

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, September 18, 1973

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

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

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

PETITION: CASINO

Mr. SLATER presented a petition signed by 114 electors, residents, and members of the Reformed Churches of South Australia, 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.

Petition received.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: ESCAPED PRISONERS

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): I seek leave to make a statement.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Now that the escapees Farnsworth and MacDonald have been returned to Yatala Labour Prison and interviews have been conducted with them, it is possible to report on the whole episode. The approval to allow selective prisoners to conduct special operations in public is nothing new. Emergency fire-fighting service groups have fought fires and conducted trials alongside other volunteers since 1962. There has never been any attempt to hide them and they wear overalls with "Northfield E.F.S." stitched on them. Some life sentence prisoners have been through this organization, and there have been no escapes. Trainees from Cadell have had approval to attend country shows with officers since 1965. They wear the green shirt and trousers normally worn by Cadell trainees, and move around the shows discussing exhibits and animal husbandry with the public. Prisoners serving life sentences have done this, and there have been no escapes.

The annual toy fete at Yatala since 1966 attracts many thousands each year and prisoners assist in organization and sales, in many instances working alongside wives and children of both senior officers and general duty officers. No attempt is made to hide the fact, and prisoners wear the usual brown shirt and trousers of C Division. Many life sentence prisoners have participated. There has never been one untoward incident or an escape. In the theatre groups and puppet groups, the department has had prisoners covering the full spectrum of crime, and hundreds of outside performances have been given to many thousands of people. It is from this group that there have been two sets of escapes although the first outside performance was given in 1966.

With reference to this specific group, the prisoners concerned were moved to one dormitory in C Division, where they had room to set up the stage for practice purposes, and they lived and rehearsed in this area. During their time at the Royal Show, no attempt was made to hide their identity. They wore distinctive green slacks and jacket, a yellow skivvy, and "Y.L.P. Puppeteers" was stitched in large type on the jacket. At least three unscheduled checks were made by senior officers, and at no time was any cause for anxiety discovered. There were no incidents either during the supervised walks or the necessarily less super-

vised periods during which crowds around the puppet booth were heavy, and at no time did any of the group fail to return behind stage at show time, until the incident of the escape.

It is now quite definite that the escape was a spur-of-the-moment decision, and there was no assistance either from other group members or from outside sources. The excuse offered by Farnsworth and MacDonald is that they wanted to show the public that they were not dangerous and could live outside without trouble. This is not acceptable, as it is the traditional reason given in similar circumstances. The Prisons Department and the Comptroller are quite satisfied that neither really knows why he did it; it was quite irrational and probably deeply regretted within minutes. The Classification Committee which selected the prisoners for C Division consists of the Assistant Comptroller (Treatment), who prior to this appointment was the Senior Psychologist; the Superintendent, Yatala Labour Prison; Chief Prison Officer, Yatala Labour Prison; the two Supervisors of Industry, and the resident Probation and Parole Officer, Yatala Labour Prison. All movements of prisoners are based on psychiatric reports (if necessary), psychological reports, education and medical reports, work reports, divisional reports, and social background reports.

It is regretted that there exists no objective or subjective testing that is totally accurate in these circumstances, and such a committee can exercise its judgment only on all the evidence available. There were no grounds for rejection of these two people in particular, or of any of the group in general. When it is considered that this committee, which has been in operation since 1960, has selected thousands of prisoners for Cadell, other institutions, and all of the other activities mentioned, it is apparent that it has an excellent record, and it is extremely difficult to suggest a better method. With regard to parole, Farnsworth was eligible to apply some 12 months ago, but had not done so. He was going through the usual channels of establishing some sort of trust which could be reported to the Parole Board. MacDonald, as a Governor's pleasure prisoner, was eligible to apply to the Government at any time for release. The cases of both men are reviewed annually by the Parole Board. The position can be summarized as follows: (1) this incident was unplanned and unassisted; (2) total supervision is impossible in this type of activity, and trust is an important part of the selection and programme; (3) for many years, similar activities have been almost without incident; and (4) the selection was based on objective grounds, and the assessment of these two as "non-violent" types was correct.

QUESTIONS**QUESTION PROCEDURE**

The SPEAKER: Before calling for questions I inform honourable members that, after having given this matter serious consideration, I consider it apparent that members are not fully conversant with the requirements relating to questions. Standing Orders 123 and 124 of the House of Assembly provide for the asking of questions, but where further amplification is necessary we then revert to the House of Commons practice, which is defined by Erskine May. In order that honourable members may be fully conversant with what is admissible and what is inadmissible in Parliamentary practice and procedure, I have forwarded a circular to all honourable members informing them of the correct procedure and of what is inadmissible in asking questions. I expect the complete co-operation of all honourable members in abiding by the circular that I have forwarded to them.

PRICE CONTROL

Dr. EASTICK: In view of the obvious conflict amongst Commonwealth Labor members over price control, will the Premier say what is his next course of action if he intends to safeguard the interests of all South Australians struggling against inflation? At the Commonwealth Constitution Convention in Sydney, the Premier, along with other Labor Premiers, quickly jumped to attention and immediately offered to hand over to the Commonwealth powers to control prices. This was obviously intended to display solidarity within Australian Labor Party ranks with regard to attempts to control inflation, apart from its effect with regard to the Parramatta by-election.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: What's this got to do—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr. EASTICK: I have said repeatedly (and other Leaders of my Party in the Commonwealth and the other States have also said this clearly) that price control without some form of control on incomes is doomed to failure as an anti-inflationary weapon. Therefore, it was interesting (even if it was hard to accept with a straight face)—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Leader may not comment.

Dr. EASTICK: —to hear on news bulletins last evening that Mr. Whitlam had received a promise from Mr. Hawke—

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the Leader is continuing to comment, immediately following your ruling that he may not comment. He is debating the matter.

The SPEAKER: Order! I must uphold the point of order. I draw the attention of the honourable Leader to the fact that, although an honourable member may give a brief explanation of the reason for his question, he is not permitted to comment or to make a personal explanation. The honourable Leader must comply with the Standing Orders.

Dr. EASTICK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The situation is that last evening the Prime Minister clearly indicated that he had had an assurance from Mr. Hawke with regard to unions and the Australian Council of Trade Unions. Again, in this morning's newspaper (and this, too, is a statement of fact), which was available to all to see, Mr. Hawke was quoted as saying, "A promise of moderation I could never give him." It is on the basis of these facts relating to a conflict of opinion between the Prime Minister and Mr. Hawke, representing respectively the Australian Labor Party and the A.C.T.U., that I seek from the Premier the information to which I have referred. My question truly relates to the welfare of everyone in Australia, and I have highlighted particularly the situation with regard to South Australians. It is impossible to know what is going on in the Commonwealth sphere, with this type of conflict between two persons who purport to be—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr. EASTICK: —the leaders of their various organizations.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Leader is commenting again. The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I find it difficult to follow how the Leader can drag, into a question to me about what action is to be taken by the South Australian Government in relation to inflation, what he says is a conflict between the Prime Minister and Mr. Hawke. He asked what action would be taken by the South Australian Government in relation to inflation. What the South

Australian Government intends to do about inflation is resist the reactionary amendments to destroy price control, moved by the Leader's associates in another place.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Will the Premier say whether the South Australian Government supports the proposal that the Commonwealth Parliament should have power to control not only prices but also wages and other incomes? My question follows one that I asked the Premier last Thursday about the reference to the Commonwealth Parliament of power to control prices, the offer of which the Premier had made at the Constitution Convention a couple of weeks ago but which he now has said has fallen by the wayside, for the reasons he has given. Since then, the announcement has been made of the introduction in the Commonwealth Parliament of a Bill for a referendum on this matter, and it has been suggested in some quarters that, in addition to the power to control prices, power should be given to the Commonwealth Parliament also over wages and other incomes. I understand that that is the subject of controversy but, as to refer such power would obviously give the Commonwealth Parliament greater control of the whole economy, I ask the Premier whether the South Australian Government favours such a move.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not understand how that question can arise in this Parliament. We cannot transfer to the Commonwealth Parliament power in relation to wages and other incomes, because we do not have that power. The honourable member knows that perfectly well. We do not have the power because, under the provisions of the Commonwealth Constitution, the power in relation to wages is circumscribed by the placitum that deals with provisions regarding Commonwealth conciliation and arbitration.

Mr. Millhouse: Do you think the Constitution ought to be altered, perhaps?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: What in the world has that to do with the South Australian Government? That is a question for the people. As far as the undertaking given by this Government is concerned, we do have power in relation to prices within the State and I was willing to undertake that we would present a Bill to this Parliament about the transfer of those powers to the Commonwealth Parliament concurrently. However, the honourable member must know from his legal training that the passing of a Bill through this Parliament concerning wages and other incomes would be completely useless.

SOUTH ROAD ACCIDENTS

Mr. HOPGOOD: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on August 30 concerning the re-designing or further signposting of certain intersections on South Road to help reduce the number of accidents occurring at these intersections?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: No plans exist at present for the redesign or further signposting of the following intersections: (1) South Road and State Road; (2) South Road and Reynella by-pass (north and south ends); and (3) South Road and Chandler Hill Road. In respect of the intersection of South Road and Black Road, it is expected that conditions will improve following the installation of traffic lights at the intersection of South Road and Major Road which is planned to be carried out during the 1974-75 financial year. Further, the realignment of Black Road to form an intersection with South Road and Major Road is currently scheduled for 1977-78, but the actual date will depend on the property acquisition, services relocation, the availability of funds, etc.

PREMIERS' CONFERENCE

Mr. COUMBE: Has the Premier received further information concerning a special Premiers' Conference, the holding of which was forecast during the recent Constitution Convention in Sydney? Was one of the principal purposes of such a conference to discuss the referral of powers, including the power concerning prices? If this was the case, is such a conference likely to be held now that the Prime Minister has been forced into introducing legislation for a referendum on the control of prices? If no advice has been received, does the Premier still support the holding of such a conference?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The holding of a further conference is related to a series of matters. At this stage I have had no further advice about such a conference. Precisely what the position is in relation to the Premiers in Liberal Governments I do not know, except that the Premier of Queensland has refused to talk to anyone, as far as I can see.

SHOP STEWARDS SCHOOL

Mr. WELLS: Having read your circular, Mr. Speaker, I now ask the Minister of Labour and Industry whether, following the school for shop stewards to be held on September 24 and 25, further schools will be established.

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: Knowing that the honourable member has been keenly interested in this project since its inception, I have obtained a report and I am pleased to announce that, because of the popularity of the first two-day school for shop stewards, to be held on September 24 and 25, it has been decided to hold another school to avoid disappointing those trade unionists unable to enrol in the first school. The second school will be held on October 22 and 23 and, like the first school, it has been organized by the Workers' Educational Association of South Australia Incorporated. A limit of 24 enrolments will be accepted for the second two-day school. This school is intended primarily for unionists from the blue-collar sector, but any union is welcome to enrol members, Trade union education has the full backing of the Government.

FARM TRANSPORT

Mr. BLACKER: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on August 16 concerning the making available of ancillary equipment to provide a farm-to-terminal service for grain and a factory-to-farm service for superphosphate?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Over a period of time, considerable investigations have been made into a proposal that the South Australian Railways should operate ancillary equipment to provide a door-to-door service for the handling of superphosphate and grain. However, these investigations have generally shown that railways ancillary services, co-ordinating with rail services, cannot always be operated at a price competitive with through road transport. However, it is the established practice in the South-East (to which part of the State the greater portion of superphosphate production is dispatched) for the railways to concentrate on the haulage and for private superphosphate spreaders to contract to the farmer for unloading, delivering and spreading. This arrangement is considered to be satisfactory for all concerned. The South Australian Railways does operate a semi-trailer at Peterborough. Apart from being used for a number of departmental purposes, the semi-trailer is also used to pick up wool from farms and containers of meat from the Peterborough meatworks. However, the department has had only limited success in obtaining additional rail business by these means. Officers

of the railways are aware of the various problems in this regard and are continuing to carry out investigations into the matter.

REGULATION REVISION

Mr. PAYNE: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to a question I asked on August 23 as to whether it was intended to revise traffic regulations?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Arrangements have been made with the Parliamentary Counsel for the consolidation of the Road Traffic Act as soon as practicable. Because of the amount of legislation under review, I have been told that it may be some time before the work can be finalized. Most of the regulations under the Road Traffic Act were consolidated in January, 1972. Opportunity is being taken to introduce metric measurements in new traffic prohibition regulations, in anticipation of the conversion of the Road Traffic Act to metric measurements, scheduled for July, 1974.

Later:

Dr. EASTICK: Will the Premier say whether any progress has been made in consolidating regulations under Stale Acts? I realize that the question may possibly come within the jurisdiction of the Attorney-General. Mr. Ludovici is proceeding with the consolidation of the Statutes, but I also know that many regulations virtually control the day-to-day activities of the community and put into practical effect the provisions of Acts. For instance, to obtain information about the Motor Vehicles Act or the Road Traffic Act, to name two Acts—

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: That information was given to the member for Mitchell in a reply earlier today.

Dr. EASTICK: To obtain the information I have in mind one must go through many amendments. Further, the numbering system in many of the regulations will be changed when we convert to the metric system. I ask the Premier whether any programme of consolidation of regulations is being carried out so that the day-to-day activities of the community can be better served.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am not aware of any such programme but I will obtain a report on the matter.

CASINO REFERENDUM

Mr. EVANS: I ask the Premier whether an organization interested in establishing a casino in South Australia has made an offer to him or to the Government to pay the cost of a referendum regarding the establishment of such a casino.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: No.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The reply is "No". The question obviously is a fantasy of the honourable member's imagination. No such offer has been made, nor would it ever be accepted.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Can the Premier say whether it is intended that voting shall be compulsory at the referendum on the casino? It has been announced today that legislation will be introduced in this Parliament to authorize the holding of a referendum on the question of a casino. I remember that, when we last had a referendum in this State on what we call a social issue, voting was, at the insistence of the Government, made compulsory, and over 50 000 South Australians failed to vote. From recollection, I believe that fewer than 200 of those people were ever prosecuted for that failure. In other words, the compulsory side of that referendum was a complete farce.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Therefore, in the light of that experience, I ask the Premier whether it is intended in the forthcoming Bill to provide for a compulsory vote or

whether good sense will prevail and the vote will be voluntary.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member will have to contain himself in patience.

CANNERY FINANCE

Mr. ARNOLD: In view of the alarming financial position of fruitgrowers, will the Government stress to the Commonwealth Government the urgency of the situation in an attempt to have the advance made available on the 1971-72 crop converted to a grant? A meeting of 500 canning fruitgrowers was held at Berri last Friday evening to discuss this matter. On August 15, I received a reply from the Deputy Premier to a question I asked about financial assistance for South Australian canneries. Part of that reply is as follows:

On July 6, 1973, the Minister for Primary Industry replied that he proposed that payment of the first repayment instalments of principal and interest be deferred until December 1, pending consideration of the submission for compensation for the effects of currency realignments.

At the meeting on Friday evening the following resolutions were passed:

That we request the Minister for Primary Industry, Senator Wreidt, for assistance for the 1971-72 fruit payment without further delay.

That unless a satisfactory answer is received from the Minister shortly, this public meeting directs the South Australian Canned Fruits Industry Advisory Committee to arrange a deputation to meet the Minister for Primary Industry, Senator Wreidt, to discuss fully with him the need for urgent financial adjustment.

That this meeting supports the idea that the canning fruit industry should organize a proper stabilization plan based on a cost of production to be financed by the Reserve Bank and promoted by grower organizations.

That this meeting requests the State Government of South Australia to support the resolutions passed tonight to the Federal Government.

In view of the outcome of that meeting, will the Premier once again take this matter up with the Commonwealth Government as a matter of urgency?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will examine the possibility of approaching the Commonwealth Government again about this matter. Although I did approach it in order to put forward a case for the provision of a grant rather than that these should be loan moneys, I did not receive a favourable reply from the Commonwealth. However, I appreciate that growers are at present in a very difficult position as a result of the money owing to them by the canneries and I will take up the matter again with the Commonwealth. So far as we have been able within the State's resources, the canneries have had very significant help from the State Government and that, of course, will continue.

Mr. HALL: In view of the meeting attended by hundreds of fruitgrowers at Berri last Friday evening to protest at the low payment they have received for their fruit (a meeting that I also attended), I ask the Premier why no representative of either the Commonwealth Government or the State Government attended the meeting, even though invitations were extended to both Governments.

The SPEAKER: Order! I point out to the honourable member for Goyder that the latter part of the question is permissible but that the first part is not, because a question asking why a member of the Commonwealth Government did not attend the meeting concerns a matter over which the Premier has no control. Therefore, only the latter part of the question may be answered.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know what is the position of Commonwealth members: that is for them

to say. Concerning the State Government, I tried to arrange for someone to attend that meeting, but we had short notice of it, and it proved quite impossible for me to get a Minister or a Government member to attend. My private secretary spent some hours trying to arrange for someone to attend, but everyone who would have had any knowledge of or connection with the matter, indicated, when asked to attend, that he had already accepted an invitation to a function being held that evening, as I certainly had.

Mr. Millhouse: None of them could be bothered.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It was not a question of being bothered, as the honourable member knows. If we had had early notice of the meeting, I would have arranged for someone to be there, and I tried to do so.

Mr. Hall: I think it was—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Premier.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know what was the position of Commonwealth members, simply because they arrange those matters themselves; I had nothing to do with it, nor did I have any responsibility in relation to it. Concerning our own members, I used my best endeavours to see that someone attended but, unfortunately, it was simply not possible on the short notice that was given.

STANDING ORDERS

Mr. McANANEY: My question is to you, Mr. Speaker. Members appreciate the pamphlet we received this morning in regard to Standing Orders 123 and 124. Will you, Sir, please do the same in regard to Standing Order 125, which, referring to members answering questions, states:

In answering any such question, a member shall not debate the matter to which the same refers.

If you, Sir, will set out what the standards are in other Parliaments, this Parliament might function better. We have Ministers who are rude in answering a question and who debate a question.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member must not debate his question.

Mr. McANANEY: Those Ministers do most of the things that we have been told should not be done in asking questions. Will you, Sir, issue a similar instruction in regard to Standing Order 125, so that our Ministers will behave in a better and more dignified manner?

The SPEAKER: The answer to the question is "Yes". I sent the circular to members so that there would be no confusion in their minds about what they are entitled to ask and what they are not permitted to ask. In future I intend to adhere strictly to Standing Orders 123, 124 and 125 in every respect, because members are now aware of their rights under Standing Orders, and that will apply to all members.

EASTERN SUBURBS RAILWAY

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to my recent question about the possible construction of an underground railway to the eastern suburbs?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Planning and Development Branch of my department has among its long-term projects consideration of line-haul facilities similar to a railway which, if plans come to fruition, would utilize the Modbury corridor serving the north-eastern suburbs. This project is not at a stage where a plan exists. Public transport in the eastern suburbs is not inadequate as stated by the honourable member. In fact, the eastern suburbs have one of the best coverages by bus routes of any section of metropolitan Adelaide. Increasing car ownership in these

suburbs over the past 15 years or so has led to a continuing fall-off in public transport patronage and, accordingly, the frequency of services has had to be reduced.

I, too, appreciate the view of the residents of the eastern suburbs (and all other suburbs) with regard to road widening. It is hoped that this implies that the residents of the eastern suburbs will, in time, be willing to leave their cars at home and make more use of the public transport system. This would justify an increase in the frequency of services. It would be a misuse of the line-haul characteristics of a railway to plan such a short haul as would be involved in going east from the city to the foothills. It is also likely that journey times for many public transport passengers would be increased, as there would be the need to reorient bus services in a north-south direction to serve any railway, and transfers from bus to train would be required. It is also apparent that there are far higher investment priorities with much greater community benefit.

TOURISM

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier say how many visitors came to South Australia and how much they spent during the past two calendar years, and whether tourism is increasing in this State? I understand that for the calendar year 1962 an estimated 442 000 visitors came to South Australia and spent about \$16,800,000, whereas in 1970 an estimated 871 000 persons visited this State and spent about \$55,000,000.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member will appreciate that it may be difficult to obtain completely accurate statistics, but I shall obtain estimates for him.

BOND RATE

Mr. COUMBE: Can the Treasurer say what is the position concerning the official bond rate now applicable following the Prime Minister's action in increasing charges generally? What will be the rate charged the South Australian Government, for instance, on loans for public works, and what will be the effect on South Australian's Loan Account?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Some debate is taking place on this matter at present, and Mr. Carey will visit Canberra for discussions with Treasury officials, I expect next week. There has been approval of a loan that is certainly at an increased rate of interest, but I think that I had better obtain a full report for the honourable member after the meeting of Treasury officials has taken place, rather than that I should make an off-the-cuff pronouncement now. Some decisions have still to be made on this matter, and until it is sorted out it is better that I say nothing rather than say something on the various aspects involved. I will obtain a report for the honourable member, probably by next week.

MESSAGE PARLOURS

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Minister of Local Government considered the letter written to him recently by the Unley City Council concerning the control of massage parlours, and does he intend to take action following the suggestion in the letter that councils be empowered to control and inspect massage parlours in the same way as nursing homes are controlled and inspected? Much disquiet has been expressed by residents of the Unley City Council area, part of which is in the District of Bragg, and by residents of other parts of my district (and, I imagine, by the community generally) about the operations of massage parlours in the suburbs, especially by people who live next to these massage parlours and who undoubtedly have every reason

to complain. This is an extremely important matter, on which the council has made a worthwhile suggestion.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Although I am not aware of the letter having come to me, it could be in the office and in the process of being investigated by my officers. I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Attorney-General a reply to my recent question seeking information about the incidence of venereal disease and the activities of massage parlours?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Minister of Health states that there has been a steady increase in the notification of both gonorrhoea and syphilis since these diseases became notifiable in 1965. There was a marked increase in the notifications of gonorrhoea during the first six months of this year, when 724 cases were notified (there were 467 cases in the corresponding period last year). The peak of gonorrhoea cases was reached in March (155). It is considered that the increase in notifications is due partly to some increase in the real incidence, and also to improved tracing of contacts. During 1973, 16 cases of gonorrhoea that were associated with massage parlours have come to the notice of the Public Health Department; six of these were women employed in these parlours and 10 were male customers. It was noted that the infected males, whose source of infection was stated to be massage parlours, were older men. There are no records available to show the association of gonorrhoea cases with massage parlours last year. However, there were three cases of syphilis notified as originating from this source; one woman had infected two men.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE PARKING

Mr. CHAPMAN: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about parking facilities in front of Parliament House?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member asked a question recently about who has the controlling authority over parking motor cars on North Terrace directly in front of Parliament House. Special provision is made in the Road Traffic Act, 1961-1969, relating to areas of the streets near Parliament House. Section 85 of the Act provides:

- (1) The Governor may by proclamation—
 - (a) declare that any area in that part of any street which abuts on the site of either House of Parliament shall be a prohibited area within the meaning of this section.
 - (b) revoke or amend any such proclamation.
- (2) A person (whether holding any other licence permit or other authority or not) shall not leave a vehicle stationary in a prohibited area proclaimed under this section, without the permission of the Minister of Works. Penalty: Fifty dollars.
- (3) This section shall have effect notwithstanding any other Act, regulation or by-law.
- (4) A prosecution for an offence against this section shall not be commenced except with the authority of the Minister of Works. A document purporting to give such consent and purporting to be signed by the Minister of Works shall be *prima facie* evidence of such consent.

A proclamation pursuant to section 85 (1) was made on April 1, 1971. No action has been taken against any motorist for unauthorized parking in this area. I have relied on the co-operation of members to relieve the congestion occurring in front of the House, and alternative parking space has been provided at the Torrens Parade Ground. I believe that, on the day on which the honourable member asked this question, he was parking in front of the House with an outdated authoritative disc on his car. I know that, before his election as a member of this House, he was on a number of occasions requested to

remove his car from the front of the House (indeed, I observed him), but he did not comply with the request. I do not know what is his motive for asking this question, but before he became a member of this House he broke the law, and he can thank only the present Minister of Works for not being prosecuted. I should like to know from the honourable member why he has asked this question.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: When things are different they are not the same.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: That is so.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I should be interested to know what the honourable member has to say. I do not know whether or not the honourable member is willing to obtain from my office an up-to-date disc to put on his car, on which I notice there is a large sign and also, as a matter of interest, a concessional registration disc.

