

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.**

Wednesday, August 30, 1961.

The PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir Walter Duncan) took the Chair at 2.15 p.m. and read prayers.

**QUESTIONS.****PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD.**

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: In view of the widespread disappointment and unrest in the Public Service over the delay in the appointment of the chairman of the Public Service Board, can the Chief Secretary give any information about when the new chairman will be appointed?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I can only say to the honourable member that discussions have taken place between representatives of the Public Service Association and myself. I do not know on what basis he talks about widespread dissension.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: I did not say that; I said "unrest".

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: The work of the Public Service in South Australia has always been held in the highest regard by the Government, which at all times endeavours to mete out to the service the utmost courtesy, consideration and remuneration. It is on that basis that I have carried on negotiations and not on the basis of the circular, which I think was mistakenly distributed by enthusiasts in a certain quarter. I assure the honourable member that we are in complete agreement that it is desirable that the position shall be filled and I hope that it will be done at an early date.

**FESTIVAL HALL.**

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH: In this morning's *Advertiser* there appears a diagram about the direction of the new flow of traffic around Light Square. I understand that the City Council is reviewing the traffic problem in all Adelaide squares. In view of a site being determined for the building of a festival hall and no doubt the Government's granting a certain sum of money for the building of the hall, can the Chief Secretary say whether the Government will consider, before granting the money for the purpose mentioned, calling for an architectural competition amongst South Australian architects in order to get the best possible design for a festival hall?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: The honourable member's question contains information that I have not had and the remainder of the question involves a matter of policy. I ask that the question be put on notice.

**POTATO DISEASE.**

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: I ask leave to make a brief statement prior to asking a question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: It was reported to me a few minutes ago by the President of the South-Eastern Potato Growers' Association that potatoes arriving in Adelaide yesterday from Victoria were infected with a disease known as phoma. I believe there is no disease of that nature in South Australia and it certainly does not exist in the South-East and it is, therefore, urgent that steps be taken to see that these potatoes are treated if they are to be used for seed purposes. I believe that seed potatoes are strictly controlled by the Agriculture Department. Will the Chief Secretary, representing the Minister of Agriculture, see that precautions are taken to prevent any of these potatoes, even if classed as table potatoes, from being used as seed unless treated in South Australia?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I will refer the question to the Minister of Agriculture, but I am sure that if the potatoes arrived in a diseased condition safeguards would be taken against the introduction in South Australia of any disease. I will let the honourable member know the result of the inquiry.

**STATE BANK REPORT.**

The PRESIDENT laid on the table the annual report of the State Bank for the year ended June 30, 1961, together with balance-sheets.

**BUSH FIRES REGULATION: SULPHUR.**

Adjourned debate on the motion of the Hon. C. R. Story:

That regulation No. 17 of the regulations under the Bush Fires Act, 1960, in respect of burning sulphur for the treatment of fruit in the process of drying made on June 1, 1961, and laid on the table of this Council on June 20, 1961, be disallowed.

(Continued from August 23. Page 509.)

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN (Chief Secretary): This regulation, which has been considered by the Joint Committee on Subordinate Legislation, relates to sulphur-burning equipment for the drying of fruits. In 1958 this

question was first raised with the Agriculture Department because there was no exemption provided and it was considered that certain equipment was dangerous. The question raised with the Minister of Agriculture was whether it would be legal for a fruitgrower to burn sulphur on a day when there was a total fire ban. Subsequent to the committee's inquiry, the Crown Solicitor advised that he had the technical details of the apparatus explained to him by the Chief Horticulturist of the Agriculture Department and he had seen a sulphur box. He was of opinion that the type he saw could well be held to be a fire in the open within the meaning of the Bush Fires Act. Because of that, provision was made for an exemption, which was included in the legislation of that year, and which was to be granted subject to certain conditions, which the Honourable Mr. Story dealt with when speaking to the motion. The honourable member referred to three types of apparatus that were in use. He said:

In one case a room of a permanent nature is constructed of either asbestos sheeting, stone or concrete, and a wooden door or a door lined with asbestos is placed on the front, and during the process it is firmly bolted in position.

