

**HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY**

Thursday, September 13, 1973

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

**ASSENT TO BILLS**

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

Aged and Infirm Persons' Property Act Amendment,  
Crown Lands Act Amendment,  
Lottery and Gaming Act Amendment,  
Police Pensions Act Amendment,  
Prohibited Areas (Application of State Laws) Act Amendment.

**PETITION: TUSMORE AVENUE**

Mr. DEAN BROWN presented a petition signed by 63 residents and electors of Tusmore Avenue, stating that Tusmore Avenue, which had a distinctive residential environment needing preservation, was becoming a road safety hazard. The petitioners prayed that the House would ensure that Tusmore Avenue be blocked immediately south of Rochester Street.

Petition received and read.

**PETITIONS: CASINO**

Mr. VENNING presented a petition signed by 390 electors who expressed concern at the probable harmful impact of a casino on the community at large and prayed that the House of Assembly would not permit a casino to be established in South Australia.

Mr. RUSSACK presented a similar petition signed by 839 citizens.

Petitions received.

**PETITION: MARREE STREETS**

Mr. ALLEN presented a petition signed by 178 residents of Marree and district who expressed concern about the condition of the streets in the township and prayed that the House of Assembly would consider allocating funds for the construction and sealing of township streets in Marree at the earliest possible opportunity.

Petition received.

**PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The SPEAKER laid on the table the following reports by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence:

Craigmore High School (Additions),  
Glossop High School (Replacement),  
Whyalla Technical College (Major Additions, Stage II).  
Ordered that reports be printed.

**QUESTIONS****ABSENCE OF MINISTER**

The SPEAKER: I have to inform honourable members that, in the absence of the honourable Minister of Labour and Industry, any questions that would have been directed to that Minister may be directed to the honourable Minister of Environment and Conservation for his consideration.

**ESCAPED PRISONERS**

Dr. EASTICK: Does the Attorney-General acknowledge that the escape of the two convicted murderers from the Royal Show while under minimum security will harm the rehabilitation programme of all other prisoners

in South Australian prisons? It is apparent that successful rehabilitation of prisoners rests to a large degree on the assistance and understanding given by members of the public after a prisoner is released, whether on parole or at the conclusion of sentence. It is also apparent that public acceptance of Government rehabilitation schemes and policies can be achieved only if the public believes the Government is moving in the best interests of not only the prisoner but also the community at large. If people see the system working effectively, they are more likely to adopt a sympathetic attitude to former prisoners with whom they might come in contact.

However, I suggest that the type of publicity that has resulted from the Royal Show fiasco can only make people suspicious of the system and unsympathetic towards the ideas of supposed experts in the field of penal reform. I would be most concerned if, as a consequence of the present man-hunt, there is a serious breakdown in society's acceptance of the need for humane rehabilitation programmes for prisoners preparing to re-enter the community. This is one of the main reasons why I feel so strongly that there should be a full and frank independent inquiry into our rehabilitation system. For this reason I ask the Attorney-General whether he believes there will be any harmful effect on the chances of other prisoners being reabsorbed into the community on their release, if the public is not convinced (and I suggest this can be achieved through an open public inquiry) that our system has merit, even if some changes need to be made.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I think that the extent to which the present incident has an adverse effect on rehabilitation programmes in South Australia and the public's acceptance of them depends very much on the extent to which the Leader of the Opposition and others are able to resist the temptation to exploit the situation for political advantage.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Attorney-General.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I believe that the responsibility which members of Parliament and other responsible leaders of the community, including the media, have in a situation of this kind is very great. Lip service is paid to the principles of rehabilitating prisoners, and while things go well this is accepted; everyone is happy, and praise is even lavished on the officials who are conducting the system. But the moment there is any sort of a breakdown there are those who cannot resist the temptation to sensationalize for one reason or another, be it political advantage or some other motive. A good example of this lies in the reaction to the puppet show over a period of years.

Dr. Eastick: What about the reaction to the incident?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. L. J. KING: I read in the morning paper an editorial which was extremely critical of the course of action which had been adopted in this case and which, it was said, had led to the escape of two prisoners. What the editorial did not say was that that puppet group was at the Royal Show because (and only because) there had been a request by the morning paper's own television channel (channel 7) for the puppet show to go to the Royal Show in order to appear on television on that channel. The action of channel 7 in promoting that was extremely good, extremely well motivated and a desirable social action, and it illustrates what I have said several times, namely, that responsible people in the community accept the desirability of this sort of activity. But, once the incident occurs, the fact that the very newspaper

concerned can publish an editorial such as that published this morning shows how fickle reactions are and how fickle people are once there is an incident which causes some concern in the community.

Dr. Eastick: Are you saying—

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. L. J. KING: Therefore, I cannot answer the Leader's question directly, because I do not know whether the present incident will have an adverse effect on public acceptance of rehabilitation schemes. If it does have such an adverse effect, it is an unfortunate thing, and I suggest that the Leader, his followers and all others concerned will do well by the community if they make clear to the community that a hysterical reaction is undesirable, and that there is—

Dr. Eastick: You'll co-operate with the community if—

The SPEAKER: Order! Standing Orders provide that a member shall have the opportunity to ask one question at a time. I will not permit interjections which constitute a further question and so lengthen the reply given by the Minister. All members will be treated equally. The honourable Attorney-General.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I simply stress that the Leader, his followers and all others concerned in the public life of South Australia will do the community a good service if they take part in a campaign to reassure members of the public that these schemes work to the advantage of society and should not be jettisoned or prejudiced simply because one, two or three people on a certain occasion fail to live up to the trust that has been reposed in them.

Mr. Hall: You mean the Government should not be criticized.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Attorney-General reconsider his decision, following the escape of prisoners at the Royal Show, not to institute an inquiry into the present system of prisoner classification?

The SPEAKER: Order! I cannot allow a question that has already been answered. The use of the word "reconsider" indicates that the honourable member's question is only duplicating an earlier question, asking it a second time. I must rule the question out of order.

Dr. TONKIN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I am sure that this question has not been asked today in the terms I have used or in similar terms. In the time that has elapsed since yesterday, the Attorney-General could well have reconsidered his decision, so I respectfully submit that my question is in order.

The SPEAKER: I cannot uphold the point of order. I rule the question out of order on the basis that it has been asked previously. In asking the honourable Attorney-General to reconsider the matter, the honourable member is clearly requesting consideration of an answer already given.

Later:

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Attorney-General reconsidered his decision not to institute an inquiry into the present system of prisoner classification, following the escape of prisoners at the Royal Show?

The SPEAKER: Order! I am going to rule the question out of order. For the benefit of the honourable member for Bragg, I point out that it is laid down as a long-standing practice and procedure that an inadmissible question is one repeating in substance questions already answered. I think it would be true to say that the question asked by the honourable member for Bragg had already been answered.

Dr. TONKIN: Mr. Speaker, I must therefore regretfully move:

That the Speaker's ruling be disagreed to.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member must bring up his reasons in writing.

Dr. TONKIN: Yes, Sir.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member for Bragg has moved disagreement to the Speaker's ruling on the following grounds:

That the question has—

- (1) not been asked in this House before; and
- (2) relates to the possible reconsideration of the matter by the Attorney-General during the time which has elapsed since he stated yesterday that the Government did not intend holding an inquiry into the rehabilitation system.

Is the motion seconded?

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Yes, Sir.

Dr. TONKIN: Although I move this motion with some regret, I believe that this is an important matter. It is a matter on which I and members of the community seek information. In referring to the first ground for disagreement, I point out that this question has not been asked specifically in the House previously, and I have copies of *Hansard* pulls for both Tuesday and Wednesday which, when examined, will bear this out. Questions were asked by the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Fisher, the member for Torrens, and me on Tuesday, following the statement made by the Attorney-General; and yesterday the Leader of the Opposition asked a further question, as did the member for Torrens and I. None of those questions contains the substance of the question that I have now asked the Attorney-General. Furthermore, the Leader today has asked a question which does not relate at all to any reconsideration of the Attorney-General's decision not to hold an inquiry.

In answer to the question that the Leader asked today, the Attorney-General stated that the Opposition was making political capital out of sensationalism and that the press also was playing up the question irresponsibly as a matter of sensationalism. I believe that the Attorney-General would do far better if he agreed to an inquiry, and I think he might well have reconsidered the matter since he made his statement in the House that no inquiry would be held. It would do the Attorney-General great credit if he had reconsidered the matter at this time; therefore, I think it is only fair and right that he should be given the opportunity to state in this House whether or not he has reconsidered his decision. Those are my grounds for disagreement.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Bragg has moved to disagree to the Speaker's ruling; that does not give the honourable member the right or the opportunity to debate a subject matter that is not contained in the motion.

Dr. EASTICK: I support the motion, and I do so regretfully but of necessity, because I find in the attitude that you have adopted on this occasion, Mr. Speaker, a denial of the opportunity to members of this House to obtain from a responsible Minister (in this case the Attorney-General) a reply to a question about a situation that may easily have changed by virtue of information made available to him, either by his own officers or by the Chief Secretary. Clearly, as has been pointed out by my colleague, the question which he has asked the Attorney-General and which you, Sir, have ruled out of order is seeking information about a situation the circumstances of which may have changed dramatically.

It is on that basis that I believe that the opportunity should be given for the question to be asked in the normal course, and I therefore forcefully support the motion.

Mr. COUMBE: Quite rightly, I will not canvass the merit of the question.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member would be out of order if he did.

Mr. COUMBE: The pertinent point made by the mover of the motion is that the question that you have ruled out of order, Mr. Speaker, has not been asked previously, and this has been checked in *Hansard*. This is the point on which you have ruled and the very point concerning which dissension has been expressed. Mr. Speaker, you are asked to reconsider this matter. That is the first point, and that is as clear as can be, because the proof is here in the *Hansard* report. The second point is simply that the mover asked the Attorney-General whether, since yesterday, any change had occurred. Therefore, I suggest, Sir, that this is a perfectly normal and proper question. I know that you referred just now to the procedure outlined by Erskine May but, as this is a perfectly proper way of asking the question, I support the motion.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I would like to be able to support my friend and former colleague, the member for Bragg, and I have some sympathy for him, but I am afraid that I cannot support him, because it is perfectly clear that this is an inadmissible question. I refer to Erskine May and the section "Questions already answered" at page 327, as follows:

Questions are not in order which repeat in substance questions already answered or to which an answer has been refused in the current session or fall in and within a class of questions which a Minister has refused to answer.