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: No!

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes.

Mr. Coumbe: The Minister is getting a little wide of the question.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am dealing with the honourable member's car, which I take it is parked in front of the House. If members opposite are afraid of my continuing, I will not continue, but I think I have made my point.

CYCLE TRACKS

Mr. PAYNE: Can the Minister of Transport say whether the Government plans to provide cycle tracks on main roads past schools in the metropolitan area? A letter I have received from a constituent states:

It has been of some concern to mothers in this area that main roads offer no safe provision for cyclists. If such tracks existed, then the added factor of safety to healthy exercise and cheap transport would enable parents to permit their children to ride their bikes with some confidence.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Director-General of Transport and his staff are currently looking at this matter, and I expect to receive a report soon. I think it is pertinent to add that both the Director-General and I were impressed with the cycle tracks we saw overseas. It certainly appears, at least in some places, that there is a definite trend to depart from the motor car and return to the cycle. As I think there is value in this proposal, we are currently examining it, and I hope to be able to bring down further information soon.

HOUSING LOANS

Dr. EASTICK: In view of the confusion that exists today regarding house purchase interest rates in South Australia, following the various announcements that have been made on this matter, can the Treasurer say what is the situation concerning funds provided directly by the South Australian Government and/or funds on which the Government has an influence in any way at all through its contact with organizations such as building societies and other institutions?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The position relating to State Bank loans has not altered. I expect that there will be some liberation in the interest rates charged by the Savings Bank and the building societies, but at this stage I do not have with me information off the cuff. However, I will obtain an accurate statement for the Leader.

MAN AND WOMAN

Mr. DUNCAN: Has the Attorney-General a reply to the question I asked on August 14 about an advertisement concerning the publication *Man and Woman*?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The advertisement which appears in *Pix People* concerning a book *Man and Woman* is considered to be misleading and as such would appear to breach the Unfair Advertising Act, 1970-72. Inquiries are being made in Queensland at the Prices and Consumer Affairs Branch's request and other State branches have been advised of the position. The publishers of the magazine have intimated that the advertisement will not be repeated. It is not possible to stop false advertising from entering the State in magazines published beyond its borders but action can be taken when such an advertisement is proved to be unfair. In this instance prosecution proceedings will be undertaken in due course if sufficient evidence can be obtained from Queensland.

SOLAR ENERGY

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Works read the article that appears in the *Sunday Mail* of September 16 relating to a solar energy farm, and will he make representations on behalf of South Australia to have located in this State any such energy farm that may be established? A United States research team has recommended to the Commonwealth Government and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization that Australia investigate a crash programme of solar electricity generation. That team states that Australia could become the world's biggest energy-rich nation by the 1990's, and it has recommended that special energy farms be developed in dry, inhospitable desert country to test solar techniques. As the Simpson Desert is situated largely in this State, and as I understand that adequate supplies of underground water are available, it seems that this would be an ideal site for a solar energy plant.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will take up the matter with the Electricity Trust to see whether it has examined the article to which the honourable member has referred. Having previously indicated in this House that the trust keeps itself fully informed on any developments in this area, I expect that it will give me a report encompassing the points raised by the honourable member and stating whether or not they are feasible.

PATAWALONGA LAKE

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked on August 30 about preventing silt from being spilt on roadways near the Patawalonga basin?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The contractor for the Patawalonga basin dredging is required under the terms of the contract specification to take action so as to minimize nuisance to nearby residents from dust or mud. The Road Traffic Act also contains provisions covering prohibition of the spillage of materials on roads. These matters have been brought to the attention of the contractor on several occasions and following a recent meeting he is urgently examining means of limiting spillage and cleaning roads regularly. However, it should be appreciated that it is extremely difficult to contain wet silty materials in trucks.

TRANSPORT CONTROL

Mr. GUNN: Does the Minister of Transport or the Transport Control Board plan to re-introduce control of transport routes in South Australia along lines similar to those that operated several years ago when drivers were permitted to cart only to Port Augusta or Port Pirie?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: No.

PUMP CLOCKS

Mr. WARDLE: Will the Minister of Works ask the Electricity Trust to estimate the cost of changing the clocks on irrigation pumps so that they will coincide with the change in time when daylight saving is introduced in the summer months? From comments made by irrigators, it appears that the saving to each irrigator by this means would make it worth his while paying a small surcharge to have the clocks altered so that they would be consistent with daylight saving time. Therefore, if the cost of changing the clocks is reasonable, will the Minister consider fixing a surcharge for this purpose?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member has raised this matter before. Although the trust has examined the honourable member's request previously, I do not think it has estimated the cost. I will see whether the cost has been ascertained, and I will examine whether it is feasible to impose a surcharge for this purpose. I do not think irrigators will be very happy about this suggestion.

PETROL SPILLAGES

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Transport a further reply to my question about fuel spillages on the South-Eastern Freeway?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: This is not a further reply: it is a reply to a question asked by the honourable member on August 16 which was on the same topic but which was distinct from his other question. It is not possible to detect from the accident report forms whether the accidents which resulted in skidding actually occurred as the result of a petrol spillage. Spillages which are known to have occurred have generally been the result of dieselene drums tipping over in trucks, faulty taps, or excess fuel leaking on severe cornering. The problem does exist to some extent on the Mount Barker road, with its severe corners and steep grades, but is of spasmodic occurrence. Highways Department personnel traverse this road daily and any spillages are detected immediately and covered with sand, and warning signs are erected. The Road Traffic Act and Local Government Act contain provision to make it an offence to spill material or liquid on the road; the maximum penalty is \$100. The problem is generally a matter of detection. It is doubtful whether the erection of signs telling members of the motoring public not to spill liquids or they will be fined would have any significant effect on the problem since, when it does occur, the spillage is generally accidental. Increasing penalties has been found in the past to have only minimal deterrent effect on the motorist.

HOUSING TRUST FUNDS

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Premier, as Minister in charge of housing, obtain from the Housing Trust a report showing why the cash funds of the trust increased from \$4,300,000 last year to \$12,500,000 at the end of June this year, whereas during this period the amount spent on houses for rental increased by \$9,000,000 and the amount owing on houses built for sale increased by only about \$1,000,000? There must be some explanation why these funds have built up over this period.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The reason for the build-up of funds in the Housing Trust was twofold: first, we allotted a significant amount of Loan moneys to the trust for the purpose of sale building, but there are difficulties in the present situation about letting sufficient contracts with that money. Secondly, there were much higher repayments on mortgage money than had been expected from previous experience. In these circumstances, the amount of

the money which is not concessional interest money and which can therefore hardly be used for low-cost rental housing (because it is not economic to use it having regard to the interest rate we have to pay for this money) has built up considerably. We have proceeded to take care of that situation in the interim, while we are trying to let the necessary contracts to use up the money.

SAFETY HELMETS

Mr. SIMMONS: Will the Minister of Transport investigate the standards laid down for motor cycle safety helmets to ensure that a buyer of such a helmet is clearly aware that he is getting a helmet which is safe and which complies with the legal standard? I refer to a letter I received from a constituent who states:

The only helmets which can be legally worn on the public roads are those with the British standards BSI 2001/1956, 1869/1960 and 2495/1960 or the Australian equivalent SAAE33/1959, E33/1968 and E43/1968. There are helmets of many different brands on the market, which do not carry the above standards, but which carry the American ANSIZ90.1, and some in addition carry the approval of the Snell Memorial Foundation 1970. The Z90.1 test is more stringent than either the British or Australian standards. The Snell test is more stringent again. In the June and July, 1972, issues of the American magazine *Cycle World* there is an article containing both a comparison of Z90.1 and Snell 1970 standards and a review of the current state of helmet standards. It explains that there is still much to be learnt in the design and manufacturing of helmets but points out that the Snell Foundation sets such high standards that it approves only the best (approximately 10 per cent) of the helmets on the American market. The Australian Consumers Association tested 30 helmets available in Australia, as reported in *Choice* magazine, September, 1973. Only six helmets were recommended and all six carried only the Z90.1 and/or Snell approval. However, because they do not carry the Australian or British standards, it is illegal to wear them on the public roads in South Australia.

This test by *Choice* is referred to on the front page of today's *Advertiser*, and it appears from my constituent's letter that there are at least some grounds for considering this matter. I understand that new standards now being adopted for Australia will come into force in a few months. I should be grateful if the Minister would look at the matter.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be pleased to bring down a report.

TREASURY BUILDING

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Minister of Works have the artificial lighting on the ground floor of the Treasury Building, Adelaide, checked and, if it is found to be below standard, will he have the trouble rectified immediately? The lighting on the ground floor of this building was tested in February this year and found to be grossly inadequate. Complaints have often been made about the lighting, and four lights in the ceiling were fixed in one small section about two months ago. However, two lights have since been removed in connection with air-conditioning, and the current poor lighting is affecting the eyes of the workmen in the building.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As I appreciate the honourable member's interest in this matter, and as I am most appreciative of the information he has given the House, I will have it checked.

LAND AGENTS

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Will the Attorney-General examine the current legislation relating to land agents in this State with a view to tightening that legislation to prevent harassment of house owners? I have received many complaints from individuals in the metropolitan area about being

harassed by land agents. Most recently, I was contacted by a constituent who explained the details regarding her situation in a letter published in the *Advertiser* on September 14. She pointed out that, a short time after her husband died, she was approached by a land agent and asked whether she wanted to sell her house. She was, in fact, harassed by that land agent to sell her house. Although there is no proof that the land agent appeared after seeing the death notice published concerning her husband, it appears there is some evidence to suggest that this was the means whereby the land agent found out that her house might be for sale. Therefore, I ask the Attorney-General to examine the facts to see whether something cannot be done to stop such harassment by land agents.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The honourable member and his colleagues will be delighted, I have no doubt, to learn that it is my intention to reintroduce the Land and Business Agents Bill later this session. The passage of that Bill, to which I look forward with my usual confidence, will do much to improve the standards in the industry to which the honourable member has referred. The topic raised by the honourable member in his question is one I take most seriously. I am not aware that a complaint has been received by the Land Agents Board from this lady.

Mr. Dean Brown: She intends to lodge a complaint.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The honourable member says the lady concerned intends to make such a complaint, and I am pleased to hear that she does, because I believe this is a matter that should be investigated. I believe there is much to be said for a provision to control the way land agents may solicit business by direct approach to property owners, and I think that some sort of control over this should be exercised. However, just how that can be done I am not sure at the moment, but I will consider the inclusion in the Land and Business Agents Bill of some measure to control directly, or to confer on the Land Agents Board greater power to control indirectly, the direct soliciting of business from the homes of property owners.

CHRISTIE DOWNS INTERSECTION

Mr. HOPGOOD: Has the Minister of Environment and Conservation, in the temporary absence of the Minister of Transport, a reply to the question I asked on August 23 concerning an intersection at Christie Downs?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The matter of re-designing the intersection of Brodie Road and Beach Road, Christie Downs, has been investigated by the Highways Department and I am informed that recently a letter was forwarded to the architects responsible for the design of the church complex, indicating the extent of land required for roadworks. The delay in this matter was occasioned by the need to investigate fully the road system in the area, as a result of development by the Housing Trust.

EUROPEAN CARP

Mr. ARNOLD: Will the Minister of Fisheries consider issuing permits to allow for the netting of European carp with large-mesh nets in the backwaters of the Murray River? In recent weeks European carp up to 18 lb. (8.164 kg) have been caught in large numbers in the backwaters of the Murray River and adjacent swamps. Since this species is classified as highly undesirable and, as it breeds at an enormous rate, will the Minister consider another form of licensing or permit to catch this species, which I believe is causing his department much concern?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will certainly look into the matter for the honourable member. I know the

presence of the carp in the Murray River is a source of concern. This species was first introduced to Australia in the Eildon weir in Victoria, but one way or another it found its way into the Murray River and Darling River systems. This species has a serious effect on the vegetation in the river with the general consequence of muddying the river considerably.

Dr. Eastick: You have educated yourself in your new role.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I did not expect the Leader of the Opposition to act in his usual carping fashion, but he has certain similarities.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Minister will reply to the question only.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The carp muddies up the river as the members for Rocky River and Eyre occasionally muddy up the debates in this House. However, I will have the department consider the honourable member's suggestions, and I will bring down a reply as soon as possible.

KEITH POLICE

Mr. GUNN: On behalf of the member for Victoria, who is absent overseas, I ask the Attorney-General whether he has a reply from the Chief Secretary to the honourable member's question of August 30 regarding the staffing of the Keith police station and the use of radio-equipped cars.

The Hon. L. J. KING: My colleague states that the officer in charge has been on sick leave since May 31, 1973, but is expected to resume duty soon. In the absence of the sergeant, the district has been policed by the second officer. For much of the time he has been assisted by a relieving member resident in the town. In addition, Keith has had supplementary patrolling from Bordertown and Coonalpyn police. At no time has the area been (nor is it intended it will be) without adequate police supervision. The situation will revert to normal with the return of the officer in charge, and there is insufficient warrant to post an additional police officer to the staff. It is correct that police vehicles at Keith are not radio equipped, but the installation of this facility would do little for police efficiency at present in this locality.

UNION OFFICIALS

Mr. ALLEN: Has the Minister of Labour and Industry a reply to the question I asked recently regarding the right of union officials to enter properties?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: Section 8 of the Shearers Accommodation Act, 1922-1967, provides that for the purposes of carrying out the provisions of that Act inspectors (who are appointed by the Governor, or are certain police officers) shall, at all reasonable times, have the free right of ingress to and egress from every shearing shed and building used to accommodate shearers. There is no restriction on the inspection being made in the absence of the owner. However, in practice every effort is made by the inspector to seek the co-operation of the owner or manager of a property. It has been the practice for inspectors to try to make the inspections when the owner or manager of the property has been present. The provision to which I have referred has been in the Act since 1922.

PORT WAKEFIELD ROAD

Mr. HALL: Will the Minister of Transport say what on earth has happened regarding the carrying out of work on reconstructing Port Wakefield Road near Virginia, and will he also say why this work has been given such an

apparently low priority when the road has such a high traffic count?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I think the honourable member is jumping to conclusions.

Mr. Hall: I travel up and down the road—

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Whilst I appreciate that the honourable member would like work to be carried out on the road that he travels on—

Mr. Hall: That's a typically low level of politics, even from the Minister.

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

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: —other members desire that roads in their district also be given a high priority. Only this morning the member for Frome introduced to me a deputation with a request that I think had much validity. The deputation, which saw me about the poor condition of the roads in the Far North of the State, urged that the finance to be made available for work on those roads be readjusted. I will discuss with the Highways Department the position regarding the road to which the honourable member has referred and find out whether there is any validity in the rather wild allegation he has made.

ADELAIDE RAILWAY STATION

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Minister of Transport say whether he recalls that last year I raised the matter of roofing part of the platform area at the Adelaide Railway Station to provide space for car parking and also whether he has further considered such a scheme? Like the Melbourne undertaking, such an arrangement would provide parking that was better than off-street parking. If the Minister has not considered the matter, will he have a new feasibility study of the scheme undertaken?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I well remember the honourable member's asking the question last year, and I think he also asked a similar question the year before that. Two matters are involved. First, parking generally within the city is receiving considerable attention from officers of my department, and also the activities of the South Australian Railways are now being considered by the South Australian Railways Advisory Board that I appointed some time ago. Whether the air space above the railway tracks and the station could best be used for car parking or for a more expansive operation, such as office accommodation, retail store accommodation, or even hotel accommodation, requires much consideration. The whole matter is now being considered but at this stage I cannot give the honourable member positive information.

NON-RETURNABLE CONTAINERS

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation circulate to members of Parliament detailed reports about why many States of the United States of America have not introduced the system of compulsory deposits being paid on non-returnable containers? The Minister is reported in this morning's *Advertiser* as having stated that he was distributing a report because he wanted all members to be well informed on the matter. Of course, he was referring to the report he circulated yesterday about why such a deposit system was introduced in relation to non-returnable containers in the State of Oregon. If the Minister wishes us to be well informed, I consider that he should issue reports on both sides of the matter: namely, not only about the States that favour the system but also about the States that have decided not to adopt it.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: In the U.S.A., Oregon was one of the first States to introduce a system of deposits and several other States then became interested in the system. Because of legal challenges to the validity of the legislation in Oregon, some other States did not go ahead with a similar form of legislation. I have been told that several other States of the United States are now preparing similar legislation. The industry associated with the manufacture and distribution of steel cans has applied pressure on the State Governments there, as is the case in South Australia at the moment, in an attempt to resist the introduction of this type of legislation. That is why the legislation has not been adopted completely throughout the United States.

DRUGS

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Minister of Education say whether the pilot health education programme being undertaken at present by his department brought forward any information about the existence of drug abuse in South Australian schools? If it did, will he make available a report to the House?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I have no report on the matter, but I will check and bring down a reply.

CAR FINANCE

Mr. EVANS: Has the Attorney-General a reply to my question of August 8 concerning car finance?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs has looked into this matter and states that investigation has disclosed that relatively few secondhand motor vehicle dealers advertise that credit is available to bad credit risks. Those that do so advertise claim that they are prepared to sell a motor vehicle to all, including bankrupts and poor payers, but the car may not be the one of the customer's choice. In fact, it is apparent that the worst risks would, in the normal course of events, be offered a vehicle priced as low as \$60 to \$70. While this type of advertising is undesirable, it does not infringe the provisions of the Unfair Advertising Act, 1970-1972. However, consideration is being given to a stipulation under the advertising provisions of the Consumer Credit Act, 1972, to prohibit such advertisements directed to bankrupts and other bad credit risks.

STORM DAMAGE

Mr. BECKER: Can the Minister of Environment and Conservation say whether the Coast Protection Board has investigated the condition of metropolitan beaches during the past week? If it has not, will the Minister request that an inspection be made? I understand that during the past week some of our beaches have suffered considerable damage as a result of storms. At Glenelg North there has been some scouring but fortunately, because of the dumping of sand, the damage has not been as severe as it has been in the past. However, I understand that at West Beach at least 3ft. (.914 m) to 4ft. (1.2m) of sand has been scoured from the beach, leaving large rocks and stones exposed, particularly in front of the lifesaving club. The ramp leading from the lifesaving premises to the beach has also been severely damaged, and the lifesavers had difficulty in walking down the ramp to take their boat to the sea last weekend. I ask whether an inspection can be made and a report produced on whether anything can be done to provide a suitable ramp at West Beach to enable the lifesavers to get their boat to the sea without damaging their feet?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I will ask the Coast Protection Board to examine the request and see what can be done.

NOXIOUS WEEDS

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture to obtain a report on what will be done at Cleland Wildlife Reserve this year in regard to the spraying of weeds? Will the Minister also ask his colleague to take action against the Mitcham and Burnside councils, which failed in their duty to eliminate noxious weeds from the Mount Osmond area? Much money was spent in spraying the Cleland reserve last year, with fairly good results, and if this is followed up with early spraying, rather than leaving the weeds to reach maturity, I think in that area some degree of success could be claimed.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will refer the matter to my colleague and bring down a considered reply.

POLICE DOGS

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary when a police dog section will be introduced into the South Australian Police Force? Police dogs are used in many parts of the world, particularly in the United Kingdom, and they have been found effective in guarding loading operations at banks. Also, in the tracking of lost children, they have been used with good results.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain a reply from the Chief Secretary.

NORTH ADELAIDE TRAFFIC

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Minister of Transport obtain a report on the programme of the Highways Department for widening the Main North Road between Nottage Terrace and the junction of Fitzroy and Robe Terraces? The Highways Department is proceeding with the widening of the Main North Road on either side of the Regency Road intersection. I have seen some of the plans for this work. Traffic congestion has been aggravated in the area to which I refer because of the traffic flowing from the North-East Road into the Main North Road. Properties along these roads have already been purchased by the Highways Department for the purpose of road widening.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be pleased to obtain a report.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Minister of Transport say when the document "Public Transport in the Adelaide Metropolitan Region—A Programme of Improvements of Urban Public Transport", referred to by the Minister recently, will be made available to members, and when he expects the recommendations made in that report, and in complementary documents, to be implemented? It is generally accepted throughout the community that there is some need for improvement in Adelaide's public transport system. When referring to the documents recently, the Minister stated:

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.

Although recent years have given ample evidence that planning is about all the Minister can do, the people of Adelaide wish to know when something concrete will be done.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member cannot comment. The honourable Minister of Transport.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am unable to say when the report will be available to the honourable member, but soon I will make sure that he gets one so that he can, I hope, apologize for his rude comments. Obviously, he is not aware of what we have done already in the public transport system and what is being done now. He has

probably never heard of the extension to the Christie Downs railway line and, if he had, he would probably not regard that as an upgrading. He is probably not aware, nor would he want to know, that we have placed a further order to upgrade buses, nor is he concerned that, for the first time, the Commonwealth Government is providing this State and other States with capital finance for urban public transport. It took a Labor Government to do that.

MIXED PRISONS

Mr. BECKER: Can the Attorney-General say whether the introduction or establishment of mixed prisons in South Australia has been considered? As I believe this system is practised in some States in America, I wonder whether the suggestion has been considered and, if it has not, whether the Minister would refer this question to the appropriate authorities for a feasibility study.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I have read of such a system operating in some part of the United States, but I am not aware that any consideration has been given to it as a direct proposition in this State. The Penal Methods Reform Committee considered the possibility of arranging visits by wives to prisoners, but that suggestion was rejected. To the best of my recollection no direct reference was made in that committee's report to this matter, but that does not necessarily mean that the committee did not consider it. I shall refer the matter to the Chief Secretary.

M.V. TROUBRIDGE

Mr. CHAPMAN: Can the Minister of Transport say when we can expect a report on the operations of the M.V. *Troubridge* for the first year of ownership by this Government? During the 1972-73 period, when the Government has owned the vessel, members of the Kangaroo Island community on inquiring about its operations have been told that a report would be forthcoming after the end of the first-year term, which ended on June 30, 1973.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The M.V. *Troubridge* is owned and operated on behalf of the South Australian Government by the Highways Commissioner, and in accordance with the terms of the Highways Act he is required to provide me with his annual report for presentation to Parliament. I am fully aware that that report is now in a well advanced stage, and will be presented to Parliament in due course. Within that report, obviously the Commissioner will deal with all of his operations, including those of the M.V. *Troubridge*.

BRIDGEWATER SCHOOL

Mr. EVANS: Will the Minister of Transport ascertain from the Highways Department when it will complete the fence around the oval at Bridgewater Primary School? When the Highways Department constructed the South-Eastern Freeway, it acquired some of the school property, and part of the deal was that the department would develop the oval and erect a safety fence around the embankment end in order to prevent children from running over the edge. This fence has not been erected, but the oval is ready for use.

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

ROYAL ADELAIDE HOSPITAL

Mr. VENNING: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary when the burns section of the Royal Adelaide Hospital will be operating? When visiting the hospital I have seen this section, but I understand that it

still has to be completed before people who have been severely burned can be treated.

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

PORT LINCOLN CROSSING

Mr. BLACKER: Will the Minister of Transport inquire whether, at the railway crossing at the junction of Mortlock Terrace, Shepherd Avenue, Government Road and Verran Terrace, Port Lincoln, a pedestrian crossing can be provided? The Headmaster of the Lincoln South school has expressed concern at the danger many of his students face when travelling to and from school. This crossing is at the junction of six roads through which passes the railway line. As considerable danger is involved, it is most desirable that a separate pedestrian crossing be provided so that students are not forced to use the carriage-way of the roads. I realize that this project has been delayed pending a decision on the main western access road to the grain silos, but, as the Highways Department has now indicated the course it intends to take, this decision makes the provision of a pedestrian crossing even more necessary.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I will have the matter investigated.

IVY TANKS MOTEL

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked during the debate on the Public Purposes Loan Bill about the motel at Ivy Tanks?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The proprietor of the Ivy Tanks motel has had several years notice that the new alignment of Eyre Highway would be some distance south of his present premises. The Highways Department has given him the opportunity to put forward a proposal for the re-establishment of his motel at a new site on Eyre Highway in due course. A committee has been established by the Government to look generally into the matter of roadside facilities for the full length of Eyre Highway. As part of its functions, this committee will consider the locations and standards of motels, and other services. The proprietor of the Ivy Tanks motel has been given an assurance that his problem will be considered at the appropriate time.

