

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES **(HANSARD)**

FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRTY-SIXTH PARLIAMENT (1959)

The Thirty-fifth Parliament of South Australia having been prorogued until March 3, 1959, and the life of the House of Assembly having expired on that date, general elections were held on March 7. By proclamation dated April 23 the new Parliament was summoned to meet on June 9, and the First Session began on that date.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, June 9, 1959.

The Council assembled at 11 a.m. The Clerk (Mr. I. J. Ball) read the proclamation by His Excellency the Governor (Air Vice-Marshal Sir Robert George) summoning the first session of the thirty-sixth Parliament.

GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION.

The Commissioners appointed by the Governor to do all things necessary to prepare for the opening of the session, the Honourable Sir Mellis Napier (Chief Justice) and the Honourable Charles Lempriere Abbott (a Judge of the Supreme Court), were announced by Black Rod (Mr. A. D. Drummond) and conducted to chairs on the dais.

A message was sent to the House of Assembly requesting members of that House to attend to hear the Governor's Commission for the opening of Parliament. The members of the House of Assembly having arrived, the Clerk read the Commission.

The Senior Commissioner (the Honourable Sir Mellis Napier) announced that His Excellency the Governor would, in person, declare the reasons for his calling the Parliament together as soon as the new members of the Legislative Council and the members of the House of Assembly had been sworn and the House of Assembly had notified its election of Speaker.

The members of the House of Assembly and the Commissioners withdrew.

SWEARING IN NEW MEMBERS.

The President produced a Commission from the Governor authorizing him to be a Commissioner to administer to newly-elected members the Oath of Allegiance or receive an affirmation in lieu thereof, also writs and returns for the election of ten members.

The Oath of Allegiance was then administered to and subscribed by the new members, who signed the members' roll for their respective districts.

At 11.24 a.m. the sitting was suspended until 2.15 p.m.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

At 2.15 p.m. His Excellency the Governor, having been announced by Black Rod, was received by the President at the Bar of the Council Chamber and by him conducted to the Chair. The Speaker and members of the House of Assembly having entered the Chamber in obedience to the summons of the Governor, His Excellency read his Opening Speech as follows:—

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

1. I have called you together for the dispatch of business.

2. Although the past season opened well, a cold dry spell in June and July retarded the growth of crops and pastures and an early conclusion of the season resulted in some disappointing cereal crops. Even so, the harvest was excellent with a record total yield of about

80,000,000 bushels. Pasture growth in all districts was above average and all forms of animal production attained high levels. A notable feature of the season was the growth of an export market in the United States for manufacturing beef. Wool production was again well maintained and, overall, the past year was one of the best fruit growing seasons on record. Research work on pasture development on deep sandy soils and experimental and advisory work in cereal districts have continued to help improve the standard of pastures. Much work is also being done on the problem of damage caused to barley during harvesting and the eradication of pests and disease in cereal crops. A programme of work related to wheat growing, financed from the Wheat Research Trust Account, has been commenced and this important work will be continued. Research into problems of canning fruits, citrus, vines and vegetables will be continued during plantings at the Horticultural Research Centre at Loxton. The Government has also given great attention to quarantine measures at strategic points at State borders with a view to eradication of fruit fly. Following a successful trial of artificial breeding of dairy cattle during the past year, plans are being made for the establishment of an artificial breeding station in association with the new Northfield Research Centre. The campaign begun some two years ago for the control and eradication of foot-rot in sheep is proceeding satisfactorily and a programme of eradication of pleuro-pneumonia from breeding cattle in pastoral areas has been successfully completed. The Government has approved of the establishment of a new agricultural research centre on 800 acres of land adjacent to the Northfield Mental Hospital. The centre will provide the department with field and laboratory facilities for dealing with problems of cereal, pasture, fruit, vegetable and livestock industries.

3. The settlement of ex-servicemen under the agreement with the Commonwealth has continued during the year, some 1,016 men having been already placed on blocks. The Commonwealth has now intimated that after June 30 this year funds will be supplied only to complete the development of holdings already accepted by it as suitable for settlement; an area of 724,517 acres has been so accepted. Some 1,100 ex-servicemen have been assisted by way of agricultural loans under the Re-establishment and Employment Act. The Government proposes to make available for general application any areas of Crown lands which have reasonable prospects of successful settle-

ment and will continue the policy of enlarging small holdings. The Government is considering a scheme under the Crown Lands Development Act by which it would assist in the early development of blocks by arranging for adequate clearing. During the current year aerial survey has continued throughout the State, some 88,500 square miles having been photographed for projects ranging from general reconnaissance, small-scale geological surveys, and oil search basic maps to large-scale water conservation surveys, sewer design plans, town planning and road and rail surveys. It is intended to continue this work during the forthcoming year.