If we could from day to day ask a Minister whether he had changed his mind since yesterday, there would be no end to questions. That, as I understand it, is what the honourable member substantially is doing here: he is repeating a question asked yesterday and asking whether the Minister has changed his mind from the position he took yesterday. That, in my view, is simply the same question in substance as the question that was asked yesterday. While I have much sympathy with the point of the question put, I make clear while I have this opportunity that I cannot support the motion. As this is the first time that such a point has arisen since I left the Liberal and Country League, I believe I should make my position clear.

Mr. HALL: I cannot support the motion. The honourable member is obviously speaking on behalf of the Opposition, which missed its chance on Tuesday of legitimately attacking the Minister and is now trying to make up lost ground.

Mr. Becker: Go on, grow up!

The SPEAKER: Order! The debate will be strictly confined to the motion, which is "That the Speaker's ruling be disagreed to."

Mr. HALL: I was about to say that I agreed with the member for Mitcham: the House cannot work on this basis. The L.C.L. Opposition is in some difficulty and is trying to extricate itself from this situation that has arisen because it has not been the Opposition it should have been regarding this matter.

Mr. McANANEY: I support the member for Bragg; this question was not asked previously. Indeed, if the two previous speakers were more often in the House they would know what questions had been asked and what questions had not been asked. Of course, if a question is asked about the same circumstances as existed on the day before, I could not support my colleague, but

in this instance, because the circumstances are different, I do support him.

Mr. MATHWIN: Although I support the motion, I do so with regret because recently the House has been conducted well. Nevertheless, I believe that the question has not been asked before. The honourable member in asking his question asked, "Has the Attorney reconsidered since yesterday?" Of course, that is an entirely different question, and on that ground I support him. This is a matter of grave concern, and the position could well have changed from the position applying yesterday. The Attorney-General might have reconsidered the matter in the light of changed circumstances.

Dr. TONKIN: I thank my colleagues who have supported this motion. I respect the opinion of the member for Mitcham on many occasions but I cannot agree with him on this occasion. I treat the member for Goyder's statement as being exactly what it is. In reply to the point raised by the member for Mitcham, I say that in normal circumstances I would agree that it would be impossible to ask a Minister from day to day whether he had changed his mind. Certainly, this applies on matters of policy and other normal every-day events, but most unusual circumstances surround this event: they are circumstances which are changing rapidly hour by hour and which have been changing rapidly hour by hour. Concern in the community is building up hour by hour, and I believe, in these extraordinary circumstances, the Attorney-General could have changed his mind since he made his last statement. My question was designed simply to give him the opportunity to state whether he had changed his mind.

The House divided on the motion:

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

Noes (24)—Messrs. Broomhill, Max Brown, and Burdon, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Corcoran, Crimes, Duncan (teller), Dunstan, Groth, Hall, Harrison, Hopgood, Hudson, Jennings, Keneally, King, McRae, Millhouse, Olson, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, and Wright.

Pairs—Ayes—Messrs. Goldsworthy, Nankivell, and Rodda. Noes—Messrs. Langley, McKee, and Wells.

Majority of 8 for the Noes.

Motion thus negatived.

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary what discussions the Prisons Department had with the Police Department before the 15 prisoners were taken to the showgrounds under two guards, and will he also find out how long it was before the Prisons Department told the Police Department that the prisoners had escaped at 6.50 p.m.

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

#### WITTON BLUFF

Mr. HOPGOOD: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation make a statement about the work being done under the general direction of the Coast Protection Board to protect Witton Bluff, Port Noarlunga? As the Minister will recall, I asked a question on August 8 concerning Witton Bluff, and I now hope that the Minister can provide more details of what is intended.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Since replying to the honourable member's earlier question, I have obtained further information from the Coast Protection Board which enables me to enlarge on the brief outline I was able to offer the member last month. Work will be undertaken

at Witton. Bluff this financial year by the board, in conjunction with Noarlunga council. It will constitute the first stage of a programme to reduce erosion by the sea which is now taking place and causing concern. The proposal is to build a protective wall at beach level between Short Street and Finton Street, a distance of about 1 400ft. (426.7 m). The top of the wall will be set high enough to prevent over-topping by waves. It will be made of loose graded rock and the largest stone will weigh 2½ tons (2,540 t). In designing the structure, the board had in mind the aesthetics of the situation as well as engineering performance. The work, which will cost \$130,000, will be completed towards mid-1974.

#### **PUBLIC SERVICE EXPANSION**

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Premier obtain for me a report on the increase in the number of persons employed by the South Australian Public Service? In his recent report the Auditor-General indicates that the increase in the number of persons employed by the Public Service has been about 2 000 a year, and that last year it was just over 3 000, whereas in the year ended June 30, 1973, the increase was 5 700, which was a steep increase. In seeking this information, I realize that certain increases in staff are inevitable and can be justified because of the expansion of the services of the State but, because of the significant jump disclosed by the Auditor-General, I believe that this information should be provided.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get a report.

#### **POINT LOWLY**

Mr. MAX BROWN: Will the Minister of Transport ascertain what stage has been reached in discussions that I understand are being held between representatives of the Australian Government and of the State Government about the maintenance and control of the Point Lowly road? Although the Minister has been overseas, I think he will be aware that maintenance of the Point Lowly road has been a complicated problem over many years. A conference has now been called of representatives of the Australian Government, the State Government, and the Whyalla council.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be pleased to seek the information and bring it down for the honourable member.

#### **TRAMWAYS BUSES**

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my recent question about the width of Municipal Tramways Trust buses?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: A joint investigation is currently being undertaken by the Road Traffic Board and the Municipal Tramways Trust as to the appropriate width of bus bodies. I point out to the honourable member that 8ft. 6in. (2.6 m) wide buses are in use by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board and, accordingly, his claim that the Municipal Tramways Trust is the only organization in Australia that uses buses of this width is not factual. I may add that the use of buses of a width of 8ft. 6in. is now becoming virtually universal in overseas countries.

#### **RATE REBATES**

Mr. LANGLEY: Has the Minister of Local Government a reply to my recent question as to how pensioners will obtain their rebates on local government rates when accounts are sent?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Councils render accounts to eligible pensioners showing the reduced amount but including a notation that the account has been reduced by the amount

granted as a concession. Councils have been requested to forward two notices with rate accounts. One draws attention to the remission available and gives details of eligibility and method of application. The other points out that the remission as shown on the rate notice enclosed is allowable on the condition that there have been no changes in circumstances as set out in the original application for remission.

#### **PORT ELLIOT SCHOOL**

Mr. CHAPMAN: I ask the Minister of Education for a reply to a question I asked on a previous occasion.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member creates certain difficulties. I really do not know what he means when he talks about a question he has asked on a previous occasion. As I assume he is referring to a question he has asked about Port Elliot Primary School, I will give him a reply in relation to that. There is no record in the Education Department of correspondence from the Port Elliot Primary School relating to the replacement of toilet, ablution and eating facilities. The Public Buildings Department has now been asked to investigate the situation and to carry out any work necessary to upgrade the facilities referred to by the honourable member. Although Port Elliot is listed for eventual replacement, it is unlikely that it can be included in a definite design programme for some time.

#### **ASBESTOS POLLUTION**

Mr. PAYNE: Has the Minister of Environment and Conservation a reply to the question I asked on August 9 concerning the possibility of asbestos pollution?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: No studies of the concentrations of asbestos fibres in the air in Rundle Street or other general environments have been made by the Public Health Department. It is understood that the Environment Protection Agency of Victoria endeavoured to carry out such an investigation. Air samples from busy streets were studied for asbestos fibres according to established criteria, that is, fibres in which the ratio of length to diameter exceed 3:1. Extremely low counts were obtained, well below the standard for occupational exposure, which is two fibres for each cm<sup>3</sup> of air, or 100 fibre-years a man (for 50 years exposure). Brake-lining materials contain 40-60 per cent asbestos. Air sampling for asbestos, carried out in brake-testing facilities in the United Kingdom and the United States of America, has failed to reveal significant concentrations. Recent studies indicate that the heat generated by the application of the brakes of a motor vehicle in motion causes thermal decomposition of the asbestos, producing a non-fibrous amorphous or crystalline magnesium silicate which is not harmful to health if inhaled. It is generally considered that asbestos fibres in the air of cities result from asbestos construction materials or from building demolition. The concentrations will be too low or of too short a duration to be of significance.

#### **MONARTO**

Mr. WARDLE: Has the Minister of Environment and Conservation a reply to the question I asked on August 7 concerning Monarto?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Regarding sewage disposal at Monarto, one of the alternatives under consideration provides for conventional sewage treatment facilities with recycling of the reclaimed water by land irrigation. My colleague the Minister of Works announced in April of this year that the Agriculture Department is undertaking soil testing in the Monarto area to assess the suitability of the land for irrigation with reclaimed water.

**PORT PIRIE RAIL SERVICE**

Mr. VENNING: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on July 25 concerning the Port Pirie rail service?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The schedules of trains operating between Port Pirie and Adelaide are calculated according to the weights of train loads and the locomotives which pull them. Locomotive enginemen are required to work their locomotives to full capacity at all times to obtain the best sectional running times. Therefore, if the train has a load of less than that for which it is scheduled, it will perform better and require less time to run a given section. As a result it is possible on occasions for a train which departs late to arrive at its destination on time or even slightly early. On the occasion apparently referred to by the honourable member, the Port Pirie to Adelaide train departed at 6.19 p.m. (29 minutes late) after awaiting the arrival of the Ghan from Alice Springs which arrived at Port Pirie 54 minutes late. As the Adelaide-bound train had a relatively light load, it was able to make up the lost time and arrived in Adelaide at 9.41 p.m., on time. The Railways Commissioner intends to carry out further tests with a view to reducing by 15 minutes the running time of the train between Adelaide and Port Pirie.