CADELL TRAINING CENTRE

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Attorney-General received from the Chief Secretary a reply to the question I asked on August 21 about Cadell Training Centre?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Chief Secretary reports that it is very difficult at this early stage to comment fully on the future of Cadell Training Centre except to say that, until the Government has fully considered the extent, cost and functioning of the replacement institution recommended by the Committee for Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform, obviously Cadell must remain in operation in something like its present form. A Prisons Department committee is currently considering the report to advise on ways to implement the recommendations but, in view of the wide-ranging nature of the suggestions, this will necessarily take some time. The nature of the expenditure proposed for Cadell included roadworks, re-modelling of kitchen and No. 1 dormitory and erection of a mess hall. When the ultimate decision on the future of Cadell is made, the programme of expenditure will be structured accordingly.

ROAD DRAINAGE

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Transport a reply to the question I asked about road drainage during the debate on the Public Purposes Loan Bill?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Roads constructed by the Highways Department generally represent an insignificant portion of the total drainage catchment areas in which they lie. Consequently the impact of run-off from these roads on the total drainage systems controlled by local government authorities is minimal. Highways Department policy provides for a contribution to the cost of drains, within the road reserve, to the extent that actual road run-off is involved. When road levels are occasionally raised above the level of surrounding land, drainage systems are provided at departmental expense so as not to create flooding adjacent to the road.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Local Government a reply to the question I asked previously about local government development plans?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Consideration is being given to amending the Local Government Act to permit councils to borrow for the purpose of engaging planning consultants to prepare development plans.

ESCAPED PRISONERS

Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice): What were the exact terms of the classifications given to Messrs. Farnsworth and MacDonald by the Classifications Committee of the Prisons Department after the most recent assessment of these two prisoners?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The most recent report on Farnsworth was dated May 17, 1973, and stated "a respectful prisoner, very clean, worked exceptionally well before movement to puppet group—a model prisoner. All reports workwise and the attitude of this man in the institution have been exemplary. His conduct and outlook towards his situation here are very realistic. Has been accorded the privileges of the puppet group with performances outside the prison. It is the opinion of the committee that the time is now optimum to transfer this man to C Division. No institutional requirements could deny him this movement". The most recent report on MacDonald was dated August 24, 1973, and stated "now in C Division maintaining a very good standard. Slight signs of arrogance otherwise reasonable attitude. The recent improvement shown is encouraging, with further trade skills acquired in the sheetmetal shop he could present a good prognosis".

Dr. EASTICK (on notice): Without personally identifying prisoners, will the Attorney-General give the following information about prisoners in the puppet group who worked at the Royal Show:

1. Of what offence or offences was each prisoner convicted?
2. What sentence was imposed upon conviction?
3. How much of this sentence has been served in each instance?

The Hon. L. J. KING: As the reply consists entirely of statistical information, I seek leave to have it incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

PRISONERS

1. Offences	2. Sentence	3. Time Served
Break, enter and steal (11)	3 years 2 months, each charge concurrent	1 year 6 months
Break, enter with intent.....		
Stealing.....	6 months, cumulative	
Breach prison regulations.....	1 day cumulative	
Hotel break and larceny	2 years	8 months
Unlawful possession.....	15 months } cumulative	1 year 1½ months
Illegal use	6 months }	
Clubhousebreak and larceny; shopbreak and larceny; housebreak and larceny; plus 6 other counts	} 3 years each charge concurrent, non-parole period 2 years	
Robbery with violence (2).....	2 years 4 months, each charge concurrent	7 months
Larceny	6 months concurrent	
Shopbreak and larceny (3)	3 years each charge concurrent, non-parole period 18 months	1 year 3 months
Murder.....	Sentenced to death commuted to life imprison- ment	5 years 11 months
Attempted buggery.....	7 years each charge, concurrent	1 year 4 months
Buggery (9)		
Shopbreak and larceny (2)	(1) 15 months }	9 months
Loitering	(2) 9 months } concurrent 3 months }	
Murder.....	Death, commuted to life imprisonment	9 years 7 months
Robbery with violence	14 months	9 months
Administer drugs to another person	3 months }	
Administer drugs to self	2 months }	concurrent but cumulative with 14 months
Possess drugs	2 months }	
Possess appliances for drugs	2 months }	
Murder.....	The Governor's pleasure	3 years 2 months
Attempt escape prison	6 months	1 year 9 months
Armed robbery	6 years	
Damage to property.....	14 days	
Robbery under arms	4 years }	1 year 6 months
Misprision of a felony.....	6 months } cumulative	
Service station break and larceny.....		
Receiving.....	2 months concurrent	1 year 6 months
Break out of building after committing a felony.....	6 months	
Breach of recognizance: shopbreak and larceny; ware- housebreak with intent	Revoked 20/3/72, 2 years 9 months }	
Possess housebreak implements at night.....	Recognizance est. \$20 forth- with or 1 month concurrent }	
Murder.....	Death commuted to life imprisonment	7 years 3 months

Dr. EASTICK (on notice): Without personal identification of the prisoners, will the Attorney-General indicate:

1. How many persons serving sentences for murder are currently held in South Australian prisons and what is their deployment amongst the various institutions?

2. Of the convicted murderers in gaol at present, what number of years of his sentence has each served?

3. How many persons convicted of murder have been released in each of the preceding five years to June 30, 1973?

4. What number of persons convicted of murder has been undergoing rehabilitation programmes outside prison precincts in the last six months?

The Hon. L. J. KING: As the reply consists entirely of statistical information, I seek leave to have it incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

PRISONERS CONVICTED OF MURDER

1. Thirty-five at Yatala Labour Prison, one at Mount Gambier Gaol.

2. 4 years; 1 10-12 years; 2 10-12 years; 10-12 years; 3 3-12 years; 5 years; 1 2-12 years; 5 11-12 years; 4 6-12 years; 1-12 year; 9 7-12 years; 6-12 year; 2 4-12 years; 5-12 year; 3 6-12 years; 3 6-12 years; 2 8-12 years; 5 years; 2 4-12 years; 3-12 year; 2 10-12 years; 1 9-12 years; 28 7-12 years; 14 5-12 years; 2-12 year; 8 8-12 years; 1 2-12 years; 7 3-12 years; 8 10-12 years; 5 4-12 years; 10 years; 3 4-12 years; 3 2-12 years; 5 3-12 years; 17 6-12 years; 7 3-12 years.

3. Twelve months ending June 30, 1969—nil; June 30, 1970—two; June 30, 1971—four; June 30, 1972—two; June 30, 1973—three.

4. Eight.

LAND SALES

Mr. MATHWIN (on notice):

1. What allotments or parcels of land have been sold by the Commissioner of Highways from June 30, 1973, to September 1, 1973?

2. Where is each of these allotments or parcels of land?

3. When were they purchased by the Commissioner?

4. What was the purchase price of these allotments or parcels of land?

5. When were they sold?

6. What was the sale price of each?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: As the answer is in the form of a lengthy schedule, I ask leave to have it incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

DISPOSAL OF LAND

1973-74 TO 1/9/73

No.	Description	Purchase price \$	Purchase date	Sale price \$	Sale date
1.	Highways 1662/56: Lots 686-695, section 12, hundred of Adelaide. Five Ash Drive, Pasadena . .	57,820	May, 1968	62,850	July, 1973
2.	Highways 2977/65 and 2976/65: Part lot 26, lots 25, 28 and 29, section 87, hundred of Adelaide. Eric, Wheaton } and Charles Streets, Black Forest . . }	7,120 12,537	November, 1965 December, 1965	40,400	July, 1973
3.	Highways 3666/64: Part section 116, hundred of Adelaide. Cnr. Oaklands Road and Meltanto Avenue, Marion.....	7,760	February, 1965	22,650	July, 1973
4.	Highways 230/65: Part section 161, hundred of Adelaide. Cnr. Airport Road and Burbridge Road, Brooklyn Park.....	7,000	July, 1953	43,000	July, 1973
5.	Highways 2354/65: Part lots 34, 35 and 36, section 104, hundred of Adelaide. Cross Road, Plympton.....	12,600	November, 1965	21,000	July, 1973
6.	Highways 3704/69 and 2845/69: Part lot 2, section 239, hundred of Adelaide..... Unley Road, Unley.....	15,300 12,100	November, 1970 September, 1970	20,450*	July, 1973
7.	Highways 1865/64: Part lot 2, section 99, hundred of Adelaide. Cnr. Burbridge Road and Marion Road, Brooklyn Park.....	720	May, 1950	8,500	August, 1973
8.	Highways 1151/60: Part section 19, hundred of Noarlunga. Piccadilly Road, Stirling.....	32,500	October, 1964	9,000†	July, 1973
9.	Highways 2812/69: Lot 16, section 368, hundred of Blanche. North Terrace, Mount Gambier	7,600	December, 1969	9,000	July, 1973
10.	Highways 3048/69: Part lots 1 and 2, section 367, hundred of Blanche. North Terrace, Mount Gambier.....	10,325	December, 1969	2,100*	August, 1973
11.	Highways 668/64: Lot 85, section 17, hundred of Gambier. Mount Gambier.....	7,800	March, 1964	11,000	July, 1973
12.	Highways 1451/55: Lot 74, section 15, hundred of Blanche. Mount Gambier.....	5,600	November, 1965	11,500	June, 1973
13.	Highways 2407/72: Part section 1582, hundred of Yatala. Modbury.....	212,500	March, 1971	3,500†	August, 1973
14.	Highways 3873/64: Part lots 56 and 120. section 45, hundred of Adelaide. West Beach Road, Keswick.....	6,000	June, 1965	10,800	August, 1973
15.	Highways 3383/66: Part lots 19, 29, 20 and 28, section 117, hundred of Adelaide and Noarlunga. Murray Street, Marion.....	5,000	April, 1970	9,204	August, 1973
16.	Highways 3538/65: Part lots 11 and 12, section 2056, hundred of Adelaide. Darley Road, Newton . .	14,000	May, 1967	5,600*	August, 1973
17.	Highways 2185/67: Lot 24, part lots 237, 238, 239, 241 and 242, sections 113 and 114, hundred of Adelaide. Bounded by Wallala Avenue and Cungenena Avenue, Parkholme	126,000	May, 1967	42,000†	August, 1973

DISPOSAL OF LAND—*continued*

1973-74 TO 1/9/73

No.	Description	Purchase price \$	Purchase date	Sale price \$	Sale date
18.	Highways 1345/67: Lot 176, hundred of Wanoka, Fifth Street, Hawker.....	4,000	1967	1,000*	August, 1973
19.	Highways 2278/62: Part lot 18, section 151, hundred of Adelaide. Austral Terrace, Morphett- ville.....	21,200	September, 1966	90,000	July, 1973
20.	Highways 1224/65: Part lot 22, section 151, hundred of Adelaide. Austral Terrace, Morphett- ville.....	14,600	July, 1965	26,000	July, 1973
21.	Highways 335/49: Part section 81, hundred of Lincoln, Port Lincoln	Unknown	1950	800‡	August, 1973

* In these cases where the sale price is shown as less than the purchase price, the reason is that only the residual land is sold after portion of the land has been used for roadworks, widening, realignment or corner cut-offs.

† In these cases portion only of the property has been sold and the future use of the balance of the land has not yet been determined.

‡ This was bought in 1950 but price is not readily available.

WATER RATES

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. What is the nature of the active inquiries that have been made as to the amount of exemption allowed for water rates under personal income tax and of whom have they been made?

2. What information has been received as a result of these inquiries?

3. Is it proposed to introduce legislation during this session to permit exemption for some excess water charges and, if so, when?

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

1. Inquiries regarding the eligibility of water rates and charges for excess water as taxation deductions have been made of the Commonwealth Treasurer.

2. Charges made for excess water are not a taxation deduction as far as householders are concerned. However, if the calculation of the water rates payable is expressed both as having a relationship to the value of properties and the amount of water consumed, the rate so calculated is allowable as a deduction.

3. As the amounts of water rates payable have already been determined for the current rating year, no change can be made for 1973-74. A draft Bill is being prepared so that such a change may be introduced for 1974-75 to ensure deductibility to the extent allowable by the Income Tax Assessment Act from time to time.

TOD MAIN

Mr. GUNN (on notice): Has an approach been made to the Commonwealth Government for assistance under the national water resources development programme for the Tod replacement main and, if so, when was such an approach made?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes, on July 13, 1971.

Mr. GUNN (on notice):

1. Why is the Public Buildings Department, not the Engineering and Water Supply Department, constructing the proposed pipeline from the Tod trunk main to Koonibba?

2. Will adjoining landholders be permitted to use the pipeline?

3. How many properties will this pipeline pass through?

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

1. This is a private pipeline required by the Community Welfare Department, and it is normal practice for the Public Buildings Department to arrange for all such construction works.

2. As the maximum amount of water possible is desired at Koonibba Aboriginal Reserve and as the scheme has been designed purely for the purpose of getting water to the reserve, it is not likely that landholders will be permitted to use the pipeline.

3. Twelve.

GOVERNMENT MOTOR CARS

Mr. GUNN (on notice):

1. How many cars are in the Government Ministerial pool?

2. How many heads of Government departments have cars supplied?

3. How many drivers are employed in the Ministerial pool?

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

1. Twenty-one.

2. Twenty-four. In most cases the cars provided are not for their exclusive use and are used by other officers as required.

3. Seventeen.

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2)

(Continued from September 13. Page 765.)

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

That further consideration of the Bill in Committee be now resumed.

The SPEAKER: Before calling on the member for Heysen to speak, I seek an indication whether the honourable member has the authority of the Leader of the Opposition to be the first speaker. The time allowed under Standing Orders depends on the person speaking.

Dr. EASTICK (Leader of the Opposition): He has my authority, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. McANANEY (Heysen): The housing industry is in a serious situation that calls for comment at this stage.

The Treasurer indicated in a recent reply to a question I asked that the Housing Trust has not spent \$12,000,000 at its disposal, even though young people are trying to build houses and to arrange finance for this purpose. In Mount Barker, 21 houses are nearly completed, and I was recently pleased to see the area concerned busy with men and vehicles. However, I discovered that foundations were being laid for new houses on the other side of the road from these houses.

A young person in my district has arranged bank finance to purchase a house, but if building is not started by the private contractor concerned within a certain time my constituent will miss out on the loan. Meanwhile, he has been asked by the builder to sign a contract involving an additional \$444, because the cost of materials has increased, and he is liable to pay for that increase. There must be some legitimate reason why the cost of building materials is increasing, because these items are under price control. Increases are occurring simply because the demand for materials and labour exceeds by far the capacity of industry to deliver goods. As I have said before in this House, two or three weeks ago I attended a seminar at the Hotel Australia at which Mr. Donovan (a leading economist employed by W. D. Scott and Company Proprietary Limited) said that by February or March the shortage would be so great that we would be reaching the black-market stage.

Has any really constructive approach been made in relation to this situation? We hear talk of price control, but how can controls be introduced when demand exceeds supply? There have always been ways of getting around these controls. In the late 1940's, when we had price control in Australia, there was excessive demand. We had price control over the essentials. As they could not be obtained here, they were imported from overseas. One could go down Rundle Street and buy all the luxury goods available. At that stage goods could be purchased overseas to help relieve the shortage here. However, at present 14 major countries are all experiencing inflation and a shortage of goods, so that we cannot import from overseas the things we need. We must solve the problem ourselves. We should praise our benefactors for the wonderful situation that exists, whereby Australia is in the fortunate position that people are willing to pay three times as much as they paid previously for our exports. However, too much money is coming into circulation and creating demand. Somewhere within the economic structure the excess must be drained away. Many methods can be used. In the early 1950's the then Prime Minister (Mr. Menzies) froze for a period 20 per cent of the income received from the sale, at high prices, of wool.

Mr. Venning: It was known as the wool grab.

Mr. McANANEY: Unfortunately, the Prime Minister, in his Budget, spent the money himself, so that this cure did not work. Somewhere we must freeze this excess money. Instead of budgeting for such a large deficit, the Commonwealth Government could have done something along these lines. That Government claims that its present deficit is slightly less than the deficit budgeted for last year. However, when the Commonwealth Liberal Government budgeted 12 months ago for a deficit of slightly less than \$600,000,000, circumstances required that more money be put into circulation. At that stage there was plenty of money in the banks; all that was lacking in the community was confidence in the future, the lack of confidence having been largely created by certain politicians and others saying that 200 000 people would be unemployed within a reasonably short time. As people believed

that we were heading for difficult times, they did not spend their money and create a demand that would have meant full employment. I admit that budgeting involves a certain amount of hit and miss, but there was good reason to believe that such a deficit then would benefit the people of Australia.

This August the situation was entirely different. By that time, there was an excessive demand for goods that exceeded the capacity to supply them. Admittedly at that stage there was some unemployment, but was it among the unemployable—those who did not want to work? We have seen, from our experience with unemployment relief money and money for rural unemployment relief, that certain people do not want to work. Last August, money from overseas was building up our reserves, so that we had a trade surplus of \$183,000,000. Yet the Government will spend more than it will take in, adding to our troubles. Under these conditions, price control is absolutely futile. Even if it were possible to employ hundreds of inspectors to see that the price of every item was controlled, the situation would only be aggravated. The bank reserves of money that people want to spend would increase. There would be a greater demand, with black marketing in all types of commodity.

The whole crux of the matter is to introduce some balance into the situation. I admit that at first I commended the Commonwealth Labor Government on the moves it made. Most people who study these matters thought that it was on the right track. However, since then we have seen the Commonwealth Budget, and now interest rates have been increased. The Commonwealth Government has said that it will work out a scheme so that some people who borrow money for a house will not have to pay extra interest. How unwieldy and uncertain that is, and how long will it take to introduce such a scheme? I have referred to this young chap who earns \$70 a week and who must now pay an additional \$444 because of the increase in building costs. As he has had to borrow a large sum already, he may now be unable to meet his commitments. I think this is a shocking situation. Increasing the interest rates only adds to cost inflation, which is more likely to be permanent in the community than is demand inflation. To control inflation, money must be attracted into the bond market instead of being spent.

In August, before the Commonwealth Budget was introduced, the Australia and New Zealand Bank said that the Government should indicate that interest rates would not increase in the next few months, as had been hinted at in the various financial journals. Although much money was invested in the July loan, if people had known that bond rates were not likely to increase to the present extremes they would have tended to invest more money at the former rate of interest. Somehow this money must be drawn from the community. All types of schemes are being advocated. I read something in the *News* last night about the prices tribunal. I do not know how it will work in practice because it has no power, but a spokesman said the price of meat must go down by 20c a pound (0.454 kg). How silly can one get? If that sum were taken from the price to the primary producer, the return would be lower than at the corresponding time last year. The increased cost of meat is in the middle section of the community; the return to the primary producer has not increased to the same extent. The price of steak in any restaurant in Adelaide would be 50c or \$1 more than at the same time last year, but the sum received at the abattoirs has increased by only 10c at the most. The price is rising because of

the excessive demand for goods and the fact that people are willing to pay the high prices.

Australia is in a period of what should be the greatest degree of prosperity. Money is coming in and some sections of the community have an opportunity to recoup their losses of the past two or three years. They will do that without getting into the higher tax brackets, but if they are profiteering unduly two-thirds will go in tax and the community will benefit. We are experiencing a wonderful season and, if price control is placed on meat, people will hold stock and prices will go even higher. This is simply meddling with the economy. Each day some Minister has a new idea. One day recently the Minister for Primary Industry said that no more money was required from oversea sources and that we could look after ourselves. The next day Dr. Cairns said in Japan that, provided we had a 51 per cent share, we would want more money. Every day uncertainty is created in the minds of the people. This must be overcome at the base by wise financial management by the Commonwealth Government. If one budgets for a deficit when there is unemployment or a slack economy, there is no harm done, but in the present circumstances, it does not make the slightest effort to reduce the amount of money in circulation as a result of its own activities; rather, it is adding fuel to the fire.

Some action must be taken to freeze the money coming in from overseas, and that will not be done by forcing up interest rates to 9 per cent. In a red-hot economy, such as we have at the moment, people who have money will be able to pay 9 per cent without difficulty, but the group hardest hit, the one which cannot meet its obligations, is the group the Government is always talking about. It is a paradox of politics that, when we have a Government saying it is out to help the small person, through its own actions, and perhaps with genuine motives, it always seems to do them the most harm.

The Country Party is supposed to represent country people, but no Party did them more harm than the Country Party, with its high tariffs. Sir John McEwen, as Minister for Primary Industry, said, "When you get into trouble we will give you subsidies." Large industries such as the wool industry cannot be subsidized. The press complains that such industries are getting all the handouts, but it is really the other way around; if those industries had not contributed by paying much more for goods than was paid on the oversea markets they would never have been in such a position. We must have assistance for industry in Australia so that the country will develop, but it should not be in the form of this long-term tariff, continuing on indefinitely, and not being competitive on oversea markets. Industry must be assisted, but those who look at the matter from a parochial viewpoint do more harm than good for the people they represent.

The South Australian Government has budgeted for a deficit. Admittedly, it will use Loan funds and perhaps additional money will not be put in, but surely we must work out our priorities. Is it necessary to knock down good wooden buildings and to erect solid construction buildings when children are being deprived of decent homes and living in hovels as compared with conditions in the new schools? We must find out the real needs of the people and we must have a Government that makes an effort at the base, where it can be done without interfering with the activities of people or upsetting their psychology, tempting them to spend money quickly, as they do now, because of the fear of rising prices.

We must forget parochial issues. The issue we now face is a major one and it must be decided immediately. The idea of price control is quite inadequate. I shall use the same expression I used only last week: if we have an over-inflated woman it is no good trying to put on her the corset of price control; we must feed her properly and see that she has a balanced diet, so that she will get down to a good and efficient working model, to the advantage of all. That is the way to get the greatest result.

Mr. GUNN (Eyre): I shall raise two matters of concern to my district. The first concerns the Community Welfare Department and the decision to build a pipeline to the Koonibba Aboriginal Reserve. This project has been sought for many years by people living west of Ceduna. They have always wanted a pipeline to serve the locality, not one to serve a small section of the community. If the department persists with its decision to build a pipeline, other citizens will suffer, because there will not be sufficient people in the area requiring the services of the Engineering and Water Supply Department. About 200 people live at Koonibba and 200 or 300 in the surrounding area; this will not warrant two pipelines.

My constituents in this area believe that the Engineering and Water Supply Department should be the authority to build the main to Koonibba as the first step of a major programme to service the whole area west of Ceduna. I believe that the department made an unwise decision, because the main will have only a limited value. I understand that it will cost about \$60,000 to provide a limited service, whereas with this sum the E. and W. S. Department, from its own resources and with the assistance of the Community Welfare Department, could have provided a larger main to the Koonibba Aboriginal Reserve to service not only the people on the reserve but also the people in the surrounding district. I believe that the Minister of Community Welfare should reconsider this matter and allow the department of the Minister of Works to construct the main.

Mr. Keneally: Anyone would think you—

Mr. GUNN: The member for Stuart may think that this is funny, but he has little regard for country people, except those who live in large localities. He follows the typical Labor Party line of kicking country people or those involved in primary industry.

Mr. Keneally: I am very concerned about you.

Mr. GUNN: Do not worry about me, because I can look after myself.

Mr. Burdon: If you're the only person you look after, you're narrow-minded.

Mr. GUNN: That is the kind of unintelligent snide remark the member for Mount Gambier makes, because he is a member of a Party that supported a document which can be described only as a document of deceit, namely, the policy speech made by the Prime Minister in November, 1972. I will quote from that document later because, if one considers the actions the Commonwealth Government has taken in the last few weeks, one can only come to that decision. Page 47 of the booklet containing the speech states:

We come to government with malice towards none. Let us consider what the Prime Minister did in the Budget: he attacked country people, who provide the greatest amount of export income today. The Liberal and Country Party, at both State and Commonwealth level, believes that every section of the community should be looked after and that one section should not be penalized in favour of another section.

Mr. Burdon: The only section you look after consists of about 12 per cent of the population.

Mr. GUNN: That is nonsense, and the member for Mount Gambier knows it. Page 27 of the booklet, under the heading "Primary industries", states:

A Labor Party will ensure economic viability of primary industry with the emphasis on financial stability, security and confidence in the future.