4. During the current financial year the electrification of pumping plants has proceeded in both the irrigation and reclaimed areas; at Berri the new station is expected to come into operation shortly. The Cobdogla-Loveday-Nookamka comprehensive drainage scheme is now practically completed and a comprehensive drainage scheme for the Cooltong division of the Chaffey irrigation area should be completed during the next financial year.

5. Work on the drainage of the 260,000 acre area at Avenue Flat, Reedy Creek and Biscuit Flat is now nearing completion. This project has had a beneficial effect in assisting to bring large areas to a high state of production. Work on the scheme for the drainage of 140,000 acres in the Western Division of the South-East has commenced and my Government will undertake a similar scheme for 700,000 acres in the Eastern Division. Enabling legislation will be submitted to Parliament at an early date.

6. The Government has continued its policy in the development of the State's forests. During the current financial year over 4,000 acres of new forests have been established, log production will reach a record total exceeding 145,000,000 super feet, and departmental saw mills will have a record log intake exceeding 80,000,000 super feet. A new saw mill, the largest and most modern in Australia, capable of handling 60,000,000 super feet of logs per year, was officially opened at Mount Gambier last month. My Ministers propose substantial improvements to the Mount Burr mill and settlement at an approximate cost of £100,000 and an improved water supply to Nangwarry coupled with a proposed enlargement of the saw mill at an estimated cost of £90,000. The Electricity Trust proposes to erect a new power station at Nangwarry, using saw-mill residue as its boiler fuel. It is expected that Apcel

Limited will commence the manufacture of 8,000 tons of tissue paper per annum at Snuggery early in 1961.

7. The rapid industrial development of the State is reflected in a very great increase in the quantity and value of minerals now being produced, the value of the production for the year 1958 being nearly £23,000,000, making minerals the State's third most valuable primary industry. It is the policy of my Ministers to foster and encourage production and development in this field. The production of uranium ore at Radium Hill has proceeded at a satisfactory level; exports of uranium oxide during the year are valued at £2,600,000 and, since commencement of operations in August, 1955, at more than £10,000,000, providing valuable sterling and dollar credits. During 1958 amendments of the Mining (Petroleum) Act have made the search for oil in this State an attractive risk and several competent organizations have availed themselves of the opportunity. The Government has made available technical personnel and equipment to encourage and assist in exploration work. The Government continues to operate its research laboratories on behalf of the mineral industries and negotiations are proceeding for an agreement under which these will be placed on a national basis supported by the Commonwealth Government and the mining industry, with a substantial interest retained by the State Government.

8. The Electricity Trust of South Australia has had another successful year, sales of electricity having exceeded 1,200 million units or five times the amount sold in 1946, when the trust was first formed, and the number of consumers has increased during the last twelve months by 14,000 to over a quarter of a million. The Port Augusta "A" power station is now operating at full capacity and it is expected that the first of the 60,000 kilowatt turbo-alternators of the "B" power station will be producing power early in 1960. As it has now been proved economically possible to win coal from greater depths at Leigh Creek by the use of larger machines, it has been decided to install a fourth turbo-alternator in this power station, bringing its ultimate capacity to 240,000 kilowatts which should be achieved by 1964, when the two stations at Port Augusta would have a combined capacity of 333,000 kilowatts compared with 250,000 kilowatts at Osborne. General extensions of power supply in country areas have continued rapidly and extensions under consideration will embrace the area between Crystal Brook and Port Broughton and the Taillem Bend-Lameroo-Pinnaroo-Karoonda

district; an additional 5,000 kilowatt alternator has been brought into service at Mount Gambier, making the capacity of the station 16,800 kilowatts, a five-fold increase in capacity within a period of three years. The increase in the over-all quantity of power will necessitate an increase in the output of the Leigh Creek coal field. Extensive works are in hand to improve the success of this sound commercial enterprise.