**WEST LAKES SCHOOLS**

Mr. DUNCAN: Is the Attorney-General aware that West Lakes Sales Proprietary Limited is issuing to potential purchasers of housing blocks at West Lakes a brochure that shows primary schools clearly defined on a map, although those primary schools will not be built? On August 29, I asked the Minister of Education a question about the primary schools to be built in the West Lakes area and I have now read a reply that indicates clearly that the Education Department does not intend to build the two primary schools marked on the map in the brochure. As a result of the issuing of this brochure, one of my constituents has purchased land in the area and, clearly, the fact that there will not be a primary school near the block will automatically affect its value. I ask the Attorney-General to consider the matter.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I was not aware of the facts as stated by the honourable member, but I shall examine the matter.

**COOBER PEDY ROAD**

Mr. GUNN: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my question of August 28 about the shocking condition of the Coober Pedy road?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Several separate representations have been made to the Australian Government in the past for the use of the road through the Woomera range as an alternative to the Pimba-Kingoonya section of the Woomera rocket range. The Commonwealth Minister for Transport has told me that the range road is not constructed to a standard suitable for heavy traffic. In addition, he considers there would be many disadvantages attached to its use by the public. However, my Commonwealth colleague has recently agreed to investigate the possibility of providing an alternative route for traffic travelling between Pimba and Kingoonya.

**TAPEROO POLLUTION**

Mr. OLSON: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation investigate the pollution hazards being attributed to Jarvis Industries Proprietary Limited, mineral processors, of Military Road, Taperoo? During the past four years local residents have signed petitions, complained to the Port Adelaide council, and confronted and met the

manager of the company, but all this action has been without complete success, any partial success obtained having applied for only a short time. The highly excessive and continuous noise for the 24 hours of the day on the seven days of the week caused by compressors, crushers and mills, the dust problem enveloping the area, a lack of concern for the local neighbourhood, and the most unsatisfactory conditions for workers in the factory: all these are leading some residents to think in terms of adopting intimidatory tactics to try to overcome the hazard.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The honourable member will be pleased to know that a day or two ago I received a letter from the council, and I have referred that complaint to the Director-General of Public Health. I will let the honourable member know the result of the inquiry undertaken.

**NORTH GLENELG FORESHORE**

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Environment and Conservation a reply to the question I asked during the Loan Estimates debate about the need for steps on the esplanade at Glenelg North?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The question of the provision of steps on the foreshore at Glenelg North has been discussed with the Executive Engineer of the Coast Protection Board, who has told me that the board is conscious of the need for adequate pedestrian access to the beach. It is expected that construction of the steps will take place this financial year, hopefully before the commencement of the coming summer. On present indications, two sets of steps, for location at Margaret Street and Byrne Street, will be constructed by the Glenelg council.

**FRUIT JUICE**

Mr. ARNOLD: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my question about a market for 7 000 tons (7 112 tonnes) of navel oranges and \$500,000 worth of processed stock held by Berri Fruit Juices Co-operative Limited?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states that inquiries of the major soft drink manufacturers indicate that citrus juices are used in such drinks as orange and lemon and that removal of the sales tax exemption will have little effect on citrus juice usage. Under the Food and Drugs Act a percentage of citrus juice must be included in drinks that are sold under such names as orange and lemon. The major companies also state that it is not their policy to change formulation frequently and they do not contemplate any change in the use of citrus juices.

**ADDITIONAL RESERVOIRS**

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 23 about the construction of a reservoir on Bremer River or Mount Barker Creek and also about the disposal of effluent from Monarto?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: There are no plans at present for the construction of a reservoir on either Bremer River or Mount Barker Creek. With regard to effluent disposal, planning is directed at avoiding pollution of the Murray River. The two main alternatives under investigation for the treatment and disposal of sewage from Monarto are, first, sophisticated physico-chemical treatment facilities which would include removal of nutrients from the effluent, and, secondly, conventional treatment facilities.

**ROAD RULES**

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Minister of Transport say whether he intends, this session, to introduce legislation to alter the "give way to the right" rule in South Australia?

A report in the *Sunday Mail* of August 26 quotes the Police Commissioner (Mr. Salisbury) as saying that the introduction of the system of priority roads to replace the "give way to the right" rule should be considered as soon as possible. The Minister has been absent on a study tour to consider this matter and other matters and I am sure that while he was away he would have realized that the "give way to the right" rule was extremely dangerous and used by few countries.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The short answer is that it is not intended to introduce legislation to alter the "give way to the right" rule, for many reasons, not the least of them being that I am one of those who have a strong view that there should be uniformity of the road traffic code throughout Australia, and before a rule of that kind was altered in South Australia I would want to be assured that there would be common application of the new rule in the other States. At the last meeting of the Transport Advisory Council we had what I considered to be an extremely regrettable incident when one Minister said that he thought that uniformity of road laws was completely unnecessary and that we should not concern ourselves about it. I strongly reject that type of thinking, because I consider that, in this day and age, people are driving from State to State whereas previously they drove only from country town to country town. Therefore, without uniformity, I would certainly oppose the introduction of the alternative rule in South Australia. However, I think there is much to be said in support of the system that applies in Britain, and I think that that is what the member for Glenelg is referring to particularly. With the volume of traffic flowing there we must recognize the major and minor roads rather than the priority road system that applies. However, a more important factor to be considered (and I hope the honourable member will not think I am scratching his back when I say this) is that motorists in London are different from motorists in Australia, for they give due recognition to other motorists on the road without trying to force their rights over someone else. They drive with much consideration for other road users. I think that they are perhaps the most well mannered motorists I have ever seen and, at the other end of the spectrum, the motorists in New York would take the ribbon for being the worst. If the "give way to the right" rule is changed in Australia, it will certainly call for a considerable change in the driving habits of our motorists.

#### ROAD SAFETY CENTRE

Mr. RUSSACK: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my question of August 28 about the establishment of a second driving safety instruction centre and when that project will commence?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: It is evident that serious consideration must be given to the establishment of a second centre somewhere to the north of the city. True, up to 50c of the driver's licence fee is allocated for general purposes of road safety. Currently, the whole of the running expenses (including salaries, vehicle running, travelling allowances, etc. and the erection of the necessary buildings and purchase of equipment for the Road Safety Instruction Centre) are met from the 50c fee referred to by the honourable member. When a firm decision is made to purchase land and erect buildings for a subsequent centre, appropriate financial arrangements will be made.

#### PARKING METERS

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Will the Minister of Local Government ask the Adelaide City Council to reconsider its intention to increase parking fees—

Mr. Jennings: Ha, Ha!

The SPEAKER: Order! Yesterday, I unfortunately allowed a question about the Adelaide City Council, but that does not make the question right today. The Adelaide City Council is master of its own destiny as a local government body—

Mr. Jennings: Nominated by Liberals!

The SPEAKER: Order! Liberals have nothing to do with my explanation. Questions pertaining to local government and its internal operations are not permitted. The honourable member for Davenport.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: On a point of clarification, Mr. Speaker, can I ask that the Minister make representations to that body, or is that out of order?

The SPEAKER: I have already ruled that the question is out of order at this stage. The honourable member will have the chance to ask a question when he receives another call. He cannot ask two questions at once.

Later:

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Because of public opinion, will the Minister of Local Government discuss with the Adelaide City Council a proposed increase in parking fees within the council's area? Earlier this week the council announced that it intended to increase the parking meter fee. I believe that it will double the present fee. The council has also announced that the open car park on the corner of Gilles and Angas Streets will have its fees increased. Last year the council increased these fees from 30c to 40c for all-day parking. This week the council announced that, from the beginning of next week, I believe, the fee would be increased from 40c to 50c, representing an increase of 66 per cent within the past year. I appreciate that it is desirable to encourage people to leave their motor vehicles out of the city area, but I point out that 77 per cent of the people in Adelaide drive to their place of employment in private cars because of the lack of adequate public transport. These people should not be penalized for bringing their vehicles to the city.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member must not comment when asking a question. The honourable Minister of Transport.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The premise on which I understood the honourable member to ask his question was "because of public opinion", but I know of no public opinion that has been expressed on the proposed increase in parking fees. No representations have been made to me, and this is only the second time a question has been asked of me, the first time being when the press contacted me and asked for my views on this matter. My views were printed in the press and should be well known to the member for Davenport. The situation the honourable member should bear in mind is that he is attempting to get a paragraph or two in the press. As this proposal must come before the House by way of a paper that will be laid on the table, he, together with every other member, will have adequate opportunity to move for disallowance. That would be the right and proper time to express his views, which obviously are in opposition to the proposal. I do not believe, as I have stated publicly, that fair-minded people will oppose the proposition. An increase of 10c is not an astronomical sum; it is only when people dramatize it by talking about a 100 per cent increase that they become emotional. The right and proper time for the House to discuss the matter is when the appropriate paper is laid on the table, and I suggest that the honourable member exercise his rights at that time.

**ODNADATTA SCHOOL**

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 16 about the cost of repairing the new Samcon school at Odnadatta as a result of floodwater damage early this year?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The flash flood that occurred at Odnadatta early this year caused very little damage to the primary school, and the cost of repairs was \$150. As the school is sited on flat ground, major earth-works and a drainage scheme estimated to cost several thousand dollars would be necessary to divert flood waters from the school. Because of the minor damage caused by the last flood and the relatively low cost risk, it is considered that the expense for major diversionary measures is not warranted. In the event of a future flash flood, the extent of flooding may be reduced by a kerb that has been erected by the local progress association on the side of the street fronting the school.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARIES**

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Environment and Conservation a reply to my question of August 21 about the appearance before the Royal Commission on Local Government Boundaries of officers of the various departments under his control?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: When the Leader of the Opposition asked this question I was unaware that any representatives from the State Planning Authority would appear before the Royal Commission on Local Government Boundaries. Since then, I have discussed this matter with the Chairman of the State Planning Authority, who told me that a member of the authority recently appeared before the Royal Commission following the lodging of a written submission.

**ELECTRIC BLANKETS**

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question of August 21 about the number of deaths caused by the use of electric blankets and the safety of such blankets?

