

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Tuesday 11 February 1986

The House met at 11 a.m. pursuant to proclamation issued by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Donald Dunstan).

The Clerk (Mr G.D. Mitchell) read the proclamation summoning Parliament.

### OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

At 11.5 a.m., in compliance with summons, the House proceeded to the Legislative Council, where a Commission was read appointing the Honourable Leonard James King (Chief Justice) to be a Commissioner for the opening of Parliament.

### SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS

The House being again in its own Chamber, at 11.12 a.m. His Honour Mr Justice King attended and produced a commission from His Excellency the Governor appointing him to be a Commissioner to administer to members of the House of Assembly the Oath of Allegiance or the Affirmation in lieu thereof required by the Constitution Act. The Commission was read by the Clerk, who then produced writs for the election of 47 members for the House of Assembly.

The Oath of Allegiance required by law (or the Affirmation) was administered and subscribed to by members.

The Commissioner retired.

### ELECTION OF SPEAKER

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON (Premier and Treasurer):** I remind the House that it is now necessary to proceed to the election of a Speaker. I move:

That Mr J.P. Trainer take the Chair of the House as Speaker.

**Mr OLSEN (Leader of the Opposition)** seconded the motion.

**Mr TRAINER (Walsh):** In compliance with Standing Orders, and in accordance with the traditions of Parliament, I reluctantly and humbly submit myself to the will of the House.

There being only one nomination, Mr Trainer was declared elected.

Mr Trainer was escorted to the dais by the mover and seconder of the motion.

**The SPEAKER (Hon. J.P. Trainer):** Token resistance to being escorted to the Chair symbolises the reluctance of members of the British House of Commons to assume an office which had a high mortality rate associated with it in times gone by. But it can also indicate a degree of awe and trepidation inspired by the challenge faced by the member singled out to become Speaker. Approaching the Chair then with some apprehension, I nevertheless deeply appreciate the call from my parliamentary colleagues to assume the highest office of the House of Assembly, an honour which over a period of nearly 130 years has been conferred on only 23 South Australians before me. With your cooperation, tolerance and charity, I will endeavour to carry out the functions of Speaker to the satisfaction of all members of the House.

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON (Premier and Treasurer):** Mr Speaker, I have great pleasure in congratulating you on your election to Speaker and on the support of the House that has been shown in that election through the nomination by myself, on behalf of those sitting on this side of the Chamber, and the seconding of such nomination by the Leader of the Opposition on behalf of those sitting on your left. Sir, you have recorded the fact that, traditionally, reluctance is shown in accepting the job, and the high mortality rate. The fear of outside intervention which could be wreaked upon the Speaker in protecting the rights and privileges of the members of the House of Commons initially, and other Houses subsequently, is of course the prime reason for that. One wonders, though, perhaps in a more modern setting, whether the behaviour and the proceedings of members within the Chamber could be part of the reason for such reluctance.

It is, of course, important that the Speaker brings to the job experience in debate procedures and the forms of the House. In your case, Sir, the arduous role of Government Whip I think has already fitted you in part for the hurly-burly that often revolves around the Speaker and the proceedings of the House. Perhaps, though, some would suggest, your supreme qualification is that of having been a school teacher in the past, although certain constraints in the Standing Orders are conferred on that.

We know you, Mr Speaker, as a man of wit (and I do not wish to extrapolate on the nature of that wit or its effectiveness, Sir), and I am sure that it will well assist you in situations which need cooling. Your general role within this Chamber, your work in the office of Government Whip, which involves negotiation and compromise and general assistance in the business of the House, probably comprise a very good background from which to take the Chair.

Perhaps a trifle daunting, Sir, is that you are in fact presiding as Speaker over a House which contains two distinguished previous holders of that office in the Hon. Dr Eastick and the Hon. Mr McRae. I imagine that that will be of considerable assistance to you, although perhaps it may sometimes cause you some difficulties as well because of the eminent knowledge of Standing Orders, backgrounds and procedures of both those gentlemen.

However, Sir, we wish you well in your very vital role of presiding over this House, and I hope that the next four years in which this Parliament meets will see the Parliament meeting constructively, debating fiercely of course, but in a spirit which does not transcend the bounds of proper parliamentary behaviour, and that we as members will assist you in carrying out that role of presiding over the House.

**Mr OLSEN (Leader of the Opposition):** On behalf of the Opposition, I join with the Premier in congratulating you, Mr Speaker, on your appointment to this high office in this Chamber. We, the Opposition, take the view, of course, that the Labor Party is entitled to put forward its nomination and, for that reason, we, the Liberal Party, have endorsed that nomination today. The confidence of all members in the fairness and impartiality of the Speaker is vital to the effective working of the Parliament and the maintenance of its prestige and its dignity.

It is the long established tradition of the holder of your office that the Speaker is the servant of the members and the guardian of their rights in this Chamber. In this respect the Opposition has noted your continuing interest in the procedures of this House and the views you have put (invariably quite strongly) for reform, and in particular we note recent reports, since your nomination by your Party to this high office, that you have signalled that you would (I think the phrase was) 'get tough on members who want to make

long speeches' and that you had already mapped out a plan of action.

In these circumstances I therefore think it is appropriate to indicate that the Opposition's view is that the House as a whole must determine the rights of members, and that the Speaker—and indeed you acknowledged this when assuming the Chair—must maintain those rights, which must be exercised in a fair and impartial way for all members of this House. We, Sir, support you in your endeavours to achieve that objective for every member of this House.

**The SPEAKER:** I thank members for their kind words of welcome and encouragement, which were in marked contrast to some remarks directed at me in my previous position as Government Whip. From time to time this office that I now hold may require me to restrain over-exuberance and interjection on the part of members, even though in the past I may have been among the worst offenders. However, it has been claimed that reformed poachers can make quite satisfactory gamekeepers.

It is my intention, so far as parliamentary traditions are concerned, to strongly support all traditions which are key elements in our democratic processes or which have significant historical value, but with the proviso that we must be ready to adapt our procedures, where it is appropriate to do so, in the interests of greater effectiveness or in response to our changing twentieth century environment.

The parliamentary system today faces a more subtle challenge than in centuries past, when Parliaments of the people sought to establish their position of privilege against hostile monarchs. A more subtle challenge is presented today in the form of a widening gulf between our parliamentary institutions and the electors whom we serve. Many in the electorate at large have a limited degree of political understanding. This lack of awareness is often accompanied by a tendency to hold their elected representatives in collective contempt, sometimes with the active encouragement of less responsible sections of the media.

We can all, in our own way, work to eliminate the ignorance that exists regarding the many roles and duties of members of Parliament—an ignorance that is the source of much of this prejudice. But those negative community attitudes can of course also be minimised if this House succeeds in conducting its affairs with decorum and efficiency.

In accepting the duties of Speaker, I seek the assistance of all members in my endeavours to maintain the prestige and dignity of this Chamber, to resolve disputations with fairness and good humour, and to protect the collective and individual rights of members.

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON (Premier and Treasurer):** I have to inform the House that His Excellency the Governor will be pleased to have the Speaker presented to him at 12.15 p.m. today.

*[Sitting suspended from 11.40 a.m. to 12.5 p.m.]*

**The SPEAKER:** It is now my intention to proceed to Government House to present myself as Speaker to His Excellency the Governor, and I invite members to accompany me.

At 12.5 p.m., accompanied by a deputation of members, the Speaker proceeded to Government House.

*On the House reassembling at 12.20 p.m.*

**The SPEAKER:** Accompanied by a deputation of members, I proceeded to Government House for the purpose of presenting myself to His Excellency the Governor, and informed His Excellency that, in pursuance of the powers conferred on the House by section 34 of the Constitution

Act, the House of Assembly had this day proceeded to the election of Speaker, and had done me the honour of election to that high office. In compliance with the other provisions of the same section, I presented myself to His Excellency as the Speaker, and in the name and on behalf of the House laid claim to our undoubted rights and privileges, and prayed that the most favourable construction might be put on all our proceedings. His Excellency has been pleased to reply as follows:

To the Honourable the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly: I congratulate the members of the House of Assembly on their choice of the Speaker. I readily assure you, the Speaker, of my confirmation of all constitutional rights and privileges of the House of Assembly, the proceedings of which will always receive most favourable consideration.

*[Sitting suspended from 12.23 to 2.15 p.m.]*

#### SUMMONS TO COUNCIL CHAMBER

A summons was received from His Excellency the Governor desiring the attendance of the House in the Legislative Council Chamber, whither the Speaker and honourable members proceeded.

The House having returned to its own Chamber, the Speaker resumed the Chair at 2.44 p.m. and read prayers.

#### COMMISSION OF OATHS

**The SPEAKER:** I have to report that I have received from the Governor a Commission under the hand of His Excellency and the public seal of the State empowering me to administer the Oath of Allegiance or receive the Affirmation necessary to be taken by members of the House of Assembly.

#### SWEARING IN OF Mr P. LEWIS

The Oath of Allegiance required by law was administered and subscribed to by Mr Lewis.

#### ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier):** I move: That Mr Ferguson be appointed Chairman of Committees of the Whole House during the present Parliament.  
Motion carried.

#### JOINT ASSEMBLY

**The SPEAKER:** I lay on the table the minutes of the assembly of both Houses held earlier today for the election of a member to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the Hon. Frank Blevins.

Ordered to be printed.

#### GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

**The SPEAKER:** I have to report that, in accordance with the summons from His Excellency the Governor, the House this day attended in the Legislative Council Chamber, where His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of Parliament. I have obtained a copy, which I now lay on the table.

Ordered to be printed.

**ADDRESS IN REPLY**

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier):** I move:

That a committee consisting of Mrs Appleby, Ms Gayler, and Messrs Bannon, Hopgood and Rann be appointed to prepare a draft address to His Excellency the Governor in reply to his Speech on opening Parliament and to report later today.

Motion carried.

**PETITION: YOUTH HOUSING**

A petition signed by 1 669 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to implement the youth housing recommendations proposed by the Youth Housing Network was presented by the Hon. T.H. Hemmings.

Petition received.

**PETITION: SERVICE STATIONS**

A petition signed by 14 195 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to grant unrestricted trading hours to service stations within the inner Adelaide metropolitan area was presented by the Hon. Lynn Arnold.

Petition received.

**PETITION: Ovingham Overpass**

A petition signed by two residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Highways Department to incorporate a pedestrian underpass and reconsider plans to block off a service road to through traffic at Chief Street in the proposed Ovingham overpass project was presented by Mr Olsen.

Petition received.

**PETITION: INTERSTATE TRANSPORT**

A petition signed by 81 residents of South Australia praying that the House reject any complementary legislation to the federal Interstate Road Transport Bill was presented by the Hon. H. Allison.

Petition received.

**PETITION: BENARA ROAD**

A petition signed by 265 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to provide funds to allow for the completion of the upgrading of Benara Road between Mount Gambier and Kongorong was presented by the Hon. H. Allison.

Petition received.

**PETITION: NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

A petition signed by 151 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to implement a neighbourhood watch program in the electorate of Hanson was presented by Mr Becker.

Petition received.

**PETITION: CRAIGBURN FARM LAND**

A petition signed by 22 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to purchase Craighburn Farm land, north of Sturt River, and retain it as open space was presented by Mr S.G. Evans.

Petition received.

**PETITION: BLACKWOOD POLICE STATION**

A petition signed by 777 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to increase the operational hours of the Blackwood Police Station was presented by Mr S.G. Evans.

Petition received.

**PETITION: BELAIR RECREATION PARK**

A petition signed by 128 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to provide recreational horse-riding facilities in the Belair Recreation Park was presented by Mr S.G. Evans.

Petition received.

**PETITION: ALCOHOL**

A petition signed by 99 residents of South Australia praying that the House legislate to prohibit the supply and consumption of alcohol by minors in public places except when in the company of a parent or guardian was presented by Mr S.G. Evans.

Petition received.

**PETITION: BANKSIA PARK HIGH SCHOOL**

A petition signed by 245 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Minister of Education to maintain all professional services and standards at Banksia Park High School was presented by Ms Gayler.

Petition received.

**PETITION: LOITERING**

A petition signed by 145 residents of South Australia praying that the House legislate so as to reinstate loitering as an offence was presented by Ms Gayler.

Petition received.

**PETITION: CEDUNA BUILDING WORK**

A petition signed by 30 residents of South Australia praying that the House urge the Government to urge the District Council of Murat Bay to reject a building application from the Department of Fisheries for construction work at Dowlings Crescent, Ceduna, was presented by Mr Gunn.

Petition received.

**ST LEONARDS PRIMARY SCHOOL  
(CONSOLIDATION)**

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

St Leonards Primary School (Consolidation).  
Ordered that report be printed.

### PAPERS TABLED

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Premier (Hon. J.C. Bannon)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
South Australia Jubilee 150 Board—Report, 1984-85.

By the Treasurer (Hon. J.C. Bannon)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
State Bank of South Australia Act, 1983—Regulations—  
Deceased Customers Accounts.  
Superannuation Act, 1974—Regulations—  
Eligibility of Part-time Staff.  
Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science.

By the Minister for Environment and Planning (Hon. D.J. Hopgood)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Coast Protection Act, 1972—Regulations—South-East  
Coast Protection District.  
Land Tax Act, 1936—Regulations—Prescribed Bodies.  
Native Vegetation Management Act, 1985—Regula-  
tions—General Regulations, 1985.  
Planning Act, 1982—  
Regulation—Native Vegetation.  
Crown Development Reports by the South Aus-  
tralian Planning Commission on proposed—  
Erection of Transmission Line, Torrens Island  
to Northfield.  
Redevelopment of Carrick Hill Estate.  
Planning Appeal Tribunal—Report, 1984-85.  
Rules of Court—Planning Appeal Tribunal—Planning  
Act—Civil Enforcement.  
Botanic Gardens, Board of—Report, 1984-85.

By the Minister of Emergency Services (Hon. D.J. Hop-  
good)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Police, Commissioner of—Report, 1984-85.  
South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service—Report,  
1984-85.  
Superannuation Fund Report, 1984-85.

By the Minister of Water Resources (Hon. D.J. Hop-  
good)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
South-Eastern Drainage Board—Report, 1984-85.

By the Minister of Lands (Hon. R.K. Abbott)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Lands, Department of—Report, 1984-85.  
Real Property Act, 1886—Regulations—Land Division.

By the Minister of Marine (Hon. R.K. Abbott)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Boating Act, 1974—Regulations—  
Hog Bay.  
Lake Leake.  
River Murray, Mouth.  
Marine and Harbors, Department of—Report, 1984-85.

By the Minister of Employment and Further Education  
(Hon. Lynn Arnold)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Technical and Further Education, Director-General of—  
Report, 1984.  
Flinders University of South Australia—Statute Amend-  
ments—Report, 1984.  
University of Adelaide—Statute Amendments—Report,  
1984.

By the Minister of Transport (Hon. G.F. Keneally)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Building Act, 1970—Regulation—Surface Skimmer  
Devices.  
Chiropractors Act, 1979—Regulation—Registration Fees.  
Dentists Act, 1984—Regulation—General Regulations,  
1985.  
Food Act, 1985—Regulation—Dairies and Itinerant  
Vendors of Milk.  
Health Act, 1935—Regulation—Qualifications of Man-  
agers and Directors of Nursing Home.

Impounding Act, 1920—Regulation—Murray Bridge as  
Prescribed Area.

Local Government Act—Amendments to Local Govern-  
ment Superannuation Scheme.

Local Government Finance Authority Act, 1983—Regu-  
lations—  
Prescribed Hospitals.

Guarantee Fees.

Metropolitan Taxi-Cab Act, 1956—Regulation—Fees.

Murray Bridge Soldiers' Memorial Hospital Incorpor-  
ated—By-laws.

Recreation Grounds (Regulations) Act, 1931—Regula-  
tions—

Glenelg Oval.  
Thebarton Oval.  
Football Park.  
Mortlock Oval.  
Adelaide Oval.  
Norwood Oval.  
Unley Oval.

Road Traffic Act, 1961—Regulations—

Flags.

Salisbury Private Hospital, Declared Hospital.  
Towing, Loads and Mirrors.

South Australian Health Commission Act, 1975—Reg-  
ulation—Hospital Fees.

South Australian Health Commission—Report, 1984-85.

State Transport Authority—Report, 1984-85.

Corporation By-laws—

Adelaide—By-law No. 16—The Central Market.  
Kensington and Norwood—  
By-law No. 47—Vehicle Weight.  
By-law No. 48—Traffic.

Tea Tree Gully—By-law No. 50—Traffic.

Elizabeth—By-law No. 30—Rubbish Tips and  
Refuse.

Port Augusta—By-law No. 90—Fences.

Thebarton—By-law No. 43—Heavy Loads.

District Council By-laws—

Blyth—By-law No. 29—Vehicles.  
Gladstone—By-law No. 24—Traffic.  
Tanunda—By-law No. 32—Traffic.

By the Minister of Mines and Energy (Hon. R.G.  
Payne)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Mines and Energy, Department of—Report, 1984-85.

By the Minister of Education (Hon. G.J. Crafter)—

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Children's Court Advisory Committee—Report, 1984-  
85.

Administration of Building Societies Act—Report of  
Commissioner for Corporate Affairs on 1984-85.

