for training officers and others.

Independent schools: The provision required for a continuation of assistance to independent schools at present levels would be \$1,855,000, made up of \$520,000 for the per capita payments which were introduced in 1969, and \$1,335,000 to be distributed on the basis of need as assessed by a special committee. The Government intends that in 1974 a further \$500,000 be available to the committee for allocation. As two terms payments of this increase (that is, about \$335,000) will be required in 1973-74, the total provision in the Estimates is \$2,190,000.

Tertiary education: Members will notice that the 1973-74 appropriation for Minister of Education Miscellaneous is considerably in excess of the actual payments in 1972-73. Most of this increase is accounted for by movements in grants to tertiary institutions. Provision has been made for a full year's grants to those colleges of advanced education which were previously teachers colleges and which were autonomous for only six months of 1972-73. For all universities and colleges of advanced education it has been necessary to provide for the normal annual increase in budgets and for the large increases in salary bills as a result of the Campbell inquiry and the national wage decision, which affected 1972-73 only in part. As a part of the arrangements under which the Australian Government is to assume financial responsibility for tertiary education from January 1, 1974, tuition fees are to be abolished. It follows that grants must be paid to the several institutions in lieu of the fees they would have collected in the absence of the special arrangements. The main effect of the new arrangements will be on the receipts side of the Budget. As I have explained, special purpose grants will be increased this year and the financial assistance grant is to be reduced correspondingly.

Hospitals Department: The actual payments in 1972-73 aggregated \$52,797,000. For 1973-74 the total provision is \$64,721,000, which is an increase of \$11,924,000. Of this increase, \$4,725,000 is required to meet the additional cost of salary and wage awards. Development and improvement of hospital services proceeded throughout last year and further expansion and improvement of standards is proposed for 1973-74. Some of the significant steps last year were the opening of a renal unit at Royal Adelaide Hospital, the provision of an additional 97 beds, extended outpatient services and a renal unit at the Queen Elizabeth

Hospital, and the opening of the Modbury Hospital with 116 beds. In 1973-74, we plan that the Queen Elizabeth Hospital will have in service a further 103 beds and extended therapy and outpatient services, and that at Modbury Hospital a further 108 beds will become available progressively. In addition to the expanding domiciliary care service operating in the Woodville area, similar services are being developed in three other areas to offer a complete coverage of home care for the whole of the metropolitan area. New schemes are also being investigated in several country localities.

A submission on a community health programme for South Australia was recently prepared and forwarded for consideration by the Interim Committee for the National Hospitals and Health Commission. The submission was prepared jointly through the Hospitals, Community Welfare, and Public Health Departments. It was proposed that the community health programme would be financed wholly by the Australian Government during 1973-74. Included in the State programme are proposals for the establishment of comprehensive community health centres in metropolitan and country areas of the State, the development of a State Health Planning and Resources Unit, the provision of group occupational health services and the expansion of existing domiciliary care services on a more uniform State basis. The recent Budget of the Australian Government includes provisions towards these programmes and for services in mental health, alcoholism and drug dependency. The details have not been worked out yet, but it appears that South Australia may get about \$900,000 in 1973-74 for recurrent purposes.

Public Health: After adjustment to allow for accounting changes in respect of Aboriginal health programmes, estimated expenditure for the Public Health Department is expected to increase by \$475,000 to \$2,849,000. Of this amount, \$160,000 will be required to meet the cost of known wage and salary awards. Several of the department's activities are being extended, the most significant being the school dental service. This service is now reaching about 30 per cent of the primary schoolchildren in the State, and the Government intends to extend it as rapidly as possible to all children up to 15 years of age. The intake of dental therapy students will be increased in January next from 16 to 48, and further substantial increases will take place in 1975 and 1976. We are being helped greatly in this expansion by special grants from the Australian Government.

Other medical and health: Details of proposed grants to non-government hospitals and institutions are set out in an appendix to the Estimates of Expenditure. The total provision is \$17,137,000, of which \$10,387,000 will come from the miscellaneous votes of the Minister of Health and \$6,750,000 from the Hospitals Fund.

Police Department: Known costs of wage and salary awards which affect the Police Department total \$1,392,000 and are a significant factor in the proposed increase of \$2,600,000 to a total of \$19,185,000 in expenditures by that department. A considerable number of changes have been effected in the structure of the Police Force and the deployment of its officers. Streamlined inquiry services have been established, and the provision of additional 24-hour police stations, together with increased mobile and beat patrols in regional areas, has already produced favourable results in a levelling off of crime. In the future every effort will be made to keep abreast of the latest technological developments in forensic science, data information, and equipment, and to develop a highly educated force capable of providing a service commensurate with modem requirements.

Welfare services: The Community Welfare Department is expected to increase its expenditure by \$998,000, of which \$370,000 will be needed simply to pay wage and salary increases to existing staff. The departmental provision is \$12,511,000, but a further \$893,000 is included in miscellaneous votes, giving a total for welfare services of \$13,404,000. Decentralization of the department will continue with the emphasis this year on consolidation of district offices already established and recruitment and training of social work staff. Consultative councils are being established in local communities, and provision is included for their expenses. As a means of further stimulating active participation by communities in welfare and particularly in the provision of leisure and recreational facilities for youth, the allocation to the Community Welfare Grants Fund has been increased by \$30,000 to \$295,000.

A small reduction from 1972-73 expenditure on financial assistance is expected this year now that the Australian Government has taken responsibility, with its new supporting mothers benefit, for an area where applications for assistance had been increasing rapidly. An increase in foster care rates of \$1 a week will be applied over the whole scale. Guardianship rates, which are paid in certain circumstances to people caring for children who are not their own and who are not under the control of the Minister of Community Welfare, will be increased from \$5 a week to \$7 a week with the aim of raising them to the level of foster care rates in the next two years.