The Hon. I. D. CORCORAN: If the honourable member recalls, I told him that I would obtain a report on the number of accidents involving electric blankets in Victoria. The State Electricity Commission of Victoria states that electric blankets have been involved in 33 fires in Victoria this year. However, in no case was a fire due to an electrical fault in a blanket. All were the result of gross misuse by the people concerned. These incidents have emphasized the importance of using electric blankets strictly in accordance with the manufacturers' instructions, which are issued with every blanket sold. In particular, an electric blanket: (1) must be kept fully spread while in use and properly secured to the bed by the means provided; and (2) should never be used unattended by young children, invalids, aged and infirm people, and those insensitive to heat. Provided electric blankets are used as directed, and properly cared for and maintained, they should be perfectly safe in any household.

**RENMARK CROSSING**

Mr. ARNOLD: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my question of August 8 about providing necessary safety signs at the Tarcoola Street and Cucamunga Street intersection at Renmark West?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: At the request of the Corporation of the Town of Renmark, the Road Traffic Board investigated the operation of the intersection at Tarcoola Street and Cucamunga Street, Renmark. It was found that the use of regulatory signs would not provide a

satisfactory solution to the problem. The council was therefore advised that the delineation of the intersection could be improved by installing linemarking, safety bars, and warning signs. In addition it was suggested that the street lighting should be upgraded. However, a recent inspection of the location has revealed that none of the recommended measures has been implemented. The council has again been advised of the need to implement these measures.

In the period subsequent to the June, 1971, investigation, four accidents have occurred at this location, one of which was the recent fatal accident that occurred on a Saturday afternoon. None of these accidents was related to the problem of schoolchildren near the intersection, as each was a right-of-way accident, outside the time when children were attending school. A total of only 12 accidents has occurred at this location in the past 6½ years, and the recent accident is the only recorded fatality. The "school" signs outside the Renmark West Primary School in Tarcoola Street are considered to be adequate. Recommendations have been made to the council regarding additional signs to provide improved protection to the schoolchildren near the intersection.

**HOLDEN HILL SCHOOL**

Mrs. BYRNE: Will the Minister of Education ascertain when the infants section, designed on the open-space plan and in Samcon construction, now being built at Holden Hill Primary School will be completed and ready for occupation?

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

**TORRENS RIVER POLLUTION**

Mr. COUMBE: I ask my question of the Minister of Works, as the Minister responsible for the administration of the Control of Waters Act and various other Acts relating to the Torrens River. In view of the Minister's recent refusal to intervene in the matter concerning Torrens River pollution emanating from the run-off at the Adelaide Zoo, has the Minister taken (or, if he has not, will he take) this matter up with the Minister of Health and, if necessary, the Adelaide City Council to see whether some measures can be taken to solve this serious problem of pollution in the city of Adelaide's only river?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The answer is "No"; I will not take up the matter with the Minister of Health, nor will I take it up with the City Council, and I will explain why. The honourable member will recall that, when previously replying to questions asked about this matter, I pointed out clearly to the House that the area in which the Torrens River was polluted was within the boundaries of the Adelaide City Council and entirely that council's responsibility, and I invited the City Council, if it so desired, to contact the departments under my control in order to obtain any assistance that we might be able to give it. The statement was made in this House, and some publicity was given to it. Having inquired only the other day, I can inform the honourable member that no approach for this assistance has been made by the Adelaide City Council or by any councillor or officer of that council to any of my departments. I fail to understand why, but that is the case at present, and I have not changed my view on this matter. This is entirely the responsibility of the Adelaide City Council, and I am awaiting an approach from it if it desires assistance from my departments.

**RAILWAY REVENUE**

Mr. DUNCAN: Can the Minister of Transport tell the House what amount of revenue in the last financial year the South Australian Railways received through sign-board

advertisements on railway property and what percentage of total railway revenue this amount represented?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am sorry that I do not have the actual figures at my disposal, but I will certainly obtain them.

#### PETROL SPILLAGES

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my recent question about fuel spillage on roads?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: It is agreed that it appears that there has been an increase in the instances of fuel spillage over the last year on the Adelaide to Murray Bridge road, in particular on the steep grades and short-radius curves between Glen Osmond and Measdays. Nearly all spills are on the uphill carriageway for east-bound traffic. It is very difficult to police this, as most spills are only detected after the event. However, the Police Department is aware of the need to watch out for offenders. No reliable statistics are available on the number of accidents actually caused by fuel spillage, but the number is not believed to be high in relation to total accidents. Nevertheless, a watch is being kept on this aspect, but, as I have said, it is not easy to detect offenders.

#### DRINK CONTAINERS

Mr. HALL: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation say whether, before imposing a deposit on one-way drink containers in South Australia, he will await a report that I believe has been ordered by the Australian Environment Council? A press statement made by the Chairman of the South Australian Beverage Packaging and Distributing Liaison Committee is in fact a strong criticism of the Minister's intentions, as previously stated by him, in this matter. The press statement says that the Australian Environment Council has decided to conduct a public inquiry to find out whether there should be uniform and substantial deposits on all beer and soft drink containers in Australia. As I understand it, the Australian Environment Council comprises all State and Commonwealth Ministers responsible for environment and conservation. The proposed inquiry was to establish the economic, social and environmental effects of litter through drink containers. At about the same time as that announcement was made on an Australia-wide basis, the South Australian Minister was quoted as saying that the South Australian Government would proceed with legislation, before the report of the Australian Environment Council had been made. This brought to light problems in the industry that apparently had not been taken into account by the Minister in making his decision ahead of his counterparts in other States. This matter is dealt with in a submission to the South Australian Minister which I understand he would by now have read and which is being made available generally. This submission indicates that one-way drink containers represent only 10 per cent of the litter problem in the community. It also raises real questions with regard to the economic problems associated with matters under the Minister's control. On page 11, paragraph (6) of the submission states:

The sale of beverages in distant areas within South Australia and across the border, for example, Alice Springs and Broken Hill, would be restricted to returnable glass, a totally uneconomical proposition due to higher transportation charges. Because of the lack of local competition, selling prices could rise in these areas, but more importantly the local consumer would be denied the freedom of choice available to the city dweller.

Paragraph (9) states:

South Australian manufacturers would be precluded from competing in overseas markets developed by them. Their competitive export position was achieved with volume

production can lines and lower transport costs inherent in can production. One manufacturer alone annually exports 6 000 000 filled soft drink cans to Singapore, a country renowned for its cleanliness.

The submission then states that in Singapore there is an education programme and fines for those who litter. The paragraph concludes by stating that this is "a system which does not penalize the responsible majority". By his hasty decision before the report has been made by the Australian Environment Council, according to this responsible submission made to him the Minister could apparently jeopardize the position of South Australian drink manufacturers by isolating them in Australia, if other States decide to take different action. Because of the importance of the drink manufacturing industry in this State, I ask the Minister whether, before proceeding, he will await the report of the Australian Environment Council.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: When it was announced some months ago that it was intended to introduce legislation on this matter, it was stated that a most thorough investigation had been made of the problem of non-returnable drink containers. As a result of the work done at that level, we thought it was desirable to act as quickly as possible to solve the problem. There are difficulties that confront the State. Since it was announced that we would take this step, it is true that the matter was considered by the Environment Ministers' council, although not under the terms of reference quoted by the honourable member, who was inaccurate in stating those terms.

Mr. Hall: What are the terms of reference?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Nevertheless, I can inform the honourable member that we intend to introduce legislation for this purpose during this session.

#### INCOMES-PRICES POLICY

Mr. MILLHOUSE: What does the Premier intend to do now about his undertaking to present a Bill to this Parliament referring to the Commonwealth concurrent power in relation to prices and incomes? Last week, when we were at the Constitution Convention, the Premier gave an undertaking on this matter in the following terms:

In reply to the Prime Minister's plea I say on behalf of the South Australian Government that we are prepared immediately to present to our Parliament a Bill referring to the Commonwealth concurrent power in relation to prices and incomes. I believe that this ought to be the answer of every State this week.

I noticed in the *Australian* this morning that the Prime Minister had suffered a rebuff, as Caucus had directed that a Bill be prepared for a referendum seeking this power. The article states:

Earlier, Caucus over-ruled Mr. Whitlam and committed the Government to a Bill seeking a referendum for price control.

There seems now to have been some upset in the plans of the Labor members at the convention. I believe this was the matter on which Labor members of the South Australian delegation caucused when they had the meeting to which I referred earlier. I ask whether, in the light of the change in the circumstances at Commonwealth level, the Premier still intends to present the Bill to refer this power to the Commonwealth.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The request of the Prime Minister was for all States to refer such a power, and I said I believed the reply which all States should give to the Commonwealth was that we would refer such a power. If it were of any service in getting a uniform price restraint system in Australia of the kind I outlined in that speech, which would have benefits not attainable from separate State price control systems, the Government would present



such a Bill. However, we do not intend to go through a useless exercise if the rest of Australia does not intend to follow, because a uniform price control system could not be exercised by the Commonwealth. The Prime Minister said at the convention that if the power was not referred by the States he would present a referendum to the people on the subject.

Mr. Millhouse: Why has he been over-ruled?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I imagine the honourable member is relying on a newspaper report which is as baseless as his own suspicions about Caucus decisions elsewhere.

#### HIGHWAY OBSTRUCTIONS

Mr. BLACKER: Will the Minister of Transport take the necessary steps to have all obstructions situated inside the line of white posts on highways removed as soon as possible? Many of our highways have huge trees growing close to the sealed section. Concern has been raised in this House on previous occasions about the positioning of stobie poles close to carriageways. I have had the misfortune to experience a blow-out in the front tyre of a truck causing the truck to crash into a gum tree at Mambray Creek. This tree is less than half a metre from the sealed section of the road and it has been hit on previous occasions, causing serious damage to persons and vehicles. As I was one of the lucky ones, I believe it would be remiss of me if I did not raise this matter here.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: In accordance with Government policy, the Highways Department considers seriously all possible alternatives before any trees are removed from any road reserve. I think there are times when we have been accused of being over-zealous about retaining trees.