Commercial Tribunal Act, 1982—Regulations—

Commercial Tenancy Agreements.  
Registers and Delegation of Powers.

Coroners Act—Rule—Post Mortem Examination Fees.

Credit Unions, Registrar of—Report, 1984-85.

Education Act, 1972—Regulation—School Councils.

Education, Director-General of—Report, 1984.

Friendly Societies Act, 1919—Amendments to General  
Laws and Rules—

Independent Order of Odd Fellows Grand Lodge of  
South Australia.

Mutual Community Friendly Society of South Aus-  
tralia.

Manchester Unity—Hibernian Friendly Society.

Justices Act, 1921—Rule—Court Fees.

Landlord and Tenant Act, 1936—Regulation—Commer-  
cial Tenancy Agreements.

Legal Practitioners Act, 1982—Regulation—Certificate  
Fee.

Liquor Licensing Act, 1985—Regulation—Exemptions  
(Amendment).

Local and District Criminal Courts Act, 1926—Regula-  
tion—Local Court Fees.

Second-hand Motor Vehicles Act, 1983—  
General Regulations, 1985.

Licences.

South Australian Teacher Housing Authority—Report,  
1984-85.

Summary Offences Act, 1953—Regulation—Traffic  
Infringement Notice.

Supreme Court Act, 1935—Regulations—

Fees.  
Probate Fees.

- Rules of Court—Supreme Court—Supreme Court Act—Interest Rates.  
Breaches of Recognisances.  
Listing of Trials and Abuse of Process.  
Trade Standards Act, 1979—Regulation—Sunglasses.
- By the Minister of Children's Services (Hon. G.J. Craf-ter)—  
*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Children's Services Act, 1985—Regulation—Exemptions.
- By the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs (Hon. G.J. Craf-ter)—  
*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Aboriginal Lands Trust—Report, 1984-85.
- By the Minister of Labour (Hon. Frank Blevins)—  
*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Industrial and Commercial Training Act, 1981—Regulation—Declared Vocation.
- By the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. M.K. Mayes)—  
*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Dried Fruits Board of South Australia—Report for year ended 28 February 1985.  
Marketing of Eggs Act, 1941—  
Auditor-General's Report on, 1984-85.  
Regulation—Grading of Eggs.  
Metropolitan Milk Supply Act, 1946—Regulations—Licence Fees.  
Milk Prices.  
Stock Diseases Act, 1934—Proclamation—Revocation.  
Vertebrate Pests Control Authority—Report, 1984-85.
- By the Minister of Fisheries (Hon. M.K. Mayes)—  
*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Fisheries Act, 1982—Regulations—  
Aquatic Reserves.  
Lakes and Coorong Fishery—Murray Cod.  
Fish Processors—Paid Price.  
River Fishery—Murray Cod.  
Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery—Mussels.  
Restricted Marine Scale Fishery—Licence Holders.  
Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery—Mussels.  
Miscellaneous Fishery—Agents.  
Marine Scale Fishery—Agents.  
Nets and Lobster Pots of Recreational Fishermen.  
Cowlea's Landing Aquatic Reserve.  
Bag Limit for Snapper.
- By the Minister of Recreation and Sport (Hon. M.K. Mayes)—  
*Pursuant to Statute—*  
Greyhound Racing Control Board—Report, 1984-85.  
Racing Act, 1976—Trotting Rules.

## QUESTION TIME

### INTEREST RATES

**Mr OLSEN:** Will the Premier advise whether it is the Government's intention to continue the current subsidy scheme to building society borrowers after the end of March? During the election campaign, the Premier said that the Government's subsidy scheme for building society borrowers would prevent any increase in interest rates before April. He also suggested that, by then, interest rates could fall. The decision by the Government on Friday to approve another increase in interest rates therefore means that, yet again, many home buyers have had misleading assurances.

Over the past 10 months, the Government has in fact approved four increases in building society interest rates after the Premier had forecast last March that interest rates would fall. If the Government now decides to remove the subsidy scheme from the end of March, the combined effect of the .75 per cent rise deferred from October and the 1.5

per cent rise applying from yesterday will be to increase the repayment for borrowers of \$45 000 by up to \$81 a month.

While the Government has foreshadowed some assistance packages, it has not yet made clear whether it intends to continue its subsidy to all building society borrowers who had loans at the beginning of last October. While the Government has asked all taxpayers to assist some building society borrowers, it has refused to call on the Federal Government to reverse its policies which are the major cause of the continuing high levels of interest rates. If it is serious about long term assistance to home buyers, the State Government must be prepared to make the strongest representations to the Federal Government over economic policies which are keeping pressure on interest rates.

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON:** I appreciate the importance and seriousness of the topic that the Leader of the Opposition has raised in his first question in this Parliament, but it is about there that I would part company with him in some of the things he has said about it. It is encouraging to see the Opposition beginning to get its act together on this question of interest rates, and perhaps, when he is suggesting that I make certain representations to my federal colleagues, the Leader might be doing something similar a little more strenuously and successfully with his federal colleagues, whose attitude is still very much at odds.

The fact is that in a number of key areas we have not only urged certain policies and actions on the Federal Government but in fact those actions, policies and undertakings have been given and maintained. In the case of the particular matter that the Leader of the Opposition raises, that is, the subsidy for certain building society loans, I am very pleased to note his interest and apparent support for some kind of extension or review of that scheme. After all, the same Leader of the Opposition in October moved an urgency motion in this place deploring this scheme and demanding that we not implement it, saying in that context, 'The scheme announced is so thoughtless, so arbitrary and so outrageously expedient that it must be reviewed immediately. I make it clear at the outset that this is not something that a Liberal Government would have done.' Fortunately, the electorate had an opportunity to decide whether it wanted to hear what a Liberal Government would have done or to endorse the actions and policies of this Government.

We know the gravity of this problem. In January, the Minister of Housing and Construction, as Acting Premier, concluded a series of very intensive discussions that had occurred both pre and post election with the building societies on what would happen with those rates. One of the things that we have stressed throughout is that certainly while no Government has a right to damage the viability or proper financing of institutions such as building societies and while we must try to ensure that the flow of funds into housing in this State continues, equally we must ensure that those people who have entered into loans on the basis of certain future financial projections do not find that their dream of home ownership has turned sour or that for some reason or other they have been driven from their homes.

As a result, a comprehensive package of assistance measures has been implemented in conjunction with the increase that was instituted recently by the building societies. Of course, we also hope (and I say 'hope' because every single member of this place knows that Parliament can make no control in an arbitrary fashion in this area) that the pressure on increasing interest rates will lessen and that we will see a significant—

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON:** It is not new at all. I said that in 1981, when debating a motion censuring the Tonkin Government in relation to high interest rates. I refer the honourable member (who was not here then, so I excuse

him—he did not remember that) to the consistency that I have taken in this area. We hope that those pressures are easing and that the rates will come down. As to the continuation of the subsidy, in principle in the current climate there are strong arguments for its continuation. The formal conclusions and final consideration and assessment will be undertaken. We are reviewing the situation on a daily basis. The system will operate until the end of March and, as I said last year, if necessary, we will certainly continue it.

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

**Mr TYLER:** Will the Deputy Premier advise whether the southern suburbs are being considered for the Neighbourhood Watch program? I have been informed of the successful introduction of the Neighbourhood Watch program in Flinders Park and I have been told that the program has brought about a considerable reduction in the number of housebreakings as well as improved community awareness and a major improvement in neighbourhood relations. As the Minister would appreciate, many of my constituents have told me of their concern about policing in the southern area.

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD:** There has been a good deal of public interest in Neighbourhood Watch, and I thank the honourable member for giving me the opportunity to provide a brief report to the House on its progress and success to date. The pilot program, as the honourable member has mentioned, was launched in May 1985 in the Flinders Park area, and by all accounts it has been successful. Some 400 households have actively participated and although no statistical data in great detail is available at this stage I am confident that the program will yield results similar to those experienced interstate in the prevention of crime, particularly in the areas of housebreaking and vandalism.

Neighbourhood Watch is only one element of the concept of community policing that aims to reduce crime by community participation in the crime prevention field. Central to this is the establishment of community police stations staffed by personnel willing to consult and work closely with the communities they serve. Based on the success of the pilot program at Flinders Park the Government anticipates an expansion of the program of up to 30 areas over the next 12 to 15 months. These areas will be determined by the Crime Prevention Section of the Police Department and will be based on demographic criteria and crime statistics.

The Government has made a considerable contribution to the expansion of the program by the resources available to the Police Department. In addition, it is envisaged that private sponsorship will supplement this provision, in particular through the supply of printed material. In relation to the specific question as to whether or not the southern suburbs will be involved in the Neighbourhood Watch program, it is understood that as a starting point each of the 16 metropolitan police subdivisions will be involved. On this basis alone, quite apart from the quite proper importunings of the honourable member, I expect that the southern areas will definitely benefit from this program.

### BUDGET COSTS

**Mr BECKER:** Will the Premier advise whether the dramatic downturn in building activity and the continuing high home loan interest rates will force a blowout in the State budget deficit? If so, does the Government intend to increase taxes next financial year to fund its commitment to higher levels of spending? Latest Australian Bureau of Census and

Statistic's figures show that for the final quarter of 1985 the number of new dwelling approvals in South Australia was down 36 per cent on the corresponding period of 1984. A survey carried out by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry has predicted an even bigger downturn over 1986.

I understand that this has potentially serious implications for the State budget. The Government has forecast a significant increase in tax returns from stamp duties this financial year but property transactions, which account for more than 40 per cent of total stamp duty receipts, are likely to be down considerably. The Government is also forecasting a massive jump in its tax on the State Bank's profit, but this profit may be severely affected by the losses the bank has been making on its mortgage business in the current high interest rate regime.

As the Government, at the last election, put forward policies which will increase Government spending, any significant downturn in taxation revenue means that the Government will face two options in its next budget—increased taxes or a massive blow-out in the accumulated deficit, which is already forecast at more than \$51 million at the end of this financial year.

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON:** I thank the honourable member for his question, and congratulate him on his return to the shadow Ministry. In relation to the question of the downturn in receipts as a result of the downturn in the level of housing and construction activity, I point out that in its budget the Government anticipated that there would be a levelling off of activity, and that was appropriate. We certainly do not want an overheating of that sector of our economy.

I also concede that presently there are signs suggesting that the levelling off may, in fact, be going further than that, and that we must monitor that industry and the access to finance very closely to ensure that we do not move into a slump. However, if we can anticipate the problems sufficiently far in advance we will be able to mitigate the effect. That has been one of the primary concerns throughout of my colleague, the Minister of Housing and Construction, in terms of the fine tuning of the activities of the South Australian Housing Trust, which has been operating at record levels, in concert with the private housing industry.

The Government anticipated a levelling off, and that was taken into account in our anticipated receipts for this year commensurate with our producing a balanced budget. As presently advised, the budget is on course and we have every confidence that we will achieve overall the anticipated result. Obviously, we will look for areas where savings or economies can be made if it becomes necessary to do so in order to achieve that result.

In relation to the question of deficit, I point out that this Government in its first term of office made major inroads into reducing the deficit and setting the State's finances on a much healthier basis, and we will continue to do that. As far as higher spending is concerned, it has been very much geared to the higher demands that the community is making and the capacity of the State Government to pay.

It is important, on the opening day of a new session of a new Parliament, to remind members opposite that they cannot have it both ways. We will no doubt be subjected to demands to take all sorts of action that involve increased expenditure. A minor example is that yesterday I noticed the member for Light referring to further expenditure that was necessary in terms of backup services for the State emergency helicopter. That is quite an expensive operation. What the member for Light was suggesting is no doubt a very worthy thing, worthy of consideration. However, it will cost money and that money has to come from somewhere.

I again remind members opposite that any proposal that they have for increased expenditure, whether it be general

or in their own electorates, must be measured against the capacity of the State to pay.

**The Hon. B.C. Eastick:** We wanted a helicopter that worked.

**The SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member for Bright.

### HERITAGE GRANTS

**Mr ROBERTSON:** Will the Deputy Premier examine the feasibility of extending the system of heritage grants and the provision of heritage listings to private dwellings both in the city and the country which are outstanding examples of interior decor common to the 1950s and 1960s? It is not uncommon when buying and moving into a house to find the occasional relic of a bygone age amongst the furnishings, paintwork or decor, or possibly even the electric appliances. I am assured by people in the real estate business that it was not uncommon in the early 1970s, for example, to find houses built in the postwar housing boom in suburbs such as South Brighton, for example, with original electric appliances such as Adelect No. 1 stoves and old Charles Hope and Frigidaire refrigerators. Nor was it uncommon to find venetian blinds made of wood, floral carpets and plaster ducks on the wall. That is not in any way to deride the fashions of the '40s and '50s, but I suspect that technology and fashion have moved on since then and that examples of such paintwork and soft furnishings are now relatively rare. It may be that, if these relics of living culture from the '40s, '50s and possibly even the 1960s are not preserved at this time, they will disappear from all but the photographic record.

My proposal is that the Minister should investigate the feasibility of extending some form of heritage protection to dwellings which are outstanding examples of their time and some sort of financial incentive to their occupants to maintain them in their 1940s, '50s or '60s state. Obviously the urban subculture has always differed from the rural subculture, particularly since the advent of electric power in some rural areas, and it would be necessary to extend the protection and incentives to dwellings in—

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr ROBERTSON:**—both rural and urban areas. In time it may be possible to open those museums to the public on a commercial basis, and we could see a network of monuments to modern Australian culture preserved in a living and working condition, with chooks and citrus trees in the backyard and FJ Holdens in the driveway.

*Members interjecting:*

**The SPEAKER:** Order! I remind all members of the normal courtesies due to be extended to new members.

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD:** The question of statutory protection for items identified by local government as being of heritage significance is one that has been around the place for quite some time. My officers are currently having discussions with local government about whether it would be appropriate to move in this direction, and how quickly and with what sorts of resources. It is fair to say, when one is talking about heritage listing, that one must remember that there are two aspects to that process which is really a further layer on the development control process that operates under the Planning Act: one is the identification of items that should have particular consideration when there is an application for development, and the other is the exercise of development control.

Thus far that development control has been exercised as a result of State listing rather than local lists being involved.

Frankly, I do not know how large a list we might finish up with if we went down that track. That is something that we should consider seriously. Some councils have asked for demolition control under certain circumstances, and we are discussing that matter with them at this stage. The honourable member is to be commended for raising this matter, because it is a live issue at present both in the heritage groups and in the development industry. It will not be resolved easily. May I finish with the observation that I am a specific individual. I have discharged a firearm twice: once at the Glenelg fun parlour, and the second time to start a boat race. Whenever I see three flying ducks on a wall, I am tempted to have a third go.

### PETROL PRICES

**The Hon. E.R. GOLDSWORTHY:** Can the Premier say whether the South Australian Government has asked the Commonwealth to pass on to South Australian motorists, small businesses and farmers, the full benefits of the big fall in the international price of oil and, if it has not, will it do so immediately? The current Commonwealth pricing formula was introduced on the basis that the price of petrol at the pump would rise and fall with the world market price for oil. However, the Federal Government has refused to guarantee that it will pass on the full benefit of the recent collapse in international prices when the new review of the domestic price of petrol is undertaken on 1 March. The Opposition estimates that South Australian motorists, businesses and farmers would benefit by about \$90m a year if the full benefit was passed on.

Over the last three years, the price of petrol in South Australia has increased by 44 per cent. There is now the opportunity to pass on a reduction of 6c a litre. This would be particularly important to farmers in the present rural crisis, with fuel about the largest single cost of production and many farmers having second thoughts about planting their full crop under the present fuel price regime. Other countries have chosen to pass on to consumers the full benefit of cheaper oil prices, and it would be disastrous for Australia's inflation rate, our international competitiveness and the value of the dollar if the present Federal Government elected instead to reap further revenue benefits. If the State Government has not already made representations to Canberra on this vital issue, it is imperative that it do so.

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON:** If the honourable member looks at this afternoon's newspaper, he will see an article referring to the sort of consideration that is now urgently taking place at the federal level on this matter. No doubt, a decision will be announced soon. Of course, my Government supports the cheapest possible fuel prices because of the obvious benefits that they can have for the economy. Those press reports state that the Federal Government will pay particular attention to the needs of those in the rural sector in their current problems. So, those matters have been fully ventilated, and everyone is well aware of them.

Members will also be aware that the Federal Government has promised, later this year, substantial tax cuts as part of its overall package of economic recovery. The Commonwealth Government has also foreshadowed that it will look at expenditure restraints in its forthcoming Budget. No doubt, the States will get a pretty hard time, too. I suggest that there is no need for specific representations at this time: what we are seeing is the Commonwealth consideration, in which South Australian views are well known, regarding the way in which this can be applied.

### CASINO TAB AGENCY

**The Hon. J.W. SLATER:** Can the Premier say whether further consideration can be given to the establishment of a Totalizator Agency Board agency or subagency in the Adelaide casino?

