

South



Australia.

Thirty-Fourth Parliament.

Second Session.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

TUESDAY, 23rd MARCH, 1954.

Legislative Council and House of Assembly

Opening of Parliament by Her Majesty the Queen.



CONTENTS:

COUNCIL, MARCH 23.	PAGE.	ASSEMBLY, MARCH 23.	PAGE.
General Business—		General Business—	
Opening of Parliament by Her Majesty		Opening of Parliament by Her Majesty	
Queen Elizabeth II.	3	Queen Elizabeth II.	7
Sittings of the Council	4	Next Day of Sitting	7
Address in Reply	4	The Queen's Speech	7
Sessional Committees	5	Public Works Committee's Reports . .	7
Petitions, Questions, etc., and Papers .	6	Kangaroo Island Development	7
Public Works Committee's Reports . .	6	Sessional Committees	7
Kangaroo Island Development	6	Petitions, Questions, etc., and Papers .	7
Parliamentary Papers	6	Parliamentary Papers	7
Adjournment	6	Address in Reply to Her Majesty's	
		Speech	7
		Adjournment	9

Governor:

His Excellency Air Vice-Marshal Sir ROBERT ALLINGHAM GEORGE, K.B.E., C.B., M.C.

Lieutenant-Governor:

The Hon. Sir JOHN MELLIS NAPIER, K.C.M.G., Chief Justice.

The Ministry:

Premier, Treasurer, and Minister of Immigration	Hon. Thomas Playford, M.P.
Chief Secretary, Minister of Health, and Minister of Mines	Hon. Alexander Lyell McEwin, M.L.C.
Attorney-General and Minister of Industry and Employment	Hon. Reginald John Rudall, LL.B., B.Litt., M.L.C.
Minister of Lands, Minister of Repatriation, and Minister of Irrigation	Hon. Cecil Stephen Hincks, M.P.
Minister of Works and Minister of Marine	Hon. Malcolm McIntosh, M.P.
Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Forests	Hon. Sir George Frederick Jenkins, M.P.
Minister of Education	Hon. Baden Pattinson, LL.B., M.P.
Minister of Local Government, Minister of Roads, and Minister of Railways	Hon. Norman Lane Jude, M.L.C.

Legislative Council:

PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES: THE HON. SIR WALTER GORDON DUNCAN.

Member.	District.	Member.	District.
Anthoney, Hon. Ernest	Central No. 2	Edmonds, Hon. Ernest Harry	Northern
Bardolph, Hon. Kenneth		Hoare, Hon. Albert Alfred . .	Central No. 1
Edward Joseph	Central No. 1	Jude, Hon. Norman Lane . .	Southern
Bevan, Hon. Stanley Charles	Central No. 1	McEwin, Hon. Alexander Lyell	Northern
Bice, Hon. John Leonard		Melrose, Hon. Alexander John	Midland
Sandoe	Southern	Perry, Hon. Frank Teunyson	Central No. 2
Condon, Hon. Francis Joseph	Central No. 1	Robinson, Hon. William Walsh	Northern
Cowan, Hon. John Lancelot . .	Southern	Rowe, Hon. Colin Davies . . .	Midland
Cudmore, Hon. Collier Robert	Central No. 2	Rudall, Hon. Reginald John . .	Midland
Densley, Hon. Leslie Harold .	Southern	Sandford, Hon. Sir J. Wallace	Central No. 2
Duncan, Hon. Sir Walter		Wilson, Hon. Robert Richard .	Northern
Gordon	Midland		

House of Assembly:

SPEAKER: HON. SIR ROBERT DOVE NICHOLLS.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES: MR. H. S. DUNKS.

