

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, August 2, 1977

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

### PETITION: SUCCESSION DUTIES

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN presented a petition signed by 71 residents of South Australia, praying that the House would urge the Government to amend the Succession Duties Act so that the present discriminatory position of blood relations was removed and that blood relationships sharing a family property enjoyed at least the same benefits as those available to *de facto* relationships.

Petition received.

### PETITION: UNIONISM

Mr. DEAN BROWN presented a petition signed by 12 electors and residents of South Australia, praying that the House would urge the Government to abandon any legislation which would deprive employees of the right to choose whether or not they wished to join a trade union or to provide for compulsory unionism.

Petition received.

### QUESTIONS

The SPEAKER: I direct that the following written answers to questions be distributed and printed in *Hansard*.

#### ANNUAL WATER LICENCES

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. Have the annual water licences for growers in the Virginia/Two Wells/Angle Vale/Gawler River area been forwarded and, if so—

(a) are they in every way similar to previous such licences, or if there are notable changes what are these changes and their effect, and

(b) how many licences were forwarded?

2. Did any document accompany such licences and, if so, what was the document (or letter) and what was its wording?

3. Has there been any response to any such document and, if so, what has been the nature of the response and by how many of the recipients?

4. Is any follow-up document envisaged and, if so, what is its nature and why is it deemed necessary to forward any such document?

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

1. Licences have been forwarded to those who have made application and paid the annual meter rent and maintenance fee where applicable.

(a) The licence forms issued for 1977-78 were computer printed and there was a slight variation in format from those issued for 1976-77. As those for 1976-77 were issued at the mid-way point of a two-year restriction period set for the

repealed Underground Waters Preservation Act, the 1976-77 allotment was calculated by deducting the 1975-76 usage from the two-year allotment. The 1977-78 licences are based on established individual annual allotments less any excess water used during 1974-76.

(b) 740 irrigation licences and 235 stock and domestic licences have been issued.

2. A covering letter is forwarded with every licence. Most were accompanied by the following letter:

Your Underground Waters Licence for the year ending June 30, 1978, is enclosed. The licence is endorsed with the annual water allotment which may be withdrawn from the well(s) indicated on your licence and used for irrigation, stock or domestic purposes. Your attention is drawn to the terms of the licence and the conditions printed on the reverse side. You should note that the water allotment endorsed on the licence may not necessarily relate to the amount of water required to irrigate the proposed cropping programme set out in your application. As it is your responsibility to ensure that the amount of water used between July 1, 1977, and June 30, 1978, does not exceed the water allotment, you should therefore arrange your cropping programme accordingly. If you require any assistance in planning your water use, officers of the Soils Branch of the Agriculture and Fisheries Department, 16th Floor, Grenfell Centre, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide, S.A. 5000, telephone 227 9911, will be pleased to assist you.

The basis for the annual water allotment is the same as previously determined. However, you again have a right of appeal against any of the terms and conditions of the licence. To institute an appeal, a written notice of appeal must be directed to the Registrar, Water Resources Appeal Tribunal, 33 Waymouth Street (Box 2465, G.P.O.), Adelaide, S.A. 5000. A notice of appeal must be served upon the tribunal not more than six weeks after you have been served with the enclosed licence. A copy of Part VIII of the regulations under the Water Resources Act, 1976, which details the full requirements for the institution of an appeal, is enclosed for your information.

Should you wish to obtain further information please contact the Administrative Section, Water Resources Branch, Engineering and Water Supply Department, 4th Floor, State Administration Centre, Victoria Square, Adelaide or telephone 227 4354.

Where it was known that excess water had been used or that the allotment was likely to be shown to have been exceeded at the final reading the licence was accompanied by a letter as follows:

#### IMPORTANT—READ THIS LETTER CAREFULLY

Your Underground Waters Licence for the year ending June 30, 1978, is enclosed. Although the licence is endorsed with the previously determined annual water allotment, it has been noted that the amount of water used during the year ending June 30, 1977, was greater than the allotment endorsed on your 1976-77 licence. You are therefore advised that, when the exact amount of water used by you during the 1976-77 year is determined, the amount by which the allotment for that year was exceeded will be deducted from the allotment endorsed on your new licence as required by water resources regulation 31.1. This regulation provides that if any licensee withdraws excess water in any year the Minister shall reduce the water allotment for the next succeeding year by an amount equal to the amount of excess water so withdrawn.

Although the records show that the great majority of underground water users in the northern Adelaide Plains managed their water allotments for the 1976-77 year in such a way that no excess was used, the honourable the Minister of Works has agreed to carefully examine any reasons you may have to account for your over-use of underground water. Any submission for an adjustment, of the amount of water recorded as used by you during 1976-77, must be made in writing and forwarded to the Minister

of Works, c/o Water Resources Branch, Engineering and Water Supply Department by July 15, 1977.

It is your responsibility to ensure that an underground water allotment is not exceeded. During the 1977-78 year your cropping programme should therefore be carefully planned accordingly, especially in view of the proposal that the allotment be reduced by the amount of your excess usage during the 1976-77 year. If you require any assistance in planning your water use, officers of the Soils Branch of the Agriculture and Fisheries Department, 16th Floor, Grenfell Centre, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide (telephone 227 9911), will be pleased to assist you.

The basis for the annual water allotment endorsed on the licence, at this stage, is the same as previously determined. However, you again have a right of appeal against any of the terms and conditions of the licence. To institute an appeal, a written notice must be directed to the Registrar, Water Resources Appeal Tribunal, 33 Waymouth Street (Box 2465, G.P.O.) Adelaide, 5000. A notice of appeal must be served upon the tribunal not more than six weeks after you have been served either with the enclosed licence or a subsequent advice that the water allotment has been reduced because of your over-use last year. A copy of Part VIII of the regulations under the Water Resources Act, 1976, which details the full requirements for the institution of an appeal is enclosed for your information. Should you wish to obtain further information please contact the Administrative Section, Water Resources Branch, Engineering and Water Supply Department, 4th Floor, State Administration Centre, Victoria Square, Adelaide or telephone 227 4354.

No water may be withdrawn without a licence and, pursuant to regulation 30.1 of the Water Resources Act, meter readings between June 15 and July 15, are to be taken as the final reading for the period ending June 30. When all readings were completed advice of the actual amount of any excess usage was forwarded to each licensee involved showing the formal reduction in the water allotment as prescribed in regulation 31.1. An outline of these documents is as follows:

During the 1976-77 year you used *kl* ( million gallons) more underground water than your licence allowed. You now have only *kl* ( million gallons) which you may use during the 1977-78 year. The attached letter officially reduces the licence allotment to that figure. The letter sent with your licence earlier this month explained that any reasons for using too much water would be examined even though most of the growers did not use more water than they were allowed. You should again read that letter. To enable your reasons to be considered you must now write to the Engineering and Water Supply Department by July 22, 1977. A right of appeal also exists against the change in the water allotment condition of the licence.

#### UNDERGROUND WATERS LICENCE I.R.M. MODIFICATIONS OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOLLOWING WITHDRAWAL OF EXCESS WATER

Whereas the amount of underground water withdrawn during the period July 1, 1976, to June 30, 1977, pursuant to an Underground Waters Licence issued to you, exceeded the amount endorsed on that licence by *kl* ( million gallons), the Underground Waters Licence for the period July 1, 1977, to June 30, 1978, issued to you on July 1, 1977, must be modified, pursuant to water resources regulation 31.1, by reducing the water allotment endorsed on that licence by the amount of the excess water withdrawn during the 1976-77 year.

Take Notice therefore, pursuant to regulation 31.2 that underground waters licence I.R.M. is hereby modified to the extent that the allotment of water endorsed thereon, which may be withdrawn during the period July 1, 1977, to June 30, 1978, shall be *kl* ( million gallons).

3. To July 22, 1977, there have been 10 appeals lodged against licences, conditions and written submissions received from 19 licensees related to excess water use.

4. Follow-up documents envisaged relate to:

- (a) correspondence with those who have not lodged a licence application but who cannot be contacted personally, and
- (b) replies to those who have made written submissions.

#### WATER RESOURCES COUNCIL

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. How many times has the Water Resources Council sat since its formation, and when?

2. What have been the major decisions of the council that have been expressed in departmental action or Government policy announcements?

3. What, if any, decisions has the council made in respect of Bolivar effluent waters and have they supported any actions by either the State or Federal Government for implementation of part or any of the Kinnaird Hill deRohan and Young Pty. Ltd. Bolivar Effluent Irrigation Study Report?

4. What reaction has there been to the above report by the Commonwealth Government?

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

1. Eleven, 23/7/76, 20/8/76, 17/9/76, 15/10/76, 19/11/76, 11/12/76, 21/1/77, 17-18/2/77, 18/3/77, 22/4/77, 20/5/77.

2. The Water Resources Council is charged not with decision-making but with making recommendations directly to the Minister of Works on the State's water resources.

3. and 4. Vide No. 2.

#### GOVERNMENT CHARGES

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. What actions, if any, has the Government taken or does it intend to take, to reduce the level of Government charges that fall on local government?

2. Have the concessions, if any, been possible because of the increased general revenue funds available from the Commonwealth Government to the State Government under the provisions of the federalism policy?

3. If no concessions have been provided and none are contemplated, why not?

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

1. None.

2. Commonwealth revenue-sharing grants have been completely offset by savage cuts in specific purpose grants and loan provision.

3. See 2.

#### KANGAROO ISLAND SETTLERS

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): Will the Minister of Lands now provide for Mr. C. J. Berryman, of American River, Kangaroo Island, to support his application for a Defence Service Home Loan, a letter to the Australian Housing Corporation stating that Mr. Berryman's dealings under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme were satisfactory and that if any loss had resulted such loss was not due to Mr. Berryman's fault or negligence, and if so, when will such letter be provided and, if not, why not?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The facts relating to Mr. Berryman's dealings under the War Service Land Settlement Scheme have been supplied to the Regional Director (Housing) in response to a request from him in March, 1974, and in greater detail in a letter from me to the Regional Director last week. It is the responsibility of the appropriate Commonwealth Minister to make a decision on any application Mr. Berryman may have made for a Defence Service Home Loan on the basis of relevant information available to him, including the facts supplied by me.

#### GOODWOOD ORPHANAGE

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): Has a committee under the chairmanship of the Director of Educational Facilities been set up to describe possible alternatives for the development of the Goodwood Orphanage grounds and, if so:

- (a) when was it set up;
- (b) who are its members;
- (c) what are its terms of reference; and
- (d) has it yet made its report and what are its recommendations, and if it has not yet made its report when is it expected and will its contents be made public?

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

1. Yes.
2. April, 1977.
3. Director of Educational Facilities, J. M. Mayfield; Director of Education Services, M. A. O'Brien; Director of Administration and Finance, A. B. S. Daw; Public Buildings Department Architect, Mrs. M. Marsland; Directorate of Educational Facilities Architect, L. J. Emmett; Unley City Council representative, S. Hains; Secretary, J. Pettman.
4. The main term of reference is to describe possible alternatives for the development of the Goodwood Orphanage grounds.
5. (a) No.
- (b) Soon.
- (c) This will be determined once I have seen the report.

#### LOCKLEYS BUS SERVICE

Mr. BECKER (on notice): Has consideration been given to extending the proposed new bus service along Henley Beach Road, over Holbrooks Road to and along Rowells Road, Lockleys and, if not, why not?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: There are no new bus services planned for Henley Beach Road, but the route of the proposed suburban circular service includes a short section of Henley Beach Road between Marion Road and Holbrooks Road.

#### EYRE PENINSULA SCHOOLS

Mr. GUNN (on notice):

1. What plans has the Education Department to upgrade or rebuild schools on Eyre Peninsula in the next five years?
2. What particular schools will be upgraded or rebuilt?

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

1. The Education Department has, in association with the Regional Director of Education, identified schools which it

would desire to upgrade or rebuild and priorities have been allocated to those schools. However, State priorities are such that only a limited number of the identified projects have been placed on firm planning lists. One area school has been programmed for rebuilding and upgradings of sections of schools will be carried out through the Regional Minor Works programme. Whether we can carry out this programme will be strongly influenced by the willingness or otherwise of the Federal Government to allow the State to raise the necessary Loan funds for capital works in future years.

2. Ceduna Area School is programmed for rebuilding. Cleve Area School is programmed for a Home Economics building and an upgraded staff room.

#### LOCUSTS

Mr. GUNN (on notice):

1. Is the Agriculture and Fisheries Department keeping a close watch on areas that were affected by locust plagues last year?
2. What contingency plans is the Government making to combat any outbreaks this year?

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

1. Yes; and other areas that could be a source of further plagues.
2. The South Australian Agriculture and Fisheries Department has developed a strategic plan based on its experience during the last plague.

#### CEDUNA SCHOOL

Mr. GUNN (on notice): Is it still expected that work will commence on the new Ceduna school early next year?

The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD: Yes. Current planning is for construction to commence in the 1977-78 financial year.

#### EDUCATION DEPARTMENT SALARIES

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. Why have employees of the Education Department been denied payment for services rendered since the commencement of the second term in May, how widespread has this practice been, and what was the estimated total of such outstanding moneys at June 30, 1977?

2. What steps have been taken to eliminate inordinate delays in the processing of employee entitlements, and when is it expected that such necessary changes will be effected?

3. How long does it normally take to apply C.P.I. adjustments to the salaries of employees of the Education Department, and what are the reasons for the time taken?

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

1. and 2. I am concerned that instances occur where newly-appointed employees do not receive their first pay cheque until some time after taking up appointment. To overcome the problem representatives from various directorates met on July 12, 1977, and appointed a two-man investigating team to study ways and means of improving internal procedures. The report of this team is expected to be examined and acted upon within the next few days. The problem is not widespread and in the majority of those isolated cases payment is effected as a matter of

urgency. It is not impossible to estimate the total amount of such outstandings at June 30, 1977, but, as it is believed that the number of cases was few, the amount outstanding in dollar terms would be insignificant.

3. An award of the Teachers Salaries Board comes into force 14 days after it is published in the *Government Gazette*. Relevant details of the last four cost of living increases are shown below.

Operative date	Date of publication	Date of payment
20/8/76	28/10/76	11/11/76
* 26/11/76	9/12/76	20/1/77
1/4/77	5/5/77	12/5/77
27/5/77	16/6/77	7/7/77

\* As teachers are paid in advance for vacations the award of November 26, 1976, was paid in the first available pay period thereafter, namely, January 20, 1977.

### SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Mr. WOTTON (on notice):

1. What is the Government's policy on education relating to payment of bus transport fares to schools:
  - (a) inside the metropolitan area; and
  - (b) outside the metropolitan area?
2. Has this policy been changed lately and, if so:
  - (a) how;
  - (b) when; and
  - (c) why?
3. Which secondary schools in the Adelaide Hills are declared zoned?
4. Does this policy affect the payment of transport fares for children travelling from an unzoned area to a zoned area and, if so, how?

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

1. The following policy has been approved for payment of travelling allowances to students:
  - i. No travelling allowance shall apply to students other than physically or mentally handicapped students, who reside less than five kilometres from their school or from school transport serving their school.
  - ii. The following students are automatically eligible for travelling allowances, and the distance criterion and rates of allowance shall be determined with respect to the school which they attend.
    - (a) Students attending the nearest or zoned school under the control of the Minister of Education.
    - (b) Students given approval by the Regional Director or, if not applicable, the Director of Schools, to attend a school other than the nearest or zoned school on the grounds that they would otherwise suffer emotional or psychological distress.
    - (c) Students directed by the Minister of Education to attend a specified school because of disciplinary problems.
    - (d) Students who have been before the courts and who, having passed out of the supervision of the Community Welfare Department, are required to attend or continue to attend a school other than their nearest or zoned school.
    - (e) Students who are within the quota selected to attend schools which are declared special interest centres.

iii. Conditional eligibility for travelling allowances shall apply in the following case.

Students attending approved independent secondary schools are eligible for travelling allowances, but the distance criterion and the rates of allowance shall be determined with respect to the nearest secondary school under the control of the Minister of Education, or the school which they attend, whichever is the nearer. In the case of primary children, an allowance is payable only if the child attends a departmental school. The travelling allowance payable when students travel on an approved bus service shall be the actual cost up to a maximum of \$140 a year. The same conditions of eligibility apply in or outside the metropolitan area.

2. The general conditions *vide* regulations 182 (1) and 185 (1) have not been altered. However, the eligibility of students was modified in 1976 to permit payment in the case of those students mentioned in ii (b), (c), (d), (e) above. Particular problems existed with these students and payment of a travelling allowance assisted in settling children into alternative schools.

3. The following secondary schools in the Adelaide Hills are zoned: Birdwood High School; Blackwood High School; Heathfield High School.

4. Children travelling from the unzoned area to a school in a zoned area are subject to the above policy.

### LYNTON HOUSING

Mr. EVANS (on notice):

1. What improvements have been carried out on houses at 22 and 23 Seaview Road, Lynton, during the period June, 1970, to the present, and at whose expense?
2. Has either of these homes been sold by the Highways Department and, if so:
  - (a) at what price; and
  - (b) what is the name of the purchaser?
3. Is it intended to sell any Highways Department-owned homes during the next 12 months?

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

1. Nil. The Highways Department has carried out regular repairs and maintenance of these properties at its expense.
2. No. 22 Seaview Road, Lynton, is in the process of being sold. The sale price and the name of the purchaser are regarded as confidential.
3. Yes.

### RIVERLAND HOUSING

Mr. ARNOLD (on notice):

1. What is the present delay in supplying South Australian Housing Trust rental homes to applicants in Renmark, Berri, Loxton, Barmera and Waikerie?
2. How many rental homes are at present under construction in each of the abovementioned towns?
3. What is the planned building programme for rental homes in each of the abovementioned towns?

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

1. (a) 25 months. Number of applications on hand 70.  
 (b) 3 years. Number of applications on hand 89.  
 (c) 13 months. Number of applications on hand 11.  
 (d) 40 months. Number of applications on hand 22.  
 (e) 3 years. Number of applications on hand 38.
2. (a) *Renmark*: Road formation work has commenced in the trust's latest subdivision (known as "Olivewood")

in Renmark. Stage 1 of this development will provide 56 single-unit allotments and about 8 single-storey maisonette (rental) sites. Work on these dwellings is expected to start later this year. At this stage 11 timber single-units (for rental/sale) are either under construction already or contracts are about to be let. During 1977-78, six double-units will be completed for the rental programme and there will no doubt be some single-units for rental as not all single-unit housing is sold.

(b) *Berri*: There are currently 36 rental-type dwellings under construction in Berri, comprising 16 single-storey maisonettes, 16 villa flats and 4 double-unit houses. These units are due for completion during 1977-78.

(c) *Loxton*: The trust currently has no rental accommodation under construction in Loxton, although eight timber single-units are being built for sale there and those not sold will become available for rental.

(d) *Barmera*: There are currently no rental dwellings under construction in Barmera, although two special sale timber single-units are under construction there.

(e) *Waikerie*: Contracts have been let for nine timber-frame single-unit houses in Waikerie, and these are due for completion during 1977-78. Those not sold will join the rental stock.

3. (a) *Renmark*: Sixteen units per year are programmed for completion in Renmark over each of the next four years.

(b) *Berri*: The building programme for Berri aims for the completion of 20 units per year, but this target was in fact exceeded in 1976-77, with the handover of 34 units, and there are already 42 units (36 for rental purposes) contracted for 1977-78.

(c) *Loxton*: An annual building programme of six houses will meet the needs for both trust rental and sale housing in Loxton over the next few years. Land from the council subdivision will become available mid-way through 1977-78.

(d) *Barmera*: Subject to the availability of land, a programme of six houses per annum would meet the demand.

(e) *Waikerie*: The building programme for Waikerie aims for the completion of 10 units per year until 1980-81.

#### RIVERLAND PLANNING

Mr. WOTTON (on notice): Will the Minister have the Murray Valley planning study released for public exhibition immediately so that the public that intend making submissions to the State Planning Authority on the Murray Mallee Planning Area Development Plan will have time to study it and, if not, will the Minister delay the closing date for comments or submissions on the Murray Mallee plan until after this study has been released?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Murray River study report, because of its comprehensive technical nature, has taken longer to produce and publish than had been previously expected. The printed version for sale to the public is not expected to be available until December. Because this delay was foreseen, the text of the Murray Mallee Development Plan now on public exhibition includes relevant information and data from the Murray River study. It is not necessary therefore to have read the full study report to understand and appraise the issues involved in the development plan report. The Murray River study is a technical publication, not a legal document, and therefore the question of public exhibition does not arise. While the door is not closed to extensions of time for

public exhibition of the Murray Mallee Development Plan for other reasons there is no warrant for an extension for the reason given. The honourable member will no doubt be aware that the Riverland Development Plan has passed through all stages and is now authorised on the same basis and information system as the Murray Mallee Development Plan.

#### KORUNYE RAILWAY CROSSING

Mr. RUSSACK (on notice):

1. How many accidents have occurred at Korunye railway crossing on the Mallala to Two Wells line during the last five years, causing—

- (a) fatal injuries;
- (b) body injuries; and
- (c) property damage?

2. What actions are being taken to correct the apparent traffic hazard at this crossing?

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

- 1. (a) One.
- (b) One.
- (c) Fourteen.

2. The crossing is listed for consideration by the inter-departmental committee but has not been included in the proposed 1977-78 programme for level crossing protection. An overpass was proposed in the Maunsell master plan of the Adelaide to Port Pirie standard-gauge project but funds are unlikely to be provided for an overpass at this location by the Federal Government. It is advised that none of the accidents which have occurred at this level crossing over the past five years has involved trains.

#### SITTINGS AND BUSINESS

Mr. WARDLE (on notice): What will be the programme of the sittings of the House for the present session?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:

Week commencing—

July 19 . . . . .	Sit
July 26 . . . . .	Sit
August 2 . . . . .	Sit
August 9 . . . . .	Rise
August 16 . . . . .	Sit
August 23 . . . . .	Sit
August 30 . . . . .	Sit
September 6 (Show Week) . . . . .	Rise
September 13 . . . . .	Sit
September 20 . . . . .	Sit
September 27 . . . . .	Sit
October 4 . . . . .	Rise
October 11 . . . . .	Sit
October 18 . . . . .	Sit
October 25 . . . . .	Sit
November 1 . . . . .	Sit
November 8 . . . . .	Sit

The date on which the House will rise for the Christmas break will depend on progress made.

#### SOUTH-EASTERN FREEWAY

Mr. WARDLE (on notice):

1. When is it expected that the South-Eastern Freeway will be open to traffic at the Callington-Strathalbyn junction?

2. What will be the total cost of the Mount Barker to Callington section of the South-Eastern Freeway, and what is the distance of this section?

3. When is it expected that the South-Eastern Freeway will be completed to the interchange at White Hill, Murray Bridge?

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

1. Early December, 1977.
2. (a) Estimated \$26 840 000.  
(b) It is 21 km.
3. March, 1979, subject to the availability of funds.

#### HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT

Mr. ALLEN (on notice):

1. Is it envisaged that the Highways camp now based at Hawker will be transferred to Parachilna and, if so, when will that transfer take place and, if not, will an additional construction gang be based at Parachilna?

2. Is it envisaged that work on the Hawker to Leigh Creek road will be speeded up by providing increased grant allocations after this financial year?

3. Does the Government intend to employ private contractors next financial year in order to expedite the work on this road?

4. If the camp now based at Hawker is not to be transferred to Parachilna, where will it be based, and what work will be undertaken by this gang?

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

1. Subject to funds being available, the departmental construction gang presently based at Hawker will be moved to a new base further north. The new base will probably be in the Parachilna area and the move is expected in approximately one year's time.

2. Unknown at this stage, because the Federal Government has not advised the States of the level of funding after June 30, 1978.

3. See 2 above.

4. See 1 above.

#### WILMINGTON ROAD

Mr. ALLEN (on notice):

1. What priority for sealing is placed on the Wilmington to Quorn main road?

2. What are the grants made available to the district councils of Kanyaka-Quorn and Wilmington, respectively, for the present financial year?

3. How much grant money has been made available each year since 1968 to these councils for construction and sealing of this road?

4. What is the traffic count on this road?

5. Was that traffic count taken over a period or on a 24-hour basis and, if taken on a 24-hour basis, at what time of the year was it taken?

6. Does the Government intend to continue providing grants to these councils to complete the construction and sealing of this road?

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

1. It is intended to construct and seal the whole length between Wilmington and Quorn during the next six years, subject to the availability of funds.

2. (1) To the District Council of Kanyaka-Quorn, \$52 000 in total. The sum of \$35 000 is for construction and sealing, and \$7 000 for maintenance of the Wilmington-Quorn road.

(2) To District Council of Wilmington, \$51 000 in total. The sum of \$36 000 is for construction and sealing, and \$5 000 for maintenance of the Wilmington-Quorn road.

3. (1) To District Council of Kanyaka-Quorn, 1974-75—\$12 000; 1975-76—\$11 000; 1976-77—\$16 200.

(2) To District Council of Wilmington, 1973-74—\$4 500; 1976-77—\$4 500.

4. There were 100 vehicles approximately half-way between Wilmington and Quorn.

5. A 24-hour count in April, 1975.

6. Yes, subject to the priority given by the councils in their grant applications and the availability of funds.

#### REPLY TO LETTER

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. When is it intended to acknowledge my letter of June 27, 1977, to the Premier about the Minister of Agriculture and his present wife?

2. When is it intended to answer the letter?

3. Why has this letter not already been either acknowledged or answered?

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

1. and 2. An answer was posted to the honourable member on July 29, 1977.

3. No acknowledgment was immediately sent because of an abnormally high burden of correspondence in the Premier's office. For the same reason and because the Government wished to check the position through the Government service, of wives or close relatives being employed by Government before it made a policy statement, the letter was not answered until the date given.

#### TRUCK HAND TRAYS

Mr. WOTTON (on notice):

1. Did the Minister of Education receive a letter dated April 28, supplementary to a question asked on notice on April 26, concerning the supply of truck hand trays?

2. Is the Minister now able to provide any information concerning the availability of truck hand trays used for stacking book boxes?

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

1. Yes.

2. Two separate items are used to make up the total unit. They are the container known as a "truck hand storage plastic tray" stock No. 7195-0045, and "tray plastic students" stock No. 3990-0003. The "tray plastic students" is readily available, but a large backlog of orders exist for the "truck hand storage plastic tray". This backlog was caused by the Public Buildings Department workshop being overloaded with requests for various types of furniture. A new machine which will hasten production has now been installed, and the orders will be filled as soon as possible.

#### LITTLEHAMPTON DEPOT

Mr. WOTTON (on notice): Did the Deputy Premier receive a letter dated May 9, 1977, concerning the development of the Highways Department depot at Littlehampton as a natural park and, if so, when can a reply be expected to the letter and what are the reasons for the delay in processing a reply?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes. An answer will be forwarded in the near future. The proposal has involved detailed investigation by two Government departments due to the complicated nature of the matter.

## SEWERAGE SYSTEM

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. Has the Engineering and Water Supply Department examined the Beaumont "flush and forget" sewerage plant system and if so, what was the nature of the report?

2. Is the Engineering and Water Supply Department examining any alternate system of sewage control to that embodied in the conventional works such as Bolivar and if so, what is the extent of its inquiries and the current assessment of any alternatives?

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

1. No.

2. The Engineering and Water Supply Department is continuously looking at various systems for disposal of waste waters and has not standardised on any system for sewage treatment in this State. To keep abreast of modern trends in equipment and processes, the department has sent officers to other States and overseas to inspect works and attend conferences on sewage disposal techniques.

## CONSTITUTION CONVENTION

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. Did the Government support a deferment of the next session of the Australian Constitution Convention scheduled for Perth in October, 1977, and if so, for what reason?

2. Does the Government remain committed to a continuance of the convention deliberations and, if there are any conditions of commitment, what are they?

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

1. At its last meeting the Premiers' Conference resolved that the proposed plenary session of the convention in Perth in October this year be postponed. The South Australian Government did not oppose this resolution as it accepted that the proposed dates were inconvenient for some delegations.

2. The Government is committed to the holding of a further plenary session of the convention to be held in Perth on suitable dates in either February or March next year. The Government further supports the continuing work of convention committees to prepare for that session.

## PORT PIRIE FACTORY

Mr. TONKIN (on notice):

1. What progress has been made with plans to establish a Government clothing factory at Port Pirie?

2. Has land at Port Pirie been purchased for this purpose?

3. Will the establishment of a Government clothing factory mean that the Government will withdraw from existing supply contracts?

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

1. A working party has been established to report on the feasibility of establishing a Government clothing factory. The working party is considering possible locations, including Port Pirie.

2. No.

3. If a Government clothing factory is established existing supply contracts will be honoured.

## DRUGS

Mr. TONKIN (on notice):

1. What has been the cost of supplying drugs to outpatients from Government hospital pharmacies in each of the last three years for which figures are available?

2. What is the reason for any increase in costs?

3. Are there any indications of waste in this operation?

4. What proportion of these costs is met by the Commonwealth?

5. In view of the recent decision to charge for outpatient services, why has the provision of drugs by hospital pharmacies not been replaced with a prescription to be dispensed by a private pharmacist?

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

1. This information is unavailable, as hospitals do not segregate inpatient and outpatient cost centres for pharmaceutical accounts.

2. Any increase in cost would have resulted generally from an increase of manufacturers' price although there has been a trend toward increased chemotherapy in current medical practice. This increased usage would consequently further increase costs.