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. J.W. SLATER:** Not at the Windsor Hotel! Members opposite should not laugh, because they will need to pull a few rabbits out of that top hat: they will need them over there. Before the casino operated, the South Australian TAB applied for approval to operate an agency in the casino. At that time, however, the application was not approved, although the Tasmanian TAB had operated an agency both at Wrest Point and at Launceston casinos for some time. As the South Australian TAB believes that it is appropriate that a service to clients should be established at the casino, will the Premier ensure that further consideration is given to the establishment of a TAB agency in the casino premises?

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON:** I am certainly happy to look again at the matter raised by the honourable member, and I thank him for his question. After three years of having the honourable member sitting as a colleague on the front bench, it is unusual to receive a question from him, and I welcome it. It is most appropriate that his question is in this area because, under the jurisdiction of the honourable member, both the TAB and the racing codes in this State have enjoyed unprecedented revival and prosperity, and the honourable member's contribution, as Minister, in that area was extremely significant. So, I welcome the subject matter of his question.

However, I must point out that we are still in the early stages of the operation of the casino. In fact, the major complaint at present is not the demand for expanded facilities but to ensure that the existing facilities and those opportunities for recreation, enjoyment and, perhaps for the lucky few, some money making in the casino can be developed further. However, whether we are at a stage where we should be adding to what the casino provides is questionable. I foreshadow that there will probably need to be changes to the Casino Act in certain technical areas. There may be consideration at various times as to what can and cannot be done in the casino, but we must give the casino operators and the general public the opportunity to settle in and see how the operation is going.

Within the few weeks of the operation of the casino so far, it has been an outstanding success and has been highly commended by people from other States and overseas. It can obviously perform the important function of adding to the range of tourist activities that we can offer. It has also been taken up eagerly by the South Australian public themselves to the extent that the crowds have been enormous and the queues long. Even now, the casino management is considering commissioning further tables that would take the direct employment in the casino to over 1 000 persons. The casino has been a great success, and I believe that we should build on that success, which vindicates the action of this Parliament in passing the Bill to allow this to happen. In that context, we will definitely consider what other services and facilities the casino can provide, and we are aware of the interest of the TAB that has been put by the honourable member.

### COURT APPEARANCE

**The Hon. B.C. EASTICK:** Did the Minister of Emergency Services or any other Minister request or instruct the police not to follow normal procedures to inform the media about the appearance in court last week of two people charged

with manslaughter? I understand that as a matter of course the police inform the media when a person has been arrested and charged and communicate the time and place of the appearance of that person in court. Last week when two people were arrested and charged with manslaughter in South Australia the normal course was not followed. Those two persons were arrested and charged, and they appeared in court without any communication having been given to the media that that was to occur, until the Attorney-General subsequently announced these events at a press conference.

With no knowledge of a court appearance in South Australia or an application for suppression of names, the representatives of the media were not able to attend the hearing to report them; nor were they able to make any representations on the suppression orders. As a result, there is now the curious position of there being a suppression order in South Australia in respect of two people and no suppression order in relation to another person arrested and similarly charged in Western Australia in respect of the same event. I therefore ask the Minister to explain whether he or any other person agreed, asked or directed the police not to follow normal procedures in this case and, if not, to say whose decision it was to depart from the procedures of communicating with the media.

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD:** I can certainly give the honourable member and the House an assurance that I gave no such direction; nor was I more than peripherally involved in this matter. The first time that I was aware that any arrests were to be made was when the Attorney rang me, I guess as Acting Premier, to tell me that an announcement would be made later in the day. I do not think that he even indicated to me when the announcement would be made, although he indicated that an announcement would be imminent. That was the end of the matter so far as I was concerned.

The only other information I can give the honourable member is what I have read about it in the newspapers, including of course my interest in the fact that as a result of the attitude of the judge in Western Australia that suppression order which had been requested was not granted. But, as to the circumstances of what happened here, I can give absolutely no information immediately to the honourable member. I will take up the matter with the Attorney and with the Commissioner of Police and what useful information I can give to the House I will obviously give.

### PARENTS AND STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS

**Mr RANN:** Will the Minister of Education outline to the House what action has been taken to honour the Government's pre-election commitment to designate 1986 as the year of parents and students in schools?

**The Hon. G.J. CRAFT:** I thank the honourable member for his maiden question, and I know of his deep interest in the field of education. It is true that prior to the last election a policy was formulated indicating that a State Labor Government would, upon election, carry out an intensive program of involvement of parents and students in the education system, and particularly in school communities. This is to be held in conjunction with what will become known as education audits, that is, to highlight our system's strengths and weaknesses in order to build on the good qualities (and there are many of them in the education system) and to answer problem areas and to change direction where that is shown to be necessary.

Last year we indicated that 1986 would be declared as the year of parents and students in schools, to ensure that parents' voices are heard and that our schools are responsive to the concerns of parents in the community. That is a very



real and a very much felt need amongst parents throughout South Australia. This was, I think, encapsulated very well in the editorial in this morning's *Advertiser*.

Plans for this year are in the process of being formulated, and I have announced the initial plans this week. This special year will include a telephone hot line in April to seek the views of parents, students and others in the community. We will be developing ways to upgrade the three E's, also the focal point of our education policy statements made before the last election. This relates to the three E's of excellence, equality and efficiency in our schools. We hope that through that hotline we will receive practical and constructive comments from the community at large. Pilot schemes in a number of schools in which students will play a part in making decisions affecting the school communities will be encouraged. It will also involve seminars in which parents, students, teachers and administrators will get together to look at issues of community involvement. There will be changes to the role and functions of school councils coming out of these consultations through the year to enable stronger community involvement in the education process.

There will also be examination by parent organisations of ways in which parents and students can be heard by schools and the education system at large. There will be the production of a policy and steps that can be taken to overcome problems or misunderstandings between parents and schools, and there will always be those no doubt in such a large sector of Government activity.

Finally, we have announced that the Education Department will provide support for the State Council of Students. Late last year, and for the first time, the State Government funded a program aimed at encouraging parents to play a greater role in working with school staff on the management of school affairs. During this year of parents and students in schools we hope to work in partnership with teachers, parents and students and local communities to build on that in the interests of better education for the 200 000 children and their parents who are involved in the State school system in South Australia.

### CONCERT TICKET SCALPERS

**The Hon. JENNIFER ADAMSON:** Will the Premier say whether the Government proposes to take any action against scalpers involved in the reselling of concert tickets at huge profits? This morning's *Advertiser* lists 63 advertisements for tickets to the Dire Straits concert to be held tomorrow night. Prices for the tickets are listed up to \$120 each for tickets which originally went on sale in November for \$23 each. I understand that when tickets were offered for sale, they were sold out within days. We are now witnessing scalpers in action on a large scale, exploiting the shortage of tickets in order to make huge profits for themselves.

While there may be some persons who have legitimate reasons for wishing to sell their tickets shortly before the concert, there is no doubt that the majority of those advertising tickets at exorbitant prices are doing so purely as a profiteering racket. I have been advised today that those who are genuinely desirous of a refund on their tickets can return them to Bass outlets for resale at the original price. Will the Government consider whether existing price control legislation or any other legislation is able to cover this problem, which has the effect of reducing the number of tickets available at the original price to young concert goers?

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON:** I am not aware that offences are being committed in this area. If they are, and if successful prosecutions can be launched, of course they will be. But, aside from whether or not it is offensive to the law, certainly the practices could be seen as being offensive to

the public and to those people who genuinely want to go to see the concert at a reasonable price. I will refer the matter to the Minister of Consumer Affairs in another place for his consideration.

I must say in passing that I welcome the honourable member's conversion to an attitude of mind that rejects the free market and its operation. Certainly, this is one example of what one might call the unacceptable face of capitalism, and I am pleased to see that the honourable member is prepared to see the Government interfering in these free market forces in this way.

### PARADISE INTERCHANGE PUBLIC TOILETS

**Ms GAYLER:** Will the Minister of Transport investigate the possibility of having public toilets installed at the Paradise interchange? The new Paradise interchange of the O-Bahn busway is about to become a major focus of activity for commuters, tourists and day trippers. Car parking for several hundred cars will be provided at the interchange. Many of my constituents from the north-eastern suburbs and the Hills are likely to drive to the Paradise station, park their vehicles and then ride on the O-Bahn into the city. It has been put to me that the Torrens River linear parkland will attract many picnickers and people walking along the O-Bahn and Torrens Valley banks, which have been much beautified. I have been told that this is a case of a major transport interchange which is not adjacent to a shopping centre with conveniences of various kinds. I am advised that Paradise will become an attraction in more ways than one if it has such facilities.

**The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY:** I thank the honourable member for her question, and I take the opportunity to say how delighted I am to see her in this House, where she is able to ask questions of this nature. I was interested to hear her mention the possible need that may exist for such facilities by people who walk along the O-Bahn or the Torrens Valley. Having walked with my wife along the Torrens Valley and the O-Bahn one Sunday afternoon, we were both customers of the Hackney Hotel when we otherwise might not have been. In the process, we bought a couple of drinks, so I certainly appreciate the point made by the honourable member, and I will have the question investigated.

I do not think it is proposed that public toilets be constructed there, but I will certainly examine that matter now that the honourable member has raised it. I should point out, having heard a comment from across the House, that one of the difficulties faced by the STA in the provision of public toilets at unstaffed stations or depots is that they are vandalised. This is a very serious matter and, unless we have some control over the activities of members of the community in relation to toilets, these facilities may be out of commission within a very short time. That causes a greater problem than not having them at all, because the expectation is that the toilets will be there and, when one wants to avail oneself of those toilets but they are out of commission, one realises how inconvenient that is. However, I will talk to the STA about this matter and see what we can do to meet the needs of all those people who will be using the Paradise depot. I might say for the benefit of everybody that the O-Bahn will be opened on 2 March.

*Mr Ingerson interjecting:*

**The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY:** You will get an invitation, and we will even invite your two predecessors. The operation will actually start on 9 March. We are sure that it will work, and this Government has made its support of the O-Bahn quite clear in terms of the funding that we have provided.

### HIT-RUN ACCIDENT PENALTIES

**The Hon. D.C. WOTTON:** I ask the Minister of Emergency Services whether the Government intends to increase penalties for the offence of causing injury as a result of hit-run accidents and, if so, how and, if not, why not. In recent times I have had the opportunity to discuss the grossly inadequate penalties (as they relate to current legislation dealing with hit-run accidents) with officers of the Police Force and others who have responsibilities in dealing with such matters.

In recent times there have been a number of reported cases involving fatalities or where seriously injured persons have been left on the side of the road as a result of the actions of what can only be referred to as animals who, for one reason or another, fail to stop following such an accident. I am also aware of extreme frustrations, felt by both police and the families of those either killed or seriously injured, as a result of the current inadequate penalties as they relate to hit-run accidents.

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD:** The answer is 'Yes.' I cannot give the honourable member a definite timetable because the matter at this stage is in the hands of the Attorney, but I will get the information.

### SWIMMING POOL FENCING REQUIREMENTS

**Mrs APPLEBY:** I offer you my congratulations, Mr Speaker, and direct my question to the Minister representing the Minister of Local Government. Will the Minister give urgent priority to considering amendments to the Swimming Pools (Safety) Act 1972 and ensuring that the section pertaining to fencing requirements be brought to this Parliament for reconsideration and change to enable the intended safety aspect to become operative as soon as possible?

The purpose of this Act, involving safety relating to swimming pools, appears to be deficient on the evidence that is available and since 1972 domestic pools have become far more prolific than envisaged at that time. There are at present some 38 000 in-ground pools in South Australia, and this does not include above-ground and portable pools, the number of which is estimated to be as many again.

Since the National Safety Council of Australia (SA Division) began recording home pool drownings in 1980, 10 children have been drowned in that time. Since investigation of this matter commenced, it has been brought to my attention that three of the drownings related to solar blankets on pools which many people mistakenly presumed would protect children from drowning.

For the record and members' interest, I will quote from the records of drownings in support of the request I make. In 1980 there were no drownings, while in 1981 a three-year-old drowned in a neighbour's in-ground pool, there being no fencing constructed in accordance with the Act. In 1982 there were three drownings: a 20-month-old in the owner's own above-ground pool which was fenced according to the Act; an 18-month-old child in the grandfather's in-ground pool which was fenced according to the Act (the child crawled under the pool cover); and a two-year-old in a friend's in-ground pool which was fenced according to the Act and on which there was a solar blanket.

In 1983 a two-year-old was drowned in the owner's in-ground pool which was fenced according to the Act; a three-year-old in the sister's in-ground pool which was fenced according to the Act and on which there was a solar blanket; a four-year-old in its own home in an in-ground pool when the child was playing on a rubber inflatable boat with a parent present at the time; and a six-year-old—and I think this highlights the point I am making about fencing the

pool in preference to fencing just the property—in an in-ground pool on a country property. In the latter case the child was missing and a search was mounted. Eventually the pool was drained and the body was located on the bottom. The pool was described as murky, putrid and green, and the floor was slippery with algae and slime. When the pool was drained other objects found on the bottom were an iron bedframe, a two-foot across boulder and fencing posts.

In 1984 there were no drownings, and in 1985 a two-year-old drowned in its own home pool, no other details being available; and already in 1986 we have had a two-year-old drown in a neighbour's pool on which there was a solar blanket.

**The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY:** The honourable member has raised a very serious matter. The drowning of any child in a domestic pool or elsewhere touches us all, and I am sure that, as parliamentarians, we all accept the responsibility of trying to ensure that our pools are as safe as they possibly can be for those young people who depend upon us for their safety. I will refer the question to my colleague the Minister of Local Government in another place and bring down an urgent reply for the honourable member.

### VIRGINIA WATER SUPPLY

**Mr MEIER:** My question is directed to the Minister of Water Resources.

*Members interjecting:*

**Mr MEIER:** You know that it is our Jubilee 150 year, and I think that we should be in the spirit of it.

**The SPEAKER:** I point out that the normal courtesy is extended to all new members and also to very, very old ones.

**Mr MEIER:** Thank you, Mr Speaker, and I take this opportunity to extend congratulations to you and also to the Deputy Premier for taking on the Ministry of Water Resources, in which portfolio we look to real action being taken in this State.

Will the Minister of Water Resources tell the House whether plans are in hand to extend the reticulated water supply in the Virginia area and, if so, when will the first extensions commence? The Minister's predecessor would be well aware of the major problems that have been experienced for many years by residents in the Virginia area because of the virtual refusal by the E&WS Department and the Minister to extend water mains to the properties of those residents who have desperately sought reticulated water. It has been brought to my attention that, following numerous representations from myself and others, the Minister has decided to extend the reticulated water supply in the Virginia area: I trust that that is the case.

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD:** I thank the honourable member for his good wishes. The question is fairly specific, and I believe I should bring back a considered reply.

### ELECTRICITY CONCESSIONS

**Ms LENEHAN:** Will the Minister of Transport, representing the Minister of Community Welfare in another place, examine an anomaly currently existing with respect to the \$50 electricity concession introduced by the previous Bannon Labor Government whereby single parents in receipt of unemployment, sickness or special benefits are ineligible for concessions? I have in the last couple of weeks been approached by several constituents who fall into the category of being single and are on these benefits and who have found that they are ineligible for the \$50 concession. Per-

haps to highlight the case most pointedly, I should read from a letter that I received from one of my constituents, who states:

I write in protest and ask for assistance in a matter concerning discrimination against all single persons who are unemployed and are responsible for payment of an electricity account. I refer to the fact that a yearly concession of \$50 is not allowable if you are single and have no dependants. I am 55 years of age. I have been unemployed for two years. I am single. I live with my mother (actually, she lives with me), who is 87 years of age.

This letter highlights a serious anomaly which I ask the Minister to examine.

**The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY:** I will be happy to refer the matter to my colleague in another place so that he has the opportunity to examine what is clearly a problem for a significant number of people within the community, and I will bring down a report as soon as possible.

#### WINE GRAPEVINE PULL SCHEME

**The Hon. TED CHAPMAN:** I take the opportunity of congratulating you on your appointment, Mr Speaker, and also the member for Whyalla, who has joined the ranks in the people's House. Will the new Minister of Agriculture seek his Government's support to remit land tax on all land subject to the wine grapevine pull scheme recently introduced by the Federal Government and to which this State is contributing in an effort to reduce the wine grape surplus prevailing at the moment and expected to prevail in the foreseeable future?

The vine pull qualification criteria require the landholder or his agent to refrain from planting grapevines for a period of five years following the pull operation, in which time replacement of an alternative crop is unlikely to provide an economic return. These details have been recently drawn to my attention by wine grape growers experiencing some dilemma as to whether or not they should participate in the scheme.

It is considered by those growers (and, indeed, has been drawn to the attention of officers of the department in recent hours) that the proposed move will be a positive step towards encouraging the success of a vine pull in South Australia and will, it is hoped, lead to a removal of the more unpopular and oversupply of grape varieties, particularly within the defined rural area of the State where the land tax impost represents a major annual cost to land occupiers.

**The Hon. M.K. MAYES:** I thank the honourable member for his question. As members would probably be aware, the Government has announced jointly with the Commonwealth Government the vine pull scheme, which commenced in South Australia on 1 January this year.

