

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 12 September 1978

The **SPEAKER (Hon. G. R. Langley)** took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

## QUESTIONS

The **SPEAKER**: I direct that the following written answers to Questions on Notice be distributed and printed in *Hansard*: all questions except Nos. 407 and 477.

## GREAT ARTESIAN BASIN

9. **Mr. GOLDSWORTHY** (on notice): What are the details of the work proposed to be carried out at a cost of \$110 000 to protect water supplies in the Great Artesian Basin?

The **Hon. J. D. CORCORAN**: Rehabilitation of approximately 20 bores this financial year as part of a seven year rehabilitation programme. The work will involve either blocking the bore hole with cement to stop the continuous flow of water or the lining of the hole with inert PVC liner and installing stainless steel headworks to allow a controlled flow for stock watering processes.

## NURSERIES

65. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. How many people are employed at the:

- (a) Monarto nursery;
- (b) Belair nursery; and
- (c) Berri nursery?

2. How much revenue was received by each of the above nurseries for the sale of Australian native trees and shrubs in the 1977-78 financial year?

3. What was the initial cost of establishing the Monarto nursery, and how much has this project cost the Government since its establishment?

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

- 1. (a) 12 (for tubing season, 26).
- (b) nine.
- (c) three.

2. Belair, Monarto, \$308 976.  
Berri, \$26 140.

3. Total establishment cost was \$469 258 with contributions as follows:

State grant, \$90 444.  
Commonwealth grant, \$180 888.  
Commission loan, \$197 926.

Since the State's initial contribution to the nursery's establishment costs, the State Government has spent a further \$35 419 on capital projects.

## OFF-ROAD VEHICLES

77. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. What progress has been made in the assessment of submissions received by the Environment Department on the use of off-road vehicles?

2. When will the Government introduce legislation to protect the fragile environment of semi-arid and arid areas of natural bushland and sandhill country from the

degradation of trail-bikes, dune-buggies and indiscriminately driven four-wheel-drive vehicles?

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

1. Considerable progress has been made in the assessment of submissions received by the Environment Department on the use of off-road vehicles.

2. When all submissions from the public have been given adequate consideration.

## TELEPHONE COSTS

223. **Mr. BECKER** (on notice):

1. What were the findings of the study team investigating telephone costs in Government departments?

2. What decision was made for the control of S.T.D. and trunk calls?

3. What was the total cost of telephone calls and rental for Government departments for the financial year ended 30 June 1977, and the amount paid to date for the year ended 30 June 1978?

4. What are the reasons for any increase?

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

- 1. The findings of the telephone study team emphasised:
  - (a) Achievement of cost economies by implementing cost monitoring, overall collection procedures, extended use of tie lines and re-appraisal of services providing connected extensions and direct access to trunk and S.T.D.
  - (b) Discontinuance of the Petra monitoring device.
  - (c) Using telex facilities on a share basis among departments.

2. A decision was made to reduce the number of telephone extensions with direct access to trunk and S.T.D. facilities and to utilise telex facilities on a share basis.

3. The Public Buildings Department does not have the information to answer question Nos. 3 and 4 completely.

4. Only 50 per cent of Government telephone services are paid by the department, and the costs incurred were as follows:

1976-77 .....	\$1 500 000
1977-78 .....	\$2 230 000

With the concurrence of the Under Treasurer, special arrangements were made for payments of \$490 000 to be carried over from 1976-77 to 1977-78. When allowance is made for this transaction, no increase in costs occurred in the year ended June 1978. The Highways Department spent \$355 700 and \$355 400 in telephone costs for 1976-77 and 1977-78 respectively. In view of these figures being stable, it is not proposed to involve minor departments in getting out further details.

## LAND COMMISSION

258. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. What is the total annual loan repayment presently faced by the Land Commission?

2. What is the total capital involved in these loans?

3. What is the total amount of money spent by the Land Commission on advertising each of its subdivisions to date?

4. What is the total cost of commission paid to agents for sales of Land Commission land to 30 June 1978?

5. What is the total amount of rates paid to each council

by the Land Commission or its lessees during the year 1977-78?

6. How many hectares does the Land Commission now hold upon which council rates are not paid and—
  - (a) in which council areas do they fall; and
  - (b) what is the total value of land held in each of these council areas?

7. What is the minimum size allotment now being created by the Land Commission and what percentage of allotments in new subdivisions will be of the minimum size?

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

1. The total borrowings of the S.A. Land Commission amount to \$63 805 615. Of this sum, \$52 730 000 has been borrowed from the Commonwealth. Each loan from the Commonwealth is repayable over 30 years with a deferment of repayments for the first 10 years. The total amount of interest payable, and hence total repayments, is dependent on future movements of the long-term bond rate. Interest on State loans accrues on a simple interest basis. Repayment of principal and interest is by negotiation between the Treasury and the commission to accommodate the respective liquidity requirements. The estimated interest accrual for 1978-79 is \$297 910 in relation to a total borrowing from the State of \$3 484 000. Loans from sundry institutions are semi-government borrowings at approved Loan Council rates. The terms of the loans vary from five to 20 years, and the total amount of the borrowings is currently \$7 590 000. Repayments are on a half-yearly basis with some loans requiring repayments of principal and interest and others requiring payment of interest only until maturity. The estimated payments for 1978-79 are \$760 164 interest and \$64 566 principal.

2. See 1 above.

3. \$148 000.

4. \$10 225 up to 30 June 1978.

5. Council Rates for 1977-78—	\$
City of Tea Tree Gully .....	134 637.38
District Council of Meadows .....	29 058.00
District Council of Munno Para .....	43 095.82
Corporation of City of Salisbury .....	4 817.55
Corporation of City of Mt. Gambier .....	9 990.60
Corporation of City of Noarlunga .....	42 542.66
Corporation of City of Marion .....	25 373.15
	\$289 515.16

6. Council Area	Hectares	Value \$
City of Tea Tree Gully .....	34.33	612 660
City of Marion .....	79.925	1 323 000
City of West Torrens .....	0.76	21 000
City of Port Adelaide .....	1.22	1 320

7. The minimum size allotment is 560 square metres. Allotments scheduled for release in the future involving 0.2 per cent of the minimum size, i.e. four in the total of 2 035 allotments.

**BELAIR RECREATION PARK**

270. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. What is the total cost to date of developing and modifying the Belair recreation park golf course?
2. What is the total cost for the supply and erection of the two property protection screens and have they been successful in stopping golf balls being hit into neighbouring household properties?
3. Is water used from Engineering and Water Supply mains and, if so:
  - (a) what quantity is used; and

(b) at what price is it sold to the Belair recreation park golf course?

4. What was the cost of installation of bores, tanks and delivery and distribution lines for the Belair Recreation Park independent service?

5. Is the quantity of water available in the bores decreasing considerably and, if so:

(a) to what extent; and

(b) is this supply now of any major use to the park?

6. What was the total cost of operating the course for the year 1977-78?

7. What is the capital cost of all the equipment that is used for the care and maintenance of the course?

8. How many people are employed full or part-time in managing the course and what is the total cost of their services including long service leave, sick leave, workmen's compensation and penalty rates?

9. What was the total revenue from the course for each month of its operation to 30 June 1978?

10. Do some persons have the use of the course at concessional rates or no charge at all and, if so, who qualifies for these concessions?

11. What are the present green fees charged at the course?

12. Has a club been formed to use the course in pennant competitions?

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

1. \$402 168.

2. \$500 each. They have been effective.

3. Yes. There are two meters in the entire park which supply all dwellings, kiosks, ovals, picnic areas, caravan park and golf course. Usage and cost for separate facilities cannot be isolated.

4. \$88 000.

5. No.

(a) Vide No. 5.

(b) Yes.

6. \$92 478.

7. \$50 000.

8. Nil—course managed on contract basis.

	\$
9. June 1977 (opening month) .....	405
July 1977 .....	2 595
August 1977 .....	2 965
September 1977 .....	3 035
October 1977 .....	3 451
November 1977 .....	3 191
December 1977 .....	3 639
January 1978 .....	4 164
February 1978 .....	5 856
March 1978 .....	3 866
April 1978 .....	4 680
May 1978 .....	5 512
June 1978 .....	5 756

Total Receipts .....

\$49 115

10. The park staff only have free use of the course.

11. \$2.00.

12. No.

**STIRLING NORTH**

295. **Mr. TONKIN** (on notice): In planning for the future of Stirling North, has consideration been given to flood control measures and, if so, what are these measures?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** Yes. Studies are being carried out. As an interim measure, the State Planning

Authority has implemented the following flood mitigation policy for Stirling North: All subdivision and resubdivision applications located within the 20-year occurrence flood plain will be opposed; new housing constructed in Stirling North must be raised a minimum of 600 millimetres above natural ground level by either soil build up or concrete piers; the induct vents and gully traps for septic systems must be raised a minimum of 400 millimetres above natural ground level.

### POSTAGE COSTS

333. **Mr. BECKER** (on notice):

1. What was the total cost of postage paid by the Engineering and Water Supply Department for the financial year ended 30 June 1978 and how does this compare with the previous five years?

2. What is the estimated cost of postage for the department for the year ending 30 June 1979?

3. Has the department investigated the feasibility of delivering water and sewer rate notices to property holders and, if so, what was the outcome and, if not, why not?

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

1. \$312 900

	\$
1972-73 .....	145 300
1973-74 .....	166 100
1974-75 .....	201 000
1975-76 .....	289 200
1976-77 .....	299 600

2. \$360 000

3. Yes. Minimal savings, little flexibility and processing delays in the system prohibited its implementation.

### COORONG NATIONAL PARK

341. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice): Will existing access tracks now used to reach the Coorong be closed as a result of the fencing of the Coorong National Park and, if so, what provision, if any, will be made for people to enter this area?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** Some access tracks will be closed in the Coorong to prevent destruction of vegetation in certain areas and to allow regeneration to occur. There will be no fencing north of Salt Creek, and access to the park will be provided at the crossing known as the "42-Mile Crossing." The sum of \$20 000 has been allocated for the upgrading of the existing track to make the area more readily accessible to the general public. One of several boat ramps to be provided at various vantage points along the Coorong is currently nearing completion at a point four kilometres north of Salt Creek.

### GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

345. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. Has any decision been taken to restore salary entitlements and/or other financial consideration to any or all of the Government employees who were requested to resign their positions before the last State election and, if so, what are the arrangements in each case?

2. If any such employees have been refused assistance, who are they, and what were the reasons in each case?

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** The replies are as follows:

1. One officer, who was officially advised that she should take leave without pay or resign in order to contest the election, has now indicated that she had no wish to take leave without pay or resign and has applied to be reimbursed the salary which she lost during the period of her absence from duty. The Government has made an *ex gratia* payment to her of the equivalent to the salary which she lost. Should any other officers lodge similar applications, consideration will also be given to appropriate *ex gratia* payments.

2. No employees have been refused assistance.

### HERITAGE ACT

372. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. Is it the intention of the Government to amend the South Australian Heritage Act, or to introduce new legislation to include the significant natural heritage of the State?

2. Is the Minister aware that such formal environmental protection is necessary to safeguard the significant natural areas of South Australia and, if so, what action does he propose to take?

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

1. No, not at this stage.

2. The National Parks and Wildlife Act, the Heritage Act, the Fisheries Act and the Planning and Development Act provide environmental protection to safeguard the significant natural areas of South Australia.

### ADELAIDE WATER

373. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. Why has the Environment Department not carried out studies to determine the concentration levels of heavy metals such as lead and mercury in Adelaide's water supply reservoirs?

2. Has the E. & W.S. Department carried out such assessments and, if so, what are the concentrations of all dissolved chemicals in the reservoirs fed by the Onkaparinga River and in the other water storages which supply Adelaide's drinking water?

3. Are the levels of lead and mercury found to be present in the estuary of the Onkaparinga River above World Health Organisation standards and if so:

(a) how much higher than W.H.O. standards are these levels; and

(b) is there any likelihood that fish which feed in the waters of the Onkaparinga estuary may have dangerously high lead and mercury content?

4. What is the recommended upper limit of lead and mercury content for edible fish?

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

1. The responsibility for administering water quality, monitoring and surveillance throughout the State rests with the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

2. Yes. See table.

3. The department is not aware of any World Health Organisation standards relating to estuarine waters.

(a) See above.

(b) It is unlikely that fish feeding in the Onkaparinga estuary would contain high levels of lead or mercury.

4. The food and drug regulations set the levels for lead and mercury in fish at two and one parts per million respectively.

Major Chemical Constituents  
5 Year Average 1973-1977

Parameter		*Happy Valley Reservoir	Hope Valley Reservoir	Myponga Reservoir	Barossa Reservoir	Kangaroo Creek Reservoir	*Mt. Bold Reservoir	Millbrook Reservoir	South Para Reservoir	Mannum-Adel. Pipeline
Silica	(mg/l)	7	8	5	7	11	9	7	10	7
Total Iron	(mg/l)	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.4	0.7
Calcium	(mg/l)	22	26	21	20	27	23	24	29	19
Magnesium	(mg/l)	17	20	12	18	20	20	19	22	13
Sodium	(mg/l)	70	77	71	78	93	73	96	106	72
Potassium	(mg/l)	6	5	4	5	6	6	6	6	5
Bicarbonate	(mg/l)	109	132	74	107	145	118	129	150	111
Sulphate	(mg/l)	19	24	19	18	30	23	25	25	22
Chloride	(mg/l)	127	138	132	141	152	150	157	180	109
Fluoride	(mg/l)	1.00	0.98	0.19	0.27	0.56	0.45	0.69	0.33	0.16
Nitrate	(mg/l)	0.7	1.6	0.5	0.1	1.2	1.4	0.3	0.04	0.6
Total Kjeldahl nitrogen	(mg/l)	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.6	1.0
Phosphate	(mg/l)	0.18	0.23	0.14	0.09	0.18	0.24	0.20	0.27	0.44
Total dissolved salts	(mg/l)	325	366	300	340	396	318	402	460	303
Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	(mg/l)	126	150	103	125	150	105	110	124	102
Non-carbonate hardness	(mg/l)	35	41	43	37	40	40	29	40	14
Carbon dioxide	(mg/l)	1.9	4.3	3.0	3.1	6.0	6.0	1.0	3.0	3.3
pH	(mg/l)	8.0	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.7	7.8	8.1	7.9	7.8
Aluminium	(mg/l)	1.03	1.06	0.52	0.47	1.26	—	—	0.53	8.0
Cadmium	(mg/l)	<0.001	<0.001	0.001	0.001	0.002	—	—	0.001	0.001
Chromium	(mg/l)	0.004	<0.002	<0.002	0.004	0.003	—	—	0.004	0.008
Copper	(mg/l)	0.028	0.041	0.070	0.096	0.083	—	—	0.018	0.016
Lead	(mg/l)	0.003	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	0.004	—	—	<0.002	0.003
Manganese	(mg/l)	0.018	0.04	0.012	0.025	0.030	—	—	0.038	0.071
Nickel	(mg/l)	0.013	0.011	0.011	0.011	0.009	—	—	0.011	0.018
Zinc	(mg/l)	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.02	—	—	0.03	0.03
Mercury	(µg/l)	0.23	0.17	0.27	0.20	0.26	0.21	0.29	0.31	0.21
Radioactivity	(pBq/l)	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5
*Dieldrin	(µg/l)	0.06	0.15	0.21	0.23	0.08	0.05	0.47	N.D.	0.19
*Aldrin	(µg/l)	N.D.	0.01	0.21	0.17	0.02	N.D.	0.20	N.D.	0.02
*Lindane	(µg/l)	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	0.05	N.D.
*D.D.T.	(µg/l)	N.D.	0.01	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.	N.D.
Total Trihalomethanes	(µg/l)	<1	34	—	<1	—	—	<1	—	208

\* Delineates reservoirs fed by the Onkaparinga River

N.D.—Not Detected.

\* Pesticide residues are detected in the metropolitan reservoirs in less than 5 per cent of samples analysed and therefore the maximum levels of these residues are given above. Only the most persistent pesticides are detected in reservoirs due to the large detention time and efficient mixing that occurs. The maximum levels detected are all below the U.S. E.P.A. limits (1977) of—

1 µg/l Aldrin and Dieldrin	} No W.H.O. standards available
50 µg/l D.D.T.	
5 µg/l Lindane	
1 mg/l = 1 milligram per litre = 1 000 micrograms per litre (1 000 µg/l)	
1 µg/l = micrograms per litre	
pBq/l = pico becquerel per litre	

### PERPETUAL LEASES

377. Mr. WOTTON (on notice):

1. Have the people who hold land under perpetual leases and agreements been notified that extensions of time to comply with the conditions of the requirement to clear land were granted during the last 12 months as stated by the Minister in his reply to my question on 1 August?

2. Will the Government consider rescinding this requirement in view of the fact that it is no longer necessary and in cases of marginal land in semi-arid areas and other such fragile regions, is actually detrimental to the land as shown by massive soil erosion during the recent drought in localities, such as Eyre Peninsula and the Murray Mallee, which is thought to be partially, if not wholly, due to over-clearing and if not, why not?

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

1. Extensions of time to comply with clearing conditions were granted only in those cases where, in the course of the usual follow-up investigations, the granting of further time was justified. When extensions are granted in these circumstances, the lessee or purchaser is always advised of the decision taken.

2. This matter is currently under consideration by the Government. The conditions in perpetual leases and agreements relating to clearing have already been temporarily waived as stated in the reply to the question asked on 1 August. Further decisions will be made following an examination of the Report on Vegetation Clearance and the resolution of matters being considered by the Cabinet sub-committee on land resource management.

### FERAL GOATS

380. Mr. WOTTON (on notice):

1. When will the study on the problem of feral goats in national parks in arid and semi-arid areas be completed and will it then be made public?

2. How many parks contain feral goats and what are the names of those parks?

3. In which parks has the number of feral goats been reduced during the last 5 years?

4. In which parks has the number of feral goats increased during the past 5 years?

5. Would the Minister consider enlisting the assistance of some Army personnel in the shooting of feral goats as a planned exercise?

6. Has the Department for the Environment assessed the damage done by feral goats in the Gammon Ranges Park and does it consider that feral goats in this park can be controlled and reduced in numbers during the next five years and, if not, why not?

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

1. Studies into feral goats in national parks are part of broader investigations of the problem in arid areas generally. Some observations in national parks commenced in August 1977, and others are being planned. Because of the tremendous climatic fluctuations in the arid country, the studies will need to continue for several years. The results will then be made public.

2. Six:

Flinders Ranges National Park  
Gammon Ranges National Park  
Flinders Chase National Park  
Western River Conservation Park  
Kelly Hill Conservation Park  
Danggali Conservation Park

3. Flinders Chase National Park  
Flinders Ranges National Park  
Danggali Conservation Park  
Western River Conservation Park

4. Gammon Ranges National Park.

5. This will be investigated.

6. No—research being carried out by the Vertebrate Pest Control Authority may give a practical answer in the long term. Without a major programme to eradicate goats in the whole of the northern Flinders Ranges or unless the Gammon Ranges is effectively fenced against goats, it will not be practical to control goats over the next five years. The cost of any programme, which would be likely to have long term value in the northern Flinders, is difficult to determine but is likely to be in the order of \$1 000 000.

#### REGIONAL PARKS

384. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. Has the Government accepted the recommendations of the *ad hoc* committee which studied the possibility of

setting up regional parks similar to the English-style national parks and, if not, why not?

2. If the recommendations have been accepted, will the Government set up a full-time committee to examine the proposals and, if so (a) when; (b) what will be the guidelines within which that committee will work; and (c) who will be the members of the committee and what are their qualifications?

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

1. No. The only recommendation made by the *ad hoc* committee was that the committee be dissolved and that a full-time committee be established.

2. Vide No. 1.

#### ELECTORAL ROLLS

389. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. On how many occasions since the rolls were prepared for the 10 December Federal election have the number of electors per House of Assembly electorate been determined and what were the numbers for each electorate on each occasion?

2. If no official numbers have been determined, what is the current estimate of electors for each Assembly electorate?

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** The number of electors for each House of Assembly District has been determined on eight occasions since the 10 December Federal elections. Determinations are made on a monthly basis by Commonwealth Electoral Registrars.

Attached is a schedule which shows the number of Commonwealth electors for each House of Assembly District on each of the eight occasions. An elector has to reside in South Australia for three months before being eligible to enrol for the House of Assembly. The numbers shown in the schedule include those electors who have not completed the three months residency and are therefore not at the time of the particular determination *bona fide* House of Assembly electors. There is no ready method of isolating such electors. However, there would be a very small number of electors in this category; as an example, in the determination as at 28 July 1978 there were only 900 out of a total enrolment of 820 000.

#### ELECTORAL ENROLMENTS

House of Assembly District	Dec. 77	Jan. 78	Feb. 78	Mar. 78	Apr. 78	May 78	Jun. 78	Jul. 78
Adelaide	17 538	17 377	17 230	17 167	17 134	16 937	16 892	16 747
Albert Park	361	17 810	17 817	17 765	17 691	17 703	17 684	17 624
Alexandra	17 862	17 927	17 954	17 899	17 851	17 873	17 925	18 013
Ascot Park	351	17 167	17 194	16 923	16 902	16 842	16 829	16 642
Baudin	372	19 631	19 771	19 785	19 665	19 688	19 695	19 903
Bragg	331	17 345	17 312	17 204	17 154	17 084	17 071	16 967
Brighton	18 489	18 521	18 504	18 385	18 363	18 337	18 440	18 479
Chaffey	401	17 778	17 793	17 783	17 813	17 825	17 767	17 785
Coles	391	17 707	17 850	17 847	17 810	17 774	17 727	17 743
Davenport	17 637	17 723	17 703	17 659	17 615	17 620	17 587	17 616
Elizabeth	321	17 917	18 042	17 954	17 986	17 741	17 755	17 783
Eyre	341	15 992	15 970	15 973	15 949	15 719	15 707	15 717
Fisher	334	19 491	19 553	19 517	19 472	19 415	19 463	19 405
Flinders	342	16 002	16 037	16 053	16 043	15 976	15 959	15 990
Florey	302	17 985	17 991	17 828	17 820	17 825	17 680	17 734
Gilles	303	17 666	17 619	17 467	17 435	17 422	17 271	17 433
Glenelg	17 725	17 754	17 695	17 573	17 565	17 509	17 503	17 478
Goyder	16 941	16 941	17 036	16 919	16 915	16 856	16 873	16 883
Hanson	17 815	17 841	17 685	17 618	17 600	17 580	17 530	17 455
Hartley	393	18 528	18 576	18 569	18 568	18 542	18 483	18 513
Henley Beach	363	18 228	18 333	18 293	18 250	18 280	18 207	18 184
Kavel	17 676	17 681	17 648	17 626	17 619	17 561	17 600	17 643

ELECTORAL ENROLMENTS—*continued*

House of Assembly District	Dec. 77	Jan. 78	Feb. 78	Mar. 78	Apr. 78	May 78	Jun. 78	Jul. 78
Light	16 340	16 379	16 169	16 234	16 217	16 103	16 138	16 142
Mallee	312 15 732	15 746	15 752	15 757	15 721	15 674	15 662	15 667
Mawson	375 20 070	20 266	20 313	20 278	20 306	20 296	20 387	20 458
Mitcham	336 17 370	17 342	17 261	17 207	17 161	17 143	17 116	17 124
Mitchell	356 17 679	17 696	17 537	17 530	17 507	17 476	17 350	17 213
Morphett	357 17 751	17 798	17 696	17 679	17 593	17 572	17 392	17 169
Mt. Gambier	313 17 558	17 544	17 522	17 549	17 490	17 486	17 505	17 557
Murray	17 504	17 567	17 603	17 616	17 540	17 555	17 517	17 548
Napier	324 17 038	17 083	17 030	17 087	16 759	16 767	16 763	16 797
Newland	325 19 548	19 745	19 755	19 800	19 663	19 684	19 764	19 911
Norwood	17 773	17 639	17 404	17 307	17 267	17 189	17 099	17 090
Peake	364 16 979	16 977	16 897	16 813	16 819	16 729	16 637	16 631
Playford	18 355	18 373	18 329	18 353	18 135	18 103	18 082	18 079
Price	383 16 689	16 676	16 706	16 678	16 681	16 636	16 645	16 370
Rocky River	17 119	17 123	17 090	17 069	17 082	16 968	17 026	17 059
Ross Smith	16 739	16 698	16 567	16 563	16 578	16 549	16 397	16 351
Salisbury	384 20 236	20 392	20 455	20 453	20 477	20 504	20 558	20 096
Semaphore	385 17 924	17 966	17 976	17 964	17 986	17 977	18 006	17 891
Spence	16 229	16 253	16 247	16 192	16 174	16 119	16 102	15 937
Stuart	344 17 015	17 082	17 049	17 042	16 935	16 917	16 977	16 978
Todd	17 898	18 033	18 042	18 021	17 957	17 933	18 009	18 168
Torrens	306 17 710	17 611	17 241	17 206	17 192	17 139	16 924	16 889
Unley	17 049	17 075	16 812	16 793	16 606	16 692	16 576	16 369
Victoria	315 15 723	15 701	15 679	15 682	15 578	15 602	15 624	15 616
Whyalla	345 17 441	17 514	17 472	17 462	17 172	17 104	17 104	17 113
	828 399	829 902	827 020	825 739	823 255	821 488	821 116	820 223

## PENFOLDS WINES PTY. LTD.

391. Mr. EVANS (on notice):

1. Has any money been made available to Penfolds Wines Pty. Ltd. by guarantee or loan for their new building being constructed by the South Australian Housing Trust at Nuriootpa and, if so:

- what amounts were involved;
- if interest is applicable, at what rate; and
- what is the period of any loan?

2. What is the total cost of the planning, design and supervision of the projects that the trust has carried out for 31 companies during the last five years and were any carried out on trust land and, if so, which ones?

3. Apart from Penfolds, what was the actual cost of each project and what was the amount received by the trust for the planning, designing, consultation and supervision for each project?

4. What private contractors were involved in each project, what was the value of work each carried out and how much of each project was offered for tender?

5. Did the trust call the tenders for each project or the client?

6. Have any private consultants been used on any of the work for design, planning or supervision and, if so:

- on which projects; and
- what was the actual sum paid to each consultant on each project?

7. Were any loans or guarantees made to the companies, other than Penfolds, for which the trust carried out work and, if so:

- what was the amount of each guarantee or loan;
- what was the interest rate for each loan; and
- what other conditions applied to each loan or guarantee?

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

1. The Government does not release details of applicants for loans or for guarantees.

2. 3. 4. and 6. See pages 2, 3 and 4.

5. Yes.

7. The Government does not release details of applicants for loans or for guarantees.

2, 3, 4, 6

Company	Building Contractor	Consultant	Total Cost	Administrative Charge
			\$	\$
F. J. Trousers (Mount Gambier) Pty. Ltd. (Extension I)	J. Grove and Sons Pty. Ltd.	Alexander and Symonds Pty. Ltd.	123 200.00	7 898.00
F. J. Trousers (Mount Gambier) Pty. Ltd. (Extension II)	J. Grove and Sons Pty. Ltd.	Alexander and Symonds Pty. Ltd.	253 500.00	18 615.00
Whyalla Bakeries Pty. Ltd.	T. M. Constructions Pty. Ltd.	E. A. Ingram and Associates Crisp Kavanagh and Partners <sup>2</sup>	460 000.00	30 047.00
Australian Rennet Manuf. Co. Pty. Ltd.	Jaxon Construction (S.A.) Pty. Ltd.		322 000.00	21 855.00
Ceramic Tile Makers Ltd.	A. W. Boulderstone Pty. Ltd.	Stapledon and McMichael Pty. Ltd. W. E. Bassett and Partners Pty. Ltd.	1 021 000.00	83 002.92

Company	Building Contractor	Consultant	Total Cost \$	Adminis- trative Charge \$
		J. H. Bullock and Partners Rawlinson, Russell and Partners Pty. Ltd.		
Chloride Batteries Aust. Ltd.	O'Neill and Clayton Pty. Ltd.	Drogemuller and Pudney	287 700-00	25 208-00
Raymond Industries Pty. Ltd. (Cheviot)	Mainline Constructions (S.A.) Pty. Ltd.	Keith, Lange, Dames and Partners Jansen and Treloar Pty. Ltd. Calder, Calder and Assoc. Pty. Ltd. Thomas Anderson and Partners Rider Hunt and Partners	1 635 000-00	60 000-00
Menzel Industries Pty. Ltd.	H. F. Sarah and Sons Pty. Ltd.	Kavanagh, Balfour P/L	812 000-00	45 154-42
Rainsfords Metal Products Pty. Ltd.	A. W. Baulderstone Pty. Ltd.	Rider Hunt and Partners Symonds and Ryan Kavanagh, Balfour Pty. Ltd.	2 120 000-00	103 148-00
O'Neill Wetsuits (Aust) Pty. Ltd.	R. P. Brimblecombe and Sons Pty. Ltd.	C. William Peters	262 644-00	22 477-44
O'Neill Wetsuits (Aust) Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	Allan Tosolini Pty. Ltd.	C. William Peters	134 200-00 (estimated)	13 986-00 (estimated)
Dalgety Wine Estates Pty. Ltd.	J. O. Juncken P/L	W. E. Bassett and Partners Stapledon and McMichael Pty. Ltd. J. H. Bullock and Partners Rawlinson, Russell and Partners Pty. Ltd.	830 000-00	70 612-78
B. D. H. Industries Pty. Ltd.	Arthur Lloyd P/L	Woods, Bagot Architects Pty. Ltd. Pryce, Goodale and Duncan Pty. Ltd.	1 475 000-00	114 925-16
Omark (Aust) Ltd.	H. F. Sarah and Sons Pty. Ltd.	Dyer, Cantlon and Associates Pty. Ltd.	1 217 500-00	101 532-09
Christensen Diamond Pro- ducts Aust. Pty. Ltd.	P. Bruveris	Kavanagh, Balfour Pty. Ltd. Belford and Eyre	625 000-00	45 969-68
Cable Makers Aust. (SA) Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	W. H. Blunden Pty. Ltd.	Dyer, Cantlon and Assoc. Pty. Ltd. Kavanagh, Balfour P/L Boehm, Twopeny and Part. Kinnaird, Hill, De Rohan and Young Calder, Calder and Assoc.	207 000-00	21 631-06
Smithers-Oasis Aust. Pty. Ltd.	Kennett Bros. P/L		255 000-00	24 346-48
Wilkins Service Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	G. J. Raskauskas P/L		58 400-00	2 275-32
J. R. Tregoning Ltd. (Exten- sion)	H. F. Sarah and Sons Pty. Ltd.		105 150-00	6 850-07
Forbo Krommenie (Aust) Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	Hansen & Yunken (SA) Pty. Ltd.	Rawlinson, Russell and Partners Pty. Ltd.	285 100-00	20 787-29
Iplex Plastic Industries (Extension)	H. F. Sarah and Sons Pty. Ltd. R. P. Brimblecombe and Sons Pty. Ltd.		707 000-00	57 754-58
S.A. Battery Makers Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	O'Neill and Clayton Pty. Ltd.	Drogemuller, Pudney and Associates	289 000-00	25 970-91
Cable Makers Aust. (SA) Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	E. A. Watts P/L T. T. Sheldrick P/L		405 000-00	13 639-07

Company	Building Contractor	Consultant	Total Cost	Administrative Charge
			\$	\$
Fasson Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	Minzzo Construction Pty. Ltd.		133 500-00	12 023-07
S.A. Fishermen's Coop. Ltd.	J. Grove and Son P/L	W. E. Bassett and Partners Pty. Ltd. Stapledon and McMichael P/L	783 000-00	47 543-32
S.A. Fishermen's Coop Ltd. (Extension)	Zanello and Buffon P/L		326 000-00 (estimated)	29 454-00 (estimated)
Atco Structures Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	Allan Tosolini P/L		442 700-00	37 419-01
Schrader Scovill Co. P/L (Extension)	Allan Tosolini P/L		386 000-00	33 732-02
The Visador Co. (Aust) Pty. Ltd. (Extension)	Atco Constructions Pty. Ltd.		74 500-00 (estimated)	6 658-00 (estimated)

### GOLDEN SHOULDER PARROTS

392. Mr. RODDA (on notice):

1. How many golden shoulder parrots are held on permit in South Australia?
2. How many birds of this species have been confiscated?

3. How many birds of this species have been bred by the permit holders since 1974?

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

1. Twenty-one.
2. Four.
3. The administrative effort required to provide this information from records could not be justified.

### COMPANY DEBTS

396. Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice): How many companies which have been in debt to the South Australian Development Corporation have been placed in receivership or liquidation since 1974, which companies

are involved, how much money was owed to the S.A.D.C. in each case and on what dates were these companies placed in receivership or liquidation?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** Since 1974, nine companies have been placed in receivership or liquidation while in debt to the South Australian Development Corporation.

Company	Amount of loan	Balance outstanding	Amount written off to date	Date of receivership
	\$	\$		
*Duncanson Marine Pty. Ltd. ....	35 000	39 609	Nil	12/7/78
Gordon Burford & Co. Pty. Ltd. ....	55 000	Nil	Nil	17/6/76
*Carmor Engineering (A/Asia) Pty. Ltd. ....	50 000	Nil	Nil	15/2/77
*Ceramic Tile Makers Ltd. ....	300 000	368 000	Nil	15/9/76
*M. J. Edmonds Pty. Ltd. ....	30 000	2 641	Nil	7/1/75
*O.D.L. Pty. Ltd. ....	30 000	Nil	36 107	1/8/75
O'Neil Wet Suits (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. ....	300 000	229 963	Nil	10/4/77
*United International Pty. Ltd. ....	75 000	Nil	Nil	10/10/75
*Denvar Clothing Co. Pty. Ltd. ....	95 000	104 810	Nil	24/10/77
	\$970 000	\$745 023	\$36 107	

\*Receiver appointed by S.A.D.C.

Adequate provision has been made in the accounts of the corporation as at 30/6/78 for any losses which may be incurred with respect to the above. The corporation has knowledge of a number of companies that have been

placed in receivership or liquidation subsequent to having cleared a debt to the corporation. However, the corporation does not, nor does it consider it proper to, maintain files on those companies with which it has ceased to have an involvement.

### GOLDEN BREED PTY. LTD.

397. Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

1. What was the trading profit or loss of Golden Breed Pty. Ltd. during 1977-78?
2. Will the financial statements and annual report for this company be released publicly, and if not, why not?
3. How many employees were employed by this company at 30 June 1978?
4. Will the Premier report to Parliament on the operation of this company for the period 1977-78?

5. What was the total sale value of all stock purchased by Golden Breed Pty. Ltd. from O'Neil Wet Suits Pty. Ltd. and sold by Golden Breed Pty. Ltd.?

6. How many employees currently hold positions on the board of Golden Breed Pty. Ltd.?

7. Did Golden Breed Pty. Ltd. receive a section 222 for failing to pay an account and, if so, how much was owed on that account and to whom?

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

1. The financial accounts of Golden Breed Pty. Ltd. for the 1977-78 year have not yet been finalised.



- 2. The financial accounts will be filed in accordance with the Companies Act.
- 3. Golden Breed Pty. Ltd. employed 115 persons as at 30 June 1978.
- 4. No. It would be improper for a Government to publicly report on the operations of a company.
- 5. Net sales until 30 June 1978 were \$1 262 565.
- 6. One, the Managing Director, Mr. Josef Kofsky.
- 7. No. Litigation between Golden Breed Pty. Ltd. and its Australian supplier of materials is current. Golden Breed is claiming damages far in excess of the amount claimed against it by the supplier.

**FROZEN FOOD FACTORY**

399. Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

- 1. How many meals per month have been prepared by the Frozen Food Factory, Dudley Park, since the beginning of 1978?
- 2. What is the maximum capacity in meals per year when this factory operates at full capacity?
- 3. Has the factory issued quotations to supply food or meals to non-government bodies and, if so, what specific prices were quoted for each type of meal?
- 4. What was the escalation in capital costs to construct and equip this factory for the period between the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and its final operation and what are the itemised increases in costs that occurred?
- 5. What pieces of equipment were installed in the factory which were not included in the plans and report submitted to the Public Works Committee and what was the cost of each piece of equipment?
- 6. What contracts or subcontracts for the construction and equipping of this factory were let to companies based interstate, what was each contract or subcontract worth and to which companies were they let?
- 7. What was the final total cost to construct and equip this factory?
- 8. How many employees worked at the factory at 30 June 1978?
- 9. What were the operating costs of the factory for the financial year 1977-78 and what portions of these costs went towards wages and the cost of food?
- 10. How many meals were prepared by the factory during 1977-78?
- 11. What was the cost of the land upon which this factory was constructed?
- 12. To which companies or persons were professional fees paid for the construction and equipping of the factory and what were the fees in each case?

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

- 1. Factory does not produce individually prepared meals; 48 852 cartons of frozen foods have been produced since January 1978.
- 2. Design capacity approximately 6 000 000 meals per annum.
- 3. Standard pricelist freely available to organisations which are funded by the South Australian Government.
- 4. The estimated cost of the Frozen Food Factory submitted to the Public Works Committee was \$4 525 000,

as at January 1974. Since that time, the following itemised increases in capital costs have occurred:

\$950 000	In March 1975, the initial estimate was revised to take into account cost rises and a contingency reduction.
\$1 800 000	When Cabinet approval was given to proceed with the project in April 1975, the estimate was updated to \$7 000 000 to allow for cost escalation up to the date of completion.
\$986 000	Devaluation of the Australian dollar in October 1975 (12 per cent) and November/December 1976 (12.5 per cent) which had the effect of increasing the cost of imported equipment by approximately \$350 000.
	Additional professional fees estimated at \$400 000 for the complete project management service being provided by the Construction Managers, Austin Anderson (Aust.) Pty. Ltd.
	An additional \$120 000 to build up the site to provide adequate grades for sewers and stormwater pipes.
	Additional client requests totalling \$116 000.
\$625 241	Additional items approved in separate submissions. These were mainly modifications to process plant and equipment resulting from developments of the process design, or from modifications requested by the Hospitals Department from time to time.
\$323 000	A number of individually small modifications and additions to plant and equipment to enable the project to proceed and achieve the required completion date.
\$61 000	Due to delays experienced in commissioning the factory arising from industrial stoppages and extensions of time granted to contractors.
\$65 000	Which is an allowance requested by the Committee of Management, Health Industrial Services, for product commissioning costs which it desires to capitalise.
\$132 000	For additional plant and equipment requested by the Committee of Management, Health Industrial Services.
\$4 942 241	

5. Because the project was based on a system of design and construction development, specific items of equipment were selected as the project developed.

6. The following is a list of contracts let to companies based interstate:

Contract	Contractor	State	Contract Sum \$
Meat roasting ovens	G. C. Benjamin & Co.	N.S.W.	111 641
Cold storage racking	Colby Engineering	N.S.W.	242 675
Electrically powered stacker cranes	Demag Ind. Equip.	N.S.W.	160 054
Special floor finishes	DeMartin & Gasparini	N.S.W.	96 291
Steam kettles and accessories	Hills & Mills (Fabricating)	N.S.W.	152 837
Vegetable preparation line	Kelly & Lewis Machinery	Vic.	91 132
Packaging and freezing lines	W. C. Penfold & Co.	N.S.W.	932 776
Steam proofing cabinet	G. G. Benjamin & Co.	N.S.W.	8 955

Contract	Contractor	State	Contract Sum \$
Dock levellers	Tieman Ind.	Vic.	4 020
Vibrating screen	Vibco Aust.	Vic.	2 100
Planetary mixers	Hobart Manufacturing	N.S.W.	16 270
Dough mixers	G. G. Benjamin & Co.	N.S.W.	14 600
Meat grinder	MacDonald Hamilton	N.S.W.	5 500
Meat Slicer	Colbro Stuart Walker	N.S.W.	34 620
Product pumps	A.S.T.M. Holdings	N.S.W.	14 219
Dough sheeter	E.F.C.A. Engineering	Vic.	8 664
Pressure steamer	Hills & Mills (Fabricating)	N.S.W.	62 717
Vacuum chilling system	Maxwell Industries	N.S.W.	4 425
Scraped surface heat exchangers	Alfa-Laval	N.S.W.	56 409
Meat searing tunnel	G. G. Benjamin & Co.	N.S.W.	42 257
Flush panel timber doors	Kerby	N.S.W.	6 738
Cleaning Equipment B	Anderson Equipment Co-op Ltd.	N.S.W.	7 200
Food mixer and accessories	Hobart Manufacturing Co.	N.S.W.	3 540
Dough extruder sheeter	E.F.C.A. Engineering	Vic.	20 993
Misc. food plant equipment B	Economics Laboratory	N.S.W.	830
DC drive units	Power Electronics	N.S.W.	4 776
Food plant equipment	Austenetic Fabrications	Vic.	13 223
Food plant equipment	Luke Equipment	Vic.	9 600
Food plant equipment	Austenetic	Vic.	668
Food plant equipment	Edel & Finn	Vic.	21 456
			+ 1 300
Food plant equipment	Filper	Vic.	1 150
Food plant equipment	G.E.C. AEI Aust.	Vic.	6 259
Laboratory equipment	Luke Ltd.	Vic.	40
Laboratory equipment	John Morris	N.S.W.	223
Laboratory equipment	Gibson & Paterson	Vic.	29
			+50
		Total	2 160 237

7. \$9 192 000.
8. Directly employed, 73; staff shared with Central Linen Service, 10.
9. (1) \$1 205 500.  
(2) Wages \$354 000  
Food \$409 000
10. 30 160 cartons of frozen food.
11. \$125 000
12. Austin-Anders (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. \$1 050 000.

#### ALLIED RUBBER MILLS LTD.

400. Mr. DEAN BROWN (on notice):

1. Did Allied Rubber Mills Ltd. approach the South Australian Development Corporation for funds prior to May 1978 and, if so, when and why were loan funds or a guarantee not granted?
2. Is there any side agreement between the company and the S.A.D.C. and if so, what is the agreement?
3. Did the S.A.D.C. buy 28 per cent of the company's shares to ensure that more than 25 per cent was held so that special resolutions to sell off assets could not be passed without the support of the S.A.D.C.?
4. Were the shares purchased by the S.A.D.C. to allow certain shareholders to have immediate liquidity and if so, is this an extension of the role and scope of the S.A.D.C. beyond that laid down in the Industries Assistance Act?
5. Does the S.A.D.C. intend to appoint its own director to the board of the company and if so, when will the new directors be announced?
6. What is the intention of the Government concerning the holding of these shares?
7. Does the Government intend to sell all or part of the shares to an employee share ownership trust?
8. Is it the intention of the Government to adopt its industrial democracy policy within the company?

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

1. Yes. In September 1977. The provision on loan funds was unnecessary. The company's problem was partially solved by the South Australian Development Corporation

purchasing an equity interest in Allied Rubber. The bank borrowings of Allied Rubber and its subsidiaries were reorganised.

2. No. There is no side agreement.
3. The South Australian Development Corporation bought 28 per cent of the company's ordinary shares. It did so in order to make the company's share structure more attractive from a banking and investment point of view.
4. No.
5. The Directors of Allied Rubber have undertaken to appoint two directors to the board to represent the corporation.
6. To assist the company—see the answer to question 3.
7. No present intention.
8. The industrial democracy policy of the Government is to ensure that only voluntary arrangements with full consensus occur in the private sector. The question is therefore without basis.

#### TORRENS RIVER

401. Mrs. ADAMSON (on notice):

1. Does the Government accept the conclusions of the Tonkin Report on hydrological aspects of the River Torrens which predicts that flooding will occur at various locations on the Torrens flood plain and that we are approaching the 100 year return period?
2. If so, what flood mitigation work, if any, has been carried out or planned to combat such a flood?
3. Have the flood plains and pans expected to be flooded been surveyed to determine the extent of flooding and the route and effects of overflows?
4. Has the E. & W.S. Department set up flood warning facilities co-ordinated with contingency plans to assist persons living in areas officially designated as potential areas of inundation?
5. Has the department carried out maintenance in the river channel as recommended?
6. Does the NEAPTR route transverse any of the flood plain area?

7. How many houses between Athelstone and Henley South are located on the flood plain?

8. Are any of the proposed bridges for the NEAPTR route located in the flood plain area?

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

1. The Government has accepted the general conclusions of the Tonkin Report. That report predicts that the probability of a "100 year" flood occurring in any one year is one in 100 and does not suggest that we are approaching the flood of April 1889 when heavy rains from a decaying tropical cyclone fell on a well saturated watershed. In April of that year 196 mm of rain fell, compared with the April average of 49 mm.

Having regard to previous hydrological information from 1889 and the low level of Kangaroo Creek reservoir at the present time (less than a quarter full), a flood of such dimension is extremely unlikely this year.

2. Studies are currently in progress on the feasibility of implementing mitigation schemes.

3. Survey work has been carried out on the potential flood plain and plans showing the probable extent of a 100-year return event flood for areas upstream of the city of Adelaide should be available from the Engineering and Water Supply Department in approximately three months time. The problem is more complex in the area west of the city and, until further work and hydraulic modelling is carried out, the best information now available on the likely area of inundation is that contained in the Tonkin Report.

4. Consideration will be given to the development of an appropriate scheme on completion of the feasibility studies. Should a potential flooding situation arise in the meantime, warning will be given to people in possibly affected areas and the considerable resources of the State Emergency Services will be mobilised.

5. Regular maintenance is carried out in the section of the Torrens west of South Road for which the Engineering and Water Supply Department is responsible.