3. No.

4. Costs are shared equally in accordance with the Medibank agreement.

5. This method of dispensing would not be in accordance with the terms of the Medibank agreement.

## FISHER DISTRICT RAILWAY SERVICE

Mr. EVANS (on notice): Is there a plan to—

(a) develop a new railway station at Bellevue Heights;

(b) build a branch line across the Sturt Gorge to service the Flagstaff Hill, Happy Valley and Aberfoyle Park areas; or

(c) extend the Tonsley Park line to the Main South Road, including the development of a car park at the terminus?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Each of the three matters mentioned are options which are currently being examined with a view to improving transport services in southern suburbs. No decisions have been made concerning the worth of these options.

## HAPPY VALLEY HOUSING

Mr. EVANS (on notice): Will the Minister give a guarantee that the standard of housing to be developed by the Housing Trust at the Happy Valley site off Taylors Road will not be detrimental to the value of other properties in the area?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: In the past the Government has never had any cause to seek a guarantee from the Housing Trust in regard to the standard of their housing, and there is no reason to seek such a guarantee in the development at Happy Valley where more than 100 single-unit houses, in a wide range of designs, are being erected for sale. The Housing Trust, of course, meets all Local Government Act and Building Act requirements and has a staff of professional architects.

## MOTOR VEHICLES DEPARTMENT

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (on notice):

1. When is it expected that an office of the Motor Vehicles Department will be opened in the Barossa Valley?

2. Where will such an office be situated?

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

1. Negotiations for suitable premises are taking place at present.

2. Nuriootpa.

**PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS**

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (on notice): How many additional teachers were appointed to primary schools during 1976-77 to provide non-contract time for staff and what is the annual salary bill to pay these extra teachers?

The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD: The replies are as follows:  
 (a) 420.  
 (b) \$4 216 296.

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (on notice): What savings have been effected in the budget of the Education Department by the abolition of student teacher allowances?

The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD: No savings have been effected, because the money was used to employ additional teachers.

**S.G.I.C.**

Mr. BECKER (on notice):

1. What is the total profit or loss earned by the State Government Insurance Commission—  
 (a) for the year ending June 30, 1977;  
 (b) in each category of insurance; and  
 (c) accumulated since commencement of operation?
2. How many persons were employed by the commission on June 30, 1977, and how does this figure compare with the previous year?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The State Government Insurance Commission's results for year ended June 30, 1977, are not available until audited. The normal procedure is for the Auditor-General to table his report in Parliament, and his report will include the results of the commission.

**PREMIER'S OVERSEA TRIP**

Mr. BECKER (on notice):

1. What was the total cost of accommodation at Claridges during the Premier's visit to London in 1976?
2. What accommodation was booked and, of the Premier's party, who occupied—  
 (a) suites; and  
 (b) rooms (single or share)?
3. What was the daily tariff for each person in—  
 (a) suites; and  
 (b) rooms?
4. What was the cancellation fee for accommodation booked at Duke's Hotel?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The costs for the Premier's oversea visit have previously been given to the House. The Government does not propose to discuss individual items of accommodation or travel on this particular occasion, no more than it would discuss individual bills for Opposition members travelling overseas. If the member has some particular point he is trying to make, he should make it explicitly.

**TRAM REFURBISHING**

Mr. BECKER (on notice):

1. What is the total cost to date of refurbishing trams since inception of the programme?

2. How many trams have been completed and what is the programme to complete the fleet?

3. What is the total cost of improvements to the tramway and reserve since commencement of the scheme?

4. Will any new tram cars be purchased in future, and:  
 (a) if so, how many and when; and  
 (b) if not, why not?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The replies are as follows:  
 1. \$270 000.  
 2. 15 completed, one in process.  
 3. \$482 000.  
 4. Yes—as and when required.

**LAND ACQUISITION**

Mr. BECKER (on notice):

1. What properties have been acquired by the Highways Department in the suburbs of Plympton and Glandore during the past seven years?

2. What is the total cost to date of the acquisition of these properties?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: It is difficult to provide the precise information because of the indefinite boundaries of these suburbs. As far as can be ascertained, the answers are as follows:

1. 20 since July 1, 1970.
2. \$500 000.

**VALUATIONS**

Mr. BECKER (on notice): What is the total valuation placed on all properties in the West Lakes development by the Valuation Department?

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

1. The total unimproved value placed on all properties in the West Lakes development by the Valuer-General's office is \$26 067 420.
2. The total assessed annual value placed on all properties in the West Lakes development by the Valuer-General's Office is \$3 270 050.

The above values are at the level established for rating and taxing purposes as at July 1, 1973. The next general valuation of the L.G.A. of Woodville is during the 1977-78 financial year, values to become effective on July 1, 1978.

**COMMUNITY WELFARE STAFF**

Mr. BECKER (on notice):

1. What was the total number of staff employed in the Community Welfare Department as at June 30, 1977?

2. How does this figure compare to each year for the past five years?

3. What is the reason for any variation?

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

1.	1 529.	
2.	1976 . . . . .	1 447
	1975 . . . . .	1 305
	1974 . . . . .	1 255
	1973 . . . . .	1 144
	1972 . . . . .	1 039

3. The reasons for the variations are because of new offices created for departmental expansion and new services provided.



## PRISONERS

Mr. BECKER (on notice):

1. What was the average annual net cost a prisoner and the average daily number of prisoners in the State's correctional institutions for the financial year ending June 30, 1977?

2. How do these figures compare to the previous financial year?

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

- \$11 369. Average daily number of prisoners was 692.
- The figures for 1975-76 were \$9 407 and 713.

## MINERAL DEPOSITS

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. On known facts, is South Australia's most promising financial and industrial potential expected to be associated with hydrocarbon exploitation or with the development and mining of the State's mineral deposits, especially those in the Yunta, Orroroo, and Roxby Downs areas, and what factors support such view?

2. What is the earliest date that significant royalties, in excess of \$500 000, can be expected from new developments in either project?

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

1. On known facts, it is probably fair to say that the further exploitation of hydrocarbons offers the most promising financial and industrial potential. The nature of the honourable member's question however is sufficiently hypothetical for no good purpose to be served in delineating the factors that support such a view.

2. In the case of hydrocarbons, the royalties are already more than \$500 000 annually.

## WATER FILTRATION

Mr. TONKIN (on notice):

1. When is it planned that water passing through the Mannum pipe line will be filtered?

2. In view of Adelaide's increasing dependence on this source of supply, why was this water not the first source to be filtered?

3. When is it planned that water passing through the Morgan-Whyalla pipe line will be filtered?

4. In view of the heavy dependence by towns in the iron triangle on this source of supply, why was it not filtered ahead of individual reservoirs in the Adelaide area?

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

1. 1979.

2. Hope Valley water is subject to severe deterioration of water quality when storm flows intercepted at the Gorge Weir are diverted into the reservoir via the aqueduct.

3. The Engineering and Water Supply Department is currently completing a report on the subject of improving water quality in the northern towns region of the State.

4. The honourable member's question presumes that the quality of Murray River water from a health point of view is not as safe as Adelaide water supply. This is not so.

## OUTER HARBOR

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (on notice): How many ships have used the Outer Harbor container facilities in each week since the official opening of these facilities?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The reply is as follows:

Period (Week commencing)	No. of vessels
20/3/77	1
27/3/77	1
3/4/77	—
10/4/77	—
17/4/77	1
24/4/77	—
1/5/77	1
8/5/77	—
15/5/77	—
22/5/77	2
29/5/77	1
5/6/77	—
12/6/77	2
19/6/77	1
26/6/77	—
3/7/77	2
10/7/77	—
17/7/77	1
24/7/77	—

## RAILWAY TRAILERS

Mr. RUSSACK (on notice):

1. What increase in fuel consumption has occurred since the Rail Division of the State Transport Authority withdrew the 13 820-class trailers from the suburban services?

2. How many tenders were received for trailers to replace the 13 820-class trailers which were withdrawn, who were the successful tenderers and, if none of the tenders were accepted, what were the reasons for non-acceptance?

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

1. About 7 per cent.

2. Two tenders were received, one for the supply of the bogies and one for the supply of the body shells, but no tender for complete cars. Tenders are not yet finalised.

## RAILWAY STAFF

Dr. EASTICK (on notice):

1. What is the estimated or actual sum of money due to South Australian Railway workers as at June 30, 1977, in respect of:—

(a) superannuation; and

(b) long service leave?

2. What effect will the transfer of railway employees to the Commonwealth have on the financial capacity of the State to meet the accrued sums due?

3. Have all issues associated with staff transfers to the Commonwealth been concluded and, if not, what are the outstanding subjects and when are they expected to be resolved?

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

1. The information requested by the honourable member can only be obtained by means of extensive actuarial calculations. Work is expected to commence soon on these calculations, but for the present the information is not available.

2. Officers of the Commonwealth Department of Finance and the State Treasury have worked out a set of arrangements which, it is hoped, will permit the transfer of employees to take place without the State being required to meet, at once, sums due in respect of past service. If these arrangements are acceptable, there should be no adverse effect on the State's financial capacity.

3. No.

(a) Consent to transfer notices not yet issued to staff.

(b) Form of election to transfer superannuation not yet issued to staff.

- (c) Staff service rules not yet issued.  
 (d) Professional officers; salaried and clerical officers; locomotive enginemens; traffic operating; miscellaneous; workshops grades awards not yet ratified.

No date has been fixed.

#### SOUTHERN AREA TRAFFIC

Mr. EVANS (on notice):

1. When will the upgrading of the Blackwood to Belair main road be commenced?
2. What is the anticipated completion date?
3. Will a bicycle track be included in the upgrading?
4. When will traffic lights be installed at the junction of Blythwood Road and Unley Road, Torrens Park?
5. When will moneys be made available for the sealing and upgrading of Mannig Road, Aberfoyle Park?
6. When will school traffic lights be installed for the children wishing to cross Shepherds Hill Road near the Bellevue Heights Primary School?

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

1. Late 1977.
2. Mid-1978.
3. No.
4. 1978-79, subject to the availability of resources.
5. It is unlikely that funds will be available in the next three years.
6. The Highways Department has no plans to install school traffic lights at this locality at the present time.

#### PROPERTY TRANSFERS

Mr. BOUNDY (on notice): Is there a substantial backlog of land transactions awaiting stamping, causing delay in property transfers and, if so:

- (a) is the delay longer than normal;
- (b) have they been deliberately delayed; and
- (c) will all transactions lodged prior to the enactment of the recent amendments to the Stamp Duties Act be processed consistent with legislation existing at the time of lodgment and if not, why not?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is no substantial backlog of work in the Stamp Duties Office. Section 16 of the Stamp Duties Act, 1923-1977, provides that the duty chargeable upon any instrument shall be calculated according to the rates in force at the time the instrument is produced to the Commissioner for the purpose of being stamped.

#### TOURIST BUREAU

Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

1. What contracts have there been during the last 12 months between the Tourist Bureau and any advertising agents, which agents were involved, what was the value of each contract and what was the work to be carried out under each contract?
2. Have any of these contracts been cancelled and, if so, which ones and why and were these contracts given to other agents?
3. What were the detailed recommendations of each cancelled contract?
4. Did any of the agents who had contracts cancelled recommend to the bureau that an advertising campaign should be carried out interstate and, if so, which agents?

5. Is the bureau about to commence an advertising programme in South Australia, does the Premier feature in any of the advertisements, what is the anticipated cost of this programme, and what are the details of this programme?

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

1. During the last 12 months, media advertising by the Division of Tourism has been placed through the advertising agency, Hansen Rubensohn-McCann Erickson. During the financial year to June 6, 1976, advertising costing \$261 624.54 was thus placed.

2. Placement of the advertising was not related to any formal contract. Consequently, no contracts have been cancelled.

3. There were no contracts; hence, no recommendations.

4. There were no contracts; hence, no recommendations.

5. Until estimates of expenditure for 1977-78 are approved, the Division of Tourism does not have a programme of advertising in South Australia for the full financial year. However, there is a programme for the placement of newspaper advertisements in South Australia for the first three months, at a cost of about \$4 600. The Premier does not feature in any of the advertisements.

#### PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

1. Is the Minister of Education aware of the urgent need for an exhaust fan to be installed in the photocopying room, ground floor, of the Public Library in North Terrace and, if so, what action is being taken to ensure that such a fan is installed as quickly as possible?

2. Is the Minister aware of any health problems being caused at present through inadequate ventilation in this room?

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

1. A second exhaust fan is to be installed in the sales office of the State Library in which photocopying is done. It has been included as a variation in a contract already let for alterations in an adjoining area. Work on the main contract is well advanced.

2. Staff in the area have been complaining of discomfort affecting the eyes, nose and throat for some months. Ventilation has been improved in several ways—removal of a large fanlight glass, removal of ceiling tiles, increase in air flow through the air-conditioning system, installation of a pedestal fan, and compulsory full-time use of the existing exhaust fan. The Department of Public Health has been investigating the matter for about two months; the investigations are continuing but interim advice has been given concerning improvements in ventilation, and the Public Buildings Department has been asked to put this advice into effect.

#### HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT DEPOTS

Mr. GUNN (on notice): What plans has the Highways Department to establish any new depots on Eyre Peninsula, where will they be, and how many men will be employed in such depots?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Highways Department is investigating the establishment of a maintenance depot at Elliston. If it is decided to proceed with this proposal, approximately five men will be required. Two staging depots are currently being installed along the Eyre Highway between Penong and the South Australian and Western Australian border. However, these will be used by the existing Coorabie maintenance gang.

## UNIONISM

Mr. GUNN (on notice):

1. Why is the Government employing a policy of compulsory unionism in the Education Department?

2. How many people have been compelled to give a written undertaking that they will join a union before they have been employed by the department?

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

1. In accordance with Government directions, the Education Department does not have a policy of compulsory unionism.

2. Each school is responsible for the employment of ancillary staff, and consequently no central records are available which show how many people joined unions before commencing employment.

## COUNTRY SUBDIVISIONS

Mr. GUNN (on notice): When will action be taken by the State Planning Authority to speed up subdivision applications in country towns, particularly when district council approval has been given to the subdivision?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Director of Planning and the council of a particular area both give independent consideration to applications for resubdivision and subdivision. Before making his decision on the application, the Director of Planning is required to consult with a number of Government bodies under regulations 6 and 7 (in the case of subdivisions) and regulations 23 and 24 (in the case of resubdivision) of the control of land subdivision regulations. In recent months, some delays have arisen in providing reports and the Director of Planning has discussed this with the departments concerned with a view to expediting replies. It should be noted, however, that in the case of subdivisions the regulations provide for the council and the Government department concerned to reply within eight weeks and in the case of resubdivision the period specified is six weeks. The State Planning Office continually reviews the speed with which applications are being handled and makes every effort possible to deal with them as quickly as particular circumstances allow.

## AYERS HOUSE

Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

1. What were the total amounts of all Government accounts at Ayers House restaurants for each of the last three financial years?

2. What are the cost details of each specific function held on behalf of the Government at these restaurants during the last 12 months, and what was the purpose of each function?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: This request calls for too much detailed information and staff cannot be spared to undertake the work involved. The total amount paid in respect of functions at Ayers House and Paxtons restaurants and in regard to functions catered for by those restaurants last year by the Premier's Department, including receptions for overseas visitors, diplomats, industrialists, etc. was about \$7 400. Much of this would be charged to the Estimates line "Cost of Entertaining Official Visitors to the State". Payments by other departments would be much less.

## POLICE OFFENCES ACT

Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

1. On how many occasions during the last two years have the Attorney-General or the Premier given written consent to a potential prosecution under section 33 of the Police Offences Act, what were the details of each occasion and against whom was each prosecution taken?

2. On how many occasions during the same period have the Attorney-General or the Premier refused to give written consent to a potential prosecution under section 33 of the Police Offences Act and what were the reasons for refusing written consent on each occasion?

The Hon. PETER DUNCAN: During the 1973 session, the Police Offences Act was amended to provide for the transfer of Ministerial responsibility for censorship and related matters from the Attorney-General to a Minister; since then the Premier has had the responsibility of considering the institution of prosecutions pursuant to section 33 of that Act. Most prosecutions in relation to indecent material are now instituted pursuant to the Classification of Publications Act, and the police do not need to seek authority in such cases. However, police statistics reveal that, whilst there were no prosecutions in 1976-77, there were eight persons reported for possible offences under section 33 of the Police Offences Act in 1975-76, and four of these were discharged. The other four reports resulted in convictions. These figures relate only to persons prosecuted, and consent would have been given by the Premier. It is believed that there have been no refusals to approve prosecutions in the last two years, but the Acting Commissioner of Police has been unable to check this. It is understood that the police are currently considering two submissions.

## SHOP REGISTRATION FEES

Mr. ARNOLD (on notice):

1. Why is the facility for payment of shop registration fees not provided at the Berri office of the Labour and Industry Department?

2. Will the Government give consideration to providing this facility for shopowners in the Riverland?

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

1. The only officer of the Labour and Industry Department stationed at Berri is an Industrial Safety Inspector. He is there to undertake inspections in all Riverland towns, and spends very little time in his office.

2. For the reasons set out in 1. above, it is not practicable to provide the facility sought.

## DEFAMATION CASE

Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

1. Will the Premier table the Cabinet minute which instructed the Crown Solicitor to act for John David Wright, the Honourable Minister for Labour and Industry, in the taking out of a Supreme Court writ on April 29, 1977, against Dean Craig Brown for defamation?

2. When did Cabinet make the decision to issue this instruction to the Crown Solicitor?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The proceedings of the Executive of the State are required to be secret on the oath of Ministers. The Government will not in these circumstances table Cabinet minutes in this or any other case.

## POLICE TELEPRINTER

Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Why did the Acting Police Commissioner allow the message from the Premier to Mr. Barry Piltz at Ceduna to be transmitted through the police teleprinter?

2. Was a request made to him for such transmission before the police teleprinter was used for this purpose and, if so, by whom?

3. Was he informed of the nature of the message to be transmitted?

4. Have messages of such a nature been sent through the police teleprinter before and, if so, on what previous occasions, why, and at whose request?

5. Will the use of the police teleprinter be permitted in the future for messages of such a nature?

6. What is the estimated cost to the Police Department of the use of the police teleprinter for the transmission of the message from the Premier to Mr. Piltz?

7. Under what circumstances may messages, other than those concerning police matters, be sent through the police teleprinter?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The matters raised by the honourable member were discussed in the motion of no confidence brought on by the Leader of the Opposition last Wednesday, and in subsequent questions from the Opposition on Thursday. I will repeat what I have said, namely, that the use of this outlet was inappropriate and that instructions have been issued that it is not to happen again.

## MONARTO

Mr. WOTTON (on notice): Is it the intention of the Government to divide up any land on the Monarto site for small hectare farms and, if so, (a) what will be the average size of these properties; (b) will these properties be offered for sale or leasehold; and (c) how is it intended that these properties will be serviced with water?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Monarto Development Commission is commencing a study which, among other things, will consider the effect on the Monarto site and the district of the completion of the South-Eastern Freeway. If this points to the need for any consequential development on the site, the allocation and release of land will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements for developing a growth centre.

## GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Mr. TONKIN: Can the Premier say what public servants or Government employees, other than officers of the Valuation Department, have been utilised, for political reasons, by the Premier in his district of Norwood? From what departments have they come and what has been the nature of their activities? Everyone in the community has been aware that officers of the Valuer-General's Office have recently attended in a temporary office in Norwood to answer questions on recent valuations in the area. Such an office has never been set up in the metropolitan area before. Everyone is also aware of the extreme concern expressed in other areas whenever new valuations have been notified, because in many cases they mean increases in land tax, water rates and council rates. Similar concern is now apparent in Norwood, where the local member, as Treasurer, is responsible for State taxation, and has also made special arrangements for dealing with complaints. The activities

of the complaints officers of the Premier's Department have also been queried, especially since for a considerable time the Mayor of Kensington and Norwood (who was also at one time the Premier's campaign director) was one of these officers. It is thus of public importance that the Premier explain what other Government officers he has used or is using to promote a public relations exercise for his personal political advantage in Norwood.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Leader's actions in this and other matters do him very little credit. He exercises no sense of either balance or responsibility in the kind of personal attacks he is making. However, from my political point of view I suppose I must hope, as far as I personally am concerned, that he continues them, although I think that they are a very bad thing for South Australia. On the other hand, the reaction that they have been getting publicly can only be of advantage to the Government. In relation to the officers of the Valuer-General's Office, I point out that the Valuer-General is not subject to my administration; he is an independent statutory officer and authority. He informs me that he has in fact provided officers over a long period to members on both sides of the House for the purpose of making explanations in members' districts on matters relating to valuations.

Mr. Tonkin: In a special office set up for the purpose?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know what the Leader is arguing about here. The suggestion was made by the Valuer-General himself that it would be a useful service (it originally came from the Deputy Valuer-General) that people should have some access to a valuer who could explain that this was a service which had previously been provided in explanations. So that was done. If other members are interested in providing such a service to their districts, they have only to ask the Valuer-General.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: If there is an area where explanation is required, the Valuer-General will co-operate in seeing that that service is provided.

Mr. Dean Brown: Why wasn't one offered in Burnside in 1974?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know what passed between the honourable member and the Valuer-General at that time; no such request came to me from the honourable member. The Valuer-General has made services available to local members and has provided officers in members' districts from time to time.

Mr. Tonkin: Offices or officers?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Officers have been provided in members' districts from time to time to provide explanations concerning valuations. If the Leader suggests that, as the local member for Norwood, I cannot accept a suggestion from the Valuer-General that a service should be provided to my district the Leader just shows how interested he is in providing services to electors. The Leader then made an implication, for which he did not produce any evidence, that officers of the Government service had been used for political purposes in my district. If the Leader wants to make that accusation he should make it specifically.

Mr. Mathwin: He asked a question.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is the old practice that the Liberal Party is happy to follow. It accuses someone of something and then says, "Disprove it." That is exactly what it is doing; it is convicting someone before he has an opportunity to reply by saying, "I am throwing out the accusation—you disprove it." If the Leader has any accusation to make let him prove it, because he knows

that his accusation is completely baseless. The only officer he has made any remarks about is the present Mayor of Kensington and Norwood who is not an officer of my department. At one time he was a member of the inquiry unit in my department, coping with inquiries from districts throughout the State. He was transferred subsequently to the department of the Attorney-General, a department in which he had previously worked, and he is an investigation officer in that department.

The Hon. Peter Duncan: And members opposite don't hesitate to get on to him for his services.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Exactly, and for the Leader to cast that slur on Mr. Richards without any basis whatever is just an indication of the depths to which the Leader is prepared to sink to traduce anyone for what he conceives to be his political gain.

### INDUSTRIAL STOPPAGES

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Has the Minister of Labour and Industry seen a recent statement by the Federal Minister for Employment and Industrial Relations relating to industrial disputes, and can he provide any figures for South Australia?

Mr. Gunn: Dear Dorothy!

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: A report in the *Sunday Mail* of July 31, 1977, states:

According to the figures, the number of working days lost in April fell by 40 per cent compared with the same month last year. And for the four-month period from January to April this year, there was also a 40 per cent drop compared with the same period for the previous year. In his speech to the Japanese, Mr. Street pointed out that disregarding the "rare event" of the national stoppage over Medibank, the number of disputes last year was the lowest since 1968.

Mr. Street also said that the March quarter figures released recently showed the lowest number of days lost for any March quarter for five years. The number of employees involved was the lowest in 10 years. Mr. Street added that time lost in Australia through industrial accidents was generally greater than time lost to industrial disputes.

Can the Minister say whether these figures are correct, and what is the position in South Australia? If the figures quoted in that article are correct, the suggestion by members opposite that industrial disputes are causing an economic problem and unemployment in South Australia is shown to be absolute nonsense.

The Hon. J. D. WRIGHT: The member for Eyre interjected, as he usually does when questions are asked in this House, saying that this question is a Dorothy Dixier, but it is not. I have been carrying the figures for a week hoping a member opposite would ask me the question. The honourable member told me at lunchtime that he would be asking the question today. I said, "Good, I have been waiting to relate them." The interesting point in the article in the *Sunday Mail* was the admission by the Federal Liberal Minister that man-hours lost in Australia were being reduced. There is no question about that and, for the first time to my knowledge, the Minister agreed at the same time that more man-hours were lost in industry through accident and sickness than through industrial disputes. I have been saying that for some time, and so has his counterpart (Mr. McPhee), but that is the first time that Mr. Street has made that admission. It may be that Mr. McPhee has been good for that department.

The facts in South Australia are interesting and, as I want to place them on record, I shall read from the little dossier I have.

In the 12 months to April (the last month for which statistics are available), South Australia, with 9 per cent of the work force, accounted for only 3.9 per cent of time lost in industrial disputes. For the first four months of 1977, the equivalent figure was 2.8 per cent. Members opposite often refer to "hard lines" and "firm actions" and that this is the way to solve industrial disputes, but their counterparts in other States do not seem to be doing so well, according to the headlines they have been receiving, with their threats to introduce certain legislation. The record reveals that Western Australia, with 8 per cent of the work force, accounted for 14.3 per cent of time lost in disputes; that represents almost 1.5 per cent of the actual work force, whereas South Australia has about .33 per cent. Queensland, with 13 per cent of the work force, accounted for 19.2 per cent of industrial disputes. Again this is well in excess of 15 per cent of the work force involved. Victoria, another Liberal State, with 27 per cent of the work force, had a huge total of 37 per cent of the disputes.

I think therein lies absolute proof that the system we adopt in South Australia of non-confrontation with consultation works. The three States with conservative Governments have among them less than one-half of the work force, but nearly three-quarters of the trouble. If that is the "smack of firm government", their people must be punch drunk. Opposition members pretend to believe that it is all a matter of accident, or that it was always like this. However, again the figures tell a different story. In 1964, the last year of the Playford Government, South Australia accounted for 6.9 per cent of labour disputes. As soon as the Walsh Government came into power in 1965, the figure dropped away to 3.2 per cent in one year and to 2.8 per cent in the following year. The member for Davenport does not like these figures, and I know that he is very worried about them.

Let us examine what happened in 1968, when the Hall Government returned to office. The figures again jumped to 4.7 per cent and to 6.6 per cent in 1969. We see the confrontation by the Liberal Government appearing again. When the Dunstan Government was returned, these figures immediately dropped again to 3.8 per cent, 3.6 per cent, and 3 per cent in successive years. For the first four months of 1977 (and this is something of which my Government and I are proud), we have had 2.8 per cent of lost time. That obviously answers the honourable member's question.

### RAILWAY DEFICIT

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Can the Minister of Transport give the estimated deficit on the total transport operations of the State Transport Authority for the past financial year? The authority's report was tabled in the House today, and part of it states, "In accordance with s. 21 of the Railways Act, I have the honour to inform you of the following working results." The report then indicates that, for the nine months ended March 31 this year, the deficit was \$35 900 000. I saw a report in the media a week or so ago that the deficit on the metropolitan section of the railways for the past 12 months was, I think, \$25 000 000. Can the Minister clearly clarify whether the \$35 900 000 refers only to metropolitan railways or whether it is the total railways deficit? My basic question was what is the total estimated deficit, including the Bus and Tram Division, of the State Transport Authority.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I do not have the actual figure as at June 30. To my knowledge, it has not yet been finalised. The figure the honourable member seeks

will be a calculated figure because, as he would know, that the transfer of the non-metropolitan railways has not yet been completed. At this stage, and indeed during the whole of the interim period, a calculation has been used to determine what is the metropolitan deficit and what is the country deficit. It was agreed (and I am speaking from memory, and I shall check this) that the ratio is to be 25 per cent for metropolitan railways and 75 per cent for non-metropolitan railways. If the honourable member takes that figure and applies that sum to it, he will get the figure he requires in relation to the railways. The deficit for the Bus and Tram Division was, I think, about \$12 000 000 for the year just concluded. However, it is dangerous to run away with the idea that, simply by putting those two figures together and using the term "deficit", that is a loss situation. One must study it in reverse, and say that, if the Bus and Tram Division were not operating and if the Railways Division were not operating, enormous sums would be required to provide for other forms of transport. Those two must be calculated one against the other. Regrettably, too few people do this. They look upon the operation of the Bus and Tram Division and of the Rail Division as if the fares should balance the operating costs. In fact, I know of no rail system anywhere in the world that is able to do this. The provision of commuter services is as much the provision of a public service as are all the other services provided as community services. I shall obtain the actual figure for the honourable member.

#### NEW ZEALAND LOCOMOTIVES

Mr. WHITTEN: Can the Premier provide any further information regarding the \$11 000 000 contract won by the Clyde Engineering organisation to modernise 35 New Zealand locomotives? On Friday, in the *News*, the Premier announced that Clyde Engineering had won a contract to modernise New Zealand locomotives. I was extremely pleased about that announcement, not only in relation to South Australia but also because it will provide much employment in Port Adelaide. I was also pleased that one of the reasons for the winning of the contract was because of the new cranes on the container berth at Port Adelaide. However, I was concerned to read in the *Advertiser* on Saturday morning that the Leader of the Opposition was most vocal in condemning the actions of the Premier. The report quotes Mr. Tonkin as saying that the matter was a lot of humbug. The report also quotes Mr. Tonkin as saying that the Premier's publicity team had goofed again, and that this showed how desperate the Premier was to give some impression that all was well with the Government of South Australia. Will the Premier allay some of the fears people may have after hearing these false reports from the Leader of the Opposition?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Leader of the Opposition is so obsessed with knocking South Australia that he can no longer confine himself to just knocking the Government: he has to belittle the efforts of South Australians in general, and in this case of a major engineering company. The announcement by Clyde on Friday was the first time that the Clyde company had announced this \$11 000 000 contract. It was a significant achievement for the company, because the rebuilding of existing locomotives is a new process for Australia and will give us new experience and technology. The contract for New Zealand Railways was won against very strong competition from Canadian and American companies. The contract involves 35 locomotives being brought to

Adelaide, rebuilding, refurbishing and re-equipping them and then being sent back to New Zealand. If, in fact, that contract goes well for those 35 locomotives, there are considerable opportunities for a continuance of contracts for further locomotives.