Public undertakings: The four major State public undertakings are the Railways Department, the Engineering and Water Supply Department, the Woods and Forests Department and the Marine and Harbors Department. Only the Engineering and Water Supply Department has any changes of note proposed this year. Previously the cost of electricity for pumping through certain mains was appropriated separately, while the cost of electricity for all other pumping was included with general expenses of operation. It is now intended that there be one provision for cost of electricity for each of the metropolitan and country areas, and that all such costs be charged to these provisions as appropriate. An amount of \$1,045,000 is provided for the metropolitan area, where \$1,076,000 was expended last year, and \$1,237,000 for the country areas, where expenditure last year was \$1,191,000.

Development of resources—Mines Department: Expenditure by the Mines Department is expected to increase by \$405,000 to \$3,290,000, but included in that total is \$143,000 for known costs of wage and salary awards. During 1973-74 the department will increase its activities in connection with oil search by conducting extensive seismic surveys in the North-West of the State in areas not covered by exploration tenements. Greater emphasis will also be placed on investigations into underground water supplies and on the search for alternative sources of construction materials for Adelaide, once extra geological staff have been recruited.

Agriculture Department: Agriculture Department expenditure is estimated at \$4,730,000, an increase of \$414,000 over expenditure last year. Salary and wage increases already in operation will cost an extra \$196,000, and the balance of \$218,000 will be used to provide additional protective, research and advisory services to the primary-producing sector. Activities of particular interest which will be emphasized this year are research into the production of high quality small pasture seeds, for which extensive markets have been identified overseas, and expansion of the vine improvement scheme to provide high yielding varieties for the production of premium quality wines.

Fisheries Department: An increase of \$141,000 over last year's expenditure of \$342,000 is planned for the Fisheries Department. Following discussions with representatives of the fishing industry the Government created a new Fisheries portfolio and has initiated a programme of reorganization within the department designed to give greater emphasis to the research function. Matters of administration will become the responsibility of a new Director of Fisheries to be appointed shortly, while an expanded research division will be headed by the previous Director of Fisheries.

Other activities: It is estimated that expenditure by the Environment and Conservation Department will increase from \$2,027,000 to \$2,600,000. Wage awards will account for only \$76,000 of this, so that there is scope for considerable expansion in the fields of planning and environment protection. In particular, a start will be made on the preparation of coastal management and park management plans, and there will be further extensions of the activities of the State Planning Division. Additional environmental studies will be undertaken, and the department will assess the environmental impact statements prepared by developers.

The clauses of the Bill give the same kind of authority as has been given in the past, and with one small exception they are in the same form as in the second Appropriation Bill of 1972. Clause 1 gives the short title. Clause 2 authorizes the issue and application of such a further sum as will, together with the sums authorized by Supply Acts, amount to \$498,516,000. Clause 3 (1) appropriates the sum of \$498,516,000 for the purposes set out in the schedule. Clause 3 (2) provides in the normal way that, if increases of salaries or wages become payable pursuant to any determination made by a wage-fixing authority, the Governor may appropriate additional funds by warrant.

Clause 3 (3) provides that, if the costs incurred by the Engineering and Water Supply Department for electricity for pumping water should be greater than the amounts set down in the Estimates, the Governor may appropriate the funds for the additional expenditure, and the amount available in the Governor's Appropriation Fund shall be increased by the amount of such additional expenditure. When this provision was first introduced some years ago, it referred to the costs of pumping through the Mannum-Adelaide and Morgan-Whyalla mains, and from bores. In more recent years the provision has been extended to cover the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga and Swan Reach to Stockwell mains, while the reference to bores has been dropped. Apart from the operations of the four major mains referred to, the department incurs costs of other pumping which has been charged to general expenses of operation. It seems preferable to have all pumping costs recorded in the same way and, accordingly, this year the Estimates of Expenditure show only two provisions, one for metropolitan and one for country, while clause 3 (3) has a general all-embracing provision for electricity for pumping.

Clause 4 authorizes the Treasurer to pay moneys from time to time up to the amounts set down in monthly orders issued by the Governor, and provides that the receipts obtained from the payees shall be the discharge to the Treasurer for the moneys paid. Clause 5 authorizes the use of Loan funds or other public funds if the moneys received from the Commonwealth and the general revenue of the State are insufficient to make the payments authorized by clause 3. Clause 6 gives authority to make payments in respect of a period prior to July 1, 1973. Clause 7 authorizes the expenditure of \$6,750,000 from

the Hospitals Fund during 1973-74 and of \$2,250,000 in the early months of 1974-75, pending the passing of the Appropriation Bill for that year. Clause 8 provides that amounts appropriated by this Bill are in addition to other amounts properly authorized.

In commending the Bill to members, I pay a tribute to our Treasury officers, whose work for me and for the State is of a very high order. The Under Treasurer (Mr. Carey) and his Assistant (Mr. Barnes) have been of extraordinary assistance to me. I am very grateful for their continued help and advice, and I am sure that the State can be very glad that we have officers of a calibre in South Australia much envied by other States.

Dr. EASTICK secured the adjournment of the debate.

PUBLIC PURPOSES LOAN BILL

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time

POLICE PENSIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

CROWN LANDS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

FAIR PRICES ACT REPEAL BILL

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF COUNCIL ACT REPEAL BILL

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.7 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, September 11, at 2 p.m.