*Mr Lewis interjecting:*

**The Hon. M.K. MAYES:** Welcome back—the member for Mallee is back with us. Other members might enjoy hearing some of the details, with due respect to the honourable member. The department has had a number of inquiries. Some 200 growers have indicated that they could remove up to 1 000 hectares of grapevines in the State. In addition, one of the problems that has been raised is the rollover from 1985-86 to 1986-87. I assure the honourable member and other members that in fact the matter has been raised with the Federal Minister, and I am hopeful that we will get a rollover of the scheme from 1985-86 to 1986-87. A number of members of the industry have contacted me, and I have had a deputation regarding that problem, which I have raised, as I said, with the Federal Minister. I hope that we can achieve a 1986-87 rollover.

**The Hon. TED CHAPMAN:** On a point of order, I ask whether the Minister is quoting from a docket on the subject and, if so, whether he will table it in the Parliament.

**The SPEAKER:** Is the Minister quoting from notes or from a docket?

**The Hon. M.K. MAYES:** I am referring to a notesheet that I have in front of me.

**The SPEAKER:** In that case, the Minister is not required to table the document, and may proceed.

**The Hon. M.K. MAYES:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. In relation to the rollover, we are confident that we will get something from the Federal Government. Regarding land tax, I believe that the matter has been raised with Treasury by officers of my department. I will consult with them and get back to the honourable member with an answer.

#### O-BAHN DEVELOPMENT

**Mr DUGAN:** My question to the Minister of Transport follows a question asked earlier by the member for Newland about the advantages of the linear park scheme associated with the O-Bahn development. Can the Minister say whether any consideration has been given to the introduction of bus stops for O-Bahn buses on Hackney Road in order to provide better access to the recreational facilities in the Hackney and Botanic Gardens areas, as well as providing access to the River Torrens linear park scheme in the inner area of Adelaide?

**The Hon. G.F. KENEALLY:** The whole purpose of the O-Bahn is a rapid transport system to transport people from the outer suburbs into Adelaide as quickly as possible with as few stops as possible, and to the best of my knowledge no stops have been programmed from Hackney into Frome Road. I appreciate the honourable member's question about the linear park, the Zoo, the Botanic Gardens, and so on, and I expect that on weekends there would be a big demand by the community wishing to visit those beautiful parts of Adelaide. My understanding is that no stops have been programmed but that other services stop close to the Zoo and Botanic Gardens, etc. I will have the matter investigated and bring down a report for the honourable member.

#### FINGER POINT

**The Hon. H. ALLISON:** Is the Premier still firmly committed to the immediate commencement of the Finger Point sewerage project in the South-East of South Australia?

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. H. ALLISON:** It is obviously a parochial question. Prior to the last election both the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition personally made firm commitments to the South-East to commence the Finger Point sewerage project immediately the election result was determined. The result has been determined, and indeed the Premier went further than that. His election campaign television advertisement in support of his local candidate showed bulldozers engaged in frantic activity at Finger Point, with the Premier declaring that the project was 'up and running'. Since then, we have learned that soil tests alone were being taken—using bulldozers—and that the Port MacDonnell District Council is still negotiating with the Government over the purchase of land on which to establish the sewerage works. In view of that and in view of the positive pre-election promises that the Premier made to electors in the South-East, is the Premier still firmly committed to an immediate start of the Finger Point project?

**The Hon. J.C. BANNON:** The answer is 'Yes'. The timetable and the ongoing construction and financing of the

project are in place and will continue. While responding to the honourable member on this, let me congratulate him on his return to this place in the face of a very vigorous and concerted campaign to try to remove him. I note that he did not quite get the reward that he might have expected from his colleagues. At the same time as congratulating him, may I offer my commiserations to the honourable member for what he himself has described as a snub to a rural seat.

I was interested to note that he claimed that his independent actions in the House of Assembly could have cost him a place in the shadow Cabinet. It is very interesting in relation to matters such as Finger Point, and so on, that in the period during which the honourable member was a member of Cabinet there was no great evidence of independent action, or indeed much action, for Mount Gambier. However, the fact is that that is going on, but I commiserate with the honourable member.

Perhaps we should share his sentiments more generally with the House. I know that the honourable member might well have been speaking simply for domestic consumption, but I believe that his views should be more widely bruited abroad, because we will have a lot of crocodile tears and carry on about agriculture, primary industry and the concerns of regional South Australia from the rump of members opposite. In that context it is interesting to note (as the honourable member pointed out in his local paper) that in the formation of a shadow Cabinet not only was he omitted, despite his strong showing in the election and his experience, but also another colleague from a country area, the member for Heysen (that district was called Heysen, it was later called Murray, and it is now back to Heysen), has found himself sitting further and further back as time goes on.

I guess that that is a good example of the concern of our colleagues opposite for rural and country issues. The honourable member said, 'I don't think there is anything else I could have done wrong except display some sort of independence', and apparently in a kind of petty revenge the rural seat has been snubbed and the honourable member has been left out. However, I look forward to his contribution over the next few years. I hope that it will be a little more vigorous than it was when he was in the shadow Cabinet, and I will be happy to respond to him.

#### ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier):** I move:

That Messrs Duigan, Gregory and Lewis be appointed to the Council of the University of Adelaide as provided by the University of Adelaide Act 1971.

Motion carried.

#### FLINDERS UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier):** I move:

That Messrs S.J. Baker, Robertson and Tyler be appointed to the Council of the Flinders University of South Australia as provided by the Flinders University of South Australia Act 1966.

Motion carried.

#### SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Sessional committees were appointed as follows:

Standing Orders: The Speaker, Mrs Appleby, and Messrs Eastick, Ferguson, and Oswald.

Library: The Speaker and Messrs Lewis, Meier, and Robertson.

Printing: Mrs Appleby and Messrs S.J. Baker, De Laine, Ingerson, and Rann.

#### JOINT HOUSE COMMITTEE

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier):** I move:

That, in accordance with section 4 of the Joint House Committee Act, the House of Assembly members on the Committee be the Speaker and Messrs De Laine, Hamilton and Lewis, and that a message be sent to the Legislative Council in accordance with the foregoing resolution.

Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier):** I move:

That, pursuant to the Public Accounts Committee Act 1971, a Public Accounts Committee be appointed consisting of Messrs Allison, Becker, Gregory, Hamilton, and Klunder.

Motion carried.

#### JOINT COMMITTEE ON SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier):** I move:

That the House of Assembly request the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the appointment for the present Parliament of the Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation in accordance with Joint Standing Orders Nos 19 to 31, that the representatives of the House of Assembly on the said committee be Ms Gayler and Messrs Duigan and Meier, and that a message be sent to the Legislative Council in accordance with the foregoing resolution.

Motion carried.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

**The Hon. D.J. HOPGOOD (Deputy Premier)** brought up the following report of the committee appointed to prepare the draft Address in Reply to His Excellency the Governor's Opening Speech:

1. We, the members of the House of Assembly, express our thanks for the Speech with which Your Excellency was pleased to open Parliament.
2. We assure Your Excellency that we will give our best attention to the matters placed before us.
3. We earnestly join in Your Excellency's prayer for the Divine blessing on the proceedings of the session.

Report read and received.

**The SPEAKER:** I call on the honourable member for Newland, and remind honourable members of the traditional courtesies extended to a new member making his or her maiden speech.

**Ms GAYLER (Newland):** I move:

That the Address in Reply as read be adopted.

In moving this motion, and as a new member of this Parliament representing the reshaped electorate of Newland, I would like first to formally congratulate you, Mr Speaker, on your election to the most important position in this, the people's, House. I look forward to your rulings, which are bound to enliven the business of the House with good-humour and to temper occasional passionate outbursts from various quarters.

I am delighted to support the immediate legislative program for our State set out in the opening speech by His Excellency the Governor. To the Premier, the Government

Ministers, back-benchers and parliamentary staff, I say that I hope this Parliament will operate effectively and innovatively, with paramount concern for all South Australians and their futures.

To the residents of Newland, I publicly offer my sincere thanks for the support and trust placed in me as their representative in the second Bannon Labor Government and in this Parliament.

In particular, I thank my campaign director, committee members and local Labor Party supporters, along with my family and friends, who worked with me over the two years leading to my election. They all share in our success of winning Newland for the Labor Party. A special mention also to a former member of this House, Molly Byrne, who, for so many years, conscientiously represented north-eastern suburbs residents, many of whom I now represent. Molly's support and advice was, and still is, greatly appreciated and I am pleased to see that she is our guest in the Speaker's gallery today.

I offer my congratulations to other newly elected members. In common, we have the task of each representing in this House some 20 000 residents of our State—an honour and an enormous obligation. The scope of that task ranges from helping, compassionately and vigorously, with difficulties faced by constituents in their daily lives at home, at work, in the community or with Government, to also personally contributing leadership in the development of our respective communities, towards growth and employment, tolerance and equity, and an improving quality of life.

I was proud to be associated in a different capacity with the first Bannon Labor Government and especially to see the turnaround in our State's performance in so many respects: in bringing down unemployment; in joint Commonwealth/State revival of our home construction and commercial construction sectors; in embarking on substantial improvements to our health care arrangements; and in compassionate and forward looking programs to improve life for youth, the aged, and for women and children.

That term of government also saw some progress towards, and further plans for, improving transport to and from our outer suburbs (north, north-east and south), major extensions to the State's national parks, plans for a visionary second generation parkland system (Greenspace) for our growing city, and for a range of tourist assets for our own residents and for tourist enjoyment. By the conclusion of that three year term we could proudly say, 'South Australia is up and running' and 'winning again'. The public, in a democratic process which we must treasure, endorsed our achievements and plans for the future.

We did not say or believe that all that was necessary for a bright future was done. Many new initiatives and priorities for South Australia's future were outlined in our detailed election policy statements. A number that are particularly pleasing include the policy called 'Caring for Children'; the strategy on women's affairs; the policy statement 'Our environment—our future' setting out planning and environment priorities for the coming four years; and that detailing our hopes and plans for young people in our community.

I cannot exactly count myself as one of South Australia's youth but, as the youngest woman member of this House of Parliament, and I think the first professionally qualified urban planner to be elected to this place, I will focus in this speech primarily on issues of special concern to young people, then on urban affairs issues affecting the men and women of our city, and on my electorate of Newland.

State and Federal Government emphasis on youth and youth unemployment is a recent phenomenon. The surge of youth unemployment, running at continuing high levels, is a damaging force both for individual young men and women and for the communities in which they live. Neither longer term macro-economic policies—by their nature slow

and affected by the vagaries of world economic circumstances—nor the valuable and necessary community employment programs are adequate responses for governments concerned for the future outlook and prospects of the young.

I am not to be taken as opposing CEP schemes. I have talked with young participants in my electorate and have seen the worthwhile contribution, especially in personal development and in community facilities in our outer suburbs, of CEP and other programs like Community Improvement Through Youth (CITY) and the Community Youth Support Scheme (CYSS). These schemes remain important.

Evaluation of such initiatives demonstrates that skills developed by those taking part better equips the young and boosts their job prospects. The past two years have seen a decline in the level of adult and youth unemployment. The number of people in my electorate dependent on unemployment benefits fell significantly in the two years to June 1985. For the State as a whole the decline was 18 per cent, compared to a fall of 24 per cent across all age groups in the electorate of Newland. The decline in youth unemployment beneficiaries in my electorate was a dramatic 28.4 per cent. These results were no matter of chance, but of deliberate and successful Labor Government policy.

In spite of those encouraging results, the Modbury Commonwealth Employment Service, taking in north-eastern suburbs generally, reported in the youth categories aged between 15 years and 24 years, 3 536 registered unemployed at June 1985. A further improvement is expected in the figures at the end of the 1985 year, but large numbers of young people are still denied the opportunity that I believe they are entitled to expect from their parents' generation.

In spite of those advances, a gulf remains before we offer young people the real prospect of developing skills, contributing through useful work and earning adequate income to have real choices and confidence in the future.

Cliche's expressing support for youth employment and training from various quarters will lead to cynicism, bitterness and anger if the concerted attack on this problem flounders. It is disturbing to hear that the Kirby proposals for traineeships, incorporated as part of the Commonwealth Government's Priority 1 Young Australia Program (allied to our State Government's Youth Employment Scheme (YES)), has been greeted with inertia.

Priority 1 consultant to the Federal Government, and former member of the House of Representatives, Mr Peter Steedman, recently told of bureaucratic inertia in arranging for the scheme's introduction and a lack of willingness on the part of the business sector and unions. I think he called it "brawling". Fearful of the calls on the part of conservative politicians and some sectors of business for cut-price youth labour, initial union reluctance was perhaps understandable. It is now clear that Priority 1 involves pro rata wages based on award rates. So that misunderstanding has, I believe, now been resolved. Nevertheless, Mr Justice Kirby tells us that to date not one traineeship has been established and that the target of 1 600 traineeships for South Australia in 1986 and 6 500 over three years looks elusive.

It is worth looking also to our own backyard to see why that is so. A South Australian survey late last year found a substantial disparity in the willingness of business people in various sectors of our own city to be involved. I understand that those in areas of relative affluence were less inclined to participate. Taking on a trainee was not for them.

It would be an indictment of our professed concern for a bright future for the young if, through business inertia and bureaucratic stumbling blocks, the youth employment schemes and associated training and business incentive funds allocated lay idle. The feeling that such matters are someone else's problem might be turned on its head if South Aus-

tralia's service clubs, business organisations and local councils each took a message to their members: Training youth—your task too!

Our colleges of technical and further education, a vital resource for the scheme, will need to be innovative and flexible in getting traineeships under way, and quick off the mark. I recall that in other areas of new Commonwealth programs, particularly in the 1970s, South Australia was able to take extra advantage as a result of local flexibility and cooperation. The challenge is to do so again for the benefit of our young people.

On a positive note, I can see opportunities in my own electorate to involve young people in creative and worthwhile endeavours which will build skills, confidence and a sense of contribution to their community. I suggest a concept whereby the somewhat neglected Anstey Hill Regional Park adjacent to Tea Tree Gully might become Australia's first youth conservation park. The area was set aside in the 1970s as a regional park and, while it is primarily suitable for conservation of native flora, fauna and birds and for heritage protection of geological sites, it does not fit comfortably into the State's national parks system. Under present arrangements neither State nor local government has been able to devote to the area the funds needed for replanting, maintenance, walking trails and bushfire protection.

I can envisage opportunities for unemployed young people (through youth centres), high school students and other groups in the community to develop long term plans and a permanent commitment to such a park, particularly if it was clear that the health and survival of the park and its species were the responsibility of local youth.

I am not suggesting that the use and enjoyment of the park should be exclusively for young people, but that they could have responsibility for its planning, development and conservation.

A variety of avenues of funding for such a scheme, including CEP funds, traineeship moneys and conservation funds, could be drawn upon, with local council, bushwalking, conservation and service club assistance. I will be exploring this concept in the coming months and inviting comments and suggestions about its feasibility. I see the concept as drawing on the commitment of many young people to the conservation ethic and a means of allowing them to contribute in their local community in a very real way.

I cannot leave the concerns of young people without comment on the 'silly season' debate about peace studies. We know from any number of surveys that children and young people are vitally concerned about conflict and insecurity and to see a more peaceful society and world. To mark any move to integrate peace studies into mainstream curricula as some kind of invidious plot or an attempt to inculcate an attitude of blind appeasement through unilateral disarmament, or as a move to build a totalitarian regime, is bizarre. It is also an insult to the professionalism of the teaching profession at large.

It is worth remembering that much of traditional history teaching has been primarily about wars and conquests, battles, border disputes, plots and beheadings, and the rise and fall of this or that. The addition to our curriculum of elements of conflict resolution at a personal, community and national level ought not to undermine our courage and defence of freedom and our way of life. Rather, it should offer further perspective and heighten the capacity of our community to make judgments, to discriminate on such important questions, and to value cooperation and tolerance when those approaches are appropriate.

For my Newland constituents, many of whom are paying off home loan mortgages as I am, I regret the latest in a series of interest rate increases by the building societies. The package of measures announced by the State Government

last week to ease the burden of these higher charges is welcomed, particularly the Government's decision to abolish the insidious back-door practice of introducing so-called monthly 'loan service fees'. It seemed that such fees could be introduced or increased without any safeguard or ceiling or recourse on the part of borrowers, and at a time when computerised technology within the finance sector should be making operations more efficient and less likely to justify such fees.

It is clear that vital jobs will be lost and new homes denied to many who need them if funds for new dwelling construction dry up. It may be that increased public funding could supplement that from the private financial institutions until interest rates come down, a matter which I hope State and Commonwealth Governments might consider. Meanwhile, the extent to which household budgets can bear more and more in loan repayments or rent must be in serious doubt and a matter of great concern to our Government. I assure my constituents that I will do all I can to keep this vital matter before the Government, and that I will provide whatever advice and assistance I can to residents who are already facing or anticipating difficulties in meeting repayments.

I am particularly pleased that our Government intends, in this session of Parliament, to introduce new builders licensing legislation. The protection afforded to home buyers against poor building work, unfair contracts and financial collapse has been inadequate. Means of resolving disputes have also been long, involved, costly and often less than helpful. The major reforms proposed by the Government will provide for much needed protection for ordinary people having homes or major extensions built, and will improve licensing arrangements for reputable builders.