Mr. Gunn: But—

The SPEAKER: The honourable member for Eyre is out of order.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The honourable member obviously agrees that I believe there are other irresponsible members who would have the same view as he has.

Mr. Venning: Rubbish!

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The plain facts are that we will not remove any trees unless it is absolutely necessary and we are satisfied that there is no alternative way of handling the pavement situation.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order! It will not be my practice to remind members continually of their obligations in the House. If they persist in wilfully disregarding the authority of the Chair, I will not hesitate to warn them accordingly. The honourable Minister of Transport.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: If there are any trees which the member for Flinders or any other honourable member considers are a danger to the travelling public, I should be grateful if they would tell me where the trees are located, and I will arrange to have them inspected to see whether the alleged danger exists; but regarding the suggestion of wantonly removing trees, as I suspect the honourable member's question suggests, the answer is a definite "No".

#### NORTH TERRACE SUBWAY

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my recent question concerning the building of a subway under North Terrace?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The feasibility of constructing a subway under North Terrace has been studied from time to time in response to representations by various parties ("parties" does not refer to political Parties: it refers to

various groups of people). These studies resulted in the conclusion that the subway would not remove the need for providing for pedestrians crossing over at street level. There are two routes from the station concourse to North Terrace: one is by the stairway at the southern end of the concourse, and the other is by the ramp leading to the intersection of North Terrace and Railway Road on the eastern side of the building. Both these routes are under heavy pedestrian traffic during peak periods, and large numbers of persons cross North Terrace at each of the authorized crossing places. About 24 000 persons travel to the city by suburban services each week day and return each evening.

Although passengers make up the majority of the pedestrians who use the crossings, many persons visit the building daily to work or to transact business with the various offices of the railways or with the Motor Vehicles Department. All these persons would be inconvenienced if they were required to use a subway restricting access to the concourse level. It is essential that ramp access be provided to the concourse for the use of passengers with pushers, etc. Modern interstate and country line ticket office facilities have recently been provided at street level and it would not be practicable to accommodate these offices at concourse level. For these reasons, it would appear that a subway under North Terrace would not remove the need for providing for pedestrians who desired to proceed to and from the station having access at street level. In the circumstances, the substantial expenditure that would be entailed in making such provision could scarcely be warranted.

#### FRANCES RAIL GANG

Mr. CHAPMAN: For and on behalf of the member for Victoria, I ask whether the Minister of Transport has a reply to a question my colleague asked on August 1 regarding the Frances rail gang.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: A reorganization of maintenance gangs on the Murray Bridge Division is at present being undertaken by the South Australian Railways. It is possible that this reorganization may ultimately result in the abandonment of Frances as a gang location. I think I should add quite clearly that these men will not be sacked so that they can be spoken to through their stomachs—

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: —as suggested by the member for Alexandra the other evening.

#### FREEWAYS

Mr. GUNN: Will the Minister of Transport tell the House how many of the proposals contained in the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study plan have been adopted by the South Australian Government? Many times we have heard the Minister tell the House that the Government is not continuing with the M.A.T.S. plan, and once he was insulting to me when I asked a question.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is commenting.

Mr. GUNN: On page 103 of the Auditor-General's Report, it is stated clearly that in the last financial year the South Australian Government spent more than \$4,000,000 on land acquisition for freeways, despite the Minister's previously having told the people of South Australia that the Government was not proceeding with the plan.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I hope members will listen to me a little more carefully this time than they have obviously done in the past. Although I cannot be too sure

of the exact time, because this happened about 21 years ago, I think it was in February, 1971, that I made a statement that I believed everyone clearly understood. I wish I had this statement with me now, because I would read it slowly for the member for Eyre and his colleagues. From memory, the policy I enunciated then on the Government's behalf was to the effect that the Government would not for at least 10 years proceed with the construction of the freeways contemplated in the M.A.T.S. plan within the built-up urban and suburban areas of Adelaide where substantial demolition was involved. In the meantime, however, because of the cloud of uncertainty created by the release of the M.A.T.S. plan, I said the Government would reserve transport corridors in line with those marked on the M.A.T.S. plan appendix and that, where required: to do so by owners, we would continue to purchase properties that persons were unable to sell on the private market. I said, however, in addition that we would place no restrictions at all on persons who had houses and wanted to improve and develop them. That was a fairly clear, straightforward statement of policy, which has been followed to the letter from that day until now, and the summaries in the Auditor-General's Report to which the member for Eyre has referred are those that have been used by the Government principally to purchase properties the owners of which have been unable to sell them because of this cloud of uncertainty—

Mr. Gunn: What about—

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: —caused by the release of the M.A.T.S. plan.

Mr. Gunn: What about the—

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

#### **OODNADATTA ROAD**

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my recent question regarding the condition of the Marree-Oodnadatta road?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Marree-Oodnadatta road is in poor condition at this time owing to wet conditions and difficulty of access. The road is basically a formed track, which tends to deteriorate quickly both in winter and in summer. The Highways Department has no plans to upgrade the standard of this road soon. Work will be confined to routine maintenance and minor improvements on short lengths. As the location of proposed sidings has not been fixed, it has not yet been possible to commence any investigation into the possible effect of the new railway alignment on road usage patterns.

#### **OAKLANDS PARK FLY-OVER**

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on August 16 regarding the Oaklands Park railway crossing fly-over?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Oaklands Park road and railway grade separation project is scheduled to commence in the 1977-78 financial year. However, this is subject to present priorities remaining unchanged. In this regard, it is pointed out that priorities could be affected by the terms of the new Commonwealth Aid Roads Act, which will operate as from July 1, 1974.

#### **SWANPORT BRIDGE**

Mr. WARDLE: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my recent question regarding the Swanport bridge?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: This project will be financed not from the Public Purposes Loan Bill but from Commonwealth and State road funds. The Highways Department's

schedule of proposed works for 1973-74 provides an amount of \$320,000 for this project, most of which will be expended on the approaches to the bridge. Some preliminary foundation work for the structure will also be undertaken in this period.

#### **ROAD TRANSPORT**

Mr. VENNING: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on August 16 regarding road transport?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: It is intended that the legislation dealing with the recommendations of the committee that considered the operations of commercial road transport will be proclaimed after the coming harvest. Sufficient lead time will be made available to enable farmers and general carriers to make any necessary adjustments that may be required in order to comply with the provisions contained in the legislation.

#### **METROPOLITAN TRANSPORT**

Mr. CUMBE: Will the Minister of Transport now give me a reply to the question I originally asked him on July 25 and, in his absence, the one I asked the Minister of Environment and Conservation on August 23 regarding metropolitan road transport?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: In accordance with the Government's stated policy, the Highways Department is undertaking a continual programme of urban arterial road widening and improvement. In addition, I expect shortly to receive recommendations in relation to express bus services and the possible implementation of exclusive bus lanes. As the honourable member may also be aware, I am also considering the possible introduction of a distributor bus service to operate exclusively within the city mile. The object of such a service would be to link the Glenelg tram, the retail sector, the commercial sector and Adelaide Railway Station.

For the first 18 months of operation, the Director-General of Transport's office has been working towards establishing an overall order of priorities and programme for urban public transport. The first in a series of documents, which will be entitled "Public Transport in the Adelaide Metropolitan Region—A programme of Improvements or Urban Public Transport", is expected to be published soon. Complementary documents to these are now also being prepared and I am sure they will provide a sound basis for future transport planning as well as an opportunity for public discussion of the transport planning process now being followed by the Government.

#### **ELECTRICITY CHARGES**

Mr. ARNOLD: Will the Minister of Works consider discussing with the General Manager of the Electricity Trust the tariff under which homes for the aged are charged, with the purpose of having the rates brought into line with those of household consumers? I have received from the Honorary Administrator of Barmera Homes for the Aged the following letter:

You will remember that I wrote you regarding water rates charged to Bonney Lodge. We have now received a reply to our letter to the Lands Department, in which they advise that we do in fact enjoy a reduced rate of two-thirds of usual charge. However, due to a clerical oversight this reduced rate has not been applied during the last two years. This has now been adjusted resulting in a substantial credit in our account.

Barmera Homes for the Aged is grateful to the Minister for his assistance. The letter also states:

I am also enclosing Bonney Lodge's account from the Electricity Trust of South Australia. Under tariff A and C a charge of \$761.73 is made for a total of 33 158 units.

For the sake of comparison, I am enclosing my personal account wherein I am charged, under tariff M, \$18.71 for 955 units. If Bonney Lodge were charged under tariff M, the followings: would be the result:

	\$
40 units @ 5.80c . . . . .	2.32
90 units @ 2.90c . . . . .	2.61
33 028 units @ 1.67c . . . . .	551.57
<hr/>	
	\$556.50—a difference of \$205.23.

In spite of the fact that Bonney Lodge consumes more than 33 times as much power as I do, they have to pay 36.87 per cent more per unit than I. We have been informed that the lodge is operating under the most favourable commercial rate. My board asks that you take our case to the appropriate authorities with the request that a special rate be applied to such bodies as ours.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes, I shall be pleased to do that and let the honourable member know the outcome.

#### ROAD SIGNS

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on August 9 regarding the marking of roadways with signs, similar to those used in other States and countries, to assist not only residents of this State but also visitors?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am pleased to be able to tell the honourable member that we are doing something to help him and other migrants to this country. The Highways Department is catering for the needs of strangers visiting the Adelaide metropolitan area by providing large signs on major roads in advance of important intersections. These signs indicate the name of the cross street. Already 80 of these signs have been installed and 50 more are expected to be erected during the next 12 months. The simple grid pattern of Adelaide's streets and the practice of giving one name to long stretches of major roads make this system superior to the system of assigning a number to each road. The latter system would require a far greater number of signs and the use of a key map.