In that instance, it would no more be a fire in the open than would be a kitchen stove in a dwelling, and would not be affected by the regulation in any way. Mr. Story also quoted two other types of sulphur boxes used. I think the position really boils down to whether or not the apparatus is a fire danger. Of course, that would apply only on days on which a total fire ban applied. So, this exemption is now provided subject to certain precautions being taken. It is then within the hands of the grower himself if he has equipment that is not considered safe on a fire danger day. He should do as any other producer does and bring his equipment up to the standard which would not be affected by the Act and then the regulation would not apply. That applies to any equipment that an ordinary agriculturist has, such as when he sets up an engine in a stubble paddock, when he is compelled to do certain things to protect himself against the possibility of fire. I think that is really the position here. If he has equipment that does not bring him within the ban, the regulation does not affect him.

The Hon. Sir Frank Perry: The equipment is effective for the job it is used for, isn't it?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: That may be so; but I do not know whether or not it is effective for the job being done. However,

this relates to the Bush Fires Act and not to the Dried Fruits Act. If the equipment being used creates a fire hazard on certain days, one has to do certain things. Conditions relating to certain equipment used on a farm apply all the summer and one has to do certain things relating to the lighting of fires, but equipment used for drying fruit is stationary. Either we lay it down in the Act that sulphuring plant must be of a certain design or do what Parliament generally does and consider the position of a person who cannot afford the plant or it may not be convenient for him to purchase the equipment at the moment. We therefore make provision to allow him to use the plant if he has it and legislate to meet the position from a fire hazard point of view. The regulation provides as follows:

It shall not be an offence against section 65 of the Bush Fires Act, 1960, to light or maintain a fire or permit a fire to remain alight in any apparatus used to burn sulphur for the treatment of fruit in the process of drying such fruit if—

- (1) immediately surrounding that fire there is a space at least 12ft. wide clear of all inflammable material; and
- (2) a portable water spray fully charged with water is within 50ft. of a fire.

That is what is required if the equipment does not meet the requirements of the Act, and I think I have given the Council an outline of what is involved in the Hon. Mr. Story's motion.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### SALE OF FURNITURE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

#### HOSPITALS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

The Council divided on the third reading:

Ayes (14).—The Hons. Jessie Cooper, L. H. Densley, E. H. Edmonds, G. O'H. Giles, A. C. Hookings, N. L. Jude, Sir Lyell McEwin (teller), A. J. Melrose, Sir Frank Perry, F. J. Potter, W. W. Robinson, Sir Arthur Rymill, C. R. Story and R. R. Wilson.

Noes (3).—The Hons. K. E. J. Bardolph, S. C. Bevan (teller) and A. J. Shard.

Majority of 11 for the Ayes.

Third reading thus carried.

Bill passed.

#### CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a third time and passed.

## PUBLIC PURPOSES LOAN BILL.

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN (Chief Secretary): I move:

*That this Bill be now read a second time.*

This Bill provides for a total expenditure of £30,748,000 in works and services during 1961-62. To finance this programme, the £25,148,000 of new moneys to be borrowed will be supplemented by repayments to the Loan Fund, by a special recoup to the Loan Fund from last year's surplus on Consolidated Revenue Account and an anticipated deficit in the Loan Fund at June 30, 1962. In addition to the £25,148,000 of new moneys, the State will also receive £8,000,000 which will be used for the construction and finance of houses under the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. The new Housing Agreement funds will be supplemented by approximately £100,000 repayments to the State of previous advances, and of the total of £8,100,000, the sum of £4,250,000 is to be allocated to the South Australian Housing Trust, £3,450,000 to the State Bank, and £400,000 to building societies.

I shall now give honourable members a brief description of the more important works for which this Bill provides.