I turn now to the area of children's services. It seems to me that availability of affordable quality child care and preschool education is a fundamental right of all children. Availability to all who need or want those services should be our long-term policy goal, just as full employment is our long-term goal. I was pleased that the State Labor Government agreed to make up the \$3.7 million shortfall in preschool funds when the Commonwealth Government withdrew from that area of funding. Much, nevertheless, remains to be done to expand vital kindergarten and child-parent centre services, including those for disabled children, especially in fast growing areas such as my Newland electorate. I will make this an area of special priority during my time in the Parliament.

Undeniably, Government funding committed to child-care services has been boosted substantially since the re-election of Labor governments at State and Federal levels. Commonwealth spending increased by a massive \$60 million, and 70 per cent more full day-care places have resulted. Under the joint Commonwealth-State agreement, the South Australian Labor Government's promise to provide 22 centres with 850 places by the end of this year, a further 19 centres over the next four years, 800 additional family day-care places, and recognition of the need also for occasional care services marks a very real commitment to our children and to family support arrangements. The social and economic value of these services to the community is now widely recognised.

Nevertheless, dismay surrounds the inexplicable \$10.2 million Australia wide funding cut imposed by the Commonwealth, the new subsidy arrangements and the likely effects of these changes on the quality and cost of care and on inadequately paid child-care workers. These serious concerns warrant immediate investigation, particularly since the new arrangements under the recently passed Child Care Amendment Act 1985 are due to come into operation in April. In the light of these disturbing matters, I would ask

that the State Government, with the support of Parliament, urge the Commonwealth Government to defer its new arrangements while investigation and consultation take place with all the concerned bodies. I am pleased to note that our new Minister of Children's Services has essentially adopted this approach in making his recent approaches to the Commonwealth Government and in calling for a meeting of all Ministers in Australia responsible for children's services.

The north-eastern suburbs, where my district lies, will see three new child-care centres and additional family day-care places established within the next 18 months. But, as with other suburban areas with a preponderance of young families, many will be without the option or the economic necessity of child-care assistance. There is a dire need also for respite and support services for disabled children and those who care for them. New ways will have to be found to supplement the services planned to date. In terms of Government spending priorities, funds for children's services are no longer an optional extra.

In another area of community service affecting my district, I am delighted to say that early controversy surrounding the O-Bahn has not held back the development of a fine service. I am reminded, in this Jubilee 150 year, of a raging controversy over north-eastern transport in the late 1830s and the 1840s. In that case, the fiery public debate concerned appropriate routes to Tea Tree Gully, then called Steventon, and the question of publicly funding, or not, routes chosen by selected landowners, including the determined George Anstey (to whom I referred earlier in another context). Incidentally, the public funding for those two major roads eventuated.

I can recommend a ride on the O-Bahn and a walk along the magnificent Torrens Valley linear park. For a commuter service, it looks like being superb, particularly when it runs on guideway as far as Tea Tree Plaza in 1988, because at that stage the maximum travel time savings will result. I foresee some difficulties for my constituents who have other than city destinations, and for people wishing to have continued easy access to the Royal Adelaide Hospital, the University of Adelaide, the Zoo and the Adelaide Children's Hospital. As the details of timetables and routes are better understood, I will take up these concerns and teething problems which will no doubt arise on behalf of my constituents to ensure that the best possible public transport service is delivered.

In the meantime, the reception of the O-Bahn by those who took advantage of the sell-out 7 800 free rides has been overwhelmingly one of delight. The environmentally sensitive development of the route is a credit to the north-east busway team. Opportunities abound to foster day trips for Adelaideans and out of town tourists along the banks, and in the north-east which features a number of fine restaurants which, incidentally, are in my electorate. I recommend Adelaide's 'fast track' and suggest that, while daylight saving continues, early evening free rides might be considered to give more people a taste of the O-Bahn.

Fleeting, I refer to wider urban planning issues, on which much has been written by the few since Parliament last met. It seems to me healthy that quite fundamental questions regarding the future built form of the city of Adelaide, and the scope for and direction of change in inner and middle ring suburbs are under scrutiny. The urban melancholia and nostalgia apparent in some quarters ought not to mask the importance of those issues. They go to the heart of who gets what in terms of accessibility to urban goods and services and environmentally desirable and financially beneficial locations; parks and a close at hand variety of shops and entertainment, pocket-handkerchief sites for some and salubrious private open space or a wind-fall profit for others, or an ever increasing public and private

household cost of suburban development at the extremities of our city.

Posited solutions like the Canberra style National Capital Development Commission (a body that in many respects substitutes for local government) seem unlikely to lead to the kind of 'freedom to designers' longed for or to the occasionally advocated residential towers with the 5 km radius. The NCDC, going by some who have worked in, or, with frustration, around it, while spawning its share of elegant expensive public buildings, has surely overseen a city where the private car is an imperative in a city of roads and lock-up shopping centres, and little opportunity for diversity, except where time and near city location make change harder to resist.

Adelaide is host this Jubilee year to the world planning and housing congress. The theme is 'innovation' in each of those aspects. In the lead-up, planners, councillors, architects and residents and women's groups, along with academics, notable journalists and politicians could stimulate public thought about planning and housing innovations in metropolitan Adelaide, and also about how to achieve those innovations without knee-jerk 'preserve the status quo' reactions or personal attacks. Innovations of whatever kind, even in a city as young as 150, will inevitably be incremental.

What kinds of innovations could we look to? I would include measures to ensure early provision of community services at the local suburban level where most people live, so that the quality of life is enriched; steps to develop, at transport nodes well provided with open space, somewhat denser housing catering for those inclined to trade off substantial private open space for inner and mid-city locations; and means to ensure that the private housing development industry, like its public counterpart, produces a more diverse range of housing stock (size, design, type and price) sensitive to the specific needs, budgets, legitimate opinions and preferences of different household types.

In this regard, I include young singles, women in non-nuclear families and the growing number of elderly people for whom the gulf between keeping the family home and choosing the retirement village is too wide and takes them out of the broader community. To better accommodate these segments of the community, ways and means of giving them more say over their own housing environment need to be devised, particularly since the professional and industry practitioners involved are overwhelmingly men who tend to spend the least time in the home and suburban environment and produce what is a surprisingly uniform product (price aside) for an increasingly diversified market. That is not to say that there are not exceptions. Our local media would assist public appreciation and choice by featuring local innovations in all their forms and locations in this year of the world congress—perhaps a planning and housing version of *Home Garden* with a heavy bias towards innovation.

All this may sound remote from my Newland electorate and adjacent areas but it, too, has a changing demographic profile. My district faces continued prospects for residential growth and opportunities for innovation, along with a growing population of older citizens and a need for a variety of community services in local suburbs. A recent analysis of the 1981 census shows that Tea Tree Gully, by 2001, which is only 15 years off, can anticipate a population growth of 37 900 (or 54.2 per cent), a doubling of people aged over 65 years, and an increase in dwelling stock by 11 800 (or 48.6 per cent).

It is not Adelaide's tradition simply to let such growth happen without regard for what, where, how and for whom, and I am confident that our Government, with others in the community, can meet these challenges.

A challenge of a different kind faces all State Governments including ours. I refer to the emergent problem of hazardous chemicals in wide and varied use in our community. I welcome the initiatives announced today in His Excellency's opening speech aimed at better safeguarding our marine and riverine environments through tightened legislation under the Dangerous Substances Act.

There are a number of other matters of importance to my electors which, on another occasion, I hope to raise for consideration by the Parliament—matters such as the vexed question of teacher displacements, the well received new initiatives in community policing, hospital patient waiting lists, traffic and road safety problems and the needs of my growing community for extensions to water supply services in the Hills areas and to recreation and entertainment facilities in the suburban area.

I conclude, Mr Speaker, by undertaking to work to achieve what is needed for my Newland residents and the organisations and workforce serving the local community, and to help the Government and the Australian Labor Party, which I also represent, to implement our programmes and policies.

**Mr RANN (Briggs):** Mr Speaker, in seconding the member for Newland's excellent Address in Reply motion, I would like to congratulate His Excellency on a speech that lays down a charter for reform and sound economic management for our State. I would also like to congratulate the Speaker, the Minister of Agriculture, the Chairman of Committees, the Government Whip, the member for Whyalla, as well as my colleagues here on the backbench, on their new roles.

The opening of this Parliament follows a long, divisive and hard-fought election campaign which saw a Labor Government re-elected with a record majority. Some have called that election result a blow for Mr Howard—and it was. Some have called it the defeat of privatisation—and it was. Some have said it was a message to the Liberals and their State Leader that the public were fed up with their negativism and had had a bellyful of their attempts to undermine every new initiative and sabotage recovery—and that is right, too.

Others have said that the result was a victory for strategy over slogans, professionalism over amateurism, a triumph for the Labor movement. And they were also right. It is interesting to see that the Deputy Leader of the Opposition cannot take the punishment. But more than anything else the election saw a solid endorsement for the leadership and economic management of our Premier. The Liberals have learned the hardest way possible that the people of this State are not fools. They have massively endorsed a Premier who puts substance ahead of image, policies before gimmicks and planning and management before rhetoric. In an era where the media and interest groups demand instant solutions to long term problems, the Premier has had the courage to take the longer view. He has also had the tenacity to seek compromise where consensus had been thought impossible.

I am proud to be here today and to have been elected to this Parliament as the first member for Briggs. My district includes a varied and dynamic part of Adelaide's northern suburbs. It is a part of Adelaide in which I will be proud to raise a family. There was a time, of course, when the northern suburbs were too often equated with social and economic problems. I am not denying that those problems still exist, but they are only part of the picture, and we must combat an image problem that still impedes progress in the Salisbury and Elizabeth areas.

I do not, however, have a pessimistic view when it comes to the economic, social and environmental development of 'our side' of town. Indeed, Salisbury promises to be one of

the State's prime growth sectors for the next decade and beyond. It includes Technology Park, where demand for accommodation from research and development companies is outstripping supply. Indeed, Technology Park is set for a growth spurt if South Australia is successful in winning the construction site for the \$2.6 billion submarine replacement project. Media attention has tended to focus on that construction site. However, Technology Park will be in the pole position to lure successful weapons system contractors if Port Adelaide is chosen as the site for hull construction. I am sure that the member for Price will forgive me if I suggest that in a few years Salisbury will be as synonymous with submarines as Port Adelaide.

Technology Park, of course, is not the only jewel in our crown. The Defence Research Centre at Salisbury is the largest defence research and development complex in the southern hemisphere, and clustered around that centre is a range of companies with an international reputation for excellence in defence and electronics work. I am delighted that the Premier is pressing the Commonwealth to have Technology Park designated as the Australian Centre for Space Research. Indeed, during the election campaign, the Premier and the former Minister of Education announced that Technology Park will also be the location for the School of the Future, a welcome recognition that, if we are to retain our lead in high technology, our school leavers must be technologically literate.

As the local member, I will be doing my bit as a salesman for Technology Park. Indeed, I have written to business and political leaders in Salisbury's sister city, Fort Worth, suggesting an investment mission from that Texas centre for defence and high technology industries.

As the northern suburbs expand, environmental issues are growing in importance to local residents. The Salisbury council has fostered awareness through its tremendous one million trees campaign, which is a model for other local governments. I am currently backing plans for a major regional park to be established on 300 hectares of the Salisbury East reserve. Such a park, I hope, will include a significant conservation zone, plus the development of recreation areas. I am delighted that this area has been incorporated in the Second Generation Parklands Study. I am also supporting Salisbury Heights residents in their campaign to have some of the surplus Highways Department land in their area designated as open space or reserve.

I do not have time today to cover a number of local issues I obviously want to address. However, I would like to appeal to the Federal Government to provide supplementary funding for Community Youth Support Scheme groups. I am sure members are aware of the financial implications to the CYSS programs of increases in the CYSS project officers award. In November, the Salisbury and Paddocks CYSS groups were informed of new funding arrangements that have already resulted in cuts to programs, with more on the way. In my area alone hundreds of young people will miss out on CYSS programs this year, and I believe that would be a tragedy.

I want to use part of my maiden speech today to talk about poverty, an issue that rarely excites passions, generates headlines or wins votes. The poor in Australia are not yet politically organised, aggressive or demanding. For most middle class Australians—most people in this House—the poor are invisible, despite their growing numbers over the past decade. They are not represented by powerful organisations or lobbies. There is no accord with the poor, because in Australia poverty has barely impinged on the national consciousness, let alone its conscience.

Statistics, as we all know, are too often an anaesthetic to the human and personal tragedies of poverty, but the figures are stark. The Institute of Family Studies estimates there



are 2.7 million Australians living in poverty, that is, living below the established poverty line. Two million Australian families spend more than they earn each week as they fight to maintain their living standards. Whilst the position of 40 per cent of Australians is financially precarious, another 15 per cent are in a desperate situation, just scraping by each week. For those members opposite, like the member for Bragg with his lightweight interjections, let me tell him that being poor means not having the resources to secure the basic necessities of nourishment, shelter, transport and clothing. It means pensioners being forced to draw on their savings to enable them to make ends meet. Recent research shows that the gap between rich and poor in Australia is widening, not closing.

It is clear, however, that the nature of poverty is changing. The number of children raised in poverty has increased by 300 per cent since 1973. Indeed, the number of children dependent on pension and social welfare beneficiaries has increased from 160 000 in 1971 to almost 800 000 at the end of last year. These children have inherited poverty or have been forced into poverty very often as a result of marriage breakdown, and in most cases these children are destined to grow up and raise their children in poverty. I believe that we are facing our greatest peacetime waste of talent.

The facts of child poverty are damning to those who still cling to the myth that poverty is somehow wilfully embraced by shiftless and irresponsible adults. Such romantic dreamers—some sitting on the benches opposite—will have to be educated that poverty is not a trait of character but is created by inequality in circumstances. After all, we are talking about the plight of hundreds of thousands of Australian kids, many of whom are inadequately fed, inadequately clothed and inadequately housed.

We are also witnessing the increasing feminisation of poverty. In 1986, 63 per cent of Australian women over 15 years will be supported in some way by social welfare benefits, and I am not including family allowances. Women receive 77 per cent of all income maintenance payments, 99 per cent of family income supplements and 70 per cent of the rent assistance paid through pensions and allowances. In almost every index of Australian poverty, women are vastly overrepresented. Sadly, each year, divorce forces thousands of Australian women into poverty and isolation.

Indeed, a recent survey of marriage breakdown by the Institute of Family Studies showed that maintenance payments fail by a long way to compensate women who remain single with children after separation and divorce. Significantly, the survey also found that maintenance paid by the husband rarely contributed to any reduction in his living standard. This problem, of course, is compounded by the lax enforcement of maintenance payments in Australia. That is a problem with which I have already been confronted in the District of Briggs. Poverty is endemic among single mothers supporting children, with half of Australia's single parent families living on less than \$135 a week. They are keeping themselves alive, but nothing more. Last Friday, for example, I was phoned by a mother of two who paid \$100 a week for private rental accommodation and had \$35 spare with which to buy groceries and to pay the bills. She was facing homelessness that very afternoon.

The Hawke Government has achieved a great deal in three years. The creation of half a million jobs is an outstanding achievement. But, despite the increase in the number of jobs, the average period of time an unemployed worker remains unemployed has increased dramatically. Where 10 years ago we talked of only weeks, the average now is over a year. The bulk of new jobs are going either to those who have been unemployed for a relatively short time or to new entrants into the labour market. And that

is why the level of unemployment benefit is hopelessly inadequate, following a vicious assault by the Fraser Government. Unemployment benefits were originally intended as a short term maintenance measure, based on the assumption that periods without work would be brief. Benefits were not envisaged to cater for those who today face, on average, a year or more without work. They were designed as tide-overs, not as an income that could cope with ETSA bills and other big budget items.

Being unemployed in Australia still means being forced to survive at well below the poverty line. Despite the seriousness of the problem, the spending power of unemployment benefits has steadily diminished in recent years. Let us remember that we are talking of nearly a quarter of a million children in Australia waiting for mum or dad to bring home the dole cheque. For unemployed people under 18 and not living at home, the situation is quite desperate.

I congratulate the Hawke Government on its Priority One initiative and its emphasis on jobs and job training for young Australians. But I would like to make an appeal today for Priority Two, a major assault on the causes of poverty in Australia. There could be no more satisfying or worthy goal than a Bicentennial Anti-Poverty Program. In a period of concern over deficits and inflation, I am not advocating a scattergun welfare spending spree. In any case, poverty and welfare are not necessarily synonymous. Last year's tax summit offered us a unique opportunity to come to grips with the poverty issue. Indeed, each group that attended that summit called for sacrifice in the national interest. But the fine print showed that each was calling for sacrifices from groups other than itself. The venality of interest groups trying to preserve inequalities and protect tax avoiders underlined an immaturity unforgivable in a nation approaching its bicentenary.

A systematic attack on poverty requires a strong community will. For that to happen we must try to kick start a national debate on these issues. If poverty received as much media attention as AIDS or privatisation, we might start generating a few more ideas and a little more lateral thinking.

There are, of course, some easily identifiable priorities. Federally, we must fulfil our promise to raise all pensions to 25 per cent of average weekly earnings. Community welfare workers will testify that the overwhelming majority of people who ask for emergency cash grants need that assistance for food, and that is because most benefits do not allow for decent living. We must improve the coordination between the Australian tax and social security systems. We must also streamline the present highly fragmented system of social security payments and look towards the introduction of a single payment as the first step towards a guaranteed minimum income.