6. Yes.

7. It is not possible to provide a precise figure at this time.

8. Yes.

#### NATIONAL PARKS

405. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice): Has a report on the administration of the National Parks and Wildlife Act been presented to Parliament since 1976 and if not (a) why not; and (b) when is it anticipated that such a report will be next presented to Parliament, as required under section 13 of the Act?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** Yes; the report is being tabled today.

#### MERINO RAMS

409. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice):

1. Will the Government give its full support to the Commonwealth Government's policy to export merino rams?

2. Is the Government prepared to take action through appropriate industrial tribunals or courts to make sure merino rams are exported from South Australia?

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

1. The South Australian Government has supported the export of merino sheep to developing countries where livestock owners are frequently the poorest members of society and where the limited introduction of merino strains into the native sheep population could improve their economic wellbeing. The Commonwealth Govern-

ment merino export policy seems to be motivated by a desire to assist the better known stud breeders.

2. Since no dispute exists the question is hypothetical.

#### RAILWAY TUNNELS

412. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. Is it an offence for any person to trespass in the railways tunnel system and is it a common practice?

2. How many persons have been apprehended in the period from 1 July 1977, and who were those people?

3. What action, if any, has been taken against those persons who were apprehended, have any repeated the offence and what action, if any, is contemplated by the Government to prevent further repetition?

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

1. Yes, but it is not a common practice.

2. Only one incident has been recorded, this being on 20 August 1977, when a group of three male runners was sighted, one of whom was Mr. R. R. Millhouse; the other two are not known.

3. A railway detective contacted Mr. Millhouse and discussed the incident with him. The Chief Engineer of the railways wrote to him pointing out the dangers involved.

#### EDUCATION GUIDELINES

413. **Mrs. ADAMSON** (on notice):

1. What documents exist, if any, to which the public have access, which establish guidelines for the next two decades for educational requirements in the following sectors:

- (a) community development;
- (b) business and commercial development;
- (c) manufacturing industry; and
- (d) primary industry?

2. Have these reports been assessed by State education authorities with a view to planning future teacher training requirements and, if so, when and in what way will this planning be implemented?

3. In view of the impending amalgamation of colleges of advanced education, what criteria will be developed to enable these and other C.A.E.'s to meet future educational requirements as outlined in Part I?

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

1. (a) COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Bostock, William W. Alternatives of ethnicity: immigrants and Aborigines in Anglo-Saxon Australia. Hobart, Cat and Fiddle Press, 1977.

Comment: A review of literature in the field of immigrants and Aborigines in Australia.

Commission of Inquiry into Poverty. Poverty and Education in Australia, Fifth Main Report. June, 1976. (Commissioner: Dr. Ronald T. Fitzgerald) Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service, 1976.

Committee on Community Relations. Final Report. (Chairman: W. M. Lippmann) Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service, 1975.

International Women's Year Australian National Advisory Committee. Report. March, 1976, Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service, 1976.

Royal Commission on Human Relationships.

Final Report. Volume 2.

Part II: "Education for Human Relationships"

Part III: "Health and Medical Education"

Final Report. Volume 3.

Part IV: "Sexuality and Fertility"

Final Report. Volume 4.

Part V: "The Family"

Final Report. Volume 5.

Part VI: "Equality and Discrimination"

Part VII: "Rape and other Sexual Offences"

Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service, 1977.

South Australian Council for Educational Planning and Research. South Coast Notional Development Plan. Adelaide, SACEPR, 1978.

1. (b) and (c) **COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY**

Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Youth Training for Commerce. Paper delivered at the Australian Chamber of Commerce Annual Conference held in Melbourne, 22-24 May 1978, presented by the Commerce Division of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, S.A.

Comment: Summarises the opinions of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry on commercial training. Paper forwarded to Education Department.

Committee of Inquiry into Education and Training. (Chairman: Prof. Williams). To report in late November 1978.

Commonwealth-State Working Party on Manpower Planning. Manpower Planning: report of the Commonwealth-State Working Party. (Chairman: Mr. L. B. Bowes). Adelaide, Department of Labour and Industry, 1978.

Crawford Study Group Inquiry into the Adjustment Problems of the Australian Manufacturing Industries.

Study Group: Sir John Crawford, Sir Brian Inglis, Bob Hawke, Neil Currie.

Comment: Study group to report later this year.

Department of Employment and Industrial Relations. Employment prospects by industry and occupation: a labour market analysis. (July 1977, February 1978, August 1978 editions). Canberra, Department of Employment and Industrial Relations.

Comment: Discusses short run forecasts, e.g. over periods 12 months to three years, depending on occupations. Publication forwarded to range of educational institutions.

Department of Labour and Industry.

Department of Further Education. Report of the survey of training needs in Industry, Commerce and Government in South Australia, 1972. Adelaide, Government Printer, 1973.

Comment: Covers short term needs.

Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research. Econometric Forecasting Project. Subscribers to the Project have access to such data.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The structural determinants of employment and unemployment: volume 1. Paris, OECD, 1977.

Comment: Actual detailed working papers have not yet been printed. It considers fundamental questions of capital labour substitution, the impact of technology and their effect on skills needed for employment.

1. (d) **PRIMARY INDUSTRY**

Report of the Committee of Inquiry into Agricultural Education Research and Extension in South Australia.

2. The reports are being continually assessed by State education authorities at all levels from the universities, colleges of advanced education and the Education and Further Education Departments for which I am responsible. This occurs in the planning undertaken in the institutions, in the many advisory committees I have established, in the Board of Advanced Education Academic and Forward Planning Committees and in a number of seminars and conferences held to discuss these problems. For example, I have received a report from a conference on recurrent education which was attended by about 200 representatives of unions, employer organisations, community bodies and tertiary institutions. The honourable member may be interested to know that this

conference was led by Dr. Jarl Bengtsson, whose services were made available without cost by the Organisation for Economic and Cultural Development.

Exact manpower planning for two decades in advance is extremely difficult to achieve. Nevertheless, the machinery for establishing new courses and selecting appropriate students has been established effectively in the colleges of advanced education and universities.

The Council for Educational Planning and Research is enjoined under its Act to maintain a library of such reports, and continually brings these reports to the attention of its members for discussion and incorporation in the planning made by its members.

The honourable member is invited to visit this library if she so wishes.

3. The colleges, as autonomous bodies under the guidance of their councils, have established committees to constantly review the issues of teacher training. The courses that emerge are reviewed by the Board of Advanced Education.

With regard to the impending amalgamations, I have established a joint interim committee to propose guidelines on a number of matters to be considered by the councils of the colleges when the amalgamations occur.

In general, the reports mentioned (and many other papers produced in other ways) are being continually used by one or other councils, committees or departments. The honourable member seems to have a very static view of planning.

#### COOBER PEDY

414. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice):

1. Does the Government intend to extend the designated town area at Coober Pedy and, if so, in what direction and how much more land is going to be added to the town?

2. Will the Government grant to individuals who apply for land outside the designated town area, land for commercial or private use, such as shops, motels and housing?

3. Have there been any applications for land outside the designated area and, if so, from whom?

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

1. No.

2. No, except where—

(a) occupation of existing dug-outs is to be authorised in terms of the Crown Lands Act, or

(b) special circumstances apply.

3. Other than the occasional application to occupy dug-outs outside the proclaimed town, few inquiries have been received, i.e. for commercial and other purposes. All except one such application have been declined. Following an application, a licence for exploration purposes was issued to J. and C. Andrea and J. C. Barrett over land on which it is proposed to construct an underground tourist complex. The licence includes extremely restrictive conditions which must be satisfied before consideration will be given to the granting of permanent tenure over a selected site within the licensed area.

#### HOSPITAL CHARGES

415. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. Why is there a charge of \$115 per day made on compulsory third party cases treated at the Adelaide Children's Hospital?

2. Is this a common charge on third party cases treated in all public hospitals and if not, which public hospitals are affected?

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

1. Patients whose hospitalisation is covered by some form of compensation, such as third party road accident cases, etc., are charged a fee which approximates the average cost of hospital treatment. These charges are invariably met by insurance companies and it would be inappropriate for the Government to subsidise these companies by charging at rates below the actual cost of treatment.

2. The charge is common to all Government teaching hospitals. At non-teaching hospitals the charge is \$60 a day.

#### JOSEPH VERCO

416. **Mr. BLACKER** (on notice):

1. What was the cost of operating the *Joseph Verco* for the year ended 30 June 1978?

2. How many days did this vessel operate at sea?

3. What was the cost of operation while at sea?

4. What costs were incurred with slipping and maintenance?

5. What alterations were made to the equipping of the vessel and what was the cost?

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

1. \$182 653.

2. 96 days.

3. \$1 126 a day.

4. \$17 053.

5. Trawl winch .....	\$ 39 610
Rock lobster pot hauler .....	1 894
Prawn trawl rig .....	16 300
Kort nozzle and propeller .....	13 970
	\$71 774

#### PRAWN FISHING

417. **Mr. BLACKER** (on notice):

1. What is the estimated cost of research into the prawn industry for the 1977-78 year and what is the break down of this cost?

2. What other costs are incurred in the management of the prawn fishery?

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

1. Research Costs	\$
Salaries .....	45 235
Operating and travelling .....	35 308
Equipment .....	1 229
	\$81 772

These are direct costs without the full allocation of overheads.

2. Management costs, including law enforcement, administration and licensing—\$87 729.

#### WOMEN'S SHELTER

419. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice): Has the Minister provided an answer to a question without notice asked by the member for Murray on 12 October 1977, relating to a

women's shelter and, if so, when; if not, when is it anticipated that an answer will be provided?

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** Today.

#### GRAIN POOLS

420. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice): Will the Government amend the Succession Duties Act to allow moneys held in grain pools, in joint names, to be paid out to the surviving partner so as to help relieve hardship caused by the current restrictions?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** No amendment is proposed. The equity of a partnership in a grain pool is a joint asset and there is no justification for an approach different from that adopted in relation to other joint assets. The Succession Duties Office reports that it is rare for a request to be received for early release of this type of asset. Action may be taken by executors to avoid hardship to dependants and to assist in running a partnership business by seeking an early grant of probate. Until this is ready for issue, the assets are not available to the executor to deal with in accordance with the directions of the deceased. Once probate is issued the Commissioner of Succession Duties is prepared, at short notice if necessary, to discuss with the solicitors for the estate action he may properly take to avoid hardship.

#### YOUTH CLUBS

422. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice):

1. How many clubs or organisations were provided with money on a similar basis to the Copley Youth Club for payment for recreation activities for children during school holidays?

2. Is it anticipated that the scheme will continue, and is the Government satisfied that taxpayers' money is being put to effective use when it is spent on this type of scheme?

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

1. Federal funds have been utilized during 1978 for payment of 129 vacation care grants under the Children's Services Programme. The number of grantees for each of the holiday periods concerned were:

December 1977-January 1978 vacation

20 State schools

4 State instrumentalities

22 non-profit organisations

1 college of advanced education

1 university

2 local government authorities

May 1978 vacation

20 State schools

16 non-profit organisations

1 university

2 local government authorities

September 1978 vacation

16 State schools

19 non-profit organisations

3 State authorities

1 local government authority

1 university.

2. The answer to the first portion of the question is that, although the Childhood Services Council is only notified of the availability of the Commonwealth funding some few weeks in advance of the holiday periods concerned, there is no evidence at present to suggest that the Federal Government intends to discontinue the scheme. As to the second matter, whilst I hesitate to respond on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, its financial support of

vacation care programmes since 1974-75 doubtless speaks for itself. At State level, the answer is yes, as the funding primarily targets disadvantaged children.

### PILOT BOATS

425. **Mr. TONKIN** (on notice):

1. Is it a fact that the Marine and Harbours Department recently let a contract for the supply of two 40 ft. pilot boats to an English firm named Halmatic?

2. What is the cost of these boats, including freight and import duties?

3. Is it a fact that there are a number of firms in Australia, including several in South Australia, with the capacity to build such vessels, and that the estimated cost for each boat built in Australia would be between \$150 000 and \$200 000?

4. Why was it necessary to buy the boats from England, at high cost, instead of from Australian builders?

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

1. Yes.

2. \$482 000.

3. At the time of ordering no Australian manufacturer had the capacity to build the vessels to the requirements.

4. See 3.

### SUCCESSION DUTIES

426. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. What number of estates have been finalised through the Succession Duty Office in each of the financial years 1967-68 to 1977-78, respectively?

2. On what percentage of these transactions was interest charged and what was the amount obtained as:

(a) duty; and

(b) interest,  
in each period?

3. Has the Government considered extending the period of time before which interest becomes payable and if so, what are the details?

4. If no change is contemplated, why not, and will the matter be kept under constant review?

5. How many applications has the office received for consideration of relief from paying the interest rate and what percentage of such applications have been afforded relief?

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

1. 1967-68 .....	7 844
1968-69 .....	8 109
1969-70 .....	8 726
1970-71 .....	8 948
1971-72 .....	8 360
1972-73 .....	7 849
1973-74 .....	7 761
1974-75 .....	8 178
1975-76 .....	8 578
1976-77 .....	9 162
1977-78 .....	8 740

These figures include separate statements lodged for "notional" property in respect of deaths occurring before 9 December 1970.

2. No statistics are maintained by the Succession Duties Office which would enable this part of the question to be answered.

3. No.

4. The practice of the Succession Duties Office of releasing assets for the purpose of paying duty before the six months period expires enables the majority of

executors to avoid payment of interest if they desire to do so in those estates which have not been finalised. The matter will be kept under review.

5. Few applications for remissions are received but no statistics are maintained by the Succession Duties Office on this matter. However, I should mention that the Succession Duties Office may grant remissions of interest in appropriate cases without an application being received.

### DIALYSIS TREATMENT

428. **Mr. ALLISON** (on notice):

1. Is the Minister aware that a number of South-East residents suffering from renal disease have been forced to take up residence in Adelaide or Melbourne in order to receive dialysis treatment and that there are still a number of patients resident in the South-East who travel regularly to metropolitan centres for dialysis treatment?

2. Is the Minister also aware that the Lions, Ajax and Rotary service clubs in the South-East are anxious to donate one or more renal dialysis units to the Mount Gambier Hospital to meet what is considered to be an urgent local community need and that voluntary groups such as the Mount Gambier Red Cross are willing to have members trained to operate these donated machines at the hospital?

3. Will the Minister accept these public spirited offers and provide the necessary accommodation at the Mount Gambier Hospital for their successful operation?

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

1. The Renal Unit of The Queen Elizabeth Hospital encourages all patients with renal failure to accept self dialysis. The unit trains the patients in all the techniques, and the use and basic servicing of the machines. The machines are provided free of charge, and are regularly serviced by travelling technicians. Accordingly, it is quite within the capability of most patients, after a proper course of treatment and training, to dialyse themselves at home.

2. Yes. However, there is considerably more to the development of a hospital-based dialysis programme than the provision of equipment and volunteer support. In this regard, the offer made to the honourable member by letter of 4 July to discuss the technical and social issues involved with the Director of the Renal Unit at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and other appropriate professional personnel, remains open.

3. This could be a matter for discussion with the Renal Unit when you accept the Minister of Health's invitation as in 2.

### MOUNT GAMBIER NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

429. **Mr. ALLISON** (on notice):

1. What is the precise nature of the delay in completion of the new four-teacher classroom unit at present under construction at Mount Gambier North Primary School?

2. Can the Minister give an assurance that the unit will be ready for use on the opening day of the third term, 1978?

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

1. The delay is a consequence of the bankruptcy of the air-conditioning subcontractor. To reduce the delay, the building contractor nominated another subcontractor to complete the work, but the quote submitted was totally unacceptable to the Public Buildings Department and further quotations have been sought. All quotations requested have not yet been received.

2. Regretfully no assurance can be given. It is estimated that work required to complete the air-conditioning will take three weeks. Assuming that a tender can be let and work commence by Monday 4 September, the completion date would be 25 September. Any delay in letting a tender will correspondingly retard the availability date.

### INDUSTRIAL INSPECTORS

430. **Mr. DEAN BROWN** (on notice):

1. How many industrial inspectors are employed by the Labour and Industry Department to police and supervise industrial awards?

2. What is the total annual salary or wage bill of these inspectors?

3. How many of the inspectors are located outside of the Adelaide metropolitan area, and in what country centres are they located?

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

1. 25 industrial inspectors made up as follows:

1 Chief Industrial Inspector

2 Senior Industrial Inspectors

20 Industrial Inspectors

2 Assistant Industrial Inspectors.

2. \$326 498.

3. 4 Inspectors are located outside the metropolitan area. They are located at Whyalla, Port Pirie, Berri and Mount Gambier.

### CRIME STATISTICS

431. **Mr. DEAN BROWN** (on notice):

1. Why was it necessary for the Government to create a new position of officer of crime statistics?

2. Was this position advertised widely in South Australia?

3. Were there any suitable applicants from South Australia who were capable of filling this position and, if so, how many?

4. Why has this position not been made part of the Police Department?

5. Did the Government examine the collection of such data by the Victorian Government, and does that Government collect crime statistics as part of the functions of the police?

6. How many staff are expected to be appointed to the office of crime statistics and what will be the annual wage costs and operating costs of this office?

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** The replies are as follows:

1. A new position of Director, Office of Crime Statistics, was created with the object of upgrading and co-ordinating statistical data collected through a number of sources and the regular publication of information relating to crime.

2. Yes.

3. Six persons from South Australia applied for the position, and no doubt some of them would have been capable of filling the position. However, as is the practice with all Public Service appointments, the person who was considered the most suitably qualified, experienced and capable of doing the job, was appointed to the position.

4. It was not considered appropriate that the position should have been appointed within the Police Department, for the new unit will be involved in co-ordinating and assessing not only statistics obtained through the Police Department, but also those obtained from the courts departments, Correctional Services Department, the Community Welfare Department, and other agencies.

5. Not specifically, although the adviser who conducted the investigation and research on the matter for the Government, was one of Australia's leading criminologists and no doubt was familiar with the Victorian system.

6. In addition to the Director, three officers will be appointed to the unit. The approximate annual wage and operating costs of the unit will be \$60 000.

### BENEFICIAL FINANCE BUILDING

432. **Mr. DEAN BROWN** (on notice): What was the total area in square metres of the floor space of Beneficial Finance Building, Franklin Street, rented by the Government as at 30 June 1978?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** The total area of floor space rented by the Government in Beneficial House, Franklin Street, at 30 June 1978 was 1912 square metres.

### TORRENS PARK INTERSECTION

433. **Mr. DEAN BROWN** (on notice): In which financial year is it proposed to install traffic lights at the intersection of Belair Road, Springbank Road, and Kays Road?

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** In 1979-80.

### SUCCESSION DUTIES

434. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice): Will the Government follow the undertakings outlined by the New South Wales Government to reduce succession duty in that State; in particular, duty applying between parents and children?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The Government has reduced succession duty on a number of occasions in recent years, the most important measure being the complete abolition of duty on property passing between spouses. Because of the importance to the State Budget of revenues from this source, the Government presently has no intention of proceeding further with remissions of succession duty.

### HOSPITAL BOARDS

435. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice):

1. Will hospital boards set up under the Health Commission Act be able to economically run the hospitals without direction from the Health Department or from the Health Commission?

2. Will they be able to engage their own private contractors to carry out maintenance and other work?

3. When is it anticipated that the boards will be fully set up and their guidelines and constitutions completed?

4. Is the Minister concerned with the delays in setting up the various boards?

5. Is the Minister aware that a considerable amount of concern has been expressed by people involved with hospital administration?

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

1. Yes. However, the South Australian Health Commission will negotiate objectives with individual hospitals and issue policy guidelines from time to time in order that the general objectives of the commission as set out in the legislation may be achieved.

2. This matter is still being negotiated. In the meantime existing arrangements will continue.

3. Hospital constitutions are currently being reviewed

by the Crown Solicitor. As these constitutions are completed, hospitals will be incorporated and boards of management appointed.

4. Yes. However, every effort is being made to finalise the incorporation of the various Government hospitals.

5. Yes. Every endeavour is being made, through joint consultation between the commission and those concerned, to allay such anxiety with the object of arranging a system of health care delivery that will be of benefit to the people in this State.

#### PARK LANDS

436. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice): Does the Government have a plan to remove offices, workshops, or other facilities of State and Commonwealth Government instrumentalities from Adelaide's park lands and, if so, what action is being taken to initiate the program?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** As the opportunity arises action will be taken if practicable to relocate buildings at present on Adelaide's park lands to allow the land to revert to park lands. The Meteorological Bureau has already been demolished; however, the Adelaide High School is to be retained and redeveloped as a co-educational school.

#### PRAWN FISHING

437. **Mr. BLACKER** (on notice):

1. How many kilograms of prawns were caught in each of the prawn fishing zones in the year ended 30 June 1978?

2. What are the respective values of those catches?

3. How many permit holders are operating in each zone?

4. Of the permit holders in each zone, how many use single-rig vessels and how many use double-rig vessels?

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

1. Because significant numbers of prawn returns are still outstanding, the catch figures are provisional only.

Zones C & D	E	Investigator Strait	Total ('000 kgs)
1 502	441	170	2 113

2. As prices paid to fishermen have not been corrected against processor information, the estimated value paid to fishermen is also provisional.

Zones C & D	E	Investigator Strait	Total ('000 \$)
3 982	1 627	598	6 207

The value does not include bonus or pool redistribution. These are provisional figures and the only official figures are for 1976-77 which total \$9 700 000.

3. Zones Special Permits Authorities or Common wealth licences

A & B . . . .	1		
C & D . . . .		39	
E		14	
Investigator Strait	5		3

Provisional catch figures and provisional value of catch for zones A & B have not been shown to honour confidentiality of figures supplied by a fisherman as his vessel is the only one operating in that area.

4. Zones

A & B	1 single rig
C & D	4 single 35 double rig

E 14 single rig  
Investigator 8 double rig  
Strait

#### BUDGET RALLY

438. **Mr. DEAN BROWN** (on notice):

1. How many letters did the Premier post through his department inviting people to attend the Budget protest rally on Saturday 19 August 1978?

2. Will the Premier list the companies and organisations that were sent these letters?

3. Were files and records from within the Premier's Department used in compiling this list of companies and organisations?

4. Who paid for the cost of radio advertisements and hand-bills associated with this rally?

5. Were the hand-bills associated with this rally authorised by the Premier and, if not, who gave authorisation?

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

1. Letters were sent to relevant groups and organisations and individuals adversely affected by the Federal Budget, drawing matters of concern to their notice.

2. No.

3. No. The people concerned were obvious from the Budget.

4. The Government paid no moneys in respect of advertisements or handbills.

5. No.

#### PERSPECTIVE

439. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. What is the cost of producing an edition of the Public Buildings Department journal, *Perspective*, what is its distribution, and how often is it published?

2. How many copies of the last edition were produced?

3. How many people are employed full-time preparing Public Buildings Department publicity, and what portion of their time is spent preparing *Perspective*?

4. Were any consultants, not being staff of the Public Buildings Department, employed in the production and, if so, to what extent and what monetary contribution did they receive?

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

1. \$1 650 (average cost). Copies are distributed to every employee in Public Buildings Department with run-on copies being sent to client departments, Parliamentarians, local government bodies and other interested parties. It is planned to publish at two-monthly intervals.

2. 4 000.

3. One clerk. The larger proportion of the officer's time spent in preparation of *Perspective*.

4. Yes. A consultant provided advice and assistance in the preparation of the latest issue as part of his consultancy brief to assess departmental communication methods and recommend improvements. No monetary contribution was made specifically for his involvement with *Perspective*.

#### GREEN TRIANGLE

440. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. When will the report of the South Australian Economic Development Department and the Victorian State Development decentralisation Department into the green triangle region of South Australia be made public,



and when will the recommendations regarding the boost in tourism in that area be implemented?

2. What specific new activities will the Government promote to create the 50 to 100 new jobs a year as stated in March this year?

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

1. It is anticipated that the final South Australian and Victorian Green Triangle reports will be printed and released late this year (1978). Immediately following release of the reports, the South Australian report's recommendations regarding a tourist development programme in the area will be implemented.

2. The Government intends to adopt a tourist development strategy which provides an attractive climate for additional private sector investment. To act as a catalyst in this process, additional resources will be provided to expand promotional activities, and to upgrade public tourist facilities. In addition, feasibility studies are planned to examine the viability of developing new tourist attractions and the expansion of existing attractions.

#### CARAVAN PARKS COMMITTEE

441. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. When will I be informed of the final decision regarding the release of the report of the Correll Caravan Parks Standards Advisory Committee?

2. What recommendations had the committee made prior to the lodging of this report regarding permanent occupants of caravan parks and rates?

3. Is the committee still operating and, if so, who are the present members?

4. Have any changes been made in membership of the committee since its establishment and, if so, what were they and why were they made?

**The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS:** The replies are as follows:

1. The report of the Caravan Parks Standards Advisory Committee is presently being considered by the Government.

2. The committee has recommended:

- (i) that occupancy of individual sites in caravan parks should be for a maximum of six weeks, and
- (ii) that residence by a particular occupant in a particular caravan park should be for a maximum of six months in any one year.

It is further recommended that occupants of caravan parks in the Adelaide metropolitan area be required to leave a particular park for six weeks between six-week stays.

3. The committee is still operating and comprises:

Mr. E. G. Correll, Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport; Mr. R. D. Hand, Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport; Mr. S. J. Lapidge, Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport; Mr. M. Yard, S.A. Health Commission; Mr. N. McIntosh, Department of Housing, Urban and Regional Affairs; Mr. L. G. Lewis, Royal Automobile Association.

4. No.

#### TEACHERS

442. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. Is it intended that the A, B, C, and N categories of the staff allocation system will apply for the 1979 secondary school year and, if not, why not?

2. Is the system to apply for 1979 in any way different to that applying for 1978?

3. Is it intended that the system provides complete support for the Australian Teachers Federation class size

recommendation and, if not, why not and what will be the actual situation?

4. What policy has the department adopted for the placement and replacement of contract teachers in 1978?

5. Will the same policy apply for 1979 and, if not, why not and what are the variations?

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

1. The existing secondary staffing formula has been useful during the period of transition of many ex-technical schools to the present situation where almost all secondary schools are comprehensive, co-educational institutions. At the same time the staffing process has gone from almost open ended teacher recruitment in a period of teacher shortage to strictly controlled staff allocation in a period of teacher surplus. It has now been decided to modify the formula because of this and the fact that Principals have expressed several concerns about the formula over recent years. These include:

- (1) Teachers do not fall readily into one or other category but often could be placed in two or more.
- (2) The formula did not work well for small schools (less than 300) where the staffing was done more on advice from regional officers (approximately 40 per cent).
- (3) The formula presupposed specific class size variations and organisation within a school that are no longer as predictable as in the past.
- (4) All schools were receiving teachers under the negotiable component and indeed newer, flexibly planned schools were receiving a 10 per cent negotiable factor. This meant the basic formula was unrealistic.

2. A new formula is to be applied for 1979 consisting of a basic component which would provide many schools with their present staff—if applied a year ago—plus a negotiable factor for special needs. This formula will apply more meaningfully to small schools, it does not require the categorisation of staff nor does it presuppose that one school type should, of necessity, gain a staffing advantage over another. The new scheme has been discussed with Principals of both High Schools and Area Schools as well as S.A.I.T. The formula is pitched to maintain the present staffing level in terms of student/teacher ratios across the State.

3. The new system is not intended to provide complete support for the Australian Teachers Federation class size recommendation. The formula is merely to distribute teachers that are employable more equitably between schools. It has proved very difficult to determine the exact correlation between the Australian Teachers Federation staffing expectations for schools and the present situation in South Australia. The Teachers Federation recommendations relate to the teachers' time in class, whereas school staffing relates to how those teachers are used in the whole school situation.

About two years ago, a joint departmental and S.A.I.T. Committee looked at reconciling the Teachers Federation recommendations with the actual situation in schools. It was found at that time, after making a number of assumptions in areas where the Teachers Federation recommendations were not explicit, that the preponderance of State secondary schools could organise themselves within the existing quota of staff to comply with the Teachers Federation requirements. The precise staffing situation in secondary schools is currently being investigated with a survey undertaken by the Research and Planning section of the Education Department.

4. Once all offers of permanent employment had been made at the beginning of 1978, short-term vacancies of up

to a year's duration were then offered on merit, as determined during the employment procedures, to those people who wished to be considered for contract teaching. Where a person on a contract teaching appointment was offered subsequently a permanent appointment, the contract lapsed. That position was then offered to another teacher as a contract, for the unexpired time.

All teachers who received contract work during 1978 and who wished to be considered for permanent employment during 1979, are to go through the same employment processes as all other teachers seeking employment. The fact that they have been contract teachers will benefit them to the extent that they have gained experience and are able to produce references from the schools in which they taught during the year.

5. All people seeking employment for 1979, are being asked at this stage, to indicate whether it is for permanent positions only, or whether they would be prepared to accept contract appointments as well. Where a teacher has indicated that a contract appointment would be acceptable, that person will be chosen for such positions as become available, on merit. Decisions have yet to be made about whether permanent vacancies will be filled at more than one time during 1979.

#### NURIOOTPA PRIMARY SCHOOL

443. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. Were tenders called for the construction of the Nuriootpa Primary School and, if so, who were the tenderers?

2. If the school was not built by a tenderer, why not and who in fact built the school?

3. What was the estimated cost of construction approved by the Public Works Standing committee?

4. What was the final cost for construction and what was the reason for the amount, if any, above the estimate?

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

1. Public tenders were invited in April 1975 and only two tenders were received. The successful tenderer was C. O. Yuncken Pty. Ltd.

It is not normal practice to disclose the names of unsuccessful tenderers.

2. The school was built by a tenderer, C. O. Yuncken Pty. Ltd.

3. \$840 000. This was an estimate made on 10 August 1973 and recommended by the Public Works Standing Committee on 8 February 1974.

4. The final cost was \$1 280 000. There were no building problems and the additional cost was entirely escalation. Although approval for the project was recommended in February 1974, practical completion did not occur until October 1976. The problems of funding replacement schools retarded the tender call until April 1975. \$1 315 000 was therefore sought to cover the anticipated escalation to the completion of the project and the final cost of \$1 280 000 therefore represents a saving of \$35 000 on the estimated escalated cost.

#### ACTS INTERPRETATION ACT

444. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. On how many occasions after enactment in 1975 was section 52 of the Acts Interpretation Act utilised and what are the details of each variation effected?

2. Have any alterations been challenged and, if so, which alterations and what are the details?

3. What publicity was provided for the alterations, if

any, and has any attempt been made to measure the effectiveness of such publicity?

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** The replies are as follows:

1. Nil.

2. and 3. Not applicable.

#### ABORIGINAL AND HISTORIC RELICS

445. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. How many field officers are employed in the Aboriginal and Historic Relics Division of the Environment Department?

2. How many days in the field have these officers spent mapping and noting Aboriginal and historic relics in the past 12 months?

3. What percentage of the officers' time is actually spent in field work?

4. What proportion of field work is carried out by consultants and visiting students?

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

1. As at 29 August 1978 two officers, whose duties are predominantly field oriented, were employed in the Aboriginal and Historic Relics Unit, through grants received from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies. Seven other officers whose duties involve some field activity were also associated with the Unit. These include two permanent staff and five other officers employed through Commonwealth Government grants.

2. A total of 226 days in the field was recorded during the period, of which 75 were recorded by the two officers employed through grants received from the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies.

3. Varies between 11 per cent and 26 per cent.

4. During the past twelve months one Consultant and one visiting student conducted field investigations on behalf of the Relics Unit. This represented 13.4 per cent of total field work time recorded for officers in the unit.

#### APPRENTICES

446. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. How many apprentices were taken on by Government instrumentalities in Murray Bridge in the last 12 months?

2. How many apprentices were taken on by Government instrumentalities in South Australia in the past 12 months?

3. Does the Government have any plans to employ apprentices in Murray Bridge and, if so what are they and, if not, why not?

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

1. Two apprentices were taken on by Government instrumentalities in Murray Bridge in last 12 months, both by Highways Department:

1 motor mechanic

1 motor mechanic (diesel)

2. Apprentices taken on by Government instrumentalities in South Australia in last 12 months.

State Government . . . . . 162

Federal Government . . . . . 89

Statutory Authorities . . . . . 60

311

3. Firm plans for the employment of apprentices in Murray Bridge are not known at this stage.

## SPORTS COMPLEX

447. **Mr. DEAN BROWN** (on notice): Has the Government made a grant, loan, or financial guarantee towards the construction and/or operation of the sports and health complex now under construction on the corner of Payneham Road and Portrush Road and, if so, what is the nature and extent of the financial assistance and on what basis has it been made?

**The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS:** Pulteney Management Pty. Ltd., the owners of the site in question have been assisted to construct the sports and health complex mentioned by the honourable member, through the provision of a Government guarantee. This assistance was provided under the Industries Development Act on the recommendation of the Industrial Development Committee, after satisfying the requirements of the Act. The Government does not believe it is free to release details of the assistance provided without the specific approval of the recipient.

## DRIVING OFFENCES

448. **Mr. MATHWIN** (on notice:)

1. How many prosecutions for the offence of driving under the influence were made in the years 1970 to 1977, respectively?

2. How many of those prosecutions involved death or serious injury, respectively?

3. What percentage of those prosecutions were in respect of drivers:

(a) over the age of 18 years; and

(b) under the age of 18 years?

**The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS:** The replies are as follows:

1. The following conviction resulted from the offence of "driving under the influence":

Year ended 30 June	No.
1970.....	1 813
1971.....	1 800
1972.....	2 269
1973.....	1 930
1974.....	1 832
1975.....	2 365
1976.....	2 249
1977.....	1 844

2. Statistics in respect of the number of prosecutions for this offence involving death or serious injury are not maintained. It would be a mammoth task to check each individual case over the eight years to ascertain the information requested.

3. Again, statistics to enable calculation of the percentages of drivers over and under the age of 18 years prosecuted for "driving under the influence" are not readily available. An estimated 10-14 man working days would be involved in extracting the figures.

## COORONG

449. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice:): Is it proposed to change the policy relating to the licensing of nets for amateur fishermen within the perimeter of the Coorong National Park and, if so, what are these changes to be and when are they to come into effect?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** No.

## SEAFORTH HOME

450. **Mr. MATHWIN** (on notice):

1. How many male and female inmates, respectively, are at present residing at Seaforth Home, Somerton?

2. How many of those inmates are under care and control orders of the Minister of Community Welfare or the Community Welfare Department?

3. Have any of those inmates been transferred from other State institutions and, if so, how many males and females, respectively, have been transferred from each, and which, institution?

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

1. On 24 August 1978 there were 24 male and 12 female residents at the Seaforth complex, Somerton.

2. 34.

3. Six males were placed at Seaforth following periods of remand at Brookway Park. One male was transferred from Strathmont.

## TOILET FACILITIES

451. **Mrs. ADAMSON** (on notice): Have alterations been undertaken, or are there any plans for alterations to be undertaken, to or in association with the Minister's office in the form of installing toilet facilities and, if so, what is the cost or estimated cost of these alterations and why were they considered necessary?

**The Hon. J. D. WRIGHT:** The Department of Labour and Industry is housed on the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th levels of Adelaide House and for some years the accommodation, particularly on the 15th level, has been regarded as totally inadequate. Alterations in accommodation have been completed on each of the other three floors. The 15th level houses the Minister of Labour and Industry, his personal staff, the Director, Deputy Director, two Assistant Directors and the research branch of the department, as well as conference room facilities necessary for the proper conduct of the Department's work. As an alternative to seeking totally new accommodation for the Department outside of Adelaide House (which cost, of course, would far exceed the amount now to be spent) it was decided to make appropriate alterations to the 15th level in order that better accommodation could be provided for those required to work on that level. The alterations are at present being undertaken, the final cost is not known but is expected to be approximately \$49 000. The alterations include toilet facilities.

## EDUCATIONAL PLANNING

452. **Mrs. ADAMSON** (on notice):

1. What action, if any, has the Minister taken to institute the major reappraisal, regarded as necessary by the South Australian Council for Educational Planning and Research in its second annual report, with regard to plans for

(a) the provision of teachers and educational services, particularly in the areas of permanent construction;

(b) the re-use of empty buildings;

(c) the number of teachers employed and their terms of employment; and

(d) facilities for training new teachers?

2. What provision, if any, has been made for the participation by teachers, parent organisations, employers and staff of tertiary institutions in such a reappraisal?

3. When are the major recommendations of the reappraisal expected to be presented and will interim reports and recommendations be made available for public discussion and comment?

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** I would point out to the Honourable Member that the view that a major reappraisal with regard to plans for the provision of teachers and educational services is necessary, as stated in the second Annual Report of the S.A. Council for Educational Planning and Research, has not come to me from that body as a formal recommendation.

This is not to say that I am unaware of the probability of declines in primary and secondary school enrolments in South Australia in the years ahead as described in the report, or that I consider that no review of plans for the provision of teachers and educational services is necessary.

However, I believe that such a review has already been in progress for some considerable time and has already resulted in a number of variations in policy and practice. The range of issues is so diverse and the requirement for them of such an on-going character that I do not believe that the appropriate mechanism for dealing with them is to set up a single appraisal study under the control of a single committee or section of my administration, leading to a single comprehensive report as the Honourable Member seems to assume. I am confident that action on such a limited basis was not intended by the report of the Council.

1. (a) It must not be supposed that static or declining enrolments warrant a proportional reduction in the extent of teachers and educational services. Enrolment declines are spread across a large number of schools in any one of which the decline is likely to be quite small, and such as would not require a reduction in the facilities or staffing provided for the school. Moreover such action would assume that the present level of provision of teachers and services is adequate. I believe that there are many schools in which the provision of new or upgraded facilities is desirable, as funds permit, to replace buildings which are old or which were provided in a form intended to be temporary in a time of emergency.

Similarly, I believe there is scope for improvement in the level of provision of staffing, in primary schools at least, to allow amongst other things for the extension of non-teaching time. It is regrettable that present funds available to the State Government by virtue of the Federal Government's cut backs in the funding of Government schools do not permit progress in the achievement of these goals to the extent that is desirable.

Moreover, it must be appreciated that while the population may be static, its location is not. New residential areas are developing, and in line with the firm view that schools are community facilities and should be located in the communities they serve, the provision of new schools is a continuing necessity. However, the rate of such development has slowed. This is reflected in the planning of the Education Department in which projected opening dates for a number of new schools have recently been postponed. In addition, it is increasingly common practice to plan new schools on the basis of permanent construction for an ultimately stable enrolment which can be predicted with confidence with any additional accommodation required for the period of peak enrolments being provided in prefabricated and relocatable form.

The use by the Education Department of temporary structures such as prefabricated aluminium rooms and timber rooms is steadily being reduced. Such prefabricated accommodation as is continuing to be provided is in the exemplary DEMAC form developed by the Public

Buildings Department which is suitable if necessary for permanent use.

A number of schools have, in the past, had less than the desirable range of facilities to allow them to conduct comprehensive educational programmes in appropriate accommodation and to take account of more recent policies in educational technique such as the use of library/resource centres.

(b) For the reasons given above the extent to which empty buildings can be expected to arise is not as great as might be supposed. However, it can be expected that some school closures will continue to occur in the future as they have in the past. Such buildings are converted to other educational uses such as camp sites (in the case of country schools), community uses, or use by the Department of Further Education. Provision for community use of school buildings is constantly increasing, and occurs in existing schools where some but not all accommodation becomes surplus, as well as in schools which are closed. One common example of such community use is in the development of child/parent centres.

(c) The present situation of teacher over-supply must not be assumed to be a consequence of static or declining enrolments. It is more than anything else a consequence of the depressed economic situation which has emerged under the present Federal Government.

Responses to the situation can be made in respect of the terms of employment of teachers and a large number of initiative are presently being explored in this respect. For example, the concept of part-time employment is being encouraged and expanded, more generous provisions for all forms of leave without pay are being made, and options for early retirement are being developed.

(d) Another response to teacher over-supply is to reduce the numbers of persons in training for teaching employment. This issue has been examined by the Committee of Inquiry Into Post Secondary Education in South Australia which has recently reported to me. It has recommended reduced intake quotas in teacher training courses. Quotas were reduced in 1978 and will be further reduced in 1979 in line with the Committee's recommendations.

However, action in this regard is being tempered by having regard to the desirability of allowing qualified persons who wish to undertake post secondary education through courses offered by institutions concerned with teacher training the opportunity to do so.

It must not be overlooked that the projections of future school enrolments are to some degree speculative especially at the remote dates referred to in the Council's report such as those in the twenty-first Century, and may be affected significantly even in the shorter term by changes in such factors as the extent of migration. The Honourable Member will be aware that the Committee has recommended the mergers of some colleges of advanced education in the State and these mergers are presently being negotiated.

2. Extensive consultation by officers of the Department with teachers through the South Australian Institute of Teachers on all issues of mutual concern is normal practice. The same could be said with respect to parent organisations, employers and the staff of tertiary institutions. These do not normally occur in the context of a single major reappraisal embracing all of the issues identified in the Honourable Member's question, nor do I believe that it would be practicable to do so.

3. Since the issues of concern are so diverse and of an on-going nature, it is not anticipated that a single once only major reappraisal exercise should be undertaken. The specific issues are made public in a variety of ways to

appropriate audiences from time to time as policy variations are developed. It must be appreciated that some of the issues raised by the Honourable Member's question have only local significance.

In respect to the issues of concern I am confident that the staff of the Education Department are alert to the trends for the future and their implications, and are able, as the appropriate body, to determine suitable responses without the intervention of the Council for Educational Planning and Research in detailed planning.

Such action by departmental officers is taken on the basis of very wide consultation with other Government Departments and community groups.

#### HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT

453. **Mrs. ADAMSON** (on notice): Which administrative requirements and submissions for approval, as required by the Commonwealth Government, are considered by the Highways Department to be unnecessary, as claimed in the Commissioner's report for the year 1977, and what are the reasons to justify this claim?

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO**: The Commonwealth legislation covering grants for road purposes allocates funds to an excessive number of categories. Some of these categories are ill-defined and some projects may qualify for funding from more than one category. The Commonwealth's basis of apportioning grants between categories is obscure and is certainly not consistent with the State's perception of overall needs and priorities. The legislation therefore imposes constraints on the deployment of resources and the allocation of priorities and, in so doing, necessitates additional administrative expense in ensuring that the Commonwealth requirements are met.

Programmes for each category must be submitted to the Commonwealth for approval. For all expenditure categories except urban local and rural local roads, detailed information concerning project identification, location, size, description, total cost, proposed expenditure for the year, progress, etc. must be supplied. In addition, and depending upon rather arbitrary rules, detailed planning reports are demanded for the major projects. All submissions consist of five copies of each programme plus maps showing the location of all projects.

The submissions for the urban local and rural local road programmes consist simply of a long list of proposed allocation to the Highways Department and to each local government authority (that is, they do not contain information about individual projects). All submissions are "checked" by Commonwealth officers totally unfamiliar with the numerous factors which must be considered by the State in formulating its total roads programme. Commonwealth officers periodically visit the Highways Department for superficial discussions about the submissions. Alterations to programmes have been few and then only of minor significance.

Thus, whilst the need for a national policy on roads and for Commonwealth participation in strategic planning is acknowledged, the involvement of the Commonwealth in matters of details contributes nothing to the development and maintenance of the State's road system. It simply represents what is considered to be a significant waste of administrative effort by both Commonwealth and State.

#### EX GRATIA PAYMENTS

454. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. What was the total of *ex gratia* payments made to polling staff for the 17 September 1977 elections?
2. What other *ex gratia* payments has Cabinet

authorised in this and any other area in the period from 1 July 1970 and what are the details in each case?

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN**: The replies are as follows:

1. Total *ex gratia* payments to Returning Officers and polling staff for the election held on 17 September 1977 were \$167 000.

2. To supply the information sought would require research work of an unreasonable amount. The information required is recorded in files in individual submissions made to Cabinet in order to assess the justification for payment. Following Cabinet approval, the file is returned to the responsible Minister's office, and payment is made by the department concerned. It would therefore be difficult to extract the details sought. In any case, some of the payments are made on humanitarian grounds and are of a personal character. They cover such matters as:

- (1) Payment to the widow of an Engineering and Water Supply Department employee for eleven and a quarter calendar days long service leave.
- (2) Payment to parties to a civil action heard by a Judge who died before his judgement was given.
- (3) Defence costs in an action alleging assault by Police Officers.
- (4) Damage to motor vehicle by a concrete pipe which rolled from the grounds of a State School.

Such payments are dealt with in the normal accounting systems and the Auditor-General and his staff have full access to the relevant files: no doubt if the Auditor-General considered any payments were improperly made he would report accordingly.

#### NATIONAL PARKS

455. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice):

1. Does the National Parks and Wildlife Division have any plans to carry out strip burning as a part of bushfire control in parks under its control and if not, will it give serious consideration to immediately implementing a burning-off program so as to assist in the control of bushfires and to provide regenerated feed for native animals living in the parks?

2. Has the division any plans to construct dams to provide water for the native animals and, if so, will they allow councils to take rubble from the parks so that pits from which the rubble was removed could act as catchment areas?

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

1. No. The matter is under review.
2. No.

#### COOBER PEDY WATER SUPPLY

456. **Mr. GUNN** (on notice):

1. Has the consultant's report into the water situation at Coober Pedy been completed and, if so, what action has the Government already taken on the matter?

2. Will the Minister release copies of the report to the Coober Pedy Miner's and Progress Association and to the member for Eyre?