**ADVANCES FOR HOMES, £800,000.**—The State Bank administers the Advances for Homes Scheme on behalf of the Government, and also the allocation of a large part of the moneys which the State borrows under the provisions of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, and which it makes available to finance house purchase through the Home Builders' Fund. The proposed allocation to the bank of £800,000 for the Advances for Homes Scheme for 1961-62 is less than was advanced in 1960-61, but the amount of Home Builders' Fund advances will be correspondingly greater. In order that the cost of borrowing to the prospective home purchaser may be kept as low as possible the Government has arranged this year to take a much greater proportion of its total new loan money as advances under the Housing Agreement, and thus to attract the benefit of the lower rate of interest. In 1961-62 the State Bank will have available for lending State loan funds, new Housing Agreement moneys, carry-over funds from June 1961, and repayments, totalling approximately £5,000,000, which is comparable with the record provision which was advanced to the bank in 1960-61.

**LOANS TO PRODUCERS, £260,000.**—The provision this year will enable the State Bank to continue financing small co-operatives under the Loans to Producers Act.

**ADVANCES TO SETTLERS, £208,000.**—The State Bank anticipates that the number of applications from settlers for advances for farm buildings, for clearing of land and development of pastures, and for water improvements will be increased this year, and £208,000 is provided for this purpose.

**ROADS AND BRIDGES, £250,000.**—The major work in 1961-62 will be a new steel and concrete bridge over the River Murray at Blanchetown, and £130,000 is provided for progress payments under the contract. The Bill also makes provision for an amount of £35,000 for a new bridge over the River Torrens at Underdale, £40,000 for a bridge over the River Light at Linwood, and £45,000 for small bridges over low lying areas between Renmark and Paringa on the Sturt Highway. These bridges are to be completed during 1961-62.

**CROWN LANDS DEVELOPMENT ACT, £30,000.**—The sum of £30,000 is provided this year to enable further work to be carried out on a number of under-developed individual properties.

**IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS, £200,000.**—The main provisions for 1961-62 are £9,000 for completion of the new pumping station at Berri and for a rising main; £18,000 for a new pump and rising main at Moorook; £10,000 to commence electrification of pumping plant at Waikerie; £20,000 to complete the conversion to electric power of pumping plant in the reclaimed areas; £33,000 for a storage tank and chlorination plant at Barmera; £8,000 for an improved water supply at Waikerie; and £10,000 to commence work on a comprehensive drainage scheme to serve 800 acres at Chaffey where seepage is becoming a major problem. Funds are also provided for various channels, embankments, buildings, plant and minor works.

**SOUTH-EASTERN DRAINAGE, £620,000.**—This amount will be used this year mainly for the following: £194,000 for the Western Division, of which £186,000 will be for further work on major drains in the northern section, and £8,000 for additional subsidiary drains in the southern section; and £399,000 for the Eastern Division scheme for the enlarging of a further section of Drain "M", which discharges into the sea near Beachport.

**RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST, LOAN TO, £25,000.**—This amount is required to meet the

third annual advance to the trust to assist with its rehabilitation programme.

**AFFORESTATION AND TIMBER MILLING, £1,200,000.**—The Bill this year includes provision for the following. The sum of £185,000 is to meet the cost of recurring forest maintenance services such as replanting, weed control, spraying, fire protection, etc. An amount of £170,000 is needed for preparation of land and planting. Approximately 5,000 acres will be planted during 1961-62, and after allowing for clear felling and for fire losses the total area of State pine plantations at June 30, 1962, will be about 145,000 acres.

The sum of £87,000 is required for further contract payments for generating and associated equipment, and for work to be carried out by the Electricity Trust and the Woods and Forests Department at the new power station at Nangwarry. The station has been officially opened, and using mill waste as fuel has a generating capacity of 3,400 kilowatts. An amount of £136,000 is required for a sewerage scheme at Nangwarry. This project, which involves the construction of a sewerage drainage system, a sewage treatment plant, and such alterations as may be necessary to the department's houses to connect them to the drainage scheme, was commenced by the Engineering and Water Supply Department in June last. Provision is also made for purchase of land, for additional plant and machinery at Mount Burr, Mount Gambier and Nangwarry, houses for employees, and minor buildings and services as required at mills and in forest areas. The sum of £105,000 is required for administrative expenses applicable to forest establishment, which will be a charge against Loan Account.

**RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION, £2,600,000.**—The principal provisions for this year include £543,000 for Way and Works Branch items such as relaying, signalling and safety systems, and improvements to various small buildings, platforms, stockyards, etc., £90,000, to complete work on the new railway from Hallett Cove to the oil refinery site at Port Stanvac, £30,000 for residences for staff, and £33,000 for plant and sundries.

In connection with the rollingstock programme £460,000 is required to finance further progress payments for eight 1,750 h.p. diesel electric main line locomotives at a total cost of £1,060,000. Two of these locomotives were delivered during 1960-61 and the remaining six are expected to be delivered by the end of January next. An amount of £435,000 is proposed to complete progress payments for two groups of 900 h.p. diesel electric branch line

and general purpose locomotives the total cost being £1,400,000.

The sum of £313,000 is required for progress work on 25 steel brake vans, £80,000 for construction of 10 workmen's sleeping vans, £179,000 for further improvements to freight cars, and £61,000 for improvements to diesel rail cars. An amount of £32,000 is required for South Australia's share of the cost of a new joint stock passenger car for the Adelaide-Melbourne service, and £25,000 for the purchase of three mobile cranes. The sum of £180,000 is proposed for two 900 h.p. diesel electric locomotives to operate in the Port Lincoln division, £100,000 for progress work on trucks to carry bulk grain to the new port installation to be constructed at Port Pirie, £20,000 for further work in improving the suspensions of ore waggons for the Broken Hill-Port Pirie traffic, and £118,000 for various items of plant, machinery and equipment as the need arises.

**HARBORS ACCOMMODATION, £1,700,000.**—Included in this amount is £78,000, which is required for dredging improvements at Port Adelaide, £80,000 for levelling and filling industrial areas with sand and dredging spoil, and £17,000 to complete work on the reconstruction of North Parade Wharf. An amount of £20,000 is required to commence the reconstruction of Cement Company Wharf, £30,000 to commence reconstruction of Plaster Company Wharf, and £69,000 for sundry smaller works at Port Adelaide, including the paving of berths to provide additional open stacking areas. In connection with expenditure at outports, £4,000 is required for the completion of mechanical equipment at the trailership berth at Kingscote, and £3,000 to complete similar work at the trailership berth at Port Lincoln.

An amount of £400,000 is required for further work on the replacement of old timber wharves at Port Pirie with a steel sheet-piled structure, the total estimated cost of which is £1,563,000. Also at Port Pirie £30,000 is proposed for the completion of a major project of dredging improvements and £212,000 for commencement of a project to provide bulk grain handling facilities. A concrete vertical silo of one-million bushels capacity is to be erected at this port by Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited. The sum of £30,000 is required for final payments for the bulk handling installation and for work on berths and stacking areas at Thevenard. An amount of £68,000 is provided for final contract payments for a new grab dredger, £450,000 for progress payments for a new bucket dredger, £64,000 for various smaller items of plant and equipment,

£60,000 for land acquisition, and £69,000 for minor works as required.

**WATERWORKS AND SEWERS, £10,350,000.**—Morgan-Whyalla water main, £1,302,000.—Because of the rapid expansion of Whyalla, the development of Port Augusta and other northern towns, and the growing demand from rural areas, it is necessary to duplicate the Morgan-Whyalla pipeline at a total estimated cost of £18,000,000. An amount of £1,037,000 is proposed to be spent on this project in 1961-62. The sum of £241,000 is also provided to complete the installation of larger pumping units and booster plant which was commenced last year.