9. The South Australian Housing Trust expects to build about 3,012 houses during the current financial year, making the total number of completed dwellings to date approximately 36,700; it expects to build some 3,230 houses during the next financial year. Good progress is being made at Elizabeth where the population now exceeds 12,000. Planning of the land purchased by the trust near Christies Beach has commenced so that sufficient houses will be ready to meet the needs of the oil refinery to be established in that neighbourhood. Expenditure of the grant provided by the Government under the Country Housing Act, 1958, for pensioners, widows and the like, is filling an urgent need and so far the programme has covered some 20 towns. Houses are being built to aid industrial development at Whyalla and Snuggery and the trust continues its general policy of providing houses to foster industries in country areas. Many houses have been built for this purpose in some 30 centres.

10. Money provided by the Government has enabled the State Bank to continue its important role in financing the purchase of homes. During the current financial year the bank has approved loans totalling some £3,250,000. Government guarantees under the Homes Act have so far enabled over 9,200 people to obtain loans amounting to some £13,250,000. In addition to its activities in financing the purchase of homes, the Government, through the Loans to Producers Act, has made advances to purchasers through co-operative societies and to the fishing industry to the extent of £375,308. A further £25,000 has been advanced to settlers to erect houses and make additions.

11. The Government has continued its policy of developing its education programme. The number of pupils in departmental primary and secondary schools is now over 150,000—double the number in 1949—and an increase of some 4,000 is expected in July. The increase in the number of pupils in secondary schools has been spectacular, having reached almost 33,000, an increase of 5,000 on last year's total and

three times the number of 10 years ago. Correspondingly, expenditure on education has greatly increased and it is expected that expenditure from revenue, including grants to the University, School of Mines and other bodies, will be nearly £11,000,000 in the current financial year. The figure includes substantial sums expended on the maintenance and improvement of the Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery. Four new high schools have been opened during the year and several primary, high and technical schools have been taken into use or are in course of construction. In all, 70 new large school buildings are at present under construction or will be included in the Loan works programme to be submitted to Parliament. During the current financial year over £3,250,000 was spent on buildings and this sum will be exceeded considerably in the coming year. The status of teachers has again been improved through a complete new award of the Teachers Salaries Board towards the end of 1958, the reclassification of schools of all types and the creation of a large number of new senior positions. The number of full-time teachers in the department now exceeds 5,500 and it is gratifying that recruits are coming forward in greater numbers. To cope with the increasing numbers, work on plans for a multi-storey building at the Adelaide Teachers College is being pressed forward and it is expected that tenders will be called early next year. Substantial increases have been made in boarding allowances, travelling allowances and book allowances to students, including students in the Leaving and Leaving Honours years. It is hoped that these increases will further encourage parents to keep their children at school at least to the end of the third year of their course and, in increasing numbers, to the end of the fourth and fifth years. The department has continued to expand its bus services for conveying children to school and the expenditure on this item during the current financial year is expected to exceed £500,000. During the year the Director of Education spent several months abroad in Great Britain and America, giving particular attention to secondary school courses. My Government is now considering his report and recommendations and it is expected that many improvements in our secondary schools will result.

12. The Government continues its policy of improving and maintaining the State roads system. During the past year work has continued on the widening of the main road between Glen Osmond and Crafers, and on

duplication of parts of the North Road as well as on improvements to sections of the Sturt Highway, the Prince's Highway and the Lincoln Highway. During the forthcoming year further important reconstruction works in country areas will be continued and, subject to funds being available, works proposed for the next financial year are estimated to cost £10,000,000 as against some £8,000,000 during the current financial year. Proposed allocations to local authorities for road and bridge works are estimated at £2,000,000.

13. The Government has continued to develop the railways and much work has been done on the permanent way, new stations and sidings, handling facilities, improved level crossing protection and amenities buildings. With the exception of some minor work the broadening of the gauge in the South-Eastern district is now completed. It is proposed to construct two new passenger stations at Elizabeth and new station buildings at Keith and Tintinara, as well as 15 new staff residences. It is proposed also to commence construction of a new railway line from Hallett's Cove to the oil refinery and work will be continued on the preliminary planning for the standardization of lines on the Peterborough Division.

14. Extensive works have been undertaken by the Harbours Board in connection with harbour installations at the State's major ports, covering improvements in handling methods, bulk loading and working and storage space, and reconstruction and repair work. Further developments and improvements are under consideration by my Ministers, including major projects at Port Pirie.