I am informed by the media that the Leader of the Opposition immediately started telephoning, in company with the Hon. Martin Cameron, M.L.C., all television and radio stations in Adelaide with a statement that this was "old news, that it was a deception on the part of the Government, and that anyway while five of the locomotives were here, it was doubtful if the remaining 30 would arrive". This is what was reported to me by members of the media. Clyde Engineering has a firm contract for 35 locomotives and there is no doubt the contract will continue. What the Leader has done here is typical of many other instances that he uses to belittle the South Australian scene.

In reaction to the statement made by the Leader of the Opposition to the press, the group General Manager of Clyde Industries Australia, Mr. A. R. Bushell, expressed considerable anger at what had been done by the Leader of the Opposition. He said:

Clyde Industries confirm that the publicity associated with the rebuilding of the New Zealand locomotives at the company's Rosewater factory has not previously been released to the press by the company, and that the statements made by the Premier on Friday, July 29, 1977, in the *Adelaide News* are in fact a true record of the situation associated with this contract.

#### GRAPEGROWING INDUSTRY

Mr. ARNOLD: Can the Leader of the Opposition say what action he has taken on behalf of the wine grape-growing industry to impress on the Federal Government the need for a reduction of excise duty on Australian brandy.

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order! That is an inadmissible question. That is not the business of the House, nor the business for which the Leader is responsible to the House, so I cannot allow the question.

Mr. ARNOLD: If that question is inadmissible, may I ask a question of the Premier?

The SPEAKER: Yes, you may.

#### VALUATIONS

Mr. ARNOLD: Can the Premier say whether the Government is willing to make a temporary office and officers of the Valuer-General's Office available to rate-payers in the Riverland district of South Australia? It was brought to my notice during the weekend by seven persons in the district of Kingston-on-Murray that they had received their valuations on irrigation perpetual-lease quarter-acre housing allotments in the Kingston irrigation area. The first section number I refer to is No. 271: the previous valuation on that housing allotment was \$40, but the new valuation is \$12 000, an increase of about 30 000 per cent. Other valuations are similar to that. In the next example the previous valuation was \$60 and has increased to \$11 000, which is only a 18 333 per cent increase. As the seven examples in the Kingston area are all in the same area, and the increases are astronomical, I ask the Premier whether he will make available to the people in the Riverland the same facilities that he intends making available to people in his own district.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is not possible for me simply to direct the Valuer-General on this matter: however, I will certainly put the honourable member's request to him. I am sure that the Valuer-General will supply an officer to visit the honourable member's district to explain to his constituents the situation in relation to valuations.

#### SECOND-HAND MOTOR CYCLES

Mr. OLSON: Will the Attorney-General investigate the possibility of imposing on second-hand motor cycles a similar warranty as that now applying to used cars. This matter has been brought to my attention by a constituent who, after having paid \$700 for a motor cycle, was assured by Avon Motor Cycles, Keswick, that the motor cycle was roadworthy. The existing service guarantee is 30 days on the basis of 50 per cent for the replacement of parts and labour. In this case the purchaser was required on the day of the sale to walk 16 kilometres to his home, because the motor cycle he had purchased had a faulty generator. On complaining to the Prices and Consumer Affairs Branch, the purchaser was told that little could be done to assist him under existing legislation.

The Hon. PETER DUNCAN: The Second-Hand Motor Vehicles Act provides that motor cycles can be brought within the ambit of the Act. However, soon after the Act was passed by this Parliament motor cycles and motor cycle dealers were exempted by regulation from complying with the provision of the Act largely because of the difficulties that were foreseen, as many motor cycles do not have odometers, and because of other problems. That meant that motor cycles did not fit as neatly into the provisions of the Act as we had hoped. We have been considering the matter, and the amendments that we intend to introduce during this session will ensure that the provisions of the Act can be applied to motor cycles and motor cycle dealers. That legislation will be introduced this session, and I imagine that when that legislation has been passed it will solve the sort of problems raised by the honourable member.

#### DRINK CANS

Mr. WARDLE: Is the Minister for the Environment willing to extend the date on which the stocks of canned drinks must be sold in the case of non-profit-making organisations such as clubs, committees, and other groups? It seems that many summer-time activity sporting groups, whose seasons finished last March and April and who had stocks of canned drinks at that time, are now beginning to realise that their season will not open in time for them to sell the stocks of drinks they have on hand. I refer especially to a club in my own district that had, at the close of its summer season, 150 dozen such drinks on hand. That club's opening season for 1977-78 begins in the middle of September. In the meantime the club will not hold a meeting of any kind, and sales will not occur. That comment relates to only one group. I believe many such groups exist throughout the State and are facing this situation. I therefore ask the Minister whether he will consider extending the time for this purpose perhaps by even one month in order to allow these summer-time groups to get rid of the stocks they have on hand.

The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS: I regret that I do not think it would be possible to further extend the time for clearing old stocks. I point out that the legislation was

passed on October 15, 1975, when it was clearly stated that the legislation would operate from July 1, 1977. That undertaking was given in the House by my colleague, the member for Henley Beach, who was then the Minister, and it was repeated in the Upper House. Although the legislation did not spell that out, nevertheless there was an amendment to the Act at the beginning of last year that provided for the new type of can to be required after July 1, 1977. These details were again spelt out. In August last year I reiterated at the annual luncheon of soft drink manufacturers that the legislation would operate from the due date, July 1, 1977. Many times since then I have stated that the legislation would take effect on July 1, 1977. Recently, it was considered desirable to allow a period of one month to enable retailers to clear stocks on their shelves and that period was subsequently extended to six weeks. About two months ago, following representations from a brewing company, which had discovered that it would be unable to get cans on the market before the end of August, the period was extended yet again until that time. Industry has had about two years to face up to the situation that, after July 1, 1977, the Act would apply. They have had plenty of warnings in that time. The period of grace to get rid of existing stocks has been extended to two months. And I think that is enough notice for all to comply with it. I appreciate that there are some retailers, not necessarily non-profit people, who will be left with fairly substantial stocks, because manufacturers in recent months have been selling these drinks at quite large discounts for bulk purchases. Some retailers were unwise enough to take big deliveries of these stocks in order to take advantage of the lower price. It now seems that they could be adversely affected. I do not know how long soft drinks in cans will remain in first-class condition. I was assured by the brewing company, when it sought the extension to the end of August, and my agreement that they should sell enough cans in June to tide hotels over until that time, that it does not like leaving its product in cans for an indefinite period, as there is a limited life for the product in first-class condition in which it should be sold. I do not know the life of soft drinks but I imagine that anyone who bought great quantities of these cans last summer has probably not got the best product to sell for the coming summer. I understand that non-profit clubs have special problems, but honourable members should realise that retailers who are in business for their living also have to face these problems. It would be invidious if we made a concession to non-profit clubs and societies that put them in a more favourable position than are the people who depend on this industry for their livelihood.

#### ROAD TAX

Mr. CHAPMAN: Can the Minister of Transport say what alternative revenue-raising measures are being considered to replace road maintenance tax in South Australia? Also, have any previously considered alternatives been discarded and, if so, what are they? I refer to the matter raised in the *Advertiser* this morning suggesting that the road maintenance tax is a matter of considerable public interest. The article indicated that the Minister was at present considering replacement measures to allow the elimination of road tax.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am at a disadvantage because I have not read the report to which the honourable member referred. I think almost for the entire period I have been a Minister I have been searching, and I have had my

officers search, for an alternative to replace the road maintenance tax. It is a tax which I believe is iniquitous, because it is not being paid by everyone. In my view, the sooner we find a fairer alternative the better. We have looked at many various schemes but have not yet found one within the State province that is suitable to the replacement of the previous present tonne-mile tax, bearing in mind that the present tonne-mile tax applies to every vehicle on the road, including vehicles with interstate (I.S.) plates, and anything we have looked at has to exclude holders of I.S. plates because of section 92 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

About 12 months ago at the Australian Transport Advisory Council meeting held in Brisbane I put forward a proposition on behalf of South Australia that we should ask the Commonwealth Government to introduce a new and additional 2c a gallon levy on fuel, such levy to be returned to the States, and at the same time to repeal the road maintenance contribution. The method of applying that would be that, whilst the 2c levy would be paid across the board and the private motorist and owners of vehicles up to 4 tonnes in most States other than South Australia and Western Australia and up to 8 tonnes in South Australia would be paying whereas they are presently not paying, we have worked out a formula that would enable us to reduce the registration fees and so strike a balance at about 10 000 kilometres a year. The success of that scheme was its acceptance by all the States and the Commonwealth, particularly the Commonwealth. We have been waiting since July last for Mr. Nixon to say whether the Commonwealth is prepared to be in it. To date he has not rejected it, so I suppose one has to look hopefully to the future.

Mr. Venning: Have you read your mail lately?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I do not know about that.

Mr. Chapman: Are there any alternatives that you have discarded?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: No, I have not discarded any alternatives. Although we had alternatives which we decided not to adopt, they have not been discarded; they are continuously there and can be reviewed and revamped. Quite frankly, we will continue to search for an alternative, because I think it is a tax that ought to be replaced by something which is fairer.

#### CATTLE TRUCKS

Mr. WOTTON: Can the Minister of Transport confirm that the lack of railway cattle trucks on the line between Alice Springs and Dry Creek is due to a backlog of these trucks requiring repairs and maintenance? Will the Minister state the reasons for the delays on such repair work and take action to rectify the situation? At present there is a good market for stock from the northern areas of the State and there is an urgent demand for railway trucks to bring cattle to the abattoirs from Alice Springs and many of the northern towns. Will the Minister look into this situation?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am grateful that the honourable member let me know that he intended to ask this question, and I hope that his colleagues will not call it a Dorothy Dixier. The position as outlined to me by the railway officials is that there has been an extremely high demand for livestock vans. In fact, when the final statements of account are brought out (and I am sure the Deputy Leader will be interested to know this), they will show that livestock revenue is about 67 per cent more

than the estimate, clearly showing that there has been a heavy demand. The heavy demand has come from the northern areas of Adelaide, through the South-East into Victoria, and from the south-eastern areas of Western Australia. On the broad-gauge system the situation is not quite so comfortable, but the railways are now able to meet the demand. We have, however, recently declined some orders from Victoria. However, the position on the narrow-gauge system is not so good. On the Marree to Port Augusta standard-gauge line, the position is quite critical. There are three trains of 84 waggons a week and another half train leaving Alice Springs each week. One can appreciate that there is a heavy demand, caused wholly by the stock movement. There is no unusual build-up of vehicles requiring repairs.

#### MODBURY NORTH CENTRE

Mrs. BYRNE: Will the Minister of Education obtain a report on the progress made in establishing a childhood services centre at Modbury North, approval for which was given by the Childhood Services Council last October? This centre is being established by the Kindergarten Union as part of its capital programme, and it is being funded through the union's open-market borrowings. Progress in establishing the centre has been considerably delayed because of several reasons outlined to me in correspondence dated May 3 from the Minister. This situation was not expected to be resolved before the end of July.

The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD: I will obtain that information for the honourable member.

#### SEAT BELT EXEMPTION

Mr. BOUNDY: Will the Minister of Transport take action to clarify the seat belt legislation with regard to medical exemption? I have received a letter that a constituent directed to the Road Traffic Board regarding his condition. He is 68 years of age, is deaf, and wears a hearing aid that interferes with his wearing a seat belt. He wrote to the board asking for exemption, and received the following reply:

Although we are sympathetic to your problem, it is felt that the benefits derived from wearing a seat belt are many and as such we feel there are several other solutions open to you. Firstly, the board would be prepared to give permission for your alteration to the seat belt lay-out in your vehicle and if you are in Adelaide in the near future please call in at the Road Traffic Board at 33 Warwick Street, Walkerville (4th floor Highways Building), so that an inspection can be made of the problem. Another, and probably less costly solution would be the relocation of the pocket on your shirt to a more suitable position. Finally, your local doctor can give you exemption from wearing a seat belt on medical grounds.

This matter distresses the man, who is single, lives alone, drives a Mini Minor, and goes to Yorketown once a week to shop. He is worried about his having to shift the pocket from the left side to the right side of his shirt and about what he should do when he travels as a passenger. I suggest that it would have been a good service to the community had it been made known to this gentleman, and indeed to the medical profession in South Australia, that he could be given a certificate forthwith on the ground that the location of his hearing aid would have been a reason for exemption from wearing a seat belt. Can the Minister take action to clarify this situation?



The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I think the matter has been amply clarified by the letter the honourable member read from the Road Traffic Board. It has dealt with the present position as it applies and as approved by this House.

Mr. Vandeppeer: Have they dealt with the position of the pocket, too?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I wonder whether this gentleman is the only person wearing a hearing aid and why we have not had a similar problem from the many thousands of people who do wear them.

Mr. Boundy: Perhaps they have just changed their pockets.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Perhaps so. Perhaps they find another place to carry the hearing aid. I do not know. It seems to me that this scarcely constitutes a reason for the non-wearing of a seat belt when one takes into account the tremendous value of seat belts in saving lives and preventing serious injury. I would be pleased to discuss the matter further with the Chairman of the Road Traffic Board, but I think that what the honourable member has been told is a full explanation. After all, the moving of a pocket on the shirt does not, I think, constitute a problem. If it is then on the wrong side when he rides as a passenger, I suggest that when he is travelling as a passenger he should sit in the back seat behind the driver, and then it would be on the correct side.

#### HILLS BUS SERVICES

Mr. RUSSACK: Will the Minister of Transport inform the House what progress has been made in discussions between local government authorities and the State Transport Authority regarding the subsidising of Hills' bus routes, in the main in relation to three operators? In the previous session, I brought this matter before the Minister and asked what could be done, and he said that discussions were taking place with the transport authorities. In the *Advertiser* yesterday, it was reported that local government bodies in the Adelaide Hills were negotiating with the State Transport Authority to have private transport in the Hills subsidised. The Chairman of the committee representing seven Hills councils, Mr. L. Hughes, was quoted as saying that private transport in the Adelaide Hills should be subsidised. It is known that these operators are facing financial difficulties, that those transport facilities have deteriorated, and that concern is being expressed in the Adelaide Hills in the Gumeracha, Strathalbyn, and other areas.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am not aware of the present stage of the discussions, but I shall ask the Chairman of the State Transport Authority to provide me with an up-to-date report showing what progress, if any, has been made. However, I think the policy of the Government on this issue has been made abundantly clear previously. It is really in pursuit of that policy that the discussions are now being held between the State Transport Authority and local government.

#### EIGHT-MILE CREEK

Mr. ALLISON: Now that the Drainage Review Committee for Eight-Mile Creek has made its report to the Minister of Lands, will the Minister of Works obtain from the Minister of Lands information on when legislation will

be introduced to amend the system of drainage rating in the area? On May 21 of this year, in a Ministerial press release, the Minister said that the Drainage Review Committee had recommended that the rates be reduced to about one-third of the previous level, that such reduction should be made retrospective to the 1976-77 rating year, and that in future they be adjusted in line with rates levied under the South-East Drainage Act. Having been involved personally for many months on this issue, and having put a case verbally to the Minister at his invitation on behalf of the farmers at Eight-Mile Creek, I regret that I was not personally informed of his decision. I understand that before this could happen some legislation would have to be introduced in this House.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member obviously is not aware that on July 1 the administration of the South-Eastern Drainage Board passed from the Minister of Lands to me as Minister of Works. This is in accordance with the policy that the Government had adopted in relation to placing under the control of one Ministerial head all matters concerning the control and use of water resources, etc., in this State. It is true that legislation will have to be introduced in order to give effect to the findings of the committee to which the honourable member referred. I believe that that committee did an excellent job. I was in close touch with the Chairman, Mr. Kilmier, and I commend him particularly for the work that he did, because I know that he spoke to as many of the settlers as he could during the course of the committee's investigation. I think it is a satisfactory resolution to the problem.

The other problem that confronts the settlers in that area at the moment is, what priority should be given to the maintenance to be carried out on those drains. I assure the honourable member that that matter is under consideration. I am not certain when the legislation will be introduced; certainly, it will have to be introduced during the course of this session, but I am not certain when. I will find out what stage preparations have reached and let the honourable member know.

#### BEVERAGE CONTAINER LEGISLATION

Mr. VENNING: Can the Minister for the Environment say whether the Minister will consider amending the relevant legislation to allow the sale of non-deposit cans in industrial premises? I believe that the Government was apparently prepared to accept this argument, because the Minister for the Environment gave the soft drink manufacturers an undertaking that vending machines in industrial areas or plants would be exempt from the Act. However, the Minister subsequently changed his mind when the Crown Solicitor advised him that that could not be done under existing legislation. I have been informed that, if the State Government agreed to change the legislation, it would help to maintain the existing level of operations at the Port Pirie Coca-Cola bottling plant, which is the supply centre for Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited at Whyalla, where workers consume some 10 000 cans a week, dispensed through about 60 vending machines. I have been further informed that such amending of the legislation would be of considerable benefit to the industry and of particular benefit in helping to maintain jobs in Port Pirie. I point out that about 70 people are employed in the Port Pirie bottling plant.

The SPEAKER: Order! I point out that the honourable member is now debating, not giving an explanation.

Mr. VENNING: This is an explanation, Sir. Hence the need—

The SPEAKER: Order! That is not an explanation.

The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS: The Act has two main sections concerning this matter. Section 6 (1) refers to the requirement on a retailer to sell the product in a can that is appropriately marked to show the amount of deposit required. Section 10 provides that a can cannot be sold unless the retail point is within a collection area. That provision was included to ensure that there would be a collection depot to which a can purchaser could go to get his money back. Section 10 provides that this does not apply to on-premise sales. In other words, cans could be sold in a shop for consumption on the premises where that shop is not in a collection area. However, section 6 (1), which relates to the necessity to charge a deposit, does not refer to on-premise sales: it applies to all sales. That section could not be construed to mean that grounds exist whereby industrial premises such as those referred to by the honourable member could be exempted.

Mr. Venning: Will you consider it?

The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS: I will. I considered it seriously a couple of months ago because, in some ways, it could solve many problems. If the exemption problem were solved it would create many other problems, I remind the honourable member, because it would be difficult in some circumstances to control the use of cans in certain premises. Where sales are as great as those referred to by the honourable member, it would be competent for a collection depot to be set up and for the money to be refunded. When on a scale as large as that, it is a worthwhile proposition, because 1c a can (which is the fee being paid to collection depots by manufacturers) on 10 000 cans a week represents \$100 a week. That would be a worthwhile sideline for the canteen, or whatever it is. All I can suggest is that we will keep the matter under review in the coming months to ascertain whether existing legislation works satisfactorily and, if it does not, it may be necessary to consider amending it. Existing legislation, as passed by this House, could not be waived to allow on-premise sales to be exempt from the deposit.

#### RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

Dr. EASTICK: My question is supplementary to the reply I received today to Question on Notice No. 86. I ask the Premier what would be the consequence to the State Treasury of a failure to arrange a satisfactory transfer of railway employees without the negotiated delay of superannuation and long service leave entitlement payments. It is obvious from the Premier's reply to the Question on Notice that this vital area of negotiation has not yet been completed and, that, if all railway transferees to the Commonwealth sought their superannuation and long service leave benefits at the time of transfer, more than \$30 000 000 could have to be paid out by the State Treasury. I want to know from the Premier what he believes would be the consequence to the State Treasury in such an event.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I imagine that the honourable member is referring to Question on Notice No. 90 and not to Question on Notice No. 86. Frankly, I find that the question asked by the honourable member is hypothetical.

Dr. Eastick: The transfer date is September 1.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not expect that the events referred to by the honourable member will occur. The reply given to Question on Notice No. 90, which I saw yesterday, is as much as can be said on the subject.

#### BEVERAGE CONTAINER LEGISLATION

Mr. EVANS: Can the Minister for the Environment say what is the situation now regarding licensed depots for returnable deposit cans? I am told that some of the depots that were published as being licensed have had their licences cancelled or the licences have not been issued as advertised and that the depots are no longer available for people to return cans. I believe that in the Mitcham Hills area no depot exists for people living in the area. Those people live a considerable distance from any potential depot to which they can return cans. I ask the Minister whether he will consider that matter, because a large community is involved, the area is some distance from the Adelaide Plains, and business people in the area would be greatly inconvenienced if they could not sell cans, as people would not buy them unless there was a depot in the area from which they could obtain a refund. I also ask the Minister whether he can outline what difficulties the department is having in getting depots to operate satisfactorily.

The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS: I have made statements about this matter, the most recent being in June when I stated that I expected some teething troubles with the legislation because it was quite new to this country. A few problems have occurred, but I am pleased to be able to reassure the House that those problems are being overcome rapidly and that I am confident that within two or three months of the inception of this legislation (probably by next month) the legislation will have been shaken down satisfactorily. The honourable member referred first to the question of people who were to be licensed to operate collection depots but who withdrew their applications. In one or two cases in the metropolitan area, after initial application, people indicated at about the time the list was to be published in the *Government Gazette* that they wished to withdraw. A revised list that was gazetted last week provides 20 depots in the metropolitan area and about 40 or 50 country depots. Therefore, the coverage is becoming fairly satisfactory, but there are still some gaps. I understand that there is no depot on Kangaroo Island and that there are none in an area covered by part of the member for Heysen's district and another district in the Mid-North. Several new depots have been licensed in the past week because suitable applications have been received from people who wish to conduct them. I am fairly confident that soon the whole of the State will be reasonably well covered. I have laid down a guideline to determine how many depots are necessary in the metropolitan area to provide an adequate coverage. The guideline was laid down to ensure that no consumer should have to go more than 5 kilometres to a collection depot; in fact, the coverage that exists throughout most of the metropolitan area provides a much better service than the guideline would indicate. Some exceptions must occur, however. In a district such as that covered by the honourable member, 5 km is not a great distance, even in the Adelaide Hills. Some people in the honourable member's district may have to travel more than 5 km to a depot, but I have deliberately restricted collection measures in some country areas to ensure that cans are not sold where

a consumer would have to travel an inordinate distance to get his money back. There is no policy of refusing anyone a licence on the ground that someone has already been licensed in the area. For example, in Whyalla a person was registered from one of the licensed marine stores. Subsequently, we received an application to conduct a depot from the sheltered workshop in that area. Although they were fairly close to each other, the second application was approved. I assure the honourable member that we are only too happy to receive applications from people who wish to conduct these collection depots in order to provide a better service to the public. I think I have covered the main points that the honourable member raised: there were some minor difficulties, but I believe that they have been overcome.

*At 3.11 p.m., the bells having been rung:*

The SPEAKER: Call on the business of the day.

#### MOTOR FUEL RATIONING (TEMPORARY PROVISIONS) BILL

The Hon. J. D. WRIGHT (Minister of Labour and Industry) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to provide for the distribution of motor fuel during any period of limitation of supplies of motor fuel and for other purposes. Read a first time.

The Hon. J. D. WRIGHT: I move:

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

All members will be aware that there is at least a possibility that supplies of motor fuel may be restricted in this State pending the outcome of industrial dispute quite remote from South Australia. Accordingly, the Government considers it prudent to place on the Statute Book a measure having limited life but capable of dealing with any emergency that may occur within the next three months. As will be apparent from the examination of the clauses, it is substantially the same as a measure that was enacted by this House previously.

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 is a commencement provision in the usual form, and in connection with this clause I make clear that the measure will not be brought into operation unless there is a real need to ration supplies of motor fuel. Clause 3 is formal. Clause 4 sets out the definitions necessary for the purposes of the Act, and I would draw to members' special attention the definition of "motor fuel", which has been drawn in this form to ensure that only particular fuels that are in short supply will be subject to rationing.

Clause 5 enables the Ministers to issue permits, and provides that permits may contain conditions as to use, etc. Clause 6 enables the Ministers to revoke any permit issued. Clause 7 is intended to provide sufficient flexibility to ensure that, in appropriate circumstances, supplies of fuel can be made available without the need for individual permits to be obtained. Clause 8 prohibits the sale of motor fuel to a person other than a permit holder, but excepts a sale the subject of clause 7. Clause 9 prohibits the use of motor fuel, the subject of rationing, for a purpose other than a purpose for which that motor fuel has been made available.

Clause 10 prohibits a permit holder parting with possession of his permit. Clause 11 prohibits a person other than a permit holder from obtaining motor fuel, excepting again purchasers the subject of clause 7 authorisation. Clause 12 requires a person in charge of a vehicle using fuel supplied under a permit to carry a permit with him, and Clause 13 is in aid of this clause and authorises officers of the Police Force to stop vehicles and question drivers. Clause 14 provides a penalty for false statements made in connection with an application for a permit. Clause 15 enables the movement of bulk fuel to be controlled, and clause 16 authorises the Minister to require information relating to "fuel storages" as defined to ensure that the whereabouts of substantial quantities of fuel can be ascertained quickly.

Clause 17 authorises a delegation of power by the Minister to ensure a convenient administration of the Act. Clause 18 gives formal protection to the Minister and persons authorised by him. Clause 19 is an evidentiary provision which, in the circumstances of a shortage of fuel, it is suggested is a reasonable one. Clause 20 is a most important clause and the attention of members is especially drawn to it. This clause would enable rationing to be applied quite selectively throughout the State, as it is not impossible that shortages will occur only in certain areas. Clause 21 is an anti-profiteering measure. Clause 22 is intended to ensure that no prosecutions will be commenced for offences against the Act without the express consent of the Attorney-General.

Clause 23 forfeits any motor fuel, in connection with which an offence has been committed, to the Crown. Clause 24 is a formal provision. Clause 25 is a formal regulation-making provision. Clause 26 expires the measure on October 31, 1977. As has been observed, this measure is essentially a temporary one. In the course of this session this House will be asked to consider, more leisurely, a measure that will remain on the Statute Book and be capable of being brought to life to deal with relatively short-term emergencies, thus obviating the need for this House being asked to consider, at short notice, measures of this kind. The measure is introduced this week, and I hope its passage will be expedited because the Parliamentary programme provides that we will be in recess next week and in other weeks regularly during the session. Having this legislation on the Statute Book will mean that should a crisis arise during one of the weeks the House has recessed, there will be no need to recall members for an emergency session. More importantly, the Government believes that it is better to have such a measure available before a crisis occurs, rather than act hastily at the height of an emergency when panic buying and general confusion could result.

Mr. Mathwin: You haven't any stocks.

The Hon. J. D. WRIGHT: While it is intended to have a permanent measure in the Statute Book, the Government considers it desirable to have interim power available now. I give the lie to the interjection by the honourable member: stocks are plentiful in South Australia at present.

Mr. TONKIN secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### STATUTES AMENDMENT (NARCOTIC AND PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS AND JUSTICES) BILL

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from July 28. Page 253.)

Mr. WOTTON (Heysen): I support this legislation. It is a technical amendment following the findings and decisions made recently by the Supreme Court that

magistrates have severely limited powers to gaoil and fine people for serious drug offences. At present, magistrates are restricted by the Justices Act to imposing maximum penalties of two years gaoil or a \$200 fine, or both, for cultivating or dealing in drugs. The decision by the Supreme Court has meant that several drug cases have had to be adjourned in magistrates courts pending the Supreme Court ruling, and for that reason it is necessary that this situation be rectified immediately and treated as urgent to stop drug pushers and growers from using this loophole in the current legislation and being given a lighter sentence.

The Bill defines the offences under the Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs Act in two categories. The more serious offences, which may now carry a \$100 000 fine, a 25-year imprisonment penalty, or both, are designated indictable offences, which means that they will be dealt with by a judge and jury. For the less serious offences, the defendant will have an option of being dealt with by a court of summary jurisdiction or a judge and jury, and such offences will be designated minor indictable offences.

I am sure that the House will agree with the comments made by the Attorney-General in this House recently regarding the timing of the full-scale revision of the Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs Act in relation to the findings that will be made available from the Royal Commission. However, I point out that I believe, and I think that the House believes, strongly that it is vitally important that steps be taken to review the present Act completely as soon as the Commission delivers its findings into the non-medical use of drugs. We are all aware of the necessity to overcome this loophole and of the effects on and the importance to the community in which we live. There is a desperate need in this State for a new drugs Act. On May 18, the South Australian Supreme Court gave a two to one majority ruling that magistrates were restricted by the Justices Act, and the Chief Justice in his reasons for judgment was reported to have described the present Act as a repatched patchwork quilt. The *Advertiser* of May 19, 1977, states:

In his reasons for judgment Dr. Bray called for a new and coherent Drugs Act for South Australia and described the present Act as a repatched patchwork quilt. "This case presents the wearisomely familiar picture of an original Act with no more than the normal difficulties of construction overlaid with successive piecemeal and ill-harmonised amendments," he said. "It is an understatement to compare the Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs Act, 1934-1974, to a patchwork quilt. It is more like a repatched patchwork quilt. The subject dealt with is of vast importance to the life of the community. I venture to suggest that the time has come for a completely new and coherent enactment." Many statements have been made recently regarding the increase in the number of cases involving such offences, and one magistrate has recently described the offences involving Indian hemp as having reached epidemic proportions in South Australia.

