

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

Wednesday, July 30, 1952.

The PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir Walter Duncan) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

**QUESTIONS.****SOLDIER SETTLEMENT.**

The Hon. L. H. DENSLEY—I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L. H. DENSLEY—In giving notice of my intention to ask a question last week I prefaced it by a few remarks about disappointment expressed by some soldiers as to the lack of any official information regarding ex-servicemen being permitted to make their holdings freehold after 10 years. I asked the Attorney-General whether the Government would endorse soldiers' leases with that provision. Replying yesterday to a further question the Minister did not exactly convey the information I required and later I expressed disappointment at his reply. Can he now say what has been agreed upon with regard to the freeholding of ex-servicemen's leases and whether it is the Government's intention to have that right written into the leases?

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL—I am glad that the honourable member asked the question because I am certain that some misunderstanding arose yesterday. His remarks during the Address in Reply and his question this afternoon enable me to clear up the matter and state the exact position. The right of ex-servicemen to apply to complete purchase after holding land for 10 years was agreed to in January, 1952, and the Returned Servicemen's League was so advised on February 6, 1952. The agreement was also published in the *Border Watch* on February 23, 1952, and in the *Advertiser* on February 20, 1952, as well as in the R.S.L. journal *Back* in June, 1952. It was also announced over the air. The honourable member's question was correctly answered, namely, that the matter of endorsing ex-servicemen's leases was under consideration. It is perfectly clear that they now have the right to apply.

**PRICE OF URANIUM.**

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—The following cable from Washington was reported in the *Port Pirie Recorder* on Monday last:—

Australia will probably be paid between 12s. 6d. and 30s. a pound for her uranium if she decides to export it, according to the Atomic Energy Commission.

Can the Minister of Mines confirm this statement and say whether it is correct?

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN—I have absolutely no information to give as regards the cable. Any direct communication with the Atomic Energy Commission by the *Port Pirie Recorder* is outside my knowledge. I do not even know to what the cable refers and I am afraid I cannot assist the honourable member in any way as regards its accuracy.

**EDUCATION.**

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH (on notice)—

1. How many children are attending—(a) State primary schools; and (b) private and denominational primary schools?

2. What is the number of private and denominational schools in South Australia?

3. What is the cost per head of the population for State school education, including school buildings and equipment?

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL—The replies are:—

1. (a) The number of children at present attending State primary schools is approximately 87,500. (b) Children attending private and denominational primary schools numbered 12,355 in 1951. That is the most recent figure available.

2. Private and denominational primary and secondary (including commercial) schools number 148.

3. Cost per head of population in 1951 for Education Department schools was £4 9s. 8d., and for buildings and repairs £1 5s. 3d., a total of £5 14s. 11d.

**HOSPITALS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.**

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN (Minister of Health), having obtained leave, introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Hospitals Act, 1934-1951.

Read a first time.

**PORT AUGUSTA SUB-BRANCH  
R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. (PURCHASE OF  
LAND) BILL.**

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN (Chief Secretary), obtained leave to introduce a Bill for an Act to authorize the Minister of Lands to purchase certain land from the Commonwealth and to sell portion of the said land to the Returned Sailors, Soldiers, and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia (Port Augusta Sub-Branch) Incorporated.

## ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

(Continued from July 29. Page 138.)

The Hon. C. D. ROWE (Midland)—I propose to address myself to the debate this afternoon under four separate headings. Firstly I propose to mention one or two matters which I think might be of interest in my district. Secondly I will make one or two comments as regards income tax legislation in this country. Thirdly, I will deal with two or three measures to be brought before the House this session and lastly, but by no means least, make one or two fair comments on certain statements made by the Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Bardolph during their speeches. I sincerely endorse the remarks of every speaker concerning the death of His Majesty King George VI. and expressing loyalty to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The sentiments regarding Sir Willoughby and Lady Norrie are fully justified and the high esteem in which they were held is ample evidence of the wisdom of appointing persons from England as our Vice-Regal representatives. It is a system I trust will long continue.

I congratulate the mover and the seconder of the motion on their excellent speeches. Mr. Cudmore's remarks relating to the present situation at the university are the first of that nature we have had for some years and are first-hand information. I am glad he dealt with the matter so exhaustively. Mr. Melrose's speech, as usual, was filled with factual matter. One timely matter he mentioned related to the development of the Nairne pyrities deposit, coupled with the superphosphate position. Primary producers are indebted to him for that exposition, because frequently there is irresponsible criticism of the Government's efforts to overcome the superphosphate shortage.

In all my Address in Reply speeches I have referred to the Yorke Peninsula water supply. The report of the Public Works Standing Committee concerning that supply was tabled a week or so after I was elected and since then the Government has done everything possible to expedite it. According to the last report I received from the Minister it appears that something tangible is happening. The whole scheme cannot be proceeded with because some of the necessary materials are not available, but those parts for which material is available have proceeded. The Upper Paskeville reservoir has been increased from 10,000,000 to

40,000,000gall. capacity and water has been flowing into that larger reservoir for some weeks, building up a reserve to meet the heavy summer demand. This will assist in overcoming the position we were confronted with last summer, when the dam at Tiparra was not able to feed the existing reticulation service further down the peninsula. Large reinforced tanks have been completed at Fullers Hill, Keilli, Barunga and Paskeville and another is nearing completion at Ardrossan.

Some sections of the Bundaleer trunk main, which will be the principal feeder to Yorke Peninsula, have been enlarged, but inability to obtain steel has hampered progress on this work. Deliveries of steel plate are now coming to hand and pipes are being manufactured at a rapid rate. With materials coming to hand it will be a question whether sufficient funds are available to enable the work to proceed as rapidly as is desired. It is pleasing to note that this important work has actually commenced and the policy of the Government is to continue works in progress rather than to commence new ones. The Government has done an excellent job in supplying water to country areas, which is of a greater advantage to country residents than most people realize. The adequate supply provided at Clare has enabled that township to have a more effective fire-fighting appliance. It is fitting to mention that our colleague, Mr. Melrose, generously donated £3,000 towards the cost of a fire station at Clare. That is typical of his attitude in all public matters and it is appreciated by people in that district and applauded by everyone who has the interests of the country at heart.

The Minister of Education and his department have done much to provide for the increasing numbers of students. The State's population has increased and new areas have grown up and the department has had to make a tremendous effort to meet the situation. I have made a careful survey of the position on Yorke Peninsula and I assume that what has been done there has been done elsewhere. At the Ardrossan higher primary school a single portable classroom and a library-science room have been erected. At Cunliffe a residence for the head teacher has been purchased from the school committee. At Kadina primary school a residence for an assistant teacher has been purchased. At Maitland area school a residence has been purchased for an assistant teacher, two other residences have been erected under contract, a single portable classroom has

been erected, additional paving has been laid in the school yard, a garage has been built for housing the school bus and garages have been erected at three teachers' residences. At Minlaton a single portable classroom has been erected for the primary school and a residence and garage have been erected for an assistant teacher at the high school. At Moonta high school a residence for an assistant teacher has been erected under contract and at Price there have been alterations for a library room and a single portable classroom has been built. At Stenhouse Bay a single portable classroom has been erected and at Wallaroo two residences for assistant teachers have been purchased and garages supplied at three teachers' homes; minor alterations have also been made to another residence. At Warooka a single portable classroom has been erected, and at Yorketown area school a garage has been built for the school bus, a dual portable classroom erected and improvements made to the assistants' residence. Also additional land has been purchased and fenced. These matters cover only a portion of my electorate, but they show the activity and interest displayed by the department in meeting the needs of the country areas and I extend my congratulations to the Minister on the effective work which has been done in that regard and which is appreciated by the people of the area.