Let me examine that statement. Last weekend I had the pleasure of meeting several of my constituents at various functions, and every rural producer with whom I spoke said that he did not intend to work for the Commonwealth Government. If the Commonwealth Labor Government wants to carry on as it is doing and if Dr. Cairns wants people to grow wheat, they should be encouraged to grow it. However, I believe that such people will reduce production because there will be no incentive for them to produce.

Mr. Keneally: The only people to whom you talk in the district are—

Mr. GUNN: The member for Stuart insults his own intelligence by his naive and stupid interjections. He should be ashamed of making such comments; rarely does he make a sensible contribution in the House. I will read further from the obnoxious document of deceit the Prime Minister put before the people. The booklet continues:

Fundamental to Labor's policies on resource development, reconstruction and rehabilitation of rural industries and the rural work force is the ready availability of long-term low-interest finance.

Let me examine what the Commonwealth Government has done. We all recall Mr. Grassby's going around Australia and promising rural industry \$500,000,000 at 3 per cent: that was the confidence trick he was putting before the Australian people.

Mr. Venning: What happened to him?

Mr. GUNN: When the people in his district are next given the chance to judge him, I am confident of what they will do. What did the Labor Government do last week? It withdrew from primary industries the concessional interest rates the previous Commonwealth Government had made available to them to assist them to produce on behalf of the people of this country and to earn the export income that is necessary for the country to progress. Yet in the Labor Party's policy speech, delivered on November 13, 1972, the Prime Minister had the gall to say:

The basis of our rural policy in relation to finance is the ready availability of long-term low-interest finance.

That speaks for itself. We are all aware that the Labor Party has no time for rural industries and country-based secondary industries. The Prime Minister should be ashamed of himself for making that statement. The only way the country can again prosper is by the people electing an L.C.P. Government.

Mr. BECKER (Hanson): A grievance I should like to bring to the attention of the House is in regard to the Licensing Act. A member of a licensed club may invite visitors to his club. If someone wishes to visit a licensed club, he must be accompanied by a club member and must sign in in the appropriate book. I have previously complained about this outdated system. We should once again consider introducing a less embarrassing system than the one presently existing. On a recent visit to a licensed club I noted before I was signed in that, of those who had signed in in the book, one had given his address "care of Buckingham Palace"; a woman as "care of the Salvation Army Men's

Home, Adelaide"; one as "care of Trades Hall"; and obviously other fictitious names and addresses had been given.

I wonder how much it costs the Government to provide inspectors to police visitors books and how closely the books are checked. I noticed in a club in my district that I visited recently that the visitors book had been inspected and that all kinds of comment had been made by the licensing inspector: for example, that pencils should not be used, etc. The system is not worth the trouble it takes and it must be embarrassing to club managements, committees and secretaries, because the people concerned are not always on duty to police club members who sign in visitors and the validity of the addresses that are given.

A situation that astounded me unfortunately happened at Trades Hall. A weekly dance organized by a body called Dancerama started to hire Trades Hall for about \$70 a week for the purpose of holding weekly dances to raise money for psychiatric hospitals. It was admitted that it was not a profitable venture but, after a time, the dances became profitable. The dances were proceeding smoothly, but the organizers noticed that attendances were falling off or that people were disappearing during the evening. In fact, when the dancers discovered that the Trades Hall bar was open, they began using it. Even though it was obvious to the dance organizers that the people using the bar were unknown to members of the Trades Hall Club, the dancers used these bar facilities.

The matter comes down to the whole principle of why we have a visitors book in licensed clubs, and why we insist on so many persons signing the book, etc. Obviously, the law is being flouted not only at the Trades Hall but everywhere else. Therefore, I challenge the Government to update the system. The persons organizing the dance at the Trades Hall were assured that their booking was permanent and, after operating for some months, they were told that several Friday evenings had been booked otherwise and that their permanent booking arrangement no longer existed. They were told to make alternative arrangements, which they did, and on the last evening on which they conducted the dance, all patrons were given a small circular (obviously prepared at the Trades Hall) stating that the weekly dances would be continued under new management. The people who had been conducting the dances were not given the opportunity to continue them.

Obviously, there is some collusion in the whole matter regarding the dances conducted at Trades Hall, and it revolves around the use of the Trades Hall bar. I know that the person concerned approached the Premier and was amazed at the reply, which obviously intimated that what had been said was not true. It is strange that one prominent member of the Trades Hall Committee (Mr. Lutz) resigned, and it is understood that he resigned because of the decision in this matter. Obviously, something has gone astray there.

However, that is not the only thing that has happened. We have been told that preference in employment in this State will be given to unionists. I do not object to anyone's joining a union if he wants to do so, but the maintenance electrician at Trades Hall was not a member of a union, nor was he registered under the electrical maintenance legislation. Therefore, the Trades Hall was employing someone who did not meet the standards that the normal worker in the State must meet. It is interesting that Trades Hall was willing to accept the services of someone like that, when the Government, in advertising positions in the Public Service, refers to preference to unionists.

There is a classic example in today's press, where the Community Welfare Department has advertised two positions. In one case, it is stated that preference will be given to unionists, but the other advertisement does not mention unionists. We have double standards and double dealings. This matter crops up every now and then and I am surprised that the position at the Trades Hall should be as I have stated, under the present Government's administration.

It is now essential that an inquiry be made into the Totalizator Agency Board. I do not know whether other honourable members have received complaints similar to those that I have received about the operation of the totalizators in this State. The most recent complaint I have received refers to a race meeting in another State last Monday at which one race was a maiden event. The horse that won the race had no form; its form for each of its previous three starts was zero. Pre-post betting opened at 50/1. As the race was being conducted in another State, the South Australian T.A.B. investments on the race closed half an hour before the race started. I understand that on the course the horse was the subject of a tremendous investment, more or less amounting to a plunge. It started at about 5/1 and won the race, and the South Australian T.A.B. dividend for the win was \$3.75.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: There could have been a plunge on it here, too.

Mr. BECKER: I may be naive about racing but I do not accept that a person would come across the border to one of our South Australian agencies and invest heavily on a horse about half an hour before the race started. There would have to be an obvious explanation of the matter and, if that happened, it would be understandable that many investments would be made in one area but not in other T.A.B. agencies. There are agencies throughout the metropolitan area and the rest of the State and it would be interesting to know the spread of winning and other dividends.

The Hon. L. J. King: What are you suggesting?

Mr. BECKER: Mistakes have been made and will be made in future, but the dividends do not measure up. The whole crux of the issue and of the complaints that have been made to me by constituents is that they are not satisfied with the return from the T.A.B.

The Hon. L. J. King: That's a problem of punters the world over!

Mr. BECKER: That is quite right but, when it is obvious that they are not getting a fair deal and when the South Australian T.A.B. dividends on races in other States are nowhere near the dividends in other States, people will be forced to use starting price betting, which we understand has been eliminated.

Mr. Harrison: We may be better off here at picking winners!

Mr. BECKER: On a head of population basis, we do not gamble on the T.A.B. as much as people in other States do, so investors here must be right on the ball.

The Hon. L. J. King: Are you willing to be specific and say precisely what is the complaint?

Mr. BECKER: The whole point is that doubts have been raised in the minds of people who have supported the T.A.B. (and still are supporting it). The T.A.B. should issue a statement assuring the public that the operations are in accordance with the rules and regulations and that the authorities carry out the necessary supervision.

Mr. Harrison: You're as good as suggesting they're manipulated.

Mr. BECKER: I am not suggesting that they are manipulated. I suggest that mistakes can occur at times, and that was quite evident when the dividend of \$17,000 was declared for a fourtrelle. After the dividend was declared, it was announced that another ticket was also held on the fourtrelle.

The Hon. L. J. King: Do you think that that mistake may have coincided with a plunge on a horse at 50/1 in another State?

Mr. BECKER: No, I do not. I suggest that there are too many errors. As the Government has established T.A.B. and benefits from its operation, it is about time the Government examined what is going on. Also, members of the Government would know that several racing journalists have commented in the daily press, in the *Chronicle*, and in other places in the past month about the operations of T.A.B.

Mr. Harrison: It's not from following their tips that punters are winning!

Mr. BECKER: Not being a keen racing man, I cannot comment on that. The matter has been brought to my attention many times and this is the opportunity that I have to raise it in Parliament.

The Hon. L. J. King: Nothing has been brought to our attention yet. Why don't you tell us?

Mr. BECKER: If the Attorney will put the newspaper down and listen to me, I say that we want to be assured that the T.A.B. dividends are true and correct. We want to be assured—

The Hon. L. J. King: That they're honest?

Mr. BECKER: We want to be assured that they are honest. We want to be assured that the supervision and the collation and calculation of dividends, etc., are adequate and that no unduly large errors have been made. I support what the member for Davenport said regarding land agents' harassing people. It has been brought to my attention in the last two days that in one suburb of Adelaide a land agent has been using certain information that he has obviously obtained from a local council, and is harassing people, telling them to sell their properties quickly before the area is rezoned. Real estate agents in this State want the Act to be amended and they would welcome a stricter code of ethics for their profession. However, they could not accept the previous legislation interfering with the operation of land brokers. The harassment to which I have referred is occurring and, as it is causing a real problem in certain areas, it is high time that the Minister acted promptly and introduced amending legislation.

Motion carried.

In Committee.

Schedule.

State Governor's Establishment, \$88,525; Chief Secretary, \$159,056; Public Actuary, \$54,063—passed.

Auditor-General, \$546,051.

Mr. HALL: I draw members' attention to the Auditor-General's Report, which I believe to be an inadequate document for the guidance of this House. The report sets out the accounts of the various Government departments and details the Revenue and Loan Accounts. Although nearly 400 pages are devoted to these aspects, only one page contains comments on the condition of the accounts and any faults that may have been found in relation to them, which is totally inadequate. On the first page of his report the Auditor-General states:

Last year I remarked that accounting systems and procedures should be continually reviewed to assess their effectiveness in achieving defined objectives and providing information essential to management. I would now suggest that such a review should specifically include those areas

in which the basic control of finance should be exercised. I am not satisfied that in all departments the principles of real budgeting are appreciated or practised.

Why has the Auditor-General not named the departments to which he has referred? Why is he covering up? He continues:

The introduction of realistic budgeting in all areas in which expense is incurred is essential, coupled with the acceptance of financial responsibility at the appropriate levels. The acceptance of these concepts is just as important in those departments or activities in which there is little or no direct financial return as in the business undertakings.

Why has the Auditor-General not told Parliament what he thinks? He is a servant not of the Government but of Parliament, and he cannot be removed from his office at the whim of anyone. If the Auditor-General has severe doubts regarding the departments to which he has referred, why does he not tell us which departments are inefficient and which ones should control their expenditure? The statement reflects on every department referred to in the report, and one can only conclude that a substantial sum is being wasted under Government administration and that the Auditor-General implies that there is no control of expenditure. It could mean that the Budget deficit exists because departments are inefficient. I do not believe that every department is inefficient, but some are, and we should be told which they are. Before one opens this report each year one expects to see a reference to the Egg Board: if that department can be selected, why cannot others? I refer members to section 40 of the Audit Act: the Auditor-General has a responsibility to Parliament, and I am dismayed, after some years as a member, that I have yet to see real criticism of a Government department in this report. I do not intend to name departments that I consider are inefficient or wasteful: the Auditor-General possesses that knowledge, apparently, but does not impart it to Parliament. I hope that in his next report the Auditor-General will say what he means and name the departments that are not doing their job, so that members may consider how more efficient methods may be applied to Government accounts.

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): I have been amazed at the honourable member's attack on a distinguished South Australian who occupies a position of responsibility not to the Government but to this Parliament. The gentleman who occupies the office at present has a long and distinguished record of public services in South Australia, and it is nothing short of astonishing to hear the honourable member attack him in terms of unbridled criticism and, obviously, without any attempt to appreciate what the Auditor-General has said. In the passage criticized by the honourable member, the Auditor-General reminded Parliament that in his last report he drew attention to the desirability of improvements being made in the accounting methods and said that procedures should be continually reviewed to assess their effectiveness in achieving defined objectives and providing information essential to management. In his present report he suggested that such a review should specifically include those areas in which a basic control of finance should be exercised. The Auditor-General then said, "I am not satisfied that in all departments the principles of real budgeting are appreciated, or practised." What the Auditor-General is saying is that he is not satisfied that all departments have managed to live up to the recommendations he made in his previous report. When the honourable member asks for the naming of departments, he is assuming that the Auditor-General is saying that, in some departments, there is a failure in

accounting practises, but that is not what the Auditor-General is saying. He is not saying that he has found that some departments have failed to do something they should have done: if that were the case, he would name the department. He is reminding Parliament that he is continuing to try to influence and stimulate Government departments into more specific accounting procedures which will provide a better system and which will enable the principles of real budgeting to be appreciated and practised. The Auditor-General's comments are realistic and sensible and are a further reminder to Government departments of their responsibility. He has behaved with a responsibility and restraint that has not been noticeable in the honourable member's remarks.

Mr. HALL: The Attorney-General is a distinguished person and his record in public life, in his profession, and in politics indicates that this is so, but that does not mean that his argument is worth anything. I did not say that the Auditor-General was not a distinguished person, nor did I attack him personally. The Attorney revels in the sort of argument that turns one's criticism of a job of work into a criticism of a personality. I will read again the Auditor-General's words:

I am not satisfied that in all departments the principles of real budgeting are appreciated or practised.

The Auditor-General fails to tell us in which departments.

Line passed.

Government Printing, \$1,923,963.

Dr. EASTICK (Leader of the Opposition): I see that the proposed expenditure for 1973-74 is about \$500,000 more than was voted for 1972-73. I appreciate that the Government Printing Department is soon to transfer to new premises, but can the Attorney-General say whether there is any provision in these figures for a courier service, a Telex service, or whatever the form of communication will be, to connect Parliament House with the Government Printing Department? At present, there is no problem of communication between the two buildings, but at Netley, a different set of circumstances will apply.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not know what arrangements are to be made for communication between the Government Printing Department in its new location and this building, but I will obtain that information. The increase in the provision for 1973-74 over the actual expenditure for 1972-73 is accounted for almost entirely, if not entirely, by salary and wage increases owing to award increases.

Line passed.

Police, \$19,185,000.

Mr. MATHWIN: I seek information about "Expenses in connection with establishment of Police Dog Section". I take it that this would complete the establishment of that section, although it seems little enough money for that purpose. From what I have read in the newspapers, some members of the South Australian Police Force are already in the United Kingdom studying the setting up of such a section within the Police Department. At least four officers are over there and I imagine their training to be a matter of months. Is this meagre amount of \$22,000 to cater for those costs, plus the setting up of the section and the dogs having to be brought here and trained, which will take more time? I do not know, but already civilian people may be training these dogs in Australia. I do not know whether it is intended to buy these dogs overseas and bring them to Australia from, say, Germany, the United Kingdom or other European countries, or whether they will be bred in South Australia from imported stock. I understand the plan is well under

way, but \$22,000 seems inadequate unless it is merely to provide for a small aspect of this whole matter.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not know the answer to all the points raised by the honourable member, but this provision of \$22,000 includes expenses in connection with the establishment of a Police Dog Section. Provision is also made in that amount for the expenses involved in selecting two police officers and their training in the United Kingdom to enable the Police Dog Section to be established. Also included in it is provision for the purchase, transportation and training of their dogs.

Mr. COUMBE: I refer to the line dealing with civil defence. Provision is made for the salaries of the Director of Civil Defence, Deputy Director, constables and clerical staff; and for contingencies, operating expenses, etc. It seems to me there is only a nominal increase on the allocation for the previous year, probably to take care of increases in wage rates and salaries, and there is provision for subsidies to councils, but there seems to be no real increase for the service. As one who is interested in civil defence and who attended the school at Mount Macedon, I appreciate the good work it does. There is an excellent civil defence organization at Enfield. The Government is not increasing expenditure in this area or assisting councils to expand their facilities in this direction. Civil defence is something we hope we shall never have to use; nevertheless, we do not know when the need for it will arise, and we must remember that its workers are mainly volunteers. In some instances recently civil defence organizations could well have been used. Will the Government next year consider giving continued and added support to civil defence? Would the Attorney take up this matter with the Chief Secretary with a view to considering an expansion of this service? Since Mr. Leane retired as Deputy Commissioner of Police, we have had a new Director of Civil Defence, for Mr. Leane was acting as Director.

The Hon. L. J. KING: True, the vote is based on the maintenance of civil defence activities at their present level. Indeed, I think it has been the policy for some time. I doubt whether there is a case at the moment for an expansion of civil defence activities, but I shall certainly speak to the Chief Secretary about the matter.

Dr. EASTICK: I notice that under "Emergency Fire Services" the Director, constables and clerical staff are voted \$37,000, a minimal increase on last year's vote of \$35,511. Of that amount only \$32,849 was actually spent. This service has been the subject of an extensive survey by a working party, whose recommendations have been in the hands of the Minister of Agriculture and perhaps other Ministers since early this year. The working party highlighted the need to bring under one area of control the various fire-fighting services. Further, it became clear that the question of insurance should be considered for volunteer fire fighters, who might not always be covered for all the difficulties that they encounter. It was suggested that the organization should move from Thebarton to its own headquarters. This year there is an extreme danger of fire in every part of the State, particularly in the fringe areas around the metropolitan area and in national parks. I recently asked the Minister of Environment and Conservation a question in this connection that required considerable research, and I believe I will receive a reply next week. On several occasions the Minister has acknowledged the dangers associated with fires in national parks. Consequently, can the Attorney-General say what action has been taken

and is contemplated in this connection? Does he regard the allocation of \$37,000 as being realistic?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will ask the Minister to look at the points raised by the Leader.

Mr. EVANS: The amount actually spent last financial year on additions to the fleet of motor vehicles of the Police Department, \$73,365, was fairly close to the amount voted, \$74,125. However, last financial year there was a considerable gap between the amount actually spent in connection with the net cost of fleet replacements, \$111,048, and the amount voted, \$199,280. This year the allocation is only \$99,840. One must assume either that the vehicles have covered a much greater mileage or that the police are not doing as much work in the vehicles as they did in other years. I suspect that the Government has told the Police Department that the vehicles must do a greater mileage than they did in the past before being traded in. I believe that at one stage vehicles were traded in after doing 35 000 miles (56 329 km) but it seems that the mileage has now been increased to 45 000 (72 423 km). Can the Attorney-General give further information on the usage of police vehicles?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not have with me an explanation of why the amount actually spent last year in connection with the net cost of fleet replacements was so much less than the amount budgeted, but the allocation this year is designed to enable the department to maintain the existing policy of replacing passenger vehicles every two years or at 25 000 miles (40 235 km) to ensure the economical running of the vehicles and a higher resale value.

Mr. COUMBE: Can the Attorney-General say whether the Police Department is up to full strength? The Auditor-General's Report states that during the last financial year there was an increase of only 136 in all categories within the Police Department. This does not seem to be the type of increase that one would expect, in view of the population increase. There is no indication whether the size of the staff at June 30, 1973, is the desired establishment strength, as recommended by the Commissioner of Police. If the Attorney-General cannot provide further information now, will he obtain a report?

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

Mr. BECKER: The total number in the Police Force at June 30, 1973, was 2 881, and in 1972-73 the force cost the taxpayer \$16,433,222. I refer to the actual payment of \$15,046 in the last financial year for inquiries conducted by special investigators. How was that sum spent?

The Hon. L. J. KING: These were expenses incurred during 1972-73 in engaging two police officers from the Metropolitan Police Force, London, to help in the inquiries in relation to the Duncan case.

Mr. MATHWIN: I think there is a real need for police dogs. In the United Kingdom, guard dogs stand at main bank branches when pay-rolls are transferred and when banks are closing. Dogs are used extensively in cases where children are missing or murdered. Recently our Commissioner of Police has seen fit to take special action with regard to sporting activities. In countries overseas, dogs are used with great advantage in that type of exercise. Some members will recall that in wartime dogs were used by sappers in finding mines and by the Royal Air Force in finding people. If the Government is sincere about this proposal, the \$22,000 provided does not seem sufficient. I believe that action is imperative in this field.

The Hon. L. J. KING: As always, the Government is sincere.

Mr. COUMBE: Is the Government sincere, too, in relation to the expenditure of \$15,046 in connection with a report which was prepared by detectives from Scotland Yard and which we have never seen? I recall during the last election campaign the Treasurer's making great play about open government.

The Hon. L. J. King: Are you seriously asking for that report to be published? It is a matter on which the honourable member should exercise some responsibility.

Mr. COUMBE: About \$16,000 has been spent in respect of a report that has never been published. Does the Government still believe that it is in the public interest and in the interest of the administration of justice that the report be not released? Does the Attorney intend to release the report in the future?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I hope that the honourable member is not associating himself with those who demand the release of the report. I think better of him than to think that he is. Some members have demanded its release, and I have been extremely disappointed in them. The fact is that this is a report of police officers concerning their investigations into an alleged crime, as the circumstances of this man's death point strongly to a criminal cause. Of necessity, the report is devoted to descriptions of the actions of certain individuals, assessing their possible implication in the events. However, it does not produce evidence that would enable anyone to be charged with an offence (that was not only my opinion but also the opinion of the Crown Solicitor). Because criticisms have been made, to make absolutely sure the matter was referred for the opinion of Mr. Matheson, Q.C., who had been senior counsel assisting the Coroner at the inquest, and he gave an opinion to the same effect. As we cannot charge anyone with the offence, it would be the height of irresponsibility for any Minister to release such a report which would of necessity throw suspicion on some people, possibly cast doubts on the motives of others, and refer to witnesses and why they were at certain places at certain times, although that was entirely their own business. No good purpose would be served by making this information available.

From time to time, Ministers, especially Attorneys-General, have to make decisions of this kind in the public interest. It is impossible to do more than assure Parliament that every aspect of the matter has been considered and that the decision not to publish is the only decision that can be made. There are times when Parliament must accept that assurance because there is no other way of dealing with the matter. Apart from the assurance that has been given in this case (and I repeat it now), I suggest that it is obvious to anyone who thinks about it that this report is likely to be of the type to which I have been referring. Naturally, police officers who are reporting on their investigations of a crime will refer to the actions and motives of certain people, and to their suspicions. In the interests of justice this information simply cannot be made public unless a charge is to be laid, in which case a suspect has an opportunity to defend himself and his reputation. For those reasons, it is no more possible now than it has been in the past to make the report public. Certainly it will not be possible to do that during the lifetime of any of the people to whom the report refers.

Mr. BECKER: I appreciate the explanation; in other words, it is a normal classified police report and no doubt there are many such reports. Could the Attorney

say whether investigations are continuing in this case and also in the case of the murder of Veronica Schmidt? Could he say what forensic costs were involved in these investigations?

The Hon. L. J. KING: As to whether investigations are continuing, matters of this kind are always open in the sense that the police have the file, the department is always open to receive additional information, and it is the practice to go back every so often over crimes

of this kind, turning loose on the project some new officer or officers to look back over the information just to see whether a fresh mind comes up with something new, or whether further information which could be significant

was overlooked by someone at the time. In that sense, investigations are never closed. I cannot say whether any active line of investigation is being pursued at present in relation to either of the matters mentioned.

As to the costs of the forensic aspects of the investigations, I cannot give separate figures. The cost would be in part simply absorbed in the general costs of the Police Department, and probably it would be impossible to isolate. Then there were the costs associated with forensic work in connection with the inquest. I doubt whether it is practicable to isolate the forensic costs of any investigations, because they are carried out by departmental officers in the ordinary course of their duties. I would not think it possible to isolate those costs and I doubt whether any good purpose would be served by doing so.

Dr. EASTICK: Regarding the provision for overseas visits of officers, I take it that the \$13,868 has nothing to

do with overseas visits of officers involved in the training of police dogs. Are these amounts related to the expenses of the officers undergoing training in connection with the dogs or are their costs provided for in another line?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The \$22,000 relating to police dogs covers, among other things, the expenses of the two officers being trained in police dog activity; such expenses are not included in the \$13,868. The sum relating to overseas visits of officers is provision for one officer to attend the

commissioned officers course conducted by the Police College at Bramshill, in the United Kingdom, and for two senior officers to study police activities of various police forces in the United Kingdom.

Mr. MATHWIN: The provision of \$22,000 covers the training and overseas visits of the two officers and the setting up of the whole operation of the Police Dog Section, yet almost \$14,000 is being spent on other overseas visits by police officers—only about \$8,000 short of the total expenditure on police dogs. This puts into perspective my statement that the \$22,000 is a meagre amount to be provided for the purchase and training of police dogs.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: The sum of \$20,000 has been provided for the production of films by the South Aus-

tralian Film Corporation. What sort of films will be produced and how will they be used? It is unfortunate that allocations to this corporation seem to crop up in so many lines rather than all being grouped under one line.