#### TRANSPORT PERMITS

Mr. EVANS: Will the Minister of Transport arrange for owners of the original South Australian dial-a-bus vehicles to be able to operate a tourist service from Adelaide to the Barossa Valley without having to obtain individual permits? Because of the unfortunate failure of dial-a-bus, several men were left with vehicles and they have undertaken commitments to be able to retain the vehicles, some having mortgaged their houses or borrowed from organizations. They consider that there is a potential trade available between Adelaide motels and hotels and the Barossa Valley for tourists, but each time the operators wish to make such a trip they must obtain a permit from the Transport Control Board. The permit is not expensive, but inconvenience is involved each time in obtaining it. I understand that five operators who have been willing to operate this service have found it inconvenient because of the present regulations. I ask the Minister to consider having an annual or quarterly permit issued to these people to operate in that area, thus avoiding their having to be concerned about obtaining individual permits.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I will discuss the matter with the Transport Control Board.

#### COUNTRY SCHOOLS

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of August 30 about whether a decision has been made to close some schools in 1974?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I have to confirm that at the moment no final recommendations for the closing of country schools have been made, although approval has been granted for the closing of the Long Plains school, subject to suitable accommodation being available at Mallala. A list of other schools that may possibly be closed is being drawn up at the moment, and will be submitted to me for consideration soon. Whatever schools are closed will not be offered for sale: they will be retained for departmental use as camp schools.

#### NOVAR GARDENS TREES

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked during the Loan Estimates debate on August 15 about the planting of trees near Saratoga Drive, Novar Gardens, and Sturt Creek?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: In the portion of the reserve referred to by the honourable member there is only 7 m (about 23ft.) of width between the edge of the concrete lining and the reserve fence. This distance is only barely sufficient for the movement of maintenance vehicles and machinery, and it will not be possible to undertake tree planting in this section. The reserve widens out upstream and downstream of this section, and trees have been planted where possible.

#### CLEARWAYS

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on August 14 regarding the efficiency of the clearway system operating in the metropolitan area?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: There are no plans at present to declare any new clearways but the situation is continually under review. Although the declared clearways are handling the present traffic, it is difficult to predict at what stage further measures will be required.

#### COOPER CREEK CAUSEWAY

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my question of August 16 regarding provision for traffic to cross Cooper Creek, on the Birdsville track, when that creek is in flood?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: It now appears most unlikely that water from Cooper Creek will reach the Birdsville track, but repairs to the pontoon will be carried out in case of this eventuality. Work on the construction of a new causeway will be commenced in about two weeks.

#### KING WILLIAM ROAD

Mr. VENNING: Will the Minister of Transport ask the Adelaide City Council what it intends to do regarding the bitumen road outside Parliament House? As one comes up from St. Peters Cathedral, particularly near the Adelaide Festival Centre and Parliament House, King William Road is in what I consider to be an unfinished state. There are—

The SPEAKER: Order! I have given a ruling today and I must be consistent. Certain matters do not come under the control of the Minister of Transport and it is laid down that questions pertaining to local government and local authorities are inadmissible. I must be consistent and rule that, as this matter is not within the jurisdiction of the Minister of Transport and is a matter concerning local government, the question is out of order.

Mr. VENNING: On a point of order, all I did was to ask the Minister to ascertain from the Adelaide City Council, not that he should act as Minister of Local Government. I see nothing wrong with that.

The SPEAKER: I have ruled the question out of order.

**MILE END LAND**

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Can the Minister of Transport explain the expenditure of \$1,500,000 on the purchase of 12 acres (4.9 ha) of land at Mile End? I ask this question in relation to the answer the Minister gave to a previous question from the member for Eyre.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I have not looked at the Auditor-General's Report in detail, as the member for Davenport apparently has, but I assume that is the land that has been purchased for the replacement of the Hilton bridge.

**KANGAROOS**

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation explain the new system of permits to be issued to people wanting to destroy kangaroos? There was a recent press announcement that the State Government had decided to introduce a new system of permits. The Minister would be aware that there has been much ill-informed comment in the media recently about the effect that the permit system of killing is having on the kangaroo population. Most of that information seems to be incorrect. It would help clarify the situation if the Minister would say what is the Government's policy on this important matter.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The sealed tag system referred to in newspaper reports is being implemented by the National Parks and Wildlife Division. The reason for this is that in recent years pest permits have been issued to landholders for the destruction of kangaroos where they have appeared in excessive numbers on properties. After examination and approval by the district clerk and an officer of the National Parks and Wildlife Division of a request to destroy a certain number of kangaroos, a permit has been issued to the landholder concerned. However, there has been no real means of ensuring that, if a permit has been issued for destroying 100 kangaroos, that number has been destroyed. Accordingly, criticism has been levelled against the division by people claiming that the landholder has in fact destroyed more kangaroos than the number stipulated in the permit. The introduction of the sealed tag system means that, if a landholder wants to destroy 100 kangaroos, he will be provided with 100 tags, which must be placed on the carcasses of the kangaroos. In this way we shall easily be able to determine the number of kangaroos killed and have a more satisfactory control over the number of pest permits issued.

**STATUTES AMENDMENT (PUBLIC SALARIES) BILL**

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

**ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

**PAY-ROLL TAX ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

Returned from the Legislative Council with the following suggested amendment:

Page 1, line 16 (clause 2)—After "on all taxable wages", insert "that are not liable to pay-roll tax at the rate of three and one-half per centum,".

Consideration in Committee.

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

That the Legislative Council's suggested amendment be agreed to. The effect of this suggested amendment is

to prevent even the highly theoretical possibility that wages which were payable before September, 1973, and actually paid after that day would be liable to "double taxation". In fact, this is highly unlikely to occur as in the nature of things such wages would be included on only one pay-roll tax return. However, from an abundance of caution it would be desirable that this possibility be guarded against. This amendment makes clear that wages that have been taxed at the old rate will not be liable to be taxed at the new rate.

Mr. COUMBE: This amendment can do no harm, so I support it.

Motion carried.

**ART GALLERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

Returned from the Legislative Council with an amendment.

**NURSES' MEMORIAL CENTRE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED (GUARANTEE) BILL**

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to authorize and empower the Treasurer of the State to guarantee the repayment of a loan to be made to the Nurses' Memorial Centre of South Australia Incorporated, and for other purposes. Read a first time.

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

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

For some time a body, now known as the Nurses' Memorial Centre of South Australia Incorporated, has been working on plans for the development of an area owned by it at Dequetteville Terrace, Kent Town. The development proposed is in the form of a building which will be the headquarters of the nursing profession in this State and which will also serve as a war memorial to all nurses who gave their lives in the service of their country. The centre will comprise a four-storey office building with an attached multi-purpose hall, seating 270 people, with stage projection facilities and a function room. Appropriate car parking facilities will also be provided.

The Government is minded to give a project of this nature its support and, in earnest of its intentions, it proposes to guarantee the repayment of up to \$548,000 to be borrowed by the memorial centre on the security of the land and buildings comprised in the project. This short Bill is intended to provide for such a guarantee and is in the usual form of such a measure. I point out to members that in the terms of the relevant Standing Orders this Bill is a hybrid Bill and will in the normal course of events be referred to a Select Committee of this House at the conclusion of the second reading debate.

Dr. TONKIN secured the adjournment of the debate.

**APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2)**

In Committee.

(Continued from September 12. Page 743.)

Schedule.

Legislative Council, \$83,794—passed.

House of Assembly, \$176,472; Parliamentary Library, \$41,090; Joint House Committee, \$84,646—passed.

Electoral, \$312,490.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Can the Attorney-General say for what purpose \$20,000 is being allocated for the production of films by the South Australian Film Corporation?

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): This provision has been made against the likelihood that it may be possible to produce a film for the education of the South

Australian public concerning the South Australian Constitution, Houses of Parliament and their functions, the method of electing members, the system of voting for the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council, and other related matters. It is considered that this film may be directed subsequently towards younger voters, particularly those 18 years to 20 years old. Probably, with a new system of voting for the Legislative Council there may be confusion about how the Council is elected, and a film could be used as a method of educating the public. No definite decision has been made about the film.

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Attorney assure me that he will not do anything to disadvantage the film by appearing in it, as did the Minister of Works in a film about water rates and water conservation?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I assure the honourable member that I will not disadvantage the film: if I appear in it, it will be an advantage.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Can the Attorney assure members that, in producing this film, every attempt will be made to ensure that no political bias is shown? I refer specifically to the possible use of the catch phrase "one man one vote one value", as the film could advance false ideas to the public, particularly children who are susceptible to propaganda seen in films.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I cannot understand anyone being susceptible regarding the proposition of one vote one value: it is so obviously valid that one need only hear it to be convinced. This film will be designed to educate the public and not for Party-political purposes.

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Attorney-General say why the cost of printing electoral rolls is so much greater this year?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The increase has been caused by the forecast increased cost of the automatic data processing work, including a new system and the conversion of the programmes for the automatic data process system.

Line passed.

Government Reporting, \$341,466.

Mr. EVANS: I understand that there is a possibility of a printing machine being installed in Parliament House and *Hansard* being printed in the room under the steps at the front of the building. Can the Attorney say whether the printing of *Hansard* will be done at the new works at Netley or at Parliament House?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain that information from the Chief Secretary.

Mr. MATHWIN: This year \$130,000 has been allocated for the printing and publishing of *Hansard*: that is the same amount as was voted last year, but \$109,133 only was spent. Can the Attorney say why the additional amount has been allocated?

The Hon. L. J. KING: If the honourable member wishes, I will obtain an explanation for the actual expenditure being about \$20,000 less than last year's vote.

Line passed.

Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, \$15,202; Parliamentary Committee on Land Settlement, \$4,000—passed.

Legislature, Miscellaneous, \$425,500.

Mr. COUMBE: Members have been disadvantaged recently, because they have been unable to obtain the new envelopes that should be available. I believe that the reason is associated with the change to metrication. Will the Attorney-General inquire about this? Further, can he say when members will receive the 1972 volume of the Statutes? The delay in receiving the volume is causing inconvenience to members.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain the information for the honourable member.

Mr. McANANEY: What sum has been allocated for telephone services in the House of Assembly?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain the information for the honourable member.

Line passed.

Premier and Development, \$2,324,821.