3. What action does the Government intend taking in relation to improving the supply and services at Coober Pedy following the consultant's report?

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

1. Yes. The report is currently being considered.
2. No consideration will be given to releasing the report until such time as it has been fully analysed by the Government.

3. Any action would depend on the acceptance or otherwise of recommendations made and also on the availability of finance.

#### CLELAND CONSERVATION PARK

457. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. What progress has been made at Cleland Conservation Park since April of this year?
2. Is the Visitor Centre now open and, if so, what displays are housed therein and, if not, why not?
3. What progress has been made relating to the new water bore and reticulation system?
4. What species of native animals and how many of each are kept at Cleland at present and how does this information compare with this time last year?

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

1. Car park sealed and landscaping completed. Landscaping of area around Visitor Centre. New wombat enclosure nearing completion. New bulk silo for feed obtained. New entrance way under construction.
2. Yes. A herpetology display including live reptiles and relevant photographic and information material.
3. The new bore is in operation. Plans for a major new reticulation system have been prepared.
4. Figures at the June Quarter 1978 are:

Rainbow Lorikeet . . . . .	7
Musk Lorikeet . . . . .	2
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo . . . . .	2
Red-rumped Parrot . . . . .	2
Crimson Rosella . . . . .	1
Adelaide Rosella . . . . .	3
Eastern Rosella . . . . .	1
Crested Pigeon . . . . .	3
Wonga Pigeon . . . . .	2
Grass Whistle Duck . . . . .	7
Mountain Duck . . . . .	15
Black Duck . . . . .	32
Wood Duck . . . . .	16
Magpie Goose . . . . .	1
Cape Barren Goose . . . . .	19
Black Swan . . . . .	7
Grey Teal . . . . .	10
Pelican . . . . .	7
Darter . . . . .	1
Black Cormorants . . . . .	17
Pied Cormorants . . . . .	12
Little Pied Cormorants . . . . .	9
Black-faced Cormorants . . . . .	6
White Ibis . . . . .	3
Royal Spoonbill . . . . .	2
Emu . . . . .	5
Black-tailed native Hen . . . . .	24
Tasmanian native Hen . . . . .	8
Eastern Swamp Hen . . . . .	8
Silver Gull . . . . .	4
Tawny Frogmouth . . . . .	2
Kookaburra . . . . .	3
Noisy Minor . . . . .	1
Murry Magpie . . . . .	1
Red Kangaroo . . . . .	48
Euro—(Wallaroo) . . . . .	16
Western Grey Kangaroo . . . . .	31
Kangaroo Island Kangaroo . . . . .	17
Eastern Grey Kangaroo . . . . .	20
Red-necked Wallaby . . . . .	12
Swamp Wallaby . . . . .	24
Dama Wallaby . . . . .	40
Hairy-nosed Wombat . . . . .	5
Koala . . . . .	7

Spinifex Hopping Mouse . . . . . 4  
Detailed records were not maintained twelve months ago. However, the total number of animals is now considered to be at the same or higher levels.

#### HILLS LIAISON UNIT

458. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. When was the Liaison Unit, made up of Government agencies having an interest in the Adelaide Hills, established?
2. What are the objectives of this unit?
3. Who are the members of this unit and what departments or agencies do they represent?
4. How many times has this unit met since its establishment?
5. How many times has the unit made contact with a regional organisation of the councils involved?
6. Does the unit intend meeting with these councils in future and, if so, when?

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

1. Cabinet approved the formation of the Adelaide Hills Liaison Unit in January 1978 and the first meeting of the group was held on 18 May 1978.
2. (a) To clarify State Government planning and development objectives and priorities in the Adelaide Hills.
- (b) To establish in conjunction with local government, more detailed policies in relation to the planning and management of the Hills.
- (c) To review existing development control policies with the aim of assisting councils to prepare comprehensive planning manuals.

3. Nominee	Department/Agency
R. M. Baker . . . . .	Agriculture and Fisheries
M. Kidnie . . . . .	Community Welfare
B. J. T. Graham . . . . .	Country Fire Services
L. Owens . . . . .	Economic Development
H. L. Fitzgerald . . . . .	Education
J. Hoepner . . . . .	Electricity Trust of S.A.
R. M. Jones . . . . .	Engineering & Water Supply
D. J. Lane . . . . .	Engineering & Water Supply
J. A. Lothian . . . . .	Environment
R. M. Scholefield . . . . .	Further Education
J. A. Fotheringham . . . . .	Highways
A. F. deCaux . . . . .	Lands (Land Resource Management)
G. J. Kingham . . . . .	Lands (Valuer-General's)
R. G. Lewis . . . . .	Local Government Office
M. N. Hiern . . . . .	Mines & Energy
J. H. Sykes . . . . .	Police
D. R. Russ . . . . .	S.A. Gas Company
J. Cooper . . . . .	S.A. Health Commission
D. Hawkins . . . . .	S.A. Housing Trust
P. Callahan . . . . .	Tourism, Recreation & Sport
K. J. Thomas . . . . .	State Transport Authority
P. Keal . . . . .	Transport
K. W. E. Vear . . . . .	Woods and Forests
D. Hume (Chairman) . . . . .	Housing, Urban & Regional Affairs
D. Petherick (Secretary) . . . . .	Housing, Urban & Regional Affairs

4. Twice (18 May 1978 and 20 July 1978).
5. Formation of the regional organisation of councils has not been completed. However, the Chairman of the unit has made contact with individual councils proposed to comprise the regional organisation on numerous occasions.
6. It is intended to hold meetings with the regional organisation after its formation procedures have been completed.

**ROAD WORKS**

459. **Mr. RUSSACK** (on notice):

1. What were the individual amounts for road works, allocated to local government and the Highways Department, for each of the following categories, for the year 1977-78:

- (a) urban local roads;
- (b) urban arterial roads;
- (c) rural local roads; and
- (d) rural arterial roads?

2. What are the roads on which the money was spent, and the cost of each individual road, for work carried out by:

- (a) local government; and
- (b) the Highways Department?

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

	Local Govt. Expenditure \$	Highways Dept. Expenditure \$
(a) Urban Local . . . . .	2 120 682	526 771
(b) Urban Arterial . . . . .	10 555	13 161 474
(c) Rural Local . . . . .	2 942 953	5 256 452
(d) Rural Arterial . . . . .	997 833	17 601 867

2. These funds were spent on many hundreds of roads throughout the State. Several day's work would be required to research the information sought and the undertaking of such a task is not considered to be justified.

**FILM CORPORATION**

460. **Dr. EASTICK** (on notice):

1. What premises does the South Australian Film Corporation now rent or own and where are they situated?

2. Where premises are rented, who owns them and what is the current rental?

3. What has been the telephone accounts for each completed charge period for each of the premises from the corporation's commencement?

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

- 1. (a) Head Office: 64 Fullarton Road, Norwood.
- (b) Production facilities: 230 Parade, Norwood.
- (c) Film Library: 164 O'Connell Street, North Adelaide.

- 2. (a) Gorizia Investments Pty. Ltd., 209 Hutt Street, Adelaide . . . . . 2 041-66 p.m.
- (b) The Greater Union Organisation Pty. Ltd., 163 Halifax Street, Adelaide . . . . . 1 653-10 p.m.
- (c) City Buildings Pty. Ltd., subsidiary of Adelaide Development Co. Pty. Ltd., 53a Grenfell Street, Adelaide . . . . . 1 106-25 p.m.

3. The honourable member asked for and was given information in October 1974 about telephone costs necessarily incurred by the South Australian Film Corporation. To provide such detailed information again, for the entire period of the Corporation's existence, would involve considerable effort and cost.

The honourable member should be aware that the corporation conducts considerable volume of interstate and overseas business in the national and international promotion of its productions and this with a degree of success which should be known to the honourable member. A substantial part of these telephone costs is incurred by production units set up to produce feature films. These costs are met out of the production budget

and shared by all investors in each production.

With my approval, the corporation has provided, therefore, quarterly totals of telephone rentals and calls for the financial year 1977-78 only. They are as follows:

	July- Sept. 1977	Oct.- Dec. 1977	Jan.- Mar. 1978	Apr.- June 1978	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
64 Fullarton Road, Norwood . . . . .	8 135	8 842	5 792	9 671	32 440
230 Parade, Nor- wood . . . . .	2 717	1 252	4 696	3 330	11 995
164 O'Connell Street, North Adelaide . . . . .	2 829	1 940	1 557	1 847	8 173
	13 681	12 034	12 045	14 848	52 608
Less recovered from Productions	4 199	2 487	5 996	4 521	17 203
<b>NETT . . . . .</b>	<b>9 482</b>	<b>9 547</b>	<b>6 049</b>	<b>10 327</b>	<b>35 405</b>

**HOSPITAL BOARDS**

461. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. What restrictions on the power of the boards with regard to

- (a) the spending of money; and
- (b) the employment of staff

are contained in the proposed constitutions, pursuant to section 27(2) of the South Australian Health Commission Act, for the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, respectively?

- 2. What is the reason for these restrictions?
- 3. Are the persons who are to compose the respective boards agreeable to such restrictions and, if not, why not?
- 4. What action, if any, is the Government taking in the matter?

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

1. (a) Within the proposed constitutions the restrictions on the powers of the boards of both the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital relating to the spending of money are only stated in general terms but the intention is that these hospitals will be expected to operate within the limitations and restrictions of the Medibank Agreement.

(b) The restrictions on the employment of staff are contained in the requirements of Sections 30 and 36 of the South Australian Health Commission Act. In particular; Section 30 (1): The board of an incorporated hospital may appoint upon terms and conditions fixed by the Commission and approved by the Public Service Board such officers and employees as it thinks necessary or desirable for the proper administration of the hospital.

(2): An officer or employee shall not be appointed under subsection (1) of this section unless provision for the appointment of such an officer or employee has been made in a staffing plan submitted to, and approved by, the Commission.

2. The Medibank Agreement excludes certain types of expenditure of cost sharing purposes unless specifically approved by both Federal and State Ministers of Health. Accordingly, these financial restrictions will need to apply

to these hospitals.

The reason for the submission of a staffing plan each year is that the commission needs to be able to monitor and contain staffing levels within hospitals to ensure an equitable distribution of available funds between the various incorporated hospitals and health centres.

3. The proposed boards of management have not yet been appointed by the existing boards at both the hospitals mentioned have accepted the above restrictions as being reasonable and necessary.

4. See 3.

#### DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE

462. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice): Did the Director of Agriculture make a trip overseas at about the same time as the Premier's last trip overseas and, if so:

- (a) when was he away;
- (b) what was the purpose of the trip and was that purpose achieved; and
- (c) what was the total cost to the Government and how was it made up?

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

(a) The Director of Agriculture and Fisheries visited the Middle East/North African regions between 10 April and 7 June, 1978.

(b) To discuss with officials of Middle East and North African countries interested in expanding their agriculture, the advantages offered by South Australian dryland farming systems and to assess the possible involvement of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries in aiding such expansion.

The Director also reviewed the operations of the South Australian demonstration farm in Libya and followed-up contractual arrangements for proposed projects in certain other countries. His itinerary was more extensive than the Premiers' and took more time in the area.

	\$
(c) Fares .....	2 751
Accommodation, living costs and incidentals .....	3 000
	<hr/>
Total .....	5 751
	<hr/>

#### FIREARMS ACT

463. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. Does the Chief Secretary propose to answer my letter to him in June 1978 about the draft regulations under the Firearms Act and, if so, when and why has he not already answered it?

2. When is it now anticipated that regulations will be made under the Firearms Act?

**The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS:** The replies are as follows:

1. The question raised in the honourable member's letter of June 1978 had already been answered in the Acting Chief Secretary's letter to him of 16 May 1978 enclosing a copy of the latter's letter to the National Council of Women. A further letter would be warranted if there was any alteration to the information previously supplied.

2. At about the time referred to in the Hon. D. H. L. Banfield's letter of 11 May 1978 to the National Council of Women.

#### AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT

464. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. What alterations in the accommodation in the Grenfell Centre for the Agriculture and Fisheries Department have recently been made and why have they been made?

2. Is it proposed to make any further alterations and, if so, what are they?

3. What is the cost so far of such alterations and how is that cost made up?

4. What is the total estimated cost of such alterations and how is that estimate made up?

5. When did the Agriculture and Fisheries Department first occupy accommodation in the Grenfell Centre?

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

1. Provision of partitioning to enable consolidation of accommodation following the formation of the present Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

2. No.

3. \$133 146.

	\$
Building contracts, partitioning, electrical, mechanical, fire services, etc. ....	17 800
Furniture and equipment .....	96 000
Design and supervision .....	19 346

4. \$541 000.

	\$
Building, electrical, mechanical, fire services, and telephone .....	272 000
Furniture and equipment .....	208 000
Design, supervision and contingency ...	60 000

5. January 1976.

#### CRISIS CARE SERVICE

465. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice): What is the average cost to the Crisis Care Service of the action taken as the result of a telephone call to it and how is that cost made up?

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** The average cost in 1977-78 was \$6.13 made up of \$5.55 for salaries and 58 cents for other costs.

#### STATE OPERA

466. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. Who are the members of the Board of Management of the State Opera of South Australia?

2. Are they paid for their services and, if so, in the case of each, how much?

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

1. Mr. H. Cunningham, (Chairman); Mr. R. A. Brown; R. J. D. Coogan; Mr. T. A. Hodgson; Mr. D. A. Keane; Rev. P. G. Osborn; Mr. Q. A. Young.

2. No.

467. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice): What was the financial assistance, if any, from Federal Government sources, for the year ended 30 June 1978 to the State Opera of South Australia?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** From the Music Board of the Australia Council a general purpose grant of \$60 937, plus a special purpose grant of \$5 000. Total sum received, \$65 937.

468. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. What was the total cost to the State Opera of South Australia of the trip overseas, late in 1977, of Mr. Ian Campbell and how was that total made up?



2. What position does Mr. Campbell hold?
3. What were the benefits, if any, to the State Opera, of Mr. Campbell's trip?

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

1. \$1 250. Contribution towards per diem expenses.
2. General Manager, The State Opera of South Australia.
3. During his overseas trip, which was taken as part of his annual leave, Mr. Campbell attended opera performances in Munich, Stuttgart, Heidelberg, Hamburg, London, Glasgow and New York. He met with theatre managers in each of these cities and auditioned Australian singers in Munich, Heidelberg, London and Glasgow. He interviewed an Australian conductor in Stuttgart with a view to his returning to Australia to work with The State Opera of South Australia. In London, Mr. Campbell met with artists' agents to discuss further engagements of singers for The State Opera. Mr. Campbell had meetings with Sir Michael Tippett and his agent concerning the composer's visit to the 1978 Adelaide Festival of Arts. In New York Mr. Campbell attended the Opera America Conference. Mr. Campbell completed arrangements for the engagement of several artists, established necessary overseas contacts on behalf of the company and improved his knowledge and experience through contact with European and American opera managers and theatres.

**MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE**

469. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice): What was the expenditure in the line "Premier—Miscellaneous" for the year ended 30 June 1978 and how was that expenditure made up?

**The Hon D. A. DUNSTAN:** This information is included in Statement A of the Treasurer's Statements and Accounts which will be published in Part VIII of the Auditor-General's Report. I understand the Report will be available shortly.

470. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice): What was the total of the salary and other emoluments of the musical director of the State Opera of South Australia for the year ended 30 June 1978 and how was that total made up?

**The Hon D. A. DUNSTAN:** Total sum \$20 407, made up of:

	\$
Salary .....	15 018
Entertaining allowance .....	250
Travel and living allowance .....	2 650
Other fees .....	370
Airfare .....	1 098
Superannuation .....	1 021
	\$20 407

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT**

471. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. What is the job specification for the position in the Education Department, senior to the of Director, Administration and Finance, created on 24 March 1978?

2. What is the job specification for the position of Director, Administration and Finance in the Education Department?

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

1. To be responsible to the Deputy Director-General (Resources) for the management of the administrative financial and management services functions of the

Education Department.

2. The current job specification for the Director, Administration and finance is the same as that for the new position. However, the job specification for the current position of Director, Administration and Finance will be revised after the new position of Director, Education Department has been filled.

**DRUGS**

472. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. Upon what was the sum of \$268 400, being the amount expended in connection with the Royal Commission in to the Non-Medical use of Drugs for the 9 months to 31 March 1978 spent?

2. What is the total sum spent by that Royal Commission so far and how is it made up?

3. What is the estimated total cost of the Royal Commission?

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

1.		Expenditure for 9 months to 31 March 1978 \$
	Advertising and printing .....	4 622.34
	Miscellaneous .....	6 596.66
	Research projects .....	30 618.60
	Muirhead—Fees and expenses .....	54 421.44
	Entertainment .....	293.55
	Equipment .....	2 160.36
	Library—books, subscriptions, etc. ...	1 152.05
	Office supplies .....	9 126.99
	Travelling and accommodation .....	14 961.77
	Members fees .....	10 644.51
	Salaries .....	133 801.65
	Total .....	\$268 399.92

2.		Total Expenditure to 31 August 1978 \$
	Advertising and printing .....	17 660.69
	Miscellaneous .....	10 162.06
	Research projects .....	76 993.83
	Muirhead—fees and expenses .....	106 594.39
	Entertainment .....	903.49
	Equipment .....	3 047.06
	Library—books, subscriptions, etc. ...	5 070.49
	Office supplies .....	19 794.09
	Legal fees .....	9 234.40
	Travelling and accommodation .....	27 793.38
	Members fees .....	32 823.51
	Salaries .....	209 045.06
	Total .....	\$519 122.45

473. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. Upon what was the grant of \$334 000 to the State Opera of South Australia for the 9 months to the 31 March 1978 spent?

2. What was the total grant to the State Opera for the year ended 30 June 1978 and how was that spent?

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

1. The grant was used towards meeting the operating expenditure requirements of the State Opera of South Australia in accordance with an approved income and

expenditure budget.

2. (a) Total Government grant 1977-78—\$505 000.
- (b) As for question 1.

#### JAM FACTORY

474. Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. Upon what was the grant of \$457 500 to the Jam Factory workshops for the 9 months to 31 March 1978 spent?

2. What was the total grant to the Jam Factory workshops for the year ended 30 June 1978 and how was it spent?

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

1. The grant was used towards meeting both operating and capital expenditure requirements of the Jam factory Workshops Incorporated, in accordance with approved budgets.

2. (a) Total Government grant 1977-78—\$585 000.
- (b) As for question 1.

#### FILM CORPORATION

475. Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. What was the reason for the increase of \$63 187 in the grant to the South Australian Film Corporation for the producing of films for the nine months ended 31 March 1978 compared with the corresponding nine months to 31 March 1977?

2. Upon what was each grant for those periods spent?

3. What were the total grants to the corporation for the production of films for the years ended 30 June 1977 and 1978 respectively?

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

1. The increase in payments for the nine months ended 31 March 1978 was due to:

- (a) an increase in the annual Government allocation approved for 1977-78 as compared with that for 1976-77,

and

- (b) an increase in value of Film Corporation invoices paid for the production of films and film scripts for the nine months to 31 March 1978 as compared with the corresponding period to 31 March 1977.

2. Each amount was used for the payment of film scripts and the production of films for various State Government departments in accordance with approved schedules of film requests.

3. Total Government payments were:

	\$
1977-78 .....	666 886.77
1976-77 .....	616 522.09

#### THEATRE COMPANY

476. Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. What was the reason for the increase of \$177 000 in the grant to the South Australian Theatre Company for the nine months ended 31 March 1978 compared with the corresponding nine months to 31 March 1977?

2. Upon what was each grant for those periods spent?

3. What were the total grants to the company for the years ended 30 June 1977 and 1978 respectively?

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

1. The increase in payments for the nine months ended 31 March 1978 was due to an increase in the annual basic

Government grant approved for 1977-78 as compared with that for 1976-77.

2. Each grant was used towards meeting the operating expenditure of the South Australian Theatre Company in accordance with approved income and expenditure budgets.

3. Total Government grant:

	\$
1977-78 .....	850 000
1976-77 .....	646 931

#### ROYAL SHOW

478. Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): What has been the total cost of the Government Royal Show pavilion and how is that cost made up?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The actual cost for producing the 1978 Royal Adelaide Show exhibition will not be available until such time as final accounts for the many components have been received. The concept this year differs greatly from the static display which was installed last year. The theme of this year's display is "The Government of SA supports the Arts" and we are producing a more active exhibition using professional actors, musicians and sophisticated audio-visual equipment. A budget of \$50 000 has been provisionally approved and it is expected that it will be made up as under:

	\$
Production of live entertainment including hire and setting up tent .....	22 600
Handout folder .....	5 000
Commissioning of photography for audio visual .....	2 500
Production of audio-visual presentation including music .....	6 400
Hire of security and extra staff .....	1 500
Dress interior of pavilion .....	8 000
	46 000

#### FESTIVAL CENTRE

479. Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. What was the reason for the increase of \$603 000 in the grant to the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust for the 9 months ended 31 March 1978 compared corresponding 9 months to 31 March 1977?

2. Upon what was each grant for those periods spent?

3. What were the total grants to the trust for the years ended 30 June 1977 and 1978 respectively?

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

1. The increase in payments for the nine months ended 31-7-78 was due to:

- (a) An increase in the annual basic Government grant approved for 1977-78 as compared with that for 1976-77.
- (b) An increase in the annual Government grant for entrepreneurial activities approved for 1977-78 as compared with that for 1976-77.
- (c) Provision of a new annual grant for capital equipment replacements approved for 1977-78.

2. The basic Government grants paid were used towards meeting the operational expenditure requirements of the Adelaide Festival Centre Trust in accordance with approved income and expenditure budgets. The

entrepreneurial grants paid were used to reimburse the trust for losses incurred from entrepreneurial activities and for undertaking community arts and craft gallery activities. The capital equipment replacement grants were used to replace various approved items of equipment which had become unserviceable.

3.	Year ended	Year ended
	30 June 1977	30 June 1978
	\$	\$
Basic Government Grant . .	1 150 000	1 826 877
Entrepreneurial Grant . . . .	200 000	236 000
Capital Equipment Replacements Grant . . . .	—	75 000
	<u>1 350 000</u>	<u>2 137 877</u>

### ARTS GRANTS

480. **Mr. MILLHOUSE** (on notice):

1. What was the reason for the increase of \$196 425 in grants and provisions for the arts for the nine months ended 31 March 1978 compared with the corresponding nine months to 31 March 1977?

2. To whom were such grants and provisions given and upon what were such grants for those periods spent?

3. What were the total grants and provisions for the arts for the year ended 30 June 1977 and 1978, respectively?

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

1. The comparative increase of \$196 425 for the nine months ending 31 March 1978 was a proportion of total grants paid out of the approved increased 1977-78 line "Grants and Provisions for the Arts".

2. All these grants were provided either to major continuing Arts organisations, as required by their approved operating budgets, or to minor grant applicants as recommended by the Arts Grants Advisory Committee.

3. The total provisions approved were \$1 538 000 in the 1976-77 year and \$1 715 800 in the 1977-78 year. The total grants paid in those years were \$1 392 477 and \$1 676 696, respectively.

### PARKS AND RESERVES

481. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. How many personnel of the National Parks and Wildlife Division are available to work on the preparation of management plans for national conservation and recreation parks and game reserves and how many are at present working on such plans?

2. What are their positions within the service and what are their names?

3. For which parks are management plans at present being prepared?

4. When will these plans be completed?

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

1. Six. Only portion of their duties is related to the preparation of management plans.

2. The positions are: Senior Project Officer, Senior Wildlife Officer, Scientific Officer (2), Technical Officer, and Technical Assistant. It is not proposed to disclose names of officers.

3. Innes National Park, Flinders Ranges National Park, and Katarapko Game Reserve.

4. Anticipated completion dates are:

Innes and Flinders Ranges National Parks 1978-79.  
Katarapko Game Reserve . . . . . 1979-80

### BUFFER ZONE

482. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. Has the National Parks and Wildlife Division of the Environment Department considered the provision of a buffer zone around national parks, consisting of a strip of land perhaps 100 to several hundred metres wide, outside the main fence of the park, and itself fenced, which would help to contain wildlife, particularly in times of drought, so that they would not trespass upon adjoining properties?

2. Is it considered that this proposal has merit and, if not, why not?

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

1. Yes.

2. Yes.

### MURRAY RIVER

483. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

Has the Government considered recommending to the Commonwealth Government that the River Murray Waters Agreement Act should be amended to include Queensland amongst the members of the River Murray Commission, in view of the fact that several important tributaries of the Murray River rise in Queensland which could add to the pollution of the river and, if not, why not?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** No. Queensland does not benefit from the resources of the Murray River and there is no reason to think that the Queensland Government would be a party to such an agreement.

### HEATHFIELD TREATMENT WORKS

484. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. What does the Minister mean by "the area will become completely developed" in his reply to question No. 73 on 1 August?

2. What size subdivision is envisaged?

3. How many living units (individual properties) are expected to be present in this area ultimately?

4. What is the present population and what is the expected population in five years, 10 years and ultimately, respectively?

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

1. All possible allotments will ultimately be built on.

2. No specific sized subdivision has been stipulated. However, population density will be limited to 12 persons per hectare and individual building allotments will comprise of more than 2 000 square metres in area.

3. Approximately 6 000.

4. Approximate population

1978 . . . . . 5 400

1983 . . . . . 7 800

1988 . . . . . 10 000

Ultimately 19 000

### MARINE RESERVES

485. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. Has the Agriculture and Fisheries Department conducted any studies during the past five years into the need to expand the number of marine reserves in South Australian coastal waters and, if so:

(a) when were the studies carried out;

(b) what conclusions were drawn from them; and

(c) what action is proposed to be taken and when will it be taken, and, if not, why not, and will such studies be carried out as soon as possible in view of the large number of divers using aquatic reserves in recent times?

2. Has the department received any submissions concerning the need for aquatic reserves at Troubridge Hill and Second Valley and, if so, does it propose to declare these to be marine reserves to protect the blue groper and the black cowrie?

3. Will the Government legislate to protect the blue groper, as promised in March 1978 and, if so, when and, if not, why not?

4. Will the Government legislate to protect the black cowrie, and, if so, when and, if not, why not?

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

1. (a) Preliminary reconnaissance surveys have been conducted at

Onkaparinga Estuary Survey; July-December 1973

Port Noarlunga Reef; January 1976

Barker Inlet; September 1976

American River Inlet; October 1976 and January 1978.

(b) The State's coastline is generally being examined for the suitability of areas as aquatic reserves and conclusions cannot yet be drawn until this assessment has been completed.

(c) See 1. (b).

2. Yes, submissions have been received and are being dealt with as an integral part of the philosophy for establishing aquatic reserves.

3. Yes, in several months hence when there will be a concurrent consolidation of proclamations issued under the Fisheries Act, 1971-1976.

4. Yes—see 3 for details.

#### MINING LEASES

486. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. What mining companies have taken out leases in the Roxby Downs and Lake Frome Plains area?

2. Have the conditions with regard to the protection of archaeological and Aboriginal sites of cultural importance been specifically adhered to in this area and, if so, how many such locations have been noted for protection and, of these, how many were of archaeological significance and how many of Aboriginal significance?

3. What are the names of the officers of the Aboriginal and Historic Relics Unit of the Environment Department who processed these particular exploration licences and what are the names of the officers of the Archaeology and Anthropology Branch at the South Australian Museum who processed them?

4. Were any of the locations noted above of exceptional significance and have any added safeguards and controls been imposed?

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

1. None, but exploration licences are held.

2. Yes. The Department for the Environment has not advised of any specific locations requiring protection, other than the small portion of the Arkaroola Historic Reserve lying within E.L. 402 (Oilmin N.L., Transoil N.L., Petromin N.L. and Western Nuclear Australia Limited) and a small part of the Plumbago Historic Reserve situated within E.L. 297 (Mines Administration Pty. Ltd.). Both of these areas are of mainly Aboriginal significance.

3. A number of officers is involved in each application.

4. The Historic Reserves mentioned above are of significance and relevant safeguards and controls are incorporated in the respective exploration licences.

#### GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

487. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice): Does the Government have any plans for the Housing, Urban and Regional Affairs Department to adopt any of the responsibilities now undertaken by the Environment Department and, if so, what are these responsibilities and when are they to be transferred?

**The Hon. HUGH HUDSON:** No.

#### ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

488. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice): Does the Government intend introducing any changes in the areas of responsibility presently undertaken by the Environment Department and, if so, what are these changes and when are they to be introduced?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** No, not at this stage.

#### ENVIRONMENT PROCEDURES

489. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice): Does the Government intend to continue with its present policy of "standard procedures of environment", referred to in the Minister's reply to my question on 15 August, or will it be introducing shortly the promised environmental impact legislation and, if so, when will this be done and will the "wider range of assessments" which would be required under the legislation be carried out by the Environment Department and, if not, why not?

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** At present procedures for environmental impact assessment will continue until such time as legislation is introduced. As stated in my reply on 1 August 1978, this will be when staff are available to service such legislation. The department will continue to be involved in the administration of such legislation following its enactment.

#### PAPER MILL STUDIES

490. **Mr. WOTTON** (on notice):

1. How does the Government view the prospect of a large paper mill, proposed to be built at Albury-Wodonga?

2. Is the Government conducting studies to ascertain:

(a) how many thermo-mechanical paper pulp mills are presently operating in the world;

(b) in what countries these mills are operating;

(c) the respective climatic and topographic conditions in which these mills are operating for comparison with conditions existing in Australia in the Murray River catchment area;

(d) how long such mills have been operating;

(e) how their wastewater is disposed of;

(f) what pollutive effects this wastewater has on the environment; and

(g) if the mills are considered to be operating successfully and with minimal effects upon their environment,

and if so, what are the details of these studies, and, if not, why not?

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

1. Government has neither endorsed nor objected to the construction of the paper mill at Albury-Wodonga. Its attitude will be determined on the effect the industry will have on the quality of Murray River waters and it is still awaiting some assurances in this regard.
2. No.

### PEDESTRIAN TRACK

491. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice): Will the Minister negotiate with the Federal Department of Transport to have a pedestrian track created around the perimeter of West Beach airport, to alleviate the shortage of community running or walking tracks within metropolitan Adelaide that are free from motor hazards?

**The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS:** Yes.

### HOUSING TRUST

492. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. Is it Government policy to encourage tenants of Housing Trust houses to acquire their homes where the property is, or can be, separately titled and, if not, why not?

2. Is the Minister aware that additional funds could be available to the Housing Trust if tenants' purchase of trust homes was encouraged?

3. What action is the Minister going to take to attempt to reduce the long waiting list of deserving people waiting for trust accommodation?

4. Will many very rich and affluent people continue to rent trust accommodation at below market rents?

5. In assessing market rents what criteria does the trust use in assessing the capital value of the property being tenanted?

6. Was the Housing Trust asked to take over the cottages belonging to Samcor and, if so, what was the reason for the trust's refusal?

7. Has the Housing Trust been asked to consider the management of the Highways Department homes that are available for rental and:

(a) if so, what has been the result of these considerations; and,

(b) if not, will the Minister take the matter up with the trust and the Highways Department because if the unsatisfactory conditions that apply to many Highways Department homes?

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

1. The matter is under consideration. Over the years the Housing Trust has encouraged home ownership and many thousands of its tenants have purchased either the house which they are renting from the trust or a house built under one of several trust house sales schemes. However, the bulk of the trust's rental accommodation consists of semi-detached double unit type houses which until now have been utilised expressly for rental purposes. The trust has depended largely upon this particularly stock of houses to assist rental applicants with housing by way of vacancies, that is, in the last financial year 2 399 allocations were made as a result of vacancies occurring in these double-unit houses.

2. Yes.

3. The Housing Trust depends on low interest funds out of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement to enable it to provide more rental accommodation. It is significant that the allocation of these funds for 1978-79

has been reduced substantially from the level of the previous three years, despite the continued demand and increase in building costs. While the government is assisting the Housing Trust to the maximum extent possible, in order to reduce waiting lists, the completely antagonistic attitude of the Federal Government is making progress in this area virtually impossible.

4. Neither the trust nor the Government collects personal information to enable any assessment to be made of the incomes of those who rent trust accommodation. It is not proposed to adopt policies which would exclude people above a certain income level from the rental of trust accommodation. This would be particularly inappropriate in suburbs which consist almost entirely of trust rental accommodation. It is my general view that the number of well-off people renting trust accommodation is relatively insignificant.

5. Trust rents are based on what is known as an economic rent calculation which allows for amortisation and repayment of principle and interest, maintenance costs, rates and taxes, insurance, etc. The trust, in line with other housing authorities throughout Australia, is endeavouring to adjust its rentals to a situation that they are market related rents.

6. Yes. The trust refused the purchase because it would have involved the use of funds that are required for the provision of additional rental accommodation.

7. No.

### MEDIA UNIT

493. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. How many applications were received for the permanent part-time position in the Media Unit, advertised in the *Advertiser* on 16 August 1978?

2. What was the name of the successful applicant?

3. What qualifications has the successful applicant?

4. What are the monetary conditions of employment?

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

1. 36.

2. Mr. T. Plane.

3. He is a working journalist and has the necessary qualifications to carry out the duties and responsibilities of the position.

4. \$6 508 a year.

This part-time position is one which was previously occupied on a full-time basis.

### ART GALLERY

494. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice): Has a new warehouse been created for the Art Gallery of South Australia and, if so, was a new burglar alarm installed which was found unsatisfactory and if so:

(a) what was the cost of installing and removing the unsatisfactory system; and

(b) what was the cost of installing the new system, and is it satisfactory?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** Yes. Yes.

(a) Installation \$13 000. Removal costs were included in the contract for the new system.

(b) \$14 000. Yes.

### ABORIGINAL CENTRE

495. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. When is the Aboriginal Cultural Centre to be

established at Wellington, as announced in 1973?

2. Who will be in control of the establishment that is to be created?

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

1. At this stage there are no plans to proceed with the proposed Aboriginal Cultural Centre at Wellington. As previously indicated by the Government, a joint Commonwealth-State study on the possibility of the centre at Wellington was completed in 1974. The study had concluded that Aboriginal resources were not available for such a centre and it had recommended instead that certain smaller Aboriginal tourist establishments be set up along the Murray. The Government considered such establishments would not be viable tourist ventures and that there was no further point to which it could proceed with the original proposal.

2. Not applicable.

### AIR SERVICE

496. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice): When will the air service connecting the south coast with the Coorong, Kangaroo Island, and the Southern Vales area be operating?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The Government is not aware of any plans for the operation of a licensed air service from the South Coast to the Coorong, Kangaroo Island and the Southern Vales. The Commonwealth Department of Transport has advised that no application for such a service has been received.

However, it is known that the South Coast Air Centre, a firm based at Goolwa, offers a range of charter scenic flights by light aircraft, catering for up to three passengers and ranging over the South Coast, Coorong and Kangaroo Island areas. This charter service commenced about a year ago.

### AYERS HOUSE

497. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice): Is it still intended to have horse-drawn vehicles operating to serve tourists in the vicinity of Ayers House?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The Government is not aware of any plans to have horse-drawn vehicles operating to service tourists in the vicinity of Ayers House, but the Government would be prepared to help again should its reintroduction be contemplated by private enterprise.

### SWIMMING POOL

498. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. Was a report received from a consultant regarding a 25-metre indoor heated swimming pool at the present site of the Norwood Municipal Swimming Pool and, if so:

- (a) who chose the consultants;
- (b) who paid the consultants;
- (c) what was the cost of having the investigations carried out;
- (d) is it the intention of the Government to support the development of such a project; and
- (e) to what extent is the Premier interested in the particular project?

2. What actions will be taken in relation to the report?

3. Is the Premier aware that there are already existing indoor and outdoor pools in close proximity to the site, and that any new facilities such as indoor heated pools in that area would place a serious financial strain on existing

operations?

4. Is the Premier aware that there are other communities in metropolitan Adelaide that are seriously disadvantaged because they do not have swimming pools within close proximity?

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

1. Yes.

(a) They were chosen by a joint committee comprising representatives of the Premier's Department and the Kensington and Norwood Council.

(b) Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport.

(c) \$5 000.

(d) Support for the development for this project is the responsibility of the Kensington and Norwood City Council.

(e) The Premier had discussed the matter with the Kensington and Norwood Council which had already had Government grants towards the existing pool. The Premier is keen to see that the money already spent on the pool is not wasted.

2. The Kensington and Norwood City Council is considering this report.

3. The existing indoor and outdoor pools in close proximity to the site are as follows:

within 3 km of the Norwood Pool

The Parade Pool (indoor 25 m privately owned mainly for teaching facilities).

Burnside—50 m outdoor heated pool for public use in the summer only.

within 6 km of the Norwood Pool

Payneham—50 m outdoor heated public pool (summer use only).

North Adelaide—50 m outdoor pool for public use (summer only).

Unley 50 m outdoor pool for public use (summer only).

N.B. The Kerry O'Brien Health Centre at Payneham will include a heated indoor pool as part of the complex. This will shortly be completed and will include health facilities and squash courts.

4. Yes. However, the pools in the eastern suburbs area were supported with State Government funds under a Liberal Government. The Premier is concerned to see that money spent then is not wasted.

### OIL RECLAMATION PLANT

499. **Mr. EVANS** (on notice):

1. Is the Premier aware that the New Zealand Government has recently introduced a subsidy scheme to encourage recycling of lubricating oils, which in South Australia are now mainly used as dust control surfaces on roads?

2. Is the Government prepared to encourage the development of an oil reclamation plant in South Australia and, if so, what incentives will be offered for the establishment of such a plant?

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

1. Recycling of lubricating oil used in South Australia has been under review by the Government for some time. Information to hand indicates that the minimum quantity of used oil that is necessary to enable environmentally acceptable commercial refining is of the order of 13 500 kl per year. While consumption of motor oil in South Australia is of the order of 13 000 kl per annum the quantity that could practically be recovered (which

excludes oil changed at homes and in areas removed more than about 60 km from Adelaide) is of the order of 6 800 kl.

At present about half of that quantity is collected for blending with fuel oil at Birkenhead. The remainder is used for such purposes as weed killing dust settling and incineration. As well as quite a large proportion is lost through gross contamination, etc. Furthermore, there is a trend towards longer life oils and to supermarket sales and therefore home oil changes. Both factors are likely to decrease the annual availability of used lubricating oil. Overseas the viable oil re-refining industries in Germany and U.S.A. are all subsidised. Thus the approach reported in New Zealand is in keeping with that practice.

2. The State Government's studies on waste lubricating oil have been referred to the Interim Waste Management Committee. The recent Waste Disposal Committee report foreshadowed that the area of waste management should be centralised and therefore future reviews of the potential for re-using this and other waste products will become an area of responsibility of the proposed South Australian Waste Management Commission.

#### RELIEVING TEACHERS

500. Mr. EVANS (on notice):

1. Why is it that relieving teachers, who are readily on call when permanent staff are unable to attend their duties, must wait five to six weeks for their pay, when permanent staff are paid on a regular fortnightly basis?

2. Is the Minister aware that some of these relieving teachers are, in fact, in dire need of the money, and that any delay seriously disadvantages them?

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

1. Permanent teaching staff are paid in anticipation of their being on duty, with leave privileges, with any adjustments to salary due to absences being made at a later date. This method of payment is impractical in the case of temporary relieving assistants, because of the sporadic nature of their work. School Principals are required to forward to the Chief Accountant, claim forms for all relieving assistants at the completion of their employment, or on the Wednesday preceding paydays (the end of the claim period) whichever comes first. In the normal course of events, these forms should reach the Payroll Services Section of the department in time to be paid on the payday which falls two weeks after the end of the claim period. This system provides that a reliever who works on the first day of a claim period would be paid a maximum of four weeks later. A reliever who works on the last day of a claim period would receive payment two weeks after that date.

2. The efficient operation of the above method of payment is dependent upon prompt receipt of claim forms and it is desirable that relieving teachers ensure that the claim forms are submitted on time, thereby enabling payment to be made with the least possible delay. The difficulties that delays cause are appreciated and every effort is made by Education Department pay staff to ensure prompt payment to temporary relieving assistants. The Education Department is at present in the process of establishing a Salaries/Personnel computer system which includes provision for a prompter and more sophisticated service to temporary relieving assistants than is at present possible under existing manual procedures.

#### FILM CORPORATION

501. Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice):

1. What was the reason for the increase of \$606 820 in the grant to the South Australian Film Corporation for the 9 months ended 31 March 1978 compared with the corresponding 9 months to 31 March 1977?

2. Upon what was each grant for those periods spent?

3. What were the total grants to the Film Corporation for the year ended 30 June 1977 and 1978 respectively?

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

1. The increase in payments for the 9 months ended 31 March 1978 was due to:

(a) An increase in the annual basic Government grant to the South Australian Film Corporation approved for 1977-78 as compared with that for 1976-77, and

(b) The repayment of increased commercial earnings of the South Australian Film Corporation for the nine months to 31 March 1978, as compared with the corresponding period to 31 March 1977.

2. Basic Government grants paid were used to meet the operating expenses of the Corporation's film library and to provide financial assistance for the training of promising script writers and film makers under approved budgets. Commercial earnings repaid were used towards meeting the commercial and operating expenditure of the Corporation (excluding Film Library) in accordance with approved budgets. For the nine months ended to 31 March 1977, and additional amount of \$40 000 was paid to provide financial assistance for the Film Section of the Flinders University Drama Centre.

	Year Ended 30 June 1977	Year Ended 30 June 1978
	\$	\$
Basic Government grant ..	781 200	839 000
Repayment of commercial earnings .....	555 480	1 027 930
	(rounded)	(rounded)
Grant to Film Section of Flinders University Drama Centre .....	40 000	20 000
Total .....	\$1 376 680	\$1 886 930

#### PREMIER'S TOUR

502. Mr. MILLHOUSE (on notice): What advantages, if any, have accrued to the State since 8 August from the Premier's last trip overseas?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** It is never possible to quantify advantages accruing from broadly based Ministerial overseas tour. The journey is question was not made with an aim to signing contracts or making instant sales. Its purpose was to create a climate in which South Australian businesses might be able better to pursue their own overseas activities. We believe this to be happening and that is the advantage which has accrued to the State.

#### POPULATION PREDICTION

In reply to Mrs. ADAMSON (10 August).

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The honourable member is incorrect in stating that the Director-General for Trade and Development made a prediction that South

Australia's total population, which is now 10 per cent of the national total, will be reduced to 7 per cent of the national total by the year 2000 when speaking at a Productivity Council dinner. Mr. Davies, together with the Chairman and Managing Director of Uniroyal Proprietary Limited (Mr. R. A. Footner), took part in the Norwood Productivity Group's annual dinner meeting on Tuesday 1 August.

Mr. Davies made no reference whatever to population figures. I believe Mr. Footner in answer to a question made some reference to the possibility of a falling behind of South Australia's share of the national total of population by the year 2000. I believe Mr. Footner quoted figures from the Borrie Report which, incidentally, shows the projection of population for South Australia in the year 2000 as 8.7 per cent of the national total. I am not able to say whether this figure was, in fact, used by Mr. Footner, but I believe that it may have been.

#### LOWER NORTH-EAST ROAD

In reply to Mrs. BYRNE (16 August).

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** Current work on the Lower North-East Road comprises reconstruction and duplication of the section between George Street, Paradise, and Lyons Road, Dernancourt, and is scheduled for completion by November 1979. Roadworks are being carried out by the department, with bridgeworks to be carried out by contract and stormwater drainage works by C. C. Tea Tree Gully.

#### FUEL TANKERS

In reply to Mr. CHAPMAN (20 July).

**The Hon. HUGH HUDSON:** A draft Bill for an Act to regulate the keeping, handling, conveyance and use and disposal of dangerous substances is currently being prepared. It includes provisions for the safe conveyance by road tankers of substances which have been declared by the Governor to be dangerous substances. It also provides for the repeal of the existing Liquefied Petroleum Gas Act and the Inflammable Liquids Act as soon as satisfactory regulations are made.

#### PORT ADELAIDE ACCIDENT

In reply to Mr. WHITTEN (23 August).

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** An alternative route avoiding the Black Diamond corner at Port Adelaide already exists. The alternative route is via Semaphore Road, Causeway Road and Bower Road, thence to Port Road, Tapley Hill or Grand Junction Roads. However, the route will not adequately provide for movements to and from Grand Junction Road until a new road link connecting Grand Junction Road and Bower Road is constructed. In addition, the route is obstructed to some extent by the railway line in Semaphore Road (formerly Dunnikier Road) which could be replaced by an alternative connection.

The Highways Department is at present examining the alternative route, including the Semaphore Road railway line. Plans for the proposed route linking Grand Junction Road and Bower Road have already been submitted to the Corporation of the City of Port Adelaide for consideration

and for obtaining public comment. The Port Adelaide council has powers under the Local Government Act to prohibit, by means of a by-law, certain classes of vehicles from using nominated roads in its area. The alternative route referred to above will certainly be more attractive when the Grand Junction Road/Bower Road link is completed and the railway is relocated away from Semaphore Road. This latter point is critical to the safe operation of the by-pass and to its acceptance by all industrial users. The alternative route would reduce, although not eliminate, the potential hazards associated with the transport of dangerous materials in the Port Adelaide area.

#### FISHING LICENCES

In reply to Mr. ARNOLD (1 August).

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** Although it is desirable to make certain fishing licences available from regional offices, it is necessary to revise licensing systems and procedures and amend the legislation to facilitate the performance of these duties in the regional offices. Decision making on the issue of some licences will still remain at the central office in Adelaide in addition to the maintenance of central records.