The Hon. L. J. KING: It is expected that the film relating to the Police Force will be one (or possibly more) suitable for use by the Personnel Recruitment Branch dealing with recruitment and career opportunities.

Mr. BECKER: Concerning the administration expenses, minor equipment and sundries, I assume that this line includes the expenditure on the personnel employed in the forensic laboratories. I am led to believe that the various forensic investigations are costed. If the Police Department is embarrassed by the release of such analyses of costs, I want an assurance that forensic investigations

will never be held up because of lack of funds. I understand that in one case the cost of the investigations reached a certain figure and the investigation had to stop; unfortunately, another crime happened at that time. I want to be sure that unlimited funds would be made available, but what would that figure be?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I doubt that in any department of government it is ever possible to give an assurance that unlimited funds are available. A sense of proportion must be observed in all aspects of government and administration, and that applies to the Police Force the same as to other matters. I have never known a case where a forensic inquiry has had to be stopped because of lack of funds, but I am not the Minister in charge of the department, and I cannot give a categorical assurance on that. I shall certainly find out. If the honourable member is correct in believing that it is possible to isolate the costs of certain forensic investigations, and if that is possible in the Duncan case, I shall ask for the information to be supplied. I should rather have thought that probably it would not be worth while doing an expensive breakdown of costs, but, if it is readily available, certainly I will see that the honourable member is supplied with the information.

Mr. BECKER: If the Minister is willing to seek the information regarding the Duncan case, I should like to have the investigation costs of the Taperoo beach murder and the Veronica Schmidt case included.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The honourable member's request makes me shudder, but I shall certainly do my best to get the information and it will go very near to establishing that I was wrong when I said that in no department of government are costs unlimited. The honourable member will find that, in relation to the Taperoo case, the costs are enormous: not only in relation to forensic investigation and police investigation but also the cost of trials and appeals have been great. However, the administration of justice requires that the expenditure of this sort of money is sometimes essential.

Dr. Eastick: Is it over \$500,000?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I am unable to guess, but it is certainly a large sum when the costs of trials are taken into account, and the matter is not yet concluded. The only reservation I have about this question is whether the cost should be made public at this time, the matter not having been concluded. It may be thought in some quarters that if publicity were given to this it could prejudice the course of future proceedings, though it should not. I am certainly willing to give the honourable member the information privately if it is available. Whether it should be made public I will give further consideration to; certainly, it will ultimately be made public.

Line passed.

Prisons, \$3,540,578.

Dr. EASTICK: I seek information from the Attorney about the generality of the vote to the Prisons Department in relation to the suggestions of the Mitchell report. Earlier this afternoon, in providing a report from his colleague the Chief Secretary, the Attorney said:

It is very difficult at this early stage to comment fully on the future of Cadell Training Centre except to say that, until the Government has fully considered the extent, cost and functioning of the replacement institution recommended by the Committee for Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform, obviously Cadell must remain in operation in something like its present form. A Prisons Department committee is currently considering the report to advise on ways to implement the recommendations, but in view of the wide-ranging nature of the suggestions, this will necessarily take some time.

The second sentence refers to the whole of the report, not just to Cadell. The Government must have sought some suggestion about timing from the Prisons Department committee, which is undertaking this detailed report and assessment. I refer especially to recurring costs, also highlighted in the Loan Estimates, as well as in the Budget now being considered. What expenditure will involve short-term benefit only? I am concerned about the short-term benefit if major decisions have not been made on future planning.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I am not able to answer that, because at present the Government has not made any decisions regarding the recommendations of the Mitchell report. The recommendations are being studied by the various Government departments and Ministers involved. I imagine that individual decisions will be made as to the recommendations rather than to any blanket decision to accept all the recommendations. It will be necessary for each of the recommendations to be studied, for the financial implications to be reviewed and a consideration of existing facilities and existing buildings to be made before a decision can be given on the recommendations. I hope such decisions will be made as soon as possible; that is the intention. When the report became available, immediate steps were taken to study the report, but it is not possible to say when any particular recommendation will be implemented or whether it will be implemented, because these are matters that will be subject to Cabinet decision when full information is available from the departments.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Is any consideration being given to the possibility of carrying out a cost-benefit analysis on the use of prisoners' labour at the Yatala Labour Prison? There are many areas in which prisoners can be directed, but adjacent to Yatala prison is the Northfield Research Centre and Research Laboratory. As research is a labour-intensive industry and an industry in which tremendous gains can be achieved, will consideration be given to the use of prison labour, which could be used to great profit for this State, especially for its agricultural industry, by assisting in the research projects undertaken there?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The view the Government takes and which I take is that it is quite wrong to use prison labour on tasks which in our society would ordinarily be performed by free labour. Prisoners are not to be treated as slave labour. The idea of work forces consisting of people who have been deprived of their liberty as punishment for crime being used on work normally performed by free labour and, therefore, in substitution for free labour is quite obnoxious. True, there are often difficult areas, areas of grey, and prisoners need to be employed in some way, both as part of their sentence and to preserve their own personalities. It is not always easy to find tasks on which they can be usefully employed, and there are areas where it can be said that certain work would not be done at all unless carried out by prisoners. At this time it is charitable work, and work to assist the needy, but it is necessary.

However, to be as clear as we can be, I think that the tasks on which prisoners are employed are not those which normally would be performed by free labour, which is paid for. Prisoners should not be used as a means of depriving other people of their employment opportunities, and this creates a problem concerning the type of employment to which the honourable member has referred. I will refer the suggestion to the Chief Secretary for further consideration, but I do so with that qualification I have

mentioned that, as a matter of principle and as a matter of policy, the Government is not agreeable to the use of prison labour on tasks normally discharged by free labour.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I am not suggesting that we should use prison labour as a cheap source of labour or that it should virtually become slave labour. However, the labourers there already are performing a function that could be performed by an outside work force; the washing of Government laundry is one such area. There are many other areas in which this labour is used to do this sort of manual work, which is depriving other people of the opportunity to do it. We have an opportunity to help rehabilitate the prisoners in this sort of work.

I put forward my suggestion sincerely, as a high motivation is built up in those concerned as a result of their working in a closely-knit group, and this has already been seen in relation to the people that have gone to Northfield. If the people to whom I have referred were given the opportunity to obtain a skill they would be materially assisted. These people often find when they leave the prison that, the further they get away from the cities, the better it is for them, as some of the temptations facing them are removed.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I appreciate the sincerity with which the honourable member has put forward his suggestion. True, the prisoners employed in the prisons at times perform tasks that could be performed by non prison labour. However, the distinction is that it is necessary for them to be employed on tasks that are useful and constructive, because there is nothing more demoralizing for one than to be used on tasks that can be compared to digging a hole and filling it in again. They must be employed on something constructive. Perhaps there is merit in what the honourable member says. This type of work carries with it the problems adverted to by the Leader and others, such as those in the puppet show. Any form of work or activity outside the prison involves the problem of assessment, to which we have referred frequently in the last week. For the reasons I gave in connection with that matter, I do not regard that as an insuperable obstacle. I shall certainly refer the honourable member's proposal to the Chief Secretary.

Mr. BECKER: The sum of \$5,200 was voted for fees for Parole Board members last year, and actual expenditure totalled \$4,245. The sum of \$4,883 is proposed this year. I realize that during the last financial year a member of the board died and was not replaced until later in the year. However, why is this year's figure less than that of last year and not similar to it?

The Hon. L. J. KING: True, the sum paid out was less than the estimate. This was caused by the death of Miss Henriott on August 14, 1972. She was not replaced by Mrs. Wallace until April 1, 1973, and Mrs. Wallace was not actually paid for the 1972-73 financial year during that year. Therefore, her remuneration is not reflected in the sum actually paid out. Why the estimate this year is less than that for last year I am not sure, but I will obtain that information for the honourable member.

Mr. MATHWIN: I refer to the purchase of plant and equipment for the labour prison. The sum of \$15,823 was voted for the 1972-73 financial year; only \$8,430 was spent during that year; and \$28,772 is proposed this year. That is a considerable increase over last financial year's actual expenditure. What is the reason for this increase?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not have details of the precise nature of the plant and equipment, except that it is machinery. The reason for the variation in the sums to which the honourable member has referred is that some

of the machinery budgeted for last year was ordered but not supplied in time and, therefore, it will have to be paid for this year. In addition, this year's ordinary allocation must be considered. I will obtain the information required by the honourable member.

Dr. TONKIN: I refer to the line dealing with assistant comptrollers, psychologist, and so on under the heading of "Comptroller's office". Is the psychologist appointed on a full-time basis, or do we depend on part-time psychologists?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not have that information, but I will obtain it for the honourable member.

Mr. BECKER: I notice from the Auditor-General's Report that the staff of the Comptroller's office increased from 49 at June 30, 1972, to 62 at June 30 last. The average daily number of prisoners for the 1971-72 financial year was 922, and the number of staff totalled 388 at June 30, 1972. However, the average daily number of prisoners for the 1972-73 financial year declined by 65 to 867, and the staff at June 30 last totalled 426, an increase of 38 over the 1972 figure. Can the Attorney-General say whether the staff is sufficient to maintain the number of prisoners in our institutions?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I shall obtain a report for the honourable member.

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Attorney say what type of livestock is to be purchased for \$250?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Chickens.

Mr. RUSSACK: Are the materials for trade shops, when processed, disposed of outside or are these materials used to make articles for use within the prison? Also, an amount of \$9,900 has been allocated to purchase motor vehicles: would these vehicles be used for agricultural purposes or in the trade shops?

The Hon. L. J. KING: This amount is for the replacement of a Commer and an International van. I will ascertain their use, and what happens to the steel.

Mr. BECKER: The sum of \$33,000 has been allocated for payments to prisoners. How much a day does a prisoner receive and, because of today's inflationary trend, is this considered a fair and reasonable sum?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The amount paid to prisoners was increased in the financial year before last, and these estimates would show the effect of a full year of that increased payment. I shall ascertain the amount that prisoners are being paid now. This matter was dealt with in the Mitchell report, and some decisions will have to be made by the Government about prisoner remuneration.

Line passed.

Chief Secretary, Miscellaneous, \$1,344,861.

Dr. EASTICK: The increased allocation of \$590,121, from \$409,872, to the South Australian Fire Brigades Board seems to be in line with the increased charge to councils for their contribution to the operation of the fire brigade. In addition to this contribution, large sums are made available from insurance companies. Can the Attorney-General give reasons for this massive increase, and say whether it represents a greater percentage of cost to the Government or is it some alteration in the method of handling this community facility?

The Hon. L. J. KING: True, contributions to the cost of the Fire Brigades Board are made by the State Government, councils, and the insurance companies, and whilst the contribution of insurance companies is substantial, it is, I understand, much less than the contribution required of insurance companies in Victoria. The increase in the present estimate is not caused by any increased percentage being borne by the Government. The Government is committed to the provision of an annual grant equal to 16 per

cent of the estimated running expenses of the board. Substantial increases in salaries as a result of awards and determinations are the major factors contributing to the proposed increase in this year's grant.

Mr. RUSSACK: The sum of \$10,000 has been allocated for special appeals. Have applications been made by some organizations?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Government receives requests to contribute to appeals and makes special grants for that purpose: for example, Austcare and Freedom from Hunger Campaign. It was considered that some provision should be made.

Mr. BECKER: How was the amount of \$20,000 decided as an allocation to the racing industry for minimum distribution? I understood that the Government would assist the racing industry with a grant of \$250,000.

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

Mr. BECKER: There was a statement in the press that the Government would assist racing to the tune of \$250,000, but we see a provision of only \$20,000 on this line. Can the Attorney-General explain that?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The statement was not that the Government would provide \$250,000: it was that it would ensure that an additional \$250,000 was available from State money for the clubs. The provision of \$20,000 was to ensure that \$250,000 would be reached after the additional distribution from the Totalizer Agency Board. The T.A.B. distribution will be greater than was originally expected. The Government is prepared to adhere to the provision of \$20,000, which means in effect that on present indications the clubs will receive an additional \$270,000 for distribution in stake money.

Mr. COUMBE: I seek further information on the South Australian Fire Brigades Board. The relevant provision in the Act specifies the amount of money to be paid by the Government, the underwriters and the councils. That amount has been increased substantially, by almost \$200,000. I am aware that, because of councils' obligations in the past, the Government has exceeded its statutory payments by *ex gratia* payments in several cases. I refer particularly to the hardships that some councils in the metropolitan area are facing because of the contributions they have to make and the effect that has on their rates. I draw attention in particular to the inequities that have become apparent in the last two years between municipalities, depending on where a fire station is situated under the present zoning system. Costs to the Fire Brigades Board have increased substantially because of increased award payments and because all stations have to be manned for 24 hours a day. In the northern district the councils have to provide for maintenance of the North Adelaide, Gepps Cross, and Rosewater stations and the one in the Tea Tree Gully area.

This seems to be inequitable compared with a group of councils in another part of the metropolitan area which do not have the same spread of stations. There is a peculiar situation in regard to the city of Adelaide and the type of building constructed there and also to Port Adelaide, where much land is owned by the Government, and particularly by the Marine and Harbors Department. Many councils have made representations to me and I have taken deputations to the Government to have the whole Act reviewed to ensure a more equitable distribution of the burden on the constituent councils of the metropolitan area. One way to do that is to take it on a percentage of the rate revenue or to assess the whole metropolitan area as one and break it up into sections on a population or ratable income basis.

I make this plea to the Minister that the Fire Brigades Act, as it operates today, creates a hardship for many metropolitan councils, which need some relief. I suggest that the Minister make representations to his colleague that the whole Act be reviewed with a view to ensuring a more equitable distribution of the contribution required of councils. The Minister will know from the councils in his area that the two big contributions that councils have to make are to the fire brigades and to hospitals, and those two items, which increase each year, are a main reason why rates have to be increased so often.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will draw the Minister's attention to the honourable member's remarks.

Mr. MATHWIN: I refer to the Committee of Inquiry into the Racing Industry, for which nothing was voted last year but \$15,043 was actually paid. That, together with the \$34,000 proposed for this year, means in effect an increase of about \$50,000. Would this be for the completion of the inquiry into the racing industry or is it envisaged that there will be a further allocation next year?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I do not want to be dogmatic about it but I understand it is expected that this inquiry will finish this year.

Dr. TONKIN: I refer to the Travellers' Aid Society, for which the vote for this year is nil. I am disappointed at this because actual payments last year were more than twice the amount voted. Does that mean that this year's expected entitlement has already been used up? I should hate to think that this represented a cessation of the grant to the Travellers' Aid Society, which still performs a valuable service for the community.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The recurrent grant to the Travellers' Aid Society has been transferred from the Chief Secretary to the Minister of Community Welfare, and will be administered by him in the way in which he administers funds committed to his care and control. The additional amount for last year was a "once only" grant made to assist in the rebuilding of premises damaged by fire.

Dr. TONKIN: I am reassured by those remarks. The asterisk alongside "Miscellaneous", on page 28 of the Estimates, should have been alongside the line in question so as to reassure people. I now refer to the South Australian Sea Rescue Squadron, for which \$19,850 is proposed. The community appreciates the work of this group of people. It is a great asset to our sea-going community and I am pleased it is being supported in this way. Can the Attorney give details of the support the Government is giving?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The grant is to assist in the erection of headquarters and the purchase of equipment.

Mr. MATHWIN: Regarding the grant to Austcare, can the Attorney-General explain the disappointing reduction from \$15,000 actually paid last year to a budgeted figure of \$5,000 for this year?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The sum of \$15,000 was contributed to Austcare appeals last year, but the Government does not know what appeals will be made by that organization this year. The Government's contribution will be determined when the details of the appeals are known.

Mr. HARRISON: What sum is set aside for the distribution of the *South Australian Year Book* to other countries?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I shall be happy to obtain that information for the honourable member.

Mr. BECKER: I refer to the payment of \$630 last year for rewards for information in respect of drug traffic offences. I was not aware that rewards were given for

such information. In what way was the amount distributed last year?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I shall obtain the details for the honourable member.

Dr. TONKIN: The allocation of \$250 for the Advisory Committee on Collections for Charitable Purposes seems to represent exceedingly good value for money. In view of the high-pressure appeals that are being conducted nowadays, it seems to me that the committee should perhaps be given further powers and be more active than it is. Can the Attorney-General give details about this item?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The allocation of \$250 is for the Secretary's fee.

Line passed.

Attorney-General, \$976,622.

Mr. MATHWIN: Last year \$7,850 was voted in connection with the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, and \$10,000 is allocated this year. Is there any special reason for the increase, other than that it is expected that the fees of the committee members will be increased?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The reason why the actual payments exceeded the estimated payments last year was that the fees of two of the committee members, Professor Colin Howard and Mr. David Biles, were agreed on the basis of a proportion of their time being spent on the work of the committee. It transpired during the year that they were spending a greater proportion of their time on this work than had originally been expected. Consequently, adjustments were made in the fees paid to them; hence the excess of the actual payments over the budgeted payments for last year. It is expected that this year the proportion of their time spent on the work of the committee will be about the same as the proportion that applied last year.

Mr. MATHWIN: I presume that the rate of payment for those committee members is about \$36 for each half day. Are they paid by the half day or on the basis of the number of hours for which they give their time?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Justice Mitchell seeks no fee, and has been paid no fee in addition to her judicial salary. Regarding the two committee members who are academics on the staff of Melbourne University, a fixed lump sum has been agreed with them to cover the year, based on the estimated proportion of their time that will be spent on the work of the committee. Offhand, I cannot state the lump sum. At present those fees are the only fees paid. Last year a small fee was paid to Miss Mary Daunton-Fear, who is now on sabbatical leave; consequently, her services will not be available to the committee this year.

Dr. TONKIN: Regarding law costs in connection with the office of the Attorney-General, \$6,500 was voted last year, but \$12,195 was paid. Can the Attorney-General explain why the actual payments were so much in excess of the allocation?

The Hon. L. J. KING: We were involved in more litigation in the High Court than had been expected. In addition, we briefed Mr. Matheson, Q.C., as counsel assisting the City Coroner in the Duncan inquest. This is an unusual expense for the Attorney-General's Department. As much briefing out takes place for the Crown Law Department, the cost for that department will be more substantial. In view of the exceptional importance of the matter to which I have referred, it was considered proper that independent counsel (Mr. Matheson) should be appointed to assist the Coroner. Consequently, this additional expense was incurred.

Mr. RUSSACK: A sum of \$3,500 was voted in 1972-73 for courses of instruction for justices. Only \$1,420 was actually spent, and \$1,500 is proposed this year. Does this mean that fewer justices than expected are taking the courses?

The Hon. L. J. KING: There is a falling off in the number of justices taking the course. As the differences in the sums referred to by the honourable member indicate, fewer justices than expected took the course last year. Possibly our expectation last year was incorrect. Probably what has happened is that, when the course was instituted, many justices were interested and took the course. That continued for many years. However, a saturation point has now been reached at which most justices interested in the course have done it, and there has been a natural falling off. The honourable member will see from the estimate for this year that we expect that falling off to continue. I am not alarmed at the situation. I hope that interest will continue in the course. As I have said, I hope that, as soon as we can, we will get to a stage where the only justices sitting on the bench will be justices of the quorum who have completed the course. I have issued an instruction that, wherever practicable, clerks of court should adhere to that practice. It is not practicable to do this in all cases because there are situations where justices of the quorum are not available or when older justices, who are very experienced and capable but who have not taken the course owing to a lack of opportunity or time or because of the fact that older men do not as readily take to new courses, are available, and we would not be justified in dispensing with their services on the bench.

Mr. COUMBE: As it appears that no Queen's Counsel have been appointed for some time, are such appointments contemplated soon? Is the present number of Queen's Counsel adequate?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Chief Justice intimated three years ago that he would receive applications for appointment as Queen's Counsel in September each year. Those members of the profession who are interested in taking silk are invited to indicate to the Chief Justice before September each year that they wish to take silk. The Chief Justice then considers the applications with the other judges and a certain practice is followed, a practice that came about as a result of certain changes in the rules relating to the appointment of Queen's Counsel which were instituted during the term of the Government of which the honourable member was a member and of which I disapprove. Nevertheless, at present that practice still operates. Two or three appointments were made in September last year. I expect that in a month or so the judges will make recommendations to the Government concerning the appointment of Queen's Counsel, although I have had no conversation about the matter with the Chief Justice at this point.

Mr. WARDLE: Over the last 12 months, what percentage of justices has taken the course of instruction?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Although I had the figures on my desk this morning, I do not have them now. I will obtain them for the honourable member.

Mr. BECKER: Last year, the sum voted for reimbursement of jurors and witnesses and other expenses of prosecution was \$125,000, whereas the actual payments were \$188,960. What is the reason for the difference in those amounts?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The basic reason for the larger than expected expenditure was the two long trials relating to the Taperoo murder case.

Mr. MATHWIN: As the Secondhand Vehicles Dealers Licensing Board is a new board, I realize that the actual payment of \$393 for members' fees last year was for only a small part of the year. This year the sum proposed is \$4,230. Various boards are provided for throughout the Estimates, with different fees for each board. Is this difference related to the size of the board or to the proficiency of its members? The sum of \$4,230 will be the allocation for the full board for the next 12 months and I presume the same figure will apply subsequently.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Estimates differ as to boards, partly because of the size of the board, and sometimes because of the rate of remuneration (although for most of these boards the rate is similar), but very much because of the estimate as to the time to be occupied on the work of the board. The members of this board are paid at a fixed fee for each half day. An estimate is made of how many half days the board is expected to sit, but it could be quite wrong: it is almost impossible to judge these things with any degree of accuracy. However, some estimate must be made and that is how the figure is arrived at.

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Attorney say whether courses conducted for justices of the peace are held during the day or in the evenings, or whether they are similar to adult education courses? Would it be an advantage to the Government, and to people wishing to make themselves proficient to sit on the bench, to conduct the courses at weekends so that everyone would have the opportunity to take part?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will ascertain the position.

Line passed.

Crown Law, \$569,174; Public Trustee, \$654,963; Supreme Court, \$557,931—passed.

Local and District Criminal Courts, \$1,767,000.

Mr. COUMBE: Bearing in mind the proliferation that has occurred in the second tier of judges, can the Attorney say how many judges are appointed at present?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Six judges are engaged on the exercise of the jurisdiction of the Local and District Criminal Court, but other judges of the Local and District Criminal Court are engaged in other jurisdictions. While six are engaged on the direct work of the Local and District Criminal Court, four judges will exercise jurisdiction in the Juvenile Court and the Family Court when it commences operations, which I expect to be in the first week in November. Three Local and District Criminal Court judges sit on the Planning Appeal Board, and in addition to that the Judge of the Licensing Court, who is not a Local and District Criminal Court judge but is appointed directly under the Licensing Act, occupies the same rank and status as that of a judge of the Local and District Criminal Court. The judges of the Industrial Court are not Local and District Criminal Court judges but are appointed under their own Act, the President with the rank and status of a Supreme Court judge and the other three with status equivalent to that of a Local and District Criminal Court judge.

Line passed.

Registrar-General, \$1,062,000—passed.

Attorney-General, Miscellaneous, \$231,840.

Mr. COUMBE: Can the Attorney give information regarding the legal opinion on nuclear testing in the Pacific Ocean? Further, can he say whether the line relating to the Judge in Insolvency refers to the position previously held by Judge Paine? What is the position now that the line has been discontinued?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The sum of \$1,000 paid for the legal opinion regarding nuclear testing was South Australia's share of an opinion obtained from Professor O'Connell,

who at that time occupied the Chair of International Law at the Adelaide University and is now the Chichester Professor of International Law at Oxford University. It arose as the result of the joint retention of Professor O'Connell to advise the States of South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania as to whether there was a cause of action by either the States or the Commonwealth of Australia against the French Republic in relation to the tests at that time proposed in the Pacific area. The opinion obtained was to the effect that there was a probable cause of action in the International Court of Justice to restrain the French from proceeding with the tests, but that the action could be brought only by the Commonwealth of Australia.