Member.	District.	Member.	District.
Brookman, David Norman ..	Alexandra	Macgillivray, William	Chaffey
Christian, Arthur William ..	Eyre	McAlees, Edmund Herbert ..	Wallaroo
Clark, John Stephen	Gawler	McIntosh, Hon. Malcolm .. .	Albert
Clarke, Geoffrey Thomas .. .	Burnside	Michael, Herbert Donovan ..	Light
Corcoran, James	Victoria	Nicholls, Hon. Sir Robert Dove	Young
Davis, Charles Leonard .. .	Port Pirie	O'Halloran, Michael Raphael	Frome
Dunks, Henry Stephen	Mitcham	Pattinson, Hon. Baden	Glenelg
Dunnage, Colin Roslyn .. .	Unley	Pearson, Glen Gardner	Flinders
Dunstan, Donald Allan	Norwood	Playford, Hon. Thomas	Gumeracha
Fletcher, John	Mt. Gambier	Quirke, Percival Hillam .. .	Stanley
Goldney, Rufus Sanders .. .	Gouger	Riches, Lindsay Gordon .. .	Stuart
Hawker, George Stanley .. .	Burra	Shannon, Howard Huntley ..	Onkaparinga
Heaslip, James Alexander .. .	Rocky River	Stephens, James Ernest .. .	Port Adelaide
Hincks, Hon. Cecil Stephen ..	Y'k Peninsula	Stott, Tom Cleave	Ridley
Hutchens, Cyril Douglas .. .	Hindmarsh	Tapping, Harold Leslie .. .	Semaphore
Jenkins, Hon. Sir George		Teusner, Berthold Herbert ..	Angas
Frederick	Newcastle	Travers, John Leo	Torrens
Jenkins, William Wilfred .. .	Stirling	Walsh, Francis Henry	Goodwood
Jennings, John Joseph	Prospect	Walsh, John Frederick	Thebarton
Lawn, Samuel James	Adelaide	White, Hector Burnard	Murray

Officers:

Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council: I. J. Ball.

Clerk of the House of Assembly: G. D. Combe, M.C.

Clerk Assistant of Legislative Council and Black Rod: A. D. Drummond.

Clerk Assistant of House of Assembly and Sergeant at Arms: A. F. R. Dodd.

Director of Government Reporting Department and Leader of "Hansard" Staff:
H. R. Underwood.

Assistant Leader of "Hansard" Staff: H. E. White.

Parliamentary Librarian: E. W. Lanyon.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES (HANSARD)

SECOND SESSION OF THE THIRTY-FOURTH PARLIAMENT (1954)

Parliament, which adjourned on December 3, 1953, was prorogued by proclamation dated January 7, 1954. By proclamation dated March 4, 1954, it was summoned to meet on Tuesday, March 23, 1954.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, March 23, 1954.

The PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir Walter Duncan) took the Chair at 11.40 a.m.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT BY HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II.

The Clerk read the proclamation by His Excellency the Governor (Air Vice-Marshal Sir Robert George) summoning Parliament.

Black Rod announced the approach of Her Majesty the Queen.

Her Majesty, accompanied by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, entered the Chamber attended by members of the Royal Household and took her seat in the Royal Chair on the dais. Members of the House of Assembly having entered the Chamber, in accordance with Standing Order 35A, Her Majesty was pleased to deliver the following Speech:—

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly:

I am very glad to be able to open in person this Session of the Parliament of South Australia and to take part in the time-honoured ceremonies attending such an occasion.

It is now 97 years since your citizens first enjoyed the benefits and privileges of responsible government. During that time, you and your predecessors have faithfully maintained the traditions, the spirit and the practices which you inherited from the Mother of Parliaments at Westminster. I congratulate

you upon your success in adapting the British system of Parliamentary Government to the needs of your country.

I thank you and the people of South Australia, most warmly, both for the loyal and affectionate welcome with which my husband and I have been received, and also for the unfailing help and support which your State has at all times given in so generous a measure to the Mother Country.

Among the important problems which concern you is that of the development of the productive resources of your State. I have noted with interest and pleasure the progress which you have made and I am confident that by courage, enterprise, and determination you will move forward to an era of ever-increasing prosperity.

My Government is making satisfactory progress in the construction of the many engineering works and buildings required for the public utilities and social services of the State. Included among the new buildings is the large public hospital at Woodville, the total cost of which will be £4,500,000. I am happy to accede to the request, which my Ministers have made, that this hospital shall be known as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

My Ministers are engaged in the preparation of the legislative and financial proposals which they deem it necessary to introduce during the coming financial year for the purpose of promoting the welfare and progress of my people. Bills to give effect to these proposals will be submitted later for your consideration.