15. During the past financial year approval has been given for an increase in the staff at the boy's reformatory, Magill, in order to provide for increasing numbers. Better facilities for the segregation of difficult boys and their rehabilitation will exist when the new security block is occupied this month. Extensive plans for the complete rebuilding of the training centre at the reformatory as well as new buildings at Enfield for the Vaughan House girls' training school, a new remand home at Glandore (to replace the building now used in Adelaide) and an additional new home for the Glandore Children's Home will be submitted for report by the Public Works Standing Committee.

16. In the field of public health I refer to the continued success of the poliomyelitis services and the inauguration of a chest X-ray survey for tuberculosis. One million injections of Salk vaccine have been given in

the State and some indication of the success of the campaign may be seen in the fact that the reported incidence of the disease was reduced from 122 cases in 1956 to 15 in 1957, and 10 in 1958. In connection with tuberculosis the first survey in the Adelaide metropolitan area has been completed and some 284 sufferers from active tuberculosis have been found and brought under treatment up to date; it is expected that the survey in the rest of the State will be very shortly completed. Both of these services will be continued, while work of the school dental services is being expanded by the addition of two mobile dental caravans to the three already operating. Construction of the new chest clinic and headquarters for tuberculosis services is well advanced and, with the new modern X-ray department, the Royal Adelaide Hospital will be relieved of much chest X-ray work. New regulations for the effective and safe control of radio-active substances and irradiating apparatus are in the final stages of preparation in conjunction with leading medical and other scientific authorities. It is the intention of my Ministers to bring before Parliament at an early date any required legislation in this field. Capital expenditure on hospital buildings during the current financial year will amount to over £2,500,000, and work will proceed during the forthcoming year on major projects at the Royal Adelaide and larger country hospitals.

17. The Aborigines' Protection Board has continued its policy of providing care for aborigines residing in the State and every endeavour is being made to forward a policy of assimilation. It is the intention of the board to continue its policy of developing aborigines to a standard where they can be accepted as part of the general community.

18. Capital expenditure on Government buildings other than hospitals and schools during the current financial year will be approximately £1,000,000, while work will commence at various centres for police and court-house requirements in the country. Extensive works have been undertaken in connection with gaols and prisons, including a large project at the Cadell Training Centre, and an inquiry into a proposed rebuilding of the Port Augusta Gaol.

19. The successful conclusion of protracted negotiations with the Commonwealth Government in connection with the River Murray waters has enabled my Ministers to continue developments necessary to ensure a constant water supply throughout the metropolitan area, while it is expected that a scheme to provide

a permanent water supply throughout the length of Yorke Peninsula will be practically completed by June, 1960. During the forthcoming year investigations will be continued into a number of schemes for extending, increasing, and improving existing water supplies. Having commenced sewerage of the country towns of Naracoorte and Port Lincoln, my Ministers will continue the sewerage of other country towns in accordance with the loan money available.

20. Harmonious relations continue to exist in this State between employers and employees. Throughout Australia in 1958 there were fewer days lost through strikes than in any year since 1942 and South Australia had the lowest number of strikes per person employed in the Commonwealth. This is a tribute to the good character and moderation of our citizens and a most important factor in attracting new industries. During the last financial year a special section was established in the Factories and Steam Boilers Department to concentrate on improving the industrial safety record. Too much suffering and loss of working time are caused by industrial accidents and efforts which have been made to encourage management and workers to become safety conscious are meeting with success and will be continued. To this end the Government is sponsoring an industrial safety convention which will be held in November.

21. As from July 1, 1959, the administration of all labour legislation will be undertaken by one department, to be known as the Department of Labour and Industry, which will administer the functions now carried out by the Factories and Steam Boilers Department, the Industrial Court, the Secretary to the Minister of Industry and Employment and the Industries Assistance Branch of the Department of Industry. The present Department of Industry will be renamed the Public Service Commissioner's Department and will deal with matters concerning the administration of the Public Service Act and representation of the Government (as an employer) before industrial tribunals.

22. During the recent election period doubts were expressed as to the eligibility of women to sit as members of either House of the Parliament. It had been commonly supposed that women were not disqualified for membership and, in fact, both political parties nominated women candidates. Two of these candidates were elected. To remove all doubts as to the validity of their election and to make it clear that women are not disqualified for

sitting and voting in either House, a Bill to amend the State Constitution will be laid before you at an early date.