Much publicity has been given to the installation at Ardrossan of facilities for handling wheat in bulk and I am pleased to say that, after I had organized a meeting a couple of years ago at Ardrossan to initiate this matter, it was taken up by the Australian Wheat Board and that the silo is now reaching completion. A considerable quantity of wheat was delivered at Ardrossan last year in anticipation of its being handled through the silo and it now appears that that will be accomplished and that it will also be able to handle the coming season's harvest. I understand it will be of the most modern construction and will have six receiving points, so that it should operate quite satisfactorily and I think it will be of benefit to those concerned.

The Hon. F. J. Condon—It was recommended by the Public Works Standing Committee.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—Yes, after an inspection, and I believe that the committee expedited its report because at this time last year the supply of cornsacks was much in doubt and it was thought that it would be an advantage to have this installation in order to save cornsacks if necessary.

I was sorry that this Council last year did not accept an amendment which would have enabled district councils in the River Murray areas to subscribe portion of their funds to the Murray Valley Development League. I feel that the Council was not so much opposed to giving councils power to do that as to the form in which the legislation was drafted, the contention being that it may have been rather too wide and may have allowed donations to be made to bodies which were not contemplated. I hope that, if and when the Local Government Act is before the Council again, this matter will receive the favourable vote which I think it deserves. The transport problem in the River Murray areas will have to be faced. I travel up there quite often and invariably there is delay at the punts at Blanchetown and Kingston. The growing importance of the area as a producing centre warrants something being done to expedite crossings of the river. I would support wholeheartedly any move to decide, first, what is the proper thing to do, and a decision having been made, to proceed with the work as quickly as possible.

The Hon. F. J. Condon—Would the honourable member favour a road on the northern side of the river?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—I would not care to express an opinion. The whole subject needs to be thoroughly investigated and a proper decision made rather than that some offhand opinion should be expressed.

Turning to legislation which will come before us, the first I wish to touch on is the Barley Marketing Act which was passed five years ago and which has to be renewed by us if the Australian Board is to continue. The Barley Board was established 13 years ago under National Security Regulations and it continued to function until the expiration of those regulations in 1947. It is of interest to note that 20 years ago 267,000 acres were sown to barley in this State, whereas last year the area was 840,000 acres. In 1947-48 15,363,000 bushels were grown compared with 17,500,000 bushels in 1951-52; this figure would have been 20,000,000 but for the fact that heavy losses were suffered through wind damage. In 1947, when the National Security Regulations expired, the growers felt that they would like a continuance of organized marketing. They felt that a return to open marketing conditions would lead, in the circumstances then existing, to chaos. Consequently a Barley Marketing Investigating Committee was appointed, mainly from Yorke Peninsula. It consisted of Mr. C. T. Chapman, the present

growers' representative on the Wheat Board, the late Messrs. J. S. Honner of Maitland and E. H. Giles, a former member of another place, and Messrs. J. R. Ferguson, J. S. Henderson, H. Bennett, W. L. Shegog, H. J. Cadd, S. K. Coleman, L. W. Croser, C. W. Bowden, G. G. Pearson, the present member for Flinders and growers' representative on the board, and L. Clarkson. At meetings which that committee arranged the general situation was surveyed and a basis for the proposed Act outlined. Two subsequent conferences were held in Adelaide which were attended by the Minister of Agriculture of South Australia, Sir George Jenkins, and the Minister for Agriculture for Victoria, Mr. McKenzie. I believe also that Messrs. Shannon and Milkins representing Victorian growers were present. The Crown Solicitor was consulted and as a result the Act of 1947 was passed, since when the sale of barley in this State has been controlled by the Australian Barley Board, which consists of two Government appointees, Mr. Spafford, chairman, and Mr. Smith, a consumers' representative, three growers' representatives, Messrs. Coleman and Pearson of South Australia and Shannon of Victoria. It is now a question of renewing that legislation if the Barley Board is to continue. Meetings have been organized in various parts of the State and I attended one at Minlaton recently at which about 200 growers were present. That meeting voted unanimously in favour of a continuance of organized marketing and I feel that in the circumstances that decision was correct. There are one or two points which substantiate my opinion and are peculiar to the Barley Board, placing it on a different basis from some other boards which we have had to continue.

The first point is that the Australian Barley Board has never requested nor required, nor has it ever received, any financial assistance from any Government or Government department. Even in the period 1939 to 1942, when barley was sold at a very low price, the board was able to arrange its own finance and did not call on the Government. The second reason why we need one selling organization for barley in South Australia is that a considerable portion of the product is sold overseas. Last year the United Kingdom took about 6,750,000 bushels from us, Holland about 2,750,000 bushels and Japan about 2,250,000. If we had more barley those countries would be pleased to receive it. For better or worse each has a single buying authority. Purchases by the United Kingdom are made through the

British Ministry of Food. One authority in Japan makes all purchases and I feel that if each of the countries to which we sell have only one buying authority it is obviously logical that we should have one selling authority here. If we had several selling authorities to one buying authority in another country it would tend to reduce the price to producers.

Another point which must be placed to the credit of the Australian Barley Board is that since its operations the whole of its administrative expenses have been paid from the increase in weight which barley made while it was in the board's possession. After barley is bagged and delivered there is always a certain increase in weight. Lastly, it seems that the board has given general satisfaction to growers. There are, however, one or two points which I think deserve mention and further consideration by the parties concerned. During the five years from 1947 to 1952 the total local sales of barley amounted to 30,271,000 bushels, the amount received being £12,045,000, an average of 7s. 11.502d. a bushel. During the same period 56,899,000 bushels were sold overseas, the amount received being £42,709,000, the average price being 15s. 0.147d.

The average price growers received for barley sold for local consumption was 7s. 11.5d. a bushel as against the average price of 15s. 0.147d. received overseas. This shows that growers have subsidized the home market for barley over that period by £10,676,524. The time has come when consideration could be given to increasing the price for barley sold on the home market. When one realizes that approximately 75 per cent of the barley grown in South Australia comes from Yorke Peninsula, it will be appreciated how much those farmers are subsidizing this industry.

The Hon. R. R. Wilson—Do you favour the de-control of barley?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—I think de-control would be advisable, but if any control is necessary it should be limited to goods in short supply. I do not think we can say that about barley at present, nor do I think it is likely to be short.

The Hon. F. J. Condon—It is better to grow wheat at 5s. a bushel than barley at 7s.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—The reason why barley is grown to such an extent on Yorke Peninsula is because it is easier to grow there than wheat. Yorke Peninsula country will not stand up to wheat growing year after year. There at least a four-year crop rotation is desirable if the soil is to be properly husbanded. Unfortunately, much of that

country has become wheat-sick and the growing of wheat has decreased whilst barley has helped the position. I think that farmers are justified in their action.

The Hon. C. R. Cudmore—The home consumption price is an argument that can be used between beer and bread.

The Hon. F. J. Condon—Bread is much more important and that is why we should grow wheat.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—Under the present set-up, there is no reason why growers should be expected to subsidize bread consumers.

I turn now to the Building Materials Act which we amended last session and which will come up again for consideration this session. I am pleased to say that the Building Materials Office is now issuing permits to people in the country on a freer basis. I think it will now be possible for most farmers and other country people to get permits to build houses of the type and size they require. Those who have been waiting to erect a house in the country on their farm or in town for their own use should immediately set about getting the necessary materials and collecting sufficient labour to proceed with that work.

Other legislation amended last session was the Landlord and Tenant (Control of Rents) Act. Although some people were apprehensive of the results of the relaxations provided last year there do not appear to have been any serious repercussions. In particular, the action of this House in providing that tenancies entered into after the passing of the Act, where parties shared either a habitable room or a bathroom or lavatory, could be subject to two months' notice of termination, was sound. As far as I can ascertain that power appears to be working very smoothly and I think our attitude has been perfectly justified. Every person who owns a house is entitled to reasonable consideration—some thing he has not received over the last few years. He has been penalized most heavily by spiralling costs. Our action is allowing a moderate increase in rents has been amply justified.