In a recent debate in this House dealing with amendments to the Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs Act, I mentioned the widespread acceptance in the community of the need to have a Royal Commission into the non-medical use of drugs on a State basis. It is equally important that this matter should be looked at in regard to the national issues involved, and the decision by the Prime Minister to instigate an inquiry into the sources and illegal use of and trafficking in drugs on a national basis is equally welcomed by the Australian community generally. I believe it is vital that such an inquiry on a national basis should go ahead with 100 per cent assistance being given to it by every State. The *Australian* of July 28, 1977, contained an article dealing with the need for a drug inquiry. Under the heading "\$44 000 000 spent on heroin and marihuana in one year", the article states:

Australians paid \$44 000 000 last year to buy the country's two most popular illegal drugs—cannabis and heroin. The figure comes from statistics provided by doctors, police, customs officials and drug referral centres throughout Australia. The move by the Prime Minister, Mr. Fraser, to hold a national inquiry into the country's drug problem comes at a time when doctors and police claim drug use is doubling each year.

Figures indicate that 500 000 Australians smoke marihuana at least once a week. About 5 000 are convicted of using the drug each year. Last year, Australians used 30 tonnes of cannabis worth about \$30 000 000. An estimated \$14 000 000 worth of heroin was smuggled into the country. Australia has about 35 000 heroin addicts, most under the age of 24. New South Wales accounts for 10 000 of the addicts. Most of the heroin is smuggled from Thailand, Malaysia and Hong Kong. It is dropped off the coast by low-flying aircraft and a few trade vessels or sent through the post.

The Federal Bureau of Customs seized 1 431 485 grams of cannabis from people coming into the country last year. This was more than four times greater than the 1972-73 figure of 392 799 g. Customs officials also seized 9 631 g of heroin last year, but are expecting to confiscate 14 000 g this year. The 14 000 g would have been worth \$700 000 on the open market. Last year's seizures were nine times greater than in 1972-73.

Police records show there were 15 000 drug offences in 1975—an increase of more than 60 per cent on 1974 statistics. Another 143 Australians overseas were arrested for drug offences last year. Australians also take 15 per cent more headache pills per head of population than any other country in the world.

I was also interested in reading the police report tabled recently in this House. The section dealing with drugs states:

Cannabis is the most abused non-medical drug in South Australia but there is a definite trend towards the use of hard drugs, particularly heroin. The Drug Squad members are tending towards specialisation in their investigations and emphasis is being directed to the traffickers. During this year a pattern has been developed where arrested offenders, particularly those who are heavily involved with drugs, make accusations of irregularities in arrest procedures. This has resulted in police officers being required for long periods in court which has taken them away from operational duties.

I think much could be said about the work that the Drug Squad is doing in the Police Force at the moment. I was interested to read in the report that members of the Drug Squad gave 76 lectures to outside organisations and 26 lectures to police officers in the year under review. The report continues:

Drug offences detected by police increased substantially again this year. The following arrests for varying types of offence connected with drugs were made.

I select the following from the report: arrests for smoking and possessing Indian hemp increased from 301 in 1973-74 to 490 in 1974-75, and to 554 in 1975-76. Arrests for the cultivation of Indian hemp numbered 22 in 1973, reducing to 20 in 1974-75, and increasing to 65 in 1975-76. Arrests for chemist shop breakings and larceny increased from 30 in 1973-74 to 51 in 1975-76, and arrests for surgery breakings and larceny increased from 20 in 1973-74 to 28 in 1975-76. Many other comments have been made in recent newspaper reports, and I refer particularly to a report appearing in the *Sunday Mail* dated July 17, under the heading "Addicts turn to crime", as follows:

Thefts of doctors' bags by people desperate for drugs have increased in South Australia by 90 per cent during the past four years. The officer in charge of the Police Drug Squad, Inspector P. Collins, said this while commenting on recent thefts involving drugs. Inspector Collins said from 1973 until the end of June, this year, there had been a 33 per cent increase in surgery breakings, and a 19 per cent increase in pharmacy breakings. The trend was of great concern to the squad. A recent armed hold-up of a doctor for his medicine bag at Henley Beach was possibly the result of a growing desperation by people addicted to drugs. Chemist shops no longer stock any amphetamines ("speedballs") or

heroin. All South Australian pharmacies have reduced their quantities of narcotics to a minimum so if an addict breaks in those drugs will last him only two or three days before he will have to attempt another crime.

Dr. Eastick: It's been a commendable attitude.

Mr. WOTTON: Yes. Regarding New South Wales, in Sydney the number of people convicted on drug charges has increased by more than 80 per cent in one year, according to the latest crime statistics. The figures also show that 16 children aged between 12 years and 14 years were convicted of drug offences. The police report tabled recently in the House shows that the number of offences reported in the year ended June 30, 1975, was 690, compared to 1 013 convicted in the year ended June 30, 1976, and 11 offences in which no arrest or summons resulted.

Regarding South Australian juveniles, it is interesting to note that 77 offenders were dealt with, four were placed under Government control, 72 were otherwise dealt with, and one complaint was dismissed or withdrawn. I support the legislation as a temporary measure, but again make the point that I believe there is a desperate need in South Australia for the Attorney-General to give an assurance that, as soon as the Royal Commission's report is available, the Government will deal with the matter of revising our drug laws as an urgent matter.

Bill read a second time and taken through its remaining stages.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.

(Continued from July 28. Page 262.)

Mr. WOTTON (Heysen): I support the motion and join in the thoughts that have been expressed by other members in recording the appreciation of the House for the services given by the late Sir Glen Pearson, Mr. Tom Stott, Mr. Geoffrey Clarke, and Mr. Shannon (the former member for Onkaparinga), and express sympathy to the families of those gentlemen.

The motion provides an opportunity to discuss issues of general importance and matters of concern that I have both in my electoral district and outside it. Before dealing with general matters relating to my district, I wish to make several points, one regarding Questions on Notice. I asked about Edmund Wright House, the replies to which were given on July 26. The questions I asked were as follows:

1. Are catering facilities provided in the restored Edmund Wright House?
2. Were these facilities included in the original cost of the restoration and, if so, what was the amount involved and, if not, when were they undertaken and what did they cost?
3. How often have these facilities been used and by which organisations?

The replies were as follows:

1. Yes.
2. No. The upgrading, ventilation and air-conditioning of the toilet and kitchen facilities were carried out in September, 1976, at a cost of about \$106 000.
3. Once, by the Australian Society of Accountants. It is expected that during exhibitions and festivals it will have considerable use.

In other words, \$106 000 was spent on a toilet and kitchen in Edmund Wright House and, since September of last year, nearly 11 months ago, the facilities have been used only once. This matter was brought to my notice by a constituent who is the catering officer for a theatre group and who was asked to provide coffee at the conclusion of one of the

evenings to be held at Edmund Wright House. Being a responsible person, she made it her business to check the catering facilities in the building. She was looking for an urn and a place to make coffee. She asked to be shown the facilities, and the immediate reaction was that it was not her place to be taken into this area in the building. After much bickering and discussion, she was taken downstairs and shown the catering facilities. She left the premises and drove straight to my office at Mount Barker. When she came into the office she was obviously still upset and almost fuming about the extravagance of the amount of money spent on the facilities.

I would describe the spending of that \$106 000 as gross waste and an inappropriate use of taxpayers' money. It is sheer extravagance, to say the least. Whilst I appreciate the beauty and the amount of work that has gone into the renovation of Edmund Wright House and the facilities of the performing area made available to the public, I think the spending of such a sum of money for facilities with such limited use is scandalous. I believe this is an example showing why State taxation has increased by 438 per cent since the Dunstan Government took office in this State in 1970.

I was particularly interested in some of the points raised in this debate by the mover of the motion, the member for Playford. In referring to the amendment of legislation introduced in South Australia by the Dunstan Government in the past seven years, he said that one would have to turn to the 1890's to find such a volume of legislation introduced. I have been concerned, since coming into this House and for some time before that, about what I refer to as excessive government. We are becoming completely and utterly bogged down in this State in legislation, regulations, and red tape. So often we find that the legislation that is introduced involves the setting up of new authorities, new bureaucracies, new statutory authorities in particular, and new administrative structures. His Excellency's Speech contained reference to a number of these. I refer particularly to the setting up of the Housing and Urban Affairs Department, the creation of which is causing me some interest, because I can find few people who know much about it. I believe that many people are involved, and I am trying to find out more about the duties of the people who will be in that department.

Recently, we have seen a far greater involvement by Governments generally, and more particularly in this State. The matter concerns me greatly, in that, with this involvement, we, as Governments, as members of Parliament, or as individuals, appear to be concerned with dealing with matters only on a short-term basis. We seem to have forgotten about looking to the future as a challenge, looking forward, and speculating on the changing environment. No-one at present seems to be prepared to commit himself to the future. We see great piles of legislation concerned with the protection of our society. I have in mind particularly the noise legislation, which I believe will cause people great concern. Whilst there is a necessity for people to be protected, by this legislation people will be over-protected. We are told what we can do and what we cannot do, and when and where we can do it. So much of our legislation is bogged down in red tape and regulations.

I believe we have forgotten what it is like to be optimistic about what we can achieve as a people, as a State, or as a nation, with old-fashioned goodwill and real consensus. South Australia today is what it is, not because of Governments and their powers and their red tape but because of the skills, the energy, the drive, the creativity, and the innovation of the individual, guided by Governments, but not controlled by Governments. Recently,

we have come to take so much for granted. We, as a State, during the many and vast changes that have occurred in Australia and in South Australia during the past 25 years, and as individuals, have come to expect improvements automatically.

Mr. Keneally: It's just as well you didn't make this speech before the preselection ballot.

Mr. WOTTON: Does the honourable member not think it would have served the purpose? Until recently, this expectation has been met.

Mr. Arnold: He doesn't understand.

Mr. WOTTON: I would not expect the honourable member to understand. During this time, for the great majority of South Australians it has become a right that must be satisfied in most of us that we must do a little better each year than we did in the previous year. This applies particularly to us as individuals, to businesses, and to Governments. As I said, in most cases until recently this right has been met, but what of the next 23 years of this century? I should like to quote from an oration given by Mr. R. H. Carnegie, the Chairman and Chief Executive of Conzinc-Riotinto Australia Limited, delivering the 23rd William Queale Memorial Lecture in the Bonython Hall towards the end of last year. The title of the address was "A forward look in a changing world", and a section of it is as follows:

I find it disturbing that so many Australians are convinced that we are rich in resources; that our mineral and agricultural and pastoral wealth alone makes us a fortunate nation. We would all do well to remember that our national character was formed in a harsh, dry, unwelcoming land. At many periods in our history our national resources have seemed absent or uncertain. It was only the character, the tenacity, the common sense of the people that gave survival. It is the people of Australia, from wherever they come, or their parents came, who are our real strength. It is their skills, their energy, their drive, their creativity, their innovation, which will determine our future. "A nation is a partnership between the living, the dead, and the generations as yet unborn." If our generation is to be a worthy partner we must not be misled by individuals who think only in short run terms. For many businesses survival has been the only aim in the last few years. However, the time has come when we can and must look beyond this aim . . . Throughout the last 200 years, there have been major waves of change in the political and economic life of every community in the world. It is surely a duty of every head of a business, and indeed of every manager, to set aside time to reflect on these changes and on the implications they have for our human environment and for the future of each particular enterprise.

The Hon. Peter Duncan: I move that the honourable member have leave to incorporate this document in *Hansard*.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The honourable member for Heysen has the floor, and the honourable Minister is out of order.

Mr. WOTTON: Because the Attorney-General finds it hard to take, I do not think that that necessarily means—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I hope that the honourable member does not intend to continue at length.

Mr. WOTTON: No, but I intend to read from this article from time to time.

*Members interjecting:*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Stuart, the honourable member for Heysen has the floor.

Mr. WOTTON: In case I have lost my train of thought, I read a part of the last section again, as follows:

Throughout the last 200 years, there have been major waves of change in the political and economic life of every

community in the world. It is surely a duty of every head of a business, and indeed of every manager, to set aside time to reflect on these changes and on the implications they have for our human environment and for the future of each particular enterprise. I feel it is a duty for all Australians.

I believe we, as a Parliament, need to present a challenge by an innovation to the people of the State.

The Hon. Peter Duncan: Was that Dale or Rod Carnegie? Which international capitalist was it?

Mr. WOTTON: It was Mr. R. H. Carnegie. The Attorney-General could learn much from that gentleman's writings. I believe that people now are up to their eyeballs in legislation, regulations, and red tape. We should be encouraging people to think and make decisions for themselves. They should again see a challenge given as an incentive rather than as an instruction, so that people do not expect the present Big Brother Government in this State to look after them. They should get out and do things for themselves, think for themselves, and they should be encouraged to do just that. It concerns me that we have reached the point at which the Government in this State is encouraging people to sleep on it, not to worry, and not to get disturbed about anything, because the Government will look after them. I suggest that members opposite do not like me saying this, but that is exactly what is happening. That is the policy of this Government: provided people do not think for themselves, and provided the Government can tell people what they can do and what they cannot do, the Government of this State is quite happy to see that happen. The Government will go out of its way to encourage people not to be concerned and not to think things out for themselves, but to rely on the Government. I believe that that is why this State is in its present situation.

Problems are arising because more time is being made available to people for relaxation. I am sure that all members will agree (I do not know about Government members, because I think they do not use their electorate offices much, so I assume that people do not want to speak to them often) about the number of people who could visit our electorate offices. These people come in because they want to talk to somebody about a problem, or about a suggestion that they have that may improve South Australia. I have gone out of my way to encourage people to come in: I make them welcome so that they do not feel that they need visit my electorate office only if they have a problem. They can discuss any matter or problem with which they are concerned, or any idea that they may have. This is the only way we, as members of Parliament, can rightly represent our districts and our constituents.

There is a real need for Government awareness of or involvement with people generally. I am concerned that so much of the Government's legislation provides that people should be rewarded financially for the work that they are doing. I believe that there is not enough emphasis being placed on the need for the voluntary sector. I was interested to note in one of the latest issues of the South Australian Council of Social Services newsletter (an organisation that I believe is doing much good in this State and giving incentive especially to the voluntary sector) a reference to the voluntary sector. The newsletter states:

The second discussion session was concerned specifically with the voluntary sector. Issues raised were the need for accountability by voluntary agencies; their relationship with government departments including the effect of government financing; communication and recognition of the role and contribution of the non-government sector and community funding; and finally, the issue of manpower, its use and availability and the need for training programmes.

The newsletter continues:

Senator Margaret Guilfoyle, Minister for Social Security, in her address at the council's annual general meeting, talked about the role of voluntary agencies in monitoring the activities of government, noting changes in community needs and making input in the development of social policy. Most of us appreciate the importance of this; however, if the voluntary sector is to perform this role, it must have access to information about government proposals and the mechanism to feed in their experiences and comments. If voluntary organisations are given opportunities for early comments, they will be able to make much more constructive inputs to government policy.

I believe that, if voluntary agencies are fostered, they, in turn, will help to satisfy and assist in the introduction of policies regarding Government legislation. At this stage many of these voluntary agencies are not given the encouragement that they deserve. Another area of change referred to by Mr. Carnegie in the William Queale Memorial Lecture is the aspect of "The outlook for Australian institutions". I specifically refer to this section, because of the strong suggestion made about the increased power of governments and the resultant expectancy of individuals that the Government and those in control make all the decisions. I quote a small section as follows:

Social changes and new resources throw up new challenges for Australian society. The ways of meeting them will not be easy. The framework of those institutions which make the backbone of our society is creaking. It is not yet crippled, but it has arthritic problems. It is creaking at the joints, and there is inflammation at the points of stress. Unless institutions have the capacity for gradual and constructive self-renewal, there can be social upheaval.

We live in a society where more is demanded from government and more is promised by elected leaders than was the case in the past. Even if all demands could be satisfied, we are left with the problem that the institutional framework is slow to adjust. In that framework I include business and unions as well as government, but it is the growth of big government in this century which has been the major institutional change.

There is increasing government involvement in almost every business decision, from prices to industry organisation, to international trade, to arbitration processes, to the environment—nearly always allowing, or encouraging, conflict with the hard discipline of the market, whether local or international. Governments and public servants take it for granted that the public preference for greater government involvement is certain. That may be a dangerous assumption unless performance matches expectations.

The government itself is a major employer and arranger of economic activity, but, while insisting on supervising private monopoly, it makes no examination of its own monopolistic behaviour, and little of its efficiency in distributing services. Votes for all, unions for all, property for all—these have been major slogans of our society.

What are the consequences? If the world system is expected to provide continuous prosperity, if each individual can get his legal entitlement to an equal share through the ballot-box, and if extra effort brings a disproportionate increase in tax—is it surprising that young people are placing less value on the work ethic, or that older people are following them?

Mr. Keneally: I think you're looking for a job at Conzinc-Riotinto after the next election.

Mr. WOTTON: I do not believe that that will be necessary. It does not need me to tell anyone in this House that productivity in this State and, if it comes to that, in this country has not been good for many years. Incentives now are critical, yet our taxation rates and, indeed, our political system, does little to try to provide such incentives. Lack of incentive for effort is one of the serious problems in which we find ourselves today with our decline in productivity. Many people are concerned that Governments are accepting a responsibility over everything and are not giving people incentives. Instead, Governments

are undertaking to do everything that they believe most people want, instead of allowing people to think things out for themselves.

Recently, in this House I referred to the volume of legislation that has been introduced that establishes statutory authorities. I referred especially to the establishment of an authority that would tell people on the land how much land they could clear at any time. I referred to that matter during the grievance debate and later took it up with the Minister. I suppose I can think myself rather lucky that recently both the Minister for the Environment and the Premier have referred to my comments made in local newspapers. I was interested in the Premier's comments recently when he was replying to a report in the *Southern Argus*. He considered that the alarm and anxiety expressed in that newspaper, and supported by many people in the State, was only "political mileage". I suggest that, if the Premier believes that that alarm in relation to pornography is only political mileage, there is indeed cause for concern in this State. In the Premier's reply he stated that Opposition members were deliberately playing on people's emotions and fears in a shabby attempt to create a political issue. I can assure the member for Stuart, as I would assure the Premier, that the Opposition certainly has no need to create the issue, because it already exists. It is about time the Government, the Premier, and the member for Stuart realised that it exists, and that there is much concern now about pornography in this State.

Another matter of concern in my district relates to young people who today, despite what the Premier has said about housing, are facing higher housing costs in this State than exist in any other mainland State, whereas in 1970 housing costs in South Australia were lower than those in any of the Eastern States. We would all be aware that much of that increase is the result of changes to the workmen's compensation legislation. Concern is expressed in my district by people involved in small family businesses. They, like the rural community, have been hit by exceptional increases in rates, taxes, and red tape. People involved in small businesses throughout this State are finding it much more difficult now to continue in that sphere. Manufacturing industry is facing problems associated with irresponsible and dictatorial actions by some trade unions. This Government has been completely ineffective in developing industrial harmony between the manufacturing industries and unions in this State.

What about succession duties in South Australia? They have increased from \$9 000 000 to \$19 500 000 since 1970 and, whether or not the Attorney-General likes that, that is a fact. The high cost of labour in this State results from socialistic hand-out concessions to workers without balancing assistance to the employer. In the grievance debate recently I referred also to water charges, and to the announcement made by the Minister of Works about the Government's failure to proceed with the reticulated water scheme for Strathalbyn and surrounding districts. However, I complimented the Minister and the Government for at least declaring that a clean-up of the Bremer River would be undertaken. I believe that water charges are extremely unfair. Some property owners must pay those charges because a water main passes their property, although they do not use a drop of that water nor have they ever asked for such a service.

A problem facing areas being overtaken by urban activities is the resultant supply of services, because many people move out of the metropolitan area into the Hills as they want to get away from the hum-drum of metropolitan life and because it is quieter in the Hills.



However, after they have been living in the area for a short time, they soon realise that they need certain services. They want water, power, and other services. These water charges have caused problems, which have arisen from this increased urban activity in my area. Charges for water should be in line with actual usage. If people build a house in an out-of-way place, and they want the services, they should have to pay the full price and perhaps have the cost reduced as more people take advantage of those services. I quote from a letter I received from a constituent regarding water costing as follows:

I am writing to you requesting to have the Act relating to water rates applied in a reasonable, fair, and equitable manner. I, for one, am rated to pay \$64.64, from \$13.50 in 1970 per quarter, as I understand from the Engineering and Water Supply Department for the convenience of having water laid on the opposite side of the road, when in fact water had to be supplied for stock purposes on the rural land long before the E. & W.S. Department came into being in the Mount Barker area.

Now, after having had a high initial cost to supply water for stock, I am penalised for rates and taxes to have the convenience which I never requested to have a water pipe entering private homes on the opposite side of a public road. I would wholeheartedly support the Act to pay for conveniences if such were required, for example, the ETSA and telephone "Telecom" and other public demands or service.

I consider this Act grossly unjust, not fair play, and unreasonable, when individuals are rated to pay for the other persons convenience. Surely the State Government has qualified persons to evaluate this unjust method of obtaining false revenue, and I hereby strongly protest against this unjust method of water rating, and therefore request you to bring this matter before the honourable the Minister.

I do that, as I believe that this is a matter that needs to be examined. When people in rural areas go to a great expense to have bores put down, to have dams pushed, and to conserve water for their properties, and are then charged because somebody up the road decides to build a house on a property and wants water laid on, these people, who have had the previous expense of sinking bores and putting in dams for water, are then charged with these additional charges to have the main go past their front door.

I now refer to the recent release of the annual report of the Director of Planning that states that for the year 1975-76, 51 appeals were lodged with the Planning Appeal Board by applicants who were aggrieved by decisions of the Director of Planning. It is interesting to note that of the 30 determinations published, 12 appeals were upheld and 10 dismissed; of the 12 upheld, five related to applications for resubdivision within the hills face zone received prior to March 1, 1975, and a further eight appeals were withdrawn by the appellants. It seems that the staff of the Director represented the authority at 12 appeals involving the authority's decisions. Many people who disagreed with the decisions of either the Director of Planning or the authority did not lodge an appeal with the Planning Appeal Board, because they did not understand the procedure involved in appealing, and also the possibility of incurring high costs for representation at such an appeal tends to frighten people off. Figures released in the report show that fewer than one in three applications refused is taken to appeal, and that plans for subdivision and resubdivision are refused by the Director or respondent council at a rate greater than three a week.

In his Speech when opening Parliament, His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor referred to the need to expand the electoral base of local government and the duties of local government. I support the suggestion that local government in this State desperately requires more power

and more teeth. The report of the Director of Planning states that for each application rejected by councils, three were rejected by the Director, and it is unfortunate that such an imbalance exists between rejections by councils and those by the State Planning Office. It is generally recognised that councils have a greater knowledge of the locality and the residents than have those who are removed from the local scene.

I have referred in the House several times to the massive increase in rentals on perpetual lease properties in my area and in other parts of the State. I have quoted many examples of the anomalies caused by steep increases in these rentals. I have received in my office a steady stream of complaints from leaseholders, as, at present, the threat of high rents is making it impossible to sell perpetual lease land in many areas of my district.

When primary producers visited the Premier last year on the matter of land tax, it was made quite clear that the State Government would participate in capital gain wherever possible. Perpetual lease properties are now virtually impossible to sell, because of the threat of high rent. It is necessary for farmers or landholders to get higher prices now: these higher prices are needed, because a farmer has to move farther from the city and buy larger acreages in order to make his enterprise viable. If people in other employment who contributed to superannuation are not charged a capital gains tax, why, when the benefits of a sale of a farmer's property is his only superannuation, should he be penalised? Some weeks ago I organised a public meeting dealing with perpetual lease anomalies regarding the high increase in rentals. The Minister was invited to this meeting, but he found it necessary to stay away.

Mr. Mathwin: Don't tell me he refused again. What excuse did he have?

Mr. WOTTON: I think he considered that it could cause a stir and, as he did not want a stir at this time, he decided it would be best to stay away. This meeting resulted in many contacts being made with perpetual leaseholders from a wide area. The Stockowners' Association has found this to be a State-wide problem. At this stage I acknowledge the work being done for this cause by the Stockowners' Association. At the public meeting, to which I have referred, the President of that organisation, Mr. James, and the field officer, Mr. Seager, offered to collate all information received on perpetual lease problems. A questionnaire has been prepared and released to many affected parties in order to determine the full extent of the problem. When this has been determined, the matter will go first to the Lands Department, then to the Minister, and then finally, if necessary, to the Premier, because many people are concerned about this matter and want the situation rectified. I believe the charges of \$15 and \$25, which are being made by the Lands Department to farmers seeking specific information on the future of a property, are nothing short of an imposition, because Government services have already been paid for by the taxpayer. I see this charge as being nothing short of an imposition. I support the member for Mallee in asking for a full statement from departmental officers regarding the likely damage caused by alfalfa aphid.

Mr. Nankivell: I haven't got a reply yet.

Mr. WOTTON: It will be interesting to ascertain what the Government is doing. We are aware that the Government has put aside \$100 000 for an emergency programme, but with a problem of this magnitude there needs to be no doubt that everything is being done to alleviate a possible disaster. South Australia has a rapidly developing export



trade in lucerne and annual medic seeds to Africa and the Middle East, and that export trade is now threatened by the spread of aphids, and a full statement from the department must either confirm the situation or stop the present panic. I know of people who in certain areas have sold cattle because of their concern and because of the uncertainty of the situation they see facing them as a result of this problem. An article in the *Bulletin* of July 9 states:

The blue-green aphid has infested crops throughout south-east Queensland. It has also been found in New South Wales, around Windsor, Singleton and Scone (all are areas inland from the central coast). The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation and State Agriculture Departments in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia have launched a crash programme to control the insects. The problem is serious: Australia's lucerne crops are worth about \$150 000 000 a year, and if they are not controlled about a third to a half could be wiped out. As it is, about one-third might be destroyed while the controls begin to take effect—a process which will take up to two years.

I believe that to be an important point. It is not just the overall effect but it is the effect of taking two or three years for controls to be effective. The article continues:

The more widespread insect—the spotted alfalfa aphid—was first found in alfalfa meadows in New Mexico 23 years ago. Within three years it had infested fields throughout the U.S. from coast to coast, from Central Wisconsin to Mexico.

I believe this serious matter should be examined closely by the Agriculture Department in this State. In a recent press release the President of the United Farmers and Graziers of South Australia, Mr. Kerin, said:

The discovery of new pests and diseases in Australia has thrown a question mark over the nations quarantine procedures.

We need to keep a close watch on quarantine procedures in this country, as the results of any breakdown in those procedures can be so devastating to the State and to the whole country. Last week the member for Stuart referred to the question of law and order. Despite his comments and those of the Attorney-General, and recent claims that the crime rate per capita in South Australia was below that of capitals of two other States, it would seem that it is the media throughout the State that is digging up these cases of hold-ups, rapes, and murders that scream through the headlines every day. This is a matter of great importance, and the lack of severity of punishment compared to the seriousness of the crime is something that I believe is now causing much concern to the average citizen in this State. The Attorney-General's recent claims that the crime rate per capita in South Australia was below that of other States means that he is not aware of the present situation or, if he is aware of it, he is overlooking the whole situation. An editorial in the *Mount Barker Courier* of July 20, states:

It is interesting to compare two recent cases. The Stirling SM Court sentenced an 18-year-old man to six weeks imprisonment with hard labour and a licence suspension of 15 months for driving while his licence was suspended.

However, a 17-year-old youth who appeared in the Adelaide Juvenile Court admitted to unlawfully and maliciously starting fires at Peters Ice Cream factory, Klemzig, Dunlop Tyre Service premises and Lloyds Australia Limited, both at Windsor Gardens, and a furniture and joinery property at Holden Hill. He was committed to a training centre for 21 days and put under the control of the Minister of Community Welfare for two years.

Any comparison between the severity of the punishment and the seriousness of the crime seems to be completely lacking.

The 18-year-old driving offender certainly needed to learn that he had sinned by compounding his first offence—but the six weeks hard labor will probably turn him more than ever into a "cop-hater".

But what will the 17-year-old "juvenile" learn from his three-week stay away from home? What efforts will be made to make him appreciate the enormity of his offence? . . . the heartbreak and possible tragedy that could result from a fire are vastly more horrifying than the "terrible" crime of driving without a licence.

Many statements have been made recently regarding retrenchments at Samcor. Many of the comments that have been made regarding the situation have sought sympathy for those who have been retrenched. I do not disagree that people who are retrenched have a problem. The unemployment situation in South Australia is a matter for concern that we all seriously share. I suggest that it is only understandable that sheep breeders are currently altering their breeding programmes to allow for the later sale of sheep, taking into account what has happened at Samcor over past years as a result of industrial disputes. Producers involved with Samcor have been forced to accept only half the price they deserved on many occasions because the meat industry employees have decided to strike on the morning of the sale. When a strike is in progress at Samcor it is not unusual to see sheep being sold for half their value, because the buyers cannot get them killed. I believe that a lot of rot has been spoken on this subject in the past.