**Adelaide Water District, £3,274,000.**—During 1961-62 the construction of the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline will be completed by the installation of control valves and additional pumping units and £252,000 is proposed for this purpose. The sum of £1,029,000 is required for the concreting of the remaining 20 per cent of the dam and the laying of the final three miles of the trunk main in connection with the Myponga Reservoir, £198,000 is proposed for further work on the Clarendon-Belair-Blackwood scheme, £160,000 for the laying of further mains for the reticulation of Elizabeth, and £65,000 for the Springton-Eden Valley water supply.

Further work on the raising of the dam at Mount Bold reservoir is to be carried out during the year and £262,000 is proposed for this project. When completed the capacity of the reservoir will be increased by 5,000-million gallons. An amount of £14,000 is required for completion of the Onkaparinga Valley scheme under which water is carried from the Mannum-Adelaide pipeline near Birdwood to serve towns and country lands along the line of the Onkaparinga Valley and thence to Bridge-water and Aldgate.

**Barossa Water District, £26,000.**—This amount is required for cement lining of mains and for various mains, services and minor works.

**Warren Water District, £183,000.**—The sum of £115,000 is required for further work on the enlargement of the Warren trunk main, £10,000 to commence a water supply scheme for township and country lands at Navan, £7,000 to complete a township and rural supply at Truro, and £30,000 for plant and machinery. Funds are also provided for various mains, services and minor works.

**Country Water Districts, £1,334,000.**—The main provision for 1961-62 is £602,000 for the Iron Knob-Lincoln Gap water supply scheme which entails the laying of a main to

carry water from the Morgan-Whyalla main at Lincoln Gap to Iron Knob to meet the increased demands of the Broken Hill Pty. Co. Ltd., mainly for the treatment of iron ore. The remainder of the provision for country water districts covers proposals for water supply schemes at Booleroo Centre, Coonalpyn, Encounter Bay, Jamestown-Caltowie, Kingscote, Kingston (South-East), Loxton, Melrose, Milang, Mililang, Mount Gambier, Murray Bridge, Naracoorte, Renmark, Streaky Bay, Tailm Bend, Tintinara and Whyalla.

**Tod River Water District, £464,000.**—An amount of £10,000 is required for initial work on the replacement and enlargement of sections of the Tod trunk main. Because of corrosion occurring in the original main from Knott's Hill to Minnipa it has become necessary to relay and enlarge the main for a distance of approximately 85 miles. It is proposed that the work be spread over a period of about eight years and the total cost, including some necessary work at pumping stations, is estimated at £4,098,000. The remainder of the main (some 45 miles) was relaid as part of the Uley-Wanilla scheme. The sum of £240,000 is proposed for further work on a scheme to tap the Lincoln underground basin to augment the Tod River system and the supply to Port Lincoln. An amount of £45,000 is required for the extension of mains into the hundreds of Chandada, Roberts and Verran.

**Beetaloo, Bundaleer and Baroota Water District, £1,393,000.**—The main expenditure this year is £1,220,000 to be spent on the enlargement of the Warren trunk main. This work, estimated to cost £6,265,000, is for the enlarging of 103 miles of main from the Warren reservoir to Paskeville to provide an improved supply for extensive country areas in the lower north and to assure adequate supplies through the Yorke Peninsula scheme. In 1960-61, £1,340,000 was spent on this scheme, most of it within the Warren Water District. The sum of £10,000 is required for the replacement of old mains to improve supplies in the hundreds of Hall and Wallaroo.

**Adelaide Sewers, £1,705,000.**—An amount of £410,000 is proposed for 1961-62 for further purchases of land and the first stage of structural work in connection with the Bolivar treatment works. The estimated total cost of the new treatment works is £11,070,000. The amount of £10,000 is provided for the completion of a major extension programme at the Glenelg treatment works. Funds are also provided for the completion of treatment works at Noarlunga, for the completion of extensions at the treatment works at Port Adelaide,

for pipework at the Queensbury pumping station, for further work on a new pumping station and associated mains at West Beach, and for the reconstruction of obsolete sewers. The sum of £431,000 is required for the sewerage of many new housing areas, and £79,000 for trunk sewers to serve Elizabeth and to connect the town with the new treatment works to be erected at Bolivar.