In going around the country I find much misunderstanding in regard to income tax. Most people seem to be under the impression that the present Federal Government has increased income tax tremendously, but that is not so. Now that an adjustment will be made in provisional tax, it will remain exactly the same as when the Chifley Government went out of office and considerably less than during some

of the time that that Government had control. I do not think that the average primary producer realizes the actual position in regard to income tax rates because of the prices which were received for wool during the year before last. That excessive price for wool, which occurred through circumstances over which nobody in this country had any control, was the basic reason for much criticism that has arisen over income tax. My experience has proved that once these matters have been explained to farmers they appreciate the position.

Yesterday Mr. Condon contended that farmers were going on strike. I disagree with him. I had a client who received a net income of £6,000 last year from growing wool, barley and wheat. Unfortunately, he omitted to include two items in his income tax return, one being for about £150 his wife received for the sale of dairy produce from the farm and the other for about the same amount he got for shearing he did for some neighbours to help them out of a difficulty. He was not anxious to do the work, but as they could not obtain shearers he assisted them. The extra tax that that man had to pay in respect of the £300 he received over and above the £6,000 was £231.

The Hon. N. L. Jude—Does that include provisional tax?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—No. The net result of his receiving the extra £300 was payment of an additional £231 tax. The present ruling of the Commissioner of Taxes is that anything that is produced on a farm must be regarded as income of the person who owns the property. Although the other members of his family may have done all the work in connection with the dairy produce the return from their efforts is added to the farmer's income for taxation purposes.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—That applies to the worker in industry.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—It does not. If a worker's wife is engaged she pays tax on her income and he pays it on his.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—What happens if she owns houses and gets rent?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—It is included in her assessment. In the case of a farmer whose wife performs that work the income is added to his assessment. Where it can be demonstrated that someone other than the farmer has done the majority of that work it should be treated as separate income.

The Hon. R. J. Rudall—If it isn't, it puts him on a higher taxation rate.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—In the case I cited, of the £300 received, £231 was absorbed in income tax. The farmer who earns £6,000 does not do so by working a 40-hour week and it is unfair to tax him unduly. Most primary producers are not taking advantage of the provisions of the Income Tax Act by dividing their incomes among members of their families. They would be well-advised to consider the question of partnership whereby all members of their families would receive a reasonable share of the incomes.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—Are you game to make that submission to Sir Arthur Fadden?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—There is no point in making such a submission as the Act provides for it. Farmers are not taking advantage of the provisions because it is only recently that incomes have increased considerably. For years they have not had reasonable remuneration for their work.

Some of Mr. Condon's remarks in this debate call for reply. He will agree that there are two sides to every question and I consider I have the better side. He made three points concerning primary producers. His first was to the effect that the farmers had refused to grow crops, that that was not in the interests of this country, and that they were adopting a wrong attitude. Mr. Robinson effectively replied when he quoted figures relating to the production of cereals. Those I quoted for the production of barley show that there has been a tremendous increase in production during the last few years. Mr. Condon's second point was that the provisions of the Industrial Code and the Factories Act should be extended to people in the country, and his third was that country people knew the Labor policy and if they followed it they would be doing the right thing. It is unfortunate that country people are not aware of the full implications of the Labor Party policy. If they were aware that the policy is to extend the provisions of the Industrial Code and the Factories Act to country areas they would be more cautious in their consideration of that policy. The Labor Party's policy is the socialization of the means of production, distribution and exchange.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—Who told you that?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—It has been printed in the newspapers. Before the announcement that the Labor Party intended to nationalize banks we were besieged by a tremendous amount of propaganda about the unfair things the banks had done. The farmers should be

aware of the bout of propaganda we are now receiving from the Labor Party that primary producers are going on strike and not producing sufficient. The policy of the Labor Party is that the property of farmers should be socialized and farmers should be asked to hand in their title deeds and receive some other document in return. People should consider what socialization means. Mr. Bardolph said that under the Menzies Government our overseas balances had been considerably reduced. I do not dispute that but other facts should be considered. When the Chifley Government was in office we had high overseas balances but our people were starving for things they needed. People needed petrol to carry on their ordinary businesses but they could not get it.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—Did they need motor cars, washing machines and radiograms?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—They needed all those things. Primary producers could not get the tractors, implements and machinery they required to carry on their production. In many instances we were unable to obtain blankets and clothing and what has happened is that our overseas balances have been absorbed in importing motor cars, farming machinery, fencing materials and other essential goods.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—Mr. Robinson said farmers could not get machinery.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—They may not be getting all they require but they are getting a greater supply than before. I prefer the situation in which a person can get what blankets, clothing and goods he requires to carry on his production rather than that he should have to fill out some forms to get some assistance from a Government department. The present Government's policy is to increase production of iron, steel and coal and to satisfy the people's needs. Goods have been imported because they are needed. We have reached a stage where people have more of their needs satisfied, which was not so when the Labor Government was in power. Socialism and Democracy are not synonymous terms and the sooner people realize that the better. Socialism is a system of restrictions and controls which prohibits the development of the best brains and ability of a country. Democracy operates on the basis that everybody shall use his ability and talents in the best avenues available. That system resulted in the development of the British Empire, and enabled our forebears to settle this country. It has produced the outstanding scientists and economists and is aiding the progress of the truly democratic

countries like America and Switzerland. The contrary policy of Socialism has brought many former democratic countries almost to the verge of ruin. We have all been endowed with certain natural abilities to use according to our own ideas. Democracy is based on the assumption that everyone in the community will do his best. Any system—and the socialistic system, is one of them—which prohibits that and tries to reduce the people to such a frame of mind that all they can think about is waiting in a queue for someone to give them what they need is operating to the detriment and to the ultimate defeat of the people it tries to save. Socialism is half way towards Communism, and that is quite clearly indisputable. The only difference is that the Socialist expects to achieve his ends by using the Constitution as it stands. The Communist goes a little further for he says, "We will use the Constitution as far as it will enable us to go and when we cannot go any further we will go beyond the law and do it by other means." Every Socialist sooner or later reaches the stage where he finds he can go no further along the lines he wants to go by ordinary constitutional means and then he has to suggest some other means. In that connection I quote two extracts from speeches in this Chamber this session. Mr. Bevan, speaking on the Appropriation Bill on the opening day of Parliament, referring to the application proposed to be made to the Arbitration Court regarding certain hours and conditions of work, said:—

I would suggest that if our Government intervenes in this application we will not need to provide for an additional expenditure of £370,000 because it will create so much industrial chaos throughout Australia that no railways will be operating and we will not be spending anything.

That was a suggestion that if the Arbitration Court made a certain decision the people of this country would not obey the law of the land, but would take it into their own hands, which is precisely the Communist's method. Finally, I deal with the comment by Mr. Bardolph only yesterday, when he said:—

The last Federal election can be classed as a farce, a sham and a fraud.

The Federal election was conducted by proper means, according to the Constitution of this country, and I do not think it reasonable that anyone should say that an election conducted in that manner is a sham, a farce and a fraud. My point is that the Socialist goes as far as he can within the bounds of the Constitution, and when he finds he is at his

wits' end he makes other suggestions which are not in line with the Constitution.