The three States of South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania thereupon communicated that opinion to the then Prime Minister (Mr. McMahon), and requested him to institute the appropriate proceedings. The opinion was also communicated to the Leader of the alternative Government, the then Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Whitlam), and I point out that a general election was in the offing within about three months. As the honourable member would know, the then Commonwealth Government took no action in the matter, but I am most gratified to be able to say that on taking office the Government led by Mr. Whitlam did initiate the action advised by Professor O'Connell and was successful in obtaining a restraining order from the International Court of Justice.

The item relating to the Judge in Insolvency concerns the position occupied by the late Judge Paine. The position is that the bankruptcy jurisdiction in South Australia is exercised by a State court (the Court of Insolvency) which exercises Commonwealth jurisdiction in bankruptcy. That is the only jurisdiction which the Court of Insolvency does exercise. It is really a survival from another age, but it continues to exercise Commonwealth jurisdiction in bankruptcy. Judge Paine exercised that jurisdiction until just before his death. The jurisdiction is currently exercised by Judge White of the Local and District Criminal Court. No firm arrangements have been currently made regarding the reimbursement of the State, which was previously reimbursed by the Commonwealth by just over \$3,000 a year.

This arrangement has fallen into abeyance, with the death of Judge Paine. Some negotiations were undertaken with the Commonwealth, and the situation is currently in a fluid state. The Commonwealth Government intends to establish the Commonwealth Superior Court to exercise jurisdiction co-ordinate with that of the State Supreme Courts. That Superior Court will, as I understand it, exercise jurisdiction in bankruptcy. The Commonwealth Attorney-General tells me that he intends to introduce the necessary legislation this year, and he hopes to be in a position to commence appointing judges early next year. Therefore, at the moment it is doubtful whether it is worth attempting to negotiate a new long-term agreement regarding the services of Judge White in the Bankruptcy Court. However, I do hope to negotiate some short-term *ad hoc* arrangement for some temporary reimbursement regarding the time Judge White spends on this work. No figure has been allocated at the moment, because no payment will be made. The sum of \$3,289 a year was paid to Judge Paine, but only \$1,202 was actually paid last year, because of his death.

Mr. Coumbe: Judge White won't be there for as long as Judge Paine.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Judge Paine was not subject to the retiring age of 70, whereas Judge White is, but

there is no payment to Judge White, who receives his salary as a judge of the Local and District Criminal Court.

Mr. VENNING: What is the purpose of the modest \$400 grant to the Royal Association of Justices of South Australia?

The Hon. L. J. KING: It is simply a contribution towards the administration expenses of the association. The justification for this grant is that the association arranges the roster for the attendance of justices of the peace to sit on courts in the metropolitan area and, I think, in some country towns. Therefore, some part of the administration of the association is attributable to work really performed on behalf of the Government, and a small contribution has consequently been made annually toward the administration of the head office of the association.

Dr. EASTICK: I refer to the contribution towards the cost of legal research on the territorial sea. Is this related to representations made in the United Kingdom concerning submerged lands legislation and associated matters? The sum of \$1,500 for last year has been increased to \$3,500, and I should like to know whether this is a recurring cost, or whether it represents the final account.

The Hon. L. J. KING: It is not likely to be a recurring cost, but I cannot say for certain that it is the final account, although it is likely to be. Something will depend on what happens to the petition lodged by Tasmania and supported by South Australia in order to get a definitive ruling on where sovereignty lies regarding territorial seas. This amount is South Australia's share of the legal assistance obtained from Professor O'Connell and others regarding the constitutional position in relation to the territorial sea; it is South Australia's share of the fees charged by solicitors in the U.K. who performed work concerning the general question and, in particular, the petition to the Privy Council.

Dr. EASTICK: Is Professor O'Connell the same person who provided information in the first instance to the Commonwealth Government? Did he provide and prepare the basic information given to the previous Commonwealth Government concerning submerged lands legislation introduced in about 1972? If he did, how can one ride two horses?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I think it is possible to ride two horses, provided one does not ride them at the same time. Professor O'Connell was engaged to advise the Commonwealth Government at an earlier time regarding certain off-shore matters, particularly the establishment of base lines to ascertain the extent of the territorial sea and the identity of historic bays and similar matters. When he was engaged by the States to advise on off-shore areas, he had ceased to act for the Commonwealth Government.

Mr. BECKER: The sum of \$2,381 was paid as compensation for injuries resulting from criminal acts. How many claims were made, and is the legal limit of \$2,000 satisfactory?

The Hon. L. J. KING: I cannot say exactly how many claims were made. There were not many, but I will ascertain for the honourable member whether the limit of \$2,000 is satisfactory. I suppose that no limit is really satisfactory, in the sense that nothing short of full compensation for people who have suffered injury will ever be satisfactory. However, this was a new right created by legislation designed to do something for people who otherwise would have had no ability to recover at all: in other words, people who had suffered injury as a result of crime, where the wrongdoer could not compensate for the loss sustained. Parliament created a new right, but put a limit on the amount for which the taxpayer would have

to pick up the tab. It is always a matter of debate and judgment regarding how much the taxpayer should be called upon to compensate individuals for injuries they have suffered at the hands of other people. Although the limit has been doubled from \$1,000 to \$2,000, the matter may have to be reviewed and, indeed, the sum increased.

Line passed.

Treasury, \$235,135—passed.

Prices and Consumer Affairs Branch, \$361,455.

Mr. EVANS: I draw the Treasurer's attention to the present unsatisfactory situation regarding the price of bottled gas, a matter over which the Commissioner for Prices and Consumer Affairs has jurisdiction. According to a letter, dated September 14, sent to one of my constituents by the Commissioner, the price of gas in the Stirling area was greater than that at, say, Christies Beach or Elizabeth, even though Stirling is within 10 miles of the G.P.O.

The CHAIRMAN: To which item is the honourable member referring?

Mr. EVANS: As it is the responsibility of the Commissioner to fix the price of bottled gas—

The CHAIRMAN: I will have to rule the honourable member out of order.

Mr. EVANS: On what basis am I being ruled out of order?

The CHAIRMAN: The line to which the honourable member is referring deals not with a certain item but with the administration of the department.

Mr. EVANS: Will the Treasurer say why the Commissioner has ruled that a certain section of the metropolitan area must pay more for this commodity than does another section?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): Not having examined this matter, I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

Mr. MATHWIN: I refer to the line dealing with the production of films by the South Australian Film Corporation. I am perturbed to see that the allocations to the corporation have been split up into so many small sections. The overall allocation to the corporation must be considerable, as the Committee still has about 75 pages of the Estimates with which to deal.

The CHAIRMAN: The Committee is dealing with an allocation of \$18,000, and I ask the honourable member to refer to that line only.

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Treasurer say what is involved in the \$18,000 allocation to the corporation, especially as no such allocation was made last year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No allocation was made last year because the corporation did not exist then. There was, therefore, no possibility of spending the money in this way. The film to which this allocation relates was produced because it is believed that it is an essential part of consumer education to make clear to the people of South Australia what protection they have in this respect. Since South Australia has a considerable amount of consumer protection as a result of the Government's policy, it is necessary to do so, and one of the cheapest means of doing it is through the development of films, which can then be widely circulated in the community. That is why the department chose to spend its money in this manner.

The honourable member has asked why allocations to the corporation are spread throughout the Estimates. If he referred back to the film feasibility study undertaken before the corporation was set up, as well as to the debates on the setting up of the corporation, he

would know that the costs of Government films are to be charged to the areas concerned so that it may be seen clearly where the costs should lie, rather than showing only one lump sum for expenditure. In this way we can see exactly what we are getting for our cash and the areas in which the priorities should be established. This is good accounting practice, and it is why every film ordered by a Government department is shown on that department's line.

Mr. Mathwin: It is not done that way to make the allocation look less?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No. The honourable member could not have been here when one of his colleagues did a calculation relating to the corporation, which amounted to over \$700,000. We intend to spend that money. For some years we had stopped the making of films by the Government until the corporation could be set up, but the specific proposal was that we should use the corporation to make all Government films, and this is the first year it has operated.

Mr. EVANS: I congratulate the Government on its policy of informing people of their rights and the protection available to them. This is part of my Party's policy, too. However, the public should be informed by films and other advertising media of their responsibilities, and I hope that the film will show this aspect.

Line passed.

Superannuation, \$268,741.

Dr. EASTICK: A bone of contention among contributors to the superannuation fund was that there seemed to be, from their knowledge of the fund and on the information they had been able to obtain, a doubt about the real benefits of the investment policy that had been undertaken on behalf of the fund, particularly concerning the present-day assessment of investment potential. Members' fees on the Investment Committee have been increased from \$1,400 to \$1,700, but this does not seem to fit in with the needs of a committee that was to revamp the whole of the investment system associated with the fund. Is this aspect of the fund covered in the report that the Treasurer has indicated is ready to be circulated? Does the Government intend to increase the responsibility of the Investment Committee and, therefore, possibly increase the fees available to its members for their services?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No; there has been an increase of \$300 in the fees of one member. The Leader would be aware that some members of this committee are public servants who work on the committee during their normal hours, and no separate fee is paid to them. We believe the Investment Committee is giving good service in regard to the investment policy. It is impossible for superannuation funds to be invested at large on the market: for the most part they must be restricted to trustee securities. In recent years we have altered the provision for investment of superannuation funds so that a proportion can be invested in non-trustee investments with the approval of the Treasurer. I have been extremely cautious about giving approvals, particularly as one or two propositions seemed to be speculative. In these things I tend to be not a gambler—certainly not with superannuation funds.

Dr. Eastick: You mean gambling is not in your character!

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

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: In spite of what he has said about casinos.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I shall not be losing any money in them. The report that will be presented soon to the Superannuation Federation on the Government's

proposals for the superannuation fund will include provisions not in relation to investment policy but only in relation to benefits and contributions. We believe that the Investment Committee is proceeding satisfactorily and that we are receiving good advice on investment policy.

Line passed.

Valuation, \$1,035,057.

Dr. EASTICK: A major overhaul of this department resulted from legislation passed recently. What proportion does the amount allocated to the Valuation Department represent of the total valuation responsibility of the Government? Can the Treasurer say whether the transfer of the valuation responsibility to one department has proceeded as smoothly as was contemplated, and whether valuations applying to all fields of Government endeavour are being adequately provided for by this department?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot give the Leader an off-the-cuff overall figure in respect of the total valuations made by the department, but I will obtain it. The transfer of the department has gone smoothly, and the creation of the Valuation Department was a sensible course that had been initiated by the Deputy Premier. We are getting a far more flexible valuation procedure now.

Line passed.

State Taxes, \$789,917.

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Treasurer explain the massive pay-out of \$55,637 last year but only \$500 being allocated this year for the refund of overpayment of annual licence fees by insurance companies?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot reply to that question off-hand. The Commissioner states that this year we should allocate only a nominal amount for this line. However, I will get a report for the honourable member.

Line passed.

Treasurer, Miscellaneous, \$47,381,222.

Mr. COUMBE: Regarding this State's contribution, pursuant to the River Murray Waters Agreement, in respect of Dartmouth dam, I find it hard to reconcile this item with the Treasurer's statement, which I could not find in this context. Will the Treasurer give some information on the figure of \$25,545 proposed for this year? Also, the sum of \$30,000,000 is provided as a transfer towards Railway Department deficits. The Auditor-General's Report indicates that the total deficit on working expenses last year was about \$17,000,000, to which debt charges had to be added. So the total deficit was \$25,800,000, towards which the State Treasurer contributed \$22,500,000. We now expect that in 1973-74 this figure will rise to a total of \$30,000,000—a significant increase. Will the Treasurer explain how this comes about and at the same time indicate what progress the South Australian Government has made with the Commonwealth Government over the recently announced proposal of the Commonwealth to take over some country lines from the South Australian Government, which will have a significant effect upon this line in future?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The sum of \$25,545 provides for the payment of interest on special loans by the Commonwealth Government towards the cost of construction of Dartmouth dam. The railways transfer is designed to reduce the prospective railways deficit to a figure that will give officers of the department an incentive to improve efficiency to the point where the adjusted deficit, after the transfer, can be eliminated. The matching credit is under "II (a)—Public Undertakings—Railways" in the Estimates of Revenue.

Mr. EVANS: Towards interest on trust funds and on other moneys, \$950,000 was allocated last year and actual

payments amounted to \$1,217,724. This year \$1,650,000 is provided, which is \$700,000 more than the sum voted last year and \$400,000 more than the actual payments last year. Will the Treasurer give the break-down of the trust moneys held and a definition of "on other moneys?"

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Interest-bearing balances held in trust by the State are considerably higher than they were last year. We have several interest-bearing balances in the Treasury. I will get the break-down for the honourable member.

Mr. EVANS: Regarding the control of rents by the Housing Trust and housing improvement administration expenses, the sum provided this year is a considerable increase on the \$88,350 actually spent last year. In fact, it is in an increase of over \$20,000. Is that because of the inflationary trend in wages or is it intended to employ more inspectors to inspect substandard houses where rent control is the responsibility of the trust?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There will be some increase in staff and naturally some wage increases during the year, but we now have more inquiries about the rentals of substandard dwellings. Because of that, we have greater administration costs, too.

Mr. MATHWIN: Regarding the transfer to the Government Insurance Fund in respect of provision against fire in Government buildings and provision for premiums for special purposes, the allocation last year was \$120,000 and actual expenditure \$270,000, whereas this year the proposed allocation is only \$200,000. Will less money go to this fund? What was the reason for such a big under-estimate last year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The State carries its own risk on Government buildings through the Government Insurance Fund and takes out policies with insurance companies for special purposes, such as air travel of Ministers and members of Parliament. Large fires occurred at Blackwood High School and Thebarton Boys Technical High School last year, and that has resulted in the substantial excess on this line. Consequently, a greater provision is being made.

Dr. EASTICK: Regarding the allocation in respect of the Natural Gas Pipelines Agreement, there is a reduction in the money to be made available in 1973-74. I take it that is a reduction in the cost of interest on the reduced principal. Has the State Government any commitment in respect of the new pipeline to another State, which is about to commence? As the work is being undertaken on behalf of another State enterprise, I take it is now under the control or management of the Commonwealth Government through the national pipeline grid. Shall we be making any payments at all or will there be a charge on the State for the use of the pipeline which is being provided by either the Australian Gaslight Company or the national grid? I also refer to the line "Repayments", for which there is a proposed allocation of \$18,000 as against actual payments last year of \$12,897 and a provision of only \$2,000 last year. Unless this represents the transfer of responsibility from some other department, can the Treasurer explain the large increase in the allocation?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The allocation provides for interest on the balance of special loans of \$15,000,000 made available by the Commonwealth Government under the agreement and the second of eight instalments of \$1,875,000 required to repay the loans. We have no commitment of money in respect of the gas pipeline to New South Wales. The Australian Gaslight Company

obtained a licence from us to build that pipeline, only 30 miles (48.28 km) of which will be in our territory. The licence, of course, provided restrictions on what could be sent through the pipeline; in particular, it provided that the gas should be de-ethanized and that liquids should not be carried through the pipeline to New South Wales.

Dr. Eastick: The work has started?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I believe so. The Commonwealth Government has taken over the agreement that the Australian Gaslight Company had with the producers. So, no different provision obtains. Regarding the other item referred to, after specified periods have elapsed, unclaimed moneys held by departments and instrumentalities are paid into the Treasury. If a legitimate claim is subsequently made, the cost of meeting it is charged to this item. Provision is made for an unusually large claim in respect of an estate administered by the Public Trustee.

Mr. CHAPMAN: Regarding the allocation of \$30,000,000 as a transfer toward railways deficits, can the Treasurer say what steps the Government is taking to reduce the massive railways deficits, which cause his Government to direct such a huge sum toward this doubtful service?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: We have had a full investigation made of railways administration. The railways deficit, apart from a minority of that amount, which goes to suburban railways, provides for uneconomic lines to the farming community of South Australia.

Mr. Evans: What about the loss of 47c for each suburban passenger-journey?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Far beyond the 47c for each suburban passenger-journey, most of the money (\$21,000,000 of it) goes to subsidize country rail lines and the low freight rates that we charge farmers in this State, as compared to the rates in other States. South Australian freight rates, as compared to those in other States, have been under attack before the Grants Commission by the Commonwealth Government and the other State Governments.

Mr. Venning: Get rid of them.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If the member for Rocky River does not want us to provide rail services for country people, he should say so. If he wants us to increase the freight rates to farmers, perhaps he will say that, too. I suggest to the member for Alexandra, although he may not have terribly many farmers in his district who are interested in using railway lines, that other members of his Party or associated interests want railway services to be available at subsidized rates to their district, and that is why we have the deficit.

Mr. MATHWIN: I refer to the proposed contribution of \$1,650,000 towards deficits of the Municipal Tramways Trust. Are the refurbishing of the Glenelg trams and the provision of further rolling stock for the tram line provided for in that item? If the Glenelg trams are to be refurbished, will they be painted a nice colour? A couple of weeks ago, in reply to a question, I was told that the trams would be painted brown or tuscan red, because those colours do not show the rust. Because the Treasurer is also the Minister in charge of tourism, he will realize that people use this type of transport here and overseas. Further, he will know about the quiet, fast, comfortable and pleasant trams used in Holland, which are painted primrose and pale green.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The item does not provide for painting the Glenelg trams. It provides for a subsidy to the Municipal Tramways Trust to cover the deficit on the trust's general operations. I would hate to see the Glenelg trams painted primrose and green or that.

shade of puce to which the honourable member was devoted before his later conversion to another political colour.

Mr. BECKER: The allocation of \$30,000,000 for a transfer toward railways deficits represents \$57.08 for every minute of every day of every week of the year. The Auditor-General gives the following information about freight carried on poorly patronized lines:

Line	Scheduled return trips	Average tons per service
Wallaroo-Moonta . . .	Three a week . . .	4
Clare-Spalding	Weekly	16
Nuriootpa-Truro . . .	Weekly	27
Orroroo-Quorn	Weekly	40
Berri-Barmera	Seven a week . . .	6

Can the Treasurer say whether consideration has been given to inviting private enterprise to look at the feasibility of taking over small country services, thereby removing a heavy burden from the taxpayers of this State? Perhaps we would have to subsidize private enterprise to the same extent.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If the honourable member can produce a private entrepreneur who will take over the rail services referred to and operate them profitably, I will give the honourable member a garden party.

Mr. MATHWIN: Recently in this Chamber I referred to excursions in trains pulled by steam locomotives. People interested in steam engines sponsor these trips, which are booked out months ahead. However, the Government has seen fit to stop these trips, which are probably the only railway trips that make a profit. If the Treasurer is serious about keeping open services that are profitable, will he reconsider the decision to close down this service?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Surely the honourable member is joking if he is suggesting that we should run steam trains from Orroroo to Quorn in order to try to ensure the profitability of the line.

Dr. EASTICK: I refer to the provision for the housing improvement section of the Housing Trust.

The Hon. D. A. Dunstan: That is the section of Mr. O'Reilly; it is not directly employed by the Housing Trust but is paid for by the Treasury.

Dr. EASTICK: How effective is this section and how many inspections does it make each year? Is it likely, under the welfare housing arrangements provided for in the new Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, that the work on this section will diminish?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This does not relate to Housing Trust houses: it relates to provisions under the Housing Improvement Act for the control of substandard housing. Under the Housing Improvement Act, inspectors inspect houses which, if they are substandard, are declared to be substandard pursuant to that Act. A maximum rent that attracts a number of tenancy protections is then declared in relation to them. In fact, the number of substandard houses in South Australia is not decreasing. We are tending to retain the stock of houses we have, even where they are substandard. The requirements in fairly difficult tenancy situations that exist at present on officers of this section to inspect premises that are claimed to be substandard and to make recommendations in relation to them are continuing. They will not be eliminated by the provision of welfare housing under the Commonwealth-State agreement, because that is a separate matter.

Mr. COUNBE: I am conversant with Mr. O'Reilly's section, particularly as it relates to North Adelaide, where there has been a spate of this activity. Last year the sum provided for this purpose was \$81,165, whereas the sum actually spent was \$88,350. The sum provided this year is \$108,880. Either a great many houses are being

inspected or more inspectors or administrative staff are being appointed.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is an increase in wages in this area, as in other areas of the Public Service, and there is some more staff. We have widened the work of this section so that Mr. O'Reilly's staff is doing not only work under the Housing Improvement Act but also relocation work for people whose properties are acquired by the Government. Mr. O'Reilly was almost single-handedly responsible for the relocation of people involved in the Hackney redevelopment project. Much social work is done by officers of this section.

Dr. EASTICK: Does the Treasurer know that often investigations undertaken under the Housing Improvement Act by Mr. O'Reilly or someone deputed by him are concurrent with inspections of the same premises by building or health inspectors of councils? Not infrequently two demands are made on a property owner that are entirely different. Has any attempt been made to rationalize the efforts of these people to reduce the cost of investigations, not so much with regard to the metropolitan area but certainly with regard to other areas? The housing improvement section could use the efforts of the building or health inspector of the council.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have not had brought to me cases of conflict of this kind. Normally the housing improvement section contacts the local council, inquiring whether action has been taken by the local board of health. I will ask Mr. O'Reilly about the matter.

Mr. BECKER: Would the Government consider an offer from private enterprise for all or part of the South Australian Railways?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If the honourable member can produce someone from private enterprise who is willing to run a totally uneconomic line as a railway service, I shall be interested.

Mr. McANANEY: What effort is the Government making to see that there is no repetition of loose credit control by the Railways Department? The Auditor-General's Report states that one company with a credit limit of only \$1,000 a month was allowed to accumulate a debt of \$26,000, with resulting great loss to the department. The Auditor-General states that this practice is continuing. What action will be taken to see that these loose business methods are eliminated?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Savage.

Mr. MATHWIN: The Treasurer deliberately misunderstood what I said about steam locomotives. The daily or weekly excursions by steam train are running at a profit and have been for some time. It is difficult to get a seat on the trip to Victor Harbor. The Minister has said this service will cease, yet it is the only one running at a profit. Will the Treasurer reconsider the decision made by the department about these services?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Surely the honourable member can take this up with the Minister of Transport. The Victor Harbor service overall is not running at a profit, and the member for the district would be well aware of that.

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Treasurer substantiate his remarks that a loss was incurred in the operation of the Railways Department because of the cartage of farmers' goods? Of a total loss of about \$25,000,000, \$6,300,000 was lost on suburban railways and \$4,700,000 on country railways.

The CHAIRMAN: Again, I draw the honourable member's attention to the fact that the Railways Department line later in the Estimates would be the proper one to

which he should direct his attention. I ask him to confine his remarks to the line under discussion.

Mr. McANANEY: The Treasurer introduced this into the debate on this line. We always admire you, Sir, for the way in which you and the Speaker rescue the Treasurer from difficult situations as a regular occurrence. Surely, private members must have some protection in this House. It would not be the farmers who would use the country passenger services but the population of such towns as Port Pirie and other country towns. On inter-system operations the department is losing over \$2,000,000, so a loss of \$14,000,000 comes from freight and livestock. Surely this is not all incurred by the farmers. The Railways Department cannot compete with road transport. Victor Harbor and Strathalbyn have been mentioned, and nearly all the goods traffic in those areas is by road transport, which is quicker and cheaper. The railway service is not used. Will the Treasurer substantiate his remark that \$21,000,000 is a handout to the farmers for subsidized goods traffic?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member has already read out the figures.

Mr. GUNN: As one who is proud to represent the rural section of the community, I would be remiss if I did not join my colleague in seeking further information on this line in view of the comments about the rural industry and the farmers.

The CHAIRMAN: I draw the honourable member's attention to page 86 relating to the Railways Department and to the line concerning expenses incurred in normal operation and maintenance. I ask the honourable member to resume his seat while I am making my comments. Any remark he wishes to make regarding expenses incurred in the normal operation of the Railways Department should be reserved until the Committee reaches that point.

Line passed.

Lands, \$5,864,000.

Dr. EASTICK: What is the position regarding the South-Eastern Drainage Appeal Board? When the first series of valuations under the Act was sent out many appeals were lodged against the assessments. Has the matter been resolved and will the members of the appeal board continue to act as the result of future annual or biennial re-assessments?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): If they are not already being heard, the appeals will be heard soon and it is expected that they will be completed by about the middle of 1974. As the Leader said, many appeals have been lodged as a result of an amendment made by this Government to the Act—a most generous provision, not altogether appreciated or understood by many people. The Government expected to receive between \$80,000 and \$100,000 in annual rates toward the maintenance of this scheme, but it would appear that this figure will not be reached. I cannot say whether the appeal board will continue when the hearing of the appeals has been completed, but I should imagine there would always be a need for an appeals board of some kind. However, the fees paid to board members are based on sittings of the board; they do not receive an annual fee.