I now declare this Session open; and I pray that the blessing of Almighty God may sustain and guide you in your deliberations to the advancement of the welfare of the State.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness retired from the Chamber and the Speaker and Members of the House of Assembly withdrew.

At 12.25 p.m. the President resumed the Chair and read prayers.

SITTINGS OF THE COUNCIL.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN (Chief Secretary)
—moved—

That the Council at its rising adjourn until Thursday, April 15, 1954.

Motion carried.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

The PRESIDENT having laid on the table a copy of Her Majesty's Speech, the Hon. A. L. McEwin moved:—

That a Committee consisting of the Hons. C. R. Cudmore, F. J. Condon, and the Chief Secretary be appointed to prepare a draft Address in Reply to the Speech delivered this day by Her Majesty.

Motion carried.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN brought up the following report of the Committee:—

May it please Your Majesty:

We, Your Majesty's loyal and devoted subjects, the Members of the Legislative Council of South Australia, in Parliament assembled, proffer to Your Majesty our humble thanks for the gracious Speech with which you have been pleased to open the Second Session of the Thirty-fourth Parliament of this State. We desire to express our deep sense of pride and privilege at the great honour bestowed by Your Majesty on the people of South Australia by your visit to this portion of your Majesty's Dominions.

We affirm our steadfast and affectionate loyalty to Your Majesty's Throne and Person. We are confident that the visit of Your Majesty and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh will still further strengthen the ties which bind us to our Mother Country. We assure Your Majesty that our earnest consideration will be given to all matters placed before us and we join with Your Majesty in praying for Divine Guidance in all our deliberations.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN (Chief Secretary)
—I have much pleasure in moving that the Address in Reply as read be adopted. The sentiments of loyalty and affection which it expresses are no mere form of words; they are the real and heartfelt sentiments of every honourable member of this Council. It is so often said, and I think with truth, that in all

the long history of the British Monarchy its prestige has never been higher than it is today. One reason for this is, of course, that the interests of the Crown and the people are now completely identified. The Crown has become an integral part of the system of democratic government and its powers are used to promote the well-being of the people as a whole, but at this moment there is another reason also for the very high esteem and affection universally accorded to the British Crown, and that is the personality of our Queen, Elizabeth II. If I may say so without presumption, she has inherited the good qualities of her father and her grandfather, both of happy memory, and to these she adds her special grace and charm which are so obvious to all of us.

We and her subjects everywhere cannot fail to be impressed and inspired not only by her personality but by her splendid example of single-minded devotion to duty, her unselfishness and constant thought for the well-being of her people. Among British speaking peoples today Her Majesty exercises an immense influence for good. I am sure that her visit to South Australia will encourage us to perform with increased confidence, energy and determination the tasks which face our State and our people individually. We shall certainly remember her visit as one of the great events of our lives. Her visit will be commemorated also by her gracious action in permitting us to apply her name to the new Western Districts Hospital which will now be known as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. In asking the Council to agree to this motion I express on behalf of every member the fervent hope that Her Majesty may long be blessed with health and strength to bear her great responsibilities and that she may long reign over us in happiness and peace.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON (Leader of the Opposition)—On behalf of Her Majesty's Opposition it is my privilege to second the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply to the speech with which Her Majesty opened Parliament. We are grateful to Her Majesty for performing this ceremony; it is a unique occasion in South Australia. Never in the history of this State have the people been more united in respect and loyalty to the Throne and our hearts are filled with pride on this memorable occasion. This is the first time in the 166 years of Australia's nationhood that a reigning monarch of the British Empire has

set foot on our soil. While we are cognizant of the high honour of the presence of the Royal couple we are conscious and mindful, too, of the solemnity of this auspicious occasion. It is not only a time for rejoicing but also one for again pledging our unswerving loyalty to the Throne of England. May Her Gracious Majesty and her husband, His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, enjoy their brief stay in our midst; may their visit to South Australia be one of the most pleasant highlights of their tour and may Providence see them safely back to their loved ones.

Her Majesty referred to the fact that it is now 97 years since the citizens first enjoyed the benefits and privileges of responsible government. Her Majesty said:—

You and your predecessors have faithfully maintained the traditions, the spirit and practices which you inherited from the Mother of Parliaments at Westminster.