The Hon. C. R. Cudmore—He was mixing it up with a union ballot.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—I am glad the honourable member reminds me of that because it is of interest to note that since the Menzies Government has been in power there is evidence of a health and vigour in many of our major unions which at no time was perceptible during the regime of the Chifley Government. In many instances Communists have been put out of office and now union members are breathing a freer and clearer air under their proper officials. I think I have completely exploded the bogey put up by members opposite regarding the failure of the Menzies Government to carry out its promises. Not one constructive idea to assist the position in which we find ourselves was made by any member opposite. We can all throw stones; that is quite a simple thing to do, but I have yet to hear any constructive criticism or reasonable suggestions from members opposite. I feel that the Federal Government, and more particularly the State Government, have met the situations with which they have been confronted with intelligence and on a democratic basis. The State Government in particular enjoys the support of a large majority of the people in both country and city areas and I feel quite certain that, notwithstanding all that has been said by members of the Labor Party, both here and elsewhere, it will be a long time before we have the spectacle of members of the Australian Labor Party on the Treasury benches. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON (Northern)—Like other members I express my regret at the passing of His Majesty, King George VI. The strenuous years during which he was monarch of the British Empire—the six years of war and the years that followed—did much to bring about his death. His passing was very untimely, for he was loved by all of his people whose affection he had won, and he died in their service. The loyalty of the people of the British Empire to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II., is beyond all doubt and we all wish her good health and a happy reign. I am sure all will agree that in Sir Willoughby and Lady Norrie we had some of the most excellent occupants of Government House. During his term he did his work untiringly and upheld the honour and dignity of the

Throne. Had he been appointed Governor-General of Australia, as was once thought probable, I am sure it would have been a most popular appointment. However, New Zealand has gained what we have lost.

I pay a tribute to our late clerk, Mr. Redman, who rendered wonderful service to this Chamber and whose memory is fresh with us today. I likewise pay a tribute to the late Mr. L. S. Duncan, who was the House of Assembly member for Gawler. He was a very loveable man and had no enemies in Parliament. I extend a welcome to Mr. Ivor Ball who has been appointed clerk of the Legislative Council; he well deserved his promotion. His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Mellis Napier, delivered his speech in a very dignified manner and mentioned many projects which the people and the Government wish to be carried out. However, due to the financial situation, which has further deteriorated since he delivered his speech owing to the increase in the basic wage, many of those projects will not be possible of accomplishment. Notwithstanding that it was pleasing to note His Excellency's opinion that "The economic position of the State is still sound." I congratulate Mr. Cudmore, the mover, on his excellent speech. He always has something worth-while to put before us and on this occasion gave us something which I at least have not heard since coming to this place. The seconder, Mr. Melrose, likewise gave us much valuable information, and because of his practical experience we know that what he said was authentic.

The season is proving to be an excellent one. I travel fairly extensively throughout the State and I cannot remember better prospects at this time of the year, except in the most northern parts of the State where dry conditions are being experienced, so much so that some cattle *en route* to Quorn have died in the railway trucks because of their poor condition. In the remainder of the State, however, I am sure we will enjoy a very good season if we receive reasonably good spring rains. Strange to say pastures vary considerably. Late frosts, I believe, have been of benefit to them although this does not show in their present appearance. Cereal crops are in good condition except in districts with heavy land, where the farmers have not been able to complete seeding. I travelled from Booboorowie to Clare last Monday and saw quite a number of farmers still seeding, presumably with barley, because wheat sown in late July or August is too much dependent on spring rain.

We have heard many fine addresses in this debate and each member has spoken with knowledge derived from his occupation. I propose therefore to devote most of my remarks to agricultural interests which I mainly represent. As His Excellency said, the backbone of this country is agriculture. The development by the Government of large hitherto unproductive areas during the last 12 months is a great step towards increasing our production. The Government and a certain company are doing wonderful work in bringing land into production in areas formerly considered unsuitable for agriculture, and this will provide for many more settlers.

Mr. Melrose referred to superphosphate, the lifeblood of agriculture. I support his remarks and wish to say how much we appreciate the recommendation by Mr. Gillespie that there should be two representatives of producers on the Superphosphate Allocation Board. Although anomalies existed in regard to the allotment of superphosphate the board has done a really good job. Allotments were based on a certain year and if a farmer applied a small dressing of superphosphate to his pastures that year he paid the penalty.

Manpower on farms is our chief concern today. There has been a clamour for the city lights with all the amenities that a city provides. I am pleased that the Government is making every effort to provide these amenities for country people. It has even gone to the extent of providing houses on farms for the employees. The Leader of the Opposition mentioned the other day that the Government was erecting prefabricated houses on farms and I desire to clear up a little misunderstanding in this regard. I had no intention of supporting him in his suggestion that the provisions of the Industrial Code should be extended to farm workers.

The Hon. F. J. Condon—The Industrial Code could apply to country towns as well as to farms.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—New Australians would be a great asset in assisting primary production, but they are not much use on farms until they can speak English properly. At present farmers have to instruct them, mostly by signs and written notices, how to attend to stock and manage the machinery. They would be able to greatly assist in the pea-picking industry at Port Germein, where they can work in a body and do not need individual supervision and instruction. New Australians

are being taught English in many schools, and if the practice is continued they will greatly assist in farm work. Let me quote some figures regarding production on Eyre Peninsula. A "strike" in the agricultural industry was referred to, but there is no such thing. The term "strike" has been used loosely. There has not been a reduction in primary production on Eyre Peninsula. During the period 1940-1 to 1950-1 the wheat acreage has shown a decrease by 124,251 acres, but there was an increase of 2,921,095 bushels. The barley acreage increased by 76,970 and production by 2,109,146 bushels. The area sown to oats decreased by 87,988 acres, but there was an increase of 451,299 bushels. Cereal production increased by 5,481,540 bushels notwithstanding a decrease of 24,251 acres. The figures for stock production for the same period are:—Sheep, a decrease of 192,621; cattle, 7,271; pigs, 29,530; a total decrease of 227,422.

One matter that has not been mentioned during the debate is the wonderful strides that have been made in cereal production as the result of weed spraying. I congratulate the Minister of Agriculture and officers of his department on the progress that has been made in this direction. In a large area of country between Snowtown and Redhill wild turnip thrived with cultivation. Spraying however, not only completely controlled wild turnip, but greatly promoted cereal growth. For years this country had been troubled by that noxious weed. Although there has been a slight decline in the wheat acreage it has been more than made up by the increased barley acreage. We have been told that the only chance of increased production is a return to a 44 or 48 hour week. It has been pointed out, too, that production has increased with the 40-hour week. I am not against a 40-hour week but it cannot be applied to farming. Some advocate the principle of getting as much as possible for doing as little as possible, but with that I do not agree.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—We do not agree with that.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—I think it is recognized that greater production is possible with a 40-hour week. We should adopt the slogan of "Back to the land." Many people will return to the land if they can be provided with amenities. I congratulate the Barley Board on the wonderful job it has done since its establishment. Most worthy representatives of the barley industry are on it. Producers will always get fair play when growers' representatives are appointed to any board.

They certainly have received that treatment from the Barley Board. Barley is a less expensive crop to grow than wheat. Moreover, it is more profitable, and always has been. It is a cereal that can be grown in rotation, the stubble is valuable and more crops can be produced than with wheat, with better financial returns. We do not have to pay the same attention to the quality of barley as we did in earlier days. No barley is exported from Australia today for malting purposes; it is all for feed, in fact, we have been importing barley for brewing purposes. After the war Japan suffered severely through food shortages. Prior to that Korea and Formosa supplied practically all the barley Japan required. Since the war it has been found that by processing practically the whole of the barley grain can be used.

The Hon. F. T. Perry—Will Japan be able to keep up with the price?

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—I think so. The brewers take out what barley is required for malting purposes, the balance being known as "brewers' grains." I have purchased a lot for feeding poultry, pigs and cattle. Japan is using the whole of the by-product from the grain, the skin being used for bran for feeding cattle and poultry. The broken grain is used as material for manufacturing soya bean paste and the seed germ for oils and medicines. Before the war Japan used about 350,000 metric tons of barley. Her present yearly consumption is 1,000,000 tons, or three times as much as before the war. She imports 880,000 tons yearly. I agree with statements that have been made about the benefits to the soil through barley growing.