Dr. EASTICK: Is it expected that the cost of administration and the cost of the overall exercise will approximate the financial return to the Government? The amendment of the Act has brought advantages to the people, but will the cost of associated measures be equivalent to the amounts raised by the correct valuations?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The appeals will result in a landholder, if he is assessed, paying an annual maintenance rate. That will be paid annually and will go towards the maintenance of the drains. If the Leader is suggesting that the cost of hearing the appeals and the expense involved is directed—

Dr. Eastick: I refer to the whole administration of the department.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not believe the final return that will accrue to the Government after the appeals have been heard will meet the annual operating costs of the South-Eastern Drainage Board and the maintenance that it will carry out on the drains, and the Government will have to subsidize the scheme further.

Line passed.

Botanic Garden, \$536,000.

Dr. EASTICK: Is the Mount Lofty Botanic Garden likely to be opened to the public in the near future? I am aware of the work undertaken on this garden and the advantages this garden has to offer the people of South Australia: there are species of trees, annuals and perennials which are unknown in the city area and which will be on display there. Much money has been expended in the provision of toilets and parking facilities in preparation for visits to the park by the public, and the provision of small buses or trailers towed by tractors was considered as a means to eliminate the use of private motor vehicles in this restricted area.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The only information I have is that no such expenditure is contemplated this year, but much work has been carried out in previous years. I think this morning I received an invitation to attend an opening on a Sunday in October to either the Mount Lofty garden or another garden at Blackwood, but I will check for the Leader and let him know. I agree with the sentiments he has expressed regarding this park. I know the garden and have visited the area with the Director of the Botanic Garden (Mr. Lothian) when I was Minister of Lands in the previous Labor Government.

Line passed.

Minister of Lands, Minister of Repatriation, and Minister of Irrigation, Miscellaneous, \$334,000.

Mr. COUMBE: I refer again to the Royal Zoological Society of South Australia, the pollution of the Torrens River and the item water and sewer rates, which probably covers water used in, and the provision of, public toilets. Much publicity has been given to run-off water from areas adjacent to the river, of which the Minister of Works is responsible under several Acts. In his last reply to me on this matter in the week before last, the Minister said he had not received any approaches and as such he was not prepared to act. On September 14, the next day, an article appeared in the press by the Town Clerk of the city of Adelaide (Mr. Arland), in which he suggested he had approached, several weeks earlier, the Minister of Environment and Conservation.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: That's right; he didn't meet me.

Mr. COUMBE: Either the Ministers are not talking to each other or something has bogged down in the system. Mr. Arland stated that the zoo authorities had not the financial ability to undertake a programme to overcome the problem. The Torrens River is Adelaide's only river and it becomes heavily polluted. Will the Minister co-operate with his colleague, the Minister of Environment and Conservation, who apparently received some correspondence on this matter and with, more importantly, the Minister in charge of the Public Health Department to see

whether an additional grant can be provided to the Royal Zoological Society, or for the work to be done by the Minister's own department under the appropriate line?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: It is just a play on words, but I make it clear to the honourable member that the reply I gave him last week was completely correct and factual.

Mr. Coumbe: I'm not denying that.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I said that no approach had been made to any department under my control, and only this morning I received from my colleague the Minister of Environment and Conservation a communication addressed to him from the Lord Mayor. The Lord Mayor is now coming to me asking for my assistance and co-operation, and I can assure the honourable member, as I have always told him, that that co-operation will be forthcoming when the approach is made. Regarding the responsibility for this problem, that is the Adelaide City Council's: that council is responsible for that part of the Torrens River into which this discharge is made, and the honourable member knows this; I have told him this not once, but, I think, three times in the last month. Despite this, he still tries to do what the City Council was trying to do: lay the blame on the State Government.

Mr. Coumbe: I am trying to get action.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The City Council is responsible for that, and it has asked the Government to examine the matter. I repeat that the Lord Mayor said in his submission to the Minister of Environment and Conservation that, although no health risk was involved, it was unacceptable aesthetically. I will check what the Lord Mayor said and, if I am inaccurate in this respect, I will let the honourable member know. As I said I would do if an approach was made, I have referred the matter to the Engineering and Water Supply Department for investigation and recommendation, and I will inform the honourable member of the outcome in due course.

Mr. ALLEN: I refer to the line dealing with drought relief, including subsidies on the cost of moving fodder and stock. Last year \$400,000 was allocated but only \$118,086 was spent, and this year \$132,000 is allocated. I should have thought that, this year being such an excellent one, the allocation would be considerably less than the sum spent last year. What is the reason for this increase?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This is to meet the costs and fees incurred by the Rural Industries Assistance Committee during 1973-74. It therefore comprises not just the cost of freight incurred in moving stock and fodder but other contingencies as well. I imagine that it could involve interest payments on drought relief on which, as the member would know, much has been lent in the past four or five years.

Mr. MATHWIN: The sum of \$2,000,000 was voted in 1972-73 for advances and grants for metropolitan unemployment relief, whereas only \$1,864,020 was spent. Is this year's allocation of only \$50,000 merely a token sum?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: If the honourable member lived in a rural area he would know what unemployment rural relief was about.

Mr. Mathwin: I do, but this is for metropolitan unemployment.

The Hon. I. D. CORCORAN: Metropolitan unemployment relief is the same as that for the rural areas, except that the State Government instituted it. However, this assistance ends at the end of September, and this sum will then be outstanding in payments to councils; hence, the large reduction.

Mr. MATHWIN: Last year's allocation for the Wild Dogs Fund subsidy was \$10,500, actual expenditure amounting to \$10,249. This year, however, only \$6,500 is allocated. Why has this reduction occurred?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Under the Wild Dogs Act, the fund is subsidized on a \$1 for \$1 basis on the rate declared by the Governor, the subsidy being calculated after deducting from the rates the cost of aerial baiting, receiving, collecting and recovering the rates, and administering the Act. The rate has been reduced from 7.5c to 5c a square mile (259 ha) for 1973-74, and provision has therefore been made for the maximum subsidy, namely, \$6,500. Last year's allocation of \$10,500 will be collected from the ratepayers, as will this year's allocation of \$6,500. As the State Government must subsidize on a \$1 for \$1 basis, the reason for the reduction is clear.

Line passed.

Minister of Works, \$76,300—passed.

Engineering and Water Supply, \$21,861,000.

Dr. EASTICK: I refer to the line regarding wages for construction, reimbursement and other works, part of the allocation to which relates to other lines in this area. One of the recommendations made by the committee that investigated rating was that greater use should be made of the department's machinery for the provision of water and sewerage facilities. It was suggested that advantage should be taken of the opportunity to employ people throughout the summer to enable maximum benefits to be derived from construction rather than have the compulsory close-down through the latter half of December and most of January, when working conditions are relatively ideal for this type of work. Is any action contemplated in this respect?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am not aware that the Engineer-in-Chief intends to alter the present procedure, as it would involve not only workmen but also certain aspects of administration. Recently, a problem was drawn to my attention concerning the need to speed up the servicing of subdivisions, and yesterday Cabinet agreed to my submission to alter the present policy so that subdividers will now be permitted to employ contractors to do work where the department cannot do it speedily. As a Government we want to have as many allotments available as possible. However, I will ask for departmental comment on the point raised by the Leader.

Dr. EASTICK: Can members expect a document from the Minister showing the present position in perspective so that this information can be circulated by them if required by people such as subdividers?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will consider the feasibility of this and, if I think it is necessary, I will do it, because I wish to be as helpful as I can be in explaining Government policies.

Mr. COUMBE: I am delighted at the Minister's announcement. The former policy was to enable the load to be spread, but work was still to be supervised by departmental inspectors. For metropolitan waterworks an amount of \$1,045,000 has been allocated as the cost of electricity for pumping: last year the actual payment was \$783,166. For country waterworks, \$1,237,000 has been allocated, although last year's actual payment was \$715,946. In his Financial Statement the Treasurer said that the amount spent last year for the metropolitan area was \$1,076,000 and for country areas \$1,191,000. Can the Minister explain the apparent discrepancy in these figures?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I have no explanation at present, but I will check for the honourable member.

Line passed.

Public Buildings, \$20,062,000.

Dr. EASTICK: Much adverse comment has been heard about the operations of the Public Buildings Department, particularly in remote areas and where it has been associated with Police Department houses and offices and Education Department houses. Can the Minister say whether it is intended to divide services provided by the Public Buildings Department so that the Minister of Education will become responsible for conducting maintenance services to his department?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: It is not intended that such a move be made. It is in the interests of the Government, from an economic point of view, to have one department administer this sort of function. As an example, the Survey Division of the Lands Department, which services every Government department, provides an illustration of a grave waste of public money and a situation that the Government will find difficult to rectify. It failed to provide a service to its clients—and they are, after all, clients just as much as private enterprise clients are provided with a service.

The Survey Department was not satisfactorily servicing its clients. Consequently, in each of the major departments we saw a building up of the survey information. That led to the situation where in one week we got three departments doing the same survey. That is why, when I was Minister of Lands, I tried to get a bank of information set up. It was a survey co-ordination measure that I was seeking to legislate for so that that bank could provide information to the other departments that had now established their survey branches with expensive equipment, in order that before any survey took place that bank would be consulted to see whether the information being sought was already available. That was an extreme example, but it is not proposed to fragment this sort of service.

What I am attempting to bring about is that the Public Buildings Department decentralize minor works, so that within a region there will be far greater autonomy than has been the case previously. The Leader well knows that the Education Department has established regional directors or regional officers. On the same basis, we are proposing to decentralize the Public Buildings Department so that eventually a regional engineer will be given his own vote, and a minor work will be anything costing under \$20,000. Therefore, we shall be able to have far greater flexibility than hitherto and provide a far better service to our clients. I am constantly pointing out to my directors and officers that they must keep foremost in their minds that the people they are servicing are their clients and, unless they give them a satisfactory service, they cannot expect them to keep coming back to them for the services they demand of them.

It will take some time before a satisfactory position is reached. I do not suppose it will ever be entirely satisfactory, because money will dictate what is available. The Education Department may say, "We have \$8,000,000 worth of minor works outstanding and there is only \$4,000,000 with which to do the work." No-one has got around to assessing priorities within that \$8,000,000, determining what is necessary and what is not. We are getting to that now by means of a computer. It was only two years ago last June that we commenced to put into a computer all minor works being demanded. That will give the honourable member some idea of the difficulties that this department has encountered.

A major problem is that this department has grown tremendously, and over the past decade in particular. It is now spending probably six times as much in a financial

year as it spent a decade ago, and it has done that with virtually no change in its organization. Only now are we getting down to tackling this problem and finding a solution. I am delighted with the way in which this department is shaping up and with the performances of its officers, who are very bright and capable. I look confidently to the future performance of this department.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: On what basis does the Minister determine these priorities? Does he use a cost-benefit analysis? If so, on what basis does he try to assess some of the benefits, particularly from the point of view of time? How does he determine the priorities of these minor works?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Primarily, it is up to the departments themselves to decide their own priorities. I do not ask the Education Department to determine which priorities it should have. I have officers in my department who do nothing but liaise on that with other departments. I do not know exactly how they set about determining the priorities; I do not get down to that detail, but I can find out for the honourable member roughly the procedures that are followed. Perhaps the Minister of Education can tell the honourable member later whether he lays down guidelines for his officers to follow. It is not my responsibility: I merely see that the work is done to the satisfaction of the clients, once a decision is made.

Mr. COUMBE: I am delighted to hear the Minister announce the success he is having with his decentralization. I found it a problem when I was Minister. The Minister is moving towards a scheme that is operating in the Engineering and Water Supply Department, with regional senior officers operating in this respect and with much more authority, responsibility and autonomy. It affects not only minor but also capital works. I understand that a few years ago an architect was appointed to the Education Department to liaise with the department of the Minister of Works on the design and capital works of schools and additions. That seemed to be an excellent idea. Is that scheme still in existence? After all, school buildings appear to be a major item of expenditure in this department.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes; last year about \$30,000,000 was spent on that item, and the department two years ago just could not have spent that amount of money. It has on the shelf, so to speak, schools that it can pull off and rapidly construct. With the full consent of the Auditor-General, I have introduced flexibility into the tendering system. I do not always call tenders; sometimes we waive the calling of public tenders. I am confident it does not lead to any wrong practice, because no-one knows when I am going to do it, so it leads to far greater flexibility. An architect to the Education Department has been appointed, and the scheme is working very well. Also, at fairly regular intervals there is a conference between the Minister of Education, myself, my senior officers and his senior officers to co-ordinate all the planning. That is essential, but it did not always happen in the past.

I return to the fact that the Minister of Works, whilst he had the money, in the past also decided where a school should be built, when it was really the Minister of Education's entire prerogative. I have treated the matter in that way and we do as the Minister requests, provided the money is available within the total vote. The Minister of Education and I have been happy to see it working in this way, and it has worked very successfully indeed. The same applies to hospitals. The member for

Torrens will know that I had no hesitation in setting up a committee in connection with Flinders Medical Centre, and the committee has done a very efficient job; in fact, it is working so well that the project is right up to schedule. As Minister, I do not try to hang on to everything myself: I am willing to delegate sensibly to see that the best result is achieved. The Director of Public Buildings is aware of this and has taken full advantage of it, because he himself is extremely flexible in his approach. He is constantly reminding his officers of the need to look after the client. I am very happy with the department's performance, and I believe it will improve still further. Regarding the question I was asked, the matter goes further than the Education Department's architect conferring with my department's architect; there are regular conferences at a higher level. In October the Minister of Education, as a mark of his appreciation, has invited me and my officers to a luncheon, and we will certainly attend.

Dr. EASTICK: The Minister said that he intended that the regional officers would have a budget of their own. I take it that it is intended that the expenditure within the region will be the direct responsibility of the regional officer, and we will not have the problem, which has been experienced in the past, whereby all action on payment has come from Adelaide, often with disastrous consequences to small business men in remote areas, because of delays. Headmasters and police officers in remote areas have difficulty in obtaining essential services simply because tradesmen have had in the past to wait between six months and nine months for payment of accounts from Adelaide. If prompt settlement of accounts in remote areas can be achieved, it will be a tremendous advance.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not want the regional office to act as an inefficient post office but, on the other hand, I cannot give it a blank cheque. There must be some checks and balances. I intend that the regional director should have flexibility; he will be able to get a local tradesman on to the job quickly, without calling tenders. Headmasters have authority to spend up to \$100 as often as they like during the year on urgent minor works, but they often do not exercise that authority; I hope they will learn to do so. As a result of officers being given more initiative, I hope that the kind of delay that has occurred in the past will not be evident in the future.

Mr. MATHWIN: I hope the Minister will give due consideration to Paringa Park Primary School.

The CHAIRMAN: School construction is dealt with in the Loan Estimates.

Mr. MATHWIN: Repairs need to be done to this school as soon as possible.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: You want an open-space unit, don't you?

Mr. MATHWIN: I think we would be content with some buildings in place of the timber buildings.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I rise on a point of order. Mr. Chairman. I am happy to answer the honourable member's questions but this matter should have been dealt with under the Loan Estimates. Upgrading Paringa Park Primary School would come under the heading "Minor Works" in the Loan Estimates, but it would not be a maintenance matter in connection with this line.

Mr. MATHWIN: I take it that no maintenance is to be done in the next 12 months at Paringa Park Primary School.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I ask the honourable member to resume his seat. I ask the honourable member to confine his remarks on school buildings to the item

"Maintenance, minor additions, alterations, furniture, furnishings, equipment, services and other expenses of accommodation and land tenure".

Mr. MATHWIN: The school needs alterations and minor repairs.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Is that all that you want us to do?

Mr. MATHWIN: I would be pleased to have anything done to the school. The library is inadequate, and the administration block is in very poor condition and is too small. The staff is working under very difficult conditions. There is little storage room for sporting equipment, and so on, and canteen facilities are not as hygienic as they should be. On this line, I am not permitted to talk about the replacement of the timber-frame buildings, or Samcon buildings.

The CHAIRMAN: I ask the honourable member to resume his seat. We are dealing with the provision for maintenance, minor additions, etc.; we are not discussing Samcon buildings or matters of that nature. I ask the honourable member to confine his remarks to the matters under discussion.

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Minister seriously consider the deficiencies at Paringa Park school to which I have referred?

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Does the Public Buildings Department assess whether it can carry out maintenance, minor additions, and so on, more economically than private enterprise could carry out this work? When I was a public servant, we made an allowance that, if work was being carried out by the Public Buildings Department, we would add 50 per cent to the cost that could be achieved by private enterprise. We always tried to get funds for additions, particularly for small sheds and so on, from sources other than Government sources, knowing full well that we could then get private enterprise to do the work. Is a constant assessment made to ensure that the Public Buildings Department can compete on economic grounds with private enterprise?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am surprised and disgusted to hear the honourable member say, as a former public servant (I hope he is still a public servant in the sense that he is here to serve the public), that if the Public Buildings Department was to do the job 50 per cent would be added to the price. That is a statement I would not care to make. I think the honourable member was trying to be facetious, but his remark did not hit the deck.

Mr. Dean Brown: I think you misunderstood.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I did not. I heard the honourable member say that 50 per cent would be added to the cost if the Public Buildings Department was going to do the work.

Mr. Dean Brown: They would have to add 50 per cent.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Why? The honourable member was saying that it would cost 50 per cent more if the Public Buildings Department, rather than private enterprise, did the work. That is a load of bunkum. It is so easy for the honourable member to make a statement like that, but it is another thing for him to substantiate it, and that is what I challenge him to do. Let him produce these figures, instead of loud-mouthing here. Most minor works are carried out by private enterprise, and the department does not always get the best deal, so much so that we are developing in the department a construction branch. With the sort of officers I have in the department now, I am confident that we can show private enterprise how to

run a construction branch. Private enterprise knows what we are doing and is alarmed about it.

Mr. Harrison: And you have the sort of workmen to carry it out.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes. Unless the member for Davenport substantiates what he has said, I will not take the matter further.

Dr. EASTICK: The provision for service costs for Government offices and buildings has increased by one-third. Is the increase related to an increase in the number of Government buildings, or is it a straight-out increase in servicing costs? What percentage of the increase relates to general buildings?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I cannot give a percentage. This sum is to provide for service costs of Government offices, including rentals, rates, cleaning, electricity, telephone charges, etc. Provision has been made for increases in costs of cleaning and telephone charges and for additional leased accommodation for the Community Welfare Department in Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance Group building; for the family court in Industrial Acceptance Corporation Limited House; for portion of the Education Department in the Bank of New South Wales building; and for the School of Dental Therapy in the Mutual Acceptance Limited building. Provision is also made for a full year's rental and other costs of the new district offices of members. Part of the Education Department has had to be relocated. However, I hope that by the middle of October the excavations will be completed for the new Government office building that will house the Education Department.

Line passed.

State Supply, \$820,000—passed.

Minister of Works, Miscellaneous, \$698,500.

Mr. COUMBE: As a back-bench member of a former Government, I promoted the provision for protection and improvement of the Torrens River with the then Minister of Works (Sir Glen Pearson). Provision has continued to be made by subsequent Governments. Councils have been subsidized to improve parts of the river that are not covered by the Adelaide City Council, and some remarkable achievements have been accomplished. I am disappointed that, although \$7,000 was voted for this purpose last year, only \$2,285 has been spent. I am pleased to see that \$7,000 is provided again this year. Was the small expenditure last year brought about by councils having fewer projects than they have had in the past? This valuable work should proceed.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This allocation provides for acquisitions of land, subsidies to councils for beautification work, and so on. The honourable member will be aware that the River Torrens Protection Committee makes recommendations to the Minister with regard to all the proposals that come before him. These proposals are then referred back to the committee. I think that the submissions made in this connection amounted to only the \$2,285 spent last year, as I cannot recall knocking back any proposal. However, I will get a report for the honourable member. I agree that this is valuable work.

Dr. EASTICK: Although expenditure on construction at Lake Bonney, in the South-East, during the last financial year was \$65,259, no provision has been made this year apart from \$2,000 for maintenance. How effective has been the programme to clear the lake and improve the environment? The sum of \$200,000 has been allocated for expenses of administration of the Control of Waters Act. As this is a heavy administrative cost, can the Minister outline some of the areas covered?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Taking the last part of the question first, I point out that the expenditure provides for the continuation of the meter installation programme. The administration of the Act involves metering and many other things, but that is the major expenditure. The additional expenditure of about \$65,000 at Lake Bonney was to give added protection. A long cutting had been constructed from the lake to the sea at the southern end of the lake. It was to prevent a recurrence of what happened in 1958 when a cutting was made from the lake at the point closest to the sea and the flow to the sea was uncontrolled, lowering drastically the level of the lake. Because the two paper mills discharged effluent into the lake (that effluent is now much better treated), it was imperative to hold the lake at the highest possible level to break down this effluent.

To do this effectively, it was necessary to construct a channel. This method has worked most successfully and the level of the lake is high at the moment. This high level almost caused flooding problems at the northern end of the lake and provision is made under "Miscellaneous" for a private drain to be improved by the Government to overcome this flooding on to what is private land. I am delighted with the result of this construction, which was carried out quickly because I had not realized the seriousness of the problem until I saw it. It was a matter of looking at the lake virtually 10ft. (3.05 m) above the sea and one could see what would have happened if it had broken out. Had the level been lowered drastically, we would have had a far greater problem than with the effluent being discharged into the lake.

Line passed.

Minister of Education, \$48,062—passed.

Education, \$128,091,400.

Dr. TONKIN: A private bus service which has been chartered regularly for several years now runs from South Brighton, past Cabra to Mercedes, Linden Park, and across to St. Ignatius, transporting students on the way. Until now this has been a private arrangement, but difficulties are being experienced in chartering the necessary buses. I understand that it may be necessary to curtail the service from two buses to one and that by October it may not be possible to transport these children at all. Is it possible for the department to take emergency action if this situation arises? Otherwise, would the Minister refer the matter to the Minister of Transport to see whether perhaps the Municipal Tramways Trust could take over a special school bus service along that and similar routes?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON (Minister of Education): There is no provision in this line for the subsidizing of any bus services within the metropolitan area. The provisions relate to country areas and the fringes of the metropolitan area. The honourable member would need to take up the matter with the Minister of Transport. Unless the students can get general transport concessions, I doubt very much whether any decisions can be made that may give assistance in that direction.

Line passed.

Libraries, \$2,065,000; Art Gallery, \$303,000—passed.

Minister of Education, Miscellaneous, \$47,907,838.

Mr. RUSSACK: The amount voted last year for the Kindergarten Union of South Australia was \$1,400,000, actual payments totalled \$1,408,900, and the proposed allocation this year is \$1,385,000. As this is a sector of education which has increased rather than decreased, is there any reason for the smaller allocation?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: A sum of \$360,000 is proposed for the Adelaide Kindergarten Teachers College,

for which no provision was made last year. If the honourable member looks at this item he will see a dagger directing his attention to the bottom of the page where there is a note to the effect that provision was made previously under the Kindergarten Union of South Australia. The figure for 1972-73 covered both the Kindergarten Union and the Kindergarten Teachers College. The equivalent figure this year is \$1,385,000 for the Kindergarten Union together with \$360,000 for the Kindergarten Teachers College, a total of \$1,745,000.

Mr. McANANEY: Is the Minister in a position to say what this means to the Kindergarten Union? I believe that 30 kindergartens are waiting to be subsidized. Will further kindergartens be subsidized?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member would be aware of the financial provision of \$10,000,000 in the Commonwealth Budget for pre-schools this financial year. We have been informed that our approximate share is \$940,000 this financial year. Some part of that amount will be available for Education Department pre-schools, which we hope to establish at the beginning of next year. The bulk of this sum would be for the Kindergarten Union. I cannot give a firm reply to the honourable member's question until the report of the Interim Committee of Australian Pre-schools Commission is given to the Commonwealth Government and that Government has made an appropriate decision on it. Until we have that information it is difficult to say what the Kindergarten Union will be able to do regarding those kindergartens already built and waiting for subsidy. I am hopeful that the amount of assistance from the Australian Government will ensure that all of those kindergartens waiting for subsidy will be brought under subsidy by the beginning of next year.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: How will the allocation for hall of residence and residential colleges be spent?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I think this money is available partly through the Universities Commission. As I am not sure of the exact proposals for the current financial year, I will inquire for the honourable member and give him the information.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I refer to the allocation for the University of Adelaide and to the university colleges, St. Mark's, St. Ann's and Aquinas. These colleges currently each receive a grant of \$2,500, from which bursaries are given to their residential students. As it is intended to remove this grant from the beginning of 1974, what is the reason for the new policy?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am not aware of anything about this. Unless there was a special request to Adelaide University, it would have been a decision of the University Council to make funds available to colleges in this form. I shall be happy to check this out with the Vice-Chancellor of Adelaide University and bring down the necessary information for the honourable member.