23. Another measure which my Ministers regard as of prime importance to be laid before you will be a Bill relating to hire purchase. The existing statute law was enacted as long ago as the year 1931 and has not been since reviewed. The growth in variety and volume of hire purchase dealings during recent years has reached such proportions that hire purchase has become an integral part of the commercial life of the Australian community. As a result several conferences were held during the past year among Commonwealth and State Ministers with a view to the establishment of some uniform provisions. These conferences resulted in a gratifying measure of agreement and legislation along substantially uniform lines is being introduced into the Parliaments of all States.

24. A matter of some importance which is under consideration is a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to road traffic. The existing Road Traffic Act dates back to 1934, since which date it has been amended nearly every year, on some occasions twice in the same year. The result of piecemeal amendments cannot be satisfactory and my Ministers have under consideration a consolidating measure in connection with which opportunity will be taken to introduce any amendments that are considered desirable in order to bring the law up to date.

25. There are several matters relating to local government which require attention, and legislation covering them will be laid before you early in the present session.

26. My Ministers expect that revenue and expenditure from revenue during the current financial year will result in a Budget deficit for the year of the order of £1,250,000, as compared with the estimated deficit of £966,000. The gross loan expenditure for the year will be of the order of £27,400,000, but credits of approximately £3,250,000 will bring the net loan expenditure to approximately £24,150,000.

Members of the House of Assembly.

27. Supplementary Estimates for additional expenditure of £646,715 incurred during the current financial year and estimates of expenditure for 1959-1960 will be laid before you.

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

28. A Supply Bill appropriating £9,000,000 for the Public Service of the State for the year 1959-1960 will be laid before you forthwith.

29. Consequent on the amendments made to the Advances for Homes Act last session, nearly 2,000 applications have been made by home purchasers for advances. Additional funds will be required to meet this demand and a Public Purposes Loan Bill for £1,550,000 will be placed before Parliament for immediate consideration.

30. A substantial programme of legislation is being considered by my Ministers. Among matters under consideration in addition to those already mentioned are a renewal of the prices legislation for a further twelve months, a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to prisons, and measures relating to juvenile courts, local courts, land agents, licensing, maintenance, police offences, railways and various matters of law reform.

31. I now declare this session open and trust that your deliberations may be guided by Divine Providence to the advancement of the welfare of this State.

The Governor retired from the Chamber and the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly withdrew.

The PRESIDENT again took the Chair and read prayers.

QUESTIONS.

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—Is it the Government's intention this afternoon to proceed with the Supplementary Estimates in the Legislative Council, or to wait until the completion of questions in the House of Assembly?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN—I shall not present any legislation before the House this afternoon. Supplementary Estimates and a few other Bills will possibly be introduced in the House of Assembly. It is not suggested that the Council be asked to remain this afternoon awaiting the arrival of those Bills, but I hope honourable members will come along tomorrow prepared to give them the necessary consideration required to enable sufficient funds to be available to carry on the functions of the State.

DENOMINATIONAL SCHOOLS.

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH—In view of the amount mentioned in His Excellency the Governor's Speech this afternoon to be provided for the construction of schools, will the Government consider granting on a pound for pound basis funds for capital expenditure for the erection of new denominational school buildings?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—I shall be pleased to take up this matter with my colleague, the Minister of Education.

PORT ROAD LIGHTING.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD—During the debate on the Road Traffic Act last October the Minister of Roads, by interjection, intimated that there would be negotiations with the authorities concerned regarding the installation of a lighting system at the intersections of Government Road and John Street with the Port Road. To my knowledge, nothing has transpired since. Can the Minister say what stage negotiations have reached and whether steps have been taken to have traffic lights installed at these intersections?

The Hon. N. L. JUDE—The matter has been one for discussion between, I think, the Woodville Corporation and the Port Road authority, and as far as I understand, certain equipment has been purchased to be installed as soon as new road alignments have been made.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH—As no mention was made in His Excellency the Governor's opening speech regarding legislation that may be introduced this session to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act to give greater protection to those working under the Act, is it the Government's intention later in the session to bring down any such amending legislation?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—The Government has not yet finalized the legislative programme to be brought down this session and consequently I cannot give the honourable member a firm answer.

PARLIAMENTARY SUPERANNUATION.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—No mention was made in His Excellency the Governor's Speech today regarding superannuation payments to members of Parliament. At present a husband and wife can get just under £10 a week in benefits. Honourable members pay £102 a year and receive a miserable pittance in return, no matter how many years' service they may have given, and they do not become entitled to anything until after a certain period. Can the Chief Secretary say whether the Government intends to amend the legislation to provide greater benefits for those who have done so much for this State?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN—I take it the honourable member is referring to the superannuation of members of Parliament.