Mr. Edmonds mentioned transport on Eyre Peninsula and I support his remarks. A recent article in the press has been accepted by many people as gospel truth, but it is no such thing. The article was not based on facts and has done considerable harm. Wheatgrowers say that as they have such a large quantity of grain on their hands they will not grow any more this year. The Government should do everything in its power to transfer rolling stock from the South-East to Eyre Peninsula. One prominent Eyre Peninsula farmer recently wrote to the press saying that it appeared that rolling stock from the South-East must either go into the sea or be used on Eyre Peninsula, but I am sure that the Government will not send useless rolling stock to the peninsula. The Government desires to obtain revenue from railways and not to waste further money.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—Do you discount what Mr. Edmonds said?

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—No, I am supporting him. The Government has been criticized for not meeting the grain position on Eyre Peninsula. Many people claim that Port Lincoln is the best port in the State for the turn-round of shipping. At the moment we are worried by a strike at Port Lincoln, which was caused by the employment of unregistered men to assist in loading ships. These men are called 'quandongs.' The worst feature of the strike was that last Monday perishable goods could not be unloaded from the *Moonta*, and as a result people who lived hundreds of miles from Port Lincoln had to go without.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—The strike was caused because unregistered men would not join the unions.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—Why should they?

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—The union is responsible for their award rates and conditions.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—Mr. Condon suggested we should all pull together but in this instance there was no co-operation. Many people were encouraged to purchase expensive vehicles to carry grain which the railways could not handle and consequently much damage has been done to the roads on Eyre Peninsula. The wet season brought about much deterioration of roads and not only are the main roads affected but almost every road in the district. Last Saturday evening, Mr. Pearson, who accompanied me to Lock, had to get out of the car on a number of occasions and examine the road because of its deplorable condition. Better roads are necessary in view of the increased production on the peninsula. Expensive plant is located there but because of the 40-hour week it cannot be used economically.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—It could be with shift work.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—And by paying overtime rates. South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania are agent States of the Commonwealth scheme for war service land settlement. South Australia has been criticized for what it has done in comparison with Victoria and New South Wales but we now hold the trump card because in New South Wales and Victoria their settlement schemes have almost been suspended. Recent figures reveal that we have settled 441 men on dry lands, 271 on irrigation lands and 90 on selected

blocks. A recent survey revealed that of the applicants awaiting blocks 30 per cent were not interested in dry land and 35 per cent not interested in irrigation land.

The Hon. L. H. Densley—What number would that represent?

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—Approximately 400, but there are 300 who indicated they desired blocks. As a result of the Perth conference last week, the Minister of Agriculture has indicated that sufficient land is now to be purchased for all applicants who desire irrigation blocks.

The Hon. F. J. Condon—We have been hearing that for the last 10 years.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON—And it is now an actual fact. Many settlers have complained about their assessments and last Friday the Director of Lands and other executives met settlers at Wanilla. If a settler is unable to meet his assessment and has pulled his weight he will receive assistance. The assessment is only a tentative one and can be reduced, but cannot be increased. Yesterday Mr. Densley referred to the ex-serviceman's right to obtain the freehold after he had held his land for 10 years. I am pleased that the matter was clarified by the Minister today. The settler will now be able to bequeath the freehold land to his children provided he has paid all commitments on it.

Clearing virgin country to a productive state is a difficult task and the first pastures, after clearing, are usually good but then the land enters a condition which takes many years to remedy. The agistment charges on some blocks are causing concern. Settlers bought sheep at high prices and are in debt to stock firms which naturally desire to recover their advances. It creates a hardship on the settler if a portion of the money derived by him from contract work is taken by the Government.

The natural resources located in my district are being availed of by the Government and we were grateful for being permitted to visit Radium Hill last year. Uranium mining is in its infancy but the forecast that it will help us considerably will become a reality. The new power station at Port Augusta is expected to operate in 1954, although much work has yet to be done. It seems also that a further power station will have to be established there. It is unfortunate for the residents of Quorn and Hawker that they will lose the railway service which they have enjoyed for so many years. It is to be hoped that it will be possible to give them some relief, for

Quorn is a town of which its residents are proud and on which a great deal of money has been spent. Nevertheless, it seemed obvious from the information available that the verdict would go the way it did, because the new route will accelerate the transport of coal owing to the avoidance of steep grades as well as assist settlers in a part of the State not hitherto served by rail.

The progress in afforestation is very pleasing and I am sure that for many years this undertaking will provide ever-increasing revenue. Last year 4,300 acres were planted, bringing the total area under forests to 117,000 acres, so the future of our supplies of pinus timber seems to be assured.

The firefighting organization which has been built up throughout the State has fulfilled a very important function and I congratulate Mr. Jude on the strong support he has given this movement. Mr. Kerr, the director, told me recently that 400 calls were received last year. It is amazing to learn that there were so many and that so little is known of the splendid work being performed by this volunteer organization. We are facing another year of flourishing pastures which in the summer will create a great fire hazard.

I support Mr. Cowan's remarks about the late Sid Shepherd who was a very prominent figure in agricultural circles. His passing is a distinct loss to primary producers, for although no-one is indispensable, his place will be very difficult to fill. His work in introducing the topdressing of pastures will stand for all time as his memorial.

I have never heard such a flow of political propaganda in this Chamber as we heard yesterday from Mr. Bardolph and I am sure that his optimism about a change of Government will be answered by the people at the next election. I am convinced that the people generally have the utmost confidence in the present Government, but such political outbursts require some response in support of a Government which we claim has done a very good job indeed. I thank members for their patient hearing and have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

The Hon. A. A. HOARE (Central No. 1)—We have heard many expressions of loyalty to the Queen and Empire and I suppose one would be correct in saying, "By their deeds ye shall know them." The Australian people have proved time and time again their unswerving loyalty to the Throne and the Empire. The soldiers who went away to fight in the last two wars proved that they were loyal indeed,

and the people stood loyally behind them. They fought manfully and well, because they desired the survival of the British Empire, and proved themselves to be the best soldiers in the world.

As a member of the Parliamentary Land Settlement Committee my first visit to Kangaroo Island made a wonderful impression on me. I believe the island has a great future, for some of the country reminded me of the old Bungaree station at the time it shored 82,000 sheep a year and employed 62 shearers. The sheep we saw on Kangaroo Island seemed to be carrying wonderful fleeces, supporting my view that it is a good place for producing wool, unless the sea air has some bad effect. I do not know whether that is the case there, but it does have an ill-effect on wool in some parts, such as on lower Yorke Peninsula and on the islands off the West Coast. The Government has done a wonderful job in clearing land with the most modern plant. A good maintenance workshop has been established and around this a little town with a school, post office, savings bank and picture show has formed. Allotments of land are made to ex-soldiers as the area is cleared and I am convinced that as the years go by Kangaroo Island will grow in importance to the community.

Mr. Wilson referred to wheat and barley, but I think beyond doubt wheat is the most desirable from a food point of view. The honourable member may recall when the Federal Government issued a proclamation compelling farmers to sow less wheat because the Australian market was flooded. Now it is a different story and farmers are talking about going on strike if they cannot get more superphosphate and cornsacks and the overseas price. Are the farmers prepared to do that when Australia and other nations are in danger of a shortage of foodstuffs? We are scarcely growing sufficient wheat to feed our own people and one wonders what will happen. If a Government can compel people to grow less wheat it should be able to compel them to grow more.

The Hon. R. R. Wilson—We are not short of wheat.

The Hon. A. A. HOARE—There is a serious shortage of wheat in New South Wales and Queensland.

The Hon. R. R. Wilson—Queensland had a drought last year and was talking about importing food supplies.

The Hon. E. H. Edmonds—Does not Queensland always import wheat?