#### FISHING INDUSTRY

In reply to Mr. CHAPMAN (3 August).

**The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN:** The South Australian Government has put considerable research effort into the development and expansion of the South Australian fishing industry. Exploratory trawling has been carried out and has played an important part in the South-East trawl fishery. The exploration of fish resources even further offshore is being undertaken by the C.S.I.R.O., and we do not intend to duplicate its work. The development of deep sea fisheries will benefit only a comparatively few fishermen and we do not intend to diminish our efforts to improve the economic viability of the large number of fishermen within existing fisheries.

The Copes Report on the rock lobster fishery makes a realistic assessment of the current economic plight of people in the industry and offers some solutions. The working party on fish processing has only been established because of requests by the processors through the Wholesale Fish Merchants Association. The Minister of Fisheries has already expressed doubts about the desirability and feasibility of applying restrictions on fish processing capacity but has agreed to this industry request to an investigation.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

In reply to Mr. ABBOTT (8 August).

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** The acceptance by both schools and the community has been very high. The community response from parents and employers which has been received by schools indicates a very strong approval of the programme and this is particularly noticeable in rural areas. In addition, students' evaluation of their own work experience placements with firms usually refer to the fact that they—

1. were interested
2. gathered useful and, to them, surprising information



- 3. dealt with adults in a positive and usually supportive manner
- 4. would like further opportunity to participate in such a scheme.

(Employer evaluation supports the above statement also).  
 As of 15 August, 1978, there are 84 Education Department schools that are operating or have operated work experience programmes in 1978. Staffing restrictions may limit further expansion. The following table indicates the number involved on 15 August 1978:—

a. Students	Boys	Girls	Total
9th Year .....	60	66	126
10th Year .....	579	806	1 385
11th Year .....	1 260	1 455	2 715
12th Year .....	201	331	532
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>2 100</b>	<b>2 658</b>	<b>4 758</b>

b. The actual number of employers involved have been broken into the following:—

Clerical .....	621
Professional .....	163
Industrial .....	412
Community Service .....	138
Public Service .....	70
Primary Industry .....	61
Education .....	192
Other .....	111
	1 768

**POPULATION PROJECTION**

In reply to **Dr. EASTICK** (8 August).

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The figures have been revised and you are referred to the Hon. H. R. Hudson's statement on 21 March 1978, (*Hansard* page 2369), relating to the Borrie report.

**WHYALLA HOSPITAL**

In reply to **Mr. MAX BROWN** (10 August).

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** The abandonment by the Federal government of funding for the hospital development programme has severely aggravated the shortage of funds for hospital building development in South Australia and it has been necessary for a most vigorous review by the South Australian Health Commission of future commitments in this area. The first phase of the Whyalla Hospital extensions are under construction, and Phase II is being documented by Public Buildings Department. Phase II enjoys a high priority and every effort is being made to ensure that it can proceed according to programme.

**SEX**

In reply to **Mr. SLATER** (17 August).

**The Hon. D. W. SIMMONS:** A number of studies undertaken on the subject of sex and its effect on performance in sport have suggested that a participant's performance is not impaired by indulgence in sex prior to a sporting event. I understand that an article, 'Most coaches don't realise that sex does not deter from performance' by B. Duniberti appeared on page 62 of the May 1977 issue of

the Canadian journal 'Sport', which regrettably, is not available at present. A request has been submitted to the Canadian Coaches Association by the Tourism, Recreation and Sport Department for a copy of the article.

**DEPUTY STATE LIBRARIAN**

In reply to **Mr. ALLISON** (23 August).

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** An appointment to the position of Assistant State Librarian was made in August 1977, but after several months delay the appointee declined the appointment in December 1977. The position has been held vacant pending the completion of a Public Service Board review of the Libraries Department.

**COMMUNITY SWIMMING POOL**

In reply to **Dr. EASTICK** (23 August).

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** The Physical Education Branch does not favour any direct or *ex gratia* payments to community swimming pools for use during either term-time or vacation "Learn-to-Swim" programmes. The major reason is that children taking part in the programmes pay full entrance fees for their forty-five minute lessons. The income to community pools from term-time and Vacation Swimming Programmes tends to subsidise children using the pool at other times. The Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Sport, Mr. T. Casey, is aware of the difficulties facing country community pools and the division of Tourism, Recreation and Sport will be investigating the capital development of public swimming pools in South Australia, also the safety requirements, operation and maintenance costs.

**TOURISM**

In reply to **Dr. EASTICK** (24 August).

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** In response to a letter from a Mr. J. Turner which was published in the *Northern Argus* of 19 July 1978, Mr. J. M. Myers, Publicity Officer, Division of Tourism, wrote to the Editor of that publication on the 31 July 1978 in an endeavour to provide a rebuttal to Mr. Turner's sentiments that the Tourism Division "does nothing to promote tourism to Clare". It appears that an editorial by the paper on a subsequent date refers mainly to the final paragraph of that letter which read as follows:

We all agree that the hotel/motel industry is plagued by high wages at weekends but this is not peculiar to Clare; it is Australia wide. There is no point in closing doors until more reasonable wage conditions return. The industry must continue under present conditions using all the management skills at their disposal. This problem is being tackled with imagination and vigor elsewhere and it is showing results. Unless the industry offers visitors service on Sundays, we will only succeed in driving this valuable industry elsewhere.

Earlier correspondence between the Director of Tourism and the Manager of Bentleys Hotel, Clare, Mr. Jeff Turner, includes a letter by him and published by the *Northern Argus*, defending the non-provision of services on Sundays on the grounds of excessive labour costs.

**PETITIONS: VIOLENT OFFENCES**

**The Hon. HUGH HUDSON** presented a petition signed by 286 residents of South Australia praying that the House would support proposed amendments to the Criminal Law Consolidation Act to increase maximum penalties for

violent offences.

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO** presented a similar petition signed by 308 residents of South Australia.

**The Hon. J. D. WRIGHT** presented a similar petition signed by 3 043 residents of South Australia.

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE** presented a similar petition signed by 161 residents of South Australia.

**The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL** presented a similar petition signed by 321 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. McRAE** presented a similar petition signed by 219 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. SLATER** presented a similar petition signed by 77 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. ABBOTT** presented a similar petition signed by 89 residents of South Australia.

**Mrs. BYRNE** presented a similar petition signed by 498 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. HARRISON** presented a similar petition signed by 751 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. TONKIN** presented a similar petition signed by 273 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY** presented a similar petition signed by 339 residents of South Australia.

**Dr. EASTICK** presented a similar petition signed by 633 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. WILSON** presented a similar petition signed by 1 023 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. GUNN** presented a similar petition signed by 539 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. VENNING** presented a similar petition signed by 506 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. NANKIVELL** presented a similar petition signed by 312 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. BECKER** presented a similar petition signed by 1 884 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. DEAN BROWN** presented a similar petition signed by 107 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. MATHWIN** presented a similar petition signed by 336 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE** presented a similar petition signed by 337 residents of South Australia.

Petitions received.

#### PETITIONS: PORNOGRAPHY

**Mr. SLATER** presented a petition signed by 62 electors of South Australia praying that the House would pass legislation to provide for Ministerial responsibility adequately to control pornographic material.

**Mr. DEAN BROWN** presented a similar petition signed by 414 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. MATHWIN** presented a similar petition signed by 75 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. BECKER** presented a similar petition signed by 210 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. VENNING** presented a similar petition signed by 61 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY** presented a similar petition signed by 84 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. CHAPMAN** presented a similar petition signed by 58 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. ABBOTT** presented a similar petition signed by 41 residents of South Australia.

**Dr. EASTICK** presented a similar petition signed by 522 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE** presented a similar petition signed by 597 residents of South Australia.

Petitions received.

#### PETITIONS: VOLUNTARY WORKERS

**Mr. TONKIN** presented a petition signed by 2 178 residents of South Australia praying that the House would urge the Government to take action to protect and preserve the status of voluntary workers in the community.

**Mr. WILSON** presented a similar petition signed by 180 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. DEAN BROWN** presented a similar petition signed by 30 residents of South Australia.

**Mr. BECKER** presented a similar petition signed by 51 residents of South Australia.

Petitions received.

#### PETITION: FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

**Mr. BECKER** presented a petition signed by 47 residents of South Australia praying that the House would urge the Government to disclose full details of financial management of taxpayers' moneys and support the principle of open government.

Petition received.

#### PETITION: BIRKENHEAD BRIDGE

**Mr. WHITTEN** presented a petition signed by 532 residents of South Australia praying that the House would urge the Government to support Port Adelaide council in providing a solution to its heavy traffic problem and to enforce most strongly speed restrictions over the Birkenhead Bridge.

Petition received.

#### AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

**The SPEAKER** laid on the table the Auditor-General's Report for the financial year ended 30 June 1978.

Ordered that report be printed.

#### QUESTION TIME

**The SPEAKER:** Before calling on the Leader of the Opposition, I point out that the Minister of Mines and Energy will take questions for the Minister of Works, and that the Minister of Community Welfare will take questions for the Minister of Labour and Industry.

#### FROZEN FOOD FACTORY

**Mr. TONKIN:** Can the Minister of Mines and Energy say whether the Deputy Premier had any discussions on or knowledge of matters in the Auditor-General's Report dealing with the Frozen Food Factory before he announced the Government's inquiries into the operation of the factory last week, and will he now admit that the factory is not operating efficiently? On 3 August the Premier, in answering Opposition criticism, told the House that the Government Frozen Food Factory was operating efficiently. One week ago the Deputy Premier

announced a major inquiry into the operation of the factory, despite the fact that inquiries were already being conducted by the Public Accounts Committee and the Auditor-General. The Auditor-General's Report, which has just been tabled in the House, on page 239, under the heading, "Health Industrial Services Division" of the South Australian Health Commission in relation to the frozen food service, states:

No charges were made against operations for interest and depreciation. Planning, development, and research costs incurred before production commenced were capitalised as preliminary expenses. Funds generated by operations of the laundry were utilised to overcome a shortage of working capital for the operations of the frozen food service. The physical and financial control over the operations were unsatisfactory.

On page 240 of the report a table of the working account indicating the balance of funds on hand shows that laundry operations are largely financing food services. Page 241 of the report states:

Extract from the report of the Auditor:

No. 1. The maintaining of stock control records was inadequate.

No. 2. Expenditure does not include all costs incurred.

No. 3. The financial control over operations was unsatisfactory.

Results of operations:

The accounts of the service disclose a loss for the six-month period on operations of \$122 000. No charges were made for interest and depreciation. The revenue statement includes cost of raw materials processed but not the value of raw materials on hand at 30 June.

Income:

Pre-cooked frozen food is charged to clients at a rate per carton. The quantity of cartons produced was not available. Proceeds from sales were \$445 000.

Finally, on page 243 under the heading "Financial Control", the Auditor-General states:

The accounting, operational controls and procedures do not ensure the accuracy and reliability of the accounting data, the provision of accurate stockholding information, and reporting on variances between actual performance and standard. Corrective action is required to assist management in the discharge of its responsibilities and ensure accountability of operations.

Why was the announcement of the inquiry made so hurriedly just before the release of the Auditor-General's Report if it was not to anticipate that report and with pre-knowledge of its likely contents?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The position in relation to the Frozen Food Factory was that, during the inquiries by the committee set up under Dr. Corbett, concerning the use of food in hospitals, some queries were raised in relation to the accounting procedures in the Frozen Food Factory. I referred to that in a reply in relation to Frozen Food Factory accounting that I gave in the House before the adjournment. As a result of this, particularly in relation to the question of the use of laundry funds in regard to the accounts of the frozen food operation, it was felt that it was necessary for us to conduct an investigation to see what was the effective use of the frozen food operation. It was quite clear that the frozen food operation was not operating to capacity at that date, and that it was therefore necessary for us to see that it was operating to its full efficiency.

**Mr. Tonkin:** You said it was.

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I did not say that it was operating to its full capacity or to its full potential efficiency; I said that I thought it was an efficient

operation.

**Mr. Tonkin:** No, you said it was operating—

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable Leader has asked his question and was heard in silence. I hope that he will listen to the honourable Premier's reply in silence.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The Leader has stated previously in this House that, as compared with the private sector, the Frozen Food Factory is not a proper operation. He gave figures for comparable products which he claimed were obtainable in the private sector and which proved to be completely baseless. He also claimed that there had been no saving as a result of the operation of the Frozen Food Factory.

I point out to the Leader that, in 1974 in the submissions that were made to the Public Works Standing Committee at the time that committee recommended that this operation be introduced, the forecast was that the average cost of providing a snap frozen meal as a result of the operation of the Frozen Food Factory need not exceed 60c a meal, whereas the operation under the conventional method of providing food could be at least 103c a meal. If we apply the inflation factors of food costs since that time to those figures, the cost now of providing a meal by conventional methods would not be less than 170c a meal, whereas before the Frozen Food Factory is operating at full capacity it is providing meals at 125c a meal.

On that basis, I said that I believed that the Frozen Food Factory was operating efficiently. That does not mean to say that, in relation to any operation of Government, we do not need managerial inquiries from time to time to see to it that we get the best use of the facilities that we have provided and the full use of the capital that we have expended. We set up the inquiry for that purpose. It was set up as a result of recommendations to me by the Chairman of the Public Service Board following the report of the Corbett inquiry and the material that had come to the Public Service Board as a result of it. In this matter, as in other cases, the Government has no pre-knowledge of the Auditor-General's Report, which is made to this Parliament and not to the Government.

*Mr. Dean Brown interjecting:*

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order! I demand that the member for Davenport withdraw that insulting remark.

**The SPEAKER:** I ask the honourable Minister what is the insulting remark to which he has referred.

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** He called the Premier "a bloody liar".

**Mr. Gunn:** You ought to be the last one to talk!

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I call the member for Eyre to order. I ask the honourable member for Davenport whether he did say those words.

**Mr. DEAN BROWN:** I did insinuate that the answer that the Premier had just given was a lie, and I withdraw that accusation.

## ISLINGTON CROSSING

**Mr. BANNON:** Can the Minister of Transport give any further information concerning the deferment of plans to construct an over-pass at the Islington railway crossing on Regency Road and whether any alternative schemes could be devised to alleviate the bottleneck? The Islington railway crossing at Regency Road has for many years been a problem for traffic moving both west and east in that area. The road narrows to a single lane of traffic in each direction, but is fed by many improved roads which can carry a considerable number of vehicles. On 30 August

1978, I wrote to the Minister concerning the construction of an over-pass, which has been scheduled for some time in the 1978-79 financial year subject to the availability of funds. I pointed out that the Prospect council is currently considering a traffic control plan, the chief problems on which centre around east-west traffic moving through the Prospect area, as much of the traffic is generated over the Pym Street and Belford Avenue crossings, which are alternatives to the Regency Road crossing at Islington. Because of the bottleneck situation, the over-pass was considered to be a matter of urgency.

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** I can understand the concern of the honourable member because this crossing is probably one of the worst in his area. Certainly I share with him disappointment that the Federal Minister has been forced by the Treasury bureaucrats to backtrack on the unqualified promise he gave to Transport Ministers at the last ATAC meeting. Because of this situation it has been necessary for the Highways Department to prune its works programme, and the Regency Road over-pass is one of the projects affected. I think as a result of that decision it will be necessary for us again to review the desirability and practicability of trying to broaden the existing at grade crossing by moving it in a northerly direction. I will certainly discuss this matter with the Highways Commissioner to see whether, because of the delay, such a temporary move could be justified financially.

#### FROZEN FOOD FACTORY

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** Can the Premier say what options hospitals, presently supposed to be autonomous under the South Australian Health Commission, have to refuse food prepared by the Frozen Food Factory, in favour of food from other sources or prepared in their own kitchens, and what hospitals have refused or expressed concern at the supply of Government frozen food products? On 3 August, the Premier said in the House:

We believe that the service is operating efficiently and that the Leader's statements have been a deliberate misrepresentation in relation to the Frozen Food Factory.

I understand that a sign exhibited in the Flinders Medical Centre cafeteria states:

The staff accepts no responsibility for the quality of food served in this establishment.

The Premier has claimed that in fact the scheme is working efficiently. I wonder what is the situation in relation to the autonomy of hospitals under the Health Commission that may be served by this Frozen Food Factory.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I am not aware of particular complaints in this area and the honourable member has asked a question about that. As to the precise position of autonomy in this matter, I will get a statement from the Minister concerned and bring it down for the honourable member.

#### FISHING LICENCES

**Mr. BLACKER:** Will the Premier say whether the State Government still supports the principle of managing inshore fisheries in South Australia and, if it does, what action it intends to take to reduce the fishing effort on our declining fish stocks, particularly in the scale fishing industry? According to section 30 (i) (a) and (b) of the Fisheries Act management of State fisheries resources and the issuing of licences is entrusted to the discretion of the

Director. The Director, in consultation with industry, had embarked on a programme to sort out the genuine fishermen from those not entitled to a licence.

The object of this proposal was to reduce unnecessary fishing effort on fishing stock and to protect relevant species for future generations of both recreational and professional fishermen.

On Monday 21 August the decision of the Director and the Minister was overridden by Cabinet. Fishermen believe this action has nullified any attempt by the Minister and the department to rationalise fishing effort in South Australia and has placed in jeopardy the management of not only the scale fishing industry but of all fisheries of this State.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** When the honourable member talks of the fishermen, he had better say that he talks for "some fishermen" because he is not talking for them all when he says the things that he has said this afternoon. The position in South Australia is that, under the Fisheries Act, a series of different classes of licence was provided for professional fishermen.

Concern has been expressed about returns from scale fishing within the State and we have endeavoured to sort out, as best we can, the competing claims of people, who already have commitments in those areas, to access to the resource. It is quite clear that, if any action were taken to disadvantage a particular class of fishermen who were previously licensed, in fact quite real injustices would occur to a number of individuals who already have investment and commitment in the area.

If the honourable member is claiming that B-class fishermen should disappear while A-class fishermen are maintained the question is, how can we establish a means, because the honourable member, when talking about a Cabinet decision, was referring to a decision relating to fishermen holding B-class licences. If the honourable member is referring to the decision relating to B-class fishermen being taken out of the industry where any of them had an income from outside the industry, then of course that is a principle which would have to obtain in relation to all fishermen and not merely those holding a B-class licence. When we tried to apply this principle in the area of B-class fishermen the anomalies and injustices which would occur in individual cases were marked, and consequently Cabinet believed that the only way in which it could reduce effort was by natural attrition in the industry in reducing the number of licences in the industry, either by cancelling licences of those who did not maintain fishing effort or by cancelling licences of those who retired voluntarily.

Inevitably, this creates difficulty for those people who want to come into the industry, particularly the sons of fishermen who want to take over licences. Inevitably, if we are to reduce the total fishing effort, we have to do so in a way which will cause the least disruption to the individual returns to people previously committed to the industry. Cabinet believes that the course which it took on 21 August was the most sensible one, given the evidence with which it was faced.

#### GOLDEN GROVE TRAFFIC LIGHTS

**Mr. KLUNDER:** Can the Minister of Transport give a time table for the construction of traffic lights at the intersection of Golden Grove Road and North-East Road? This matter has been raised on several occasions by the member for Todd and me, and it is now becoming more urgent. Traffic lights have now been installed at the intersection of North-East Road and Hancock Road, and I

wonder whether the Minister can speed up the installation of traffic lights at the Golden Grove intersection.

**The Hon. G. T. VIRGO:** I shall get an up-to-date time table for the honourable member.

#### FISHING LICENCES

**Mr. CHAPMAN:** Now that the 1978 show-cause exercise within the State's scale fishery has been dissolved by Cabinet, will the Premier say what action the Government intends to take to rationalise effort and to restore some stability in specific gulf, bay, and reach waters of the State that departmental records indicate are over-fished? I am aware, as are members of the fishing industry generally, of the effort by the Government, commencing on 31 May of this year, to reduce fishing effort by applying at that time a policy across the State, in blanket form. I have had drawn to my attention from many sources the hurt and distress that occurred in certain areas of the State which were subject to the effects of that policy and which should not have been involved. My question is designed to show my concern for those specific areas of the State that are in trouble. In view of a policy being applied and taken off already this year in relation to the B-class show-cause exercise, what action is it intended to take now in relation to the specific sites that are in trouble?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The Government has developed no further policy in relation to those specific areas, other than to say that it will reduce overall fishing effort by natural attrition.

**Mr. Chapman:** You will be forever in trouble.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member has asked his question.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The honourable member has pointed out that any attempt to lay down a general policy for the reduction of licences has produced serious individual hurt and harm. It has not been possible for us to devise, nor has AFIC or anyone else suggested, a means by which we can, with justice, and ensuring a reasonable go for everyone concerned, proceed to cancel licences in larger quantity than will occur through natural attrition. How precisely do we sort out the people who have already got access to the fisheries resource and whose access to it will be cancelled in favour of those who remain? I have not had a proposition put to me yet on that score, either by the Agriculture and Fisheries Department or by the honourable member.

**Mr. Chapman:** That's an invitation, I take it.

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** If the honourable member has a proposition, I am always prepared to listen to it.

#### MR. AND MRS. S. G. PLENTY

**Mr. VENNING:** Will the Attorney-General see to it that the complaint made by Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Plenty finds its way to the Law Society and to the statutory committee that handles such complaints? I have received a letter from the Attorney in which he states that complaints to the Law Society regarding professional conduct are dealt with by a statutory committee of that body. He states that, whilst he is an *ex officio* member of the council of the Law Society, he is not a member of the Professional Practice Committee. Section 42 (3) of the Legal Practitioners Act provides that, subject to compliance with any requirement of subsection (2), the council shall forthwith refer every

charge under section 42 to the statutory committee. I point out that about three or four weeks ago the Attorney-General, in addressing a meeting, said that he believed that far too much money was being spent on defence and that more should be spent on the rights of the people of this State.

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** I shall be pleased to refer the considerable and voluminous file concerning the complaints of Mr. and Mrs. Plenty to the Law Society's statutory committee for its attention. In passing, I point out that the honourable member has tried to fob this matter off on me before today, principally because I imagine that the Plenty's are giving him plenty of curry, as their local member. The complaints the Plenty's have do not involve matters which are within the jurisdiction of this Government; they principally involve complaints against the Fraser Liberal Government. That is why the honourable member finds himself in so much difficulty in dealing with this matter. He wants to fob it off in any direction he can in order to try to avoid embarrassing his colleagues in Canberra. I believe that everyone has the right, where a solicitor has been involved, to have a matter referred to the statutory committee. However, without prejudging the matter, I believe that it will get short shrift when it gets to the committee. Nevertheless, if the honourable member wants me to refer it, I will do so.

#### TEACHER HOUSING

**Mr. WHITTEN:** Is the Minister of Education able to provide any information regarding negotiations that might have taken place with the Commonwealth concerning adequate housing for teachers at Woomera? A report in the *Advertiser* of 4 September, under the heading "Teachers live in 'dog kennels': threat to strike", states:

Forty-three teachers at Woomera are threatening industrial action over "dog kennel" accommodation for single teachers in the town.

A report in the *Advertiser* of 9 September, under the heading "Study into Conditions", states:

Representatives from the Department of Defence, Canberra, the South Australian Institute of Teachers, the South Australian Education Department and the Woomera teachers met in Adelaide yesterday to discuss teachers' allegations that they lived "like convicts" while there were more than 200 vacant houses and flats in the town.

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** This has been a matter of some concern to my department and to the Teacher Housing Authority for some time. Without going into all of that detail, I indicate that the Institute of Teachers formally drew this matter to my attention by way of a deputation, I think on the last day of sitting. One of the members of its executive had recently visited Woomera and had a look at the situation. As the honourable member has pointed out, the problem is in relation to single-teacher accommodation. The anomalous situation arises (and I hope you, Mr. Speaker, will forgive the vernacular) that if a couple are prepared to shack up the problem seems to disappear. There is this gross lack of adequate single-teacher accommodation available in Woomera. This is a difficult problem, because Woomera is an area of the State that virtually has extra-territoriality, and certainly accommodation is not under my control or the authority's control.

The specific proposition which emerged was that, given (and I had this on good authority) that there was surplus accommodation available in Woomera of an adequate type, some of this could be made available by the Defence

Department to the Teacher Housing Authority which, in turn, could lease it to single teachers. I undertook both to write to and ring Mr. Killen on this matter, which I did on the following day. Subsequently, a meeting in Adelaide last Friday was attended by three representatives of Mr. Killen's department, representatives of my department, of the Institute of Teachers, and of the teachers actually at Woomera. The Commonwealth department has undertaken to examine very thoroughly the proposal put up by the Institute of Teachers. That is as much as I can report to the House until a report comes down from the Commonwealth Minister.

### FISHING LICENCES

**Mr. GUNN:** Can the Minister of Mines and Energy, representing the Minister of Fisheries, inform the House when it is expected that the economic survey into scale fishery that has been conducted for some time will be released? Further, can the Minister give an undertaking that, when the survey is completed, it will be made public so that all those who are vitally interested in the findings will have an opportunity not only to consider it but also to make comments to the Government? The Minister would be aware that for some time there has been a freeze on the issue of new fishing licences and that there are many people who for some time have been seeking fishing licences. Some of those people are the sons of fishermen who have a life-time involvement in the industry, and others are people who left the industry for certain reasons and who now wish to re-enter it. All have been declined by the department. Some people have exercised their option to appeal to the person appointed under the Fisheries Act to hear cases where applications have been declined. There is a great deal of interest in this survey, which has been carried out by marine specialists in the Minister's department. I therefore believe, in view of what seems to be a decline in the resource, that it is essential that this information be made available as soon as possible.

**The Hon. HUGH HUDSON:** I will take up the matter with my colleague in another place and see what answer can be provided about when the survey is likely to be completed and what will happen to the report once it is available. I believe from the honourable member's question that he appreciates that the issue of fishing licences to new people or the cutting out of existing fishermen is a matter of controversy whichever way one jumps. No doubt whatever the survey shows there will always be argument about what the appropriate policy should be with respect to the issue and re-issue of fishing licences.

### CHIEF JUSTICE

**Mr. MATHWIN:** When will the Attorney-General announce who will be the new Chief Justice, and will he say whether the appointment has been promised to Mr. Justice King? If it has been, in what way are his qualifications superior to those of any of the six Supreme Court judges who are senior to him? I refer to a recent edition of the *Advertiser* in which it is stated that the three most senior judges of the Supreme Court are to retire. In part, the report states:

It has been widely and publicly tipped in both legal and political circles that Mr. Justice King, State Labor Attorney-General from 1970-75, will be the next Chief Justice. Mr.

Duncan said yesterday, "The decision about the next Chief Justice has yet to be made."

It goes on to point out the order of seniority and shows that Justice Mitchell was appointed in 1965, Justice Walters was appointed in 1966—

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. I did not go on to point out any such matter. Whatever the *Advertiser* reported is entirely its own business, but the honourable member is misleading the House in saying that I pointed out such things. That report was not as a result of any matters that came from my office.

**Mr. Goldsworthy:** That's not a point of order.

**The SPEAKER:** The honourable Deputy Leader is out of order. That decision will be made by the Chair. There is no point of order. The honourable member for Glenelg has the floor.

**Mr. MATHWIN:** Thank you for your protection, Sir. I repeat that the order of seniority is: Justice Mitchell, appointed in 1965; Justice Walters, 1966; Justice Zelling, 1969; Justice Wells, 1970; Justice Sangster, 1971; Justice Jacobs, 1973; and Justice King, 1975.

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** The answers are as follows: No promises have been made to anyone and no decision has been made. As to the question about when the decision will be made and announced, the reply is: "All in good time".

### BIGGLES

**The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL:** Can the Minister of Education elaborate on the recent news reports that indicate that the Libraries Board and some school libraries have banned Biggles books? I ask this question because a wide range of opinions has been expressed about such decisions, if the reports to which I have referred are correct, because it seems that if such decisions have been made they would generally be out of line with community thinking on matters of this nature.

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** I have not wasted the time of my departmental officers making a survey of every school library in the State to find out what is available in those libraries. However, I spoke to the State Library about Captain W. E. Johns's books and I found that Biggles books had not been available generally for 20 years from the State Library. Either through the Childrens Library or its offspring the Youth Library it has not been possible for a child to borrow Biggles books for the past 20 years. This matter was first brought up when a paper was read to a conference in South Australia about some of the assumptions underlying the character of Biggles. I think this provoked some of the ladies and gentlemen of the fourth estate to make a few inquiries as to the availability of Biggles books. When it was discovered they were not generally available from the State Library, some of these strong statements about bans and so on were made.

It is always a matter of judgment for libraries, since not all books can be carried in a library, as to what should be stocked and what should not be stocked. I think the general feeling amongst librarians these days is that the Biggles books do in part convey certain social attitudes which would now be considered undesirable. I refer to the general assumption of superiority on the part of the European race and, even more narrowly, the Anglo-Saxons. The villains are nearly always either non-European or non-Anglo-Saxon and certain derogatory—

**The Hon. Hugh Hudson:** It's a "wogs begin at Calais" attitude.

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** Precisely, it is certainly a

furtherance of the "wogs begin at Calais" type of philosophy. I think these attitudes directly expressed or implied are undesirable. Be that as it may, it is always a matter of judgment as to what books should be stocked. Where books are freely available at reasonable cost through private industry through booksellers there does seem to be a reduced reason for carrying those same books in libraries. I do not intend to exercise any Ministerial authority in this matter. There may be school libraries that carry Biggles books and there may be school libraries that do not. That is a judgment for the individual school.

#### REDCLIFF

**Mr. KENEALLY:** Can the Minister of Mines and Energy provide the House with progress reports that may be available on the deliberations of the committee established by the Loan Council to determine priorities on projects that require Loan Council approval? The project in which I am most interested is the possible petrochemical plant at Redcliff, and I should be pleased if the Minister could say whether there have been any further discussions on this matter.

**The Hon. HUGH HUDSON:** The working party of Under Treasurers established by the Loan Council met in Canberra on Thursday and Friday of last week. It had been hoped that those meetings would finalise the report that that working party was to make to the Loan Council and that the Loan Council could meet, therefore, as soon as possible after the end of last week. However, there has now to be one further meeting before the report can be finalised. Because of the difficulties that one or two State Under Treasurers have in getting to the next meeting, it will not take place until Friday week.

I want to make clear that the State Under Treasurer for South Australia made plain that he would go to Canberra on any day that he was required. The Commonwealth Under Treasurer was not a source of difficulty in this instance; it was two State Under Treasurers. One had problems because he had arranged to go to Japan, and the other had problems with his Budget. As a consequence of all that, the next meeting of the working party will be on Friday week, and it is expected that that meeting will finalise the working report. We have requested of the Prime Minister and the Federal Treasurer that a meeting of the Loan Council be called as soon as practicable after the report from the working party becomes available.

The only other point I emphasise is that this is now becoming a matter of extreme urgency. We really wanted a decision from the Loan Council at its meeting in June. It is 2½ months since the Loan Council meeting, and the working party is still meeting. Inevitably, as each week goes by the lead time available for the project is reduced and the degree of urgency for a decision from the Loan Council increases commensurately. I am certain that the Premier has emphasised to the Prime Minister that a meeting of Loan Council can be held within two weeks of the final meeting of the working party.

#### SCHOOL LOSSES

**Mr. BECKER:** Can the Minister of Education say what action his department is taking to prevent a repetition of the loss of property in schools? The Auditor-General's Report for the year ended 30 June 1978 showed that property valued at \$125 396 was stolen from 398 schools; some 522 thefts were involved. For the financial year ended 30 June 1977 the Auditor-General reported that

there were 273 thefts from 239 schools involving \$36 848. Because of this large increase in the theft of property from schools, which property comprises audio-visual, photographic, sporting and workshop equipment, can the Minister inform the House what his department is doing to prevent this happening?

**The Hon. D. J. HOPGOOD:** While one can anticipate that from time to time thefts will occur, I agree with the implicit assumption behind the honourable member's question that the figures shown in the Auditor-General's Report are unacceptably high. I will bring down a considered reply for the honourable member.

#### INCOME TAX RETURNS

**Mr. HEMMINGS:** Can the Attorney-General say whether it is possible for money-lenders to purchase income tax returns of unemployed or low income people at an exorbitant discount? I have recently become aware of a highly undesirable practice which is rife in Canada. Under this practice, money-lenders purchase the income tax return refunds of unemployed or low-income people at an exorbitant discount. The unemployed person notes an advertisement in the local press or on radio stating that a money-lender offers to provide a loan against a person's taxation refund. The unemployed person then sees the money-lender, who fills in a tax return for the unemployed person, who in turn is required to sign two documents: one is a money-lending agreement, wherein the money-lender agrees to lend forthwith to the unemployed person an amount of, say, 25 per cent of the person's expected tax return; the second document is an assignment of the whole of the moneys to be received from the Taxation Department by the unemployed person. The effect of these transactions is that the money-lender lends a small amount of money (in many instances less than \$100), and then receives sometimes more than 4 000 per cent on the loan. When the taxation refund is received by the money-lender, he keeps the whole of the amount; in effect, the loan is repaid and the balance of the refund becomes interest.

A further pernicious twist to this scheme is that some of the documentation includes an assignment of taxation refunds for a period of up to five or six years in advance, appointing the money-lender as the agent and address of the taxpayer. In this way the unemployed person may tie up his tax returns for some years in advance.

I therefore ask the Attorney-General whether it is possible to operate such a scheme, or a variation of such a scheme, in the context of Commonwealth or South Australian laws. Further, if such a scheme is possible, what methods could the State use to prohibit, restrict or control such practices?

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** It is appropriate that the honourable member should raise this matter at a time when unemployment is so rife in this country. I do not think I could go so far as to say that such a scheme would be legally impossible in Australia. Nevertheless, I believe it would be difficult for it to be operated in South Australia in the light of the legislation provided here by way of the Consumer Credit Act and the Misrepresentation Act. In the Commonwealth sphere, I believe the Commonwealth income tax legislation would make such a scheme far more difficult to operate in South Australia than apparently has been the case in Canada. Such a scheme would be difficult to operate in South Australia because it appears, from what the honourable member has said and from what I know of these schemes, that there must be an element of misrepresentation by the money-lender of the true nature



of the transaction and the extent of the consumer's potential future liability.

In South Australia the Dunstan Government has provided protection, under section 4 of the Misrepresentation Act, against such misrepresentation being made to consumers. Under Commonwealth law, the Income Tax Assessment Act requires that any refund of income tax must be paid to the taxpayer, and the right to receive a refund is not a chose in action; therefore, it cannot be transferred. It is possible, however, for the taxpayer to bind over the sum received by him, by making himself a trustee of it for an assignee, meaning that the taxpayer could, through a complicated series of documents, agree to the scheme. However, it would be quite difficult, and a series of documents would be necessary to set up a scheme such as that apparently operating in Canada.

It is quite unlikely that any such scheme could be established in South Australia. Notwithstanding that, however, I assure the honourable member that such schemes would be most unwelcome in this State. My department will be on the look-out to ensure that no attempts are made to set up such practices here.

#### CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS

**Mr. WILSON:** Is the Minister of Community Welfare satisfied with the increase of 26.6 per cent this year compared to last year in the cost of maintaining a child in McNally, Brookway Park, Vaughan House or Lochiel? The Auditor-General's Report for the financial year ended 30 June 1978 shows the net cost to Consolidated Revenue of maintaining a child in 1977 as \$29 900 a year (I hasten to add that I have just worked out these figures, but I think that they are correct), whereas the net cost of maintaining a child for the year ended 30 June 1978 was \$37 856.

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** I think that the best way to commence to answer the honourable member's question is to say that I do not question his mathematics, because I have not done the necessary yearly calculation yet, either. It is obvious from the figures quoted on a child-week cost basis in the report that a figure of that order would come out. I can only say that, through the department, every effort is made to keep costs to a minimum consistent with providing the proper standard required for taking care of the children concerned. The honourable member would not know that there are children in various categories who have been held in the year under consideration in the places to which he has referred.

For example, the children at Brookway Park would be 15 years of age or under, and in the main would be young people from the metropolitan area who are in that training centre by reason of coming under the care and control of the Minister. There could also be young people from the Aboriginal community. The people who are cared for at Lochiel Park are those who are mentally handicapped in varying degrees and have been placed in the care and control of the Minister under orders of the courts or by reason of arrangements entered into with the Minister by, in some cases, the parents.

The cost involved is such that the base level degree of services, which I am sure the honourable member would agree must be provided to take care of people in those categories, reaches a certain minimum, irrespective of the number held in such places. For example, in Brookway Park, it may well be that an average holding during the year, if taken at a certain time of the year, would be as low as 11 or 12 inmates, whereas within a fortnight it is possible that that number could double. The only possible

way of providing the standard of care and, in some cases, retention, is to have a suitable range of staff, and this staff must be paid.

The question was put to me in the form of the cost for one year compared to that for the following year. Even with the tremendous efforts which, I am sure, the honourable member would argue had been made by the Federal Government to try to keep costs and inflation down, not even mentioning the attendant effects which have been referred to often in the House of high unemployment, inflation did not cease from one year to another. There are costs which must be carried on from year to year. That same level of staff has to be provided, as it must cater for the minimum holding capacity, plus an almost instantaneous change to a much higher holding capacity.

It is probably not readily apparent to the honourable member that the department and I, as Minister, are not in control of the parameters that cause those costs to occur. The parameters are set by agencies, in the main, other than ourselves. It is the courts which make decisions concerning young offenders, and that applies to some of the training centres the honourable member has named. In other cases, there are humanitarian considerations of the necessary care that must be provided for those in the community who are unable to care for themselves.

Of course I am not satisfied on a sheer economic basis but, at the same time, very strenuous efforts are being made to contain those costs within acceptable levels. I remind the honourable member that recently I made an announcement concerning proposed programmes for the handling of young offenders that will perhaps to some extent be contingent on the fate of legislation currently before the House. Those proposals contain other approaches to the matter which, whilst they will have some effect on the overall cost to a certain degree, might tend to magnify, on a simple cost *versus* child basis that figure may increase.

In his report, the Auditor-General has drawn the attention of those reading the report at the page to which the honourable member has referred to the fact that one of the reasons why the figure is increasing is that fewer young people are being admitted into training centres, and I am sure that the honourable member will appreciate the point I am making there.

#### DRUGS

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** Will the Premier say what attitude, and why, did the Government, through the Minister of Health who was representing it, take to the decision made at a recent meeting of State and Commonwealth Ministers concerned with drug abuse to the suppression of the Federal Health Department's publication *Cannabis—a Review*? This matter was raised publicly two or three days ago by one of my Federal colleagues, Senator Chipp.

**Mr. Max Brown:** Your only colleague.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** No fear. I have two Federal colleagues currently (the member for Whyalla had better bring himself up to date), and there will be plenty more to come, too. Two or three days ago, Senator Chipp charged publicly that this report had been suppressed. He raised it, having made his own inquiries after seeing a report in "Clancy's Column" in the *National Times* at the end of July. In part, the report states:

The publication *Cannabis—a Review* was withdrawn at the direction of the meeting of Commonwealth and State Ministers concerned with drug abuse.

It had been on the list of the Federal Health Department



in its February *Technical Information Bulletin* asking for people to get in touch with the department to get unlimited numbers of copies of the report. When Senator Chipp made this statement at the weekend it was immediately denied, first by the Federal Liberal Minister, Mr. Hunt, who said it was untrue, and also by the Minister of Health in South Australia, who denied there was any such report. Yesterday, Mr. Hunt had to climb down and admit that there had been a report and that the decision (and there is a report about this in this morning's paper) had been made at the conference to suppress it. I know that the Minister of Health is sometimes notably out of step with a number of his colleagues, such as the Attorney-General—

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member is commenting.

**The Hon. Peter Duncan:** That's not true!

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** You were out of touch about some perfume the other day.

**The SPEAKER:** I hope that the honourable member will continue his question.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** I was pointing out that the Minister of Health does not always speak with the same voice as do other Ministers.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! If the honourable member continues to comment I will withdraw his leave.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** According to the answer I received today to a Question on Notice, we have already spent more than \$500 000 on our own Royal Commission, I therefore ask this question hoping that the Government was not a party to the suppression of any information on this subject.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I am not aware of the suppression of any information. I will get a report from my colleague.

#### ELECTORAL ROLL

**Dr. EASTICK:** My question is to the Attorney-General and is supplementary to the reply I received today to Question on Notice No. 389, which related to the number of electors registered in the 47 House of Assembly seats. Can the Attorney say why, between December 1977 and July 1978, there was a reduction in the voting public of South Australia of 8 176 or, if that is related to individual House of Assembly seats, of an average of 174 electors a seat? I note from the figures in the reply, which were given on a month by month basis from December 1977, that only nine House of Assembly seats now have elector numbers greater than those that pertained in December 1977. Those seats are Todd, Mawson, Murray, Newland, Henley Beach, Alexandra, Baudin, Chaffey and Coles. The other 38 seats have fewer electors than recorded in December 1977, albeit some of them are only slightly different. Obviously, the Attorney must know the reason for that marked reduction of 8 176 electors throughout the State.

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** Like the honourable member, when I first received the figures, I was somewhat surprised at the decline that had occurred, so I sought an explanation from the Acting Electoral Commissioner, who quite satisfactorily explained to me—

**Mr. Dean Brown:** They've all gone to Queensland.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable Attorney-General has the floor.

**The Hon. PETER DUNCAN:** As much as the honourable member would like to hear that sort of explanation, that is not the case. The situation is simply that the number of electors on the roll always increases

significantly just before elections, as people who have turned 18, or who have moved here from other States, or from one electorate to another scramble to become enrolled just before the election so that they can, in most cases, continue to support the Dunstan Government at the polls. Gradually, once the election passes, more people shift, and people who are turning 18 do not bother to enrol as soon as they might. In addition, the natural wastage that occurs is from time to time removed from the roll by the surveys that are undertaken by Commonwealth and State electoral departments.

*At 3.16 p.m., the bells having been rung:*

**The SPEAKER:** Call on the business of the day.

#### ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTS TREATMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Received from the Legislative Council and read a first time.

#### INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2)

His Excellency the Governor, by message, intimated his assent to the Bill.

#### APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 2) AND PUBLIC PURPOSES LOAN BILL

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of the general revenue of the State as were required for all the purposes set out in the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1978-79 and the Appropriation Bill (No. 2), 1978.

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of the revenue and other moneys of the State as were required for all the purposes set out in the Loan Estimates for the financial year 1978-79 and the Public Purposes Loan Bill, 1978.

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

That the Standing Orders be so far suspended as to enable the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) and the Public Purposes Loan Bill to be—

- (a) presented and read a first time together and one motion moved without delay and one question put in regard to, respectively, the second readings, the Committee's report stage and the third readings of both Bills together; and
- (b) considered in one Committee of the Whole.

**Mr. TONKIN (Leader of the Opposition):** I do not in any way disagree with the principle that the Public Purposes Loan Bill and the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) should be taken together for the purposes of debate in this House and consideration in Committee. I have no doubt that the documents that will be presented in relation to these measures will be much the same as have been presented in the past. I support the principle that both should be

examined together to give a general picture of the overall financial situation of the State.

However, I must make the point, which I believe is significant, that in these circumstances members of the Opposition, who have not had an opportunity to examine the preliminary planning stages of the Budget and the Loan Estimates, will, of necessity, be limited in the time that they will have to consider these Bills together. For that reason they should not be expected to consider both Bills in the time normally available under Standing Orders for second reading debate on each. Therefore, although I have no objection to the suspension that has been moved, I foreshadow that I will try to amend Standing Orders to provide that the time available for members to debate together the second reading of the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) and the Public Purposes Loan Bill shall be twice that normally available under Standing Orders for second reading debates.

Motion carried.

**Mr. TONKIN:** I move:

That the Standing Orders be so far suspended as to enable the time available to members for the debate on the second reading of the Appropriation Bill (No. 2) and the Public Purposes Loan Bill, together, be twice that normally available under the Standing Orders for second reading debates.

I have already explained my reasons, but I state again that the consideration of the Budget documents and the Loan Estimates in this House by this Parliament on behalf of the people of this State is probably the most significant feature of our Parliamentary responsibility. For that reason, I do not think that the Opposition should in any way be limited in its consideration of those matters, nor do I think that there should be any suggestion that the Opposition has been limited in its consideration of those matters.

An unfortunate incident occurred some time ago with the presentation of the Budget to this House, when the time available to members in the Committee stage was limited, and I believe everyone regrets that very much indeed. I would hate to see a forward and progressive move where both documents are considered together, as I think they rightly should be, marred by any suggestion that the Opposition is being deprived of the appropriate time to consider them.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I oppose the motion.

**Mr. Tonkin:** Shame!

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The Leader is being ridiculous in calling "Shame" on this. The Leader is proposing that every member in this House will be able to debate the second reading for one hour.

**Mr. Tonkin:** He may wish to and it is his right.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable Leader was heard in silence, and I hope the Premier will be.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** Standing Orders make perfectly adequate provision for the second reading debate. The consideration of the Budget Estimates then proceeds in Committee, and there is ample opportunity for consideration of the matters concerning the Loan Estimates and the Budget in Committee. No time table has been provided which will limit members in the Committee stage and in consequence there is ample opportunity for members to consider all documents before them on the financial measures.

The House divided on the motion:

Ayes (18)—Mrs. Adamson, Messrs. Allison, Arnold, Becker, Blacker, Dean Brown, Chapman, Eastick, Evans, Goldsworthy, Mathwin, Millhouse, Nankivell, Rodda, Russack, Tonkin (teller), Venning, and Wotton.