Country Sewers, £274,000.—An amount of £29,000 is provided for the sewerage of Angaston, £25,000 for the completion of the Naracoorte sewerage scheme, £180,000 for the continuation of sewerage reticulation at Port Lincoln, and £40,000 for other country sewerage projects.

Water Conservation, £53,000.—The sum of £50,000 is required for work on storage tanks at Kimba and £3,000 for minor works.

RIVER MURRAY WEIRS, DAMS, LOCKS, ETC., £108,000.—Provision is included again this year to meet South Australia's share of the cost of work carried out by the River Murray Commission.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS AND LAND, £8,380,000.—Provision is included in the Bill for expenditure during 1961-62 under the following four main headings:

	£
Hospital Buildings . . . . .	1,200,000
School Buildings . . . . .	6,000,000
Police and Courthouse Buildings . . . . .	580,000
Other Government Buildings . . . . .	600,000

Hospital Buildings, £1,200,000.—Royal Adelaide Hospital.—The sum of £150,000 is proposed for further work on major additions to the dental hospital and £461,000 is proposed for the completion of the radiotherapy building. This building is planned to be completed early in 1962 at an estimated total cost of £2,300,000, and will provide accommodation for radiotherapy treatment, theatres, ward units, ophthalmic facilities and a pharmacy. This is the initial step in the major replanning scheme for the Royal Adelaide Hospital.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.—The sum of £46,000 is required for the commencement of a new laboratory building, the total estimated cost of which is £83,000.

Northfield Mental Hospital.—An amount of £30,000 is required for grading, paving and kerbing roadways to serve recently completed blocks.

Mount Gambier Hospital.—The sum of £77,000 is required for final payments for the new hospital which was opened by His Excellency the Governor in July last. The hospital has accommodation for 210 patients and its final cost, including associated services, was £1,970,000.

Port Pirie Hospital.—An amount of £158,000 is required for the completion of major additions at the Port Pirie hospital comprising a new boiler house, a new kitchen and equipment, laundry and equipment, water service, and a workshop. Funds are provided for initial work on major additions at Port Lincoln hospital, for furniture and equipment at various hospitals, for minor alterations and additions as required, and for preliminary work on various projects.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS, £6,000,000.—During 1960-61 actual payments from Loan Account totalled £4,836,000, which was made up as follows:

	£
The completion of 17 contracts with a total value of £1,527,000 for new schools or major additions to schools . . . . .	897,000
Work under contracts for 24 new schools or major additions with a total value of £4,913,000 still in progress at the end of June, 1961 . . . . .	1,687,000
The completion of craftwork centres valued at £82,000 at four schools . . . . .	32,000
Prefabricated classrooms or classroom equivalents . . . . .	706,000
Purchase of land and residences for school purposes . . . . .	598,000
Minor works, including grading and paving of school yards, fencing, roadways, additional toilets and facilities, etc., and furniture and equipment . . . . .	916,000
	£4,836,000

For 1961-62 the proposals for school buildings and associated works total £6,000,000, and the ways in which the funds are to be used are as follows:

	£
Work under 24 contracts with a total value of £4,913,000 for new schools or major additions which were in progress at June 30, 1961 . . . . .	3,025,000
The commencement of 73 projects with a total value of £13,441,000 for new schools, major additions to schools, Teachers' College, School of Art and trade schools . . . . .	1,477,000
Work on craftwork centres valued at £455,000 at 16 schools . . . . .	98,000
Prefabricated classrooms or classroom equivalents . . . . .	500,000
Purchase of land and residences for school purposes . . . . .	450,000
Minor works, including grading and paving of school yards, fencing, roadways, toilets and facilities, etc., and furniture and equipment . . . . .	450,000
	£6,000,000

**POLICE AND COURTHOUSE BUILDINGS, £580,000.**—Provision is made for the continuation of the programme of construction of police stations and courthouses to serve country areas, to complete a number of works which were under construction at June 30, 1961, and to commence work on various new projects.