What a wonderful compliment to pay to the present Government and past Governments. It is much appreciated. Special reference was made to the progress in the construction of many engineering works and buildings for our public utilities and social services. Included among the buildings is the large public hospital at Woodville. We are proud that Her Majesty has acceded to the request which the Government made that this hospital should be known as the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. Some months ago I approached the Chief Secretary on behalf of members for the district in both Houses to see if it were possible for Her Majesty to open the maternity wing of the hospital. Unfortunately, that portion of the hospital is not complete and this could not be done. When the hospital is completed we will remember with honour and respect the kindness and willingness of Her Majesty in agreeing to it bearing her name. It is an action that is deeply appreciated, not only by the residents of the district but by all the citizens of the State. The members for the district worked hard to have the hospital erected and it is worth while waiting for. We are not unmindful of the prominent part the Chief Secretary has played in this matter and on behalf of my colleagues I express our best thanks to him. Our beloved Queen can rest assured that the proposed legislation and financial measures will have the close scrutiny and consideration of the Opposition and its support if they are in the interests and welfare of the community. I second the motion.

The Hon. C. R. CUDMORE (Central No. 2)—On behalf of the members of the Liberal and Country Party—the majority Party in this House—I support the motion with the greatest pleasure and pride. We, and through us the people we represent, have been greatly honoured by the presence here today of our lovely and beloved Queen. In the troubled world of today we British peoples are blessed beyond all other nations and peoples in that God, in His wisdom, has given us such a Queen. Her Majesty has dedicated herself to the service of her people. May we in our turn endeavour to be worthy of that sacrifice by doing our duty to the utmost for God, Queen and Country.

Address in Reply adopted.

The PRESIDENT—Her Majesty the Queen having fixed 12.40 p.m. as the time for receiving the Address in Reply, I ask the mover and seconder and other members to accompany me to Government House to present it.

At 12.38 p.m. the President and Honourable Members proceeded to Government House. They returned at 12.55 p.m.

The PRESIDENT—I have to report that, accompanied by honourable members, I attended at Government House and there presented to Her Majesty the Address in Reply adopted by the Legislative Council. Her Majesty was pleased to make the following reply:—

I thank you sincerely for your Address in Reply to the Speech with which I opened the Second Session of the Thirty-fourth Parliament.

I have received with great pleasure your expressions of loyalty. I am assured that you will give earnest consideration to all matters placed before you, and I pray that God's blessing may rest upon your labours.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN moved—

That the Standing Committees be appointed by nomination.

Motion carried.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN moved—

That Members appointed on June 25, 1953, to the Standing Orders, Library and Printing Committees be re-appointed as members of the respective standing committees for the present session.

Motion carried.

The House of Assembly notified its appointment of Sessional Committees.

PETITIONS, QUESTIONS, ETC., AND
PAPERS.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN moved—

That Standing Order No. 16 relating to presentation of petitions, asking of questions, and giving of notices, and Standing Order No. 423 referring papers to the Printing Committee, be suspended.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS STANDING COMMITTEE
REPORTS.

The PRESIDENT laid on the table the following reports of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence:—Northfield water supply extension, Port Pirie uranium treatment plant water supply, and Salisbury water supply extension.

KANGAROO ISLAND DEVELOPMENT.

The PRESIDENT laid on the table the final report of the Parliamentary Committee on Land Settlement on Kangaroo Island development (Settlement "E").

PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS.

The Hon. A. L. McEWIN moved—

That it be an order of this Council that all papers and other documents ordered by the Council during the session, and not returned prior to the prorogation, and such other official reports and returns as are customarily laid before Parliament and printed, be forwarded to the President in print as soon as completed, and, if received within two months after such prorogation, that the Clerk of the Council cause such papers and documents to be distributed among members and bound with the Minutes and Proceedings; and as regards those not received within such time, that they be laid upon the table on the first day of next session.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 1 p.m. the Council adjourned until Thursday, April 15, 1954, at 2 p.m.

Honourable members rose in their places and sang the first verse of "God Save the Queen."