The Hon. A. A. HOARE—I believe it usually does not grow enough wheat for its own requirements, but what I am trying to show is that if we do not produce enough wheat to enable us to export considerable quantities how can we balance our accounts overseas? Everyone knows that the people of Australia and other wheat-producing countries must do more than they are today, whether they like it or not. The last depression reduced Australia to a most serious condition. It started in a small way and we had to get a man from England to tell the banks and the Government what to do. He recommended a reduction of salaries, wages, pensions and so forth by 12½ per cent. Every right-thinking person must recognize that unemployment is like a snowball—the more it rolls the bigger it gets. During the last depression, when many people had no work and little food, international bankers told the British Government that it must reduce the dole by £12,500,000 notwithstanding that people at the time were getting insufficient to eat. Let me repeat what Mr. Lloyd George, England's wartime Prime Minister, said at the time:—

International bankers swept statesmen, politicians, jurists and journalists all to one side and issued their orders with the command and imperiousness of absolute Monarchs who know there was no appeal from their ruthless decrees.

Who is governing the world today? Undoubtedly it is the bankers, who decide that the world shall proceed along certain lines. Our Premier was greatly disturbed by the remarks of the Prime Minister about reductions in loan moneys and said:—

The Prime Minister's statement had the theme that the Commonwealth Government would not be stampeded into adopting financial policies which would increase tax burdens or interfere with the restoration of stability. This statement implies two things—that the Commonwealth Government does not consider itself bound in any way by Loan Council decisions and that the Loan Council had approved a policy to increase tax burdens or propose to interfere with the restoration of stability. Not once in the 32 hours of controversy at the council meeting had a State Premier advocated increased tax burdens. The main anxiety of the State Premiers was to avoid the dislocation, waste and unemployment which would inevitably follow cuts in works programmes. On the one hand there was the Commonwealth policy of severe credit restrictions, with its inevitable influence on the loan market.

The Premier's statement shows that we can expect more unemployment, thus creating another depression. As regards the wheat

industry, farmers should think more deeply than they are doing today. They are on a good wicket as the price of wheat, wool and other agricultural produce has never been so high. High prices, however, have their disadvantages as well as advantages. It is estimated that the population of Japan totals 83,000,000, with a yearly increase of 1,000,000. For years that country has not produced sufficient food to feed its population.

A beef shortage in Australia, a most serious problem, was referred to. I blame the railways for much of the trouble because of the slowness of its transport. Our northern railway gauges are too small. They should be increased to the 4ft. 8½in. for stock transport. When construction of the East-West railway line was started Sir John Forrest was Premier of Western Australia. He promised that Western Australia would continue the 4ft. 8½in. gauge from Kalgoorlie to Perth, but nothing has yet been done in that direction. Breaks of gauge decrease the value and comfort of travelling. There has been a lot of talk about invasion of the Northern Territory, but I do not believe that that is where our danger lies. The Japanese bombed Darwin during World War II., but I think an enemy would endeavour to land in Queensland. The present Federal Government is again encouraging the Japanese to come to Australia by allowing them to use Australian-pearling waters. I am certain that Japan knew more about Australia during the last war than did thousands of Australians.

Many employees are being dismissed by Aetil Cotton Mills and those who are still there are working only one week in three. All this, despite a textile shortage, but what about the position in Japan? Australia has imported 10,000,000 yards of textiles from that country. How can we possibly compete with workers who receive only 1s. a day? In England an unemployed army is being built up through dismissals from textile works. At the same time Japan is building up her industries.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—More than 2,000 are out of work in South Australia.

The Hon. A. A. HOARE—I am afraid that the number will increase. The same thing is happening in South Africa where textile workers are being thrown on to the unemployed market because Japanese goods are flooding that country. I have already mentioned the railway between Kalgoorlie and Perth and now draw attention to the railways in the far North. Many reports have been made about the channel country in northern Australia and

the opportunities available for extending our beef industry. The railway line in the north is in poor condition. A line should be constructed from Djarra, just outside the channel country, to Marree. The Federal Government's argument, however, is that there is insufficient money to build it. When the East-West line was started £1,205,651 was raised from taxation, £3,228,519 was taken from profits on the Australian note issue and £2,335,572 obtained from securities held in the Australian Note Account. This gave a total of £6,769,742. The railway was constructed by that means and if it was possible then it should be possible now.

The Hon. E. Anthony—The line was built from profits of the Commonwealth Bank.

The Hon. A. A. HOARE—That is so. There has been talk of the possibility of enemy landing on our far northern coasts and that is another reason why a line providing a quick means of transport to the southern areas should be constructed. During the war considerable quantities of vegetables were grown in the Northern Territory and my informant suggests it could be done now. There would be a ready market for produce in Java. It was also suggested that dairying could be established in the Northern Territory because lucerne grows luxuriously and green feed is available the year round. If that information is correct at least 1,000,000 people could be settled there.

I believe Mr. Rowe quoted portion of the Labor Party's policy on socialization but he should have been fair and quoted it in its entirety. The Labor Party's objective is the socialization of industry, production, distribution and exchange. The Labor Party proposes collective ownership for the purpose of preventing exploitation. Wherever private ownership is a means of exploitation it is opposed by the Labor Party but the Party does not seek to abolish private ownership even of any of the instruments of production where such instrument is utilized by its owner in a socially useful manner and without exploitation. It did not suit Mr. Rowe's argument to quote the full policy. During the regime of the Chifley Government there was no unemployment and conditions were good. It proved conclusively that Labor is not a disastrous Government but a good one which stands for the betterment of the people.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan—When the Labor Party wanted to introduce a scheme for full employment Mr. Menzies opposed it.

The Hon. A. A. HOARE—Of course, because full employment does not suit him. He is aiming for an unemployment market. No-one has need to fear the Labor Party: it has proved its honesty and fairness to the people and no-one can truthfully suggest that any grave injustice was done to any section. Mr. Menzies cannot agree with the Labor Party's policy because he represents big business, and he legislates accordingly.

The Hon. E. Anthony—Members of the Labor Party do not always agree.

The Hon. A. A. HOARE—But they all accept the Labor Party's policy. Loyalty is a great thing and the Party is loyal to the people. I hope at the next elections there will be a change of Government, not only in the Federal sphere but here. Most State Premiers are disgusted with the Menzies Government.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan—Because of its misrepresentations.

The Hon. A. A. HOARE—Yes. A quotation from the *Wagga Daily Advertiser* suggested that the idea that value was put back in the pound was only a mockery of what was promised. Mr. Menzies has not fulfilled one of his promises and the people will decide at the next elections which Party is to govern and we will abide by the decision.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL (Attorney-General)—I am sure members regret that the reply to members' speeches is not in the hands of the Chief Secretary but members appreciate the reason and hope that the cause will soon disappear. I associate myself with what has been said concerning the death of His Majesty and the accession of our Queen. It is impossible to over-estimate the value of the Crown in its relation to the Commonwealth of Nations. It is the only link that binds the Commonwealth and because of recent developments there has never been a time since our constitutional Government became settled when greater responsibility rested upon the monarchy. It calls for qualities of the highest character and it is only when we study the work that has to be performed by the monarch that we realize how tremendous are the responsibilities. I am positive that no-one could carry out those duties unless inspired by a tremendous sense of devotion. We have that devotion in our present Queen and no subject could have listened without the deepest emotion to her speech of dedication broadcast from South Africa.

I associate myself with what has been said about Sir Willoughby and Lady Norrie. They

have left an abiding place in the hearts of all sections of the people and I am sure everyone was delighted to read last night of the honour that has been bestowed upon Sir Willoughby by Her Majesty. During the recess Parliament suffered two losses. In this Council we lost our clerk, Mr. Redman, and I am sure that everyone of us felt that in him we had lost not only an officer of Parliament but a personal friend to whom we were indebted for many kindly deeds.

The Hon. A. A. Hoare—He was a gentleman indeed.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL—That sums it up precisely. In another place we suffered the loss of Mr. Leslie Duncan and I make particular reference to that because Mr. Duncan was a resident of my own town, and had been, long before he came into public life, a personal friend. He had a tremendous love for his town and district and he left behind him many friends who regret his passing.