An amount of £21,000 is provided for initial work on a new multi-storey building and a new cell block for police headquarters in Adelaide. The new building to be erected in Angas Street is estimated to cost £1,486,000, and will comprise basement, ground floor, and nine upper floors, which will not only meet the present needs of the Police Department but will provide against those needs for some years ahead. Upon completion two upper floors will be available for the use of other departments for a number of years. The sum of £130,000 has been spent on the purchase of Fort Largs from the Commonwealth Government for use as a new police training establishment.

**OTHER GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, £600,000.**—The main requirements for 1961-62 are: £15,000 for laboratories for the Agriculture Department, including initial work on a new establishment at Northfield, the total cost of which is estimated at £157,000; £130,000 for work on a new air-conditioned wing at the Art Gallery to give increased space for display and for the future growth of the art collection; £40,000 for work to be started on a new two-storey solid construction building to provide improved accommodation at Vaughan House Girl's Reformatory, the estimated cost of which is £238,000; £18,000 for the completion of a new cell block, estimated to cost £93,000, at the Cadell Training Centre; and £45,000 for a programme of improvements to the kitchen, assembly hall, trade shops and cells at Yatala Labour Prison. Funds are also provided for the commencement of large projects for a new Remand Home at Glandore and a rebuilding scheme at Port Augusta Gaol.

**EXPENSES AND DISCOUNTS OF FLOATING CONVERSION AND PUBLIC LOANS, £100,000.**—The amount required for this item will depend on the terms and conditions considered appropriate for new loans and conversions undertaken during 1961-62. It is not possible to make an accurate estimate of likely requirements which may vary widely from year to year, but £100,000 is provided as a reasonable cover.

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST, £40,000.**—This figure is the nominal amount provided by the proposed appropriation from Loan Fund. The Government has now arranged that the trust obtains the greatest proportion of its new finance from funds available under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. These moneys are available at a concessional interest rate of one per cent below the normal long-term governmental borrowing rate, and the use of these lower rated funds materially assists in keeping costs and rentals at reasonable levels. The trust's allocation of Housing Agreement funds in 1961-62 will be £4,250,000 as compared with £4,089,000 in 1960-61. These funds, together with the use by the trust of internal funds, loans to be raised from lending institutions, and the proposed allocation from the Loan Fund, will permit a gross capital expenditure of over £12,000,000, which will suffice for a house construction programme at least equal to the record level achieved last year and will make possible an increased number of actual completions.

During 1961-62 progress work for housing of all kinds is expected to be carried out on 5,753 units, of which 2,810 were under construction at the beginning of the year and 2,943 are to be started during the year. The likely number of completions is estimated at 3,500 compared with 3,314 for 1960-61. The emphasis will continue, at least for the time being, to be towards rental housing to cope with the demand caused by industrial expansion at Whyalla, and to meet the further needs of emergency dwelling replacement. The emergency housing replacement programme in the metropolitan area began in September, 1960, and to the end of June, 1961, 760 dwellings had been vacated and 511 actually removed from the site. Every effort was made to remove the vacated units as soon as possible to enable the sites to be used for permanent structures, and 270 brick dwellings were completed during last year and 468 were under construction at June 30 last on recently vacated or adjacent sites.

**ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, £2,300,000.**—During the year 1961-62 the trust plans to spend a total of £9,554,000 on capital works. It is proposed that funds to finance this programme will be raised as follows: £2,300,000 from State Loan Funds for which provision is made in this Bill; £2,750,000 from financial institutions and the public; £600,000 from the £1,000,000 grant made by the Government last year towards the cost of a transmission line to the South-East;

and £3,904,000 from the trust's internal funds. The balance of the special grant (£400,000) will be used in 1962-63 when the transmission line is completed. The major works included in the programme are: £110,000 will be spent at Osborne power station, where civil works and progress payments in connection with the new 60,000 kilowatt turbo-alternator and boiler will be commenced.