Mr. Abbott: And you're continuing it now.

Mr. WOTTON: Few Government members know anything about the problems of sheep breeders and landowners at present. It has been said that live sheep exports have caused stock numbers to decline. That argument has been used many times in releases to the media, but I suggest that that is not the case. It is ridiculous, because no merino ewes are allowed to be exported at present. Most of the live sheep being exported are wethers, and there is no way in which the sale of wethers can affect this State's future breeding programmes.

Dr. Eastick: Seeing that rams and ewes can't go, it could only be wethers.

Mr. WOTTON: I thank the honourable member for explaining it. The only reason for the decline in sheep breeding is that producers have little incentive to breed, when one bears in mind the cost spiral that is expected to prevail in the slaughtering of stock in future, and the position will not change until the State Government accepts that a service abattoir provides a service to the public. At the same time, the unions must also realise that their demands for higher pay over the past years have contributed to the situation. I do not believe that any Government member would disagree with that.

Mr. Abbott: We have heard that song before.

Mr. WOTTON: The exorbitant operating costs of the Samcor white elephant make it common sense to concentrate on further killing facilities in decentralised areas such as Mount Barker, Murray Bridge, Nairne, and Kangaroo Island. The Government should cease further support for Samcor, because I believe that the money being spent on Samcor is turning it into a massive white elephant.

The final matter I touch on is compulsory unionism, which has been raised many times in this debate. I believe that compulsory unionism is an undemocratic violation of a people's freedom, and it is making people uneasy at present. Any form of legislation to enforce union membership can be seen only as the most undemocratic violation of a working man's freedom that has ever been perpetrated in South Australia. I am completely opposed to the concept of compelling a worker to join a union, thus by compulsion making him pay part of his wage to a political Party in which he may have no interest. Many

people are uneasy about the situation, because they do not believe that they should be paying money to the A.L.P. when they have no interest in the Party, simply so that a union can pay sustentation fees to the Labor Party. I was interested to find that "sustentation" is defined in the dictionary as "the support of life". If that is what is keeping the A.L.P. going, at least we know that fact. To stipulate that a man cannot have a job unless he joins a union ties the knot in the most undemocratic violation of the working man's freedom that has ever been perpetrated in South Australia. I suggest that compulsory unionism in any form is not in the best interests of the State and is certainly not good for any individual South Australian.

Mr. OLSON (Semaphore): I support the motion. First, I congratulate the mover and seconder, namely, the member for Playford and the member for Tea Tree Gully. I join with other members in expressing regret at the early retirement of the Governor (Sir Douglas Nicholls) due to illness, and I wish both him and Lady Nicholls a long and happy retirement. To the families of the four former members who have recently passed away, I offer my condolences.

I congratulate the Government on the establishment of the Ethnic Affairs Branch within the Premier's Department. Although the branch has been operating for only a short time, I have already received correspondence from the Secretary of the Polish Broadcasting Commission (Mrs. Wanda Szczlygielsko) warmly applauding the Government's action in providing elderly migrants with financial assistance and concessions in Government charges when they are unable to work. In November, 1975, the Liberal and Country Party produced a policy on ethnic affairs for migrants. The policy contained many promises, and it was stated that it would be printed in various languages. The Liberals promised to do more for migrant education and migrant welfare, to retain Medibank, and to provide legal aid to migrants. However, about 2½ years later we are still waiting for these promises to be honoured. In South Australia, the Government has allocated \$500 000 in a full year to bring some of these benefits to the 5 000 people in this State who are in this disadvantaged situation. The concessions will further help people who suffer special disabilities in cultural, language, financial, or family situations. This is in marked contrast to the hard-line policy of the Federal Government, which policy is, of course, a 10-year residential qualification before migrants, other than those from New Zealand or the United Kingdom, become eligible for Commonwealth benefits. The requirement applies irrespective of whether or not migrants become naturalised Australian citizens, which means that many Australian citizens who have been denied the rights (and I must emphasise that they are rights and not hand-outs) enjoyed by other Australian citizens will now not have to rely further on their relatives or friends for sole support but will be able to obtain the benefits equivalent to what they would obtain under the social services provisions if they had been resident in Australia for 10 years or longer. It must be remembered that among the 5 000 people I have mentioned are people who could be considered to be the most impoverished people within our society.

I commend the Minister of Community Welfare and the Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Sport for recognising the need to assist the under-privileged youth in the Semaphore district. It is with great pride and appreciation that I say that both Ministers have taken a personal interest by visiting the various youth groups and sporting bodies in

the community. The Minister of Community Welfare recently inspected the LeFevre Peninsula youth and community centre at Osborne, where, under the guidance of Miss Bev. Hill, some 600 children between the ages of seven years and 15 years are organised into numerous sporting activities and taught various handicrafts. The original funding for the project was under the Australian Assistance Plan, but with the curtailment of that funding by the Federal Government there was every likelihood that this valuable centre would have been forced to close. Following a recommendation of the West Adelaide Regional Council for Social Development, a \$15 000 grant has been made to the centre from a State Government allocation of \$250 000. The grant will assist the development of the centre and its services to the community, and the funding will be to the level of last year's allocation. This indicates the importance of the work of the centre in my area.

Not only will this benefit the people within my district, but also additional funding to the extent of \$5 330 has been provided to the LeFevre Peninsula Action Group, enabling the group to continue its efforts to improve the general quality of life for residents on the peninsula, to improve and to co-ordinate existing services, and to provide action for unmet needs.

The Minister is to be commended on extending State financial assistance to supporting fathers. I have in my area many cases where fathers, left with several children on their hands, have had extreme difficulty in affording domestic help so that children can be looked after while the fathers are following their form of employment. The organisations representing supporting fathers, in seeking for them conditions equivalent to those obtaining for women who have sole support of their children, have met with poor support from the Federal Government.

Mr. Chapman: It had to come!

Mr. OLSON: It has been going on for years, it is still going on, and the honourable member's colleagues have done nothing about it. The State Government's decision to end this form of discrimination is most welcome and, along with the provision of financial contributions to sporting and recreation bodies (and at least 30 such organisations within my district alone have benefited by the State Government's policy), I think it clearly indicates that the South Australian Government is prepared to put its money where its mouth is in this connection. That is unlike the attitude of the Federal Government, which wanted to remove the \$40 funeral benefit to pensioners but, because of the embarrassment created within the community by its intention, did not have the guts to go on with it.

Mr. Chapman: Oh! Now, now!

Mr. OLSON: I am not exaggerating when I say that.

The SPEAKER: Order! I must point out to the honourable member that that is not Parliamentary language.

Mr. OLSON: Well, the Federal Government did not have the intestinal fortitude to go on with it, Mr. Speaker. It does members opposite little credit to come into this Chamber and put forward their intended proposals to assist the under-privileged in the community, and then not back up those policies.

I turn now to the matter of the Outer Harbor terminal, and I join with the member for Price in his recent comments about the great wisdom shown by the Government in making these facilities available. I think it would be appropriate for me to comment on the progress made since the opening of the terminal on March 17, 1977. Some people expressed much scepticism, saying that the

facilities provided would not be fully utilised, so it is pleasing to know that the port authorities, with whom I have had discussions, are satisfied with the quick turnaround of the ships in the container basin and the way in which the 60-tonne floating crane is able to handle the containers.

Earlier this afternoon, we heard of a contract gained by the Clyde Engineering Works for the repair and maintenance of New Zealand locomotives. Already, five locomotives have been unloaded at the container berth. When we consider that the Port Adelaide facilities are sometimes subject to criticism, the time ships actually spend in the port would be worthy of note. I was told by the Deputy Harbor Master that a certain vessel was to have berthed at 7 a.m. He intended to go down to the harbor to view the facilities available for offloading the locomotives, including the 60-tonne crane. When he arrived there the ship was not anywhere in sight. He was beginning to wonder whether there had been industrial trouble that might have prevented the ship from calling, but was told that the ship had been in port, discharged its cargo and sailed three-quarters of an hour before it was scheduled to depart.

This augers well for the future, because, in my discussion with Mr. Metcalfe, the Assistant Manager of Trans-Ocean Terminals, I learned that from March 17 until two or three days ago some 3 192 containers had been handled in the three months. In addition 850 containers had been handled in the month of June, and 740 tonnes of loose cargo was also processed. I understand that at present the shipping line that has been responsible for much of the cargo arriving in South Australia has been the Southern Shipping Line. That line intends to make more regular visits to South Australia to discharge cargo. I have also learned that three other shipping lines are interested in calling because of the improved facilities that have been made available at the harbor: the Hong Kong shipping line, which will be here next month, with cargo, I understand, and a Japanese and a German shipping line, which have also displayed interest in using the facilities here. We have every confidence that the terminal will be fully utilised and will be a great advantage to the people of this State.

I turn to the question of inflation. Much has again been said in the Chamber in recent days about workers having to take a further reduction in pay. Fully understanding the importance of inflation, I think it is also necessary to understand fully that the policy of restricting wages is, in itself, insufficient if we are to be able to control inflation to the limit that each and every one of us would like to see. Controlling inflation should not mean that one section of the community has to suffer drastically, however, I think members will fully understand that, prior to the defeat of the Labor Government in Canberra some two years ago, the Labor Party was subjected to press vilification in relation to unemployment and increasing inflation. This vilification came in the main from the Murdoch press. I happened to be researching some material for the comments I am now making, and it was of some significance to find that the Murdoch press is starting to change its tune.

One of the fundamentals in relation to inflation appears in an editorial dated June 5, 1976. This matter has never been mentioned in the House as being a fundamental reason for inflation: I refer to the doubling of the oil prices by the Arab States. Yet, because the worker wants to maintain some equity in the consumer price index, we are told that it is not right for him to expect salary increases. That editorial states:

In 1974, led by the economic big six—America, Japan, West Germany, France, Britain and Italy—the world

marched into the biggest slump since the 1929 crash. It happened because the Arabs more than doubled the price of oil, the lifeblood of the economic growth.

It did not happen, as the Murdoch press had been saying for months, because of what the Labor Party was doing. The truth came out after it had achieved its objective of a Labor Government. We have seen this type of thing go on now for some years. The second paragraph of the editorial states:

Since then Australia, in common with most countries of the world, has suffered just on two years of recession with low or nil growth, high interest rates, roaring inflation, low commodity prices, and high unemployment. It has been a terrible time and we have been amongst the more fortunate in that our standard of living has not dropped appreciably. It is remarkable that, having removed the Labor Party from Government, the press then admitted that the things that had happened in this country at that time were not the result of the policies of the Whitlam Labor Government.

Mr. Gunn: It had some policies, did it?

Mr. OLSON: It had more policies than your Party could invent if it were in power for 100 years, and those policies would be of more benefit to this country. In a publication titled "The Australian Productivity Action No. 2" of July, 1977 (and I do not think the Labor Party could be accused of having published this paper), it is interesting to see what some of the writers have to say, as their comments support the remarks I made in relation to kicking the worker by reducing his salary. Dr. Malcolm Fisher, a noted economist who specialises in the analysis of market and labour problems, has taken an appointment as Professor in the Australian Graduate School of Management in the University of New South Wales. Professor Fisher has expressed concern that Australians are being subjected to probably greater criticism than they should be in relation to the inflationary trend. As part of an article he has written in this magazine about productivity, he states:

Much of the debate on the present malaise in capital investment turns on the question of the relative shares of gross domestic product going to wages and profits respectively. The balance experienced in the post-war period was greatly distorted three or four years ago in favour of wages, but more recent movements have mainly, as a result of devaluation and partial indexation of wages, been towards restoring the old relationship. It is argued that unless profits can be restored, capital investment is unlikely to rise consistent with high employment aspirations because the risk would not be justified by the investment return.

That is the point that I was making. He continues:

However, there are limits to the extent and the period over which workers can be asked to accept falling real wages to restore the old relationship.

In the same magazine appears comment by the President of the Queensland Trades and Labour Council that should be especially noted by members opposite, when they refer to a decline in productivity. His article makes some excellent points when it states:

The President of the Trades and Labour Council, Mr. Harry Hauenschild made some very worthy comments here—As a matter of fact, they are comments that I have echoed in this Chamber long before today and have received from the Opposition curt criticism for doing so. The article continues:

Living standards can only rise through increased productivity.

That is to be expected. He also sounds a note of warning, as follows:

The trade union movement will not stand by and see living standards drop while productivity improves. Trade unions are as eager as any other section to see productivity

growth, but it must not be linked to more unemployment. The question I would like to pose is, "Will improved productivity lead to full employment?" I believe that this is a way that we should attempt to regain full employment rather than reducing living standards. I would rather see improved productivity lead to more employment and more employment opportunities than by lowering living standards. Now, in saying this, I am having a shot at the Prime Minister himself who, in Melbourne in February said effectively that unless the workers got to work and produced more they would be put out of jobs and the employers would introduce machines to do their work. That attitude is in the same category as the king cave man coming out of his cave, looking at his serfs and his labourers and saying to them, "Now, you mugs, you'd better get on with that job of carrying those rocks because unless you do I'll invent the wheel."

It is paramount, in providing changes within technical fields and also in providing automation within our industries, that there is a limit as to how far we can go. It was interesting to read comments made by Senator Jessop, a member of the Party opposite, in the *Sunday Mail*. What he said was quite contrary to opinions expressed by most Opposition members, because Senator Jessop was recommending what we have been advocating on this side for a considerable time. The report in the *Sunday Mail* states:

"The Federal Government should embark on a selected capital works programme to assist the reduction of the serious unemployment level," Senator Don Jessop said yesterday. He has been assured by the same economist that carefully selected capital works projects spread over Australia would not be inflationary and could do much to provide job opportunities, the South Australian Liberal said.

Mr. Max Brown: And the Federal Government is doing less.

Mr. OLSON: Yes. Perhaps members opposite could consider that matter and not advocate openly that we must cut down on public expenditure and public works if we are to overcome the problem of inflation.

Mr. Max Brown: Schools and hospitals.

Mr. OLSON: Right, and further aggravating the situation of suffering rather than improving it. Much comment has been made about the lack of productivity in this country, how workers are being knocked down pillar to post, that they must do more, and until they do more that is just not feasible. I now refer to four illustrations out of the *Australian Productivity Action* magazine that will give members some appreciation of the way in which, to a degree, automation and perhaps technological change have improved productivity in Australia. In 1950 in the electricity industry we produced 9 509 000 kilowatt hours and 9 595 workers were involved in the industry, which is about one worker for each million kilowatt hour that was produced. In 1975 we produced 57 124 000 kilowatt hours with 17 570 workers. That is an 83 per cent increase. In 1975, the tonnage handled was 51 230 000, the number of 610 per cent. That is a more than three-fold increase, and is an example of one of the best performances in productivity.

The member for Florey indicated the other day what had been achieved on the waterfront during the past few years. In the ports area, for the year ended June 30, 1952, the tonnage handled in all Australian ports was 24 687 000 tons. There were 25 807 registered workers, and during that time 40 864 000 man-hours were worked to ship that amount of cargo. For the year ended June 30, 1975, the tonnage handled was 51 230 000, the number of registered workers was 13 351, and the man-hours worked had been reduced to 17 817 000, with the result that during

that period of 23 years productivity had increased 4½ times on the waterfront. Let us consider the railways union—

Mr. Gunn: You tell us why Mr. Marshall resigned.

Mr. Slater: You tell us why the Assistant Director of the Liberal Party resigned.

The SPEAKER: Order! These private conversations must cease.

Mr. OLSON: The situation with the railways shows that in 1952 freight amounting to 44 000 000 tons was handled by a staff of 140 000. This represented 314 tons a worker. In 1974-75, the freight tonnage had increased to 103 422 000 and the staff employed had been reduced to 114 216, which indicates that the tonnage a worker had increased from 314 tons to 904 tons. When those figures are studied, there is no reason to level too much criticism at the fall-off in productivity. I have quoted only three aspects of industry, but I think it is reasonable to suggest that, if one referred to the technology field and examined the present *Australia Post*, one would realise that the staff has been reduced remarkably in relation to the production of postal workers. Of course what we also have to consider in relation to productivity and the attempt to produce goods at a cheaper rate are some of the rip-off situations occurring. We cannot expect the worker to suffer a decline in salary by expecting him to get only a proportion—

Mr. Boundy: You would like his dollar to buy more, wouldn't you?

Mr. OLSON: We would like his dollar to buy more, yes, but at the same time we would not want him to work more in order to buy less, because that is what is happening. When one considers some of these figures, one can realise why unionists are complaining, and complaints are not coming from only unionists. A letter to the Editor in Saturday's *Advertiser* would make this obvious. I do not think Mr. Peter Carpenter would be a member of the Labor Party. As a matter of fact, he has acknowledged himself to be a representative of the Consumers Association of S.A., Incorporated. His letter states:

The Consumers Association of South Australia is concerned at the implications of the application to the Prices Justification Tribunal by Colgate Palmolive Proprietary Limited for a price increase. This application, for an increase of 2.38 per cent in the wholesale prices of some of Colgate Palmolive's detergents, soaps, cleaners and tooth-pastes, is based on the sole grounds of higher advertising costs. We believe the general level of advertising in the soaps and detergent industry is excessive. In 1976, total industry expenditure on advertising was more than \$23 000 000 of which Colgate Palmolive spent more than \$5 000 000. The consumer should not be called upon to pay for advertising which is other than informative. In particular, advertising which is designed to maintain market shares, and/or is designed as a weapon in a continuing struggle for superiority between two or three main competitors, should not be foisted, as an additional expense component in the product, on to the unwilling consumer.

Further to this, to reinforce my ideas on rip-offs, I think it is necessary to refer again to the comments of Mr. Hauenschild, because of what he said about this. He said:

While trade unions are often made scapegoats for our troubles, I would like to refer to a situation where the real source of trouble is elsewhere. That is in groups I would call rip-off merchants in our community. When we are talking about economic productivity and so on, I believe that we have to look at who gets the benefits of increased productivity. I have a press release from a leading retailer reporting financial data to the end of February last. It reported that sales, profits and dividends all rose substantially. Yet I notice that within the space of one week my favourite brand of breakfast cereal

increased in price from 42c to 54c in a supermarket owned by the company referred to above. If you like to do a quick sum you will find that the product price increased in that supermarket by about 29 per cent, and if anyone can convince me that the unions are responsible for that because of wage increases rather than us chasing other increases which occurred first, then I should be very surprised.

I do not believe that those things should be imposed on workers or the public generally and, at the same time, expect them to take it without more than passing criticism. The present unemployment situation is a matter causing me great concern, and I believe that everyone in this Chamber will share my feeling if he has any humanistic feelings at all. I was appalled to read in the *News* of July 22, the following report:

Squeeze on dole pay-outs planned. Canberra: Tough new moves to separate dole bludgers from the genuinely unemployed are planned by the Federal Government. And in a move to dissuade others from joining the dole queue, Cabinet has also rejected a call to double unemployment relief for married couples.

Subject to these specific restraints, we find that under this get-tough proposal of Mr. Fraser's there will be a change in the system under which people will be eligible to receive unemployment benefits. Whereas previously they had to wait seven days, after registering with the Commonwealth Employment Service, for benefits, it will now be extended to 28 days.

Following the 28 days (if that, in itself, is not bad enough), because of the restricted number of employees in the department to process applications for unemployment benefits, they will not receive their first cheque until three months after filing an application. We should never be placed in a position of having a Prime Minister and perhaps a Minister for Social Security who could have such inhumane attitudes in foisting that policy on the unemployed people in our community. As I said earlier, I was appalled when I read that report because, through no fault of their own, many thousands of decent Australians will find themselves being conscripted into Fraser's army of the unemployed. Thousands of Australians realise now that the only true statement of credibility that could be attributed to Fraser since he became Prime Minister is that "Life wasn't meant to be easy." I think that is about the only statement of any substance that he has made, and well does the Australian community know it.

Mr. Max Brown: If they found a job they couldn't go to work because they wouldn't be fit enough to work.

Mr. OLSON: That is right. Any unemployed person who has to restrict his quality of diet soon finishes in a hospital, or he may, as a result of the depression caused by his unemployment, be admitted to a mental hospital, thus becoming more than the recipient of a dole cheque. He or she becomes a further responsibility of the State Government to care for, as a result of the attitudes of perhaps an inhumane Government that is wielding the baton in Canberra. Many who have been unemployed for a considerable time draw little comfort from the promises made by Mr. Fraser before December, 1975, during his election campaign, when he said, "We will ensure that jobs will exist for all those who want them."

Mr. Max Brown: "We'll turn on the light"!

Mr. OLSON: Yes, but I think it was only a candle. In the intervening period, the unemployment situation has further deteriorated to the extent that both Mr. Hawke and Mr. Whitlam have predicted that Australia will have 7 per cent of its work force unemployed by the end of this year. Should this be the case, unemployment will have doubled since Labor was forced out of Government in 1975. At present, about 346 000 people are registered as unemployed,

of whom only 245 000 (and I draw your attention to this fact, Mr. Speaker) are receiving unemployment benefits. Many wives of unemployed husbands have been forced to work, because of inflationary trends, if they are to maintain their homes. Because the husband may be earning a certain sum, if the wife becomes unemployed, she is not entitled to social service benefits.

For the 245 000 drawing unemployment benefits at present, only 29 000 job vacancies exist. Of the remainder of the 29 000 people who are eligible to find a job, the Federal Government refers to them as "dole bludgers". It is worth remembering that the Federal Government's policy is having little effect on these people getting early employment. In addition to being out of a job and not having a regular income, they are being faced with misery, suffering, and humiliation. It is all very well to say that an unemployed person receives an unemployment benefit cheque, but there is much more to it than that.

The average worker likes to stand on his own two feet: he does not want to be called a "dole bludger". I think it does the Commonwealth Government little credit to foster this kind of contumely. I was concerned recently at reading a report compiled after Professor David Meyer had completed an inquiry into unemployment. He had been appointed by Mr. Fraser, and he made certain bold suggestions that would cost the Federal Government about \$330 000 000 to implement. He said that, especially where unemployed couples were involved, they should receive considerably more in benefits than they were receiving at present. It must be remembered that Professor Meyer is a member of the Melbourne Club. He is himself unemployed, so he would have a fair idea of what constitutes the rich and poor in this country. I do not think he would have made the suggestions, if he did not think they were warranted.

The aspect that makes some people sore is the way in which the unemployed who require assistance and compassion are left by the wayside, while the Federal Government continues to make substantial grants to companies and others in the community. At present, factory owners can obtain a 40 per cent subsidy on new machinery and equipment, which may be used up to only 70 per cent of its capacity. All members know that the matter of the superphosphate bounty to farmers has been raised in the House many times. Six members of Mr. Fraser's Cabinet share in the bounty each year, and the Prime Minister, who is a multi-millionaire in his own right, receives a \$5 000 superphosphate subsidy each year. Then they want to kick the worker by reducing what he can get by way of living standards. We do not hear much about the defrauding that went on through Medibank. Some doctors were going around to institutions in which there were infirm people who were hardly able to write their own signatures, asking them to sign a paper to the effect that the doctors had paid visits to them, when in fact they had not done so. They have been prosecuted, but they are still able to carry on in the same way. As soon as the worker gets one week's social service benefits which, because he started work only the day before, he has to return, that is an entirely different situation.

From time to time I have been accused of hammering the employers and saying there has been no change of heart. I do not need a handkerchief. We can fight our own battles, but we want a fair go, and I could not say that every worker in Australia is getting that now. From time to time I have cited examples of employers taking advantage of people, and what I am about to say is a glowing example of this. Recently, a young fellow came to my

office. He walked down Port Road from Hindmarsh to Port Adelaide, checking factories on either side of the road looking for a job. After he had walked for a couple of hours, he went into an organisation and inquired whether there were any vacancies. Whether he saw the industrial officer or the secretary of the company, I am not sure, but he was told to go and have a haircut. He had his hair cut, spending his last \$2 to get it cut. When he returned, thinking that there was some little hope of getting a job, the same man said, "I am very sorry, but we do not employ anyone in this factory under the age of 21 years." In such circumstances, there is little indication of a change of heart towards the worker. In the time I have left—

Mr. Venning: You have talked a lot of rubbish for 55 minutes.

Mr. OLSON: I have spoken about the underprivileged people in the community and, if the member for Rocky River can draw any satisfaction from such illustrations, I think he is unfit to be in this Chamber.

The Port Adelaide area has a high percentage of semi-skilled and unskilled workers, and the latest figures I have been able to extract from the Commonwealth employment authorities, as recently as July 21, indicate that within this area 1 947 adults and 814 females are out of work. Also, 70 school leavers have not been able to obtain employment since they left school in December last; 553 young people in this category are under the age of 21 years. In the category of junior females, 93 girls who left school in December last have not been found employment, and 388 girls under the age of 21 years are included in this category. In the districts of Semaphore and Port Adelaide, no fewer than 4 865 people are registered for unemployment benefits. If the member for Rocky River can draw any satisfaction from that sort of thing, I cannot understand it. Many people are on the brink of being without homes. They are really the forgotten people in the community: the people who enter the world of the homeless. Little credit is due to the Fraser Government, which, when it took office in 1975, had a five-point programme. It said it would make every endeavour to make a systematic attack on unemployment. If that is not hypocritical in the extreme, I do not know what it is. I support the motion.

Mr. BOUNDY (Goyder): I have listened with some interest to the comments of the member for Semaphore, with his chronicle of woe, and I find there is little on which I can comment in his contribution to this debate. However, I have pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. Venning: And that is a different matter.

Mr. BOUNDY: Yes, it is. I add my support to the sentiments expressed by other members regarding the untimely resignation of Sir Douglas Nicholls after such a short time as Governor of this State. Like other members, I wish Sir Douglas and Lady Nicholls a long and healthy retirement in Victoria.

I express my sympathies to the families of the four former members who have died since last we heard an Opening Speech. I am sure that the knowledge of the esteem in which these gentlemen are remembered in the community and their record of service to the State will be sources of pride and comfort to the families who survive them.

I think it is appropriate to record appreciation of the way in which the Lieutenant-Governor (Mr. Crocker) has carried out his duties as first citizen of this State at all times, and especially during the recent visit of Her Majesty the Queen.

Mr. Keneally: Now say a nice word about me.

Mr. BOUNDY: I shall leave the member for Stuart until later. The whole purpose of the Address-in-Reply debate is to ventilate one's concern for one's district and the welfare of the people in general. In common with other members, I am pleased to contribute to this debate. In the years I have been a member of this place, each time we have heard an Opening Speech it has commenced with a reference to agriculture. I do not know whether that is alphabetical, or whether the Government is aware that agriculture is a most important enterprise in the State. I rather doubt whether members opposite realise that agriculture is of such importance to us. For the second year in succession, His Excellency's Speech referred to the dryness of the season. It will do all of us good to remember that, as a State, our fortunes and our finances still rely in large measure on primary production and on good management by our Government. In South Australia in the past couple of years, we have been disappointed in both. As far as good government is concerned, our disappointment extends for some seven years.

Mr. Keneally: You said you were disappointed in the management of the property.

Mr. BOUNDY: I am disappointed in the dryness of the season and the management of the State. Recently the Premier returned from the Premiers' Conference saying that our receipts from our percentage of the tax-sharing arrangement with the Federal Government were down by about \$5 000 000, due partly to a down-turn in primary production and partly to disincentives by the Government to industry generally.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: Due to a rotten Federal Government.

Mr. BOUNDY: Not a bit of it. The Lieutenant-Governor's Speech refers to a drop of 12 per cent in stock numbers. This will reflect in a much greater reduction in returns to primary producers due to poor lambing and calving, reduced wool cut and quality, and the like. It may well be that the Premier will have an even sorrier tale to tell when he reports after the Premiers' Conference next year. That is, if he is lucky enough to be there. Other members have referred to the fact that real farm income is down by some 14 per cent.

The Hon. G. R. Broomhill: Is yours?

Mr. BOUNDY: Yes, and with a continuation of the dry conditions throughout this State that situation can only be exacerbated. It is pleasing to note (and I give the Government deserved bouquets here) that the Government has been quick to recognise the threat posed to the pastures of the State by the two-spotted alfalfa aphid (an illegal immigrant to this country). Certainly, agricultural industry has promoted to the Government the need for work to be done on this pest, which has recently come to our shores. The sum of \$100 000 will, unfortunately, not be enough to do all that is desirable in this field. It is hoped that liaison throughout Australia will make the most effective use of the total research dollar, both for eradication and for resistant varieties of lucernes and medics, because this problem is not confined to lucerne alone. Our problem is that we do not have some of the diseases present in the Eastern States and must therefore duplicate some of the research in order to keep our pastures clean. New South Wales has bacterial wilt in its lucerne pastures and, therefore, we must duplicate some of the research, because we do not have that in South Australia. I only hope that the Government will proceed,

through the Agriculture and Fisheries Department, to find a cure so that our pastures are not decimated by this serious pest.

I refer to a similar problem, that of the sitona weevil. I have been involved in research work into the sitona weevil for many years and I hope the need for research relating to this new pest will not make less money available to proceed with much needed research in this and other fields of agricultural research.

The most pleasing aspect of agricultural research is that finally we have been able as a State to lay to rest the idea that there would be a city called Monarto in the near future and that the silly idea that this Government had, that it was going to remove the Agriculture and Fisheries Department and its research facilities forcibly to Monarto, is finally dead and buried and the wake held. We now know that we can proceed with research work and facilities at Northfield and retain the Monarto area as open space for future generations. This will be for the betterment of agriculture. It is a tragedy that Monarto was ever begun, because \$21 000 000 would have been very advantageous to agriculture and many other fields in South Australia to improve our way of life and productivity, matters which have been so much laboured by the honourable member who recently resumed his seat.