Noes (24)—Messrs. Abbott, Bannon, Broomhill, and

Max Brown, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Drury, Duncan, Dunstan (teller), Groom, Groth, Harrison, Hemmings, Hopgood, Hudson, Keneally, Klunder, McRae, Olson, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, Wells, and Whitten.

Pairs—Ayes—Messrs. Gunn and Wilson. Noes—Messrs. Corcoran and Wright.

Majority of 6 for the Noes.

Motion thus negatived.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN** obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act for the appropriation of revenue of the State for the financial year ending on 30 June 1979 and for other purposes, and also a Bill for an Act to authorise the Treasurer to borrow and expend money for public purposes, and to enact other provisions incidental thereto. Read a first time.

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

*That these Bills be now read a second time.*

In doing so, I seek leave to vary long standing practice and to introduce the two Bills simultaneously in the belief that it will give all Members the opportunity to understand more clearly and consider more effectively the Government's overall financial plans. The move accords with accepted financial management principles and recognises the growing inter-dependence of the Revenue and Loan Accounts, each on the other.

The Government's Revenue and Loan Budget proposals for 1978-79 provide for a balance on the year's combined operations. The Budget has been framed against one of the most difficult financial and economic backgrounds this State has seen for many years. It is a background which has seen the favourable financial position of the Government's accounts, built up through our careful and sound management of the State's resources, eroded as a direct result of recent Commonwealth Government policies.

Last year, when I introduced the Loan Estimates to this House, I said that to maintain existing services and to offset some of the worst effects of the Commonwealth's budget on the building and construction industry and on employment would take all the accumulated reserves on the combined accounts. That proved to be the case and we now enter the 1978-79 financial year with a small accumulated deficit of \$6.5 million on our combined accounts.

#### *The National Economy*

During 1977-78 most economic indicators performed very sluggishly. They can be summed up in the overall figure for the Gross Domestic Product. In real terms G.D.P. rose by only 1.4 per cent between 1976-77 and 1977-78. This was a very low figure whether it is compared with normal Australian levels—averaging 4 per cent to 5 per cent in the fifties and sixties—or with the current performance of other countries having a similar standard of living.

Within sectors, by the end of the 1977-78 financial year, Australia's economic position was—

- static industrial production
- very depressed new dwelling construction
- a depressed heavy construction industry
- slightly improving but still low new car sales
- modest real increases occurring in retail sales
- the balance of payments under strain and requiring heavy overseas borrowing to maintain reserve levels.

One figure summarises the slump in Australia's new dwelling construction industry—the 117 700 houses and flats commenced in 1977-78. This was the lowest figure for housing commencements since 1966-67, and compares with a close-to-normal level of 141 700 in 1976-77. And the

position deteriorated over the year. The number of new housing approvals nation-wide in July was the lowest since 1962. New housing activity levels have a marked effect on sales of new domestic appliances. In the other major consumer durable area, new motor vehicle registrations in the last financial year amounted to just under 564 000, a figure lower than for any of the four previous years.

The Australian recession has now lasted four years. The number of unemployment registrants rose sharply between mid-1974 and mid-1975, from 79 000 to 246 000; flattened out in 1975-76, and would have declined had it not been for the abolition of the Federal RED Scheme; but since then has jumped by 68 000 to 333 000 in the year to June, 1977 and by another 61 000 to 394 000 in the year to June, 1978.

In addition, there has been a very severe fall in the proportion of people who even consider themselves in the work force. In the 13 months to June, 1978 it is estimated that 131 000 people around Australia have been so discouraged by work prospects that they have opted right out of the work force. This number needs to be added to the increase in unemployment to obtain the true dimension and social cost of our current economic malaise.

Within the 13 months to June, 1978 the average duration of unemployment rose sharply, from 19.1 weeks to 26.1 weeks, for seekers of full-time work.

The only good news on the national economic front has been the falling inflation rate. At the time of the 1977 Commonwealth budget, the Commonwealth Treasury's estimate of 1977-78 inflation had been a figure in excess of 10.5 per cent. However, the CPI actually stood 9.5 per cent higher on average in 1977-78 than in 1976-77. Most of the decrease occurred because productivity gains have been reflected in restraint on cost increases, and hence on inflation, rather than in the potential wage improvements set out under the indexation guidelines. The ACTU is to be commended for its responsible wage policy, which has facilitated the continuing reduction in inflation.

#### *The State Economy*

During the four years 1973-74 to 1976-77 the South Australian economy, on most of the key economic indicators (such as new dwellings, new motor vehicle sales, employment levels), had fared better than the Australian average. However, the national recession caught up finally with South Australia towards the end of last financial year.

From a position of consistently below national-average unemployment in the period mid-1973 to the first part of 1978, this State has been hard hit in recent months. The main contributing factors have been—

- heavy retrenchments in car manufacturing
- the virtual closing down in recent months of the Whyalla shipbuilding industry.
- some decline in domestic appliances manufacturing
- adverse seasonal conditions leading to major reductions in employment in food processing and agricultural machinery
- a decline in housing and associated industries.

Over the year to June, 1978, civilian employment in South Australia has declined by just under 10 000. The reduction is almost entirely accounted for by the falls in the manufacturing and construction sectors of the economy. Elsewhere gains in some sectors (such as finance, insurance, real estate and business services) have been offset by reductions in others (such as motor vehicle dealers, petrol and tyre retailers).

Nearly 90 per cent of the decline in manufacturing is to be explained by the developments which I outlined a few moments ago. In particular, South Australia has lost some

3 500 jobs in the transport equipment sector of our economy. The recent major problems at one of our large car concerns have been well publicised, and need little further explanation. It remains, true, however, that the restructuring of the company now in progress has been hindered by the depression of the national market to which I referred earlier. The overwhelming bulk of its output is sold to that national market. The transport equipment sector has also been hit heavily by the virtual closing of the Whyalla shipyards. More than 1 000 jobs have been lost there over the past year.

Especially dry conditions over the past three years have placed the State's rural-based activities under heavy pressure. While the long-overdue breaking of the drought earlier this year was very welcome, it has served initially to depress further employment prospects as graziers re-stock instead of sending output to the slaughter yards. In consequence of these developments, there has been a decline in employment of more than 1 000 in food processing, and a lesser reduction in agricultural implement manufacturing.

In addition, following a boom in the new dwelling sector of housing in 1976 and the first part of 1977, there has been a marked reduction in employment offered in the building industry as unsold new housing stocks are being run down. The fall in South Australian new dwellings commenced was from 14 260 in 1976-77 to 9 472 in 1977-78. Part of this was in line with general recession nationally. A further part was in correction of speculative over-building, which had occurred in a number of cities including Adelaide and Melbourne.

It is anticipated that in South Australia most of the excess stocks will have been worked off by early 1979. Some rise in new housing activity should then eventuate. The recent announcement by my colleague, the Minister for Planning, of new SGIC-financed long-term additional loans through the State Bank will assist this process. And along with the gains in employment in prospect in the coming year in housing, there should also be improvements in those industries basically dependent on dwellings. Over the past year, for example, about 1 000 jobs have been lost in non-metallic mineral products and wood products. Their resurgence, along with that of the household appliances sector, would be greatly assisted by any recovery in the national housing market.

The Department of Economic Development and other State agencies have been engaged heavily over the past year in the process of assisting the restructuring of the local economy. Despite the adverse national economic climate, a number of significant gains for South Australia have been accomplished. In particular, the part played by the South Australian Development Corporation in setting in train a major expansion of the food processing industry in the Riverland is noteworthy. We would also be assisted greatly by construction of a petro-chemical complex at Redcliff. A number of other important projects have been the subject of major progress also during the year just ended. It remains true, however, that Australian industry in general needs to become more export-orientated. I am pleased to say that a number of our South Australian firms have been pioneers in this area.

South Australia has more than shared in the reduction of national inflation. Over the 12 months to June, 1978, the Consumer Price Index rose locally by 7.6 per cent as compared with the 7.9 per cent national rate. Adelaide's rise over the year was the second smallest of the six State capitals, being only one-tenth of a per cent higher than Sydney's rate. It remained well below the inflation rate recorded in Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth.

### *The Commonwealth Budget*

Given the very gloomy national economic scene, my Government favoured a controlled stimulus to the economy in the 1978 Commonwealth budget. It is the estimate of our economic advisers that no stimulus to the economy is given in that document for this financial year. Indeed that is also the judgement of Liberal leaders elsewhere in Australia. To quote only a mild comment, Sir Charles Court said that the policy being followed is a "prescription for recession".

It is argued by the Commonwealth Government that its pressure on prices and interest rates, by restraining economic activity, will induce sufficient local and international investment to call forth, at some indefinite point, a revival in sales, production and employment.

It has been well said that the Commonwealth budget is based on a series of gambles, the chief of which are—

- that extra-high unemployment will make a contribution to reducing inflation
- that private consumption will rise strongly in real terms to offset non-growth in the Government sector and low growth in private investment and exports; and
- that revenues will hold up to the optimistic budget forecasts better than they did last financial year, despite the similar prospect of higher unemployment which threatens consumer confidence.

Every one of these gambles is subject to considerable doubt. But it is extremely dubious that any extra restraint on inflation will come from the additional unemployment now freely admitted to be in prospect by the Prime Minister and his Treasurer. Even in terms of the economic model adopted by Commonwealth Treasury, the so-called "inflationary expectations" theory, the disastrous prospective increases in unemployment represent an exercise in over-kill. That theory, which I do not for a moment accept as a valid representation of reality, suggests that inflation will fall so long as unemployment is above the so-called natural rate. Even the highest guesses by adherents to this line suggest that in Australia the natural rate is no greater than 4 per cent. We now have unemployment of 6 per cent even at the seasonal trough. In other words, there is already more than enough unemployment in the system to ensure compliance with the Commonwealth Treasury's theory. On the basis of that theory, inflation will fall, almost come what may. Hence, the prospective increases in unemployment amount to savage and sadistic over-kill. Even in terms of the theory of inflationary expectations, it would have been perfectly possible to attempt to reduce both unemployment and inflation simultaneously.

Last year when I introduced the Budget to this House, I said that the Commonwealth Government's policies would not be conducive to economic recovery. I noted that "the projected M3 money supply target of 8 per cent to 10 per cent is simply inadequate to finance the sort of recovery that the Australian economy and Australians generally need". In particular, I said that "the housing industry will remain depressed throughout the country". Both predictions proved absolutely correct. Unfortunately, I was wide of the mark on my other prediction that by now "the message of all State Premiers may have gotten through to the Prime Minister". What we are still getting is more of the same contractionary policy. I am sure that the Commonwealth Government will not win all of its gambles, and that in consequence we will see levels of unemployment of around 500 000 this financial year, not counting the great number of hidden unemployed.

Despite the doleful picture, the Commonwealth is still pursuing a hard and relentless line towards business activity, whether conducted privately or publicly. It will

not relent to give a stimulus to the economy through either sector. In particular, it has ignored completely the pleas of all State Premiers—Liberal, Labor and National Party alike—for some moderate relaxation of its economic policy.

At the meeting of the Australian Loan Council in June, 1978, the Commonwealth Government agreed to support a total programme of \$1 434 million for State works and services. South Australia's share of this programme is \$186.9 million. That programme is for the same money amount as in 1977-78. It has no regard for inflation, which is forecast by the Commonwealth Treasury to be running at about 6 per cent in 1978-79. In other words, the Government's capital works programme for 1978-79 has been reduced effectively by \$11 million below the inadequate 1977-78 level, which had itself been cut in real terms over the previous two-year period. It is South Australia's private sector construction firms who will suffer most from this savage reduction.

In another major area of Commonwealth Government financial support—personal income tax sharing—we have fared little better. The combined effects of high and increasing unemployment and lesser increases in income levels have so diminished the Commonwealth Government's personal income tax collections that the State is now unlikely to receive in 1978-79 any more than it would have received under the old formula arrangement. In 1975 and 1976 it was said by the Prime Minister that his policy of "New Federalism" would be of great benefit to the States. It is now clear from all the evidence that that much vaunted policy is in tatters. I will return to this matter in just a moment.

In those two major areas alone, the Government is facing a significant shortfall in funds below reasonable expectation. On top of that, the Commonwealth Government has abandoned the Hospital Development programme, at a cost to South Australia of over \$5 million; drastically reduced its support for the School Dental programme, the Leisure and Cultural Facilities programme, the Government Schools programme and the Childhood Services programme. Further, it has varied, without warning, the funding arrangements for Natural Disaster Relief programmes which will impose an additional and totally unexpected cost of over \$3 million on the State budget for drought relief measures this financial year.

To that imposing array must be added Welfare Housing for which the Commonwealth Government has reduced its support to South Australia by more than \$11 million below the 1977-78 level. Indeed, in money terms, it is the lowest level of support since 1973-74.

While there have been a few areas of increased support, notably Technical and Further Education and the Bovine Brucellosis and Tuberculosis campaign, these factors have resulted in this State being down some \$33 million in 1978-79 as compared with the most conservative expectations of Commonwealth Government support previously used for planning purposes.

From South Australia's viewpoint the cut in car sales tax rates announced in the budget is welcome. My Government has been calling for such a reduction for some considerable period now. By itself it should lead to some lift in car production and employment. However, it is accompanied by savage depletions elsewhere of disposable income and adverse impacts on petrol prices, so that it remains to be seen whether much net stimulus has been given to the industry.

Another industry of special importance to this State, the brandy industry, has been dealt a severe blow by the 83.6 per cent increase in brandy excise. The inevitable big rise

in brandy prices must cause a substantial contraction in sales which in turn will affect the intake of certain types of grapes, the growers of which are concentrated in the Riverland areas. In many cases a high proportion of growers' incomes comes from the sale of such varieties, which now appear unlikely to be needed in the 1979 vintage. My Government finds this brandy impost unjustifiable and incomprehensible.

#### *State Budgetary Strategy*

Last year I delivered a budget designed to offset as far as possible the contractionary forces bearing down on the State economy from Commonwealth policies. To a large extent that policy was successful. For most of the past financial year unemployment in South Australia remained below the national average. Members will realise how much of an historical exception that situation has been in times of national recession. It was not until almost the very end of the financial year, in the figures for May, that the State's unemployment rate finally edged above the Statistician's national estimate. While the contractionary forces were very heavy indeed, the State's budgetary policy offset them for the greater part of the year. In the light of circumstances then in effect, the Government thought it sensible to tide over the South Australian economy until such time as the upturn came in national business fortunes.

Following the patent neglect of the counsels of the united Premiers by the Prime Minister, there is now no prospect of a recovery in national economic activity levels for some considerable period ahead. We have to plan accordingly. It is not possible, given our resources in relation to those of the Commonwealth Government, to offset these contractionary policies indefinitely. We would be simply out-gunned. In consequence, I am forced now very largely into the position of being unable to use the South Australian Government's budgetary policies to resist further the Prime Minister's repressive theories.

It has been said by many people, including the Prime Minister, that such restrictive policies will lead to a fall in unemployment. Unfortunately, they have precisely the opposite effect. I pointed out last year at this time that an output growth of at least 4 per cent a year was needed merely to stop unemployment rising. That cannot happen unless support is given to either or both the public and the private sector. No support has been given at the Commonwealth level. In consequence, output has not risen sufficiently rapidly, and unemployment has climbed inexorably.

I have included in this budget several measures which will help the private sector. One such is the Establishment Payments Scheme which will help significantly to induce business to locate and expand in this State.

My colleague, the Deputy Premier, announced last week the introduction of the Establishment Payments Scheme. This new scheme, which is estimated to cost \$1.5 million in 1978-79 and more in a full year, is available either as a long-term loan or a grant to new and expanding industry in South Australia. It is designed to encourage economically viable and export-orientated industries to establish or expand in South Australia by means of a single payment related primarily to the increased employment and capital investment undertaken. The maximum payment to any one firm is \$375 000 in nominated regions, \$325 000 in the major service centres, and \$315 000 in Adelaide and the rest of the State. The detailed criteria have already been announced by my colleague.

Two factors have led us to introduce this new policy. In the first place, studies have shown conclusively that the success of regional development is intimately bound up

with the birth rate of new firms. Most of today's big firms started off as small operations, and we would like to give every encouragement to the birth of new firms and their subsequent growth. However, we are also impressed by the critical capital needs faced by viable firms early in their history. We have decided, therefore, to concentrate assistance to them at this stage. Those taking advantage of the scheme can get off to a flying start in South Australia.

In the overall economic interests of the State, the Government has decided also that it will not increase existing taxation rates, or introduce new taxation measures in 1978-79. As far as possible, we will seek to avoid imposing extra burdens on a private sector now ravaged by factors outside its control.

During the past three financial years the Government has abolished the petrol franchise tax, rural land tax and succession duty on property passing to a surviving spouse. We have also reduced stamp duties on conveyances, increased the exemption levels for payroll tax and given other relief in succession duties and land tax.

I would like to do more to help both the private sector and the unemployed in this budget, because I am convinced that such help is necessary. However, beyond these decisions we are captives of the financial chains imposed on us by the Commonwealth Government.

In these circumstances, in the expectation of little real improvement in 1979-80, and with the prospect of having to find funds for Redcliff, a major development project of economic importance to the State, the Government has no choice but to take a number of hard and regrettably unpopular decisions to prune expenditures in order to achieve a balance on its 1978-79 operations.

As a first measure, we are planning to hold the public service to a no-growth constraint in 1978-79. We will review services and re-deploy staff, where necessary, to meet urgent needs and new initiatives as they arise. The effect in some vulnerable areas will need to be watched closely, including in our National Parks and Wildlife Service where an upgrading of services is urgently required.

Secondly, there will be a major thrust by the South Australian Health Commission to rationalise services and to reduce hospital operating costs, while being careful not to undermine standards of patient care. The Education Department will need to review its plans for increased non-contact time for primary teachers and for the provision of ancillary staff in all Government schools.

Thirdly, we are examining critically all existing programmes and activities and, where possible, we will divert resources to achieve further economies of operation consistent with an acceptable level of service to the public. We will maintain a firm control over all expenditures. Later in my speech, and in great detail in Attachment III, I will give fuller comment on the Auditor-General's suggestions for improvements and the responses of Departments.

Nevertheless, other more unpalatable measures have to be taken. I have already announced that the Government will have to restrict its support for the State Unemployment Relief Scheme to a programme of \$7 million this financial year. It is a decision which the Government deeply regrets and has found difficult to take. The scheme has proved to be a most effective one, not only in providing jobs, but also in providing facilities and services of real value to the community. As a direct result of the Commonwealth Government's actions, we are now being forced to reduce drastically the operations of the scheme at a time when all the evidence shows that those operations will be sorely needed. Moreover, the cutback will adversely affect that Government's deficit, because of

the taxation it will lose and the extra unemployment benefits it will have to pay.

In addition, hospital, school and other Government building programmes will have to be reduced substantially in 1978-79. Again, this decision is one of concern to the Government, but the inescapable fact is that the State's financial resources have been so depleted by the Commonwealth's decisions, that it is just no longer possible for the Government to give as much support as it has in the past to industry in this State through Government building programmes. However, we hope that the adverse effect on the building and construction industry, and on employment in this State, will be offset to a considerable extent by non-budgetary measures involving the State Government Insurance Commission, the South Australian Superannuation Investment Trust and other agencies. Once again the SGIC will prove its value to South Australia. The Members opposite who opposed the birth of this magnificent institution can ponder the wisdom of their past remarks. We can be very thankful that we have this source of finance to help reduce the inroads being made on the State's construction industry.

Against that background, let me now give Members a brief overview of the total financial position.

#### *1977-78—Combined Accounts*

Members will recall that, when I introduced the Revenue Budget in October last, my Government planned for a deficit of \$18.4 million after providing for two special provisions, one of \$12 million to support the 1977-78 operations of the Loan Account and one of \$22 million to provide for the continuation and some expansion of the State Unemployment Relief Scheme.

In the event, \$3.4 million was required to support the Loan Account and \$24.5 million was provided for the State Unemployment Relief Scheme, including \$2.3 million towards the 1978-79 programme.

On Revenue Account receipts fell \$3.8 million below estimate, the main falls being in the area of stamp duties, succession duties and payroll tax. Payments exceeded estimate by \$2.7 million, the main increases being interest on the public debt, unemployment relief works, health services, drought relief payments, power for pumping and other costs associated with water supply and sewerage services.

The final result showed an excess of payments over receipts of \$24.9 million for the year.

As to Loan Account, with the support of \$3.4 million from Revenue Account, the planned balance on the year's operations was achieved. Receipts and payments were each \$5.8 million below estimate.

There were, of course, a number of variations from estimates in both receipts and payments in 1977-78 on both accounts and these are documented fully in Attachment I to the printed Financial Statement.

The Government commenced the 1977-78 financial year with accumulated reserves of \$18.4 million on its combined accounts.

Those reserves have now been applied towards the excess of payments over receipts of \$24.9 million on the year's operations. As at 30th June, 1978, there was an accumulated deficit of \$6.5 million on the combined accounts.

#### *1978-79—Combined Accounts*

I have said already that the Government proposes to maintain a balance on the 1978-79 operations of its

combined accounts. Accordingly, the accumulated deficit is planned to be \$6.5 million at 30th June, 1979.

With respect to Revenue Account, the prospect is for a balance after providing for an unemployment relief appropriation of \$4.7 million (which, together with \$2.3 million set aside in 1977-78, will give a total programme of \$7 million), the recall of \$17.5 million from the Pipelines Authority and the transfer of \$5 million from Loan Account.

Earlier this year, the South Australian Oil and Gas Corporation was established for the purposes of acquiring the Commonwealth Government equity interest in the Cooper Basin, of carrying out further development and of increasing the level of exploration. This wise move has enabled the Government to recall \$17.5 million, previously made available from Revenue Account to the Pipelines Authority of South Australia for these purposes.

In the past I carefully accumulated surpluses and reserves to hold against the time they would be needed to offset economic tribulation. The Opposition constantly demanded that I dissipate them by reducing revenue. The Government's decision to hold and to use them sensibly to give local stimuli in the construction industry and job creation was the right course. But they do not last forever.

As to Loan Account, the proposal is for a balance also on the year's operations after providing support of \$5 million to Revenue Account.

Before turning to the detailed explanations on those budget proposals, I would like to comment, briefly, on a few more major issues.

#### *Personal Income Tax Sharing*

We have had two years' experience of an arrangement between the Commonwealth and the States for the sharing of personal income tax collections. We now enter the third year of that arrangement.

The Government faces the prospect that, for the second time in the three-year period, it will receive no more than it would have received under the old Financial Assistance Grants Formula.

I have said before that the benefits ascribed to the New Federalism were largely illusory. In the present circumstances, I see no need to further justify that view.

There are, however, two important aspects of the arrangements which need to be brought to the attention of Members.

The first is the review of State relativities which is to take place before 30th June, 1981—a review which the Commonwealth seems determined to use as the basis for depriving South Australia of the financial benefits which it obtained by transferring the non-metropolitan railways to the Commonwealth. Needless to say, any such move will be resisted with every means at our disposal.

The second is the passing of Commonwealth legislation late in 1977-78 which now opens the way for all States to impose a surcharge on or grant a rebate from Commonwealth personal income tax. We have no plans to involve South Australia in such an operation.

For 1978-79 the Commonwealth has estimated that South Australia's formula guarantee will be \$562.6 million. This estimate is based on the assumption that average wages for the year to March, 1979, will be 8 per cent greater than average wages for the year to March, 1978. We do not believe that wage increases will reach that level and have adopted a wage factor of 7 per cent for the purpose of calculating the State's entitlement. This would yield \$557.4 million and this estimate has been incorporated in the State Budget.

Attachment II sets out in more detail the course of recent events of the income tax sharing arrangement.

*Housing*

The new Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement offers the potential for much more flexibility in welfare housing programmes. Unfortunately, reductions in the level of Commonwealth finance will have the opposite effect.

After three years in which the amount allocated by the Commonwealth for housing was held at \$56.4 million, there was an increase of about 4 per cent to \$58.5 million in 1977-78. This year the Commonwealth contribution is divided into two parts, a basic allocation and an amount which will be available only if the States provide matching funds on a \$1 for \$1 basis. South Australia's share, in proportion to its share in previous years, will be—

	\$ million
Basic .....	27.9
Matched element .....	19.5
	47.4

This represents a significant reduction on the \$58.5 million we had last financial year.

We will have no difficulty in proving that our own allocations to housing are more than sufficient to attract the matched element of Commonwealth funds. Even so, the Commonwealth allocation is \$11.1 million, or nearly 20 per cent, less than in 1977-78.

The decision of the Commonwealth, not only to refrain from increasing its allocations in line with inflationary increases in the price of basic housing but to actually reduce them in money terms, has reduced the capacity of the States to provide assistance to people of modest means seeking housing. South Australia has contributed significant sums from its own resources in recent years in an attempt to overcome the worst effects of these decreases in the real level of Commonwealth support.

This year's reduced allocation will make it all the more difficult. However, we are examining ways and means of reducing the impact on low income home buyers and the recent announcements of the Minister for Planning with regard to the issue by the State Bank of additional loans for 15 years represents one of the steps we propose to take. Others are under examination and will be announced at the appropriate time.

*Cooper Basin*

While no allocation is proposed in 1978-79 for Cooper Basin activities, I believe it would be appropriate to give Members a brief report on the project as it is one of the most important areas in which the Government has taken an initiative in recent years.

Members may recall that last year I informed them of the South Australian Government's firm offer to acquire the Commonwealth Government's equity interest in the Cooper Basin. That offer was finally accepted and the interest was obtained for a cash outlay of \$12.5 million.

Likewise, Members will recall that earlier this year, an Act was passed which made possible the establishment of the South Australian Oil and Gas Corporation, a company with the South Australian Gas Company and the Pipelines Authority of South Australia as shareholders. The Corporation is now functioning and will represent the Government as a member of the Cooper Basin Producer consortium.

The Cooper Basin is, at this stage, probably the single most important factor in the economic development and industrial security of this State. The Government will be looking to the Corporation for the proper exploration and development of this valuable asset. Members will be aware from recent publicity of other significant changes in the equity interest in the Cooper Basin.

*Redcliff*

The proposed development of a petro-chemical complex at Redcliff, between Port Pirie and Port Augusta, is vital to the effective use of the gas and liquids resources of the Cooper Basin. It is also of considerable importance to the industrial base of this State and to the creation of employment opportunities.

Detailed negotiations with the Commonwealth Government in respect to the financing of infrastructure have extended over many months. I am confident that an early and favourable response to our submissions will be forthcoming in the form of Commonwealth support at a special meeting of the Australian Loan Council. We expect this to lead to a special approval for the Electricity Trust and the Pipelines Authority to raise additional semi-Government loans.

In the meantime, the Government is reviewing its financial resources so that adequate reserves may be available to meet in full our commitment to this valuable development project. It will involve the reallocation of resources from other areas of government priority.

*Unemployment Relief*

We all know that unemployment in Australia today is at an alarming level and is increasing. It has become a massive problem which not only denies people work opportunities and work experience, but also creates significant social problems.

Whilst the Commonwealth Government's economic policies continue to ignore the problem, the South Australian Government has taken practical and positive steps to reduce the plight of its people, particularly its young people, by providing considerable funds for the operation of a State Unemployment Relief scheme. Since 1975, when the Commonwealth abandoned its Regional Employment Development Scheme, the State has provided \$46.5 million to finance unemployment relief projects. We propose to appropriate a further \$4.7 million in 1978-79 taking the total to just over \$51 million.

The scheme has proved to be most effective and, indeed, I am pleased to be able to report that—

- (a) approximately 13 500 people have been employed under the scheme to date with an average employment period of 14 weeks.
- (b) of 7 700 people employed during 1977-78, about 1 500 have found permanent employment with their sponsors or other employers.
- (c) about 600 people are currently employed and all recruitment is arranged through the Commonwealth Employment Service.
- (d) administration costs have been kept to a minimum and, in fact, they represent about 0.5 per cent of funds employed.

Furthermore, the scheme is not just one of making jobs. It is providing a host of facilities and services which are of real value to the community. Nor is it confined to construction works. Jobs are being provided in the clerical and administrative area, in social and community work and for many people with professional qualifications.

It is with deep regret that the Government finds that it must now curtail this programme. I can only hope that the Prime Minister will see his way clear to heed the advice of all Premiers and other concerned people and relax some areas of his Government's economic policy so that some improvement may occur in this tragic situation.

*Drought Relief*

It is pleasing indeed to see the end of the drought conditions which have blighted this State for so long.



Severe hardship has been caused to many people, particularly those on the West Coast and in the Murray Mallee area.

Despite the improvement in seasonal conditions, there is still need for support for many people in the rural community who have to wait until later in the financial year to secure benefit from those improved conditions. Consequently we have included about \$11 million in the budget for this purpose.

The Commonwealth has varied its funding arrangements to require the State now to meet the first \$3 million under the Natural Disasters Relief programme and 25 per cent of all expenditure above that level. Again the Commonwealth has shown complete disregard for appropriate consultation and made that detailed arrangement without reference to this State or others.

The impact on the State Budget in 1978-79 is estimated at just under \$5 million.

#### *Effective use of Resources*

I propose to comment briefly on the benefits to be obtained from long term planning of our financial resources, from improved financial management and from review of policies and operations.

As Members know from my previous reports on the matter, the Government has been planning its capital works on a three year rolling programme for a number of years. Forward planning has been of considerable benefit in achieving the effective use of our resources and, further, has helped us to cushion the adverse effects of recent budgetary decisions taken by the Commonwealth.

Last year I informed the House that Treasury officers were working with departments on the development of a two year forward planning programme for Revenue Account. Progress has been made and useful information is now available in respect to the 1979-80 financial year.

On the matter of the review of the Government accounting systems to facilitate the development by Treasury and departments of budgets and financial management systems which place greater emphasis on individual responsibility and accountability, further progress has been made. The Public Accounts Committee has given its support to proposals for a new Government accounting system and Treasury is now developing the first stage of that system. The aim is for introduction in 1980-81.

As I mentioned last year, all departments have been asked to examine critically their existing activities and to identify areas where economies might be achieved. Benefits have arisen out of this initiative and, in order to maximise those benefits, the Government has established a Co-ordination of Review Group comprising the Chairman of the Public Service Board, the Director-General of the Premier's Department, the Under Treasurer, and the Auditor-General. The function of the Group is to co-operate with, and assist departmental management in the development and implementation of more effective financial management systems and in the carrying out of reviews of departmental operations. I emphasise the words co-operate and assist as the responsibility for these matters must rest, properly, with the Permanent Departmental Head. The Group has been asked also to follow up and report on the action taken by departments in respect to financial management and other matters raised by the Auditor-General in his report to Parliament.

Matters raised by the Auditor-General and action taken in response to his comments are set out in considerable detail in Attachment III. I hope that Members will read carefully through that document. It has been suggested

from time to time by the Opposition, by newspapers and public comment that the Government simply has taken no action in respect of the Auditor-General's comments. Those accusations are completely unfounded, as will be seen by the attachment that sets out the work that has been done in Government departments in response to suggestions by the Auditor-General.

Long term financial stability has been, and will continue to be, one of the major aspects of the Government's policies. I cannot say this too often or too strongly. We see the firm control of expenditures within the limits approved, the improvement of our financial planning and budgeting, the achievement of economies wherever practicable and the flexibility to cope with changing circumstances as essential elements in the achievement of our objectives. This is particularly so in the present difficult financial climate.

I pay a special tribute to the officers of the South Australian Treasury, who are responsible for compiling the Treasury documents. South Australia is particularly fortunate in its Treasury officers, the Under Treasurer and his senior officers in the department: Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Hill, and Mr. Kidd. We are very much the envy of the other States in the quality of Treasury officers we have in South Australia. I give my personal thanks as Treasurer to them for the extraordinarily fine work that they do in the Treasury.

I also want to thank my Economic Adviser, Dr. Hughes, who works closely with Treasury officers in the preparation of the Budget documents and in the overall Budget strategy. Again, he is the envy of Ministers in other Cabinets in Australia, including the Federal Cabinet.

I seek leave to have the remainder of my Financial Statement incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

Leave granted.

#### REMAINDER OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT

##### THE REVENUE BUDGET

The forecast for 1978-79 is for a balance on the year's operations after providing for a transfer of \$5 million from Loan Account.

Aggregate receipts and aggregate payments are expected to each total about \$1 270.6 million. In the case of aggregate receipts, the amount includes \$17.5 million recalled from the Pipelines Authority and the transfer from Loan Account of \$5 million.

The forecast of payments comprises detailed provisions for normal running expenses of \$1 230.4 million at salary and wage rates as at 30th June, 1978, and at price levels which include some allowance for inflation, a round sum allowance of \$33 million for the possible cost of new salary and wage rate approvals which may become effective during the course of the year, a round sum allowance of \$2.5 million for the possible cost of further increases during the year in prices of supplies and services and a special allocation of \$4.7 million for unemployment relief. This Scheme will be operated at a significantly reduced level in 1978-79.

The necessary detailed appropriations for the bulk of future wage awards will be arranged under a special provision which is included in the main Appropriation Bill each year. In respect to supplies and services, where departments can demonstrate that cost increases are greater than the allowances included in detailed appropriations, extra funds will be made available from the round sum of \$2.5 million. There is no special



provision in the Appropriation Bill to cover this procedure, so it will be necessary to call on the authority of the Governor's Appropriation Fund and eventually of Supplementary Estimates. The latter procedure will be necessary also for a small part of the cost of wage increases.

### REVENUE RECEIPTS

If we leave aside the special recall of funds from the Pipelines Authority and the special transfer from Loan Account, then revenue receipts are expected to increase by only \$80.9 million (or 6.9 per cent), from \$1 167.2 million last year to \$1 248.1 million in 1978-79.

While there will be increases in certain charges to enable the Government to recover the cost of services provided to the public, rates of taxation will not be raised and no new taxation measures will be introduced in 1978-79.

#### Taxation

As the prices at which people are prepared to buy and sell land increase, so does its value for taxation purposes. Thus, even though the Government does not propose to alter the rates at which land tax is levied, the increases which have occurred in the last twelve months in the valuation of land will be reflected in receipts of tax. It is expected that revenues will rise from \$20.1 million to about \$23.4 million.

Receipts from the various forms of stamp duty which the Government imposes are estimated to increase slightly from \$78.2 million (which included \$1.4 million for the establishment of the South Australian Oil and Gas Corporation) to \$79.1 million. Activity in this area of taxation, particularly in respect to property and motor vehicle transactions, has been severely depressed. Property transactions give little cause for confidence at the moment, and it is very difficult to foresee the future for motor vehicle sales and transfers. As I said earlier the stimulatory effect of reduced sales taxes is likely to be offset by the effect of higher petrol prices and reduced disposable incomes. Given those factors and in the expectation that there will be some growth in other ad-valorem duties by virtue of a continuing increase in prices, we have estimated a small increase from this revenue source.

The effects of concessions given to taxpayers in respect to succession duty suggest that the Government can expect little growth from this area of taxation. The estimate is for receipts of \$17.5 million in 1978-79.

The outlook for economic activity, business and employment throughout Australia remains gloomy and its effect is most marked in payroll tax receipts. The estimate of \$152 million takes into account that there will be no improvement in employment prospects in 1978-79—indeed on all the evidence available a further deterioration in the unemployment situation could be reasonably assumed. It also takes into account that payroll tax will no longer be paid on the salaries and wages of employees transferred to the Australian National Railways Commission. This will have no net impact on the Budget but will reduce gross payroll tax collections by rather more than \$2 million. The carryover effect of the increased exemptions introduced on 1st January, 1978, will also have some impact on collections in 1978-79.

Recent legislation to close a loophole in the Business Franchise (Tobacco) Act now provides for monthly payment of licence fees by tobacco wholesalers, based on the actual turnover in the month occurring two months prior to the month for which the licence will be issued. As the previous quarterly licence period (due to expire on the

30th September, 1978) was terminated on the 31st July, 1978, the catching up effect will mean receipt of 14 months licence fee in 1978-79. This change is explained in the second reading speech which introduced the amendment and can be found on page 22 of *Hansard* of the 13th July, 1978.

This change, together with the effect of the increase in excise duty on tobacco, imposed by the Commonwealth in its recent budget, is expected to increase receipts from tobacco licence fees to about \$10.3 million in 1978-79.

#### Public Undertakings

The Department of Marine and Harbors anticipates an increase in revenue from \$14 million in 1977-78 to \$15.7 million in 1978-79. This takes into account a full year's receipt of the rate increases which operated from 17th October, 1977, the carryover effect of the increase in bulk handling charges as from 1st April, 1978 and an expected rise in grain throughput.

The price of water has been increased from 19 cents to 22 cents per kilolitre in 1978-79 and sewer rates have been increased by about 20 per cent. These higher charges, together with a reduction in the volume of outstanding accounts, are expected to raise cash receipts by the Engineering and Water Supply Department from \$80.7 million to \$94.7 million.

A contribution of only \$2.8 million from the Woods and Forests Department is provided for in 1978-79 compared with \$4 million contributed last year. Certain changes have taken place which now place the Department's financial operations on a more commercial basis and affect the way in which the Government finances the operations of the Department. In effect, expenditure previously met from loan funds will now be met from internally-generated funds and, while less will be available for contributions to Revenue, less will be required from Loan Account.

#### Departmental Fees and Recoveries

Recoveries from the Commonwealth towards the campaign to eradicate bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis are expected to rise from \$1 million to \$2.7 million, including about \$279 000 in respect of the 1977-78 programme.

Natural disaster relief arrangements in the past, have required South Australia to provide the first \$1.5 million in any year for agreed relief and restoration measures and the Commonwealth to meet all costs in excess of that amount. Those arrangements have now been changed by the Commonwealth and, in future, the State will be required to meet the first \$3 million in any year and to provide \$1 for every \$3 of Commonwealth funds towards expenditure beyond \$3 million. The extent to which the new sharing formula will apply to commitments made under the previous arrangements, but not yet met, has not been made clear. In the meantime, the Budget provides for a reduction in the level of Commonwealth assistance towards drought measures from \$11.9 million to \$5.8 million.

The decline in real terms in the level of Commonwealth assistance for government schools is reflected in the estimate of specific purpose grants for the Education Department. The estimate for 1978-79 of \$26.2 million is only 1.4 per cent above the 1977-78 money amount and is well below the expected level of inflation. In real terms it means a reduction in physical programmes.

Commonwealth support for the Childhood Services Programme is estimated to fall from \$6.5 million to \$5.2 million. It is of interest that, in 1975-76, grants of \$7.3 million were paid into Revenue Account to offset the costs of this programme. Since then, the Commonwealth has

steadily withdrawn from its involvement in this area with the result that the State is being forced into picking up the major part of the cost.

Payments to Public Buildings Department for hospital maintenance are expected to decline from \$9.9 million to \$8.5 million. The 1977-78 figure includes a recovery which related to 1976-77 and, in addition, the South Australian Health Commission is expecting a reduced programme this year in order to contain hospital operating costs and live within its restricted budget allocation.

On 1st February, 1978, the fees for the registration of motor vehicles were increased by about 15 per cent. The carryover effect of this increase, together with normal growth in the number of registrations and the number of drivers' licences, is expected to raise receipts from \$46.6 million to \$50.6 million.

For some years, the South Australian Film Corporation has paid its earnings into the Revenue Account and received back a broadly comparable sum by way of addition to its grant for the operation of the film library. It has been decided to discontinue this practice and, in the future, the Corporation will retain earnings from its commercial activities. Thus no receipt is estimated for 1978-79.

It is estimated that the contribution to Revenue Account from the Hospitals Fund will increase from \$15 million to \$18 million. Betting with the Totalizator Agency Board is not expected to be much above the level of last year but further growth is considered likely in the turnover of the Lotteries Commission. This and a reduction in the end of year balance in the Fund will increase the transfer to Revenue Account.

#### **Commonwealth**

It is our view that South Australia's entitlement from the personal income tax pool under the Commonwealth Government's tax-sharing scheme is likely to yield only \$551.6 million for 1978-79. Honourable Members may recall, that, before agreeing to the new arrangements, the Premiers insisted on the continuation of the formula negotiated with the previous Commonwealth Government, as a guarantee against unexpected shortfalls in the personal income tax revenues in which the States share. It seems almost certain that, for 1978-79, the formula will produce a greater sum than tax-sharing and that, once again, the Premiers' insistence on that guarantee will be vindicated.

There remains, of course, the question of the level of grant likely to be produced by the operation of the formula, which has three components, an Australian wages factor, a State population factor and a betterment factor. The betterment factor is fixed at 3 per cent and there is rarely much variation in any one year in the population factor. For the wages factor, the Commonwealth Government has adopted a figure of 8 per cent and so has derived an estimate of \$562.6 million for South Australia. We do not believe that average wages for the year to March, 1979, will be 8 per cent greater than average wages for the year to March, 1978, and, instead, have adopted an increase of 7 per cent which produces the guarantee estimate of \$557.4 million included in the Budget.

#### **REVENUE PAYMENTS**

Throughout its period of office the Government has been able to announce in the annual budget speech a number of proposals for the improvement of public

services in South Australia. In the earlier years these were financed quite deliberately by an increase in taxation rates, increases which were necessary so that the standard of services could be brought up to the level expected by citizens in a relatively affluent society. Further improvements were made possible by the approach of the Commonwealth Labor Government which held office from 1972 to 1975 and which saw its task as one of overcoming the deficiencies which still existed in many areas in the provision of public services. Finally, in recent times South Australia has been able to continue to effect improvements by virtue of the favourable financial effect of the arrangements made for the transfer to the Commonwealth of the non-metropolitan railways.

In 1978-79 we are facing a different situation. The South Australian Government considers that there are still many areas where there is a need for the standard of the services which it is providing to be raised. However, the present Commonwealth Government is taking a particularly severe approach to Government spending, including payments to the States, and in many cases actually requiring the States to accept a greater share of the burden of providing existing services. In these circumstances, the Government has decided that the prudent policy is to make 1978-79 a year of consolidation, a year in which we can take stock of the changes now occurring in Commonwealth-State financial relations and assess the likely extent of their impact on our future activities. Therefore, it is not a year in which a great number of bold new initiatives can be expected.

#### **Special Acts**

The provision for the Government contribution to the South Australian Superannuation Fund has been raised from \$18.4 million to \$23.6 million. This reflects the increase in pensions in line with increases in the Consumer Price Index, the attractiveness of the scheme which is encouraging people to retire at 60 years of age and the disparity between the pension levels of those receiving pensions for the first time and those whose pensions cease.

The transfer to the Highways Fund of the net proceeds of motor vehicle taxation is expected to increase by about \$2.9 million to \$22.1 million. Motor vehicle registration fees were increased from 1st February, 1978, and the carryover effect of that increase will result in more funds being available for the construction and maintenance of roads.

Interest payable on the public debt of the State is estimated at about \$131 million in 1978-79. The increase from \$119.5 million in 1977-78 is attributable to the full year's cost of loans raised last year, the conversion of old loans at significantly higher interest rates and the estimated impact of the proposed new borrowing programme for 1978-79.

#### **Development of the State**

##### *Economic Development*

The most significant change in the Government's efforts to promote the economic development of the State will be the replacement of the decentralisation incentives scheme with a new establishment payments scheme as announced last week. Assistance will now be available, under certain conditions, to firms setting up or expanding operations anywhere in the State.

Assistance under the new scheme will be available to firms wishing to set up their operations in South Australia for the first time and also to firms already established in South Australia who are looking to expand and/or diversify their operations to take advantage of market opportunities. In both cases the effects on existing South

Australian industries will be carefully assessed before assistance is given and any assistance will be subject to the prior recommendation of the Industries Development Committee.

The maximum level of assistance for an individual firm will vary according to the location in which the operation is established. In nominated growth centres, up to \$375 000 will be available, in major service centres up to \$325 000 and in Adelaide and elsewhere up to \$315 000. The extent of a firm's eligibility will be determined by four key factors—

- new capital invested
- new employment created
- relocation costs
- significance for the region or the State.

The greater part of the assistance will be allocated on the basis of the first two factors and will be paid three months after the new enterprise commences activities.

An amount of \$1.9 million has been initially appropriated under Premier, Miscellaneous to meet established commitments under the old scheme and anticipated commitments under the new scheme.

Apart from this significant new initiative, the Department will continue to advise small businesses on financial, technical and managerial matters and, through its overseas activities, will promote South Australian goods, services and technology wherever possible.

#### *Agriculture*

An amount of \$10.8 million has been provided for drought relief. As mentioned earlier, the Commonwealth Government has decided to alter the basis of the arrangements for the relief of natural disasters to require much greater contributions from the States. It is not yet clear how the costs of commitments already entered into will be shared, but there is no doubt that, in the future, the States will be bearing a greater proportion of the burden. In the meantime, the aftermath of the recent drought years will continue to place demands on the Rural Adjustment and Rural Assistance Programmes.

The second of the Department's regional offices, in the Riverland, will come fully on-stream in 1978-79, and planning for the Eyre, Northern and Central regions should be completed. Wherever possible, the Department is re-deploying its resources and strengthening its economic, extension and information services to assist the rural community to adjust to changing economic circumstances.

The Department has been successful in curbing the invasion of two new aphid pests which threaten lucerne and medic pastures, the basis of so much of our agriculture. Continued financial support by the Government will permit the development of aphid-resistant pasture species and the distribution of parasites as vital defence measures for our rural industries.

The bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis eradication campaign which is vital for the preservation of our beef markets will continue. It will attract increased Commonwealth support in 1978-79.

To increase the effectiveness of patrolling and surveillance work in respect to fisheries, a helicopter-based service will be introduced this year. Planning is also under way for the installation of an extensive radio communication network to increase efficiency of both fisheries and agriculture staff in remote areas.

#### *Mining*

Expenditure by the Department of Mines and Energy is estimated to rise only marginally in 1978-79 from \$7.7 million to \$7.9 million. The Energy Branch, however, will

step up its activities with regard to both the monitoring of current research and initiation of new programmes for research and development. The financial position of the Australian Mineral Development Laboratories is much improved now. This has enabled the Government to reallocate funds to the continuing programme of underground water resource assessment.

#### **Public Undertakings**

##### *Engineering and Water Supply*

Good rains during the winter have enabled the Government to reduce the sum provided for electricity costs associated with pumping water from the Murray. Even so, it has been necessary to increase the price of water. This should enable a balance to be achieved in the metropolitan area but will still leave a deficit on country operations estimated at about \$29 million.

A provision of \$300 000 has been made to cover an operating deficit at the Ottoway foundry. A decline in subdivisional activity has led to a temporary situation in which the foundry is not able to operate at a level sufficient to use its capacity and, accordingly is not able to cover costs.

During September last year, the first water filtration plant at Hope Valley was commissioned. The allocation for 1978-79 provides for the cost of operation of that plant for a full year. Work on the second plant at Anstey Hill is well advanced and provision has been made for some operating costs in anticipation that it will be commissioned later this financial year.

##### *Marine and Harbors*

The major thrust of the activities of the Department of Marine and Harbors is currently headed by the Commercial Division which, during 1977-78, undertook initiatives aimed at publicising the commercial ports of South Australia and, in particular, the port of Adelaide.

A working liaison is being established between the Department and those shipping and other organisations which move goods to and from South Australia. The Department is also pursuing attempts to attract direct shipping services between the State and important trading areas, Japan for example, which currently do not have such links with South Australia. At the same time, closer relationships are being fostered with Exporters and Importers Associations and with Commonwealth and other State Departments.

#### **Community Services**

##### *Education*

Expenditure on primary and secondary education represents the single largest item in the State budget. Accordingly, when growth in State revenues is restricted, either by the depressed state of the economy or by deliberate Commonwealth policy, it is idle to pretend that education can be shielded from the effects. Those commentators who pass off reductions in the real level of Commonwealth assistance to the States as painless or, indeed, beneficial in bringing home to recalcitrant State Governments the need for restraint in public spending would do a service to the standard of public debate about fiscal policy if they took the trouble to gain an understanding of elementary facts such as this.

For 1978-79 the Education Department has a small increase in its allocation from \$299.2 million to \$308 million. In broad terms, this will allow only a continuation of education programmes at about existing levels overall. One of the implications of this is that, as new schools are opened or existing schools expand, the means to operate them must be found by re-deploying resources which are

already available to the Department. Similarly, improvements in non-contact time for primary school teachers or in the number of ancillary staff will be possible only if other programmes currently being provided by the Department are curtailed or can be undertaken with fewer resources.

The Government would like to see further improvements in education services, but, for the reasons I have given, is unable to finance them.

#### *Further Education*

In the area of further education, the standard of services provided a decade or more ago was probably further from a desirable level than in most other cases and the leeway to be made up was correspondingly greater. The Commonwealth Government appears to have accepted this and to have recognised the urgency of the problems which a shortage of people with appropriate skills create for industry, commerce and economic development generally. Accordingly, they have been comparatively less restrictive in the provision of funds for technical and further education than they have in most other areas.

It is expected that expenditure by the Department of Further Education will increase from \$38.7 million to \$40.7 million. Even so, with the completion of the Gilles Plains Community College and the extensions to the Whyalla College of Further Education expected this year, it has been necessary to review the level of resources being made available to existing colleges and, where possible, to reallocate them so that adequate staff and materials can be provided for the new colleges. No major new initiatives will be undertaken at existing colleges, as all available funds will be required to maintain present programmes and to provide for the subsequent stages of these programmes.

#### *Libraries*

In the budget speech last year I mentioned that the Library and Information Services Planning Committee was preparing a comprehensive plan for future library services. That plan has been completed and is now under consideration by the Government. In the meantime, the provision for subsidies to local government libraries has been increased from \$2 million to \$2.5 million. Last year the provision was raised from \$1 million to \$2 million to help overcome a shortage of facilities in the western suburbs. This initiative will be continued in 1978-79 and funds will also be available for a general increase in subsidy levels to upgrade a number of existing buildings, to establish new libraries and to permit the State to bear a greater proportion of the operating costs of the larger local authority libraries.

Against the background of the very tight restrictions imposed on expenditure in other areas, the relatively large increase from \$6.4 million to \$7.2 million for the Libraries Department is particularly generous. It reflects the importance which the Government attaches to the achievement of high standards in the facilities available to the public for education, information and recreation.

#### *Health*

Net expenditure by the State in health services is expected to increase from \$162.8 million to \$167.1 million. The South Australian Health Commission will make every endeavour to contain costs in 1978-79 and it expects that the sum provided, used with great care, will suffice to maintain the present level of health care.

On a longer-term basis, the Commission is engaged in a detailed review of the provision of health services in this State with the aim of achieving a reallocation of resources

so that improved services may be provided without increasing costs.

#### *Welfare*

It is estimated that expenditure by the Department for Community Welfare will increase from \$28.5 million to about \$30 million. Provision has been made for the continuation of financial assistance to sole supporting parents, the unemployed and others in special need in about the same numbers as currently apply. Should economic conditions continue to deteriorate, it may well be that this provision will be inadequate.

The one major new initiative which the Department is undertaking this year is the introduction of a new method of dealing with young offenders. In essence, the aim of the scheme is to provide the facility for the courts to remand young offenders into the custody of individual families rather than to institutions. The families involved in this Intensive Neighbourhood Care programme will be paid in the same way as foster parents but at considerably higher rates. An amount of \$150 000 has been provided for this purpose.

In developing the proposals for the scheme, great care has been taken to achieve the maximum possible reallocation of resources and to minimise the demand for extra funds. The new procedures will be phased in over a period of time and it is envisaged that, as staff at institutions become superfluous to needs, they will be transferred to vacancies which occur in other sections of the Department. This will enable staff structures in the regions to be strengthened by the creation of new positions which do not add to overall staff numbers.

The proposed allocation for Minister of Community Welfare, Miscellaneous is \$11.1 million, which compares with \$8.9 million spent in 1977-78. The Government has raised the maxima which apply to the rates remission scheme for pensioners from \$100 to \$150 for each of council rates and land tax and from \$50 to \$75 for each of water rates, sewer rates and effluent drainage charges. The greater part of the increased sum provided in this area is to meet the extra costs associated with this change.

#### *Police*

Expenditure by the Police Department is estimated to increase from \$56.7 million to \$60.9 million. During the year there will be a general review of procedures in order to effect economies wherever possible. In particular, a study will be undertaken of operational procedures to establish means of measuring workload and productivity so that demand for police services and the effectiveness of these services can be kept under scrutiny.

Cadets who commenced their training in June, 1977, are undertaking a two-year rather than a three-year programme. It is intended to phase out the three-year course with the last graduation of the three-year trainees coinciding with the first graduation of the two-year trainees in March, 1979. Graduates will be appointed as Constables at the age of 19 years instead of 20 years with a corresponding reduction in training costs and a more rapid progression from recruit to effective officer status.

Action is being taken to create and equip a specialised group trained in anti-terrorist activity, crowd control, crime prevention techniques, armed offenders apprehension and search and rescue operations. A commander has been appointed and personnel to staff the section are being drawn from other areas.

A firearms control system is being designed to implement the requirements of the Firearms Act. In view of the magnitude of the task, which will entail issuing between 100 000 and 200 000 licences each year and

maintaining 250 000 firearm registrations as well as dealer registrations, it is considered that a computer-based system would be most economic. Specifications for the provision of consultant services have been released to selected computer consultants and their proposals are being considered.

#### *Correctional Services*

After due consideration of the recommendations of the Criminal Law and Penal Methods Reform Committee, the Government proposes to introduce legislation for a Treatment Offenders Act. Provision has been made in the allocation of \$9.8 million for the Department of Correctional Services for staff to implement the new legislation.

The methods by which the Department performs its functions have been employed for some considerable time without any comprehensive evaluation as to efficiency and effectiveness. In view of the financial constraints which appear likely to apply in the immediate future, the achievement of Government objectives in the management and treatment of offenders may depend to a significant extent on the more efficient use of existing levels of resources. Accordingly, current methods are being evaluated to determine whether or not they are effective and whether the functions performed still serve a useful purpose.

#### *Other Activities*

##### *Environment*

The allocation to the Department for the Environment in 1978-79 is \$6.7 million compared with actual expenditure of \$5 million last year. Funds will be directed firstly towards the establishment of a Co-ordination and Policy Division within the Department which will also incorporate a Heritage Unit to administer the recently proclaimed Heritage Act.

The Commonwealth's present attitude to public spending, and the severe effect that it has had in other areas, has forced the Government to drastically review its plans to upgrade the management and manning of its national parks and wildlife reserves—plans which the Government regards as being of a high priority. Nevertheless, within the limited funds available some steps will be taken to meet the most urgent needs in park protection, fauna management and park management.

The third major area of expansion will be in the implementation of a range of environmental legislation including that concerned with beverage containers, noise control and the assessment of environmental impact statements.

##### *Corporate Affairs*

It is estimated that expenditure by the Department for Corporate Affairs will increase from \$497 000 to about \$842 000. The Department is the first step towards the creation of a Corporate Affairs Commission to protect the public and the great majority of the business community from the activities of the unscrupulous few. The proposed Commission will be structured along the lines of the New South Wales Corporate Affairs Commission and will fit into the national scheme which it is hoped will be introduced in the not too distant future.

The limitations which it has been necessary to impose on finance for the new Department will inevitably curb the scope of its activities in the short term. However, the investigation section has been expanded by the addition of five company inspectors and a start will be made on scrutinising company activities more closely.

## THE LOAN BUDGET

The forecast for 1978-79 is for a balance on the year's operations after providing for a transfer to Revenue Account of \$5 million.

Aggregate receipts and aggregate payments are expected to each total about \$240.9 million.

If we leave aside the special transfer to Revenue Account, the total works programme of \$235.9 million is well below the 1977-78 programme of \$253 million and is a direct reflection of the Commonwealth's recent budgetary actions. It has necessitated a drastic reduction in the State's hospital, school and other building programmes.

The Government is aware of, and concerned by, the adverse effect which those reductions will have on the building and construction industry and employment in this State. We hope that those adverse effects will be offset, to some extent at least, by the involvement of the State Government Insurance Commission and the South Australian Superannuation Fund Investment Trust in other building projects.

## LOAN RECEIPTS

At the meeting of the Australian Loan Council in June, 1978, it was announced that the Commonwealth Government would support a total programme of \$1 433.8 million for State works and services. South Australia's share of this programme is to be \$186.9 million, of which \$124.6 million will be made available by way of loan, subject to repayment and interest, and \$62.3 million by way of grant. Further loans, amounting to about \$600 000, will be raised on our behalf to cover the cost of discounts and premiums on loan issues and redemptions. The other major sources of funds for the Loan Account are specific purpose funds from the Commonwealth and the repayment and recovery of amounts made available to departments and authorities in previous years. For 1978-79, funds from these sources are expected to amount to \$53.4 million, giving a total of funds available of \$240.9 million.

About the loan programme, there is little to say which has not been said already. In money terms, the allocation is precisely the same as that for last year, which was only 5 per cent above the 1976-77 allocation. The latter was only 5 per cent above the figure for 1975-76. Over a three year period, therefore, general purpose funds to finance South Australia's capital works programme have increased by only 10.3 per cent. This means an actual reduction in real terms.

Repayments and recoveries to Loan Account, including specific purpose funds made available by the Commonwealth, totalled \$62.6 million in 1977-78. It is expected that they will decline to \$53.4 million this year, due almost entirely to the reductions which the Commonwealth has made in its allocations to South Australia for particular purposes.

Consistent with the emphasis which is now being given at both Commonwealth and State levels to technical education, it is anticipated that grants for college buildings for the Department of Further Education will increase from \$4.7 million to \$6.9 million. Funds for urban public transport projects, which are paid directly to the State Transport Authority, are also expected to increase slightly. For the first time, provision has been made for support from the Commonwealth for salinity control projects in the Riverland. Unfortunately, the benefit which the State will receive from those allocations is offset by the abolition of the Hospitals Development Pro-

gramme. It now joins the National Sewerage Programme in the category of major initiatives which have been completely abandoned. Commonwealth support for the construction of Government schools and for water treatment has been cut back and the allocations for community centres, community health facilities and the school dental scheme have been reduced significantly.

Thus total funds from this source are expected to decline from \$36.2 million in 1977-78 to \$26.4 million this year.

Repayments from State sources are expected to increase slightly from \$26.4 million to \$27 million. Under new arrangements made with the State Bank, the Advances for Homes Scheme will be incorporated as part of the State Bank's housing operations. In the past the Bank has acted as agent for the Government in respect to that scheme. Repayment of advances previously made under the scheme will be made by the Bank from its own funds. Those repayments, together with repayments under the Loans to Producers Scheme, are expected to amount to \$2.2 million in 1978-79. Funds generated within the Woods and Forests Department working account and from the depreciation and sale of assets will permit a contribution to Loan Account in 1978-79 of some \$5 million. Funds from depreciation provisions, the recoupment from Revenue Account of the cost of preliminary investigations, the sale of plant and other assets and charges for house connections are anticipated to yield \$8.8 million for the Engineering and Water Supply Department while recoveries by Public Buildings Department from the sale of assets and contributions for work previously carried out are expected to reach \$3.2 million.

Further, the Government is reviewing the extent of land held by departments and the extent of loan funds presently tied up in the financing of various deposit accounts. We believe that it will be practicable to dispose of some land and to reduce the balances of some deposit accounts without any adverse impact on their ability to operate. By these means we hope to arrange for as much as \$3 million to be returned to Loan Account to finance works.

#### Semi-Government Programme

In addition to the State loan programme allocation through Loan Council, funds also become available through the larger authorities semi-government programme and the smaller authorities programme. In respect of the smaller authorities programme, Loan Council does not set limits on total borrowing by the States as long as no individual authority borrows more than \$1 million in a year. Last year South Australian bodies which fell into this category borrowed a shade under \$22 million. For 1978-79 current indications are that loans of about \$20.5 million will be raised. This could increase as new authorities are created or existing authorities revise their requirements. No account is taken in either of these figures of loans raised by a large number of local governing bodies.

For the larger authorities, Loan Council sets a maximum limit for each State and within that limit leaves it to the State Government to set priorities. The limit for South Australia in 1978-79 is \$56.8 million and it is planned to allocate that sum as follows:—

	\$million
Electricity Trust of South Australia . . . . .	39.2
South Australian Housing Trust . . . . .	11.0
South Australian Meat Corporation . . . . .	2.2
City of Adelaide . . . . .	2.4
City of Enfield . . . . .	2.0
	—
	56.8
	—

For both the larger and smaller authority programmes, the necessary funds must be raised by the State or the individual bodies concerned. The success of these programmes, therefore, depends on the liquidity of institutional and other lenders and their willingness to make money available for the terms and at the interest rates set by Loan Council. In the past we have experienced good support from lenders and I am confident that this will continue and enable the Government to raise the funds it needs. The Government is grateful for that support.

## LOAN PAYMENTS

#### Welfare Housing

The Housing Assistance Act 1978 authorises the operation of a new three year Housing Agreement with the States to cover the period from 1978-79 to 1980-81.

Funds made available under that new Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement are to be advanced to the State at concessional rates of interest of 4.5 per cent in respect of advances for home purchase and 5 per cent in respect of advances for rental housing. As to home purchase advances, the Agreement requires the initial interest rate to home purchasers to increase by a half per cent at the end of each financial year which wholly occurs after the advance is made until the interest rate is one per cent below the long term bond rate (currently 9 per cent). There is room to consider cases of genuine hardship. In the case of rental homes, the Agreement requires that rents be reviewed and be market related.

The new Agreement lays particular emphasis on:—

- assisting those in most need. In this regard, approval of a loan will be granted or the allocation of a house will be made primarily to an applicant who falls within the limit of a defined means test on income.
- gearing assistance to the degree of need and limiting it to the time of need.
- making effective use of past investments in welfare housing.

An amount of \$47.4 million is to be made available by the Commonwealth under the Agreement of which \$19.5 million is subject to \$ for \$ matching with funds allocated by the State for housing. Of that total amount \$19.2 million will be made available to the State Bank and \$28.2 million to the Housing Trust.

At present the average waiting time for a State Bank loan or a Trust rental home is about three years.

While the State Bank will supplement its Housing Agreement money with mortgage repayments from existing loans made available by the Bank, that level of funds would be insufficient for its housing needs and would result in an increase in the present waiting time. In recognition of that situation, the Government proposes to make \$7.5 million available to the State Bank for housing in 1978-79.

Again, in the case of the Housing Trust, its share of Housing Agreement moneys, supplemented by its own internal funds, would be insufficient for its housing needs and would result in an increase in current waiting times. In these circumstances, the Government is reviewing a number of aspects of the Trust's finances in an attempt to overcome the problem.

#### Woods and Forests

The Woods and Forests Department is undertaking a programme to modernise its milling and forestry activities and to this end commenced in 1977-78 a major

reconstruction of the Mount Gambier Log Mill. A large part of the allocation of \$9 million for 1978-79 is intended for work on that project. The programme is designed to improve the efficiency and profitability of the Department and so to enhance its capacity to contribute towards the cost of Government activities in other areas.

#### **Marine and Harbors**

The provision of \$7.5 million for Harbors Accommodation purposes is designed to permit continuation of the plan to deepen the channel from St. Vincent Gulf to the new container berth at Outer Harbor. Work proposed in 1978-79 entails deepening and widening the new swinging basin and reclaiming land at Pelican Point. The provision also allows for the rehabilitation of G and H berths at Port Adelaide and for the replacement of the existing slipway at the Glanville dockyard for the handling of small tugs, pilot vessels and launches. Worn-out items of plant and equipment will be replaced and it is intended to purchase two launches for survey and inspection work and a small tug as replacement for two existing tugs.

An allocation of \$1.2 million has been made for fishing havens, principally for continuation of construction of a breakwater at Port MacDonnell to provide protection for the foreshore and the fishing fleet, to improve facilities for the fishing fleet in the Port Adelaide River and to complete the construction of a slipway at Thevenard.

#### **Engineering and Water Supply**

An amount of \$4.4 million is expected to be made available by the Commonwealth in 1978-79 towards the water treatment programme. Together with State funds allocated for the purpose, this will permit continuation of the construction of the Anstey Hill Water Treatment Works and the Barossa Water Treatment Works. Provision has also been made within the sum of \$16.9 million set aside for metropolitan waterworks for work on a 21 400 megalitre dam on the Little Para River, 4 kilometres upstream from where the river crosses the Main North Road. The demand for water in the rapidly developing northern suburbs has greatly taxed the system in recent times and the proposed works should meet the estimated doubling of demand over the next 25 years.

Within the allocation of \$20.2 million for metropolitan sewerage, provision has been made for continued work on a major trunk sewer system through Port Noarlunga and Christies Beach to eliminate temporary works and provide for new subdivisions. Extensions are also required to the Christies Beach sewage treatment works to cater for the rapid development taking place in this area. Further work will be carried out on the Christies Creek trunk sewer to eliminate small temporary works which are overloaded and to provide a permanent outlet for sewers in the Reynella-Happy Valley-Aberfoyle Park area. A new pumping station, rising main and trunk sewer will be constructed in the Lonsdale-Hallett Cove area to replace existing works which are overloaded.

All these projects will serve the developing suburbs to the south of Adelaide. In the northern suburbs, the main project is the Elizabeth-Gawler trunk sewer which will augment the sewerage system in Elizabeth and enable new subdivisions to be sewered.

The major project included in the provision of \$8.6 million for country waterworks is the replacement of trunk mains in the Paskeville-Kadina-Wallaroo area which are inadequate to meet tourist and holiday resort development.

An amount of \$8 million has been set aside for sewerage works in country areas. Work will continue in Port Augusta on a scheme to improve sewerage facilities and to provide disposal facilities to Housing Trust areas and

outlets for areas served by common effluent drains. Portion of the outfall sewer at Mount Gambier will be enlarged to cope with the flows resulting from increased population and greater discharges from industry. In the Stirling-Aldgate-Bridgewater area, it is intended that a sewerage reticulation system will be constructed to provide adequate waste disposal facilities to areas where disposal of septic tank effluent is difficult and creates a health hazard. It is also expected that pollution of the Mount Bold Reservoir will be reduced by this project.

The Engineering and Water Supply Department has now assumed responsibility for certain irrigation and drainage functions formerly carried out by the Department of Lands. An allocation of \$7.1 million has been made for these purposes in 1978-79, the most significant projects being the rehabilitation of the pumping and distribution systems in the Berri and Cobdogla Irrigation Areas.

It is hoped that the Commonwealth will contribute towards the cost of a salinity control programme in the Riverland including upgrading outlets from the Riverland evaporation basin, the replacement of main drain 2 in the Berri comprehensive drainage scheme and some control work at the Renmark reservoir. The Government considers salinity control of its major water source as vital, not only to the Riverland, but to South Australia generally.

South Australia's contribution towards capital works carried out under the River Murray Waters Agreement is expected to decline from \$7.8 million to \$2.7 million in 1978-79. The approaching completion of the Dartmouth Dam has eased the burden of these works very considerably and released funds for other purposes.

#### **Public Buildings**

##### *Hospital Buildings—\$15.7 million*

Last year, the Public Buildings Department, on behalf of the Government, spent almost \$24.5 million on hospital buildings, of which \$5.1 million came from the Commonwealth under the Hospitals Development Programme. That programme has now been terminated and the Government has been obliged to examine very carefully the extent to which it is able to make scarce loan funds available for further development in the hospitals area. Only limited funds have been provided for new works and, as a consequence, work on the Para Districts Hospital and Stage IV of the Flinders Medical Centre have had to be deferred.

Provision of \$2 million has been made in 1978-79 to complete phases I to III of the Flinders Medical Centre.

Work will continue on the Education Block at the Modbury Hospital where a three storey building is being constructed to provide nurse training facilities, including a lecture theatre to seat 300 persons, seminar rooms, laboratory, library, tutor sisters' offices and demonstration rooms. An amount of \$818 000 has been provided for this purpose in 1978-79.

For the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, \$2.4 million has been allocated to provide additional emergency accommodation including a radiological suite, observation ward, emergency rooms and general assessment and treatment areas.

It is anticipated that almost \$3.6 million will be required for phase I of the redevelopment of the Whyalla Hospital. This will include construction of part of two storeys of a new wing which will include a new pharmacy, facilities for a splintmaker, a central sterile supply department, permanent change facilities for nursing staff, domestics and porters, a nurse training school, maintenance workshops and an energy plant. Alterations will also be



made to existing buildings to expand laboratories used by the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science.

An amount of \$864 000 has been allocated for the erection of a single storey psychogeriatric ward at Glenside Hospital to replace existing substandard accommodation.

The present facilities for handling accounts at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science are not adequate to handle peak demands. It is, therefore, proposed to provide \$700 000 for the installation of a new computer system to permit segregation of patient accounts and to generate the records necessary for the billing of patients.

These comments should be read in conjunction with the comments on non-Government Hospitals and Institutions which appear later in this document.

#### *Primary and Secondary School Buildings—\$40.8 million*

Commonwealth support for the State school building programme is expected to decline from \$13.9 million to \$13.1 million in 1978-79. This factor, the severe limitation of general loan funds and the necessity for the Government to re-allocate scarce funds in order to meet urgent demands for other major projects in power and transport have resulted in a reduction in the allocation for school buildings from \$43.8 million to \$40.8 million.

An amount of just over \$1 million has been set aside for further work on the construction of the North Haven Primary School to accommodate 600 students. The complex will comprise five similar teaching units linked by covered ways to a general activity hall, library resource centre and administration block. Each teaching unit will accommodate 120 students in four teaching stations arranged in pairs either side of a central circulation buffer zone with associated ancillary spaces being provided in each unit.

It is anticipated that expenditure of about \$1.6 million will be incurred on the Pedare Primary School. The work involves additions and alterations to the existing Modbury Heights High School to provide for both primary and secondary education in a single school. The primary component involves the construction of a two storey learning block to accommodate 600 pupils, canteen extensions and associated site development work.

The Reynella East Primary School is very similar in concept to the North Haven Primary School described above. About \$1.2 million has been provided for this project in 1978-79.

Provision has also been made for the expenditure of \$1.2 million on a new school being built to replace the existing primary school at Aldgate. The school will be on a new site and will be designed to cater for 360 pupils. It will comprise three similar teaching units linked by covered ways to a general activity hall, library resource centre and administration block and will be similar in concept to the proposed schools at North Haven and Reynella East.

Work is expected to commence on the replacement of the Two Wells Primary School and \$1.2 million has been set aside for this purpose. The school will be on a new site and will be designed to accommodate 360 pupils initially with provision for a future capacity of 480. It will incorporate administration and canteen facilities, activity hall, library resource centre, a junior primary school with four teaching spaces and associated areas and a primary school with eight teaching spaces and associated areas.

The Renmark High School is also to be replaced and \$2.4 million has been provided for work to commence on this project. It will consist of six single storey buildings with a total capacity of 700 students.

An amount of \$2.9 million has been allocated for work

on the replacement of the Ceduna Area School. The new complex will accommodate 600 primary and 250 secondary students and will comprise 28 teaching spaces with wet areas, withdrawal rooms, teacher preparation areas and storage areas grouped about a central core of specialist areas interspersed with sheltered outdoor teaching courtyards, covered activity areas and walkways. There will also be an administration area and a physical education hall with canteen, change rooms, toilets, stores and ancillary accommodation.

A replacement for the Meningie Area School is to be constructed and it is expected that \$1.3 million will be spent on the project in 1978-79. There will be a resource centre, primary classrooms with associated wet areas and withdrawal rooms, secondary classrooms with science and art facilities and associated teacher preparation areas, storerooms, a canteen, an administration area and an activity hall-gymnasium with music, drama and change room facilities. It will be designed to accommodate 500 students.

#### *Further Education Buildings—\$16.2 million*

As mentioned previously, further education is an area to which the Commonwealth Government is giving greater prominence and it is anticipated that specific purpose grants will increase from \$4.7 million in 1977-78 to \$6.9 million. This will help the Government to raise total expenditure on further education buildings from \$13.3 million to \$16.2 million.

Construction of the library-learning resource centre at the Elizabeth Community College will continue with \$1.7 million being allocated for the purpose. The centre will serve both the College and the local community. It is on five half levels connected by an open central stair and a lift and will include reader services, seminar rooms, administration areas and a bookshop.

A little over \$5 million has been set aside for work on Stage I of the Gilles Plains Community College. There will be four buildings grouped into two segments with service and pedestrian access available to the rear and mid-points of each building. They will comprise:—

- a resource centre-administration section and a home economics-business studies section.
- a building studies section.
- a lecture theatre and cafeteria.
- a dental studies and applied science section.

Provision is made for expenditure on several projects at the Regency Park Community College. The major emphasis will be on construction of a building to accommodate the School of Mechanical Engineering, the School of Air Conditioning and Refrigeration and the School of Electronic and Electrical Engineering. Over \$5.4 million has been allocated for this project.

The sum of \$2.1 million has been provided for Stage II of work at the Whyalla College of Further Education. Extensive alterations to the existing workshop block, minor alterations to the existing classroom block and conversion of the canteen to a lecture theatre are involved, together with the erection of a workshop block, an administration wing, a resource centre and classroom wing, an auditorium including drama and music facilities, a classroom block, a cafeteria and an arts, crafts, hairdressing and home science wing.

#### *Other Government Buildings—\$25 million*

A total of about \$6.6 million has been provided for continuation of work on the Parks Community Centre. The centre will be a multi-purpose complex incorporating a comprehensive school, a wide range of medical facilities, a computer centre, a library, child care facilities, a



performing arts centre, a recreation centre and a district office of the Department for Community Welfare. These funds have been provided under several headings.

Construction is proceeding on an eight-storey reinforced concrete building at Port Adelaide for the Department of Marine and Harbors. The building will also be used by the Departments of Agriculture and Fisheries, Labour and Industry and Services and Supply and by the South Australian Health Commission. An amount of \$951 000 has been provided for this project.

The air-conditioning and lighting of the Art Gallery are to be upgraded to provide better conditions for the conservation and public display of art exhibits. Building renovations, including the painting of the Gallery, alterations to the sculpture court and landscaping, rearrangement of administrative offices and storage areas and additional furnishings, will be undertaken at the same time. Almost \$1.8 million has been allocated for this purpose.

It is anticipated that 14 new school dental clinics will be established during the year at a cost of about \$1.3 million. Last year the Commonwealth reduced the level of its contribution from 90 per cent to 75 per cent of the capital cost of these clinics and this year cut back its support still further to 50 per cent. The State expects to receive about \$660 000 of Commonwealth grants towards the cost of this programme in 1978-79.

#### Electricity Trust

The Trust faces a major capital works programme over the next ten years to ensure that adequate power supplies are available to industrial and private consumers. That programme includes the construction of a northern power station, relocation of the Leigh Creek township and further development of the Torrens Island power station. In recognition of the strategic importance of an adequate power supply for the future development of the State, the Government intends to make available to the Trust loan funds and, more particularly, semi-government borrowing capacity to the maximum extent possible. For 1978-79 an allocation of \$3.5 million has been made from Loan Account while \$39.2 million of the total larger authorities programme of \$56.8 million has been set aside for the Trust.

These amounts, together with internal funds generated by the Trust's normal commercial activities, will be used to finance a capital programme of \$79.6 million in 1978-79. Work will continue at Leigh Creek on the development of Lobe B and on relocation of the township and, in the second half of the year, coal and overburden haulage equipment will be purchased. Some \$15.9 million has been allocated for these purposes. It is planned to spend a further \$38.6 million on power stations with the major proportion, about \$31.6 million, being directed to the Torrens Island developments. In addition progress payments on earthworks and initial payments for piling and the rail loop siding at the northern power station will be made and the three gas turbine generating units at Snuggery will be purchased. Almost \$13.7 million is to be spent on further development of the distribution system and the balance of the programme will be for the purchase of plant and vehicles and for other minor works.

#### State Transport Authority

The State Transport Authority proposes to mount a capital programme of about \$31.6 million in 1978-79, of which \$3 million will come from the State Loan Account, \$1 million from small authority borrowing and the balance from funds made available by the State in previous years, from Commonwealth payments for urban public transport

and from internally generated funds.

About \$18 million has been allocated to the Bus and Tram Division and, of that sum, it is planned to spend \$7.9 million on the purchase of buses, \$9.5 million on depot buildings and plant and the balance on minor works. The \$13.6 million provided for the Rail Division is to be allocated \$11.1 million for the purchase of rolling stock, \$1.4 million for development of metropolitan stations and the balance for minor works.

#### Non-Government Hospitals and Institutions

An amount of \$9.3 million has been allocated for expenditure on non-Government hospitals and institutions. It is expected that more than \$5.2 million of this will be required for the major developments taking place at the Adelaide Children's Hospital. These comprise:—

- erection of an energy-workshop complex built on an adjacent site and connected by tunnel to the first stage of a new building to house additional bed and clinical accommodation.
- erection of a new building and alterations to existing buildings to provide a new casualty department, specialist outpatient clinics, radiology and nuclear medicine departments, new operating theatres and new laboratories.
- erection of the Good Friday Building which will provide replacement ward accommodation.

Construction commenced in 1974-75 on a new building at the Home for Incurables and the project is now nearing completion. Provision of \$821 000 has been made for a covered way from the east block and for alterations to the Rotary Building and the west wing.

The clauses of the Public Purposes Loan Bill are in the same form and give the same kind of authority as the Public Purposes Loan Acts of previous years. The clauses of Appropriation Bill (No. 2) 1978 are also in the same form as previous Acts except for a minor change to Clause 2 which ensures that the moneys transferred from Loan to Revenue Account are appropriated under the authority of the Appropriation Bill.

### ATTACHMENT I

#### THE YEAR 1977-78

In presenting the Revenue and Loan Budgets to the House last October, I said that the forecast for the year on the combined accounts was for an excess of payments over receipts of about \$18.4 million and that this excess would be met by using all of the available reserves held on those accounts. On Revenue Account, receipts were expected to total \$1 171 million and payments \$1 189.4 million, while on Loan Account it was expected that \$259 million of funds would become available and be expended during the year. This included a provision for the transfer of \$12 million from Revenue to Loan Account in order to support the greatest possible capital works programme.

By February, however, it had become apparent that it would not be possible to contain the year's net outgo on the combined operations within the planned level. At that time, the best estimate was for an overall net outgo of approximately \$26 million. Expenditure was then expected to be about \$5 million above estimate, while on the receipts side an anticipated shortfall of some \$6 million in the Revenue Account was expected to be offset in part by an increase in loan repayments and recoveries of about \$3 million.

In the event, payments from the recurrent budget were \$1 192.1 million, \$2.7 million above estimate, while receipts were \$1 167.2 million, \$3.8 million below estimate. For capital purposes, the State received and

spent \$253.2 million. This included a transfer of \$3.4 million from Revenue Account. Thus, the excess of payments over receipts on the two accounts combined was \$24.9 million.

After applying the reserves from previous years of \$18.4 million, the State recorded a deficit of \$6.5 million at 30th June, 1978.

The principal factor contributing to the shortfall of \$3.8 million in receipts on the Revenue Account was the depressed state of the national economy. The effects of the slump in business activity were particularly severe in the areas of payroll tax and stamp duties, where actual receipts fell well short of estimate. The effects were reflected also in receipts from other forms of State taxation. The total shortfall in taxation revenues was \$17.8 million.

This was offset to a large degree by receipts in respect of other activities, which exceeded estimate by \$14 million. Payments to the State by the Commonwealth for a number of specific purposes were above estimate while South Australia's share of the total State tax-sharing entitlement also exceeded expectations. Revenues from motor vehicle registration fees, fines for traffic offences and fees for the registration of companies were all well above estimate.

The over-run on the expenditure side of the Revenue Account was kept to \$2.7 million. This was due partly to the lower than expected transfer to Loan Account. Instead of the \$12 million originally provided for, only \$3.4 million was used to supplement the capital programme. Wage and salary awards are estimated to have cost the Government some \$34.4 million in 1977-78 rather than the \$43 million allowed in the Budget estimates. The call by departments on the round sum allowance for wage increases is incorporated in the actual payments of those departments which are picked up in comment later in this document.

As with the allowance for wages, the call by departments on the round sum allowance of \$5 million for price increases is also incorporated in the actual payments for those departments. However, unlike wages, it is very difficult to isolate the effect of unavoidable price increases from other factors which increased expenditures in those departments.

In all areas, variations occurred both above and below estimate. The major variations were in Special Acts, where interest on the public debt and the transfer to the Highways Fund were \$4.1 million and \$2.7 million above estimate, respectively, health services, unemployment relief and water supply where the dry seasonal conditions resulted in heavy pumping costs.

Receipts on Loan Account were \$5.8 million below estimate. Repayments and recoveries and additional borrowings to cover discounts were about \$2.8 million above the original estimate but these increases were more than offset by the decision of the Government to transfer from Revenue Account to Loan Account some \$8.6 million less than provided for in the initial Budget proposals.

Payments on Loan Account were also \$5.8 million below estimate so that the final result on Loan Account was a balance for the year as originally predicted. In effect, this was brought about deliberately by the Government's decision in respect to the transfer from Revenue Account.

There were a number of variations, both above and below estimate which contributed to the net shortfall of \$5.8 million in payments from Loan Account. Details of the major variations are given later in this document.

## REVENUE ACCOUNT

### RECEIPTS

#### Taxation

Collections from stamp duties in 1977-78 fell \$7.4 million below estimate. Indeed, for only the second time in the last ten years the total of revenue from stamp duties of all kinds failed to reach the level of the previous year. Revenue from stamp duty on cheques was very close to estimate but shortfalls occurred in all other major forms of duty, reflecting the widespread malaise currently affecting the economy. In summary, the results for the year as compared with estimate were:—

	\$million
Credit and rental returns . . . . .	- 1.6
Annual licences (insurance) . . . . .	- 1.8
Conveyances on sale . . . . .	- 1.9
Mortgages . . . . .	- 0.5
Registration of motor vehicles . . . . .	- 1.7
Other . . . . .	+ 0.1
	<hr/>
	- 7.4

Receipts from succession duties also fell below the level of the previous year and, indeed, were well below the level of collections in 1975-76. It would appear that the principal reason for this was the Government's decision to abolish succession duty between spouses. When that decision was taken, it was possible to make a reasonable estimate of the likely cost based on the pattern of beneficiaries at that time but it was not possible to predict with any accuracy the degree to which people would change their wills to take advantage of the new situation. A considerable number of such changes appear to have taken place and this is the most likely explanation for the shortfall of \$2.8 million below estimate in collections from succession duty last year.

Payroll tax receipts for the year were \$6.5 million less than provided for in the original estimates. This reduction bears testimony to the adverse impact which the Commonwealth's economic policy is having on employment.

#### Public Undertakings

For the most part, earnings and contributions by business undertakings were very much as estimated. The one exception was the Department of Marine and Harbors where proposed increases in rates did not go ahead exactly as contemplated at the time the Budget was presented last year and where, due to the poor seasonal conditions, grain throughput was considerably below expectation. The shortfall amounted to almost \$1 million.

#### Departmental Fees and Recoveries

Contributions by the Commonwealth Government towards drought relief were \$1.7 million greater than estimated. The provision made at the beginning of the year was necessarily approximate and it emerged that rather more assistance was necessary than had previously been thought. The extra amount received had no net impact on the Budget since it was matched by extra payments to farmers.

Receipts by the Department for Community Welfare were almost \$2 million above estimate. To a significant extent, the extra revenue arose from the fact that the State submitted claims in respect of payments made to sole supporting parents and in respect of the operating costs of its Maintenance Branch which covered periods greater than 12 months. In addition, there was a marked increase in the number of sole supporting parents applying for assistance and an increase in rates of assistance in line with

similar increases in Commonwealth pensions.

Fees now collected by the Department for Corporate Affairs for the registration of companies and for the lodgement of various returns were increased substantially in December 1977. This had the effect of raising these receipts to a level about \$1 million above the original estimate.

Commonwealth grants for education programmes carried out by the Education Department, the Department of Further Education and the Childhood Services Council exceeded estimate by about \$1.6 million. The State was able to make a case during the year, for further assistance in respect of cost increases and new projects. Even so, the aggregate recoveries in 1977-78 were less in real terms than in 1976-77.

Various adjustments in respect of costs incurred in previous years under the Hospitals Cost Sharing Agreement, the Community Health Programme and the Dental Health Programme amounted to \$1.6 million. Whereas the original intention had been to pay them to the Health Commission, the final decision was to take them to the credit of Revenue Account. There was no net benefit to the Budget because payments to the Health Commission had to be increased correspondingly.

Higher fines for traffic offences were introduced from 1st March, 1977, and it was expected that this would give rise to a significant decline in the number of offences. No such decline occurred, however, and receipts from fines imposed by the courts exceeded estimate by a little over \$1.2 million.

The method of accounting for the operations of the A.D.P. Centre was altered last year so that only the net effect of the Centre's operations would appear in the Budget. The surplus achieved by the Centre was not brought into the Revenue Account during 1977-78, however, and this will now be done during 1978-79. There was a consequent shortfall of revenue of \$656 000.

Receipts from motor vehicle registration fees and fees for drivers' licences exceeded estimate by about \$2.7 million. The principal reason was the increase of about 15 per cent in registration fees which took effect from 1st February, 1978.

#### Commonwealth

For 1977-78, the entitlement for all States under the tax-sharing arrangements was fixed at \$4 336.1 million. South Australia's share was estimated to be \$507.7 million and, after allowing for the repayment of \$745 000 overpaid by the Commonwealth in respect of 1976-77, it was expected that the State would receive \$507 million. However, the population estimates used to calculate the distribution of the States' entitlement between individual States proved somewhat conservative. For South Australia the degree of underestimation was proportionately larger than in most other States. As a result, the State received \$761 000 more than estimated at the beginning of the year.

### PAYMENTS

#### Special Acts

The Government contribution to the South Australian Superannuation Fund was \$945 000 greater than had been anticipated. There is considerable scope for error in estimating the number of people likely to retire in any year and for 1977-78 the estimate was too low.

The transfer of the net proceeds of motor vehicle taxation to the Highways Fund was \$2.7 million above estimate. This variation was almost identical with the variation in receipts from motor vehicle taxation and, of

course, reflects the increase in registration fees which took effect from 1st February, 1978.

Several factors contributed to the very heavy interest bill incurred by South Australia in 1977-78. In the first place, the Commonwealth Government raised an unusually large proportion of the State's requirements very early in the year and interest payments for the early months were correspondingly high. In the second place, the interest rates selected for Commonwealth Securities resulted in heavier payments than had been anticipated. Thirdly, the rate of conversion of existing debt was very high and so the total amount owing to the public and to financial institutions increased more rapidly than had been expected. Actual payments were \$4.1 million above estimate.

#### Chief Secretary

Expenditure by the Police Department was almost \$2.5 million above estimate. The cost of wage and salary awards was about \$1.4 million and significant extra costs in the nature of terminal leave and pension payments were incurred as a result of an unexpected increase in the number of retirements. Costs of operating and maintaining the vehicle fleet also exceeded estimate.

#### Attorney-General

The Department for Corporate Affairs was created during the year to administer legislation relating to companies and trading in company securities and to bring together related activities previously performed by the Law Department and the Companies Branch of the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs. Much of this was provided for in the original Budget under other appropriations.

Despite the transfer of certain responsibilities to the new Department for Corporate Affairs, expenditure by the Law Department exceeded estimate by \$592 000. Some \$166 000 of this was due to wage and salary awards and another \$242 000 is estimated to have arisen from fewer staff vacancies and extra payments for trainee reporters. The balance is attributed to extra payments required for jurors and witnesses, greater costs for printing and publishing *Hansard* and unexpectedly high administration expenses.

#### Treasurer

When the Budget was presented, it was planned to transfer \$12 million from Revenue to Loan Account to supplement capital programmes. As the year progressed, it became apparent that taxation receipts would not measure up to estimate and that offsetting savings could be necessary on the expenditure side. In the final analysis, a number of savings were effected in the capital programme and only \$3.4 million was transferred to the Loan Account.

#### Minister of Works

Expenditure by the Engineering and Water Supply Department was \$5.5 million above estimate. Of this amount, some \$1.6 million was the result of direct wage and salary awards. A further \$1.6 million, being the amount by which electricity costs for the pumping of water exceeded estimate, was due to the dry season. Apart from electricity costs, extra pumping necessitated increased repairs and maintenance of equipment. This, too, raised costs above estimate. Funds also had to be found for the alum dosing of Milbrook and Mt. Bold Reservoirs to counteract the dirty water coming into the metropolitan system early in the financial year.

A further amount was needed to cover the cost of design staff engaged on Revenue programmes due to a reduction in activity on major Loan Works projects. A decline in sub-divisional activity made it necessary to transfer staff usually engaged on reimbursement work to a variety of maintenance activities. This decline in activity also had its effect on the Ottoway Foundry for which it was necessary to provide \$450 000 to fund the deficit of the foundry and workshops.

#### **Minister of Education**

Direct wage and salary awards added \$9.2 million to the costs of operating the Education Department during 1977-78. Extra funds were also required to cover increases in wages and salaries which do not come within the scope of the Appropriation Act provision. The balance of the excess of actual expenditure over the amounts appropriated last year was due to the transfer of the Museum and Botanic Garden Divisions to the Department during the course of the year and is broadly matched by savings within the Department for the Environment.

Expenditure by the Department of Further Education exceeded estimate by over \$1.9 million. Wage and salary awards accounted for \$1.3 million of this and increased expenditure on pre-apprenticeship training and migrant education courses, the costs of which are subject to reimbursement by the Commonwealth, also resulted in greater outlays.

#### **Minister of Labour and Industry**

At the end of 1977-78, the Government transferred a further \$2.3 million to a Deposit Account to help finance unemployment relief activities in 1978-79. The total charged against Revenue Account exceeded estimate by this amount.

#### **Minister of Agriculture**

Wage and salary awards increased the costs of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries by about \$384 000. In total, expenditure by the Department exceeded estimate by \$577 000, the balance of the extra cost being incurred mainly in the Plant Industry Division which was responsible for mounting programmes to deal with pasture aphids and outbreaks of fruit fly.

Payments for natural disaster relief exceeded estimate by \$1.7 million. This was offset by a comparable increase in the amount received from the Commonwealth.

#### **Minister of Marine**

Under the terms of the Mobil Lubricating Oil Refinery (Indenture) Act, 1976, the State is required to make refunds to Mobil Oil Australia Limited of wharfage payments made in excess of a guaranteed amount. It was not possible to estimate the likely amount of these refunds accurately when the Budget was being prepared and actual payments exceeded the sum provided by \$344 000.

#### **Minister of Transport and Minister of Local Government**

Expenditure by the Highways Department exceeded estimate by \$877 000. Wage and salary awards accounted for \$487 000 and the balance was due to increased operating costs, including greater charges for maintenance of the Walkerville administration building and higher computer and printing costs.