Mr. COUMBE: Regarding feasibility studies by consultants under the heading "Industries Promotion, Research and Assistance", can the Treasurer say whether the allocation of \$25,000 is for consultancy work connected with attracting additional industries to this State or with the expansion of existing industries? Further, can the Treasurer explain the substantial increase from the allocation of \$9,000 last financial year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): The provision of \$25,000 for feasibility studies will provide for only a very small amount of such studies. The feasibility study on the film industry alone cost \$29,000. The provision is for studies on the petro-chemical works and for employment studies at Port Pirie, Port Augusta and Whyalla towards the establishment of an employment base for the iron triangle development area. Further, the allocation provides for a continuing payment for the tariff study in relation to the effect of the Tariff Board's decisions on South Australian industry.

Dr. EASTICK (Leader of the Opposition): Can the Treasurer say whether additional labour, particularly for the building industry, is constantly being sought from overseas? The Director of the Tourist Bureau is also Director of Immigration; is the duality of his position limiting efforts to obtain skilled labour for South Australia?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: While the Director of the Tourist Bureau is also Director of Immigration, little of his time is given to immigration work, which is mostly undertaken by the Chief Immigration Officer (Mr. Keig), who works full time on immigration matters. We also have a migration officer in London (Mr. Kneebone) who spends his time recruiting people for specific areas of concern in South Australia for which we are endeavouring to get certain workmen.

Dr. Eastick: Are you looking for any particular type of workmen, other than building workers?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: From time to time our office is contacted by South Australian companies seeking various workmen, and advertisements are placed in newspapers in England. The workmen are sought there, and the assistance of the Commonwealth immigration office is sought in recruiting workmen elsewhere. In addition, on the initiative of the Commonwealth Ministry, a joint committee has now been set up, headed in South Australia by Mr. Laidlaw, to establish the basis of need for recruiting people.

Mr. MATHWIN: The provision of \$450,900 for the Policy Secretariat, administrative, accounting, publicity and clerical staff is much greater than the amount actually spent last year. Will that section be expanded, and how great will the expansion be?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is a small addition to the staff of the Policy Secretariat but, in addition, it was necessary for us to have additional accounting, publicity and clerical staff. We are separating out the publicity work from the Tourist Bureau and reorganizing the publicity work of the Government, which work has been inadequate in the past. The standard of the publicity work of the South Australian Government has been well below that of the other States. It is necessary that we

have a larger and reorganized staff so that we can adequately promote the State. An enormous amount of extra work is now passing through the Department of the Premier and of Development, and we certainly need people who are capable of carrying out the necessary clerical and administrative work. The extra amount also provides for wage increases and for 10 additional staff members.

Dr. TONKIN: I refer to the proposed \$262,500 for the purpose of advertising the State. Why did not South Australia advertise in the recent edition of the United Kingdom *Financial Review* in which other States advertised? Is the advertising in question purely on a tourist basis?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: One provision deals with staffing and the other with expenditure incurred through the various media.

Dr. TONKIN: Why did South Australia not advertise in this publication, a large part of which was devoted to Australia? The sum of \$117,500 is allocated for the production of films by the South Australian Film Corporation. Can the Treasurer state the total expenditure concerning the corporation this year? In advertising the State, is it the Government's intention to use South Australian or Australian-based and Australian-owned advertising agencies?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The increased expenditure on advertising is in media advertising, tourist literature, posters, window displays and photographs. There is no increase in photographic equipment, and freight and sundries are down slightly, the increases being in those other areas. Until there had been some improvement in our tourist infrastructure in South Australia, and until we had set up a number of tourist ventures which we sought to advertise and which would provide us with tourist attractions, we held back the amount spent on tourist advertising for South Australia.

This has occasioned the significant increase this year, and an entirely new initiative is now being taken in our tourist advertising. In addition, all film making by the Government was held up until the film corporation was in operation. Therefore, the requests of the South Australian Tourist Bureau for the remaking of 10 tourist films were held up until now. All those films needed remaking and they are currently being remade. The corporation's films on Adelaide and the Barossa Valley should be ready by the end of this month.

I have not a figure immediately available for the honourable member regarding the overall position of the film corporation. I would have to do some sums rather quickly as to this. Of course, the corporation is able to use its own Loan moneys as well as the amounts in connection with work done for specific Government departments. I would have to get a special report on exactly what the budget of the film corporation covers. I have been through it in detail, but I do not remember it offhand and I have not the figures immediately in front of me.

We have not advertised in certain specific English and other papers where other States have seen fit to advertise because we have found little result from such advertisements and we have reassessed the basis upon which we should advertise for industrial purposes. We have found that we are able to use our staff to promote articles about South Australia to its benefit without indulging in advertising expenditure often, and we think this is a much more satisfactory way of getting our story over than simply putting in something which industrialists tend to glance at and then look elsewhere.

We have had a careful look at the way in which we should advertise the State. If we were to go in for large-

scale advertising of the State overseas for industrial investment purposes, we would have to spend millions, and I do not think we should. We have to be more selective about what we do. At times I think some of the money spent in other States is wasted, and I do not intend to waste money in that way.

We use a number of advertising agencies. Certainly, in relation to Australian activities we prefer Australian-owned companies, and Australian-employing companies where possible. At the same time, we look at the ability of the company to provide the kind of services we want, and quite often in international advertising it is most useful to us to have a company with international connections which is able to provide us with services from outside South Australia. In those circumstances, we will act accordingly.

Mr. MATHWIN: I seek information relating to the Planning Appeal Board. The actual payments last year amounted to \$25,957, and this year it is proposed to increase the vote to \$83,800. If we coupled this with the \$22,000 for operating expenses and minor equipment, this would total \$105,800, which is a substantial increase, to say the least. I realize that an increased allocation is necessary through the appointment of Judge Ward, but one wonders to what bounds this vote will increase in future.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Last year's figure is for four months of the year only, as a result of the transfer from another department during the year.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I have taken out the figures for the South Australian Film Corporation. There are nine different entries within the Budget and the total is \$781,275. The member for Torrens, on August 7 last, asked a question of the Treasurer concerning Ayers House. The question was:

Can he say what are the financial terms of the lease and whether rental payments are made annually, monthly, or weekly?

The Treasurer replied:

Although it all depends on the turnover, I will get accurate information for the honourable member.

Is that information now available?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I gave the information in a subsequent reply. I have not got it here, but if the honourable member looks at *Hansard* he will see the reply.

Mr. EVANS: I contacted the Premier about 12 months ago regarding an organization known as Speld, which was looking for a film, produced in this State which could be used in the education of children with specific learning difficulties. In the films coming from overseas, the speakers have an accent which is hard for our children to understand, especially those children who are slightly disadvantaged. Some of the phrases used are different from ours, and members of this organization believe it would be a distinct advantage for a film to be produced in our own country to help these children adapt themselves to normal life. If such a film were to be produced by the corporation in South Australia it could be made available to organizations in other States so as to recoup some of the expenditure or perhaps even make a profit. Has the Treasurer given any further consideration to the proposal I put to him? At the time, he told me the corporation did not have the facilities or the expertise to carry out this function, but it is possible that, with the money being allocated, the corporation in the near future will have the expertise and the necessary equipment to produce such a film.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will inquire of the Chairman of the corporation.

Mr. ARNOLD: I draw the Treasurer's attention to the line relating to the Waikerie Gliding Club. In 1972-73 the vote was \$16,300, of which \$15,800 was spent, but nothing is being provided this year. Does this mean that the Government has met its obligation or the commitment undertaken to assist in the staging of the world series?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I still seek information in relation to Ayers House. I was fully aware of the question asked by the member for Mitcham and the reply to it, but as far as I can see no details are given of the terms of the lease or the actual rental.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: They are not, for the reasons given in that reply. The situation is, as the honourable member must know, that the Auditor-General has reported that the specific terms involved should not be reported publicly, for the reasons which were given.

Dr. EASTICK: I seek from the Treasurer an indication of the criteria used for determining staff or officers accompanying him or other Ministers on overseas trips. However, I do not dispute the allocation of \$16,000 to be provided for overseas visits of the Premier and officers, as it is to promote South Australia, and also to assess overseas projects which may have application in this State. Does it include the personal staff of the Treasurer, namely, secretarial staff, press secretaries or whatever other advisory officers may be required? It is necessary to have some gauging of the methods employed.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The normal situation now will be that one of my private secretaries will accompany me, and either my executive assistant or one of the press officers. In addition, departmental officers will accompany me at those stages of the overseas visit where their work is involved. I expect that, when I go overseas in November, as I will be required to do, Mr. Bakewell and Mr. Scriven will be with me at some stage. In the first week of December, at Kuala Lumpur there will be a meeting of all South Australian trade agents. At that stage, Mr. MacDonald will be accompanying me also. It depends really on the work to be done. However, at some stage of the trip I expect that a private secretary and a member of the press staff (either my executive assistant or one of the other press officers) will be with me. I point out that this is a much smaller staff than is taken away by any other Premier.

Mr. McANANEY: I notice that the sum available for swimming pools has been reduced to \$11,000. Is this because of a lack of applications?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is due to the fact that swimming pools are now dealt with under another line. This provision now relates only to subsidies for small swimming pools, whereas most applications are in relation to Olympic-size pools, which are dealt with in another line.

Mr. MATHWIN: A sum of \$100,000 is provided for subsidies towards the development of tourist resorts. What specific areas will be developed? Is the Coorong being considered?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: These are subsidies to local government or local tourist organizations for the development of facilities, such as foreshore improvements, caravan parks, the provision of toilets, and public recreation areas. This is simply an increase in the amount of subsidies that can be made, normally on a \$1 for \$1 basis.

Mr. Mathwin: You aren't going to develop a specific area?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Not under this line.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I am most concerned about this matter of Ayers House, on the development of which more than \$330,000 of public money has been spent by the Government. The public should know what return is being received on this money. The earlier reply to the question by the member for Mitcham was that the rental could not be disclosed, because of the competitive nature of restaurant operations in Adelaide. As I see no relationship whatever between attracting people to restaurants and disclosing this rental, I ask that the information be given.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Following the request of the member for Mitcham, I inquired of the management committee of Ayers House whose reply has appeared in *Hansard*. That reply was from the Chairman of the committee, who is the Auditor-General.