The whole question of quarantine is of great concern to me. John Kerin, in delivering his presidential report to the State conference of the United Farmers and Graziers organisation recently, expressed the concern of that body regarding the whole question of quarantine. He said:

I now turn to an issue which seems equally likely to affect the lives of most South Australians in the coming months as other subjects I have mentioned. I refer to the impact that the recently discovered alfalfa aphid is going to have on the pastures of this State. What do we know about this pest? We do know it may cause millions of dollars of damage and that when it arrived in the United States of America it took only three years to spread right across that continent. We don't know how it entered Australia. It has been suggested that it might have been imported with bloodstock: if so, what of our quarantine procedures? I raise the point not only because of the recent discovery of spotted alfalfa aphid. Last year, for example, field bean producers in our South-East had to destroy their crops because they were found to be infested with a disease never before reported in Australia, from seed obtained from the United Kingdom. Further, warehouse beetles, an insect pest of stored grain in many oversea countries, was recently found in rice at Griffith in New South Wales.

He continued later:

Australians seem to regard the importance of quarantine about as high as a mild case of measles. Perhaps community attitudes will change if there is no fresh milk or butter on the breakfast table and if prices for meat skyrocket.

There is no doubt that we need to be concerned about quarantine. Primary producers are all too aware of the lightening spread of both alfalfa aphid and the sitona weevil when they gained entry to this country and the astronomical cost that has been occasioned in lost productivity. Another facet of this matter concerns all Australians: it is really a Federal Government matter, but it is something about which we in this State ought to be concerned. I refer to another aspect of quarantine. In looking through the *Northern Argus*, a provincial newspaper, of July 20, 1977, I read an article entitled "Ron Collins speaks out: Rural diseases threat from refugee boat". He stated:

Vietnamese refugee boats slipping through the Western Australian-Northern Territory coastwatching cordon pose a catastrophic disease threat to Australia's sheep and

cattle population. Foot and mouth disease, so far unrecorded in Australia, is the main danger, and others such as anthrax, tuberculosis and brucellosis—

those two, of course, we have spent much money on already, and we do not want to run the risk of them again—

re-introduced through animal products carried on foreign boats. The foot and mouth virus, says a spokesman for the South Australian Stud Merino Sheepbreeders' Association, could decimate the nation's cattle herds and sheep flocks. The association has petitioned the Department of Health, the Director of Agriculture and all South Australian Federal Parliamentarians in a bid to tighten coastal security. There's no doubt that not only are these boats getting through but that crews of Indonesian and Taiwanese fishing boats make frequent calls ashore, usually to sleep on our beaches, with their pet dogs, cats, fighting cocks, and so on, association vice-president Mr. Ron Collins of "Collinsville", Booborowie, said. These boats also carry meat, other foods and refuse which could easily contain viruses. And who knows the state their dogs are in? We certainly don't want thousands of rabid dingoes on the rampage.

As the Minister for the Environment will know, a dingo was found at Stenhouse Bay, and we certainly would not want to find a dingo with rabies down there. We must be concerned about the whole aspect of quarantine. Certainly, we must not let our human compassion for refugees, who are turning up on our north-eastern coasts, almost on a mallee rail, and our desire to see that they have a better life override our concern for the best welfare of all Australians. This is a matter of much concern, and I hope this Government will do all in its power to see that aspects within its control are adequately pursued.

Mr. Keneally: Should we get the coastguard up there to shoot them all?

Mr. BOUNDY: I suggest to the honourable member that that will be a good job for him after the next election. The future of farming concerns all members. I now refer to a report by our present Minister of Agriculture on the future of farming in Australia. This report is a blueprint for the future and, although I do not intend to quote from it in detail, its general thrust seems to be that we ought to look at hobby farming. The report seems to suggest that those who aspire and dare to be in broad-acre farming are far less efficient, are not willing to accept change at all, are stuck in their old ruts, and are not amenable to change. The whole idea of the two authors of this report (one being the Minister) is that the hobby farmer holds the key to the best welfare of the agricultural future of this State.

I do not suggest for one moment that hobby farmers have not a place or that some hobby farmers do anything but an excellent job. However, to suggest that we could reduce the farming community to a majority of hobby farmers and that they have a better idea of managing the State's farmlands is nothing short of irresponsible. If this is the best suggestion the Minister can make regarding future farmers and farmlands, it is equivalent to Nero fiddling whilst Rome burned. Whilst touching on agricultural matters and the effects of drought, I refer to the State Unemployment Relief Scheme, which is a useful service to the community provided by this Government.

Mr. Keneally: Do you think Federal money should go—

Mr. BOUNDY: I do not deny its worth. The Federal Government provides funds through its return from direct taxation, and the State Government has a direct responsibility, and in some measure it is satisfying that responsibility. However, it is generally accepted that rural local



government is suffering a depletion in funds due, in part, to the policies of this Government in the reallocation of funds which it has received from the Federal Government for rural roads. It reallocated its finances so that these funds were no longer allocated to rural roads.

That is part of the story. The other part is that we have seen several seasons of lower returns, and councils are now unable to do all that they would want. As a result of this factor and the inflation which began under and was fuelled by the Whitlam Administration and which is taking the Fraser Administration a little longer than we had all hoped to bring under control, many rural councils cannot produce figures to show a great number of registered unemployed. The reason is that people in rural areas do not register as unemployed, first, because many of them are self-employed and, more particularly, because they are self-reliant. They think there is some sort of stigma attached to registering for unemployment benefits.

Therefore, I believe that, where a rural council cannot show a pool of registered unemployed sufficient to obtain funds from the State Unemployment Relief Scheme, the Government could look into the matter to bring about a rationalisation so that councils otherwise disqualified can obtain some benefit. I cite as an example the Bowmans, Avon and South Hummocks areas as well as the Balaklava council area and the Port Wakefield council area, too, which have suffered a series of droughts.

These areas have drift problems through no fault of their own. There are many cases now in the Avon district where roads are drifting whenever there is a change of wind and where it is necessary for the council to grade those roads to provide farmers with access between properties. As with unemployment, this is a factor beyond the council's control. This is an area of need which the Government could enter by providing grants to councils to undertake such work, which otherwise would not be undertaken if there were no drought.

Regarding local government, a tight budget cannot be stretched beyond endurance. Every rural local government body is on a tight budget and, in this case, the relief scheme could help, and I hope that the Minister of Local Government takes notice of this matter and seeks to bring about a little more equity in this matter. Many rural councils are unable to take advantage of the scheme because of its structure.

Also, I have noticed how members opposite and, more particularly, the member for Stuart, have become increasingly sensitive and embarrassed concerning the chronicle of grandiose schemes and broken promises that we have brought to the notice of this House and the people of South Australia. Many Opposition members have already ventilated aspects concerning housing, planning, transport, and many other matters. I should like to refer to promises made regarding tourism. I note in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech that the Government intends to continue promoting tourism. However, I remind the Premier of his rather colourful promise of \$3 000 000 to be spent to promote Wallaroo as the copper coast of this State. The Premier is a great one for hopping on band waggons. He saw how successful the Gold Coast was in Queensland. He opted for a little less valuable metal, and in 1973 he opted to promote the copper coast at Kadina, Moonta and Wallaroo.

The Premier made great play of this on May 18, 1973. However, subsequent events have proved this to be vote bait. I do not think anyone can see \$3 000 000 being spent at Wallaroo on the promotion of tourism, and I would not

be surprised to see the Premier trot out this slogan again to help his Party's endorsed candidate for Rocky River at the next election.

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

Mr. BOUNDY: I am interested in the copper coast concept for the Wallaroo region. The Regional Tourist Officer, Mr. Harry Dowling, of the Yorke Peninsula Tourist Development Association is also interested in this concept. Mr. Dowling and his organisation want to hear more from the Premier on the idea, and are only too happy to help the Premier beat his idea into shape and to spend \$3 000 000 in the district. I pay a tribute to the work that Mr. Dowling and his organisation are doing in promoting tourism in the Yorke Peninsula area, including Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo, and Port Broughton. So, the area reaches a little beyond my district. The Tourist Development Association is recognised as a foremost tourist promotion group in the State. It keeps the interests of our area to the fore, so much so that Mr. Dowling has been invited to visit Port Lincoln and Western Australia to investigate what is done there with regard to tourist promotion. Page 16 of the tourist development survey of the Yorke Peninsula region states:

The gross expenditure by visitors using accommodation facilities in the region during 1975-76 is estimated to have been \$6 500 000.

The accommodation includes motels, hotel/motels, hotels, caravan parks, private holiday houses, and other accommodation. The survey continues:

This estimate of the value of tourist activity in the region during 1975-76 excludes spending by day visitors to the region.

So, the sum of \$6 500 000 is realised from those who come to stay one night or more. It can therefore be seen that tourism is significant on Yorke Peninsula, largely due to the promotional work by our Tourist Development Association. Mr. Dowling has told me that his visit to Western Australia demonstrated what the Liberal Government there is willing to do to promote tourism and provide incentives to tourist development associations. All members here would be aware that the best this Government can do is provide a \$750 grant through the Tourist Bureau to help organisations with tourist promotion. The Western Australian Government gives a basic grant of \$1 000 to each tourist development association; then, for the next \$3 500 it covers tourist promotion on a \$1 for \$1 basis; thereafter, up to a maximum of \$2 500, it covers tourist promotion on a \$1 for \$2 basis.

So, in Western Australia, if a tourist development association can raise \$8 500, it has \$15 500 which can be channelled into tourist development and tourist promotion. As we are already receiving about \$6 500 000, a conservative estimate, on Yorke Peninsula, if only this Government would be a little more generous with its incentives, surely we could improve that tourist income markedly. In one of his grandiose schemes, the Premier referred to the copper coast concept for Wallaroo. I should like to help him in this connection, but the Premier seems to have lost interest in the idea. I think we could promote the "caso coast". "Caso" is the slang term for gypsum, which is calcium sulphate. I should like to help the Premier to promote the "caso coast" and to spend his \$3 000 000 there, because it is an attractive coastline. The Yorke Peninsula Planning Area Development Plan, at page 88, states:

Following acquisition of the township of Stenhouse Bay and the adjoining lands in March, 1975, the South Australian Government has enlarged Innes National Park



by about 2 500 hectares following an assessment by the Mines Department of gypsum reserves remaining in the area, and tourist accommodation requirements in the Marion Bay area.

The coastline of the area is scenically outstanding, with long sweeping bays and beaches facing rough and treacherous seas. Panoramic views of the bushland north of Stenhouse Bay and the southern coast are obtained from viewpoints above the Stenhouse Bay jetty and from the cliff top west of the township.

Natural features which make this part of the region one of the most attractive semi-primitive areas in the State should be protected. Any development which detracts from the visual qualities of the landscape should be prohibited.

Of course, parks are for people, but unfortunately one of the generalisations that can be made is that as soon as the Government takes them over as places for public enjoyment they almost always become rule bound: no dogs, no kids, no camping, no shooting, and no trespassing. Indeed, there are more "thou shalt nots" than there are in the Ten Commandments.

Mr. Tonkin: You mean you are not allowed to go in?

Mr. BOUNDY: People can go in, yes, but are not allowed to touch anything. In some places there are more signs stating what people must not do than there are trees. From some viewpoints, the Government has done a wonderful job, and I would not condemn it completely, but I point out that the Government has changed the rules regarding dogs. People who have been coming to the area for the past 15 years or 20 years have brought their dogs with them.

Mr. Whitten: On leashes?

Mr. BOUNDY: No. Since Innes National Park was taken over by the Government, a rule has been laid down that there are to be no dogs. I am not suggesting for a minute that that was not a perfectly proper course of action. What I do decry is that these folk travelled 300 kilometres to Stenhouse Bay with their dogs for the Christmas holidays only to be told by the ranger at the park, "Sorry, no dogs allowed," and they were turned away and were disappointed. It would have done the National Parks and Wildlife Service much good if it had had the good sense to do some public relations work and advertise that the no-dog rule had been imposed so that people would not be embarrassed and would not abuse the national park ranger. The ranger, too, had to take the odium of the sins of omission of his superiors in the metropolitan area.

Unfortunately, the greatest disability at Innes National Park is the apparent lack of co-operation between the Environment Department and its working arm, the National Parks and Wildlife Service, and local authorities and local people. A water scheme is available at Innes National Park that was used by Waratah Gypsum Pty. Ltd. for its operations. That scheme is now owned by the national park. The scheme emanates from a system of wells on Zilm's property and provides portable water in considerable quantity. The scheme is fully equipped with a diesel motor, pumps, and several kilometres of pipes, which delivers water past Marion Bay, Willyama Bay, and several large holding tanks at Stenhouse Bay. All these facilities were in working order when the scheme was taken over by the department. The facilities still are in working order, but they have not been used since. The facts are that the National Parks and Wildlife Service, and perhaps properly, would like to exclude overnight visitors from using the park. The service would like to remove the camping area from Pondalowie Bay to outside the park at Willyama Bay, which has been made available to Warooka District Council to develop. What is missing—water!

The store proprietor at Marion Bay owns some land in the area, and he would like to develop a small caravan park near his store. The closest adequate public toilets to Marion Bay are at Warooka, and I believe that that is 60 or 70 kilometres away. The reason, no water. The situation is that the national parks authority owns this more than adequate scheme that provides high-quality water with piping that passes all the places where facilities are needed and wanted, and the council is quite willing either to let the facility to private enterprise to develop it or to develop it itself. In fact, the council was so exasperated because it could not get a reply from the Government about the use of this perfectly good scheme that it sank its own well adjacent to Willyama Bay but, unfortunately, sufficient water both in quality or quantity was not available to proceed with this scheme.

It seems to me that a complete breakdown of negotiation, or perhaps even a complete lack of understanding on the part of the department, has occurred regarding the facilities that were available there and how easily those facilities could be used for the benefit of many people, and, in a way, that is consistent with the way the Government would like to use Innes National Park. Only the other day I spoke to the District Clerk of the Warooka council, and he said that the last correspondence the council had had with the Minister on the matter had not been answered, and that the council was despondent about the whole situation. I hope that practical common sense will bring about co-operation between all parties concerned for the ultimate benefit of the tourist industry and to help us make more money out of tourism on Yorke Peninsula, because everyone is aware that such a potential exists.

I have said that the Premier seems to have lost interest in the copper coast concept. He may not like my idea of the "cuso coast" either, so I still have one more idea up my sleeve. I wonder whether I could interest the Premier in developing the "cordite coast" and help him spend his \$3 000 000 there. The "cordite coast" is just down from the Port Wakefield proof range. It is close to the city, with pleasant beaches, and I am sure that, with co-operation from the Army Department we could have regular firework displays there. With a bit more co-operation, the Army may let off flares so that crabbing time could be extended when the tide was right. Seriously though, there is a need for Government involvement in the area.

Many people are opting out of the rat race to retire in this area, and people go to the area for their holidays. Many shacks have been built at Middle Beach, Parham, and Port Prime, and along the coast. The more important aspect is that much hobby farm development has occurred both on the Adelaide Plains behind this beach area and in the hills area, and a substantial number of people are using and will continue to use this area of coastline in years to come for recreation purposes. I know of farmers from as far away as Cambrai who tow their trailer boats to St. Vincent Gulf to go fishing. Therefore, many more facilities will be needed there soon. I am sure that the provision of these facilities is not the province of the district council in whose area this piece of coastline lies, but that it is rightly the province of the State Government, because this area serves an area much wider than the council area. More boat ramps will be needed, as will more toilets, change rooms, and access roads to serve a wider range of people living in the country as well as people from the metropolitan area who are moving to these beaches to gain a little more elbow room for their recreation than metropolitan beaches can provide.

The subject of shacks has caused great comment on Yorke Peninsula. The Yorke Peninsula Planning Area Development Plan has recently been released, and the draft copy of that plan was subjected to great comment when it was under review. I should like to speak in defence of shack areas. Since the Government attacked people who owned shacks along the coastal fringe, much improvement in the standard of the shacks has occurred because their owners want to remain in the area. Much work has been done by the Shackowners Association of South Australia to improve the environment.

Recently, a couple of letters have appeared in the *Advertiser* that have amounted to a slanging match between the Nature Conservation Society and the Shackowners Association. Members of the Shackowners Association on Yorke Peninsula especially in the James Well, Rogues Gully, and Black Point areas have planted voluntarily hundreds of trees around their shacks and in the public areas adjacent to the shacks for the betterment of the environment. When John Madigan, of the Shackowners Association, wrote to the *Advertiser* to this effect, he drew the reply from the Nature Conservation Society that it did not want that kind of action but wanted the place to be as nature made it. I think the mistake that Mr. Peter Reeves has made is that he does not seem to realise that these shackowners are really concerned about the environment; they are planting native trees, generally improving the area by voluntarily removing rubbish and seeing that the area is tidy and a pleasant place to live. The editorial in today's *News* also refers to the Yorke Peninsula development plan. The editorial contains a refreshing comment, under the heading "Realistic", as follows:

The proposals by the State Planning Authority are realistic. They appear to take proper account of the rights of existing shackowners, a sensitive political issue—

I could not agree more—

while allowing for further development to be contained. The 23 areas provided should certainly be enough for the foreseeable future and allow intending builders a reasonable choice. It is possible to take issue with some of the guidelines.

It certainly is, because nothing is perfect. The editorial continues:

The idea of using neutral or earth colours for seaside places is taking ecological purity too far.

I could not agree more. The editorial continues:

A bit of gaudiness and a bit of honest vulgarity are part of the fun of a holiday resort. Ask any kid.

I agree that there needs to be some practical common sense in preserving the environment and blending in with it. I have raised in the House the fact that in Innes National Park, at Stenhouse Bay, a trading post was allowed to be established to sell all kinds of goods that tourists might want to use, but it could not advertise. As a result of activity of mine in the House, the situation was reversed, and the shop was allowed to advertise its wares.

Recently, the Yorke Peninsula Planning Area Development Plan was released, and much work has been done since the draft plan was released. The final document does not appear to have offended many people. However, a certain area of planning appears to have been neglected altogether, but it may be that it is not really the province of that kind of development plan. The matter I refer to is the future projections of population for an area such as Goyder, particularly its coastal region, where there are now very many beach houses. I have been unable to get an accurate figure of the number of houses, because some are privately-owned and some are on leasehold land. Many developed sites are awaiting sale.

At Hardwicke Bay, 109 freehold blocks are available, together with several hundred at Port Moorowie and over 300 at Tiddy Widdy Beach. So, a tremendous potential exists there. Research I have done indicates that many beach home areas have a permanent population of about 25 per cent; I think that the norm would be about 10 per cent. An interesting point is that Ardrossan, Port Vincent, Stansbury and Edithburgh are increasingly peopled by those who wish the quiet of the country for their retirement. Scandinavian countries report that 22 per cent of the population owns a holiday home, whereas I understand that in South Australia the figure is only about 5 per cent. If we are to see a similar situation in South Australia, with the use changing from holiday home to retirement home, we will need to consider the provision of more geriatric accommodation in our hospitals, more aged persons' homes and units, more meals-on-wheels services and more domiciliary care—more senior citizen facilities of all kinds.

Stansbury, Minlaton, Balaklava, and Mallala already have retirement village complexes, all used to capacity, and Maitland has a project nearing completion. That ambitious and worthwhile project is at the furnishing stage. The furnishing of these projects is an area in which the Government could greatly assist. The Commonwealth has given generously and the local community is heavily committed. I trust that this Government will sympathetically consider the requests of the committee for assistance. Already the complex has proven the need for extensions at the adjacent hospital for more beds to serve as an infirmary for that retirement village. The Government will need to watch this matter closely. It may well be that there needs to be a transfer of assistance away from the city to the country, because so many people are retiring out of the rat-race to their rural retreats.

In the grievance debate on the Supply Bill, I spoke on the subject of water and referred to the difficulties of gardeners in the Virginia area caused by the dry season and the lack of subsoil moisture for such a long period. A total of 86 licensees in the area have exceeded their quotas through no fault of their own. They were caught by the needs of the season. They have been issued with new allocations, and their new quotas have been reduced by the amount their use was excessive last year. Not only have they had the trauma of having their quotas reduced, but in many cases much confusion has been caused by a spate of letters informing them of what is going on. Members will know that the Virginia area has a high component of ethnic groups that would not in every case have a clear understanding of the English language. They have received about three different letters, telling them of the new situation. It has been reported to me many times how confused they are. I am indebted to the member for Light for a reply he received today to a Question on Notice. Part of the reply he received is a copy of one of the letters that were sent out to these people. One can understand their confusion; I think that the letter could have been worded more simply. Part of the reply states:

This regulation provides that if any licensee withdraws excess water in any year the Minister shall reduce the water allotment for the next succeeding year by an amount equal to the amount of excess water so withdrawn.

Members can understand that, but it seems to me to be an excess of journalese. Perhaps in the interests of making this matter clearer to those who are distressed, the wording could have been simplified and contained in one letter so that these people would know what was facing them. First, they received a letter telling them what their quota was normally; then another letter explaining that, if they had used more than their quota, their next year's quota would

be reduced by an equivalent amount; and then another letter saying that they could appeal. I would be the first to accept the necessity for quotas and for penalties if the quotas were exceeded. I hope that the appeals tribunal will deal sympathetically with each case on its merits, because there have been two dry seasons and it has been a time of great difficulty for these gardeners who rely on an underground water supply. This applies not only to gardeners but also to others who rely on it for domestic purposes. I understand that, under the new quota, some people may not have sufficient water left for a wash. In all probability, they have not been as careful as they ought to have been. The Government should urgently proceed with the use of Bolivar effluent and the reticulation thereof into the surrounding districts.

The member for Mount Gambier said that he was going through a shopping list of this Government's deficiencies. The next one through which I should like to go is that relating to transport, and particularly the Government's decision in March to reduce the overload factor for grain carting from 40 per cent to 30 per cent above gross combination weight. Before I entered this place, I was a member of the Yorke Peninsula Transport Committee, when this legislation was being discussed. I am sure that the committee's efforts were instrumental in gaining the 40 per cent overload factor for harvesting. We wanted it to be a permanent feature at harvest time. However, we were told that, mainly on safety grounds, this could not be granted. The two harvests for which we have had this concession have indicated that the Government need have no fear on safety grounds. The records show that the unblemished safety record of farm trucks has continued.

However, the aspect about which I want to rebuke the Government relates to the best use of our energy resources. The Government washes its hand of the uranium issue only because it thinks that that action will curry favour in the electorate at present. It thinks that the community comes down on the side of our not using uranium. The Government's attitude seems to be a politically expedient one, rather than one that represents a responsible attitude to the future needs of the country. The Government refuses to grasp the nettle of our future needs and of those less fortunate in relation to natural resources. Fossil fuels will be needed in the transport industry for many years to come. The world is within 20 years of exhausting those resources, and the responsible use of energy resources would prove the case for continuing the 40 per cent overload concession.

I now refer to the situation that obtains regarding a facet of Aboriginal education that could and should be encouraged. In this respect, I refer to the moves made by the Point Pearce School Council and by concerned parents and other members of that community. The policy at all levels of Aboriginal affairs in recent years has been to assist the people concerned to do what they themselves want. Those of us in the rest of the community accept our right to send our children to boarding school and, in so doing, expect some Government assistance. The parents of children at Point Pearce have sought and been successful in getting an opportunity for their children from years 5 and 6 to go into a cottage home situation in the city. Already, 20 children from other parts of the State are in Adelaide enjoying and benefiting from this opportunity.

Student success rates have been encouraging, and the health of students has improved from the stable home environment that the cottage home provides. Eight to 10 students at Point Pearce are ready to use this scheme, and approval has been given. The only hold-up is the availability of a suitable home in the metropolitan area adjacent

to appropriate school facilities. Unfortunately, it is now too late in the school year to transfer children. However, I trust that a suitable home can be found in time for the new school year.

No speech referring to the State's legislative programme should ignore the problem of juvenile crime or the report of the Juvenile Court Royal Commissioner, Judge Mohr. Judge Wilson may have started this matter rolling in a somewhat unusual way. However, it could well be that his principles brought about a much-needed ventilation of the whole matter of juvenile crime. I hope that the ventilating of this matter has brought to the notice of the court and the Government the level of community concern, and the continued need for rehabilitation that exists, as well as the desire of the community to treat those who continually offend in a way that will deter others from following their course of action. Much good will come from this, and I trust that the Government will do all in its power to ensure that those who offend against the community continually receive their just desserts and are taught that everyone has a responsibility to uphold the best interests of the community.

I have run out of time, not having dealt with some of the issues relating to the Government's mismanagement that I should have liked to raise. Of course, other opportunities will be available to me in future when I can continue with this story and point out some further examples of mismanagement, waste and neglect of which this Government has been guilty.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member's time has expired.

Mr. SLATER (Gilles): I, too, support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply moved by my colleague, the member for Playford, and seconded by the member for Tea Tree Gully. I join with previous speakers in conveying my condolences to the relatives of former members of State Parliament who were referred to in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech at the opening of this session of Parliament. I listened with interest to His Excellency's Speech, and with varying interest to the speeches of members in reply thereto. I often think that I will move (and I was tempted to do so, but I knew that you, Sir, would rule me out of order) to have my speech inserted in *Hansard* without my reading it. I was tempted to do so but, having heard some of the speeches that have already been made by members opposite, particularly the member for Mitcham, I thought that this might be an idea to consider in future. The format of the Opening Speech always intrigues me a little. Invariably, we start off with a type of weather report.

Mr. Millhouse: If you look from year to year, you will find that it has always been in the same form, in the same order and showing the same departments.

Mr. SLATER: True. We have a traditional format in relation to the Speech, and prior reference is given to agriculture. The member for Goyder referred to this matter, saying he believed that the reason for it was the priority that agriculture has in this State. I do not deny that agriculture is an important sector of the economy of this State.

Dr. Eastick: Hurray! Someone recognises it.

Mr. SLATER: Yes, I do, even though the member for Heysen said that I did not know much about the breeding of sheep. I admit that. Nevertheless, I do not represent a rural district. It was shown in the last census (if I remember correctly) that there were four farmers in Gilles District.

Mr. McRae: And five sheep.

Mr. SLATER: No, I do not think there were any sheep; I do not know whether the local council would permit that sort of thing. Recently, two rather dishevelled young gentlemen came into my office complaining that the local council would not give them an opportunity to keep two goats in an upstairs flat. I said, "Look, it is fairly reasonable to expect the council not to allow you to keep goats because of council regulations. What about the smell?" They said, "Don't worry about the smell. The goats won't mind it." Whether that is applicable to my knowledge of rural matters, I am not sure. Nevertheless, agriculture usually has a preferential position in the Opening Speech, because that is traditional. That may be a throwback to the pioneer days, when agriculture was the predominant industry in South Australia. However, changes have occurred and we now have a mixed economy. To a limited extent we rely on agriculture, but we rely, too, on other things. I believe the priority given to agriculture in the Opening Speech is a throwback to the days of the landed gentry and the squattocracy.

The Speech went on to outline the proposed legislative programme of the Government for the forthcoming session. I do not intend to deal with each paragraph in detail, but paragraph 21 sets out a comprehensive list of legislative measures to be considered in this session. One matter in which I have a special interest, which is to be considered in this session and on which I spoke in an adjournment debate some time ago, relates to landlord and tenant relationships, described in the Speech as residential tenancies.

In South Australia, we have had an extraordinary amount of home ownership over the years when our situation is considered in comparison with that of other countries. The interests of private tenants have been somewhat neglected. Even though the proportion of home ownership is high, private tenants have been neglected, and the increasing cost of houses has led to many people renting rather than being able to purchase houses. Private tenants normally are from the lower socio-economic groups, and those especially disadvantaged are deserted wives with children and minimum wage earners with children. These people are particularly vulnerable to the pressures sometimes applied by the landlord and, even more so, by the agent acting on his behalf.

The deserted wife with children and the low income earner tend to be usually less articulate and less influential, and they have not developed a collective sense of identity. Tenants' rights have been known to be very few and, if they had any rights at all, this has only delayed the ultimate vacation of the premises or the eviction from them. The area of bond money and key money has over a long period been one of major causes of dispute. One of the best papers that I have seen on this subject is by Michael Berry, a lecturer in urban studies at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. It is entitled "Whose city? The forgotten tenant." I shall quote from this article, as follows:

The recent national poverty inquiry—

I think the article was written in 1975 or 1976—clearly demonstrated the impact of the distribution of housing costs on the incidence of poverty. For most disability groups the proportion of households below the poverty line fell after housing costs were accounted for. Due to the relatively high incidence of home-ownership at all levels in Australian society, low income is partly offset by low real housing costs. This is particularly true for the home-owning aged, many of whom have paid off mortgages and are enjoying low and even negative real housing costs. However, this situation is reversed for the low-income

renter. Tenants in Australia, and particularly private tenants, are more prone to poverty *after* than *before* housing costs. After rent has been deducted they are least likely, of housing groups, to have sufficient income to meet the other necessities of life. Private tenants make up 40.8 per cent of all income units very poor after housing, although comprising only 21.4 per cent of the total population. In other words, private tenants are twice as likely to be in serious poverty as are other housing groups.