We must increase the funding for youth shelters and for rental assistance for the thousands of young unemployed Australians who are now homeless. We must increase our commitment to child-care and introduce flexibility into child-care arrangements to provide respite care for single parents who often live in extraordinary isolation. I endorse the remarks of the member for Newland on this issue.

We must tackle the question of rural poverty—something that seems to be ignored by members opposite. I am not talking about those who scream loudest, those represented by paid lobbyists or those who fly in their light planes to attend demonstrations in Canberra—Ian McLachlan can have them; the member for Victoria can have them. Instead, I am talking about those thousands of rural families, particularly those in townships who are not organised politically but do need our help.

We are told that Senator Walsh is about to embark on an exercise designed to bring about major spending cuts in

the next budget. Fair enough, I agree that we must have the courage to discard programs that have failed, but I am sure that the Minister of Finance will avoid at all cost any temptation to make cuts at the expense of those Australians in poverty, those Australians that our Party is proud to represent. There are also strategies we should be promoting at the State level. I am delighted, for instance, that in our election platform there was a commitment to working with banks and credit unions to develop ways of making low-interest finance available to low-income people. The poorer you are, the more you pay for credit, and the high cost of credit for the poor often entrenches their poverty and fosters a never-ending series of financial crises. I urge the Government to give priority to this election commitment.

I am also pleased that the Government has pledged to support the growing number of food cooperatives and will work with these groups towards the establishment of a bulk buying cooperatives warehouse. That is the kind of self-help, non-welfare program we should be backing. Indeed, at every step along the way in implementing an anti-poverty program, we must promote opportunities for low-income groups and individuals to represent their own needs. To be done properly, this will require a change in attitude away from the traditional charity focus. Instead, we must assist low-income people to develop new skills and increase their capacity to participate in making decisions that affect their lives.

An unconditional war on poverty will require Federal and State Governments to take a hard-headed approach in assessing priorities and in determining areas where we can effect real change. It will require bipartisan political commitment and the support of churches, service and community groups, businesses and unions. We are talking of a coalition of concern. That will require a change in attitude. Sadly, all we have heard on poverty from the Liberals in recent months has been the suggestion that there be an Operation Noah-type phone-in on social security abuse. Interestingly, there was no suggestion that a parallel phone-in be arranged to enable accountants to do in tax avoiders.

Over 8½ years, I have made no secret of my belief that occupational health and safety reform must be a priority for Labor Governments in Australia. The carnage at the workplace this year will see more than 300 Australian workers killed and over 300 000 injured. Rightly, we hear a great deal about our road toll, but few Australians realise that, for every person injured on our roads, five will be hurt at work.

Australian workers suffer industrial accidents at a rate far greater than do their counterparts in Britain. Yet, until the last three or four years only lip service has been given to seriously tackling the causes of accidents. As a result, the legislative framework nationally is a mess, with nearly 160 different laws and ordinances, many of them Dickensian and paternalistic.

We are already witnessing some mild hysteria about reforms proposed in South Australia. I was certainly pleased that the Mathews report proposed major increases in penalties for employers who fail to provide a safe working environment. Industrial safety, regrettably, will not be treated seriously while we attach grotesquely low penalties for negligence. Around Australia, maximum penalties are so low that they make it profitable for some unscrupulous firms (and I admit they are few) to cut corners on safety in order to cut costs.

The answer to the growing problem of industrial accidents and disease is not simply to increase the number of inspectors. Even if we tripled the number of industrial inspectors in South Australia, they would still be unable to prevent the vast majority of accidents. What is clearly needed is self

inspection through a system operating at the local or plant level.

We have heard some bizarre claims in recent weeks about the dangers of elected safety representatives being given certain statutory rights. But surely, I put to the House, if workers have a vested interest in and right to make decisions about anything at all in industry, it should be about their safety and health on the job. Stronger powers for elected safety representatives, established by law, would help foster a greater awareness of safety issues at Australian workplaces. Instead of enforcing merely minimum statutory requirements, the role of an on-the-job inspector working with management would become one of training, anticipation and education for preventive measures beyond the statutory requirements.

Federally, there is no greater need for reform than in the control of chemicals used by Australian workers. Vast numbers of chemicals used in industry pose significant short and long term health hazards, yet our regulation of industrial chemicals is scandalously inefficient. A number of chemicals still being used in factories and on farms around Australia have never been submitted to any clearance procedure whatsoever. Pesticides banned or classified as carcinogenic are still being used without any such classification in Australia.

The composition and toxicity of many chemicals is not only not revealed to workers but often deliberately concealed. Where checking on new chemicals does occur it is, with some exceptions, left entirely to the chemical companies to supply Australian authorities with the relevant information. In other words, it is left to the good faith of companies, with an obvious vested interest, to come clean about the products they want to sell. And there is virtually no sting in the tail, in terms of penalties, if the company falsifies the information it provides.

Decision making bodies dealing with chemicals in Australia, such as the National Health and Medical Research Council, are far too permissive and lack public accountability. Any new chemical control body must be publicly accountable and its decisions published. I think that Australian Governments should study carefully the 'Right to know' laws now enacted in 20 US States. Under these laws, workers must be informed about the health effects of any toxic substances used in the workplace. These laws are based on the premise that workers have an inherent right to know all the health hazards associated with their exposure to toxic substances.

Full disclosure enables workers to recognise symptoms of toxicity and to handle chemicals safely and more accurately. In New York State, for instance, employers must provide information about the names of chemicals, the level to which exposure to the substance is hazardous, the effects of exposure and their symptoms, proper conditions for safe use, and emergency procedures. Workers or their representatives have a statutory right to information about a substance if they request it in writing and the employer must supply the information, within 72 day hours after receiving the request. It is available from a central registry. I intend to speak more about 'Right to know' laws at a later date.

Like so many Australians, I chose to live in this country and in this State. Nine years ago, I chose to come here because the Dunstan Government shone brilliantly during the dark years of Fraser and Muldoon. I chose to stay because I wanted to be a part of the Bannon Government. All of us in politics have a responsibility to question our assumptions. If we are rigid in our views, we fail ourselves, our Parties, our electors and our State's future. But the test of an idea is not whether it is left or right, popular or unpopular, old or new, but whether it is fair, and whether it is right or wrong. But for me there is always one choice.

one commitment that survives every test, and that is the decision to spend my life working in the Labor Party.

At the end of this term Labor will have been in office in this State for 17 of the past 20 years. There is nothing surprising about that. Our Liberal opponents again and again prove their irrelevance to the real concerns of South Australians. Their brief term in office confirmed that they are fiscally irresponsible, economically incompetent, and socially uncaring. Our opponents can never claim to represent all South Australians when at the core of their philosophy is the commitment to stall change. Their task is easy, because they stand for nothing except self interest and the preservation of inequalities.

Our role, as the Party of reform, is much harder and in stark contrast to the cold indifference of our opponents. But in every great struggle in our history—whether it be questions of social justice, civil liberties, women's rights, jobs, war or peace—the ALP has been right and proven right. I firmly believe our best is yet to come.

I would like to thank the Premier, his wife Angela and his staff for their support over the years. I would also like to thank my good friends Jack and Norma Wright, Des and Carmel Corcoran and Don Dunstan for their help. I would like to register my appreciation to the member for Ramsay and the member for Playford for their advice and assistance as my parliamentary neighbours. I would like to thank my campaign team, my sub-branch, and the support of a group of friends both here and in New Zealand. I would also like to pay a tribute to my parents and to my wife, Jenny Russell, her parents and the campaigning skills of our son, David, who is one-year-old today.

**The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT (Minister of Lands):** I move:

That the sittings of the House be extended beyond 6 p.m.

Motion carried.

**Mr INGERSON (Bragg):** I support the motion. I note with interest the self adulation of the previous speaker and the adulation for his Leader. The previous speaker was very happy to mention the magnificent Liberal developments in Salisbury—Technology Park, the defence program of WRE, and General Motors-Holdens, a significant employer in the area. If the honourable member would like to know more about the district in which he is so newly involved, I can help him, as I spent 20 years in it.

He spoke about the new poor. It is interesting that under this Federal Government interest rates are at the highest level they have ever been. Of course, those interest rates have come about by specific policies of the Labor Government. The people most affected by high interest rates are the poor. The Labor Government says it cares for the poor, but currently it is pushing up interest rates to the highest level we have ever had in this country.

I thank the voters of Bragg for returning me for a second term in this Parliament. I also thank my supporters who worked very hard in the electorate, but more importantly in some marginal areas. Unfortunately, our objectives were not accepted by the public of South Australia. This was due to several reasons. First, the Premier had a very high popularity rating—a rating that was well deserved as far as the community was concerned. There is no question about that. The ALP Government ran an excellent campaign. We on this side ran a campaign geared principally around privatisation—a campaign that, whilst having an excellent principle, was deliberately and maliciously put down. In the electorate of Newland, which the Liberal Party lost, some extraordinary statements were made during the last days of the election campaign about the sale of the STA, reducing bus services and the ridiculous cost of \$2.50 per ticket.

One thing I have learned about politics is that truth and campaigns do not matter—it is all part of winning. We on this side of the Chamber have to learn more about that—that at the end of the day winning is more important than what one says. I do not support that, but obviously it is part of the exercise. Interest rates were an important factor in the election campaign. The Government said it would maintain interest rates at a low level. However, within a short time we find it agreeing that building societies' interest rates can be increased, not just by .5 or one per cent, but by 1.5 per cent, and will probably go up again. Perhaps the facts of basic economics and of the necessity for the supply of money have been brought home to a Government that now has a four-year term.

In December, landowners received a letter advising that there would be a significant reduction in land tax and that anyone who owned a property valued at under \$40 000 as well as their own home would not be paying any land tax. Of course, very few people own extra homes valued at less than \$40 000. Therefore, the Government gave away nothing. If one asks people supplying low rental homes to the public one will be told about the massive increase in land tax they will have to pay. The people who will suffer from this policy will be the poor—the people who cannot afford to pay these massive rental increases that will be passed on to them through the land tax policies of this Government.

The Governor's speech mentioned the introduction of the Workers Compensation Bill, which will create considerable debate during the next three or four weeks and which will affect that other group of new poor—small business and farmers. It is interesting that those groups have not been contacted by the Government. Again, we have the situation of big government and unions making decisions about how particular Bills should be carried forth in the community.

**Mr Becker:** How many jobs will it cost?

**Mr INGERSON:** I estimate that in some industries it will cost anything up to 15 per cent of the work force, and that in service industries it could be even higher. The Governor, in his speech—and this was also brought up by the member for Newland—referred to congratulations on the O-Bahn system. I thought that the O-Bahn system was heavily criticised by the Labor Party: it was no good, and a light rail system was the top priority. Suddenly, we now have a magnificent system put forward by a previous Minister of Transport (the former member for Torrens, the Hon. Michael Wilson, one of our best Ministers of Transport) and now taken up as one of the greatest systems this Government has ever seen. I suppose that in government one can realise that good policies have been introduced and can change one's mind.

Early last week a newspaper carried a drawing on the third arterial road. It is interesting that that is almost the same proposal as that put forward by the Liberal Party. However, during the election campaign an incredible argument was put forward that the third arterial road was not something that the Government would construct. It is interesting to note that this third arterial road has neither a beginning nor an end. It will be interesting to see where the Government will end it because, on the drawing and from discussions with officers from the department, it presently ends on Sturt Road, up in the air. It will be interesting to see what will happen with this most important and controversial part of the road system. I strongly support the initiative put forward by the Government in relation to road safety. It will be interesting to see the penalties put forward under what I hope will be good road safety protection.

Because of boundary changes at the last election the Opposition lost two excellent members. The previous member for Torrens (Hon. Michael Wilson) was a Minister when the Liberal Party was in government and was also a shadow

Minister. He spent a considerable amount of time helping me when I first came into this Parliament. It is one of the tragedies of politics that a member who is as sincere and genuine as he was can lose his seat. Of course, that came about because of a swing to the Government—a swing that the population believed was received by the Government at that election. There is no question that a swing to the Government in a marginal electorate that had its boundaries changed caused us to lose an excellent member.

We also lost Scott Ashenden, the former member for Newland. Probably no member in this Parliament has worked as hard in his electorate as did Scott Ashenden. It is interesting that we now have the new member adopting many of the programs that Scott Ashenden put forward in this House. I note her recognising, in particular, that the junction of Grand Junction, Lower North East, Perseverance and Hancock Roads is a major hazard, even though it was previously put forward by the Labor Government as not being a priority area.

In relation to the opening of the O-Bahn, I hope that one of the former members of this House, who spent so much time putting forward the advantages of the O-Bahn, will at least be given the opportunity to attend on that occasion. I ask the Minister here to consider asking the former member for Todd, being one of the major pushers of the busway, to come along to the opening.

*The Hon. G.F. Keneally interjecting:*

**Mr INGERSON:** I hope that plenty of Liberal members will be there, because it is one of the Liberal initiatives, and, interestingly, one that was taken up and pushed very successfully by the present Government. I think that is excellent, as it realised what a good project it was.

I now take this opportunity, as the new shadow Minister of Recreation and Sport, to put on record for the first time my attitude towards the development of a recreation and sport policy in this State, and since there have been many changes—

*The Hon. G.F. Keneally interjecting:*

**Mr INGERSON:** The principal reason for that is due to one's having very little knowledge of transport at this stage. However, it is something that will develop very quickly. Many changes have taken place in the community that have caused leisure time, and thereby leisure activities, to grow significantly. Indications are that this growth will continue throughout this decade and into the next. Future developments emerging in the work environment, from increased structural unemployment, increased permanent part-time employment, greater free time because of a shorter working week and flexitime, early retirement, more disposable income, staggering of holiday entitlements, to a rearrangement of the Australian weekend resulting in people taking their free days whenever they choose, will increase leisure activities. It is therefore important that future Governments recognise this trend now and begin to provide more funds for these changes. The leisure industry, a service industry, is potentially one of our future big people employers, and thus the need for future planning and support.

At this stage I want to put on record my views of the three areas of leisure, recreation and sport and their relationship to one another. Leisure is most commonly defined as being a state of mind which ordinarily is characterised by unobligated time and willing optimism. Secondly, it can involve extensive activity or no activity at all. Thirdly, the key ingredient is an attitude which fosters a peaceful and productive co-existence with the elements of one's environment. Thus, leisure can be considered as a broad umbrella covering the areas of recreation, sport, fitness, general health, community education, arts and tourism.

In relation to recreation, often the terms 'leisure' and 'recreation' are used interchangeably. Perhaps the main dif-

ference is the emphasis on the 're-creation nature' of leisure activities that are voluntarily undertaken for the attainment of personal and social benefit. First, recreation is an attitude which is necessarily connected with productive, self-satisfying and beneficial activity. It can occur in a number of areas: sport, art/craft, games, employment, community service, communion with nature and others. The key ingredient is a healthy outlook flowing from constructive activities which sustains, vitalises, and re-creates the individual.

To many South Australians sport is the most important component of their range of leisure activities. Donald Horne, in his book *The Lucky Country*, sums up the ethos of sport, as follows:

For many Australians, playing or watching sport gives life one of its principal meanings. The elements of loyalty, fanaticism, pleasure seeking, competitiveness, ambition and struggle that are not allowed precise expression in non sporting life although they exist in disguise are stated precisely in sport.

Certainly, the sport spectator, the parkland trier, and the elite champion all engage in sports as part of their recreation and leisure. Sport obviously is a component of recreation and usually contains the following characteristics:

1. The activity requires physical effort and progressively complex degrees of skill.
2. The activity is competitive in nature.
3. There are formal rules.
4. There is some degree of organisational and institutional structure.

From these definitions one can see the very close link between leisure, recreation and sport.

I believe it is important for any Government to have not only a sport and recreation policy but also a leisure policy which takes in a much wider ambit. It is also soon apparent that any overall leisure policy decisions would naturally encompass the portfolios of arts, tourism, environment and planning, woods and forests, water resources, marine, education as well as recreation and sport. Many people in the leisure industry have commented on the lack of coordination of effort and duplication of interests in many of these departments. Therefore it is necessary to develop and vigorously promote a leisure package to all South Australians and visitors. The leisure package should be coordinated by one Minister, and be promoted by the one department, placing special emphasis on the tourism potential of the arts, sport including the racing industry, and recreational opportunities, including boating, fishing and camping.

As to the role of the Government in recreation and sport, all three levels have and do play important roles in the development and implementation of policy decisions. Local government is the major provider of land and facilities and maintains them. In recent years it has employed recreation officers to develop local plans and strategies. At State Government level through the Department of Recreation and Sport, there has been a provision of services and coordination of development plans for State sporting and recreational bodies; the overseeing of the Sports Institute of South Australia; the overseeing and monitoring of certain parts of the racing industry, the monitoring of small lotteries in sporting and recreational clubs; and also through the Department of Education the initiation and implementation of school recreational and sports policies. Further, through the Department of Tourism, there has been the promotion of State Recreation and Sport policy.