Mr. MATHWIN: The allocation for operating expenses, minor equipment and sundries of the Builders Licensing Board has increased from actual payments of \$4,587 last year to \$11,000 this year. As I thought that the licensing fees paid in would mean that the board could pay its way, I take it that this increase is to pay for extra staff or larger office premises.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: In 1972-73, the cost of publishing licence holders was not paid for. This additional sum is to pay the cost for two years of publishing licence holders.

Line passed.

Agent-General in England, \$212,772.

Dr. TONKIN: Does the sum allocated for the purchase of motor vehicles relate to the purchase of a new vehicle or vehicles? I hope that an Australian car will continue to be used, although I wonder whether it might be one step up from a Valiant.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: We are purchasing two Chrysler motor vehicles. A net sum is given for the replacement of two vehicles. In providing these cars for the Agent-General's office, it is necessary to have cars for which replacement parts are readily available in London. At one stage, we had the prestige Holden car. On one occasion when I arrived at London Airport some character ran into us, and it was months before that car could be repaired. Consequently, we need parts to be readily available.

Mr. Dean Brown: Chrysler or Valiant?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not have the details with me of the precise model, but they are Chrysler cars for which spare parts are readily available in London.

Mr. MATHWIN: I take it that the allocation of \$11,100 for the transfer of officers is to provide for increased staff. How many new officers will there be?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is the cost of the transfer of the present Agent-General and his family back here, and of the transfer to London as Agent-General of the present Secretary of the Department of the Premier and of Development and his family.

Line passed.

Public Service Board, \$1,610,000.

Dr. EASTICK: The allocation for "investigating, industrial, personnel, staff development and research officers, administrative and clerical staff" has increased from actual payments last year of \$563,709 to \$742,400 proposed this year. This would appear to be more than just an adjustment associated with wages and salaries; an increase in staff would seem to be involved. Is a certain programme under way or has there been a change in emphasis regarding the staff of this department?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There has been an enlargement of the staff. There are now 126 officers employed, and the allocation simply provides for the salaries of this increase with classification returns. The staff of the Public Service Board was held back, but the service is now a large undertaking. Simply in order to service the department, we need to have this number of officers.

Dr. Eastick: Basically, the same number as last year.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Not what staff we had there at the beginning of last year, but they are staff positions that have now been filled.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Will the Treasurer table at some stage information on the exact increase in each class of officer during last year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

Mr. MATHWIN: Regarding Director, Information Systems Branch, Manager, programmers, administrative, computing, accounting and clerical staff, \$492,000 has been allocated as against an actual payment of \$389,025 last year. Coupled with the big increase in the Public Service Board Office, this is a considerable allocation. Does it mean that all of this department will be enlarged or will there be only a small increase in staff?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: From memory, there has been little change in the staff. I cannot recall any significant change in the staff of the Automatic Data Processing Centre. The salaries are in accord with the classification returns, but I will obtain accurate information on any increase in staff.

Dr. EASTICK: Regarding the allocation of \$1,200 for payments to consultants for services, as against an actual expenditure last year of \$26,381, can the Treasurer say what consultant services were received by the Public Service Board during 1972-73 and what benefits have accrued to the State from their services?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Consultant services were engaged in several areas of Public Service work, but I will obtain an accurate list for the Leader. This year's allocation of \$1,200 relates only to part-time consultancy courses in the department.

Mr. RUSSACK: Regarding advertising vacant positions in the press and expenses of applicants for positions and new appointees, the allocation this year is increased to \$45,000 against an actual expenditure last year of \$39,731. Does this mean that there will be an increase in personnel in the department?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The allocation is for advertising in local, interstate and oversea publications for staff, and payment of fares and removal expenses to those applicants recruited interstate and overseas. The increase is due to increases in rates for advertising and expected increases in expenses of applicants. Part of our problem at present in recruiting to some of the senior positions in the service is the great difficulty of getting properly qualified people. We can create positions and lay down policies, but we have the greatest difficulty in employing people to carry them out because of the severe competition for competent staff. This year's allocation is a fairly conservative one, considering what it may cost us to engage the necessary personnel.

Line passed.

Mines, \$3,290,000.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: The sum of \$40,000 is allocated for the production of films by the South Australian Film Corporation. Can the Treasurer enlighten me on how this money will be spent?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The money is for a public information film on open-face mining in the Ade-

laide Hills and a safety film to assist opal miners, both of which films have been ordered from the corporation at the department's request.

Mr. COUMBE: The reduction in the contribution to Australian Mineral Industries Research Association Limited is from \$1,333 last year to \$400 this year. Does this reduction relate to the agreement which, I understand, was arrived at whereby a certain grant was made towards this work, or does it relate to the tapering off of the agreement?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The provision is for a specific matter of research into non-destructive testing of wire hoist ropes. The sum of \$5,333 has been paid, and approval has been given for a further \$400 payment.

Mr. McANANEY: The allocation for underground water investigations has been increased from an actual expenditure of \$86,270 last year to an estimated \$208,000 this year. Can the Treasurer say what areas are involved in these investigations and whether the Langhorne Creek area will be included in them?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The allocation is for test boring programmes and work in connection with conservation of underground water supplies in various areas of the State, particularly in the South-East and the Milang Basin, and an increase in maintenance on bores in the Great Artesian Basin.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Can the Treasurer say whether the film on open-face mining in the Adelaide Hills will be used in a publicity campaign to build up public pressure against quarrying in the Hills, or what is the purpose of the film?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is for public information on the processes and the way in which the quarrying is controlled, and the rehabilitation of the hills.

Mr. BECKER: Last year \$40,000 was voted for prospecting and encouragement of mining, operating expenses, minor equipment and sundries. Actual payments last year were \$55,998, whereas \$50,000 is allocated this year. Can the Treasurer say what encouragement is given to the mining industry in this State? Can he obtain a report on the activities of the Mining Branch and what prospects there are of new mines or development in the State?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will try to get a precise report for the honourable member. Publications on the work of this branch are issued from time to time, and I think are normally circulated to every member.

Mr. Coumbe: We usually request them from the Treasury.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Then I will obtain a report for the member for Hanson.

Mr. RUSSACK: Can the Treasurer say what remedial action is to be taken at Radium Hill, for which \$1,000 has been allocated?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is merely a matter of minor maintenance.

Mr. EVANS: Has there been a reduction in the amount of work referred for analysis and other purposes by the private sector as a result of the Commonwealth Government's decision to abolish the taxation concession to the mining industry, and does the department foresee a reduction in the amount of work being submitted to it, which could result in a slowing down in recruitment of geologists to the department?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That may be so.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: The Treasurer said that expenditure on seismic surveys would be increased, on which I compliment the Government. It is important that every attempt is made to discover new resources in South Australia and, indeed, in Australia. However, because the



Treasurer did not refer to mineral exploration, does this mean that less will be spent on it this year than was spent last year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, it does not.

Line passed.

Premier and Minister of Development and Mines, Miscellaneous, \$2,185,650.

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Treasurer explain the allocation to the Design and Craft Industries Authority, which appears for the first time? The Committee will be interested to know the purpose of this authority and its aims. Also, because of my association with the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust, I am interested in its proposed advance of \$40,000 and its grant of \$450,000 which, I take it, is the normal grant that has been renegotiated.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The advance is for capital equipment and working capital for a partnership arrangement between the trust and the Hotel Australia for restaurant service, and it is repayable. The trust had to provide some equipment quickly and, as a result, the Government advanced it the money required. This is entirely apart from the grant to the trust. The allocation for the Design and Craft Industries Authority is intended for the setting up of the authority in accordance with the report of the committee considering the establishment of design and craft industries in South Australia, which report has been published. I should have thought that honourable members would have received a copy of this report, which is a public document and which has been tabled. If they did not receive a copy, it is probably because insufficient copies were received from the Government Printer.

The working party has been working for some years on a consultancy by Mr. Noel White, who was sent here by and at the expense of the British Council, to advise us in South Australia on the establishment of craft authorities. Mr. White is the outstanding authority in the world on the establishment of craft authorities. All the proposals for the establishment of the craft authority are set out in that report, and the \$90,000 is the first year's payment for the establishment of the authority which, in the early stages, will be concerned largely with providing scholarships and workshop grants for the establishment of craft workshops and master craftsmen in South Australia.

Mr. WARDLE: I refer to the allocation of \$90,000 for the Monarto Steering Committee. Will the Treasurer be more explicit regarding what work is involved in the \$90,000?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This sum comprises expenses of the steering committee and the salaries of the Manager and staff pending transfer to the new organization.

We have a whole series of working committees, and we have to set up the commission staff under a steering committee until the commission is established. I have just arranged for an office on Greenhill Road to be used by the commission in its early stages while staffing and planning work are being done.

Mr. MATHWIN: I refer to the allocation of \$1,100 for the Glenelg Centre Redevelopment Committee which, I presume, was set up to investigate the Glenelg centre in Moseley Square. I hope that the possibility of making Jetty Road a mall, as I suggested and to which the Mayor of Glenelg referred some time ago, has been considered.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is for a line survey in relation to Moseley Square. It was originally proposed that Moseley Square be traffic-free, which would mean eliminating the tramline from the square. Problems exist in relation to this matter, as the Director-General of Transport believes we should be carrying people on the line to the foreshore. The question is how we are to adapt that line to the Moseley Square redevelopment proposal. This allocation is for a survey on what can be done regarding the line.

Mr. Mathwin: One single line would do.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is for the survey.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I refer to the allocation of \$466,275 for operating expenses of the State Film Corporation. What proportion of this sum has been allocated for wages and what proportion will be spent on the actual production of films?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This line is for salaries and expenses of staff engaged on the film library section of the corporation's activities. I am certain that it does more than that, and I think this explanation I have with me is inadequate. I will get more information for the honourable member.

Mr. MATHWIN: I refer to the provision of \$2,810 as fees for comparative study of inner-city and suburban development costs. Last year expenditure on this item was \$8,494, and I should like to know whether the study is almost complete or whether there is another reason for the reduced allocation.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This is the final payment to Pak Poy and Associates for stage 1 of the study. When we have stage 1, we will evaluate whether to go on to stage 2.

Line passed.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 5.13 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, September 18, at 2 p.m.