A major area of tenant discontent centres on bonds or security deposits. The most common problems relate to the amount of money demanded in advance (which can cause hardship to poor families or even prevent them renting), and lack of protection against bond-snatching; the landlord practice of unfairly refusing to return all or part of the bond at the end of the tenancy for spurious reasons. In the survey, 77 per cent had paid a bond on their current dwelling, more than three-quarters of this group paying \$100 or more. Sixteen per cent of the total sample stated that, at some time, part or all of their bond had been withheld, and 84 per cent of this group considered that it had been withheld unfairly. Similarly, 17 per cent of tenants considered that the amount of the bond demanded had, at some time, prevented them from renting the dwelling concerned. As a minority grouping in property-owning Australian society, tenants are often stigmatised.

The article states that the commission of inquiry made the following statement:

In a country where home ownership is the national dream and home owners are seen as the paradigm of the model citizen, the status of the tenant inevitably suffers. Tenants are commonly regarded as transitory or as failures, people who have little commitment to property or community.

It then continues:

This is particularly true of public tenants whose landlords, the State housing authorities, have generally been peculiarly adept at clearly labelling their clients "inferior" through a combination of means-test, distinctive building styles, physical concentration and centralised, paternalistic management and attitudes. Although most glaringly present in the high-rise developments of the 1960's. . .

The article refers particularly to the situation in Melbourne, which is the reason, I believe, for the reference to high-rise development, which occurs far more in the Melbourne suburbs than in Adelaide. The article describes what it calls the political disadvantages of tenancy, and states:

The continued deprived position of tenants rests not only on the internal dynamics of the housing market in a class-stratified society, but also on the institutional distribution of power constraining its operation. Tenants, as a group, are politically powerless. The Australian political system is, objectively, "impenetrable" to tenancy issues: the perpetual "non-decision" to ignore tenancy as a public issue reinforces the subjective acceptance of powerlessness.

Sociologists should look at housing as they do education; in particular, they should seek to relate access to housing to structured inequality. In what ways do housing inequalities reinforce class divisions in Australian society? In what ways do housing and educational inequalities interact? When sociologists turn their attention to these questions, I suspect they will find that tenants fare even worse than was first expected.

I believe this is a very apt paper, stating concisely the need for legislation to protect the tenant in an area where at present he has few rights. I hope that the legislation foreshadowed in the Opening Speech will deal with a situation that has needed correction for a long time. I hasten to say that I do not believe that all landlords are greedy or rapacious or that every tenant is a knight in shining armour, and I trust that the proposed legislation will deal equitably with both the landlord and the tenant and that it will resolve the difficulties that now exist.

I consider that four basic aspects need correction. The first is rent payments. Although the owner is entitled to a reasonable and fair return for his investment, with the present housing situation it is easy for an unscrupulous owner to squeeze the tenant. The persons to whom I have

referred earlier, those who I believe are disadvantaged, are in a weak position to bargain with the landlord. Secondly, there is the question of repairs to and maintenance of premises. Often tenants, after waiting in vain for repairs to be effected, do those repairs themselves, although the repairs are the landlord's responsibility. Many tenants are reluctant to pursue the matter, for fear of reprisals by the owner.

The third aspect is the question of eviction. A suitable time should be given to enable tenants to obtain alternative accommodation. This matter presents a real problem for many tenants, particularly the disadvantaged people I have mentioned previously, who sometimes have only a week or a fortnight in which to find alternative accommodation. The last of these aspects covers the hidden costs of tenancy, the bond, key money, and even the charging of tenants for the preparation of lease documents.

I believe that the most significant abuse of them all is bond money. Often large amounts place tenants in financial difficulty, with charges of \$150 to \$200, plus the payment of rent in advance in some cases. That is a difficult situation for disadvantaged people, who are involved in repayment of the money after vacating the premises where disputes arise. I believe that all these matters certainly need to be dealt with by legislation. I trust that the proposed legislation will provide a balance and that an independent body or tribunal will be appointed to resolve disputes such as have occurred often in this area.

I deal now with another matter mentioned in the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech—the proposed amendment of the Adoption of Children Act. The present imbalance between prospective adopters and the number of babies available for adoption has been a matter of considerable concern. It was realised that under the present system many applicants wanting to adopt children would need to wait many years before their applications could be considered. With a list of about 1 100 applicants and the list increasing disproportionately to the number of children available, the Minister of Community Welfare, I think in the latter part of 1976, appointed a Community Welfare Advisory Committee on Adoption Matters, under the chairmanship of Dr. Peter Eisen.

The committee submitted its report in December that year, and I consider that the report is excellent. The committee recommended several criteria and made suggestions for changes that will strike a reasonable balance between the number of applicants and the number of children available. Adoption is a real, personal and emotional situation for the adopting parents. However, the Minister rightly insists that the welfare of the child still must be the paramount consideration in processing and selecting adoptive parents. This is embodied in the report, and the major criteria recommended by the committee are:

- (1) Applicants shall provide proof of marriage.
- (2) Applicants shall have been married to their present spouse for at least five years at the time of placement of their names on register.
- (3) Each applicant shall be aged less than 25 years and not more than 37 years at the time of placement of their names on register.
- (4) Applicants shall have been resident or domiciled in Australia for at least three years at the time of placement of their names on register.
- (5) Applicants shall be resident in South Australia during the assessment procedures and at the time of placement of the child and shall agree to remain so until an adoption order is granted.
- (6) At the time of placement of their names on the register, applicants shall have no more than one child either of the marriage and/or under their legal guardianship in their care.

(7) At the time of placement of the child any existing child of the marriage or under the legal guardianship and in the care of the prospective adopters shall be not more than four years older than the child to be placed.

(8) Each of the prospective adopters shall be required to provide proof of satisfactory health.

(9) In any instance where a prospective adopter has any physical or psychological illness, defect or disability, a detailed report from appropriate specialist(s) shall be required before a decision is made regarding placement on the register.

(10) In any instance where infertility is claimed, a report from appropriate specialist(s) in accordance with form 4A of the schedule shall be required before a decision is made regarding placement on the register.

The committee made 16 recommendations. I do not want to read them all and I have mentioned the most appropriate 10 of them. Other recommendations deal with preparation for parenthood, and a further recommendation is as follows:

In any instance where potentially treatable infertility is present in either applicant, specialist evidence shall be required that acceptable treatment for infertility has been unsuccessful before a decision is made regarding placement on the register.

As I have said, I consider it to be a good report. The committee goes on to give not only criteria but also the rationale regarding its recommendations. I hope that, if some or all of the recommendations are accepted, the criteria for adoptions will be reviewed periodically and adjusted from time to time if circumstances change. In addition, I should like a discretionary power to be given to the Minister or the Director of the Community Welfare Department to waive certain criteria, particularly regarding applicants who, because they have been on the list waiting for an adoption for some time, may have exceeded the age limit set by the committee. I trust that, when any alterations are being drafted or any regulations under the Adoption of Children Act are being prepared, the Minister will note my comment that he should have power to waive some of the recommendations, depending on circumstances, and that discretionary power should be available to him or to the Director in this regard.

I refer now to another matter that has been raised several times in this debate, namely, law and order, crime and punishment, or something of that kind. The member for Playford, when moving the motion, made what has been probably the most relevant remarks regarding this matter, and I believe they are worthy of repetition. He said:

Fourthly, there can be no doubt that community morale is reflected in the crime rate. It seems to me no coincidence that offences like vandalism and offences to persons have increased markedly of recent years. I do not accept that this increase is mere coincidence. I consider it to be part of the value that society places on respect for the law. Unfortunately, we have gone through a phase where we switched from over-disciplined homes and schools to the opposite. But every parent and every teacher must recognise that the crime statistics are simply the sum of a large number of individuals. These individuals once had the opportunity of respecting the law and authority and, if they did not, the odds are that they were never taught to do so in the home or in the schools.

In some cases our system of punishment has been so easy that it has not acted as a deterrent and I believe that, especially for crimes of violence, punishment needs to be heavier, but balance must prevail as there comes a point where severity ceases to be a deterrent. Balance is all, and we should reconstruct, for example our basically excellent system of juvenile courts in a few directions, rather than destroy it. In the long run, if you want a lawful society, you can achieve it only by teaching people minimum standards.

I agree wholeheartedly with those remarks. I disagree with several remarks that have been made regarding the matter by members of the Opposition. It seems that

Opposition members love to play politics on this issue, and it has been obvious over the past six months or so in South Australia. One would suspect, from the campaign they are trying to mount with regard to law and order, that South Australia alone is suffering from a problem that is occurring universally. In almost every country of the world, unfortunately, there has been an increase, especially in juvenile crime. The incidence of the increase in crimes against persons and property is certainly a matter for extreme concern, especially in relation to crimes involving juveniles. However, it is necessary, in relation to crimes involving juveniles, to examine the basic causes of the matter, and to ask ourselves, "Why do so many young people go wrong at such an early age?"

I had the good fortune to read an article in *Mental Health in Australia* entitled "The Antecedents of Juvenile Criminal Behaviour". The author is Dr. Peter Eisen, the person I quoted earlier, and he shows that multiple factors contribute to the juvenile crime rate, not only in South Australia, but throughout the world. I refer to that article, which is fairly lengthy, so I will quote the most relevant parts of it. It states:

*Violence has many faces:* To the observer it seems to come from a vehement, vigorous and brutal monster or destroyer, ruffian, or tyrant, agitator or revolutionary. To the victim, it is felt as a forcible, oppressive, cruel, turbulent, ungovernable, frenzied or overwhelming intrusion. It is universally perpetrated by the thoughts and deeds, physical behaviour and verbal expressions of individuals, groups and the agents of society . . .

The article continues:

There are a multiplicity of internal as well as external factors which underlie the adolescent's control over his aggressive impulses. Similarly, there are a vast number of factors that militate against such control. Whilst cognisant of this complexity, it can be hypothesised that aggressive dyscontrol, to the extent of a menacing violence, threatening or destroying the self and others, their property, society or its institutions, occurs under particular conditions within the individual.

For each individual adolescent, faced with developmental tasks of transition from child to adult, there are monumental problems in the control of all impulses, including aggression. The signposts of the adolescent's normal difficulties are now commonly recognised. For instance, to quote Anna Freud, "adolescence produces its own symptomatology which, in the more severe cases, is of a quasi-disocial, quasi-psychotic, borderline order".

The article states later:

Such time-honoured ways are desiccated in a rapidly changing world. Ideally, the adolescent contributed to change by maintaining a vigilant challenge to the adults who forge the judgments and decisions leading to the institutions of law. But when the adolescent finds adult society bankrupt, it is difficult for him to constructively challenge a flagrantly corrupted society, "callous to wars, callous to the destruction of life and property on a stupendous scale, . . . cold to the suffering and mutilation of other human beings".

I am trying to determine the cause of juvenile crime. I believe that there are a multiplicity of factors, but one of the basic factors (especially in Western industrialised societies) is the pressure applied to youth, and more so in our present situation of high unemployment. Unemployed youths are probably more prone to pressures and problems in relation to crime than is any other section of the community. I have a motion on the Notice Paper on the subject of the Federal Government's economic policy (or should I say lack of it) in relation to unemployment and its effect on the morale of the younger generation. I will deal with that at another time and point out that unemployed youth is being severely affected by these policies.

For the Opposition to run a campaign about law and order is wrong. I noted a report in, I believe, one of the

local newspapers of a survey conducted, I understand, by the lady who is the Liberal candidate for Coles. I do not know how she conducted the survey, but she seemed to think that 90 per cent of the people in her proposed district were afraid to walk down the street at night. The whole article was based on fear and a situation that I believe should not exist in our system, so it ill-behoves members of the Opposition to postulate the theory that the South Australian Government is in some way contributing to, or is responsible for, crime in South Australia. There is much to be done, but it needs the assistance of every person in the community, and this matter should not be made a political football. I know it is the Opposition's duty to oppose, but I think it should oppose—

Mr. Gunn: Constructive criticism.

Mr. SLATER: I use the words of the member for Mount Gambier, "It is required to act with common decency." I think that that statement is correct regarding juvenile crime in this society. I know that it is the Opposition's duty to oppose. It is required to act responsibly and not take advantage of the situation for cheap political gains. Of course, we cannot blame the Opposition entirely, because the media gives it much assistance. It was said to me during the week-end (and it may be true) by a friend, "Your real opposition is not the fellows who sit on the other side—it's the media." That person may be right, because we have had the situation during this year of an increasing coverage of political events in a basically slanted way, with resultant biased reports. Any self-respecting journalist, if he were game enough to admit it, would say that many times the reports are completely erroneous. There are other people in journalism, and I do not know whether I should describe them as rat-bag journalists—

Mr. Gunn: Like Bruce Muirden?

Mr. SLATER: We have a few. The member for Eyre does not take kindly to Mr. Muirden, although he is an excellent journalist. However, the honourable member has never been regarded as being a great threat to Albert Einstein. The person I am referring to as a rat-bag journalist writes a column in the *Sunday Mail*. There seems to be a bit of a competition, because I always wonder whom he will knock next week. He is the sort of journalist who, in his own cynical and sarcastic way, consistently misrepresents the facts, and each article sets about knocking the State, the Ministers, and the Government. I believe that the public is entitled to a better deal than this.

Mr. Gunn: What about the time he stood on a truck with Don Dunstan? Have you forgotten that?

Mr. SLATER: That only highlights the eccentricity of the bloke. Certainly, I am not worried about whether or not he stood on a platform with Don Dunstan or anyone else. The honourable member is merely confirming the erratic and eccentric reports in the *Sunday Mail*.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: That's not Max Harris, is it?

Mr. SLATER: I have not named him, but one does not have to be a genius to guess to whom I am referring.

Mr. McRae: Is that the one they call "quick-quick Maxie"?

Mr. SLATER: I do not know whether he makes a quick quid or not. He may make a buck or two from the articles in the *Sunday Mail*, but the public is entitled to a better deal from the media and especially from Mr. Harris. However, the whole point of that exercise is to divert attention from the Opposition. Articles appearing in the press seek to divert the public's attention away from the Opposition's problems. It is obvious that

difficulties exist in the Opposition. I am sure that in the not too distant future the lid will blow and the public of South Australia will know about the problems that exist in the Liberal Party. Opposition members can smile, but I can remember when I made a similar prophecy back in the days of Steele Hall. I told them then, "Keep looking behind, because they are getting the knives out." That prophecy came true. I do not profess to have any great psychic powers but, politically, I believe I have a bit of political nose. As sure as the sun rises tomorrow morning—

Mr. Wardle: It mightn't you know.

Mr. SLATER: I am sure I can bet on that. It will be revealed in the not too distant future that problems exist in the Liberal Party. The public can be assured that, despite the propaganda of the press, it is governed well, and this fact will be expressed by people at the next State elections. I have pleasure in supporting the motion.

Mr. GUNN (Eyre): In supporting the motion, I commend His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor on the way in which he presented the Speech, and also on the way he has carried out his duties during the time he has acted as Governor. I am surprised that we have not heard an announcement by the Government as to who will be the next Governor of South Australia. I believe it is time that an announcement was made. Whilst discussing Her Majesty's representatives in this country, I compliment the Governor-General on the way in which he has performed his duties in the past three years during the time he has held this position. Members recall his appointment as Governor-General, and how he was described in glowing terms by the then Prime Minister (Mr. Whitlam) as one of the most eminent jurists in Australia. Since that time there seems to have been a certain waning of support by that gentleman of the Governor-General.

His Excellency should be commended on the way in which he has performed his duties, especially in defiance of the irresponsible attacks and demonstrations that have been launched against him by radical elements in the country led by the Australian Labor Party. I believe that the conduct of certain members of the A.L.P. in this respect has been nothing short of downright disgraceful. I recall a few years ago, when the Governor-General was first appointed, attending a State reception at the Hotel Australia at which the Premier introduced the Governor-General in glowing terms. However, since the Governor-General subsequently had to exercise his discretion, the Premier has not been willing to accept the decision he made in the interests of the country.

I now refer to the former members who have died since the previous session. First, I refer to Sir Glen Pearson, a person who was well known to me for many years. Well before I became a member, I had an association with him in the Liberal Party. In fact, the first time I met Sir Glen Pearson was at a Liberal Party meeting many years ago at Cleve. From that time on I had a good relationship with him. I appreciated his advice, and I place on record my appreciation of the great services he performed for the people of this State and, especially for the people on Eyre Peninsula, whom he represented. Certainly, he proved to those people and me how vital it was that they be represented by a person from the Liberal Party. The many projects in what was his district support that statement. I knew Mr. Stott well, and his great contribution to this State was in looking after the interests of primary producers. The Wheat Stabilisation Act is something for which he will be remembered. Mr. Clarke and Mr. Shannon I did not know, but I believe that they also made a contribution to

the welfare of this State. His Excellency's Speech does not give details of much legislation or new initiatives which one would expect the Government to bring forward. Over the last few months the weather has been very dry in my district and other districts. However, it has been raining this evening, and I hope there is more rain over the whole State.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: So do I.

Mr. GUNN: The Minister's department will face a large electricity bill if it does not rain, because his department will have to pump water from the Murray River, and some of that water will reach my district. Of course, I hope that we get much rain not only for the Minister's benefit but also for the benefit of the whole State. I draw the Minister's attention to the problems of my constituents at Andamooka. On their behalf I approached the Minister some time ago pointing out the condition of the vehicle in which my constituents had to cart water from Woomera. The Hon. Mr. Whyte and I approached the Minister, who agreed to provide a truck with a water tank to serve the area.

The vehicle was duly collected by representatives of the Andamooka Progress Association. However, I heard a news bulletin on the radio early one morning saying what a great job the Minister had done in providing Andamooka with a water truck; the Minister's press statement even mentioned me. However, the front wheel fell off the truck before the people got home, with the result that their lives were endangered. The people had debated whether they would fill the tank with water, and it was fortunate that they did not do so, because the situation would have been more serious if the tank had been filled with water.

Having got the truck to Andamooka, my constituents found that the tank had been wrongly placed on the truck; its centre of gravity was wrong, with the result that it was not safe to fill it with water. When I asked the Minister to solve the problem, he was far from charitable toward my constituents and I have passed on his sentiments to my constituents, who are far from impressed with the manner in which he accepted their further representations. When the front wheel of the truck fell off, my constituents telephoned me, and I told them to contact the Minister directly. I knew that he would want to be kept fully briefed on the situation, because he had taken such an interest in the matter. He sent one of his officers to investigate the situation, and they eventually got the vehicle going again.

At present the vehicle is still at Andamooka, but it is not being used. This impasse must be overcome because the people cannot solve the problem. The Attorney-General and the Hon. Mr. Blevins have visited Andamooka and have approached the Minister, but he has taken the same attitude toward them as he did toward me. I hope the Minister will help these people, although he may think that they have been a bit difficult. Because we provide water to other parts of the State, the Government should help these people. Of course, if we receive good rainfalls and if the dam fills, the situation will be improved.

The member for Playford, in moving the motion, made a very good speech. The member for Tea Tree Gully, too, gave a very good speech in seconding the motion. One could not help comparing the member for Playford with the current Attorney-General. It is hard to understand why Government members overlooked the member for Playford, a very reasonable person, with much ability and much experience in the courts, and instead chose as Attorney-General as radical a person as the Hon. Peter Duncan.



Mr. Keneally: We couldn't understand why your side overlooked the member for Mallee when you were appointed shadow Minister of Primary Industry.

Mr. GUNN: I do not think the opinion of the member for Stuart is worth anything. We have had his views on agriculture, and the less he says the better. Government members appear to have completely ignored the reasons why we have an Address in Reply debate. I thought that the purpose of this debate was to bring to the attention of the House matters of concern to the people of South Australia and solutions to current problems. However, all that Government members have done is endeavour in a petty, childish manner, to cast personal aspersions on Opposition members. The member for Henley Beach and the member for Price, an ex-Secretary of the Labor Party, engaged in childish Sunday School tactics, and they did not address themselves to problems affecting the people of this State. If one consults *Hansard* one finds how ineffective Government members are. The *Hansard* index shows that in one session the member for Salisbury did not make a speech, and in another session he made one personal explanation, asked a few questions, and made two speeches.

Mr. Keneally: Yet he's been on the winning side.

Mr. GUNN: To use a phrase of the member for Unley, you could run a duck in Salisbury and still win. Surely Government members have some contribution to make, instead of glibly supporting this Government, which has run out of steam and which fails to tackle the problems of this State. In my district there are many fishermen who are contributing to the economy of this State. The Agriculture and Fisheries Department has sent to some fishermen an application form so that the fishermen can be issued with new licences. In my opinion this document is a gross violation of personal privacy. The application form is headed "Fisheries Act, 1971-76—Survey of Fishing Licence Holders. Use block letters." The first part of the document is a statutory declaration and states:

I make this solemn declaration believing the same to be true by virtue of the provisions of the Oaths Act, 1936. Then the document requires the surname or family name, the partners' surnames and family names, the name of the company, directors, occupations, addresses, the number of shares held, the Secretary, and the shareholders. On page 3, question No. 4 is as follows:

During the last 12 months have you derived income through personal exertion other than in the fishing industry? Yes/No. If yes, please provide details. Type of employment—

nothing wrong with that—

period of employment, total earnings.

What right has the department to know the total earnings of these people? Are officers of the department sworn to secrecy? That information should be available only to the Australian Taxation Office. I am most perturbed that this Government under its Minister (and we are aware that the Minister does not know what is happening around him) would authorise such a document to be distributed. The document then requires details of the vessel, and whether it is owned in partnership. Any involvement in the ownership of a vessel must be stated, with documentary evidence, a copy of the partnership agreement, a copy of the certificate of registration of the business name, details of financial arrangements and various other personal matters being required that have nothing to do with the Agriculture and Fisheries Department.

Because people must sign a statutory declaration to state whether they are engaged full-time in the fishing

industry, I do not believe that such questions should have been asked, nor do I believe that it is appropriate that people should be compelled to answer these questions. I hope sincerely that the Minister will withdraw the application form and issue one that is far more reasonable and does not pry into people's personal affairs, an area in which it has no right. Already I have received several complaints about the document, which has been issued for only a few days. If the Minister has seen the document I hope that he will realise he should never have authorised it.

During the past few months much discussion has occurred in South Australia and in this country about uranium. It is interesting to reflect on some of the statements that Ministers in this Government have made over the past few years about uranium. In the *News* of October 24, 1974, the Premier stated:

We will press for the establishment of the plant in South Australia if we have the conditions required. There is some concern about being able to supply enough water.

A report in the *News* of November 4, 1974, stated:

Talks between the Prime Minister, Mr. Whitlam, and the Japanese Prime Minister are believed to have enhanced the State's chances of getting the project. State Mines Minister, Mr. Hopgood, said today he was more confident than ever South Australia would get the massive plant.

A report in the *News* of May 13, 1974, stated:

Mr. Connor announced a feasibility study into the possible establishment of a major uranium enrichment plant in the Northern Spencer Gulf region of South Australia.

In the same paper on September 27, 1974, the following report appeared:

The Premier, Mr. Dunstan, said today he did not think the Federal Government's decision to establish a uranium smelting plant in the Northern Territory would rule out the possibility of a uranium enrichment plant being built in South Australia.

In the *Advertiser* of November 5, 1974, the following report appeared:

Mr. Hopgood, Minister of Mines and Development, said "Mr. Connor is awfully keen on letting us have Redcliff as well. He has made that pretty clear to most people I have talked to."

In March, 1977, another report stated:

Mr. Dunstan said despite compelling economic reasons for the export of uranium especially to Japan, his Government had a moral duty to mankind to ensure that it did not create a monster by providing uranium to customer countries.

I believe that this country does have a moral obligation to consider its position in relation to energy supplies to other countries that are running short of energy. I would not advocate exporting uranium to any country that would not enter into an agreement to have the most comprehensive safeguards that could possibly be enforced. The safeguard arrangements already announced by this Federal Government are the most stringent imposed anywhere in the world. It would be useful to consider those safeguards and, whilst doing so, we should remember that, according to figures supplied to the 1974 World Energy Conference, it is expected that Australia has a 37-year supply of crude oil, a 38-year supply of natural gas, that brown coal is expected to last for 194 years, and that black coal is expected to last for 198 years. The safeguards laid down by the Federal Government for the export of uranium, if it is decided to allow the mining and export of this commodity, are as follows:

The Government will retain the right to be selective in the countries to which uranium exports will be permitted. The following conditions are minimum criteria for countries to be eligible to receive Australian uranium:

- (1) non-nuclear weapon states—sales will only be made to those countries which are parties to the Non-Proliferation Treaty (N.P.T.);



- (2) nuclear weapon states—these countries are not obliged under the N.P.T. to renounce nuclear weapons or accept international safeguards. Sales will only be made to those countries which adhere to International Atomic Energy Agency (I.A.E.A.) safeguards and which give an assurance that Australian uranium will not be used for military or explosive purposes;
- (3) the Government will require that any uranium exported from Australia is in a form which attracts full I.A.E.A. safeguards by the time it leaves Australian ownership;
- (4) the Government will enter into bilateral agreements with all customer countries, covering the use and control of Australian uranium. Customer countries will be required to give a binding assurance that nuclear material supplied by Australia will not be used for military or explosive purposes and that I.A.E.A. safeguards will apply;
- (5) Australia will retain the right to cease supply of uranium to any country which breaches safeguards undertakings;
- (6) nuclear material supplied by Australia will remain under safeguards for its full life or until it is legitimately removed from safeguards;
- (7) provision will be made in bilateral agreements for the continued application of international safeguards, in the event that N.P.T. safeguards cease to apply;
- (8) importing countries will be required to accept that international safeguards apply to all nuclear material used by them and not just that portion supplied by Australia;
- (9) no resale to a third country or reprocessing of nuclear material supplied by Australia can take place without the prior consent of the Australian Government;
- (10) prior Australian consent will be required to enrich Australian uranium beyond 20 per cent uranium-235, a level of enrichment below the practical requirements for a nuclear explosive;
- (11) importing countries will be required to maintain adequate physical security of their nuclear facilities in order to protect nuclear material from illegal use by groups or individuals;
- (12) the Government will seek to contribute to multi-lateral efforts to strengthen safeguards, by co-ordinating policy and investigations with other uranium suppliers and customer countries.

This document lays down the most stringent safeguards that must be met before any uranium is exported, provided the Government agrees to export it. I believe that this State and this country should consider this matter most seriously. Unfortunately, whether we like it or not, whatever decision we make in this Parliament or in the Federal sphere will not stop the development of the nuclear industry. We can recall that a few years ago this Government was supporting this proposal. It had an investigation into uranium enrichment carried out by the Trade and Development Division of the Premier's Department. The report, I understand, was taken overseas by the Minister of Mines and Energy (Hon. Hugh Hudson) and hawked around the world with a view to attracting people to come to this State. We will never know how successful he was, but it has been suggested many times that he is a strong supporter of the nuclear industry in this State. Since the last State election, when the Left wing of the Labor Party took control, the Minister and the Premier have had to act as mouthpieces for the Party's Left wing. It is interesting to report that page 9 of the report clearly sets out that the Redcliff area would be most suitable for the establishment of a uranium export plant. On page 11, the report states:

Australia has the largest and richest reserves of uranium in the southern hemisphere. Owing to the very high uranium prices on overseas markets, these reserves can now be developed to become Australia's most valuable mineral resource and can provide substantial overseas credit, revenue for the Commonwealth and State Governments, substantial

returns for shareholders in the mining companies, and employment opportunities in mining and treatment plants. Members will be aware that in my electoral district there is an area which we have been told has large copper deposits and, to mine these deposits, uranium would also have to be mined. I believe that it would be in the economic interests of South Australia to develop that area. I believe it would be unfortunate if we were not to permit mining in the area or if it became uneconomic for the people who hold the leases in the area not to be permitted to mine uranium. I believe that the State Government should consider this matter far more carefully than it has done over the past few months. In particular, it should not continue to be hoodwinked by irrational and emotional arguments. If one examines the Fox report, it is interesting to note at page 185 the following:

The hazards of mining and milling uranium, if those activities are properly regulated and controlled, are not such as to justify a decision not to develop Australian uranium mines.

I wonder what the Attorney-General thinks about that comment, in view of the fact that the report was commissioned by the Whitlam Government. If one looks at some of the comments on page 5, which deals with some of the evidence that was tendered, one will find that the report states:

In considering the evidence, we have found that many wildly exaggerated statements are made about the risks and dangers of nuclear energy production by those opposed to it. What has surprised us more is the lack of objectivity in not a few of those in favour of it, including distinguished scientists.

When discussing the proposal in my district, I am concerned at the manner in which the Minister of Mines and Energy has treated my constituents. I possess a letter which has been sent to the Minister of Mines and Energy requesting that he take certain courses of action. I know that the Deputy Premier will be interested in what these constituents of mine have to say, in view of his great interest in providing adequate facilities to people at Andamooka. I believe that, if we are going to develop this area, we should consider the views of the people at Andamooka and Coober Pedy and ensure that any activity that is carried on by the company that intends to mine copper, and possibly uranium, in no way impedes or affects the welfare or livelihood of those people who have been mining these areas for many years. A letter dated July 4 from the Andamooka Opal Miners' Association, a copy of which I have, states:

Following lengthy discussions, both with miners on the field and in committee meetings, the following points have been unanimously decided:

- (a) That the Andamooka precious stones field be returned to its original area, as the reduction has cut off areas, that are opal-bearing and also the reduction was undertaken without reference to the Andamooka community.
- (b) That the miners of Andamooka strenuously reject the concept of strata mining within the precious stones field.
- (c) That the Mines Department desist from changing the Mining Act in any form relating to mining of precious stones, and in fact work to return it to its 1971 form.