Contributions towards the deficit of the State Transport Authority were only \$502 000 above estimate. However, the cost of new wage and salary awards to the Authority was about \$1.3 million. This additional cost was offset by other factors, primarily a Government decision to finance depreciation in a different way.

#### **Minister of Community Welfare**

Costs incurred by the Department for Community Welfare were \$2.1 million above estimate. This was due partly to the cost of wage and salary awards (\$540 000) but mainly to increases in financial assistance to sole supporting parents and others. This resulted from both greater numbers of applicants and higher rates of assistance, following increases in Commonwealth benefits.

#### **Minister of Health**

The cost to the State of supporting Government and non-Government hospitals, together with a number of related bodies, exceeded the original estimate by \$18.2 million. Wage and salary awards including retrospective salary increases for medical officers and nursing staff added \$14.7 million to the costs of operation. Much of the balance was due to a shortfall in some hospital receipts, the provision of additional hospital staff and increased charges for medical and surgical supplies, all of which impacted on the net funding by the Government of the Commission's operations. The decision of the Government to transfer various adjustments in respect of previous years expenditures to Revenue Account rather than to the South Australian Health Commission increased the Commission's requirement for funds by about \$1.6 million but had no net impact on the Budget.

### **LOAN ACCOUNT**

#### **RECEIPTS**

##### **Loan Council Programme**

Loan raisings and capital grants were as originally expected and included in the Loan Estimates.

##### **Repayments, Recoveries and Additional Borrowings to cover Discounts, etc.**

These exceeded estimate by about \$2.8 million. The main variations making up this increase were about \$1.3 million repaid by the State Transport Authority as a result of the finalisation of certain arrangements in respect to the transfer of the non-metropolitan railways to the Commonwealth, \$800 000 more than had been expected from Commonwealth grants for Further Education, and \$1.1 million more by the Public Buildings Department from the sale of land and property. A number of smaller variations above and below estimate resulted, in aggregate, in a shortfall of repayments of about \$400 000.

##### **Transfer from Revenue Account**

Whereas the original intention had been to transfer \$12 million from Revenue Account to Loan Account, the amount actually required to give a balance on the year's operations on Loan Account was only \$3.4 million, a reduction of \$8.6 million.

#### **PAYMENTS**

##### **Treasurer**

Provision of \$9 million was made in the Loan Estimates for advances to the State Bank to finance loans for housing where applicants fall outside the means test under the Housing Agreement and to provide working funds for the Bank's activities in lending to industry. It was decided during the year to separate the provisions for these two quite distinct functions and the necessary change in presentation has been made in this year's Loan Estimates.

**Minister of Works**

For the Engineering and Water Supply Department, payments from Loan Account fell \$2.3 million below estimate. Much of this was due to the reallocation of resources from capital works to maintenance.

**Minister of Education**

Expenditure on Further Education buildings was \$1.2 million above estimate. The Commonwealth made available about \$800 000 more than had been expected and this permitted more rapid progress on works than had been provided for in the original Estimates.

**Minister of Marine**

Expenditure by the Department of Marine and Harbors fell \$1.4 million below estimate. Part of this shortfall was due to the fact that payments on new hopper barges were deferred until 1978-79. In addition, costs associated with dredging and reclamation at Outer Harbor turned out to be lower than anticipated.

**Minister of Transport and Minister of Local Government**

Advances to the State Transport Authority from Loan Account were about \$3.8 million more than had been provided for at the beginning of the year. This was arranged to offset lower than expected funds from Commonwealth urban public transport grants and a lesser build up in internal funds from depreciation provisions than had been planned.

Payments from Loan Account to subsidise expenditure by local authorities on stormwater drainage fell \$1.1 million below estimate. It is the local authorities, rather than the State Government, which initiate and manage projects in this area and claims were much lower than had been anticipated.

**Minister of Health**

The hospitals capital programme was cut back as a matter of deliberate policy by the Government and savings of \$3.7 million on Government hospitals and \$1 million in the non-Government area were achieved. Cabinet took the view that a slower rate of progress in the provision of hospital facilities would be necessary in the light of the Commonwealth's attitude towards health costs.

There were other minor variations, both above and below estimate, and these are identified in the Loan Estimates.

**ATTACHMENT II****THE NEW FEDERALISM**

At the time the State Budget was presented to Parliament last year, there was under consideration a proposal from the Commonwealth that the tax sharing arrangements be altered. The proposal was to provide for State entitlements to be based on Commonwealth collections of personal income tax in the previous year rather than the current year. As an interim measure, State entitlements for 1977-78 were to be set at an aggregate of \$4 336.1 million.

Agreement in principle to the proposal was reached prior to the Budget being presented and the details required to put it into effect were agreed subsequently, following a brief report from Commonwealth and State Treasury officers. The result was that the States became entitled to 39.87 per cent of the previous year's collections in lieu of 33.6 per cent of the current year's collections.

The change was made to prevent a recurrence of the budget uncertainty of 1976-77, when the States saw their expected entitlements decline sharply in the latter months of the year as Commonwealth personal income tax receipts fell well short of estimate. Their actual receipts in 1976-77 exceeded their finally calculated entitlements for that year and in 1977-78 they were faced with repayment of the excess.

South Australia's share of the \$4 336.1 million for 1977-78 was estimated to be \$507.7 million. After allowing for the repayment of \$745 000 overpaid by the Commonwealth in respect of 1976-77, it was expected that the State would receive \$507 million in 1977-78. In the event, the population estimates used to calculate the distribution of the aggregate entitlement between individual States proved somewhat conservative. For South Australia, the degree of underestimation was proportionately larger than in most other States and our share of the \$4 336.1 million turned out to be just over \$508.5 million. After repaying \$745 000, our final net entitlement was \$507.8 million.

In 1977-78 Commonwealth personal income tax collections aggregated \$12 129 million, of which \$324.6 million came from the health insurance levy. This left a figure of \$11 804.4 million as the base for determining the tax sharing entitlements of the States in 1978-79. For the States as a whole, the amount to be shared came to \$4 706.4 million (39.87 per cent of \$11 804.4 million) and for South Australia it was estimated that the entitlement would be \$551.6 million.

In all probability, however, the tax sharing entitlement calculated in this way will be irrelevant. It seems clear that, for the second time in three years, South Australia will receive general purpose revenue assistance calculated in accordance with the Financial Assistance Grant formula. In 1976-77, the first year of the new arrangements, the formula guarantee provided more than tax-sharing. In 1977-78 the Commonwealth Government abandoned its original proposal and, for one year, fixed the entitlement of the States at a figure well in excess of the guarantee. Now, in the third year of the tax-sharing arrangement (the first year to be based on a previous year's collections), it appears that the formula will once again produce a result for the States which is superior to their theoretical tax-sharing entitlements. If we were to accept the Commonwealth proposition that average wages throughout Australia for the year to March, 1979, will be 8 per cent greater than average wages for the year to March 1978, South Australia would expect to receive \$562.6 million. The Government finds it difficult to believe that wages will increase to this extent and, therefore, has adopted a wages factor of 7 per cent for the purposes of calculating our formula guarantee in 1978-79. This yields an estimate of \$557.4 million. Since this is greater than the amount given by the tax sharing calculation, it is the figure which the Government has used in preparing the State Budget.

**Population Changes**

At this time last year, there were several issues associated with the new tax-sharing arrangements which had not been finalised. Amongst these was the question of the use of uncorrected population estimates to determine population weighting factors for the distribution between the States of the aggregate tax-sharing entitlement. All States except Queensland had proposed a recalculation of these factors on the basis of revised population figures, and a special addition to Queensland's entitlement to compensate for the continuing effects on its Financial Assistance Grant of the under-enumeration of its

population in the previous five years. Without such a supplement all the other States would have improved their positions at the expense of Queensland.

The Commonwealth Government refused to provide extra funds for Queensland and, as the other States declined to pursue the matter at Queensland's expense, the issue died.

For the future, the Commonwealth Statistician is taking steps to minimise the effects of revisions in population estimates by improving the accuracy of his original estimates. One of the major sources of error has been the estimate of short-term movements. In order to eliminate this problem, the Statistician has decided to move towards a State-of-residence basis for population estimates and so avoid the necessity for short-term movements to be taken into account. It is proposed that after the 1981 Census, population estimates will be made entirely on a State-of-residence basis. Thereafter problems associated with revisions of estimates should be of lesser significance.

### Review of Relativities

Towards the end of 1976-77, the Commonwealth Government endeavoured to forestall further discussion on the review body and its terms of reference by introducing legislation into the Commonwealth Parliament which gave effect to its own point of view. It ignored the strong objections of several States. Fortunately, the Commonwealth was persuaded not to proceed with the legislation and, at the July 1977 Premiers' Conference, a compromise was reached on the composition of the review body. At that stage, amendments proposed by the States to the terms of reference were still under discussion.

Eventually, terms of reference more in keeping with those suggested by South Australia were accepted by all parties. Legislation to establish the review body as an expanded Commonwealth Grants Commission and to spell out the broad principles under which the review would be conducted was passed by the Commonwealth Parliament towards the end of 1977-78. Just prior to the end of the financial year, the question of whether any change is desirable in the per capita relativities between the States of their tax-sharing entitlements was referred to the Commonwealth Grants Commission by the Commonwealth Government and the States were invited to nominate persons for appointment as Associate Members of the Commission for the purpose of the inquiry into this matter.

The importance to South Australia of this review cannot be overemphasised. At the time responsibility for the State's non-metropolitan railways was transferred to the Commonwealth, the Governments of South Australia and the Commonwealth entered into an agreement which produced very considerable financial benefits for the State. There was no suggestion of special treatment for this State as against any other and, indeed, it was open to other States to enter into negotiations with the Commonwealth for the transfer of their railway systems. Against this background, therefore, it is difficult to see what justification there could be for a subsequent Commonwealth Government to seek to deprive South Australia of the benefits it received from the railways transfer arrangements. Nevertheless, the Commonwealth's attitude does suggest that it will seek to have South Australia's favourable financial arrangement negated through the process of the review.

It is interesting to note that there was no mention of any review in the Federalism Policy document circulated by the Liberal-National Country Party coalition before the 1975 elections. Indeed, that document specifically states:—

“... the existing rights of the less populous States will be fully protected. No State will be disadvantaged and the relative positions of the States will be preserved.”

It was not until after the 1975 elections, at the Premiers' Conference of February, 1976, that the concept of a review of relativities first emerged. Since then, the Commonwealth Government has pursued the matter relentlessly and was prepared to force its own view on the States by introducing legislation which was in conflict with the expressed views of a majority of States.

Clearly, the Commonwealth Government hoped that, by requiring the Commonwealth Grants Commission to carry out a review of State relativities in accordance with its traditional strict equalisation principles, it would receive from the Commission a recommendation that South Australia should be deprived of the benefit of the railways transfer and its share of the total State tax-sharing entitlement reduced.

South Australia accepts that a review from time to time is desirable to ensure continuing equity between the States as their circumstances, their revenue raising capacities and their needs change over time. However, we must do all in our power to protect the advantages gained from the transfer of the non-metropolitan railways and, therefore, from the outset, I have fought for a review body and terms of reference which would permit a broader view to be taken and which would enable recognition to be given to the special circumstances under which South Australia was placed in its comparatively favourable position. Needless to say, my submissions to the Commission will be designed to protect that position.

### Points of Understanding

From time to time, the Premier of New South Wales has expressed concern about the lack of precision in many of the points of understanding relating to Stage I of the tax-sharing arrangements. During 1977-78, therefore, he instructed his officers to examine the basis of the agreement between the Commonwealth and the States and to elaborate, where necessary, in order to clarify the meaning of particular clauses. South Australia was given the opportunity to comment on a draft of the revised agreement and most of our suggestions were incorporated in the final proof.

The Prime Minister indicated at the June, 1978, Conference that the document was welcomed by the Commonwealth but suggested that it be referred to officers of all Treasuries for detailed examination.

### Review of Tax Sharing

As part of the tax-sharing arrangements, the Commonwealth Government gave an undertaking that it would:—

“... participate in a review of the arrangements when there are changes in Commonwealth tax legislation which have effects on the States' entitlements of such significance as to warrant such a review.”

In June, the Premier of New South Wales wrote to the Prime Minister, pointing out that recent changes in personal income tax legislation would reduce State entitlements by about \$150 million in 1978-79 and by about \$500 million in 1979-80. Accordingly, he suggested that it would be appropriate for a review of the tax sharing arrangements to take place. The matter was raised again at the Premiers' Conference and referred to Treasury officers for advice.

### Extending the Guarantee

Officers have also been asked to report on a closely related matter—the desirability of extending the formula guarantee beyond the year 1979-80. All Premiers have

been disturbed at the manner in which their States' entitlements have been eroded under the present tax-sharing arrangements. The moves to have the States' share re-examined and to extend the period for which the guarantee operates reflect their dissatisfaction. There is every indication that in 1979-80 the formula will produce figures well in excess of the theoretical entitlements of the States under tax-sharing. Thus, if arrangements continue as they are, the States may face the prospect in 1980-81 of having a tax-sharing entitlement which is barely, if at all, greater than the sum produced by the formula in 1979-80. With no guarantee to fall back on, they could face a quite impossible budget situation.

To my mind, there is no question about the priorities which the Premiers must adopt. If we were to go into the year 1980-81 and beyond dependent only on a share (even an increased share) of Commonwealth personal income tax receipts, then we would tie our States entirely to a revenue source which the present Commonwealth Government is keen to see become less significant. We would be obliged to rely solely on the generosity of the Commonwealth in supplementing our basic entitlements to avoid a sustained decline in the level and standard of services for which we are responsible. In other words,

despite the change in the method of calculation of State entitlements, we could be far worse off than in the depressing days of the sixties and early seventies.

Our best hope of preventing this is to press for the continuation of the formula guarantee, even at the expense of renouncing altogether any claim to a direct share of Commonwealth personal income tax receipts. In this way, we would increase the prospects of a regular and predictable increase in our revenues. This is desirable so that the States may plan sensibly and achieve the most effective use of resources.

#### Stage II

At the time the Budget was presented last year, the Commonwealth Government was still considering the comments of the States on draft legislation for the introduction of State taxing powers. Certain minor changes were made to the draft legislation and a Bill was introduced into the Commonwealth Parliament late in 1977-78. It is now open to any State to legislate to impose a surcharge on, or grant a rebate from, Commonwealth personal income tax. We have no plans to impose such a surcharge.

### ATTACHMENT III

#### REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE, 1977 RESPONSES BY DEPARTMENTS

Auditor General's Report page reference	Auditor-General's Comment	Action Taken	Present Position
1	<p><i>General</i></p> <p>"For several years I have expressed concern at the quality of financial management in many Departments, without which one cannot be satisfied that the maximum value is being obtained for each dollar of public moneys spent."</p>	<p>It is considered that there are two major factors which contribute to poor financial management—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• management attitudes</li> <li>• presentation of financial information.</li> </ul> <p>In an effort to improve management attitudes, the Public Service Board, the Premier's Department and Treasury, with the assistance of a private consultant, have been conducting a Financial Management Development Programme for senior managers within Departments. The object of the programme is to impress upon senior Departmental officers the limits to State Government resources and the benefits to be gained by ensuring that these resources are effectively used.</p> <p>In an effort to improve the presentation of financial information, Treasury has prepared a report which recommends sweeping changes to the Central Government Accounting System. The Public Accounts Committee has endorsed the broad thrust of the proposals contained in that report.</p>	<p>Approximately 200 senior managers from Government Departments have attended the Financial Management Development Programme and several more courses are planned.</p> <p>The first stage of the new Central Government Accounting System is now being developed.</p>

Auditor General's Report page reference	Auditor-General's Comment	Action Taken	Present Position
7	<p><i>Internal Audit</i></p> <p>"I consider that the establishment of internal audit in Government Departments, especially some of the larger Departments, is overdue and I am concerned that, although some Departments have included internal audit positions in their manpower budgets, those positions remain unfilled."</p>	<p>Inter-department Committee established to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● define the role of Internal Audit in the Public Service,</li> <li>● determine the basic skills required, and the training and development needed to develop those skills,</li> <li>● encourage the acceptance of Internal Audit by Permanent Heads of Departments.</li> </ul>	<p>A study is being made by the Committee of the best means of bringing to the attention of management within Departments the modern concept of internal audit and the benefits which can be gained therefrom.</p>
54	<p><i>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries—</i></p> <p>"Payments under 'Plant Industry Services—Agronomy' included a transfer of \$250 000 to the Pest Plants Commission Trust Fund, reference to which was not included in the description of the line in the Estimates of Expenditure."</p>	<p>Presentation of Estimates amended.</p>	<p>No further action required.</p>
56	<p>"Further to comment in previous reports the Department has formed a Financial Management Investigating Committee with a view to developing an improved system of budgetary control, including an on-going assessment of physical achievement of research projects, so that appropriate managerial decisions can be taken."</p>	<p>The Financial Management Investigating Committee has been examining alternatives to the present budgetary control system. A pilot scheme has been set up in the Fisheries Division and project costing introduced in several other areas of the Department's activity.</p>	<p>The Committee is awaiting the development by the Public Service Board of a Common Accounting and Reporting System to see if it will be suitable for the Department's needs. The system is now at the stage where detailed planning is under way.</p>
87	<p><i>Education Department—</i></p> <p><i>Budgeting and Control of Expenditure</i></p> <p>"It is considered that budgeting should be carried out in much greater detail to enable the appropriate authorities to make sounder judgements of the estimates. In some cases, e.g. staffing, costs should be recorded in similar detail to enable periodical comparison with the budgets with the objective of exercising greater control of expenditure."</p>	<p>A Personnel System for the department's total workforce has been developed which involves an integrated manpower management and pay system. This system forms part of a total departmental management information system which will eventually incorporate expenditure on supplies and services.</p>	<p>Introduction of the integrated manpower management and pay system is scheduled for December, 1978, with the major thrust planned for March, 1979.</p>
90	<p><i>School Based Funding</i></p> <p>"With the approval of the Treasurer, a trial scheme was introduced during the second half of 1976-77 to provide schools with greater autonomy in the management of funds."</p>	<p>The scheme did not prove entirely satisfactory and a Committee was appointed during 1977-78 to consider the most effective policy to be adopted regarding school managed budgets. Private consultants were engaged to recommend on this matter.</p>	<p>The consultants have set out a number of alternative approaches in their recent report. These are being considered.</p>
90	<p><i>Audit of School Funds etc.</i></p> <p>"In my two previous reports I have drawn attention to the fact that the Education Regulations require school councils and parent bodies to have their accounts audited . . ."</p>	<p>During 1976-77 a Committee was formed to consider amendments to the Regulations or other measures which would provide for a common financial year and which would ensure that those organisations submitted audited financial statements to the Department.</p>	<p>Audit arrangements are included in the report of the consultants. The form of audit chosen will depend to a large extent on the form of school based funding selected from the alternatives offered.</p>



Auditor General's Report page reference	Auditor-General's Comment	Action Taken	Present Position
95	<p><i>Paringa Park Primary School</i></p> <p>"Notwithstanding the recommendation of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in August, 1974, expenditure amounting to \$560 000 for Stage I of the redevelopment of the Paringa Park Primary School was approved. To 30th June 1977, funds totalling \$683 000 have been approved for this project and \$696 000 has been expended."</p>	<p>The Government specifically rejected the report of the Committee and proceeded with redevelopment in accordance with its public undertakings.</p>	
98, 99 100 and 103	<p><i>Department of Further Education— Budgetary Control Financial Management Supply Operation of Colleges</i></p> <p>A number of matters are raised relating to budgetary control, overpayments and the purchase of items for use in training.</p>	<p>The administration (financial and general) of the Department has been strengthened considerably following a review of its administration and finance functions.</p>	<p>The reorganisation gives the Department its own autonomous administration/finance function and appropriate staff to rectify the problems raised and to prevent the occurrence of others.</p>
112	<p><i>Engineering and Water Supply Department—</i></p> <p>"During the year attention was drawn to unsatisfactory aspects of the accounts payable activity resulting in incorrect payments and overdue accounts."</p>	<p>The Department has instigated a procedure to prevent a recurrence of this problem.</p>	<p>No further action should be required.</p>
	<p><i>Department for the Environment— Accounting Procedures</i></p> <p>Attention is drawn to unsatisfactory records and accounting procedures.</p>	<p>Satisfactory records and procedures have now been introduced.</p>	<p>No further action should be required.</p>
	<p><i>Budgetary Control</i></p> <p>The recommendations of the report prepared by the officer on loan from the Public Service Board's Financial Consulting Unit, and received by the Review Steering Committee (in May/June 1977) have not (as at June 1977) been implemented.</p>	<p>Reorganisation of the Department has affected the relevance of some of the recommendations made in the report. Action to implement those recommendations has therefore been deferred.</p> <p>The Department recently engaged consultants to report on the management information requirements of the National Parks and Wildlife Division.</p>	<p>The current budgetary control requirements of the Department should be met when the Common Accounting and Reporting System (currently under development by the Public Service Board) becomes available. The system is now at the stage where detailed planning is under way.</p> <p>The Department is considering the report of the consultants.</p>
150	<p><i>Highways Department— Road Maintenance Charges</i></p> <p>"There appear to be a number of measures which could be introduced through amendments to the Road Maintenance (Contribution) Act, Companies Act and Motor Vehicles Act to improve collection of road charges."</p>	<p>A number of proposals for amendment to the relevant legislation have been approved by Cabinet.</p>	<p>Amendments to the relevant legislation are being prepared.</p>

Auditor General's Report page reference	Auditor-General's Comment	Action Taken	Present Position
151	<p><i>Financial Management</i></p> <p>"In the meantime another working party appointed to develop, implement and install the Financial and Management Accounting System proceeded with its task in the second half of the year. The probable date for implementation of the system is now October/November 1978, although in October last I was advised of a completion date of December 1977, subject to the availability of suitably qualified and experienced staff. The setting back of the completion date, and on the experience of the past year, the likelihood of further delay, is a matter of great concern".</p>	<p>Development of the system has continued. However a number of unavoidable changes of key personnel engaged on the project have resulted in delays in implementation. As at July 1978, the systems had been outlined and programming was 50 per cent complete.</p>	<p>The revised implementation date is April 1979. Recent staff movements could, however, cause further delays.</p>
153	<p><i>Hospitals Department— Financial Management</i></p> <p>Some progress was made towards overcoming the problems encountered in the financial management of the Department, but further corrective measures are essential.</p>	<p>Having regard to—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The basic changes in financing, accounting and budgeting inherent in the transfer from Department to Health Commission status;</li> </ul>	<p>Development and implementation of the new systems, including budgetary control is proceeding at both Health Unit and Commission levels.</p>
158	<p><i>Budgetary Control</i></p> <p>"The present pattern of budgeting does not relate costs to identified areas of functional responsibility. It merely presents cost information by object of expenditure and is therefore not designed for control purposes."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National considerations in respect of accounting, management information systems, financing and reporting for health services;</li> <li>• Changes in a number of cost-sharing arrangements between the State and the Commonwealth;</li> <li>• Relevant priorities in maximising available resources,</li> </ul> <p>the Department has considered it preferable to use departmental resources to seek longer term solutions to the matters raised rather than to concentrate on the correction of existing deficiencies in systems which will be superseded by new arrangements under the Commission structure.</p>	
186	<p><i>Department of Lands—</i></p> <p>"During the year it was necessary to draw the Department's attention to unsatisfactory aspects of its accounting work in respect of—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) inadequate internal checking procedures relating to the calculation and payment of salaries,</li> <li>(b) non-observance of accepted procedures for the payment of accounts,</li> <li>(c) cost reporting and budgeting control of the Survey Division, and</li> <li>(d) inventory recording of equipment." </li></ul>	<p>The position with regard to (a) and (b) has been rectified to the Auditor-General's satisfaction.</p> <p>With regard to (c), a Survey Division costing system has been developed.</p> <p>With regard to (d), a manual inventory system has been introduced.</p> <p>A Management Information System for the whole Department is being developed.</p>	<p>With regard to (a), (b) and (d), no further action should be required. With regard to (c), the costing system is being implemented.</p> <p>It is planned to have the Management Information System in operation by the end of 1978.</p>
215	<p><i>Department of Marine and Harbors— Accounting/Reporting</i></p> <p>"The financial statement prepared by the Department does not segregate receipts and payments on a functional basis . . ."</p>	<p>A Committee, including representatives from the Public Service Board, has been established to report on the redevelopment of the Department's accounting system, using responsibility accounting techniques. A preliminary report, dealing with the broad concepts to be followed, has been approved by the Departmental Head.</p>	<p>Work is proceeding on the development of detailed proposals.</p>

Auditor General's Report page reference	Auditor-General's Comment	Action Taken	Present Position
220	<p><i>Budgeting Procedures</i></p> <p>"Further to previous comments regarding improvements considered necessary in budgeting control and responsibility accounting in the Glanville Workshop, the Department has now advised that this matter has been further deferred on account of other work of higher priority."</p>	<p>A revised system of budgetary control (approved by the Auditor-General) was introduced to the Glanville Workshops in May, 1978.</p>	<p>No further action should be required.</p>
225, 227, 228, 229	<p><i>Department of Mines and Energy—</i></p> <p><i>Accounting</i></p> <p><i>Cost Control</i></p> <p><i>Management Information</i></p>	<p>The Department has commenced a review of its accounting system in conjunction with the Public Service Board's Financial Consulting Unit. A project costing scheme has been introduced into the Geological and Geophysical Survey Division on an experimental basis.</p>	<p>The review is still in the preliminary stages.</p>
249	<p><i>Department of Public and Consumer Affairs—</i></p> <p><i>Accounting etc., Systems</i></p> <p>"During the year the Public Service Board appointed management consultants to undertake a review of the accounting and budgetary control procedures of the Department. As yet the review has not been completed."</p>	<p>Changes have been made to the organisation of the Department in order to co-ordinate the activities of a number of quite diverse bodies.</p>	<p>The report of the consultants is being considered. In the meantime changes to the budgetary control system are being held in abeyance pending the development by the Public Service Board of the Common Accounting and Reporting System. The system is now at the stage where detailed planning is under way.</p>
257	<p><i>Public Buildings Department—</i></p> <p><i>Approvals</i></p> <p>"The Department's attention was drawn to the need for action on numerous projects where expenditures exceeded approved funds, including major works excesses of \$18 000 000."</p>	<p>By 30th June 1978, expenditure in excess of approved funds had been reduced significantly. The capacity to carry out additional computer analysis which allocated over-expenditure to areas of responsibility had been developed.</p>	<p>The Department is continuing to review all projects in an endeavour to prevent expenditure exceeding approval.</p>
	<p><i>Vacant Accommodation</i></p> <p>"Instances have occurred where rented space has been vacant for protracted lengths of time".</p>	<p>The matter is kept under constant review by the Department and every effort made to keep the time for which premises remain unoccupied to a minimum.</p>	<p>It is anticipated that it will nearly always be necessary to incur some rental costs in respect of unoccupied premises for two reasons—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the necessity to secure accommodation when suitable premises are in short supply.</li> <li>• the necessity to undertake commissioning work before occupation.</li> </ul>
265	<p><i>Budgeting—Hospital Maintenance</i></p> <p>"An investigation during the year of maintenance costs of the Hospitals Department, Strathmont Centre, revealed certain inadequacies in budgeting and expenditure control through the Hospital Maintenance Unit".</p>	<p>Previously recorded inadequacies in budgeting and expenditure control in the Hospital Maintenance Unit were corrected by the Department during the year.</p>	<p>No further action should be required.</p>

Auditor General's Report page reference	Auditor-General's Comment	Action Taken	Present Position
265	<p><i>Preliminary Costs</i></p> <p>"During the year costs on projects not proceeded with and amounting to \$550 000 were written off by transfer from Loan to Consolidated Revenue. A further review of investigation and design costs revealed that additional projects totalling more than \$1 500 000 would appear to require similar action."</p>	<p>Preliminary investigation and design costs for projects were reviewed and a further \$550 000 written off in 1977-78 by transfer from Loan to Consolidated Revenue.</p>	<p>Further amounts which should be written off have been identified and appropriate action will be taken.</p>
265	<p><i>Motor Vehicles</i></p> <p>"The Department's attention was drawn to the following matters in respect of motor vehicles—</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. inadequacies in procedures for efficient and effective utilisation of the fleet;</li> <li>2. non-compliance with Government policy on disposal; and</li> <li>3. the failure to review vehicle operating cost accounts on a regular basis".</li> </ol>	<p>The Department has introduced a system of regular reporting and reviewing of costs, utilisation, disposal and purchase requirements for vehicles.</p>	<p>Review of operating costs is now being maintained on an up to date basis.</p>
272	<p><i>Department of Services and Supply—Sundry Debtors</i></p> <p>"In my previous Report I commented on the unsatisfactory position relating to stores and sundry debtors since the introduction of a computer based accounting system in May, 1975. The Division has advised me that problems still exist in relation to the reconciliation of sundry debtors."</p>	<p>The computer stock file records have been reconciled with quantities physically in the stores. The technical problem which was leading to discrepancies between the debtors ledger and the computer file has been identified.</p>	<p>An examination is being made of the best way to overcome the problem. In the meantime, work is proceeding on reconciling the debtors ledger and the computer file. The Auditor-General is being informed regularly of the situation and the progress being made.</p>
303	<p><i>Woods and Forests Department—Budgetary Control</i></p> <p>"The matter of unsatisfactory budgeting procedures associated with Forestry Administrative and Service Operations was referred to the Department in May, 1974. The position at June, 1977, was still unsatisfactory".</p> <p>"In connection with the review of Forestry accounting procedures, the Steering Committee issued a final report, including recommendations, in mid-August 1977, which, after consideration by Departmental management, will be submitted to Treasury. Subject to approval, it is proposed that implementation be programmed for July, 1978".</p>	<p>A new system was approved by the Government. An internal audit programme was introduced during the year and a copy of the programme has been forwarded to the Auditor-General.</p>	<p>No further action should be required.</p>

#### ATTACHMENT IV

##### AMALGAMATION OF DEPARTMENTS, ETC.

Set out below is a schedule of the amalgamations of departments and regrouping of divisions which have taken place in the last 12 months. These changes are reflected in the Estimates of Revenue and the Estimates of Expenditure.

1. The creation of a new Department for Corporate Affairs including the Companies Branch of the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs.

2. The transfer of the Unit for Industrial Democracy from the Premier's Department to the Department of Labour and Industry.

3. The transfer of the irrigation function from the Department of Lands to the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

4. The transfer of the Museum and Botanic Garden Divisions (excluding the Ecological Survey Unit and the Aboriginal and Historic Relics Unit) from the Department for the Environment to the Education Department.

5. The transfer of the State Government Interpreting and Translating Service from the Law Department to the Premier's Department.

Mr. TONKIN secured the adjournment of the debate.

**CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL  
(No. 2)**

Adjourned debate on second reading.  
(Continued from 22 August. Page 647.)

**Mr. TONKIN (Leader of the Opposition):** I oppose this Bill, which has been called the "Bannon benefit Bill", on many grounds. First, I take note of what the Premier said in introducing the Bill:

The Government believes that the appointment of an additional Minister is now justified in view of the increasing demands placed upon the Ministers by their departments and by the public.

He also said:

The community development services study followed on the Government's need to take over a number of services vacated by the Commonwealth under the Australian Assistance Plan.

He says that this will also be a reason for the setting up of a new Ministry. The whole of the programme for community development and matters which he would outline to the House were said to be the justification for the creation of a new portfolio. He also said that a portfolio of the sort he had in mind would not sit adequately with any of the existing portfolio areas.

I should have thought that, if a portfolio such as he outlined did not sit adequately with any of the existing portfolio areas, he should look to rearranging his portfolio areas rather than look to the setting up of a new portfolio and the appointment of a new Minister. The Premier referred to the duties performed until now by the Community Welfare Department and to the community councils for social development. He went on to talk about library services, the development of community art programmes, with more activity in local community areas, and the Regional Cultural Centre Trusts.

The Premier fails to convince me and, I suspect, all other members on this side of the House (and probably he cannot convince his own members) of the real need for this new Ministry. None of those grounds as outlined by him is persuasive in any way. I am also totally unimpressed by the rationalisation of numbers in this Cabinet with those in Cabinets of other State Governments. When will this Government learn that it is not necessarily how much money is spent but how well it is spent that matters? When will it learn that it is not how many Ministers it has in Cabinet but how well and efficiently the Ministers do their work that matters? This is what makes a Government—not the amount of money, not the number of Ministers, but the efficiency with which the money is spent and with which the Ministers work. I am not convinced by the arguments put forward by the Premier, particularly at the present time when it is well known that this Government is under attack by the Opposition and by the community generally for a record of waste and extravagance which has never been surpassed in the history of this State.

We have just been subjected to the recitation of what has been termed in the press a "belt-tightening Budget", and it seems ironical that immediately afterwards we should be considering further Government expenditure in the setting up of a new Ministry. The arguments will not hold up and I cannot support them. The expenses involved in the setting up of a new Ministry are considerable. These include office accommodation, necessary staff, and the upgrading of staff that will be necessary. I noted that there is to be a freeze on numbers in the Public Service, but there is no mention whatever of a freeze on the money to be paid to those officers. A car, an expense allowance, and all of those things are also involved.

One must again consult the Auditor-General's Report for just a few of these examples. Page 200 of the Auditor-General's Report dealing with the Premier's Department gives figures which are quite appalling and yet which seem to be increasing every year. The expenditure for the Publicity and Design Services Division for 1977 was \$332 000, and in 1978 it was \$702 000, an increase of \$370 000 in one year.

**Mr. Allison:** Designs on something!

**Mr. TONKIN:** True. The report states that this division provides photographic, journalistic, audio-visual and other publicity services to Government departments, and statutory authorities, using both its own resources and outside contractors. It is stated that the costs associated with work undertaken for Government departments and statutory authorities are recouped from those clients and credited to Consolidated Revenue. In some ways that is supposed to mean that they have not actually spent the money at all, but what it really amounts to is that if the sum is not paid by the Premier's Department it is paid by other Government departments.

**The Hon D. A. Dunstan:** They were previously paid by those other Government departments directly. This is only a reallocation of services and payment.

**Mr. TONKIN:** In other words, we are spending money and this will be one more department or a number of departments which will involve the expenditure of money. Further on in the Auditor-General's Report reference is made to Government information films. In 1978, \$10 000 was expended on Government information films and I suspect that if we agree to yet another Ministry there will have to be additional Government information films, to sell the new Ministry, show how important it is, and promote the new Minister to justify his existence. I suspect that the sum of \$10 000 could well become \$12 000 by this time next year, not allowing for inflation. So it goes on. The Premier already has an enormous department compared with the departments of other State Premiers, and his department's expenditure is still increasing.

I notice that this year \$16 000 was expended on entertainment, purchase of liquor, and working lunches. That is a ridiculous amount. It does, however, bring up the question of what expense allowances will be made available to the new Minister. I presume they will be no less than the allowances available to existing Ministers, and so the account goes on and on building up. Let us look at the Environment Department, for instance, just as an example of the sort of expenditure we can expect from this new department, always supposing it is only one department with no subdivisions. In 1977, salaries, wages and related payments amounted to \$455 244, and in 1978 the total was \$583 801.

Administration expenses, overseas visits by officers, purchase of motor vehicles, purchase of office machines and equipment, all of these things will add up and represent a further burden on the taxpayers of this State. The Premier can look pained if he wishes, but he knows perfectly well that is what will happen. We will be spending more money. This does not take into account the ongoing expenses of other departments (and the Premier will undoubtedly seek to justify the appointment by saying they will be brought together in another portfolio) that will still apply.

If Ministers and their departments were not operating efficiently, if they were not provided with much paid help (not only on their own staffs but from the Policy Division of the Premier's Department), if they were presently under heavy pressure because of their responsibilities, and were unable to cope, and if they were not doing their jobs

as they should because of these reasons and to the detriment of the people of South Australia, then I would say that by all means we should increase the Ministry.

The situation may well change in the future; I do not know what is likely to happen. I do know, however, that I cannot support, at this time of financial stringency (and we have been told by the Premier today that we cannot afford to let up on measures to contain spending) and great trial and trouble for South Australia, the establishment of a new portfolio, and I do not believe that anyone in South Australia can support it.

One thing is clear: the people of South Australia want the Government of this State to contain and cut its expenditure. They do not want increases in State taxation, such as the increases that have been announced in the past 24 hours, despite the statements made in the Premier's explanation this afternoon. The people of South Australia do not want an additional Minister at this time and under present conditions. Until they and the Opposition can be convinced that Ministers are not doing their jobs properly because they are flat out, we cannot support this legislation.

I doubt that the Premier really believes that another Minister is necessary in the public interest. I suggest that he believes that the member for Ross Smith can be given a berth in his Cabinet and that is the reason he has taken this action. He has counted the numbers and believes that the member for Ross Smith will get in. That is why this Bill is being commonly referred to in the community as the "Bannon benefit Bill". The fact that the Premier feels there is a need to find a berth for the member for Ross Smith is no reason for passing this legislation. It is certainly an extravagance that we cannot afford. Even to appoint you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, would still be an extravagance that the people of this State cannot afford. I oppose the Bill.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham):** I oppose the Bill just as strongly as I possibly can, and as strongly as I have ever opposed any Bill. I am gratified that the Liberals (in form at least) are going to oppose the Bill in this place. I do not believe that that opposition is genuine, however: I believe that what will happen is that the Liberals will oppose the Bill in this House and then sufficient of their colleagues in the other place will find a reason to vote with the Government and let it through. We have seen that happen many times.

The reason for that happening on this occasion is that, poor saps, they think that at some time in the future they may share this perk by getting into office themselves. They do not mind, really, any more than the Government minds, spending public money if it is to their own personal advantage. I would warrant a shade of the odds that the Bill will go through because of the co-operation of some of the Liberal Party's colleagues in the Upper House when the chips are down, and Liberal members in this place will be pleased that it has happened that way.

The Leader was, in part, correct in what he said about this Bill. It has been introduced, without any doubt at all, not out of any consideration for the good of the State but for purely Party political reasons. We know that the decision to have an extra Minister was made about three weeks ago at a Caucus meeting. I can remember coming into lunch that day and the remark being made to me that the Labor Party was having a long Caucus meeting. It had started at 8.30 a.m. and was still going.

The next day the news leaked out that there was to be an extra Minister. Later that afternoon the actual announcement was made. It is perfectly plain that, in fact, the main business (if not the only business) at that Party meeting

was a discussion about whether or not there should be an extra Minister. One can only draw one's conclusions whether that was a heated debate, but from the time taken at that meeting I have no doubt there is not unanimity on the Government side about this measure: I commend those who opposed it.

It has been suggested by the Leader that this is a move to get the member for Ross Smith into Cabinet. Personally, I believe that is so. I believe he is the favourite for the job, but I do not say, necessarily, that he is the best qualified for the next job. I do not believe, however well qualified others may think him to be, that it is necessary to add an extra one to the Ministry just to get him in. There are to be, before the next election, four retirements of Ministers.

As I understand it, the Minister of Health (who even now has an almost complete sinecure), the Minister of Local Government, the Minister of Lands and the Chief Secretary are all to retire sometime before the next election. I can see no reason why those who are ambitious for office should not contain themselves until those retirements take place. But no, the public purse is to be saddled with an extra Minister!

We were told in the Premier's second reading explanation that this position is to embrace the field of community development. I have no idea, and the Premier gave no reason, why there should be an extra Minister simply to deal with that. I am the only one on this side of the House, apart from the member for Victoria (who was a Minister for 12 weeks), who has had any Ministerial experience. At the time I was a Minister there were nine Ministers in Cabinet. We had to work damned hard, but we were able to do the work:

If one looks through the list of Ministers now, one sees that a number of Ministerial positions are, to all intents and purposes, sinecures. Certainly, if more appropriate members were promoted to fill those positions it would not be necessary to have extra Ministers. I have already mentioned the Minister of Health, who is one of the retiring Ministers. He has been, as Leader of the Legislative Council, progressively stripped of his duties during his time in office, and perhaps for good reason, but nobody could say he is a Minister who is overworked, or that the person who holds that portfolio could not work harder and do extra work. An even more glaring case (and in my view he should not be a Minister at all) is that of Mr. Casey, Minister of Lands, Minister of Irrigation, Minister of Repatriation and Minister of Tourism, Recreation and Sport.

I do not think that even the most loyal Labor Party member would deny that Mr. Casey does not have much to do in those portfolios. We are, as I understand it, to see him stripped of even more as the Tourism, Recreation and Sport portfolio is to be taken from him. It is a scandal that those portfolios, imposing though the titles may be, form a Ministry at present. I now turn to two Ministers for whom I do have some respect, but whose combined duties the Premier in his time, I and my successor, Mr. Justice King, did singlehanded; they are the Minister of Community Welfare and the Attorney-General.

The Premier was Attorney-General, Minister of Community Welfare, and Minister of Aboriginal Affairs between 1965 and 1967, when he became Premier. Even after that, for some time, as I recollect it, he carried on as Attorney-General. I guess that he worked hard. When I succeeded him in those portfolios I had to work hard, and so did the Hon. Mr. Justice King, no doubt, when he succeeded me. It was not impossible for any of us to undertake those duties successfully, and we did. The

Premier did, I believe that I did in my way, and I believe that the Hon. Mr. Justice King did.

Now, we have two Ministers doing those jobs. We have a separate Minister of Community Welfare and an Attorney-General and Minister of Prices and Consumer Affairs. No-one can kid me and say that they are full-time jobs, and yet it is in the very area of one of them that we are to have a new Ministry. Why, in the Lord's name, cannot the Minister of Community Welfare do the job which is set out for the new Minister? After all, as the Premier says in his explanation, this grows out of the Australian Assistance Plan, which was a Whitlam Government idea, and a damn good one. Even when it was in operation it overlapped the activities of the Community Welfare Department here, and there was a good deal of dissatisfaction in the ranks of this Government because of the overlapping that occurred—and I know that only too well. All the tasks which are to be set down for the new Minister could be done by the Minister of Community Welfare, and it would not be beyond the capacity, even of an averagely able Minister, to undertake the lot.

Then we come to another Minister. I wish him no harm. He is not in the Chamber at the moment. He has—and I am sure it is acknowledged on all sides—a complete sinecure prior to retirement. I refer, of course, to Chief Secretary and Minister Assisting the Premier. Compared with what the Chief Secretary used to do, he has hardly any work to do at all, and we all know that he is a passenger, and the Government is only waiting to drop him.

That is the position with 12 Ministers, and let no-one deny what I have said, because we all know that it is accurate. In this State, the size of the Ministry has progressively increased. I have here a table which I had prepared some time ago to show the increases that have occurred. The Ministry was established in 1908 at six Ministers. In those days I do not think they were even paid, or, if they were, they were paid a small allowance. There were six Ministers from 1908 to 1953. During that time they were able to cope—two in the Legislative Council and four in this House—with the work of government. In 1953, the number was increased to eight under the Playford Government, one Minister being added in each House. There was a bit of internal politics in that. Legislative Councillors insisted on one more Minister in that House although probably, if it had not been for that insistence, the Ministry would have gone only to seven, with the appointment of one more Minister from this House. It was pegged at eight until November 1965, when, under the Walsh Government, a ninth Minister was added. It is remarkable that it is nearly always—and certainly in recent times always—a Labor Government that has increased the size of the Ministry.

**The Hon. D. A. Dunstan:** There was an attempt, you will remember, in 1963 or 1964.

**Mr. Evans:** It was stopped, because they needed a constitutional majority.

**The Hon. D. A. Dunstan:** He remembers it very well.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member for Mitcham.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** I do not remember that but, if it happened, it did.

In 1965, the Ministry was increased from eight to nine under the Walsh Government, and all subsequent increases have been since 1970 under successive Dunstan Governments. The number went to 10 in November 1970, to 11 in September 1973, to 12 in October 1975, and now, in September 1978, it is to go to 13.

No-one can tell me that the business of government has increased so much as to warrant an increase in the size of Cabinet from nine to 13 in 13 years. That is not so. It is a good perk for Party supporters, and it is an attractive proposition, therefore, to some people. All government is waste, because all big organisations are waste; there is colossal waste in any big organisation. It is worse, in my view, in government, because there is no spur of efficiency, as there is in private organisation, because of the requirement to make a profit, or at least to make ends meet.

We are simply contributing to this. As the Leader of the Opposition said, within the past hour we have had a speech from the Premier crying poverty again and again and again, and yet he is now to add substantially to the costs of government in this State. I have mentioned the Ministers. Let us look at the way in which the Public Service has grown in this State. Again, I have a table, although it does not go beyond 1976. Over the 20-year period from 1956 to 1976, the following has been the increase in the Public Service: in 1956, there were 5 261 officers under the Public Service Act. In 1976, that had grown to 15 997. The total number of Government servants had grown in that same period from 45 000 to 93 100, and at the same time the population of South Australia had increased from 834 489 to 1 244 645. There was an enormous increase in the size of government during that time. I do not believe that it is justified.

I was rather surprised that the Leader of the Opposition had not bothered to give facts and figures when he complained about the extra cost of a Minister. He may put on a look of mock surprise, but he did not give any figures. I have had some figures prepared to show just what this means to the State. I have had, as best I can, an inquiry made to see what is entailed in the appointment of a new Minister. It must be an approximation, because figures have been carefully hidden in recent years in the Government's financial statements.