I wish to refer now very briefly to some speeches which have been made in this debate, but before doing so I desire to congratulate all members who have spoken on the very high standard they have set. Every speaker has contributed a speech which we were able to enjoy; I heard practically all of them and the high standard was maintained throughout. I particularly thank Mr. Bevan for his references to his earlier remarks about the Findon school. I deeply appreciate what he said, but I wish chiefly, as perhaps is only natural, to refer to what was said by members of the Opposition.

I discovered after listening to Mr. Bardolph that the next State elections seem to have been won already by the Labor Party; he gave it to us as quite definite knowledge. The only thing he omitted to tell us was the office he intended to fill as Minister of the Crown, but I have no doubt we will have that information later in the session. What became obvious was the tactics which will be adopted by the Opposition, because I could detect hustings speeches even at this date. It is quite obvious that the expectations of the Opposition are based upon the hope that they will be able to fool the people of South Australia at the next State elections into believing that they are voting at a Federal election. I do not want to disappoint these honourable members, but I rather fancy that the people of South Australia will not be fooled in that way. The Opposition is driven to this course because it is impossible for them to attack the record of

the Playford Government. Indeed, so far from criticizing it all they can say is that the Playford Government has simply adopted the policy of the Labor Party. I have not the slightest doubt that within the course of a very few weeks we will find our friends claiming credit for opening up the Radium Hill uranium deposits; as sure as the sun will rise they will be on their feet claiming that as part of their achievements. However, I should not be surprised if Mr. Bardolph finds that he will not have to make a choice of any particular Ministerial office after the next election.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph—Your Leader implied that I was going to the Federal sphere.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL—I think the honourable member is very fortunate to find himself in his present position.

The only speech on which I wish to comment in detail is that delivered by Mr. Cudmore. It was a magnificent opening to the whole debate and I propose to refer very briefly to what he said regarding the university. It is well that occasionally those who represent us on the University Council should report, as Mr. Cudmore did, on their activities. I associate myself with much that he said and particularly with his references to the work of Sir William Mitchell. I do not think the full value of that work can be over-emphasized. In addition to our admiration for his magnificent administration many are still alive who look back on his teaching as a professor as probably the greatest inspiration they ever received from any teacher of the true values of life.

Mr. Cudmore mentioned the number of graduates, under-graduates and non-graduates in 1947. I have the figures for 1950 and the position then was that of a total of 4,537 students 2,547 were graduating students, 2,458 being under-graduates and 89 doing post-graduate diploma work in education. Of the remaining 1,990, Conservatorium students numbered 595, but I do not think we are concerned with them in this discussion. That leaves 1,395 non-graduating students and it was these to whom Mr. Cudmore specially referred. Without in any way meaning to do so I am sure he gave some members the impression that numbers of these students were merely there doing odd subjects, rather cluttering up the place, and coming more under the heading of what is sometimes called "socialites" than students. It do not think for one moment that he meant

that, but I have gathered from conversation with some members that that is the impression he gave them. Of the 1,395 non-graduating students—which by no means implies that they were not matriculated students—1,004 were qualified for diploma courses in commerce, public administration, pharmacy, physical education, social science, arts, education and physiotherapy. In other words, the great proportion of that number were doing diploma courses. A total of 189 were engineering students from the School of Mines doing compulsory university subjects for their diploma courses, such as physics and chemistry. The remainder, numbering only 202, were taking odd subjects. What the honourable member said amounted to this: “Although we now have many new faculties at the university more than one-fourth of the students are non-matriculated students who should not be there.” One could only infer that there must be some intention somewhere that all these diploma students should not attend the university, and I wish to strike a very serious note of warning on this, because these diploma courses and diploma students have for long been part of the university; their very courses were set up by the university and they afford to this great number of students the opportunity to qualify themselves, not actually for degrees, but for diplomas.

The Hon. C. R. Cudmore—This university is unique among Australian universities.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL—I am well aware of that, but nevertheless this is the university of the State of South Australia. It is supported by a tremendous amount of taxpayers' money and I simply say that and nothing more, for I know nothing of the details to which the honourable member referred. The second point is this. When referring to university education in general he said, “A university has two functions. First to train people for professions and, secondly, to enable people to pursue scholarship learning for its own sake.” Having said that he went on to quote from a lecture delivered by Sir Walter Moberly in which Sir Walter himself quoted the very famous passage from Cardinal Newman's book as follows:—

A university training aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular enthusiasms and fixed aims to popular aspirations, at giving enlargement and sobriety to the ideas of the age, at facilitating the exercise of political power and refining the intercourse of private life.

Those words of Cardinal Newman are quoted in many books on the question of the university and what it stands for. It is a perfect expression by a master in English, as Cardinal Newman was, of what many people think is the first and proper function of a university. That first function is not to train people for professions, assuming we accept Cardinal Newman's statement as true. Our first duty is to give to those who attend a university the capacity to live full lives, moral as well as intellectual, as emphasized in Cardinal Newman's speech. It is a question of enormous importance so far as Australia is concerned. The question which must be asked of our university—and every Australian university, the most important which can be asked of them—is will they give to the students who attend them that broad, cultural training in the art of living? The answer to that will require a tremendous lot of thought.

It might be suggested that this is just the point where Australian universities are not, perhaps, carrying out their primary function. The question is of enormous importance because, if we feel as Cardinal Newman and other authorities do, the answer involves so much concerning what I might call “the deeper side of the development of Australian character.” If any member goes to America—I have never been there and unfortunately the pressure of my duties prevents me from reading as much as I like on these matters—he will find an absolute acceptance of the fact that it is necessary for these professional and other men to have this broad, general training. There, probably, is the greatest example of free enterprise we have ever had in the world.

America is the outstanding nation today and they feel that this broad general training is essential if a man is to be fully qualified in his profession or as a business executive. This broad, cultural training makes the professional man or business executive much better qualified in the long run to answer the problems which will confront him during the course of his life. I am not an expert and understand little about these matters, but in so far as I understand anything about them, I have not the slightest doubt where I stand. I am satisfied that unless we give to our people that training which is moral as well as intellectual we will be failing in our duty.

As Minister of Education I have travelled throughout the length and breadth of South Australia and wherever I have been I have attempted to say, as forcibly as I could—and I

will still continue while I occupy this position to do so—that it is not sufficient to think that by sending children to school and developing the intellectual side of their character they are receiving the full benefit of education. I have attempted to point out to people to whom I have had the pleasure of speaking that the basis of any individual life is not the qualities associated with the intellectual, but the qualities associated with the spiritual side of our nature. That must be the basis upon which any life must be built in order to be full and successful. Any individual or nation that relies on its intellectual development at the expense of the development of its spiritual qualities will never prosper.

What do we see as regards the position of the world and Australia today? Is it not the lack of those qualities which, after all, is the real trouble with all of us? Is it not the lack of those qualities that made our country and Empires great, yet are at the bottom of most of our difficulties today? I am not referring to any particular section of the community, but to every section. It is the whole essence of service to the State—to do all one can in the development of those qualities that react in the life of the individual and stop all the stupidity that goes on today as regards the reluctance to produce, the lack of this and the lack of that. It is the absence of those qualities that creates so much of the troubles that are with us today.

The question that every university must ask itself is: "Are we giving to students that broad basis of culture?" I say, with all humility, that any university which does not do so is not fulfilling its true function.

Motion for adoption of the Address in Reply carried.

The PRESIDENT—I wish to intimate that I will endeavour to arrange for His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor to receive the Address in Reply on the next day of sitting, if possible.

#### DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

A message was received from the House of Assembly notifying the appointment of Mr. H. S. Dunks as Deputy Speaker during the absence of the Speaker, Sir Robert Nicholls, overseas for the purpose of attending the Empire Parliamentary Association Conference at Ottawa.