With reference to point (c), we specifically refer to changes to section 51 of the Act and also to the definition of "mining tenement" (section 6 of the Act). It is the desire of the Opal Miners Association that changes be set aside, and the sections reverted back to their former state. That proposed amendment to section 48 to allow prospecting on the precious stones field by exploration licence holders be rejected. These points we consider to be essential to the maintenance of the well-being of

the Andamooka mining community, and as a consequence this association is determined to do everything possible to restrict the issue of exploration licenses on the field.

I was most concerned when the Government introduced this amendment to the Act. I protested to the Minister at the time, and my colleague in another place (Hon. Arthur Whyte) also protested to the Minister in another place who was to introduce the Bill and asked him to defer it. The Government failed to consider proper representations that were sincerely made to it on that occasion. Unfortunately, the legislation has become law, and it has caused much concern. I believe that the precious stones prospecting area should be enlarged to include Stuart Creek and other areas which the miners believe are opal-bearing. I hope that the Minister will accede to the requests of opal miners, who have my total support in this matter. I believe it was necessary to include this matter in *Hansard* so that the miners would be fully aware that the Opposition supports those small people engaged in very hard work who contribute to the welfare of the State.

Mr. Keneally: They're not all small people.

Mr. GUNN: The member for Stuart tries to have some contact with the opal fields. He knows as well as I that most people there are not wealthy. They work hard to make little: if he does not know that, he ought to know. I know that the Government will be most interested to hear me quote from a paper with which from time to time I have not always agreed. It was interesting to note the heading on the front page. It appears that Mr. Hawke has taken a far more realistic attitude to uranium mining and the possibilities it has for Australia than have the Premier and Mr. Whitlam. It is interesting to quote from the following report, under the heading "Labor censures Bob Hawke," by John Hurst, of Melbourne, dated July 28, as follows:

The A.C.T.U. and Federal A.L.P. President, Bob Hawke, has been censured by the Victorian A.L.P. Executive because of his public criticism of the Labor Party's policy against the mining and export of uranium.

Mr. Keneally: Is it the copy that's not supposed to be taken out of the reading room?

Mr. GUNN: No, it is the one I bought at the Adelaide Airport the other day. It completely destroys the myth that the Labor Party stands for free speech and the rights of the individual, when it will not even allow one of its own members to express his own point of view. I wish to proceed in other areas, but my time is running out.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The honourable member for Eyre has the floor and knows as well as any other member that the quotation cannot last for a long time.

Mr. GUNN: I am not quite sure what the ruling means. However, I will proceed, because I wish to refer to several other matters. I refer to agriculture in South Australia during the past few months—

The Hon. Peter Duncan: Tell us how you're going to get rolled at the election.

Mr. GUNN: I will have more to say about that soon. Much concern has been expressed by people involved in the livestock industry regarding the export of live sheep from Australia. That concern has been expressed by producers, and also by those who work in abattoirs, who are worried that this continual trade might affect their livelihood. It is essential that we continue to export sheep from this country. The Government and all concerned should discuss this matter logically. It is absolutely essential for the welfare of the grazing industry that

this market is maintained. Unfortunately, over the past few years there has not been a market for this kind of sheep.

Mr. Chapman: There hasn't been a market for any kind of sheep.

Mr. GUNN: That is so. Many comments have been made regarding this matter by ill-informed people, who know nothing about it.

Dr. Eastick: It's not even the kind of meat that South Australians will eat.

Mr. GUNN: That is correct. As the member for Light knows, there is no market for the heavy wethers. One may have received \$2 or \$3 a head before this market was developed. One person wrote to the press complaining that one could breed from this stock. However, I have never seen anyone that could breed from wethers.

Mr. Chapman: What about explaining it to those blokes on the Government back benches?

Mr. GUNN: I will leave that to the member for Alexandra. For the benefit of the member for Gilles, I ask whether he knows what a desexed sheep is.

Mr. Keneally: What's wrong with these wethers that they are so different from what they used to be?

Mr. Slater: They are heavy wethers, like the speech the honourable is making.

Mr. GUNN: I will let the honourable member ramble on. Some interesting comments were made recently by the Minister of Agriculture. The statements made headlines in the *Advertiser*, and reports appeared in country newspapers throughout the State. One headline was, "A.L.P. aims at stabilising farm incomes". One should have thought that the Australian Labor Party and the Minister of Agriculture were putting forward a constructive scheme to assist stabilisation. What is most disturbing to those members who know something about agriculture is the continual criticism being made by the Leader of the Federal Opposition, Mr. Whitlam, about the income equalisation deposit scheme, which was recommended to his Government by the Industries Assistance Commission. This will in lean years or during droughts greatly assist people, particularly those in marginal areas, who have suffered from income fluctuations. I am indeed perturbed that Mr. Whitlam describes this scheme as a hand-out to Pitt Street farmers. It is obvious that he does not know anything about marginal areas of South Australia. This is most perturbing. Recently, the Minister of Agriculture and a person named Lynne Arnold produced a report. I think she is a member for—

Mr. Chapman: That's Mrs. Chatterton.

Mr. GUNN: The report, "Future rural policies in Australia", is the greatest load of nonsense that I have ever read. The only comments I can make regarding it is that I think it should be compulsory reading for everyone engaged in agriculture. It is absolute nonsense! If that is the sort of programme that the South Australian Labor Party intends to implement in this State, I am amazed that even it continues to tolerate a person with views such as those held by the Minister of Agriculture, because he knows nothing about work in the field. As the Minister has had so much advice to give, I would be most interested if he will demonstrate to the people of this State how he would go about running a farm. It is all right to write reports. However, I would like him to demonstrate what course of action he would take in relation to practical agriculture. I do not want to hear any more nonsense about group farming, or about—

Mr. Mathwin: Hobby farming!

Mr. GUNN: I have strong views about that, as I think the member for Alexandra would have, too. We want to examine closely hobby farmers.

Mr. Keneally: You're saying that the Minister of Agriculture would not be able to run a farm.

Mr. GUNN: No, I am saying that I would like him to come forward with some constructive and practical suggestions on how to improve agriculture. The concept of group farming does not appeal to most people involved in agriculture. It can only happen at the best of times and with a limited application. We do not, therefore, want to hear any more about it.

Mr. Keneally: Would you give us an idea of some of the constructive suggestions that you would like the Minister to make?

Mr. GUNN: The Minister has filled up his department with new people. He thinks that a new broom must sweep clean. The Minister has all these people on his staff, and, although we are waiting for it, we have seen nothing constructive emanating from the department. Surely, the honourable member would not call material like this constructive. I am completely amazed at the member for Stuart.

*Members interjecting:*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Eyre has the floor.

Mr. GUNN: I was referring to one or two other matters. Recently, the Premier quoted some figures regarding per capita taxation in this State and saying how it compared favourably with taxation in every other State. We were, he said, the second lowest taxed State in Australia. At the foot of the document that was used to explain this, the figures show how badly we need mineral development. The Premier said that his figures took into consideration mineral royalties charged in other parts of Australia. No wonder he took that into consideration! Let us examine the situation. It is estimated that in the 1976-77 financial year New South Wales collected \$39 000 000 in mineral royalties; Victoria collected \$45 000 000; Queensland \$45 000 000; South Australia \$2 000 000; Western Australia \$50 000 000; and Tasmania, \$830 000.

In Western Australia the per capita tax is \$249 a year. I have taken action to get the Premier's figures checked by the Western Australian Government, because we are aware of the tricks that the Premier's officers (and I mean his political officers, not those permanently employed in the Public Service) get up to. The only figures I had relating to population were those for 1971, when there were 1 100 000 people in Western Australia. The receipt of \$50 000 000 in mineral royalties represents, therefore, \$45 for each person in Western Australia. So, if one takes \$45 from \$249, one realises it is no wonder that the Premier wanted to play with the figures for his own benefit. It can clearly be seen that the Premier was including mineral royalties in his figures, so that he could give a completely distorted picture in relation to taxation.

Mr. Mathwin: Yes, he's a peddler of figures.

Mr. GUNN: He certainly is. I appreciate that interjection from the member for Glenelg. The Premier has been peddling these figures all around South Australia. Fortunately, however, the people are a wake-up, because they must pay the charges that the Premier is inflicting on them.

The Hon. Peter Duncan: They will make their inflection and judgment on you.

Mr. GUNN: I am not concerned about the Attorney-General. I should be pleased to have him come into my district at any time. All he could do would be good for the Liberal Party. We always welcome radicals like him. The member for Frome and I have been most amused over the past few months at the Premier's tripping around our districts. It took him nearly seven years before he visited my district.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Most of the places he went to have not been visited by a Premier for 30 years.

Mr. GUNN: That is not correct. It is certainly not 30 years since a Premier went to Streaky Bay or Ceduna.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: I can tell you that that's true.

Mr. GUNN: It is not correct. The Premier and his entourage have been rushing around the State making good fellows of themselves, and other people have been rushing around saying that they are suddenly finding problems affecting country people. The member for Frome and I have been bringing all these matters to the attention of the Government for the past seven years, but nothing has been done. Suddenly, there are roads in the Frome District and water schemes in my area.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Do you want the Premier to stay out of your area?

Mr. GUNN: Let me continue. We are pleased to see him, because he is bringing a few goodies in his pocket. He is throwing out a few dollars here and there, and I suggest to my people that they should invite him over. He is trying to buy votes, and they may get their projects fixed. I hope that he comes over and hands out more money. We have been trying to get these projects for six or seven years, and the Government has not listened. When the Premier comes—

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: We will remember what you have said.

Mr. GUNN: I am quite happy for the Deputy Premier to remember what I have said about this, because it is true.

*Members interjecting:*

Mr. GUNN: The Attorney-General has been up to Andamooka, and he has tried to convince the Deputy Premier that he should do something about the problem I had raised earlier.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: They have had more than a fair deal, and you know it.

Mr. GUNN: We have heard of the confidence trick, and the people of South Australia have had a confidence trick pulled on them.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Do you want me to take the truck away?

Mr. GUNN: Certainly not. I want the Deputy Premier to help my unfortunate people.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Get down to facts. It is no good pulling your tie and looking at your colleagues. Say what you really want to say.

*Members interjecting:*

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Eyre will resume his seat.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: It is all right—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The honourable the Minister is out of order. The honourable member for Eyre has the floor.

Mr. GUNN: As I said—

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Are you telling me to take the truck away?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable the Minister is out of order.

Mr. Chapman: You're telling me he is.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Alexandra is out of order. The honourable member for Eyre has the floor.

Mr. Mathwin: He is not a contortionist—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I want to warn all honourable members. I have called several members to order. I hope these interjections will not continue in the same vein.

Mr. GUNN: I appreciate the assistance the Deputy Premier has provided, and I sincerely hope that he will be willing to go further and to rectify an unfortunate situation.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: We'll rectify it, but if you want me to take the truck away, I will.

Mr. GUNN: The Deputy Premier knows it is not a matter of that.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Do you want me—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Minister is out of order.

Mr. Mathwin: He is out of order.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I want all honourable members to ensure that they do not continue in this vein. The honourable member for Eyre.

Mr. GUNN: If I may continue—

Mr. Becker: You should not—

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The member for Hanson is out of order. I have warned honourable members. The next member who interjects will be named.

Mr. GUNN: I was about to refer to the confidence tricks pulled on the people in this State. Over the past few months this Government has been attempting to delude the people in relation to the role of the present Federal Government. It has engaged in activities which are quite questionable. It claims to be an open Government. I have had brought to my attention by a person employed in the Public Service in this State that he has been told that in no circumstances is he allowed to talk to me, either in the position he holds or in his private capacity. I regard that as an objectionable instruction to a person whom I have known well for years. I do not intend to be told by this Government to whom I will talk, but I am concerned that that person might be victimised by actions of the Ministers in this State.

The Hon. Peter Duncan: You'll be a private citizen soon, so you won't have to worry.

Mr. GUNN: I shall be here, and we shall be on the other side of this House. During the past few months everything that has gone wrong in South Australia has been blamed on the Commonwealth Government: it does not give us enough money, it has reduced expenditure, and so on. The South Australian Government has never once told the people of this State where the Commonwealth should get this extra money. The only indication given was when I interjected on the Premier when he was introducing an Appropriation Bill late in the previous session. I asked where the Commonwealth would get all the extra money, and the Premier replied that it gets it from its normal taxation arrangements. If the taxation arrangements are running at about \$2 500 000 000 in the red, either the Premier is advocating an increase in taxation—

Mr. Slater: Or a re-allocation—

Mr. GUNN: Let me come to that—or an increase in the overdraft, or he wishes the Commonwealth Government to abandon certain schemes and arrangements already established. Does he want the 40 per cent investment allowance removed?

The Hon. Peter Duncan: Yes.

Mr. GUNN: The Attorney-General is on record as saying that he wants the 40 per cent investment allowance scrubbed. I am glad he made that interjection, because I am sure the people who work in Shearers and other large machinery manufacturers in South Australia will be interested in that comment. If the Western Mining Corporation decides to go ahead with its project, it will be interested to know that the South Australian Government does not agree that it should be able to write off a certain amount of its expenditure. Does the member for Stuart want the income equalisation scheme abolished? He probably does not know what it is. Does he want the family allowance scheme scrubbed?

Mr. Harrison: We have had enough scrubbed now.

Mr. GUNN: You will be scrubbed now.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! During these debates I have noticed that the use of the word "you" by members on both sides of the House causes concern. I hope that honourable members from both sides will not continue to use that word.

Mr. GUNN: I apologise if I have transgressed Standing Orders. I was trying to elicit from Government members just what sort of economic policies they would put into effect, and I was about to raise the question of whether they wished to scrub concessions to mining companies. I suppose the Attorney-General would not want to see those continued, either. I am amazed that Government members, who will be in Opposition after the next State election, whenever that may be, can continue to shout and yell. Wherever the Premier goes, he has this little speech. The Premier shouts and yells about the dreadful Commonwealth Government, and says that everything wrong in South Australia is the fault of the Commonwealth Government. People are saying that they have heard it all before. They expect that he will have something constructive to say, and tell them what his Government will do, and not blame the Federal Government, which is trying to rectify the problems created by a Government the Premier helped to elect. We all recall the Premier's explaining on television a few years ago how he and Gough Whitlam had discussed the economic policies that would assist the Australian people. The result has been absolute chaos and disaster. The most incompetent group of people that were ever in one room together comprised members of the previous Whitlam Government.

I say in conclusion that I look forward to the next election, especially as I am taking over the area that has been so well represented for about 7½ years by the present member for Frome. He has been one of the best members in this State, and it will be a pleasure to take over and look after that area, as well as the part of the State that I have had the privilege to represent, also for about 7½ years. Regardless of what the Attorney-General says, I shall be here to annoy him and stand behind my Leader when he is Premier.

*Members interjecting:*

Mr. GUNN: Perhaps I should speak about my old district. It has been the largest district in the State, comprising about 180 000 square miles. My new district will comprise about 300 000 square miles, and I hope

that the Government of the day will provide me, as the member for the district, with facilities necessary to represent the large area. I think of such things as a permanent light aircraft, as well as other facilities, because the people of that area have been represented well in the past. Their member could contact them at short notice, but, when one goes from Black Springs to the Western Australian border, one sees that that takes a long time. For three days I flew around the area a few weeks ago, but even then I did not cover a large part of it. It perturbs me that this Government would pass a redistribution aimed at disfranchising country people. The Government drew the terms of reference in such a way that it could have a Donnymander. We are all aware of that situation.

I support the motion. I am disappointed that the Government, in the Speech, has not put forward any new initiatives and has not tried to grapple with the problems facing people. It has only looked at the index to the Statutes and has listed a few pieces of amending legislation. It has not tried to cut taxes and charges. All that it has done is yell for more money from Canberra. If the Labor Government cannot run South Australia with the funds available, the Liberal Party is ready to take over at any time the present Government likes.

Mr. GROTH secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORTS

THE SPEAKER laid on the table the following interim reports by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works:

Walleroo Hospital (Geriatric and Rehabilitation Unit),  
Whyalla Hospital Redevelopment (Phase I).

Ordered that interim reports be printed.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The Hon. PETER DUNCAN (Attorney-General) moved:  
That the House do now adjourn.

Mr. OLSON (Semaphore): Following the Liberal Party commercials that went on air in the first week in July, I have received several complaints from indignant constituents about the Opposition Leader (David Tonkin) and his family letting their dog race madly along the beach, free to pollute the area. This is in marked contrast to the latitude permitted to ratepayers in my area, because if they did that they would probably find the dog catcher would impound their dog, unless it was on a leash.

Mr. Tonkin: I think the dog catcher would have had to go a long way to get my dog.

Mr. OLSON: Is that so? One cannot blame the councils for taking this action, particularly when there is a public awareness that demands more action to combat pollution. I am reminded of a warning which appeared in banks years ago and which I think is equally applicable if we want to keep the beaches clean: "Customers are reminded not to leave their deposits on the counter as somebody else might stick to them."

What the message conveyed was in relation to what the Opposition could see as an upsurge in crime in this State. What it actually stated was that South Australia was no longer a good place in which to live and that anybody who was trying to raise a family in this State was greatly concerned because it was no longer safe to walk

along the streets at night. The inference to be drawn from that is simply that any increase in crime in this State is all the fault of the Labor Party. What the Liberal Party would do is banish crime, or at least endeavour to make it illegal.

However, when one studies the recent figures available from the Police Department, in five areas of violent crime there have actually been fewer crimes. No wonder that commercial was seen for only a few days! From what people told me, I concluded that they did not give it a very high rating. I believe it was classified as "RS". I do not know what that stands for, because I do not have the chance to watch television frequently; I have an idea it is comparable to rodents' excreta.

A 10-year study of serious assaults in this State indicates that South Australia is 60 per cent below the national average. The figures for crimes of assault and robbery are down from 63 to 50. For crimes of larceny from a person, the figures are well down from 1975-76. Other figures are as follows: murder and attempted murder, a slight decrease; indecent assault on a female, substantially down from 151 to 148; and indecent interference with a female, a decrease from 106 to 83. The figures also show only four areas of violent crime in which there has been any significant increase: common assault, actual bodily harm, armed robbery, and rape. However, a close examination of these figures is needed to assess their significance. The instances of common assault have increased markedly from 1 869 cases in 1973-74 to about 2 200 cases in the following year. To the end of 1975-76, there were 2 600 cases, but I point out that criminologists who have examined these statistics believe that more cases of common assault do not necessarily mean a big increase in violence. However, figures of cases of actual bodily harm show an increase from 169 to 188, and then to 246 in the three-year period.

Armed robbery has also increased from three cases in 1973-74 to 39 cases in 1975-76. While the figures are significant, they are dwarfed by armed robbery statistics in other Australian capitals, especially Sydney and Melbourne. According to the statistics, as well as newspapers and the people one talks to, rape is becoming a major threat. The figures show 100 rapes recorded in 1973-74. The figure actually dropped to 91 in 1974-75, but jumped to 131 in 1975-76. It is accepted that generally fewer than one-third of all rape cases are reported to the police.

There is a strong belief that it is not so much that rape is increasing as it is that women are becoming more willing to report the crime. Further, we now have the situation under the new family law provisions whereby it is possible for a wife to report her husband for such an offence. In 1976, South Australia had 39 armed robberies, whilst in the same year Victoria had 302 cases and New South Wales had 492 cases.

Mr. Becker: One is one too many.

Mr. OLSON: We appreciate that. We have to give a pat on the back to the boys in blue in South Australia, because they have cleared up just over half those 39 cases. They have a much better rate of solving crimes involving armed robbery than do the police in Victoria or New South Wales. Recently, South Australian police services were criticised as being below the size of comparable services in other States. The Chief Secretary wishes to point out that the Government has not only built up the manpower of the force but has also given it much better facilities and equipment. He said that in 1972-73 about \$16 600 000 was expended in running the

Police Force, and that this sum had been increased each year. He also said that the Government was concerned at the reported increase in crime statistics. However, it must be pointed out that some crimes would occur even if the ratio of police to the population was 1:1. In South Australia we have the best Police Force in the country at a police/population ratio of 1:496, which is much higher than that in New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia.

Mr. ARNOLD (Chaffey): Earlier today I asked the Premier whether he would provide an officer of the Valuation Department who could reside in the Riverland for some time to consider the valuations handed out to some of my constituents. The Premier replied that it was not possible for him to direct the Valuer-General in making his valuations. Actually, there is absolutely no doubt that, whether it is the Valuer-General, the Land Board, the Land Commission, or the State Planning Authority, those authorities exist to carry out the policy of the Government of the day. The Premier cannot hide behind his claim that he has absolutely no control over the actions of any statutory organisation in this State. The Premier is evading the issue because of possible consequences in his own district. He knows the electoral problems that have been created because of the massive valuation increases in his own area, and now he is trying to convince the people of South Australia that he has no power whatsoever.

Dr. Eastick: He was not so sensitive when valuation increases occurred in the districts of other members.

Mr. ARNOLD: I agree. Now, when the chickens have come home to roost, it is a different story. There is no doubt that those statutory bodies to which I have referred exist principally to carry out the policy of the Government of the day. Further, it is obvious that the policy of the present State Government is for massive increases in valuations across the board. I turn now to two letters I have received from constituents. The statistical information is the same in each letter. The first letter is from Mr. Thomas, of Kingston-on-Murray. His letter states:

You are no doubt aware that the Valuer-General has recently carried out a general valuation in the Loxton District Council area. Below you will find some inconsistencies and also note a gross increase in valuation in relation to our property that is unbelievable. The land is in Kingston irrigation area, hundred of Moorook, county of Albert, section 271, I.P.L. 1422 and is adjacent to the river. Section number, 271; previous valuation, \$40; current valuation, \$12 000; approximate percentage increase, 30 000 per cent.

The other letter is from Mr. Lunn, also of Kingston-on-Murray. His section number is 284; the previous valuation on his home allotment was \$100, which has been increased to \$12 000 under the current valuation, an increase of 12 000 per cent. As his initial valuation was higher than Mr. Thomas's, perhaps one can consider him as being slightly better off than is Mr. Thomas. Increases of that magnitude are utterly absurd. We have seen the same thing happening in connection with Crown rental increases. There have been instances of increases of up to 10 000 per cent from about \$5 to more than \$500. So, while the Government has taken up the Liberal Party's policy of doing away with rural land tax, it is achieving the same end by steadily increasing Crown rentals, which policy will ultimately bring in a similar sum to the sum that applied before the remission of rural land tax.

I stress that the Valuer-General carries out Government policy. This is precisely the sort of valuation that the Government wants carried out in this State. It has

caused a bit of a ruffle at long last because the Premier has been caught up in his own web. I trust that the Premier will provide an officer to go to the Riverland, and I certainly hope that a realistic adjustment is made to some of the valuations that have been handed out recently in that area.

The other point relates to the situation that now exists in South Australia regarding the wine and brandy producing industry. We have in South Australia now a surplus of red wine grapes, and this has been brought about largely not so much by the change of drinking habits of the population from red wine to white wine but largely as the result of the massive increase that was imposed by the Whitlam Government on Australian-produced brandy. Those increases annihilated completely the brandy industry in Australia and, since about 80 per cent of Australian brandy is produced in South Australia and about 70 per cent of that is produced in the Riverland, it is of grave personal concern to me.

During discussion with the Leader of the Opposition last week we tried to determine the most satisfactory way for the Opposition to bring home to the Federal Government the stress the South Australian industry is now under. Finally, the Leader decided to write to the Federal Treasurer, in an effort before the Federal Budget is introduced, to see whether the level of brandy excise that was imposed by the Whitlam Government could be reduced. The Leader wrote the following letter:

I must again bring to your attention the serious wine grape surplus situation which has developed in South Australia, partly as a result of consumers' preference for dry white wines, but largely as a result of the heavy excise duty imposed on brandy while the Whitlam Government was in power. The industry has now reached a point where only urgent Government intervention will avert the existing crisis. I therefore request you to give the most serious and urgent consideration to a reduction in the level of excise on Australian-produced brandy in the forthcoming Budget. Such an action would definitely go a long way to resolving the problem, as one of the major grape varieties in South Australia from which brandy can be made is Grenache, which is also extensively used for the production of dry red wines.

I believe that appropriate action will be taken by the Federal Government, because recently, when the Temporary Assistance Authority hearing considered the citrus industry and made a recommendation of 45 per cent tariff protection on imported juice concentrates, the Federal Government realised that it was necessary to have more protection and settled on a 65 per cent protection, which has now become the basis of stabilising the citrus industry in South Australia.

Mrs. BYRNE (Tea Tree Gully): I intend to use the time allocated to me to refer to some of the requirements of the Tea Tree Gully District. Tea Tree Gully, which is about 19 kilometres to the north-east of Adelaide, could be described as a dormitory suburb. The growth of housing development in the Tea Tree Gully District has had a profound effect on what was, until the early 1960's essentially a primary-producing district, and the population figures for the area bear this out. In 1961 there were 5 887 people, in 1966 there were 21 315, in 1971 there were 36 708, and as at June 30, 1976, there were 56 050, which number would have increased in the meantime. It is worth noting that, as at June this year, I had 37 113 constituents, which is certainly twice the number I should have.

The continued expansion in this district has caused an increasing requirement for community facilities on a Federal, State and local government level. The increase in population has, for example, increased the number of

motor vehicles using the roads, and the following statistics on car ownership and comparisons have been publicised: the ratio per person between 18 years and 69 years is .678. The comparative Salisbury figure is .567, Prospect is .609, and Kensington-Norwood is .516. The ratio of homes with two cars or more is as follows: Tea Tree Gully 34.09 per cent, Salisbury 27.52 per cent, Prospect 21.67 per cent, and Kensington-Norwood 15.52 per cent. The ratio of homes without cars is as follows: Tea Tree Gully 5.28 per cent, Salisbury 7.09 per cent, Prospect 26.54 per cent, and Kensington-Norwood 37.36 per cent.

This high use of motor vehicles has caused the need for the widening and reconstruction of roads under the jurisdiction of the Highways Department. Grand Junction Road is one of these. The section to which I refer runs between the intersection of the North-East Road, at Holden Hill, and Anstey Hill, and it is a well-used road. The last time I asked a question on this matter I was informed on October 7, 1976, that, based on present priorities and the expected availability of road funds, work on Grand Junction Road between North-East Road and Anstey Hill was not expected to commence before 1981. This road is used not only by local residents but also by through traffic going to destinations beyond Anstey Hill. The Lower North-East Road between the Torrens River, at Dernancourt, and Anstey Hill also needs reconstructing and widening. This matter has been the subject of questions and speeches in the House, as well as correspondence direct to the Minister of Transport, and I am continually receiving representations from constituents for the work to commence. The road is in urgent need of improvement in respect of alignment, drainage, and pavement strength and as regards visibility at road junctions and private entrances. Traffic predictions for this road, including an assessment of the heavy vehicle content associated with quarry operations, indicate that a four-lane facility will be required at least as far as Valley Road. Sufficient land has been or is being acquired to enable these improvements to be effected, with minimum detriment to the environment and retaining many existing trees. Priority has been given to native trees, wherever possible, and especially to groups of native trees. The last time I asked a question of the Minister of Transport on this subject was on April 6, and his reply of April 21 was as follows:

Reconstruction of this section of Lower North-East Road is scheduled to commence in 1978-79, subject of course to the availability of funds.

I again point out to the Minister that this road is dangerous in its present state and should have a high priority. I am pleased that these priorities are continually being reviewed by the Minister and his departmental officers. Realising that the Minister is sympathetic to the district's needs, I again draw the state of these two roads to his attention. Golden Grove Road is another road that will probably have to be widened and reconstructed within the next five years, subject again to the availability of funds. However, what concerns me is the continual cropping up of the words "subject to the availability of funds". As member for the district, I am disturbed that the economic policy of the present Federal Government may cause work on these roads to be delayed even further.

In February, the Minister for Transport (Hon. Peter Nixon) announced, on behalf of the Federal Government, that South Australia's allocation of funds for roads for the 1977-78 financial year would be \$40 400 000, despite a recommendation from the Bureau of Roads that South Australia's allocation be \$58 500 000. Other States have also had their allocations cut drastically. The \$40 400 000 is a rise of 4.12 per cent on the \$38 800 000 allocated last financial year but, as inflation is running above 15 per cent, it means that South Australia will receive in real money terms about 10 per cent less than the 1976-77 allocation. It was reported in the February 26 edition of the *Advertiser* that South Australia's Minister of Transport, Mr. Geoff Virgo, had said that programmes scheduled to take 12 months to complete would have to be extended to 18 months, with a corresponding severe reduction in work for private contractors. The Premier was also reported as saying at the same time that it would mean a difficult situation for the Highways Department and local government.

Cars and the roads on which they travel have become part of the Australian way of life. It is necessary to develop urban arterial road systems to meet the demand for public and private passenger transport, to cater for the growing volume of freight and goods required to keep cities alive, and to cater for leisure activities. I trust that the work on these roads to which I have referred this evening will not be further delayed and that, if possible, they will receive higher priority.

Motion carried.

At 10.13 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday, August 3, at 2 p.m.