At Federal Government level through the Federal Department of Recreation and Sport there needs to be coordination and provision of funds for State and international standard facilities and a servicing of national recreational and sporting associations as well as the new Commission of Sport. It finances the Australian Sports Institute in Canberra and other programs. There are, however, many areas in which

human effort and financial resources are duplicated and wasted at these three levels of government. Thus, the need through the Department of Recreation and Sport to liaise with three levels of government to coordinate planning and ensure maximum efficiency at State level. It is my opinion that with the exception of school recreation and sport policies governments should not generally initiate development programs but should act in an advisory and supportive role. In essence, sport and recreation bodies should plan and execute; governments should support and service. It is important to strengthen this partnership by having advisory committees to government.

At the funding level, each level of government has a responsibility to provide funds for community development programs. There is an expectation in the sporting and recreational communities that a more even share of State funds be provided, particularly when compared to that provided to the arts. The need for consistency and reliability is important. It is recognised that good administration of associations is desirable. However, we need to recognise that it must be taken into account that it is very difficult for smaller associations to meet dollar for dollar subsidies. We need associations to encourage coaches to upgrade and then reward this effort. We need travel grants for junior athletes, and this needs significant upgrading. Finally, there is an urgent need for new State and national facility upgrading. As I mentioned earlier, when comparing the number of people involved in the sport and recreation area with those in the arts area, it is evident that there is a need for a significant increase in overall funding in the sport and recreation area.

When last in government the Liberal Party supported the establishment of a State lottery and it is unfortunate that that project has not been able to be successfully sold to the public. I remember during the previous session that the Minister was going to bring forward a new program to develop the State's lottery, and I look forward to that with interest in the next six to 12 months.

When last in government we were also responsible for establishing soccer pools as the beginning of a new funding base for sport and recreation. Further work needs to be done, as it is important to initiate a major investigation into the future funding of recreation and sporting associations. The investigation should be wide ranging and should include the possible use of poker machines or the like in the premises of licensed clubs.

In South Australia recreation and sport is poised on a new age and should extend its support and funding base as wide as possible. Government should encourage the direct involvement by small and large business enterprise in recreation and sport and in joint funding with Government. Innovative new partnerships for recreation and sport will pay rich dividends for the community. However, the private sector already plays an important role in recreation and sport by its contributions to fund raising, concessional provision of goods and services, donations, general and specific sponsorship, provision of paid leave to allow athletes to participate in official training for or in competition in national or international teams and provision of facilities to encourage employees to engage in sport and recreation during work breaks.

The recent advertising controversy over sponsorship by cigarette and alcohol beverage companies is of vital concern to many sporting associations, as banning of this support would dramatically affect their future funding. I support very strongly the right of all sporting associations to either reject or accept sponsorship from any company or organisation. It is noted with interest the support that the Minister of Recreation and Sport has recently given to sporting clubs in relation to the sale of alcohol on sporting grounds, and

I hope that he takes his thoughts along and puts them very strongly at the sport and recreation federal meeting that is coming up shortly.

In the recreation area research has shown the need for, and the Government has promised to build in the very near future, an entertainment centre in this city. Our research has confirmed the need as well as the desire by many South Australians in age groups ranging between 18 and 45 for this entertainment centre. The centre should be able to be used for concerts of all types, as an indoor sporting venue and should be able to seat approximately 8 000 people. I hope that this sort of project will be brought forward very quickly, as the need has been recognised by the Government. I look forward to the plans and the project being completed very quickly.

I believe that in the recreation area the most important program that we had in this State some time ago was the 'Life. Be In It' program. It is a pity that this program has been run down and that there is no longer as much Government involvement in it as previously. Whilst this program has been transferred specifically to the private sector, I believe that there is a need for the Government to be involved in that area, because it is through Government departments that the 'Life. Be In It' program and the concept as such can be spread throughout the community.

I believe that there is a need to further utilise our reservoirs, and I hope that some program for recreational boating and fishing on our reservoirs can be introduced reasonably quickly. There is no doubt that there are significant land resources belonging to the Woods and Forests, Water Resources, Environment and Planning and Recreation and Sport Departments which are not being utilised as well as they could be for recreational purposes. I hope that any Government policy will look at this matter very quickly.

The Heysen trail has been extended by the Government, which needs to be commended for this. However, there are a few areas that cause concern, the main one being in the area of insurance liability. Even though some short-term action has been taken, there is a need very quickly to clarify the position in relation to accidents that occur on that trail.

I would now like to talk specifically about the sporting policy. Since sport is predominantly the main part of any leisure activity in this State, I would like to talk at reasonable length about how I think a sport policy ought to be introduced. I have broken up the market in two specific areas: that of sport and that of the racing industry. I recognise that sport is the main identifiable segment of leisure activity. It is an industry with enormous potential for growth and development. It offers a wide variety of new opportunities to individuals, to existing sporting associations and to private entrepreneurs.

The sports industry can be likened to a triangle. It has a broad base of diverse local community clubs rising to an apex of professionally organised profit oriented organisations. For the most part, the base is loosely structured and bears little relationship to the organisations at the top. Thus, it can be seen that sport at one end of the spectrum is recreational and is characterised by mass participation, lower levels of performance, spontaneous involvement, loosely organised administrative structures, modified rules, and involvement motivated by enjoyment and social experiences gained from participation.

At the other end, sport is characterised by selective participation, high levels of performance and competition being the primary objects of the participants, with long periods of practice and training leading to participation in well organised competition, well developed administrative and organisational structures, rules and regulations which are strictly enforced, and with people often competing for payment, status and prestige.

Sport is a labour intensive industry. It is part of the service sector of the economy and shows the potential for expansion at a time when technology is replacing people in other areas. A viable sports industry is likely to bring on an expansion in sports associated sectors such as health, education and, more specifically, tourism. Private enterprise will be an important partner in this future development. Sport is probably one of our most undervalued social services. Its contribution to our physical, mental and social health is of vital importance. Its contribution towards reducing our national health and welfare expenditure cannot be estimated.

Sport at primary school level helps physical and social development of our children. As they grow older and pass through secondary level, sport continues to help in these areas, but equally important it provides an understanding of self discipline and a strong weapon in the fight against delinquency, drug taking and vandalism. Sport provides competition, exercise and interest to occupy increasing leisure time for millions of adults.

Any sport policy should therefore be designed to support the firmly held view of most sports people that any policy should not diminish the authority or responsibility of sporting bodies in their fields and should recognise the enormous contributions made by voluntary workers. Government, for its part, should provide for greater managerial expertise, better communication and coordination and more reliable financial arrangements. A policy should provide opportunities for use of leisure time by encouraging more participation in sporting activities at all levels, thus improving the overall health and fitness of South Australians.

The policy should raise the standard of all participants by improving coaching standards at all levels, it should improve sport education in schools, and it should encourage safety for participants, particularly by improving playing surfaces throughout the State. It should also improve management and administration of sport, further develop the Sports Institute for our high performance athletes, give greater recognition to the sporting needs of women, the disabled, the elderly and Aborigines and encourage better coordination of department and community efforts.

Sport in the education system is the most important area at which to start. All students should have access to physical education and sport as part of a school curriculum, and not voluntarily as at present. Although there has been a large improvement in the provision of physical education in schools over the past few years, the same cannot be said for sport. It is fundamental, for improvement of sport in the overall future sport skills of our society, that the education system be involved and committed to early programs. Involvement in sport will be continued in post-school years only if a degree of proficiency and success is achieved at school.

Therefore, any sports policy has as its primary base improved school sport programs: I cannot over emphasize this statement. I can see no difference between a child striving to reach his or her own level of achievement in academic subjects or in sport. The attainment of excellence should apply to both. I do not accept that time spent on sport hinders academic progress or that sensibly organised competition is necessarily bad. Participation in sport for as many as possible should be encouraged whatever their level of ability. Similarly, the talented should also be encouraged and singled out for special programs.

As with other subjects, the sport curriculum should be a gradual progression. In primary school emphasis should be placed on participation, enjoyment, social development, basic skills learning, adapted games and low emphasis competition. At secondary school level a wider range of activity should be available in both recreational and competitive

forms to cater for individual differences, with opportunity for specialisation and attainment of excellence. Special attention needs to be given to girls at this age.

To increase the emphasis on sport in schools the Education Department should prepare a five-year sports development plan for implementation providing for the following: appointment of additional physical education teachers particularly at primary level; wider use of teachers of other subjects, who have enthusiasm for sport and what incentives, if any, should be provided; greater sharing of departmental and community sports facilities; encouragement of teachers and parents to undertake sports coaching accreditation courses; establishment of formal consultation mechanisms between the Education Department, the Department of Recreation and Sport and the South Australian Sports Institute to develop programs for identification and encouragement of talent; development of a small number of specialist high schools; encouragement of primary and secondary sports associations; and use of coaches from outside sporting associations on a part-time basis.

As mentioned earlier the Sports Institute of South Australia needs to play a vital expanded role in this program. The high performance athlete is a vital part of any sport. Although mass participation is vital for community welfare, it is the high performance athlete whose achievements provide the enthusiasm and stimulus for sport and the community generally. It is the high performance athlete who, in the pursuit of excellence, pioneers new standards, new techniques, and new training methods. It is the high performance athlete who provides the focus for national and State pride. The esteem of Australians for themselves and their State is related very much to the success of these athletes in the international sphere.

A Liberal Government set up the Sports Institute to be the provider to these high performance athletes and continues to support existing programs implemented by this Government. Significant further financial support is needed. It is a myth of Australian sport that potential and high performance athletes are well catered for. To reach and maintain international standards many athletes jeopardise their careers and suffer financial loss. The lack of assistance programs has led to a talent drain of athletes who have either quit competition or moved interstate or overseas. To foster such athletes we need sports scholarships, more travel and living expenses, both within and without Australia, and access to specialised equipment and coaching. High performance athletes need leave of absence for special training or competition and under some circumstances employers may need compensation for this.

A need exists to set up a Sports Foundation under the control of the Sports Institute's Board to raise money specifically to aid athletes via scholarships. There are many sports seeking special training facilities that are reasonably central. As the Sports Institute needs to be expanded, and because we should be serious about the support needed for our high performance athletes in the future, there is a need to develop a training centre, incorporating live-in facilities, preferably a site close to or incorporated within the Sports Institute at Underdale. A need exists to encourage the expansion of sport research and the conducting and interpreting of results of talent identification tests as well as obtaining and disseminating to coaches sports science and sports medicine information.

Many volunteer assistants are potential recruits to coaching. They should be encouraged to do courses at the Institute and to work under the supervision of senior accredited coaches. Coaches play a major role in maintaining and extending the standards of sport. Therefore a need exists to consult with the institute and upgrade the current coaching accreditation system by supporting courses accredited under

the national scheme and by specific reference to overseas schemes, particularly the Canadian scheme.

At the present time good evidence exists to support the position that girls and women are significantly disadvantaged in the area of sport and physical recreation, notwithstanding that in most sports women and girls now have the opportunity to participate. It is important to recognise that women and girls do not receive equal treatment as coaches and administrators, in activities in schools, in access to facilities, or in media coverage or funding by either the public or the private sector; that only half as many girls and women as boys and men participate in organised sport; that girls begin to decline in level of fitness from the age of 12 years; that family, peer group pressure and myths surrounding females and physical activity are strong disincentives to participation by women and girls in sport; and that, proportionately, there is a very small number of women administrators, coaches and umpires.

Further, research in Australia and overseas has identified that low levels of fitness among women and their lack of self esteem and relatively poor academic and career performance compared to men can be traced back to their school years when they were discouraged from playing sport. These findings are disturbing in terms of the immediate health effects and long-term psychological implications for girls and women, let alone our ability to recruit, train and maintain a depth of high performance sportswomen.

I believe that this situation calls for special initiatives to raise the status of female sport and to encourage more girls and women to participate at all levels of sporting activity. This program would focus on providing girls and women with equal access to participate in sport, dispelling the myths surrounding girls and women in sport; and re-evaluating the image of different sports. The goal is neither to disrupt girls and women nor boys and men who are happy with the present arrangements, but rather to give a larger group of girls and women the opportunity to enjoy sport and physical recreation. Essentially, it is a matter of providing choice.

Commitments to this end should be made in the knowledge that progress will not be swift, for the underlying problems are complex and will not be easy to overcome. If at an early age girls are encouraged to enjoy a range of sporting and physical recreation activities which lead to full involvement, fitness and cooperation with others, they will carry with them to high school and beyond positive participation patterns and skills, an enthusiasm to partake in different activities and a confidence to use their involvement in sport to enhance their self esteem and fitness level. I believe that any program must take account of the belief that all students should have access to physical education and sport as part of their school curriculum.

I believe that sport and recreation should be made available in a way which encourages widespread participation whilst respecting individual differences; that a wider range of options must be developed so that girls can not only compete at the highest level, including against boys if that is what they wish, but also for collaborative and non-competitive sports and recreation; and that organised competition should allow for teams based on merit alone. We should recognise that high performance sportsmen and sportswomen have an important role to play in schools in encouraging boys and girls to be involved in sporting activities.

I believe that sporting organisations should be involved in the development of programs in schools to provide boys and girls with equal access to sport and physical recreation and should be seen to be providing opportunities for sport at senior levels as an extension of that provided by the schools.

At the present time women's leisure tends to be home based and domestic by nature. Rarely does a woman with family responsibilities consider a sports or physical recreation involvement either as a participant, coach or administrator, yet maintaining fitness of body and mind is probably an essential requirement at this stage to enable a woman to cope adequately and maintain health and some sense of personal identity. Research on participation by women in sport and physical recreation activities confirms that women would be involved if they could take their children with them and have them adequately cared for.

I recognise that netball associations have been leaders in this field, and that increasingly badminton, basketball and squash clubs are providing this facility as well as the more modern multi-purpose sports community centres. Any program would therefore have to include consultation with sporting associations to canvass the potential for providing child-minding centres.

The coverage of women's sport by the media is crucial to the development of attitudes held by both men and women towards sport for women. The media plays an important part in establishing roles and models and in influencing potential private and public sponsors, both of which, in turn, are essential in efforts to attract interest, to improve participation and to lift the status of women's sport. Generally, the coverage of women's sport has been meagre compared to that of men, although I recognise and applaud the more recent efforts of the South Australian media to redress the imbalance. Options for increasing media interest in a coverage of women's sporting activities, however, require further investigation.

To help facilitate and oversee the success of programs, and to increase the participation of girls and women at all levels of sport and physical recreation, we must increase official participation by women in Government appointment levels.

As I said previously, the second part of any sporting policy obviously involves a discussion of the racing industry. The racing industry is an industry as well as a sport. It is, I believe the second largest industry employer in the State and has a significant effect on the economy of South Australia through investment in property, plant, equipment, facilities, land, and also in thoroughbred and standard bred horses and greyhounds. The capital value of the industry is in the order of \$300 million and employment is provided for some 12 000 people, both full and part-time.

Breeding is an important component of the industry. At the annual yearling sales in February 1985, 535 thoroughbred yearlings were sold for a total of \$4.95 million and 80 standard bred yearlings realised \$220 000. Interstate and overseas buyers purchased approximately 65 per cent of the total number of thoroughbreds sold at these sales. The breeding industry is thus a significant export earner for South Australia.

As a sport, racing provides entertainment for thousands of families throughout the State including those who attend race meetings, those who follow it through the newspapers, radio and television and those who patronise TAB agencies. Perhaps I should include SP betting. For the year ended 30 June 1985, approximately 900 000 people passed through the turnstiles at metropolitan meetings. Attendances have dropped since after-race payouts were introduced in 1983.

Betting turnover for the year 1983-84 was \$101 million with \$193 million invested on the TAB and \$208 million invested with the bookmakers. The racing codes received \$11 million (\$8.17 million from the TAB and \$2.8 million from the bookmakers) while the Government received \$11 million (\$9.1 million from the TAB and \$1.8 million from bookmakers). In addition, the industry generates consider-

able revenue to the Government from various other forms of taxation.

The racing industry also contributes to tourism in South Australia by attracting interstate and overseas visitors to its racing carnivals, yearling sales and successful and appealing studs. The key to the viability of the racing industry is the level of stake money. Stake money has a direct relationship to the quality of fields. Good quality fields attract more people to the racetracks and provide more revenue to the clubs, whereas poor quality fields have the reverse effect. The benefits of good quality fields also flow to the racing public by way of improved facilities and a more exciting spectacle. In addition, the level of stake money determines the financial returns to owners, breeders, trainers, jockeys and drivers.

I support the continuation of the controlling system as it now exists, but I believe that the system will change in time. The existing controlling bodies are the South Australian Jockey Club, the Trotting Control Board, and the Greyhound Control Board. It is my view that these controlling bodies should be organising their affairs with the minimum of Government involvement accepting the responsibility that they, not the Government, properly investigate and propose their own rationalisation and future needs programs.

Finance for the three codes comes principally from the Totalisator Agency Board. I believe that the TAB should be profit oriented, thus giving the racing industry maximum return. I know, however, that there are many instances when unprofitable meetings will of necessity be covered to give a reasonable balance to the minor codes. I therefore support the need for an extension of TAB agency facilities into licensed premises; the extension of commission agents, particularly in country towns where it is uneconomic for the TAB to operate; and the use of agencies at major sporting venues. I believe that the TAB should continue to initiate new forms of betting in line with experience overseas.