The amount that may be drawn from any fund by way of benefits depends on the contributions members are prepared to make. If the honourable member has any suggestion whereby these contributions could be increased, then I assure him that the Government will consider it. Like any insurance fund, the Parliamentary Superannuation Fund is based on the contributions members feel they are able to make towards the benefits, and the only way honourable members can increase those benefits is for them to make further contributions from their salaries.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—Since this fund commenced about nine years ago it has accumulated a surplus of approximately £90,000, therefore it is time the people who have contributed to that fund were considered.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN—This fund is subject to actuarial reports, and I do not intend to express a lay opinion against that of an actuary concerning what the fund can afford to pay.

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH—Will the Chief Secretary ask the Public Actuary to review the Act or make investigations with a view to increasing benefits along the lines suggested by the Leader of the Opposition, and submit a report to Parliament?

The Hon. SIR LYELL McEWIN—I shall be happy to submit that request to the Treasurer.

BASIC WAGE INCREASE.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD—In view of the Federal court's recent decision to increase the basic wage by 15s. a week, can the Minister of Industry say whether the Government intends to implement the decision so that workers under State awards and determinations will receive the benefit of the increase as in the past?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE—The Government has already attended to that matter to ensure that workers under State awards will receive immediate benefit.

JERVOIS BRIDGE.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—My question is directed to the Minister of Roads. The Public Works Standing Committee made a recommendation about the Jervois Bridge. Has the Government communicated with the Port Adelaide City Council about an alteration of site, giving reasons why the site should be altered?

The Hon. N. L. JUDE—I am not aware that any communication has been made but I will endeavour to obtain the information for the honourable member.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

The PRESIDENT laid on the table a copy of His Excellency the Governor's Speech.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—Following on my previous question, can the Minister give further—

The PRESIDENT—The honourable member is out of order.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN (Chief Secretary) moved—

That a committee consisting of the Hons. F. J. Condon, Jessie M. Cooper, A. C. Hookings, Sir Frank Perry, and the mover be appointed to prepare a draft Address in Reply to the speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor this day and to report on the next day of sitting.

Motion carried.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—I want to know why I was out of order in trying to ask a question.

The PRESIDENT—It was the wrong time for asking questions.

The Hon. F. J. CONDON—In fact the Chief Secretary had not risen to his feet when I rose.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES.

Sessional committees were appointed as follows:—

Standing Orders.—The President, the Hons. Sir Lyell McEwin, Sir Frank Perry, F. J. Condon, and A. J. Melrose.

Library.—The President, the Hons. Jessie M. Cooper, K. E. J. Bardolph, and A. C. Hookings.

Printing.—The Hons. S. C. Bevan, G. O'H. Giles, F. J. Potter, A. J. Shard, and R. R. Wilson.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORTS.

The PRESIDENT laid on the table the following reports by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence:—Elizabeth East and Clapham Primary Schools; Elizabeth Girls

Technical High School and New Port Adelaide Girls Technical High School; Fulham Gardens, Netley, Warradale, Christies Beach, Elizabeth Park and Mitchell Park Primary Schools; Gilles Plains Boys Technical High School and Gilles Plains Girls Technical High School; Marion Road Trunk Water Main; Millicent Water Supply; Nangwarry Power Station; New LeFevre Boys Technical High School (final report); New Norwood High School (progress report); New Water Mains (Port Pirie); Port Lincoln Oil Berth.

LAND SETTLEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT.

The PRESIDENT laid on the table a report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Land Settlement, on the acquisition of land in the Hundred of Smith (South-East).

COURT OF DISPUTED RETURNS.

The Hon. SIR LYELL McEWIN moved—

That in accordance with the provisions of the Electoral Act, 1929-1955, four members be elected by ballot to be members of a Court of Disputed Returns.

Motion carried.

THE Hon. F. J. CONDON—I want a reply to my previous question. I asked a question before the Honourable the Chief Secretary rose to his feet, following a question asked of the Honourable the Minister of Roads.

The PRESIDENT—The honourable member will have to leave that until we have finished our present business, when I will look at it.

A ballot having been held, the Honourables Sir Lyell McEwin, S. C. Bevan, L. H. Densley and A. J. Shard were declared duly elected as members of the Committee of Disputed Returns.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 3.38 p.m. the Council adjourned until Wednesday, June 10, at 2.15 p.m.