Mr. McANANEY: A committee has been formed in Mount Barker to establish a second kindergarten, but it is difficult to get suitable land at a reasonable price. Would it be possible for such a kindergarten to be established on the site of an existing primary school or, say, in Further Education Department premises?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: One aspect of the policy we will be encouraging is that, where we have sufficient land for the construction of pre-schools on primary school property, it will apply even if it were a pre-school conducted by the Kindergarten Union rather than a pre-school conducted by the Education Department. We

would virtually cede certain portions of the land to the Kindergarten Union, but whether that is possible in every case depends on the size of the site available, and in many situations it will not be possible to provide the amount of land required for a pre-school without interfering adversely with the normal running of the primary school in question. So far as Mount Barker is concerned, if the honourable member gives me more details I will look into the possibility of land being made available from the Further Education Department centre or through the primary school.

Mr. RUSSACK: In view of what the Minister has said, I instance the Brinkworth school and ask whether consideration will be given to making that part of the school that has become redundant available for a kindergarten.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Consideration will be given to such situations, but whether it would be an Education Department pre-school immediately depends on consideration of priorities concerning the overall establishment of pre-schools. Inevitably, with insufficient funds available and insufficient kindergarten teachers to establish pre-schools everywhere right away, we have to establish an order of priority. Certainly, wherever spare buildings can be shifted or where wooden buildings can be removed which are wanted by a local kindergarten, that purpose would be given a high priority. If at the Brinkworth Area School, from which secondary students have moved out and gone to Clare, the site were sufficient to accommodate a pre-school, if appropriate arrangements could be made regarding the division of land, and if the local kindergarten committee wanted to run a kindergarten within the school property, we would certainly look at such a proposition sympathetically. I think this proposal has already been advanced and is currently under consideration.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I refer to the grant to the Workers Educational Association. Is any attempt made by the Education Department to assess the value of the courses carried out by the W.E.A.?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: No attempt is made at all. There is no responsibility on the Education Department or the Further Education Department for how the W.E.A. runs its affairs. The main point of control is a financial one, as the W.E.A. seeks to continue its classes over a period of time and, unless those classes are supported sufficiently by the community, they are unlikely to be continued. Certain W.E.A. classes are supported by a surplus earned on other classes, and there are one or two areas in which criticism could otherwise be levelled but which can be continued because they do not have to be profitable enterprises.

Any liaison in the adult education area occurs between the W.E.A. and the university's Adult Education Department. The head office of the former is located within the university grounds, and traditionally the W.E.A. has used university facilities at night when they are not being used by the university. Certain people within the university have objected to the use of these facilities for things that they do not consider appropriate to the university. I suggest, however, that the use of these facilities outside of normal university hours by an organization such as W.E.A. is justified, even for a course in, say, flower arrangement. I do not see why, if school buildings can be used for all sorts of purposes outside of school hours, university buildings cannot be used in the same way. As these buildings are provided by the community, why should they not be so used?

Dr. TONKIN: I am pleased to see that last year \$4,400 was provided for St. Patrick's School for handicapped children, and that \$7,600 is allocated this year. How is this money to be spent?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: This money was given to the school to assist with its administration expenses, the allocation having been fixed largely in terms of the school's overall salary costs. I discovered last financial year that this was the only private school for the handicapped that was not supported by the Education Department and, as soon as I discovered this, I made a recommendation to Cabinet and it was accepted. Hence, although no provision was made for the school last year \$4,400 was actually spent. Some Commonwealth money, provided through the Australian Schools Commission, will be allocated to the school as well. Other organizations which are associated with handicapped children but which are running their own schools without the assistance of the Education Department are the Suneden school and the South Australian Oral School, and the department makes roughly the same approach in assessing the amount of support to be given to them.

Mr. MATHWIN: I take it that the South Australian Council of Educational Planning and Research, to which \$25,000 has been allocated this year, is a new body, no sum having been voted to it previously. Will the Minister give the Committee some information regarding this body?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Some time ago I established a tertiary education committee to fulfil a general co-ordinating function at the tertiary level in relation to activities that cross the demarcation line between universities and colleges of advanced education and between the latter and the Further Education Department. However, that committee never really got off the ground. The first Karmel report (the so-called Old Testament now) recommended that an advisory education council be established to fulfil a general advisory function on all educational matters concerning the Education Department. However, that recommendation was not implemented. I considered that, if we had an advisory council responsible for the department's day-to-day and short term education policies, decision-making would be delayed and the department's flexibility in relation to the day-to-day and short-term problems and needs of the community would be reduced.

However, I have always believed there was a need for effective long-term planning in primary and secondary education—a function that the department is not well equipped to handle. Indeed, its officers are too pre-occupied with day-to-day and short-term problems to be able to undertake long-term planning functions. In addition, within the research and planning branch, which has been developed over the last three years, certain pure research functions are being fulfilled nominally under the Director-General of Education, about which he has little knowledge or concern or indeed time to consider.

It was therefore considered that an organization which would co-ordinate functions at the tertiary level and between the tertiary and secondary levels, and which would also be concerned with long-term planning in primary and secondary education as well as with pure research functions, would be valuable. As a result, the Government decided to set up the South Australian Council of Educational Planning and Research. This council has now been established on an interim committee basis under the chairmanship of Mr. Justice Bright, and one of its first tasks is to make recommendations to me regarding the precise constitution of the council and the appointment of the first executive director, a task that it is now performing.

Dr. EASTICK: I refer to the allocation of \$60 for the Metropolitan High Schools Sports Association, the South Australian Boys Technical High Schools Sports Association and the South Australian Secondary School Sports Association. What size must an organization be before it can claim this grant, and have other organizations within the education system the right to claim it? I agree with the provision of such a grant if it will help stimulate inter-school sport.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Leader will notice that the South Australian Primary Schools Amateur Sports Association has had a separate allocation for some time. In the previous financial year the Metropolitan High Schools Sports Association, the South Australian Boys Technical High Schools Sports Association, and the South Australian Secondary Schools Sports Association were all granted \$50 each from the South Australian Primary Schools Amateur Sports Association provision to assist with the overall running costs. However, it has been thought that these should all be shown as separate votes. Each of the associations receiving \$60 would have received \$50 last year from the South Australian Primary Schools Amateur Sports Association allocation.

Mr. COUMBE: An amount of \$220,000 has been allocated for Public Examinations Board fees and expenses. The matter of these examinations is one of controversy at present: some people seem to think that these exams should be done away with, whereas others think that they should be retained. Can the Minister say what is the present thinking, and what representations have been made to him on this matter, which will affect almost every family in the State?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Recently, the High School Headmasters Association recommended that I establish a committee of inquiry into public examinations, and I have asked the Interim Committee of the South Australian Council of Educational Planning and Research to do that. Although I understand that the Public Examinations Board has reached certain conclusions, I have not been told of them officially, and I do not intend to comment until I have more details. Of the main arguments now being used, the first is that the Leaving certificate no longer serves a useful purpose and is not an entry qualification to anything. Although I think that argument is generally accepted, I have delayed any attempt to abolish, on its own, the Leaving certificate since I have been Minister on the ground that, when it is abolished, there will be increased retention into the Matriculation year, and that additional staffing difficulties would have to be faced by the department.

As I was not confident in the last three years of our ability to staff additional Matriculation classes, I purposely delayed any decision on abolishing the Leaving examination. However, the staffing position having improved, I think it may be possible to decide the future of the Leaving examination when considering Matriculation. I think the general criticism of the Matriculation examination is that, although it is meant to be an entry qualification for tertiary education, it has been used by employers as an entry qualification into employment, and many employers have unfairly discriminated against those who have done internal courses in schools. Because of the attitude of employers, many parents pressurize students and schools into having the students undertake the track O course that leads to Matriculation.

Consequently, many students who have taken Matriculation courses should not have done this type of course,

and the problem of teachers teaching such subjects are increased through having students in the class who would be better off doing other kinds of work. Also, a problem is created by the curriculum straightjacket imposed on schools in senior secondary years by the Public Examinations Board's examinations at the end of the two-year period. Many teachers consider themselves under considerable pressure to prepare their students as well as they can for this examination and, consequently, they avoid many desirable educational activities that could otherwise be undertaken. For all these reasons, pressure has been building up for the Matriculation examination to be replaced by another method of determining tertiary entrance.

It has been suggested, for example, that we should provide entrance to a tertiary institution through school accreditation, at least for the top 80 per cent of entrants to the tertiary level, and this system would be accepted by the tertiary institutions on accreditation by schools. The marginal students would have to sit for some kind of test or examination, which did not have a curriculum attached to it and which therefore did not impose a curriculum straightjacket on the school. This is the kind of approach I favour. Clearly, if there is to be a system of school accreditation there will have to be a system of external moderation of work undertaken in schools, but it should be a system that eliminates discrimination against those doing internal courses. It seems to me that this would provide a reasonably acceptable means of determining tertiary entrance, and would be recognized by most people as an acceptable improvement. The delay has been caused mainly by pressure from universities, because they tend to be conservative organizations in making changes in the way things are done.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Many grants have been made to independent organizations, and it is fitting that they should receive money from the State Government. Indeed, I should like to see larger amounts being made available to them, because they carry out one of the most important tasks of education: that is, the education of those unfortunate people the department does not cover. What criteria have been used in determining which organizations receive a grant and how much the grant will be? We know the grounds on which the Commonwealth Government decided to allocate funds to independent schools. They were spurious grounds, to say the least. The Minister has already indicated that an assessment is not made of the W.E.A. and its independent courses.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: The Education Department does assess the adult education classes of the W.E.A.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: One wonders how the money is allocated to these independent bodies. Do they simply put their names into a hat and the names that are pulled out are the fortunate ones for that year; is there an assessment of the education needs; or is there some other basis? They each fulfil a separate function and each gets most of its money from other sources, often from voluntary donations.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It is not necessary for me to go through each of these miscellaneous items and explain to the honourable member just what happens. He should know well enough that the process he has described is not the correct one. Let me illustrate with the W.E.A., where the increase in the grant relates mainly to the trade union activities in the W.E.A. The Government has simply made an assessment that this is an activity that should be encouraged. Money was first provided for the W.E.A. in 1972-73 and some of the increased allocation is necessary

because these trade union activities are now proceeding over a full year. Also, it has been decided that support should be given to the employment of an additional tutor by the W.E.A. for at least six months of this financial year, from the beginning of January to the end of June. The procedure is that, following an approach from the W.E.A. to the Minister of Labour and Industry and to me, the position is assessed and considered by the two of us, together with advice from our officers, and a submission is made to Cabinet. In the process of that submission being submitted to Cabinet, Treasury officers also make a recommendation for an investigation of the financial affairs of the W.E.A. When all that information is available, a decision is made on the appropriate sum to be made available in the current financial year.

Mr. Dean Brown: This applies to all these organizations?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Not necessarily. Universities are covered by the Universities Grants Commission, colleges of advanced education by the Board of Advanced Education, and so on. That is the kind of process involved. Ultimately, the assessment made is a consequence of the submission made by the organization, the judgment of the department, of the Minister and of the Treasury officers, and finally approval by Cabinet of the sum to be provided.

Line passed.

Labour and Industry, \$1,655,000.

Mr. CHAPMAN: Will the Minister of Labour and Industry explain the proposed expenditure of \$40,794 on manpower development officers, in respect of whom no allocation was made last year? Also, can he explain the proposed expenditure of \$31,788 for executive, project and research officers (worker participation)?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE (Minister of Labour and Industry): The line in respect of the manpower development officers provides for salaries for the new section within the department, to which five manpower development officers will be attached to advise industry on industrial training matters. Details of this section have been outlined to members, and a report has been given in this Chamber on the industrial survey that was made in respect of training in industry and commerce throughout South Australia. The report was well received by management, by the people involved in business and commerce, and also by the trade union movement. Having conferred with the Chamber of Manufactures and Commerce, I have arrived at full agreement with that body. This money will be well spent.

Dr. TONKIN: No allocation is proposed in 1973-74 in respect of overseas visits of officers. There must be a mistake here: not only officers but also Ministers should go overseas. The Minister of Labour and Industry should emulate his colleagues because he would benefit from the experience of an overseas trip. Does the Minister intend to go overseas in the following year? Further, can the Minister say on what subjects the South Australian Film Corporation will make films in relation to his department?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: There is no proposal for me to go overseas. The film to be produced by the South Australian Film Corporation relates to safety in industry.

Mr. COUMBE: The Industrial Safety Health and Welfare Board was established as a result of recommendations of the Select Committee which the Minister chaired so capably. Can he say whether the committee is actually operating at present? If it is, how is it functioning? If it is not functioning, when will it start to function?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: The honourable member should know that the committee has been set up. It has dealt with proposed regulations for the building industry. Regulations are being revised prior to their being submitted to the Subordinate Legislation Committee.

Mr. CHAPMAN: In connection with worker participation, I refer to the allocation of \$31,788 for executive, project and research officers. Can the Minister explain what is planned in connection with worker participation, and can he say to what extent workers are expected to participate in the management and operation of industry generally?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: If the honourable member does not know what worker participation involves, he should not be here. All people have a right to voice their opinions in connection with their activities; it is this Government's policy to ensure that that form of democracy obtains in the community. If the honourable member wants further information he should read the report.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Will the Minister table a list of the persons who are to be executive, project and research officers? Further, can he indicate their qualifications?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: People from unions and from management should be able to have a say in what is occurring around them.

Mr. MATHWIN: There is no allocation for an oversea visit. I wish to make an observation on this matter.

The CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing the honourable member to make an observation. The Minister has already replied to a question on oversea visits. I rule the honourable member out of order.

Mr. Gunn: What would the Minister know about—

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I agree with the Minister's statement that worker participation is ideal, but unfortunately what some people regard as worker participation is very different from what other people regard as worker participation. I believe that worker participation, in the sense of people working out their own rules and determining how something should be carried out in a way whereby their own motivation is increased, is the best thing possible. I refer the Minister to some of the classic books on this subject, particularly those written by people from Harvard University. Management at long last is starting to appreciate that worker participation is necessary for the well-being of the worker and the company.

The CHAIRMAN: Is the honourable member seeking information?

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Yes, Mr. Chairman. Can the Minister indicate the background of the executive, project and research workers? It could do much harm to the cause of worker participation if the wrong people were appointed.

Mr. Gunn: What will we hear now?

Mr. BECKER: I wish to refer to industrial relations.

Mr. Gunn: The Minister—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! If the honourable member for Eyre does not observe the Chair, he will be named. The honourable member for Hanson.

Mr. BECKER: A sum of \$9,839 is provided for the Assistant Secretary for Labour and Industry. I take it that this is a new position. Has the position been created because of increased activities in the department?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: Yes, the department has increased its activities considerably since the Labor Government has been in power in this State. We have set up a special court to deal with industrial matters, four judges having been appointed. We have increased our inspectorial

staff, and we have been able to expedite workmen's compensation matters. We have given people the service that they should have received for the past 30 years. I hope the honourable member does not begrudge them that.

Mr. MATHWIN: In view of the present lack of skilled labour, particularly in the building industry, has consideration been given to sending the Minister or someone from the department overseas to try to encourage workers from other countries to come here as migrants, thus relieving the shortage of manpower?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: We have a programme to train our own tradesmen. I think that industries, particularly the building industry, have not played their part in training their own tradesmen. I believe that they have now realized their mistake. Therefore, we do not need to recruit many people from overseas for the building industry or any other industry.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I have seen excellent 35 mm films produced by the Commonwealth authorities relating to apprenticeship. Is the number of apprentices increasing and, if it is, what is the reason for this increase?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: We have indulged in a terrific programme to encourage employers to take on apprentices. The Australian Government will now grant to employers subsidies for apprentices in their first and second years, and this has encouraged employers to take on apprentices. In addition, that Government has provided a subsidy on wages to train people to take on other types of job. The great increase in the number of apprentices, as seen particularly in the past six months, is largely due to the greater assistance given to employers by the Commonwealth Labor Government.

Mr. MATHWIN: Last year, \$7,500 was provided for the purchase of motor vehicles and \$7,491 was spent. This year, \$28,500 is provided. How many vehicles does that relate to?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: This provides for the replacement of 15 motor vehicles, including one station waggon and a sedan specially fitted out for the inspector of shearers' accommodation. Members will realize that this money has been well spent when they consider the excellent work carried out by the inspector of shearers and the number of problems he has solved.

Mr. MATHWIN: I thought the Minister said that this sum related to the replacement of only two vehicles.

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: It is for the replacement of 15 vehicles.

Mr. BECKER: I do not begrudge the Minister the appointment of an Assistant Secretary to his department. I was hoping he would tell us what has happened in his department under his administration; I understand he has undertaken activities in various fields. I am pleased to see that an Assistant Secretary is provided for. Does the apprenticeship scheme now include persons of any age who have lost a job through no fault of their own and who are given an opportunity to learn a new trade?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: Apprenticeship training involves young people, and there is also adult training or retraining. This is one other reason why we have set up an industrial training council, whose function will be to train people in industry and commerce and to encourage adult training. The Minister of Education referred to the training of trade unionists, and the council will help in training people in every field of industry. We are encouraging people in all spheres of industry, as we hope that by retraining and other means we can help to increase productivity. By retraining and apprenticeship, we will keep up the supply of tradesmen, expanding the work force

to increase productivity, as this is important to the economy.

Line passed.

Minister of Labour and Industry, Miscellaneous, \$20,000.

Mr. CHAPMAN: I seek information on the item relating to law costs associated with the Kangaroo Island industrial dispute.

The CHAIRMAN: I ask the honourable member to resume his seat, and I draw his attention to the fact that there is no provision for expenditure under this line and I cannot allow discussion to take place. Members are reminded that we are considering proposed expenditure for the financial year 1973-74, not expenditure in past years. I rule the question out of order.

Mr. Chapman: What is the item there for?

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I notice that no money has been allocated for possible law costs. Does this mean the Government will not adopt—

The CHAIRMAN: I draw the honourable member's attention to the ruling I gave previously and which I give in this case, also.

Mr. BECKER: The allocation to the South Australian Division of the National Safety Council of Australia has been increased to \$18,000, which is encouraging. Is this sum marked specifically for safety in industry or is it a general grant?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: The increase is for the council's programme on child, home, and water safety. We are decreasing the grants for industrial safety because my department has launched a great programme on industrial safety and we are assisting the council in its other activities. We have granted this sum accordingly.

Line passed.

Minister of Agriculture, \$56,912—passed.

Agriculture, \$4,730,022.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I refer to the allocation for staff for research centres. Can the Minister say where the increase in staff is likely to take place? The increase in the allocation is fairly dramatic.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works): The honourable member suggests the additional money being spent indicates an increase in staff. I shall obtain a report for him.

Line passed.

Agricultural College, \$754,000; Produce, \$1,248,000—passed.

Chemistry, \$448,018.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: I seek information as to the general Government policy on the future of this department. Increasingly the Agriculture Department has developed laboratories capable of carrying on many of the services previously carried on by the Chemistry Department. However, the latter department still carries on much analysis work for other Government departments. Is it to be used more as a service department for the police rather than for the Agriculture Department, as in the past?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall inquire from my colleague and let the honourable member know.

Line passed.

Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Forests, Miscellaneous, \$296,700.

Dr. EASTICK: I take it the fees and expenses of committees of inquiry in relation to the Agriculture Department relate to the Callaghan report, the investigation being undertaken by Sir Allan Callaghan into the whole structure of the Agriculture Department?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes, Sir Allan's review of the functions of the department.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: An advance of \$20,000 is to be voted for the Citrus Organization Committee. What is the purpose of this advance?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: It is the provision of an advance to the committee for working capital.

Mr. BECKER: Can the Minister say whether we will be asked to approve continuing grants to this committee? The Auditor-General's Report reveals that it had a deficit of \$3,000 as compared with \$38,000 in the previous year and that expenditure by the committee had decreased by \$74,000, due mainly to its decision to reduce its marketing operation. I wonder whether the committee is fulfilling its role or whether the Revenue Account will be expected continually to provide additional money for it and whether it is really achieving the purpose for which it was originally set up.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not know of any indication the Minister has given to the Government that its role will be changed in any way, but I shall inquire and let the honourable member know.

Mr. CHAPMAN: I seek information on the fees and expenses of the committee of inquiry in relation to the abattoirs investigation, but before doing so I seek clarification of your ruling, Sir, given a few minutes ago. You ruled that the item on the Kangaroo Island issue was out of order because there was no expenditure proposed for this year.

The CHAIRMAN: I have given a ruling on that, and that vote has been passed. I cannot accept reference to any item other than those listed under "Miscellaneous".

Mr. CHAPMAN: Under the heading "Miscellaneous" there are several items for which funds are not allocated this year. Can questions be asked on items where no allocation has been made for this year?

The CHAIRMAN: The reply I gave previously still applies.

Mr. CHAPMAN: I refer to the item on abattoirs investigation. Is this for an investigation into the Gepps Cross abattoir or into an abattoir elsewhere and, if this is so, where is this investigation to be made?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: This line provides \$8,000 for fees paid to consultants for continuing investigations into the meat industry of this State.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Under this same line, can the Minister say what investigations will be carried out? Will we ultimately have the auction of carcasses on the hook on a weight basis and, as a preliminary step, the auctioning of carcasses on the hoof on a weight basis?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will speak to my colleague and see what he tells me and let the honourable member know.

Mr. BECKER: I refer to the Citrus Organization Committee. The Auditor-General's Report states:

Revenue from charges amounted to \$68,000 and included Adelaide Market charges of \$42,000 (after deduction of service commission) and revenue from export charges of \$19,000. The decrease in revenue from export charges (down \$43,000) was due to the export through the committee of only 212 600 bushel cases of fruit in 1972-73 compared with 688 000 bushel cases during the previous year.

Can the Minister obtain information about why there is such a decline in the export of bushel cases of fruit through this committee? What fruit does this involve, and will this be a continuing future trend?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be happy to obtain that information.

Mr. DEAN BROWN: Due to the heavy infestation of noxious insects (particularly sitona weevil) in this State, does the Minister expect the reimbursement under the line noxious insects of \$5,000 to be sufficient, because the expenditure of a large sum on this problem now would return great benefits to the State, and will the Minister repeat his inaudible answer he gave to the previous question? It was inaudible because of the noise in the Chamber.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: On the one hand it may be lower and on the one hand it may be higher; and I have forgotten the reply I gave to the previous question.

Line passed.

Environment and Conservation, \$2,600,000; Minister of Environment and Conservation, Miscellaneous, \$58,700—passed.

Marine and Harbors, \$5,307,000.

Dr. EASTICK: When is it likely that the container berth between Port Adelaide and Outer Harbor will be ready for use?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will get that information.

Line passed.

Minister of Marine, Miscellaneous, \$6,000.

Dr. EASTICK: Regarding the allocation for investigations into port sites, although a large sum is not involved, I should like information regarding this item.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: It is a provision to cover any preliminary investigational work subsequently approved for write-off. During the course of the year there could be a requirement for this and a nominal figure is included in case we need to use it. It is for preliminary work only.

Mr. CHAPMAN: I seek information from the Minister on the same line. Does the amount of \$5,000 include investigations into Cape Jervis and Penneshaw proposed port sites? Following reports by the Minister of Transport we have been informed that investigations are proceeding into the establishment of ports in this area. Are specific funds earmarked for those purposes and are they listed without this figure or are they included in this sum?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: They are not included here. The honourable member has referred to the Minister of Transport: any investigation on this matter would be contained in his lines.

Line passed.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

SUPPLY BILL (No. 2)

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11.53 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, September 19, at 2 p.m.