#### ELECTORAL ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Second reading.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON (Leader of the Opposition)—I move—

That this Bill be now read a second time. In doing so I ask members to treat it as a non-party measure and discuss it free from any bias. Briefly, the Bill is for the purpose of amending the Electoral Act, 1929-1950. Clause 3 repeals section 30 of the Principal Act. Clause 4 repeals section 33, which provides that any person entitled to enrolment on a Council roll or transfer from one Council roll to another may lodge a claim in the prescribed form to the Returning Officer for the State. Every claim must be filled in and in accordance with the directions printed thereon. The following section is inserted in lieu thereof:—

33. (1) Every person who is entitled to have his name placed on the Council roll for any subdivision, whether by way of enrolment or transfer of enrolment and whose name is not on the roll shall forthwith fill in and sign in accordance with the directions printed thereon a claim on the prescribed form and send or deliver the claim to the Returning Officer of the State.

Subclause (2) of clause 33 provides that if an elector neglects to do as provided he shall be guilty of an offence. Penalties for neglect are provided. Subclause (3) refers to change of address. Subsection 5 of section 118 (a) of the Principal Act, as amended by the Electoral Act Amendment Act, 1950, deals with the compulsory voting for the Legislative Council and is amended as follows:—

(a) The word "Assembly" in the first line of subsection (1) is deleted and the word "the" in subsection (b) in the second line of subsection (1) is struck out and the words "a Council or" inserted. In subsection (c) the word "Assembly" in the second and fourth lines of subsection (2) is deleted; in subsection (d) the words "an Assembly" in the second line of subsection (4) are deleted and "any" inserted; in subsection (e) the words "the Assembly" in the second line of subsection (10) are struck out and "any" inserted; in subsection (f) the word "Assembly" in the third, fifth and tenth lines of subsection (10) are deleted and in subsection (g) the word "Assembly" in the first line of subsection (11) is struck out.

In 1942 new section 118A dealing with compulsory voting for the House of Assembly was inserted and it provided:—

It shall be the duty of every Assembly elector to record his vote at every election in the Assembly district for which he is enrolled.

The Bill does not in any way interfere with the present franchise; it merely provides for

compulsory enrolment and voting for the Legislative Council and is similar legislation to that affecting the House of Assembly. One reason for introducing this Bill is that there is a deal of confusion existing regarding voting for the Legislative Council. People are under the impression that because they are on the Assembly roll they are on the Council roll. All members supported legislation providing for compulsory enrolment and voting for the House of Assembly, therefore similar legislation covering the Legislative Council should not be rejected. We are an important part of Parliament and should endeavour to bring the people close to Parliament. Why not trust the people? It is not a question of whether a certain Party should secure power but whether we should broaden our democratic outlook.

The Hon. C. R. Cudmore—Democracy does not mean compulsion.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—Then why did you compel people to enrol and vote for the House of Assembly?

The Hon. C. R. CUDMORE—Because they asked for it.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—But if you didn't think it right why did you support it? If people are obliged to vote for the House of Assembly they should be compelled to vote for the Legislative Council. The Electoral Department employed 50 men for four months to bring the House of Assembly rolls up to date but the Council rolls were neglected. Since the last State elections over 10,000 names have been added to the Assembly rolls but only about 6,000 have been added to the Council rolls. Some Council districts—Northern in particular—have fewer names on the rolls now than in 1950. At the elections on March 4, 1950, 437,832 names were on the Assembly rolls and the voting percentage was 92. Some districts were not contested. There were 161,917 enrolled on the Council rolls and contests were held in two districts but the percentage vote was 77. Recent compulsory by-elections in Rocky River, Flinders and Gawler returned voting percentages of 90, 92 and 92 respectively, but at a recent Council by-election the voting percentage was only 54. Why do we compel a person, under threat of a penalty, to vote for one House and not the other? Since 1950 it has been compulsory to enrol and vote for the Legislative Council in Victoria. The Tasmanian Electoral Act of 1928 made it compulsory for electors not more than five miles distant from a polling booth on the day in question to vote and in 1930 it

was made compulsory for qualified persons to enrol. The Queensland Legislative Council was abolished by Act of Parliament in 1921. There was no limit on the members of the Upper House and usage established the practice that it would consist of at least two-thirds of the members of the Legislative Assembly which totalled 72. Members of the Legislative Council were nominated by the Government. I do not advocate the abolition of our Legislative Council or the extension of the franchise but I urge members to approve this Bill and to provide for compulsory enrolment and voting. Prior to 1934 the N.S.W. Legislative Council was a nominee House, and 60 members were elected for 12 year periods with 15 retiring every three years. The panels of 15 were elected by the combined vote of 94 members of the Legislative Assembly and 60 members of the Legislative Council. South Australia was granted responsible government by the Constitution Act of 1856. The elections were held on March 9, 1857 and Parliament assembled on April 22, 1857. Section 5 of that Act reads:—

The Legislative Council shall, for the present, consist of 18 elected members, who shall be elected by the inhabitants of the said province, legally qualified to vote; and no person shall be capable of being elected a member who shall not be the full age of 30 years and a natural born or naturalized subject of Her Majesty, or legally made a denizen of the said province, and who shall not have resided within the said province for the full period of three years.

Under the 1881 amending Act the Legislative Council was increased to 24 members, six from each of four electorates—Central, Southern, North-Eastern and Northern. The 1901 amending Act reconstituted the Council to consist of 18 members, six from Central and four each from Southern, North-Eastern and Northern. The 1913 amending Act provided for a Council of 20 members, four from each of five divisions—Central No. 1, Central No. 2, Southern, Midland and Northern. Section 6 of the Constitution Act, 1856, reads:—

Every man of the age of 21 years, being a natural born or naturalized subject of Her Majesty, or legally made a denizen of the said province and having a freehold estate in possession, either legal or equitable, situate within the said province, of the clear value of £50 sterling money above all charges and incumbrances affecting the same, or having a leasehold estate in possession, situate within the said province, of the clear annual value of £20, the lease thereof having been registered in the General Registry Office, for the registration of deeds, and having three years to run at the time of

voting, or containing a clause authorizing the lessee to become the purchaser of the land thereby demised, or occupying a dwellinghouse of the clear annual value of £25 sterling money, and who shall have been registered on the Electoral Roll of the province six months prior to the election, shall be entitled to vote at the election of members of the Legislative Council.

The amending Act of 1894 enacted the following sections:—

1. The right to vote for persons to sit in Parliament as members of the Legislative Council, and the right to vote for persons to sit in Parliament as members of the House of Assembly, are hereby extended to women.

2. Women shall possess and may exercise the rights hereby granted, subject to the same qualifications and in the same manner as men.

Section 4 of the Council Franchise Extension Act, 1907, enumerates the persons entitled to vote at Legislative Council elections. The 1913 amending Act improved the legislation and permitted other people to vote. As time went on any person occupying a home received a vote and several alterations have been made to the franchise since 1934. Members are aware of the position today.

The Hon. E. Anthony—The franchise is much more liberal.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—It has improved since 1856, but in many directions it has not altered since then. In nearly every other

sphere our laws have been altered to meet the changing times and if we want to make a contented people we should give them rights and privileges. I defend the Legislative Council inside and outside this place.

The Hon. C. R. Cudmore—You are not asking us to give the people rights and privileges, but to compel them.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—I am asking members to do now what they did in 1942, for if it was fair to compel them to enrol for the House of Assembly and to vote at elections why not extend the principle further? Why members should object to legislation on these lines I fail to see. If I were introducing new legislation they might have some argument, but they can have none in opposition to this measure. If Victoria and Tasmania can do it why cannot we? Are not our people as good as theirs? I introduce this Bill conscientiously believing in the importance of this branch of the Legislature. I want to make it popular by extending it to something more than a class Chamber and by putting everyone on the same footing.

The Hon. R. J. RUDALL secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.19 p.m. the Council adjourned until Tuesday, August 19, at 2 p.m.