The major concerns of the three codes of galloping, trotting and greyhounds is the distribution of money from the TAB profits to the codes. I know that the current system of distribution must be changed. I believe that all codes should earn their distribution through effort and support. However, I recognise that some time in the near future the return from the TAB in trotting and greyhounds in particular will be less than is required for them to survive. I believe this problem should be dealt with by reorganising the take by Government and thus I call on the Government to do this very simple exercise as soon as possible, otherwise, both the trotting and the greyhound industries will have difficulties in the very near future.

A significant number of punters bet SP, or starting price, as they wish to place their bets by telephone and desire credit facilities, favourable settlement terms and better odds. Many South Australians invest large sums of money with SP bookmakers even though it is illegal. It is estimated to be approximately \$100 million a year. That estimate varied from the Costigan report to the 1978 report, which gave a higher figure. However, since SP booking is illegal, very few people know the true story. But the figure is significant.

The legal alternative (the TAB) and current penalties have not stopped this illegal betting. Prohibition as it applies now has not stopped the investments in SP betting from continuing nor will it wipe them out. Recently the Costigan Report has, like other similar investigations of its type, linked SP betting with organised crime and said that it was one of the major sources of its funds. I believe that telephone betting should be legalised through registered bookmakers, and that a large part of the current problem could be eliminated. The racing industry and the Government would significantly benefit as large sums of money becomes available

through tax sharing and fee collection. It is interesting that this is presently supported by all the controlling bodies and bookmakers. At the same time it is important to accept that penalties for those who still choose to break the law by betting or accepting bets illegally through telephone betting have to be introduced, and that there must be stiffer penalties.

Mr DUGAN secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**The Hon. R.K. ABBOTT (Minister of Lands):** I move:  
That the House do now adjourn.

**Mr FERGUSON (Henley Beach):** During this debate I will refer to a problem that has been peculiar to my electorate for many years—peculiar in the sense that it relates to the diminishing number of glasshouses in the area. Development in my electorate has been fairly spectacular during the past three years since the election of the Federal Labor Government and the ensuing expansion in home building.

Many glasshouses in my electorate have now been cleared and the land subdivided. The problem I allude to is the use of chloropicrin (a chemical used to fumigate land prior to planting tomato bushes and other crops), which is not as prevalent now as it was 10 years ago. This chemical is very successful when used for fumigating.

*The Hon. B.C. Eastick interjecting:*

**Mr FERGUSON:** I would like to answer the honourable member's interjection but I have only nine minutes left. When I have more time I will be only too happy to take it up with him. Chloropicrin is very toxic and was used during the First World War as a war gas. It can enter the stomach by dissolving in saliva which, when swallowed and ingested, can cause nausea, vomiting, colic and diarrhoea. The inhalation of chloropicrin will produce anaemia, weak and irregular heartbeats and recurrent asthmatic attacks. Chloropicrin is an irritant and fatalities have been caused by lung damage.

The presence of chloropicrin is readily detected by its pungent and irritating odour. Many chloropicrin users regard its odour as an adequate built-in safeguard. However, this is a crude form of personal safety because it does not take into account the possibility of other unexpected hazards such as a loss of consciousness owing to fainting or heart attack, incapacity through accident, or sudden massive doses through equipment damage. By and large the use of chloropicrin has been restricted following the introduction of appropriate regulations to the Health Act, most of which were introduced around 1975.

My electorate office has received complaints about the use of this chemical in home gardens and I believe that it is time this chemical was unavailable for use in home gardens and was restricted to commercial users only. Presently there is nothing to stop home gardeners using this particular chemical. Regulations under the Health Act that control the use of chloropicrin state:

This division shall not apply to the use of chloropicrin by persons in possession of not more than seven litres of chloropicrin for the destruction of rabbits or minor soil fumigation.

Few rabbits are left in my electorate because all the land has been taken up. However, gardeners who formerly used chloropicrin in their glasshouses still use it in their home gardens, and this causes problems for nearby neighbours. There has been a steady flow of complaints to my office. This matter is in the hands of local government, but its officers point out that the regulations allow people to use



chloropicrin provided that they do not possess more than seven litres of it.

On Wednesday 20 March 1974 the front page of the *News* contained a story about what happened to 500 people who were affected by what was described as a cloud of poisonous gas from tomato houses in Fulham Gardens. All available ambulances were utilised to take people to The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Royal Adelaide Hospital, and about 30 children were taken to the Adelaide Children's Hospital. They were all treated for the effects of chloropicrin gas poisoning. Residents had been affected when nearby glasshouses were being fumigated.

Later reports stated that the Fulham Gardens gas incident was caused by an unfortunate set of circumstances: the soil inside the glasshouses was rather loose; it was sandy, not hard clay, which meant the gas from the chemicals could seep out more easily; there was a large amount of straw and horse manure on the ground, which also made the soil porous; and the loose soil had not been watered to better settle the chemical.

The ensuing public interest and uproar had the effect of tightening the regulations for the use of this chemical, and the announcement was made in 1975 that new regulations had been drawn up which required the licensing of operators using this particular gas. Operators were then licensed, and the sale of chloropicrin was restricted to licensed people, with the exception of those people who were in possession of not more than seven litres. I believe that the time has now come to restrict chloropicrin to the use of commercial growers only. This particular gas and chemical is just as potent now as it was when, as I mentioned earlier, it was used in the First World War and called mustard gas. Very few precautions are taken by home gardeners to protect themselves or their nearby neighbours when the gas is used.

The 1974 incident was not the first time that this gas had come to the notice of the general public. There was also an incident in 1973 when, unfortunately, the Gas Company was blamed for a gas-polluted atmosphere which turned out to be no fault of the Gas Company. In fact, it was traced back to glasshouses in my electorate, and the mystery pollutant cloud that made people sick was the same chloropicrin that was eventually restricted.

I have been contacted by the Henley and Grange council, following a long debate on this subject. The council has taken the opportunity to write to the Minister for Health asking that this chemical be banned from private use, and that the restrictions, so far as commercial use is concerned, continue. I believe that the safety precautions recommended by the Department of Agriculture for the use of this gas are not used when home gardeners are fumigating their gardens prior to planting tomatoes and similar crops. The use of masks and the maintenance of proper safety precautions is not being undertaken.

It is probably fair to say that nearby neighbours and next door neighbours should not be subject to the sorts of dangers to which I have alluded. It has come to my attention that not only is chloropicrin being used to fumigate the ground before the planting of tomatoes, it is also being used to fumigate grapevines. These grapevines sometimes go over arbours, and so the spread of this fumigant to nearby properties is being accentuated. Certainly, I support the Henley and Grange council in its efforts to have this chemical eliminated from home gardens, and I hope that we can have a speedy resolution of this problem and that the matter will be taken quickly through regulations by the Health Department.

**Mr MEIER (Goyder):** I draw attention this evening to an unfortunate syndrome which has beset some children in our State and certainly throughout Australia and the rest of

the world and which I do not believe is well known by the majority of members of Parliament or of the community. The matter first came to my attention in the past week when I was contacted by a parent whose child suffers from the syndrome. I would like to outline a symptom of it and then go on to say what I think our health authorities could be doing about this matter. I refer to the Prader-Willi syndrome. Members will be aware that a syndrome is a group of signs and symptoms that occur together and characterise a disease or disorder.

The pattern of characteristics associated with the Prader-Willi syndrome is remarkably consistent among those affected by it. It was first identified as a syndrome in 1956 by Prader, Labhart and Willi. It is a rare condition resulting from a birth defect. It is rare in the fact that it is estimated that one person in about 30,000 or 40,000 Australians suffers from it. The significant manifestations of the syndrome are obesity, short stature, hypotonia (lack of muscle control), hypogonadism (underdeveloped or small genitals), and mental retardation. Obesity generally becomes prominent about two or three years of age, with the face, lower trunk and buttocks more involved than the rest of the body. The average height of a person fully grown is about 60 inches, with exceptions.

Hypotonia (lack of muscle tone) is most evident during infancy, with general improvement occurring thereafter. The ability to hold the head erect generally occurs late in the first year. Sitting occurs at about 12 months, walking at about 30 months, and talking in short sentences at 42 months. There are records, however, of infants with the syndrome improving on these figures. A marked characteristic of hypotonia in very early infancy is a poor cry and a poor sucking reflex.

Hypogonadism is most evident among males, and consists of a small penis and testes. Absence or suppression of the menstrual discharge and only moderate breast development are often evident among the females. More males than females have been diagnosed with this condition, probably because of the ease with which hypogonadism can be detected in the former. Mental retardation varies but is generally only mild or moderate. Many individuals with this condition may not be truly retarded, but rather have borderline intelligence or learning difficulties.

Other characteristics are small hands and feet, which may be puffy. Scratching and picking at sores or insect bites is common. Strabismus (cross eyes) is also common. Some individuals with the syndrome develop diabetes, heart problems, and scoliosis (sideways curve of the spinal column). Children are generally affectionate and happy in their early years, but subtle changes often occur after about five years of age, with personality problems developing in late adolescence. Temper tantrums and stubbornness are typical. Of all the characteristics, obesity is by far the most difficult one with which to deal. Behavioural problems, especially relating to food, make the management of obesity very difficult.

An additional problem is the fact that those affected seem to require considerably fewer calories than does the average person. Only through the application of extreme dietary measures and family guidance can this condition be controlled. Unfortunately, there seems to be no known cure or specific treatment for the syndrome. However, aspects of it can be controlled with appropriate therapy.

In recognising symptoms of this syndrome, it is important for members to appreciate that in South Australia now a number of people, headed by Mrs Sharon Freer of Ardrossan and Mrs Eleanor Matthews of Virginia, are contact people for children or adults who may be suffering from the Prader-Willi syndrome. Only last year an association

conference was held in Sydney, and I am pleased that six parents from South Australia managed to attend.

In fact, the Prader-Willi Syndrome Association of Australia was formed in 1978, but it has been a slow process to educate people on the problems and the symptoms of the syndrome. Part of the reason for my bringing up these facts is that, in the case of Mr and Mrs Freer, their son Nigel, currently five years old, is suffering from the Prader-Willi syndrome. Last year they made an application through the Southern Yorke Peninsula Domiciliary Care Service to the Program of Aids for Disabled People, which is administered through the South Australian Health Commission.

They requested various items which, hopefully, would assist young Nigel, particularly in relation to his toilet training. The key item amongst some seven points was the need for an inside toilet. The reason for needing an inside toilet is that Prader-Willi syndrome sufferers need constant attention, care and help in their toilet training, and, because the outside toilet was some 50-odd feet from the back door of the house, it was felt that an inside toilet was very necessary.

A detailed letter was submitted, and it was supported also by a letter from the Kindergarten Union of South Australia. However, unfortunately, the reply from the Program of Aids for Disabled People co-ordinator indicated that the request would not be acceded to. The letter of 28 May last year to Mr Freer stated, in part:

The modifications required are classified as structural alterations, and costs for these are not met by the Program of Aids for Disabled People. The costs of providing cisterns, pans, seat covers and toilet roll holders are not met by the Program of Aids for Disabled People. As agents acting on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, the South Australian Health Commission cannot alter these provisions, and regretfully advises you that we cannot provide any assistance.

I think we should ask the South Australian Health Commission and the South Australian Government to look at this program, to see whether the Commonwealth authorities are prepared to allow the money to be used for such things as the relocation of a toilet. In the instance to which I referred, I may well make further application on behalf of the Freers, and I am hoping we might be able to come up with an alternative system in the meantime, and I would not want to pre-empt that at this stage. Whatever the case—

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

**Mr KLUNDER (Todd):** I intend to speak briefly tonight about problems associated with lack of fitness, and in particular what influence we as politicians can have in ameliorating these problems. I intend to speak to a certain extent from personal experience, because I suspect that many people may well have gone through the same stages that I did. I begin by saying that up until about the age of 26 I was a relatively fit person—I taught some sports and practised others. However, I was then promoted within my job and as time went on the amount of time I had for sport was gradually subsumed by the amount of time that I needed for my professional development.

By the time I reached 37, I was having difficulty looking down and seeing my toes, stairs seemed to become ever more steep, and I was developing back aches of gigantic proportions. When I became a member of Parliament I noticed that the lifestyle of an MP was not likely to improve this in any marked degree, and I decided that the symptoms probably meant that I was not as fit as I used to be. Therefore, I went to a friend of mine who specialised in these things and asked him to give me a fitness test. He did this, and he was supposed to record the results on a sheet which had 'unfit' on one side and 'very fit' on the other side. I hesitate to say here in the House that my results did not actually get on the page.

My physiotherapist at that stage then insisted that I do some swimming, and I went off bravely to the nearest swimming pool and swam six laps—a total of 150 metres—in three-quarters of an hour. I then spent the next 2½ hours lying flat on my back while the pool attendants decided whether or not to call an ambulance. Three months of relatively arduous effort followed, during which time on many occasions I had to stop on the way home because I could feel myself starting to black out, necessitating my pulling over on the side of the road, placing my head between my knees (which is a relatively difficult job to achieve when sitting behind a steering wheel) and waiting for my head to clear before continuing to drive home. That was some eight or nine years ago, and I am pleased to report to the House that I am now a relatively fit person enjoying all the various side effects that come from fitness. There is not much point in describing those side effects to the House because those people who are already fit know about them and those who are not fit would never believe it.

Fitness is relative. I can recall the time that I was swimming at the Norwood swimming pool next to a young lady in the next lane who really seemed to know what she was doing. It turned out that her name was Anna McVann. She was swimming 800 metres, having a 30 second rest and swimming another 800 metres, and she had been doing that for some time. As is normal under these circumstances, I decided that I just had to try to compete to see whether I could keep up with her. I am only moderately silly, and I decided at that stage to try to keep up with her not for the 800 metres that she was swimming but for only 50 metres. Without actually killing myself but swimming reasonably hard, I am glad to report to the House that I came in about 5 seconds after she did. At this stage I should really stop that story because it does not sound too bad. I suppose that honesty compels me also to report that she had her legs tied together.

The question that arises out of all this is how members of this Parliament can give a kind of lead to the community in improving the fitness of the community. As MPs, our fitness levels would cover a wide range. I should think that the Premier would be somewhere near the top, while the rest of us would follow at various stages behind him.

**An honourable member:** A long way.

**Mr KLUNDER:** In fact, one of my colleagues says that we would be a long way behind him. I will not quote him because I would like to avoid his being recorded in *Hansard* as having stated that. The best lead we can give is to be seen to be engaging in sporting activities. Cromwell is attributed to have said, 'warts and all' when he was having his portrait painted. I think that we could very easily modify that and refer to a 'flab and all' situation. In this lies part of what I am trying to say.

Many people who are no longer fit lack three things: an incentive to get fit, a behavioural model to follow in order to get fit, and the self-confidence that one needs to be seen in the process of starting to get fit. I think it is distinctly possible that members of Parliament can give a lead here. It may well be possible that, if the public see us playing sport, they will say to themselves, 'If those people can do it, so can we.' They can also have a behavioural model to follow in the sense that perhaps those politicians did not look so bad after all when they tried to get fit, or that perhaps they did but it did not matter.

Finally, there is the self-confidence that comes from having overcome these barriers and starting to achieve some results. My scheme probably requires the cooperation of the media—a chancy thing at best, but in the early stages I would imagine that, while the flab was coming off, we would have some sort of novelty value and that it would perhaps

be only later, when the flab and the novelty had both worn off, that we would no longer be so newsworthy.

It might be a little grandiose to suggest a poli-olympics, but I think some kind of interstate comparison between politicians might not be such a bad idea. It already occurs in bowls, and I understand that it will start to happen in cricket. There is absolutely no reason why it should not happen elsewhere.

**Mr S.J. Baker:** We could have a Mr and Mrs Parliament.

**Mr KLUNDER:** We could indeed, as the honourable member opposite suggests. Not only would it provide an incentive for MPs to get fit, but also, in turn, it would provide a model for other people to try to follow. More important, I think it would publicise two things: first, that there are such things as senior athletics, swimming and other sports which have healthy competitions, age group competition and reasonable goals at which to aim within those age groups and, secondly, there would then be a realisation that the olympic figures are not the only figures towards which one should aim. I will never swim 100 metres under one minute and, if that was the only model that I had in front of me, I might well have hesitated before taking up swimming as a sport.

I doubt that any competition between MPs from various States would ever become a major spectator sport; nor

indeed would that be the intent of such a competition, because the intent would be to get other people to play and not just to watch us. But, by the same token, it would be possible for people to watch competition between States or, if their State was losing, to watch competition between parties and so have a second bite at the cherry to back winners. The parliamentary gym itself is only a very short step in that general direction, because the sweat, such as it is, is shed in secret.

**Mr Duigan:** And rarely.

**Mr KLUNDER:** And rarely, as one of my colleagues reminds me. Once you have become fit in one sport, one of the terrible things that you find when you go to the gym is how totally unfit you are in another sport, and that is a very discouraging feeling. Although I have treated this topic in a fairly lighthearted manner, I do not think that there is any doubt that a lack of physical fitness and the consequent tiredness at the workplace and the wheel is costing this country very dearly. It is timely for politicians to consider doing something about this matter.

Motion carried.

At 6.29 p.m. the House adjourned until Wednesday 12 February at 2 p.m.