This is what I was advised by Library Research Service. Apart from the Premier, Deputy Premier and the Leader in the Legislative Council, who receive larger sums, a Minister receives, as additional salary, \$14 500 and, as an expense allowance, \$2 280. There we have immediately nearly \$18 000 extra for the Ministerial salary and allowances. Then, there are expense allowances, if he lives more than 80 km from the General Post Office. If we assume that a metropolitan member gets the job, that will not be payable. He is also entitled to a travelling allowance of \$33 a day within South Australia and \$46 a day interstate, plus reimbursement of expenditure necessarily incurred whilst on official duty. Overseas tours—and God know there are enough of those by Ministers of this Government—are paid for from departmental funds. The cost of Ministerial travel within Australia has averaged recently about \$2 000 a Minister a year. Overseas trips vary in cost and frequency.

**Mr. Slater:** Perhaps!

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** I challenge the member for Gilles in this debate to deny the accuracy, substantially at least, of that figure. He interjected and hoped I would not reply and that his interjection would be lost, but I challenge him or any of his colleagues to contradict any of those figures.

**Mr. Slater:** What's the source?

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** The Library Research Service, as I explained a moment ago, as best the research service has been able to extract the figures. I turn now to figures relating to Ministerial staff—and this is the rub in view of the pegging of the Public Service. A Minister of the South Australian Government would probably have a staff establishment no smaller than the figures I shall give,

based on the staff establishments of present Ministers.

Let us remember Parkinson's law; it always operates. There will be a private secretary, press secretary, research officer, steno-secretary, clerk, assistant to clerk, receptionist-typist, and driver. That is the estimate of the staff which will be required to go with a Minister. Salaries and wages for such a staff would total about \$100 000, the total labour cost being, upon inclusion of related payments and making allowance for leave, press secretary's expense allowance, etc., about \$120 000 a year.

Regarding office expenses, etc., a Minister's office is normally in the department (not always) and office costs (including the cost of telephones and office equipment) normally form part of departmental expenditure, as does the cost of any official overseas travel by the Minister. On the basis of figures in the Auditor-General's Report for 1976-77, such contingencies appear likely to add between \$10 000 and \$20 000. In summary, the additional annual cost to the State of the appointment of another Minister is likely to be at least the sum that I will mention.

**Dr. Eastick:** What about the extra car?

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** He has omitted the extra car.

**Mr. Evans:** Mr. Bannon rides a push bike.

**The DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** Perhaps other members can support me, if they wish, when I have finished. The Minister's additional salary will amount to \$14 500; expense allowance, \$2 280; and travel within Australia, \$2 000 a year. Regarding staff, salaries and wages will amount to \$100 000; related payments, \$20 000; other costs (offices, telephones, equipment, motor vehicle, overseas trips), \$15 000, making a total of \$153 780. The research officer has rounded that up to \$155 000. I am happy, for the purposes of my argument, to reduce that to a round \$150 000: that is what we are saddling, as an additional expense, on to the people of this State by passing the Bill. As some Liberals said a moment ago, that does not include an extra Ministerial motor car, which will have to be bought, no doubt happily, by the Government. It is not just the fact that we are adding an extra Minister, but all the staff and perks that go with the Minister will be there. I have no doubt that they will not stop at that figure, because of Parkinson's law.

How can one possibly justify that extra expenditure in the light of what the Premier has just said about the parlous state of South Australia's finances? One cannot do so except on the grounds of complete political cynicism, and that, I believe, is what this is. There are ambitious people in the Labor Party who are out for all they can get by way of perks. A Ministry is the best perk of the lot in politics, and once you have your sticky little fingers into it it's hard not to keep them there and go one stage further. Mr. Deputy Speaker, you may be the lucky man, I do not know. You are not the favourite, as you may well know, and that has been made perfectly clear in the press and in the House today. No doubt, you will get one of those four places when one of your friends retires. Good luck to you for that; I do not wish you any harm.

This is a matter of political morality. I do not believe that we have the right, as a Parliament, to saddle an increase and extra expense on the people of this State without the clearest justification, and I do not believe that there is any justification for this move. Indeed, at the last State election one of the proposals that I put forward on behalf of my Party was a reduction in the number of Ministers. I believe that there are already too many Ministers and, if they were prepared to work harder (and some of them do not, and I have already challenged Government members to deny that), there would be no requirement to have 12 Ministers. I believe that the Labor

Party has sunk pretty low to demand and to force through Parliament, as it will, with the ultimate co-operation of the Liberal Party, this move. It is unjustified. It is a complete waste of time, and I will oppose it as strongly as I can.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer):** I have listened with interest to the two speeches that have been made this afternoon on this measure. The Leader of the Opposition went through an exercise in posing, apparently for the sake of posing, as he did not say terribly much. He got on to his usual chorus about waste and extravagance, which he has been on for some time, without justification or basis. The member for Mitcham, however, made several interesting observations, the accuracy of which he challenged me and other members to contest, and I do contest the accuracy of what he has had to say.

I will recall some things to him. There was an occasion when the Liberal Ministry of Sir Thomas Playford tried to increase the Ministry to nine. The member for Mitcham at that time was not a Minister, but it was obvious at the time of the debate that he had considerable hopes of the result of the Bill. The Labor Party opposed the Bill successfully—and I think wrongly.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I think that we were a bit churlish about it, quite frankly, at the time. Subsequent knowledge led me to think that we had made a wrong decision on that occasion.

**Mr. Wilson:** So, you're fallible.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** Of course I'm fallible; I have never suggested that I am any other way. Later events caused me to conclude that I had been wrong, and it has always been my principle, in political matters, that it is necessary always for a politician constantly to question not only other people's (as the member for Mitcham did) but also his own assumptions, but he never does. His chagrin, on that occasion, was obvious.

**Mr. Goldsworthy:** He wouldn't have got the job.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I think that there was a fair chance at that time. It was obvious by his action in the House and by the way he blushed that he was somewhat upset about the whole matter. He has, since his time as a Minister, exercised a degree of pique at the fact that he is no longer one. That pique has led him to a number of inaccuracies this afternoon in his remarks about present portfolios. He has attacked present Ministers as having insufficient work to do. He made an attack on the Minister of Lands. I point out to him (I do not know what his knowledge was while he was a Minister of the work of the Minister of Lands) that it is considerable. Indeed, it is so considerable that, when the Labor Government in this House combined the Ministries of Agriculture and Lands for a period, a special measure to amend the Constitution was subsequently passed, which the honourable member supported, requiring the Ministries of Agriculture and Lands to be held separately, because it was simply not possible for any single Minister to discharge the responsibility of those two considerable offices. Under the Playford Government, the Ministry of Lands was held by one Minister, without other portfolios other than the associated ones of Repatriation and Irrigation. The Minister of Lands, at present, has in addition Tourism, Recreation and Sport, which is not an inconsiderable duty. For the honourable member to suggest that he has no duties at all is completely without basis.

**Mr. Millhouse:** Talk with your deputy to see what he thinks.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I can discuss matters perfectly well with my deputy. The honourable member



has a great habit of assigning opinions to other people, and I will deal with that matter in a moment. He has done it again this afternoon and has gone into his usual fantasy land.

**Mr. Millhouse:** I think I am right on this.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The honourable member is often wrong, which I will show in a moment. Regarding the Minister who is now the Attorney-General, the honourable member said that I, then he and then Mr. Justice King had the portfolios of Community Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs as well as that of Attorney-General. True, but those portfolios at that time all had smaller duties than the present duties of the Attorney-General.

The honourable member has referred to the increase in the number of public servants. That has come about because of the increase in public services in South Australia; the increases in services available to the public. Under the honourable member we had a complete hold up of the development of consumer services in South Australia. As Attorney-General I had set up a committee to look at consumer protection within the State. The committee reported when we had left office and when the honourable member was Attorney-General, and not one measure as a result of that committee's report was introduced by the Hall Government. The measures have all been introduced since. The service of the Consumer Affairs Department has been increased enormously. In addition, we have the separate Corporate Affairs Department, which requires much additional attention.

In the honourable member's day as a Minister the Companies Office did very little other than register companies. These days a great deal more is required to be done. The honourable member has not contrasted effectively what was his duty with what is the present duty. True, the Chief Secretary now has a lesser portfolio area than some previous Chief Secretaries have had.

**Mr. Millhouse:** All former Chief Secretaries.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I agree. Under previous Chief Secretaries, over a considerable period, it was not possible for full Ministerial attention to be given to two important areas—the Police Force and correctional services. Correctional services is an area in South Australia to which we have not given sufficient priority over a long period. We cannot be proud of the correctional services we have in South Australia, simply because inadequate resources have been provided to them over a long period by Governments of all political persuasions.

**Mr. Millhouse:** That has nothing to do with the fact that—

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member had an opportunity to speak.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** Yes it has. During the Sir Lyell McEwin Chief Secretaryship the work done in community welfare was virtually nil: it was simply not being carried out. It was therefore necessary to remove it from the Chief Secretary's portfolio and create an entirely new portfolio when the Labor Government came to office. It has been necessary for us to provide additional services within the State in accordance with the policies on which we were elected. For that additional Ministerial work an over sight has been required, and additional Ministerial initiatives have been undertaken.

The same applies to community welfare. Community welfare, expenditure and activity within the community is now many times what it was when I became the first Minister of Social Welfare in this State. The total budget of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board in South Australia in 1965 was \$732 000. Compare that with the department's activity today! It has been necessary to

have a Minister's full attention in that area. The amount of questioning that goes on in this House on that portfolio shows exactly why that is so.

The honourable member has said that an extra Minister is not necessary. Of course, he is saying that only out of his usual pique. His attitude was summed up later in his speech when he said, "Oh, well, the Ministerial service is a perk and when one gets one's sticky little fingers on it one tries to keep them there." The honourable member has those feelings personally, and I believe that they underlie much of his public activity in recent years and are a clue to the way in which he behaves in this House and the reactions he has to many things.

The honourable member went in for fantasy today on the subject of a mythical Caucus meeting. It was recounted that somehow or other a Caucus meeting was called at half past eight in the morning (I have never been able to get Caucus together at that time for a meeting) and that we had a lengthy meeting from which it was assumed by the honourable member that there was a lengthy and heated debate on the subject of an extra Minister. I can assure the honourable member that the Caucus meeting to which he refers did not take place. None of us was ever there. A Caucus meeting was called at which I outlined the proposal for a Bill for an extra Minister. There was no debate on the matter.

**Mr. Millhouse:** You all agreed it was a good idea to have extra perks.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I simply outlined the proposal to Caucus. It was moved seconded and passed without debate that the Bill be introduced. That is the sort of nonsense the honourable member goes on with in this House. He will get up and say anything regardless of whether he has the slightest evidence or basis for saying it, just so long as it gets him a story. His credibility in the State over a considerable period has become pretty well nil, and today's contribution will not improve that rating.

The House divided on the second reading:

Ayes (24)—Messrs. Abbott, Bannon, Broomhill, and Max Brown, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Drury, Duncan, Dunstan (teller), Groom, Groth, Harrison, Hemmings, Hopgood, Hudson, Keneally, Klunder, McRae, Olson, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, Wells, and Whitten.

Noes (18)—Mrs. Adamson, Messrs. Allison, Arnold, Becker, Blacker, Dean Brown, Chapman, Eastick, Evans, Goldsworthy, Mathwin, Millhouse, Nankivell, Russack, Tonkin (teller), Venning, Wilson, and Wotton.

Pairs—Ayes—Messrs. Corcoran and Wright. Noes—Messrs. Gunn and Rodda.

Majority of 6 for the Ayes.

Second reading thus carried.

In Committee.

Clause 1 passed.

Clause 2—"Number of Ministers of the Crown."

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** Has any estimate of the additional cost to the Government of an extra Minister been made and, if so, what is that estimate, or does the Premier agree with the figures that I gave during the second reading debate?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer):** I imagine it would probably be about \$60 000, and that is exclusive of the provision of an office, although on present indications we may not have to expend anything on that score. The honourable member has made a miscalculation, or his library research assistants have done so, because they have not taken into account the manpower budget arrangements. The staff for the Minister's office will simply be a replacement of jobs lost elsewhere in the Public Service under the manpower budget arrangements.

The statements that I have made that there is a no-growth situation in the Public Service are correct. The extra officers that will be in the Minister's office will be replacements for officers who will be reduced in number by retirements in other departments.

**Dr. Eastick:** But not necessarily at the same salary level.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** Not necessarily at the same salary level, but I would expect them to be fairly close to the same salary level, and therefore I have allowed an extra small amount in the annual cost a year on that score.

**Mr. TONKIN (Leader of the Opposition):** The matter of cost benefit analysis has been raised before during this session, and I said then that I thought it was important that the Government should be required to bring forward (in just the same way as an environmental impact study is required before any major industrial development is approved) a cost benefit analysis of the legislation which is being placed before this Parliament. I can understand that there has been some degree of analysis, and obviously the Premier has picked a figure out which he believes will cover the immediate establishment of another Minister, but I doubt very much whether any real cost benefit analysis of this expenditure and the subsequent expenditure that will take place has been done.

One thing is certain: once this Minister is appointed we are hardly likely to see legislation to reduce the maximum number of Ministers that can be appointed, although it is open to a Government not to appoint the full number of Ministers. Therefore, it seems to me to be absolutely essential to know the cost, since we are now committing the people of this State to pay for an additional Ministry which may not really be necessary and which is certainly not necessary for at least 12 months or even longer than that.

It is totally impossible for members to come to any real conclusion unless a cost benefit analysis is made and presented. The Premier may well talk about the benefits which are likely to come to the community from appointing a Minister, but what we have to decide is whether or not the measures which are being introduced are measures which we can afford, and which have the right priority. I do not expect that the Premier will be able to give me any sort of an estimate of cost benefit on this measure; I am sure it has not been done. I believe this principle is important and should be followed with all legislation, particularly this sort of legislation.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** There was a glaring fallacy in the answer the Premier gave to me a moment ago about the expected cost of the new Ministry. As I understand, the answer he gave was \$60 000. I do not know how he can possibly arrive at that figure if what he said was correct. He said that the staffing for the Minister's office would come from within the Public Service.

**The Hon. D. A. Dunstan:** I didn't say that; I said it would be replacing Public Service positions lost in other departments.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** That means there will be fewer public servants to do other work. The Premier did not suggest in his answer to me (although he said that I had made a mistake) that any of the actual positions that I enumerated would not be filled. Therefore, I presume (and I am quite confident that what I said about the staff in a Minister's office was fairly right) that we will have that number of people employed.

How can the Premier say that an extra Minister will cost \$60 000? If he had said \$16 000, which is a little bit less than the extra salary of the Minister plus his expenses, he might have been on firmer ground. How can he differentiate at all in the actual offices that I enumerated? Either they will all be extra or none of them will be extra.

He cannot say \$60 000 (which is about one-third of the figure which was worked out for me and which I still believe is accurate—and we have not had any calculations from the Premier to support his \$60 000) or any of it above the extra salary and expenses is warranted. He cannot have a halfway figure. I suspect the Premier simply plucked that figure out of the air.

What the Leader said has, on this occasion, some substance. This is a temporary freeze on the Public Service and I will bet my bottom dollar that it will not be long (if this goes through) before that is relaxed and these, in fact, will be extra officers in the Public Service. Even if they are not, it means that work which could be done in other places to the value of these salaries is not being done. If the Premier admits (as he does by implication because he did not deny it) that the number of persons I mentioned as needed to support a Minister is correct, then the calculations that I made must also be correct, not only in the short run but in the long run as well.

That expense to the State will go on increasing because, as time goes on and if this Government stays in office, government will continue to grow. Goodness knows why government should continue to grow perpetually. I cannot imagine when it will stop growing. If this crowd has its way, it will never stop. The actual cost in money will continue to grow. Besides the car, which was referred to earlier, one aspect which has not been taken into account is superannuation, which is looming very large now. The superannuation benefits of permanent public servants attached to this Minister must be taken into account. So, I believe my estimate is very modest but, even if it were not, the fact is that, in a time of stringency when we are complaining (and I associate myself with the Premier's complaint for the purpose of this argument, anyway) about the tightness of funds, the Premier is preparing to spend money which otherwise could be used for unemployment relief, out-of-contact time for primary school teachers, or whatever you like. Instead of that, whether it is right or wrong, the money will go into the pocket of one of the Premier's own political supporters in this place. Those matters speak for themselves and, of course, it was on those matters that the Premier was absolutely silent in his reply to the second reading debate. He did not say a word about those matters, but concentrated on embarrassing me if he could.

**Mr. Gunn:** It is hard to do that.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** Yes. I want to make one thing clear. I do not suggest that the work which the Premier is pretending will be done by this Minister and which he claims has to be done by a separate Minister should not be done. Community development work is perfectly proper. All I say is that there is already sufficient room in the Ministry now for that work to be done adequately. I would like to hear the Premier on his calculation of that \$60 000.

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** The honourable member has obviously overlooked the point raised by the member for Light. The point is that, while there will be a number of officers (although I would think probably one fewer than the number that the honourable member suggested)—

**Mr. Millhouse:** Which one?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** I do not think it will be necessary to have a press officer, because I believe that a press officer can double up with another portfolio. It will not be necessary to have an additional press officer. It will not necessarily be the case that the officers lost elsewhere will be at the same level of salary as those taken on in the Minister's office. Therefore, an additional allowance has to be made to cover that operation, in addition to extra stationery and things of that kind. That is how the figure of \$60 000 was reached.

**Mr. CHAPMAN:** Ordinarily, I would have regarded the appointment of an additional Minister as simply an administrative matter entirely in the Government's hands. I support the Opposition's attitude toward this Bill in this instance because of the current economic climate. When members on both sides, when convenient, have declared the importance of care and caution in expenditure, it surprises me that the Government should choose this economic climate as a suitable climate in which to proceed with this idea. By implication at least, the Premier indicated that he would not be drawing on additional staff for the office of the new Minister. He will be drawing the staff from people already employed, from internal staff, or from staff members who have dropped out from the establishment of other Ministers.

I am interested to know whether the staff of the new Minister will be made up of dropouts, as such, or whether they will come from another area, and, if so, from which area the Premier proposes to employ that new staff. As a result of appointing this new Minister, and having the matter pursued and agreed to in another place, how does the Premier expect such an appointment to improve the efficiency of Cabinet?

**The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:** As to the first matter, the honourable member has misunderstood me. I interjected to correct the impression he has when another member had it. I have said that the total number of Government employees will not increase. People to be taken on for posts in the new Ministry (whilst they may not be people already in the Public Service, they may be; that will depend on the applications) will not be transferred automatically from other departments where they are in the Minister's office. Those positions will be offset by losses in the number of positions elsewhere in the Public Service. There are some departments in which the number of positions will be reduced, and the saving in salaries will be offset as against the extra salaries in the Minister's office. The remainder of transfers to the new Ministry will be of existing branches of existing departments. The Youth Bureau will transfer from the Community Welfare Department. The responsibility of officers responsible for the Community Councils for Social Development will be transferred from the Community Welfare Department. Libraries will be transferred from the Education Department, as will be museums. The Arts Development Branch will be transferred from my department.

That will not involve any increase in the number of officers. It is merely a reorganisation to provide a better co-ordination of a number of activities which at the moment are overlapping. What was shown by the investigation into community development was that there were a number of overlapping areas of administration in the community development area, and a lack of co-ordination between departments concerned with community development.

The suggestion was that this be run by a committee of Ministers, but we have found that a totally unsatisfactory method of administration previously, and therefore we believed that it was proper to combine them directly under one Minister. That will make so large an obligation upon that Minister that it cannot sit with any one of the existing portfolio areas. That is why I believe we should provide a new Ministry. That is why I have introduced the Bill. I believe that we can deliver the services much more effectively if they are combined and co-ordinated in this way.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** We can talk until we are blue in the face about where these people are to come from and how much they are to cost, but on the Premier's own admission there will be one extra private secretary, one extra

research officer, one extra steno-secretary, one extra clerk, one extra assistant to clerk, one extra receptionist-typist, and one extra driver as a result of the passing of this Bill. They will be extra jobs created to support this extra Minister. If we did not have the extra Minister, either the Government salary bill could benefit through not having those jobs at all or those people could be employed—hopefully, gainfully—in some other area. By appointing another Minister, we are going to have extra jobs which we would not have if we did not have another Minister. That is the fundamental point.

The Premier says it will cost \$60 000, but my research advice is that it will cost, to support the Minister and all these people, about \$150 000. Whatever it is, extra money will be spent on extra positions at a time when the Premier is crying poverty, and when that same money could be spent on unemployment relief, on social welfare, and on any more of a dozen areas of State activity where the Premier complains it should be spent and where he has not got it to spend.

The Committee divided on the clause:

Ayes (23)—Messrs. Abbott, Bannon, Broomhill, and Max Brown, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Drury, Duncan, Dunstan (teller), Groom, Groth, Harrison, Hemmings, Hopgood, Hudson, Klunder, McRae, Olson, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, Wells, and Whitten.

Noes (18)—Mrs. Adamson, Messrs. Allison, Arnold, Becker, Blacker, Dean Brown, Chapman, Eastick, Evans, Goldsworthy, Mathwin, Millhouse (teller), Nankivell, Russack, Tonkin, Venning, Wilson, and Wotton.

Pairs—Ayes—Messrs. Corcoran and Wright. Noes—Messrs. Gunn and Rodda.

Majority of 5 for the Ayes.

Clause thus passed.

Title passed.

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

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

**Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham):** The House does not get away with it as easily as that. I want to speak on the third reading and again express my opposition. I say that while I do not begrudge the work that the Premier pretends makes this Minister necessary (I believe that that is good and that it should be done), I believe that it can be done by an existing Minister.

**Mr. Chapman:** Or shared.

**Mr. MILLHOUSE:** By a rearrangement, that could be done. It is absolutely unjustified to increase the size of the Ministry, not only in present circumstances but particularly in them. It is a cynical exercise in jobs for the boys. It is an example of giving another Labor member, a supporter of the Government, a good job and what has become with this Government a cushy job, because there are so many Ministers. I oppose that. I believe that it is immoral, unnecessary and heartless when we are as short of money as we are now.

The House divided on the third reading:

Ayes (24)—Messrs. Abbott, Bannon, Broomhill, and Max Brown, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Drury, Duncan, Dunstan (teller), Groom, Groth, Harrison, Hemmings, Hopgood, Hudson, Keneally, Klunder, McRae, Olson, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, Wells, and Whitten.

Noes (16)—Mrs. Adamson, Messrs. Allison, Arnold, Becker, Blacker, Dean Brown, Chapman, Eastick, Goldsworthy, Mathwin, Millhouse, Nankivell, Russack, Tonkin (teller), Wilson, and Wotton.

Majority of 8 for the Ayes.

Third reading thus carried.

**ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND CONTRACTORS  
LICENSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

**RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST ACT  
AMENDMENT BILL**

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

**BOATING ACT AMENDMENT BILL**

Adjourned debate on second reading.  
(Continued from 22 August. Page 648.)

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (Kavel):** I support the Bill, which makes several amendments to the principal Act, the most significant of which are those in relation to the expiation of offences and the definition of "boat". The Minister's second reading explanation seems to indicate that all boats will be caught by this legislation. I was concerned about houseboats that ply for hire on the Murray River. My inquiries of people operating those boats indicated that they did not believe that the legislation would encompass them, because their boats are surveyed annually for a fee. Further inquiries from several officers of the department seem to indicate that the Government does not intend to include houseboats, but they do seem to be caught by the legislation.

It seems that the Government's intention is to regulate out these people, and we want that position made clear. It is on the understanding that people operating houseboats will not be affected by the legislation that we support the Bill. I forget the name of the officer who seemed to know something about the drafting of this legislation, but its intent was made clear to me.

The other amendments do not seem to make major changes to the legislation. The Minister in his second reading explanation referred briefly to the powers of police and authorised officers. Those powers have been somewhat increased for the detection of offences, the apprehension of people and the manoeuvring of boats into positions so that police can make their investigations. Having compared those provisions with what is contained in the principal Act, the amendments do not seem to be unreasonable or, indeed, they do not seem to take the powers much further. The amendments spell out in more detail the way in which the police and authorised officers may apprehend someone who is reasonably considered to have committed an offence.

Another amendment provides that it will not be the Director who authorises these officers but the Minister, and that seems to be a reasonable amendment. I have a couple of queries for the Committee stage of the Bill, but I support it.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Clauses 1 and 2 passed.

Clause 3—"Interpretation."

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** What does the Minister understand is encompassed in this clause, and will the Government make it clear that this provision is not intended to alter the situation in relation to houseboats on the Murray River?

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE (Minister of Community Welfare):** I understand that the assurance the honourable member seeks is contained in the clauses generally, although we are referring to this clause. If that is not the case, I will pursue this matter.

Clause passed.

Clause 4—"Application for registration."

**Mr. ARNOLD:** On 1 November last year I asked the following question of the Minister:

Can the Minister of Marine say whether the Government will amend the procedure for registering motor boats to ensure that, on the payment of the prescribed fee, the craft being registered is covered for 12 months? This matter has been brought to my notice by a constituent, who initially registered his boat in February last year, the registration expiring on 20 February this year. Unfortunately, for most of this year the constituent has been ill in hospital. It was only last month that he was in a position to re-register his boat. He paid the \$5 fee, which covered him only from 24 October this year to 20 February next year. After paying the full fee he is receiving only four months registration. The department told him that there was nothing it could do about the situation. The only alternative he had was to let the registration lapse and re-register his boat, which would have cost \$6 for new numbers to affix to the side of his boat.

In his reply the Minister stated:

I shall be pleased to examine the matter raised by the honourable member. I cannot recall a specific reason why the Act was drawn up to have the effect referred to by the honourable member. As the honourable member's request seems reasonable, I will consider it.

The Minister considered it, but then said that the Government had no intention of altering the present situation. I point out that I am at liberty to register my truck for six months, which includes the harvest period, and then leave it in the shed without registration for six months. A boat operator may wish to use his boat for three or four months of the year, but he is compelled to register it for a full 12 months. In the situation I have outlined he may, for his full registration fee, receive one or two months actual registration. I am not clear whether this amendment rectifies that situation so that no matter when a person re-registers his boat the prescribed fee will cover that registration for a full 12 months.

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** I understand that this amendment relates to the question raised by the honourable member. The best thing I can do is to suggest to him that, if it is not in the form that he desires, I will get information on it, and something could be raised on the matter before the Bill is further considered in another place.

**Mr. ARNOLD:** I regard this as quite an important matter. I would move an amendment to this clause if the situation was not catered for. I am left in the position of not being certain of whether my point is covered. It seems that the Minister is not able to give me complete assurance one way or the other.

Perhaps the Minister could seek advice on that matter now so that the Committee might proceed with it. I should like to receive from the Minister an assurance that the provision covers the situation to which I have referred. If I cannot obtain such an assurance, I will have to ask that progress be reported.

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** I tried to indicate to the honourable member that, his having raised the matter, I regarded it as serious. It seems to me that I have given him the assurance that he has sought. I told him that I will obtain information and ensure that the matter is raised in another place. I have also told the honourable member that the meaning of the amendment will be that which he, on behalf of his constituents or any other person, desires.

**Mr. ARNOLD:** I am merely trying to ascertain the Government's intention regarding this clause. The Minister does not seem to be certain what it is and, if the Government does not know what is its intention, progress should be reported.

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** I assure the honourable member that, if a person pays a registration fee, he will have 12 months registration. As was said in an earlier debate I, like the honourable member, am fallible, and, if this provision does not mean what the honourable member wants it to mean, I will try to have something done about it in another place.

**Mr. ARNOLD:** I am pleased with that, so long as that is what is intended.

**The CHAIRMAN:** I point out that the honourable member has already spoken three times on this clause and, if he speaks again on it, he will contravene Standing Orders.

**Mr. ARNOLD:** I refrained from speaking in the second reading debate in order to hasten the passage of this Bill.

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** Speaking for my colleague, I think it is perfectly obvious what he wants. If one of his constituents was sick and paid his registration renewal fee, the registration, instead of starting from that date, would be back-dated to the date on which the previous registration lapsed. The member for Chaffey wants an assurance that, as happens with motor vehicles, the registration commences on the date on which the renewal fee is paid.

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE:** I have already indicated that—

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** Very well, we have received that assurance, and we take the Government at its word. Clause passed.

Remaining clauses (5 to 11) and title passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE (Minister of Community Welfare)** moved:

That the sittings of the House be extended beyond 6 p.m.  
Motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**The Hon. R. G. PAYNE (Minister of Community Welfare)** moved:

That the House do now adjourn.

**Mr. GROOM (Morphett):** In a speech by the member for Hanson reported in *Hansard* on 18 July 1978 the honourable member suggested that I had been interfering with his mail. Apart from the allegation being unfounded and untrue, it considerably upset my Secretary, who handles all the mail coming through my office. The honourable member was very concerned that the Labor Party might have a spy in his organisation; that is his problem, if that is the case. I warned the honourable member that I would raise some matters dealing with what he calls Parliamentary reports that he circulates among his supporters. I notice that the member for Hanson is not in the House, and that brings to mind the occasion when a former Attorney-General, the Hon. Mr. King, made a speech concerning a kidnapping that the member for Hanson alleged had occurred at the Marion shopping centre. When the Hon. Mr. King replied to the honourable member's allegation, the honourable member was not in the Chamber on that occasion, either. In his July newsletter the member for Hanson states:

Our current feeling is that the State Government may call another early election at the first opportunity.

He refers to a campaign function that he will hold on 17 September. He has chosen what he calls a most delightful and entertaining slapstick comedy film. For the honourable member's campaign, that is an appropriate choice. He is going to raise \$2 500 through that function if sufficient people attend. On 14 February 1978 (*Hansard*,

page 1517) he said that the Hanson electorate committee is one of the poorest committees. It is also stated that they had to hold \$2 functions and \$5 wine and chicken functions to raise money, and he said that they had a terrific time in doing so. This report is obviously done with the honourable member's authorisation; the material is not directly signed by him, but it is attached to his Parliamentary report. He states:

We cannot stress too strongly the importance of the Legislative Council in its activities to protect political democracy, free enterprise, and human rights for the people since the socialists came to power in 1970.

Evidently, before 1970, the Legislative Council did not attempt to protect any of these things. Of course, the member for Hanson does not define what he understands by "socialists". Since becoming a member I have been trying to get members opposite to give an acceptable definition but no-one has come up with anything reasonable and acceptable. I refer to the report No. 2 of July 1978. The honourable member is a poet, because he starts by quoting from Dickens. I will not bore members by reading from the report in full. The honourable member states:

It was the best of times. It was the worst of times. It was the age of wisdom. It was the age of foolishness. It was the Spring of hope. It was the Winter of despair.

It has certainly been a winter of despair for members opposite.

*Members interjecting:*

**Mr. GROOM:** Certainly, this is quite an appropriate poem if one puts it in the Federal setting. Further on, he quotes the Liberal Party policy from the shadow Minister for the Environment, the member for Murray.

*Members interjecting:*

**Mr. GROOM:** I think he has a few problems, and he is probably well aware of them. Nevertheless, he is a leading contender at this stage, and he is being protected in certain quarters. The Liberal Party policy on the environment is as follows:

The activities of the National Parks and Wildlife Services Division of the Environment Department will be reorganised to allow it to cope more effectively with the work involved in developing, managing and supervising of areas under its control. The important aim of the service will be to control animal population and pest plants within national conservation and recreation parks and game reserves.

If anyone can make sense out of such policy, I shall be pleased to hear from him.

*Members interjecting:*

**Mr. GROOM:** That is all there is. That is evidently the sum total of their policy on the environment. That is a direct quotation from the shadow Minister. I know honourable members opposite do not like hearing these policies quoted back. In the August 1978 report No. 3, the member for Hanson talks of the "Heini Becker Golden Fleece award for the waste of public money".

*Members interjecting:*

**Mr. GROOM:** He is certainly squeezing his campaign supporters for funds because he thinks there is an election around the corner. The report states:

The Premier called for public companies to disclose more financial details. How can he justify this call when his own Government will not reveal to the taxpayers full details of Government spending?

Apart from his obvious misconception, the member for Hanson was one who voted against the disclosure of interests legislation for Parliamentarians. He made that clear in a speech on 14 February 1978. He must have two standards. I can see from their faces that honourable members opposite are aghast at the hypocrisy of their

colleague. He attacks the Premier for not giving full details of what he calls Government waste, but he is not prepared to disclose his own interests to the public. What hypocrisy! The honourable member raises other matters in his August newsletter, which states:

I now need your wholehearted support to enable me to conduct a campaign to obtain the true facts on this and other financial issues. I have prepared petitions. Please obtain as many signatures as possible and return them through your local member of Parliament.

That shows the hypocrisy of members opposite, and the way in which they seek to manipulate issues for short-term political gain, not because they are in the best interests of South Australia. They are always downgrading South Australia, purely for short-term political purposes. They say they are the protectors of what they call free enterprise.

The only private enterprise that really exists in the Western democracies is among small business people. Outside of that, there is a system of monopoly enterprise. Honourable members opposite support public monopoly enterprise. They are not protectors of the true private enterprise which is practised among small business people. If they were, their Federal Government would be substantially reforming the tax laws. In the 1975-76 financial year, out of all the tax raised, wage-earners paid 60 per cent, small business people 19 per cent, and public and private companies, which involve some small businesses, paid 21 per cent of the total of \$11 700 000 000 raised in taxation. The Federal Liberal Government, soon after Menzies came to power, imposed the provisional tax system which was a burden on small business people. Yet members opposite make out that they support free enterprise. They do not. They support monopoly enterprise.

It is the Social Democratic Parties that have tried to promote true competition among businessmen, through restrictive trade practices legislation, that always meets with hostility from the Opposition. The only other thing I was concerned about in the honourable member's August report was his comment in relation to the purchase of land by the South Australian Housing Trust. He was not prepared to be honest with his supporters, let alone the public. He did not try to present the true figures in relation to the purchase of that land. The member for Hanson represented this area at one time, but he would rather see the Novar Gardens area destroyed by industrial development than have a housing project—

**Mr. Becker:** That's not true.

**Mr. GROOM:** The honourable member's comments show clearly that he is critically opposed to the housing project on the former Lightburn land. He is opposed to it, because he is terrified that one extra Labor voter might come on to the roll.

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

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY (Kavel):** There are two matters I will raise in the debate, the first of which concerns the Government's posturing in relation to the brandy excise which culminated in a meeting held last Friday.

**The Hon. G. R. Broomhill:** Where were you?

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** I will tell the honourable member where I was and why I was there. The Government's track record in relation to brandy excise is nothing to write home about. We know that Whitlam was the first to effect a sizable increase in excise on brandy and that the Premier wrote to the wineries around the Riverland and elsewhere saying that, if they donated funds to the Labor Party, after the next election and after being

elected, a Labor Government would have it removed. Some people coughed up, but the Premier had no success in reversing the decision. We know that the member for Chaffey has moved two genuine motions to assist grape-growers, wine-makers, and brandy distillers. We also know that the member for Napier led the Government debate, which was simply an attempt to screw political mileage out of the issue and condemn the Federal Government. So, the import of that exercise was lost.

I refer now to the Government's latest exercise, namely, the big meeting called for last Friday. The first I heard of this important meeting that was being called by the Labor Party was on Wednesday, when the Leader of the Opposition said to me that he understood that some of the Federal members of the Liberal Party were to be invited to a meeting that the Government was calling. That matter was briefly discussed by the Opposition. The next I heard of this meeting was on Friday morning, when one of my constituents, a brandy distiller, rang to ask why I was not attending the meeting. I did not know what he was talking about. He said that he was referring to the meeting that had been arranged by the wine and brandy producers for that afternoon. At no stage was I invited to attend. I heard no more about the meeting from Wednesday, when the Leader of the Opposition mentioned that some Federal members were to be invited, until this gentleman rang me on Friday to ask whether I was going to the meeting. One point I made to him was that I am not in the habit of attending meetings to which I have not been invited.

I then rang the Leader to find out what had transpired since the matter had been briefly mentioned to me on Wednesday. Then, I read the report in the *Advertiser* in which I was named as being one who had refused to attend the Government meeting. There was some confusion in my constituent's mind regarding who had called the meeting; he thought that it had been called by the wine and brandy people. At no stage had any Government member or employee approached me to attend the meeting. I pointed out to my friend that, if the Government was calling an important meeting about brandy excise, I would have expected an invitation in writing some 10 days previously if it hoped that members make free time in their diaries to attend. If a meeting is important enough, we must be prepared to change arrangements, but at no stage was I invited by telephone, carrier pigeon or anything else.

I received an unfavourable mention in the *Advertiser* as one who had refused to go. Then I got a "pay-out" (I think that is the term used by the Deputy Premier) for failing to turn up when I was not invited. I telephoned the *Advertiser* and spoke to Greg Kelton, the reporter who wrote the article. I pointed out to him that I had not been invited to the meeting by phone or by any other means. I said that the statement in his column that I had turned down the invitation to attend was unfortunate. I also made the point that to start phoning people to attend the day before was a funny way to convene an important meeting to help the brandy industry. I assume from the report that some of my colleagues may have been contacted by phone on the Thursday afternoon, the day before the meeting.

I made two points: first, that I had not been invited and that the first I heard about the matter was from a constituent and, secondly, that it was a peculiar way for the Government to organise a meeting if some of my colleagues had been telephoned the afternoon before. To my amazement a report appeared in the *Advertiser* on Saturday (the Kelton name did not appear on the second article) in which my colleagues and I were again berated for not attending the meeting to which I had not been invited. To say the least, I was a little surprised. I was not



surprised at the Deputy Premier's outburst, because it proved to me that this was a political exercise by the Government to bring a bit of politics out of the meeting.

I was rather disappointed in the *Advertiser*, because I assumed that the reporter who had written the first article would have transmitted my message to whoever wrote the second article and would have told that person I had not been invited to the meeting and that, in fact, to my knowledge no State members had been invited at that time. I think I should get the record straight and I am sorry no-one from the *Advertiser* is here at the moment.

**Mr. Rodda:** Yes he is; he's out of sight at the back.

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** At no time was I contacted by anyone and asked to attend a meeting last Friday. It was a most peculiar set of circumstances for me then to read in the *Advertiser* that I refused to go to that meeting. It was also a most peculiar way for the Government to arrange a meeting, if it genuinely expected members of the Opposition to attend, to start ringing members the afternoon before the meeting. To my knowledge, only one Opposition member was contacted.

**Mr. Whitten:** Why did your Leader say that the Liberals should not attend?

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** I think the honourable member is a little obtuse. The fact is that I was not invited so the question of my attending does not arise. I do not attend meetings of that nature unless I am invited.

*Mr. Whitten interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** If the honourable member wants to get into a hypothetical situation in which I could be involved, let him do so, but I do not have the time to answer questions about a situation which did not arise.

**Mr. Whitten:** Why did the Leader—

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member for Price is out of order.

**Mr. GOLDSWORTHY:** The other matter I raise relates to the running of this House and the programme which is supposed to be discussed at the beginning of the week. I am sorry that the Deputy Premier is not here, and the Whip has disappeared. There were some rather significant changes to Standing Orders whereby time for the Opposition to debate measures was shortened. These changes were introduced by the former Attorney-General, now Mr. Justice King. I had hoped to have time to read his comments relating to what would happen when these dramatic improvements to the operation of Parliament were implemented.

The tenor of the long statement I will not have time to read was that there was to be a weekly conference between the Opposition and the Government to thrash out a reasonable programme for the week. This was to take place at the beginning of the week. Unfortunately, there was a difference of opinion between the Deputy Premier, as Leader of the House for the Government, and me, in charge for the Opposition. The Deputy Premier jacked up and said, "I won't deal with you." That was an intolerable situation. At present, no conference takes place. We did not have the programme for this week until late this morning. There has been no discussion with the Opposition about the weekly programme. That went by the board when the Deputy Premier got out of sorts, but the situation deteriorated further. Normally, we would have a programme presented to us at noon on Monday. However, that does not happen now, so the Opposition now has no say in the programme for the week, and our chance to look at the programme for the week to see what we will do about it also has disappeared. The Government's programme for this session has been very light, and it must admit that. There is no reason for the

Government's not having its programme organised. We have just had a fortnight off, yet yesterday the Government could not come up with a programme for the week. This is unsatisfactory, and I hope the Government will consider the matter seriously.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member for Mawson.

**Mr. DRURY (Mawson):** I wish to draw the attention of the House to a matter that I think needs clarification. It concerns the so-called disappearance of voluntary organisations in relation to the St. John Ambulance dispute. In December 1975 the St. John section of the Australian Government Workers Association held a secret ballot to determine whether it should seek a full-time State-wide ambulance service. The ballot favoured such a service, and it was then rejected by the employer, so then the ambulance officers proposed three compromises.

The first was that the claim be reduced to cover the metropolitan area only. Straight away, the original claim was whittled down from State-wide to a metropolitan service only. That was not accepted, either, so the claim was further reduced when the ambulance officers requested to work only from Monday to Friday on a 24-hour basis and to leave the volunteers to still perform their volunteer work at weekends, so obviously the so-called reports put out by the press and supported by the Liberal Party that volunteer efforts were to disappear were false.

The third compromise, reducing the claim still further, was that ambulance officers would work a passive duty shift at passive duty rates of pay, as opposed to full rates, from Monday to Friday, that volunteers during week nights would work as the second crew out, as it is called, and that weekends would still be manned by volunteer labour. This third compromise also was rejected, so I do not see how this propaganda put through the community and heard on talk-back radio programmes that the unions are out to destroy volunteer efforts, and all that verbal rubbish, can be supported. The volunteers are not to be restricted in any way, because the traditional volunteer services such as involve fetes, sporting functions, pageants, etc., are still to be encouraged. The Australian Government Workers Association supports this as it supports such activities as the Citizen Military Forces (now renamed "reserve"), the Young Men's Christian Association, Meals on Wheels, Red Cross, and other organisations.

In Victoria, there is no volunteer labour at all. In New South Wales, volunteers work alongside paid staff (and there are about 40 at present) on the understanding that they want to enter the full-time paid staff when a position is available.

In Queensland volunteers are permitted to work on ambulances only during the day shift and in consultation with the union. In Western Australia, because of a decision of the West Australian commission, ambulance officers work two 10-hour shifts with a limited use of volunteers. There are only full-time ambulance officers in the Northern Territory.

Let us now consider some of the voluntary services supported by the Australian Government Workers Association. A.G.W.A. members employed as cooks in subsidised hospitals prepare meals for Meals on Wheels in country areas without there being sought any additional remuneration; they receive a rate of pay based on the number of meals cooked for patients only.

In the second example, the association covers members at the Home for Incurables. Whilst the association has industrial coverage for canteen assistants in other institutions, it has never applied, nor would it do so, for people who work in the Home for Incurables' canteen and

who are members of the women's auxiliary. The third example is that in some subsidised country hospitals young girls from 13 to 15 years of age go voluntarily to the hospital after school to assist with the tea, the feeding of patients, and that sort of thing and receive pocket money for doing so. The A.G.W.A. does not insist that they be covered under the award.

**Mr. Mathwin:** There's been a bit of trouble in the schools.

**Mr. DRURY:** I have the floor. In the fourth example, the association covers members employed in psychiatric hospitals as pantry maids and domestics. In many cases in those institutions the patients assist with certain duties, because it is looked upon as being beneficial to their rehabilitation. The A.G.W.A. has never insisted that they be covered by the award.

Most hospital institutions for which the A.G.W.A. has the industrial carriage have either a parents' auxiliary or women's auxiliary. Those auxiliaries should never be disbanded, because they are of great assistance. I have given five examples where the A.G.W.A. has never insisted on restricting voluntary help. Obviously, this attack on the so-called restriction of volunteer helpers has been done as a means of making the community take a rather jaundiced view of trade unions. Again, this is looked on as another episode of union bashing. If the union bashing continues sufficiently long enough everyone will become sick and tired of unions and will forget that they are of benefit to the community.

The case for saying that the St. John Ambulance dispute is one in which volunteer helpers will disappear has no foundation. They will still be available at weekends and as a second crew out in the evening. How can it be said that volunteer labour will disappear? It cannot be said that volunteer officers in St. John's will not be needed again.

Members opposite who support the ridiculous assertions on radio talkback shows that the St. John Ambulance Brigade will in future be comprised of permanent officers is utterly ridiculous.

**Mr. Mathwin:** What happened in Western Australia?

**Mr. DRURY:** I have already read that out.

**Mr. Becker:** Tell the truth!

**Mr. DRURY:** It is sufficient for your information that what I am telling you is true. I hope we are getting a balanced view. Too often from members opposite we get a slanted view that is obviously used to take the heat off themselves. They know that there is a certain gentleman in Canberra named Malcolm Fraser who is not doing them any good electorally. Soon the Werriwa by-election will prove me right, as the Earlwood State by-election proved me wrong a short time ago.

To refresh the Opposition's memory, I point out that in that New South Wales by-election a 10 per cent swing was registered against the Liberal Party in that State, in a seat that was held for 28 years by a Liberal Party member. The Opposition cannot tell me that a 10 per cent drop is something that happens naturally; that is ridiculous. Members opposite are trying to campaign on issues that cost no money so that they do not have to go into the next election and spend any money. It is as simple as that.

**Mr. Mathwin:** It was 14 per cent in Mount Gambier—remember?

**Mr. DRURY:** That was a long time ago. I have described what the Opposition is attempting to do, and I am not going to sit here and take it.

Motion carried.

At 6.16 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday 13 September at 2 p.m.