An amount of £2,630,000 is required for Port Augusta for civil works and progress payments for Nos. 3 and 4 turbo-alternators and boilers, and for sundry works, switchyard additions and electrical equipment. In the Port Lincoln region £87,000 will be spent on extension and alterations to mains, Lincoln Basin supply, rural extensions and construction of the Port Lincoln office. In the Mount Gambier region the trust will spend a total of £423,000, of which £176,000 will be for the power station, including payments in connection with the installation of a further 5,000 kilowatt turbo-alternator to be commissioned in May, 1962. Extensions and additions to mains will require £137,000 and £110,000 will be spent on rural extensions. Expenditure on substations will require £967,000. The sum of £3,605,000 is proposed for mains and service equipment for supply to consumers. Out of this amount, £1,104,000 will be required to provide extensions to the distribution system and connection of 12,500 new consumers.

Rural extensions will require £570,000 and £1,931,000 will be spent on instruments, transmission lines (including the new line from Tailm Bend to Mount Gambier), underground cables, depots, transformers and sundries. Other expenditure will total £1,626,000 and will include £1,064,000 on the new office building at Park Terrace, expenditure on transport equipment, houses for employees, plant and tools and sundry buildings.

LEIGH CREEK COALFIELD, £700,000.—Of this amount £330,000 is required for the power line from the Port Augusta power station, which is expected to be completed by October of this year, and £70,000 to complete the new excavator at the field. The bucket of this machine will dig 17 tons of overburden at a time and will remove 600 tons of material per hour. The total cost of the machine, when commissioned, will be £750,000. Funds are also provided for quarters for single men, flats, additions to the school, houses, shops and minor buildings, town services such as water and sewerage, coal

handling and treatment plant additions, workshop cranes, tools, equipment, furniture and vehicles. During 1960-61 coal production exceeded 1,000,000 tons for the first time, and in the current year 1,250,000 tons of coal will be required for the Port Augusta power stations.

MINES DEPARTMENT: BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., £235,000.—This amount is required for the purchase of scientific instruments for geological and geophysical parties in the field, for additional and replacement vehicles and for minor buildings.

URANIUM PRODUCTION: CAPITAL, £5,000.—The sum of £5,000 is provided this year for small capital works which may be necessary at Radium Hill or Port Pirie from time to time. The quantity of ore produced last year was considerably higher than in any previous year and the value of product exported during the year was approximately £2,900,000. From the commencement of operations to June 30, 1961, a total of £15,783,000 has been received from overseas, and proceeds received have been sufficient to meet the whole of the operating expenses and progressive instalments on repayments of overseas loans, and to make some contribution to the repayment of locally raised funds made available by the Treasury. The existing contract with the Combined Development Agency will expire on December 31, 1961, and proceeds for the first half of the year 1961-62 are estimated at £1,370,000 (two-thirds in United States dollars and one-third in sterling). After meeting working expenses it is expected that there will be a surplus of £500,000 to be credited against capital cost, and available for repaying overseas and local borrowings.

METROPOLITAN AND EXPORT ABATTOIRS BOARD, LOAN TO, £5,000.—A nominal £5,000 is provided for minor works as may be required. However the board is examining proposals for future development and it may become necessary later in the year to arrange for some semi-governmental loan finance within this State's borrowing authority or to assist the board otherwise with capital finance.

PUBLIC PARKS ACT: PURCHASE OF LAND, £12,000.—In assisting local authorities under the Public Parks Act the Government's normal policy is to take responsibility for part of the purchase price of open areas, and to expect the local authority to take responsibility for part. The Government contribution is appropriated from Consolidated Revenue, while the local authority contribution may be borrowed from a financial institution or made



available from the State Loan Fund, and then repaid by the local authority over a stipulated period. An amount of £12,000 is provided in 1961-62 for this latter arrangement.

**PRINTING AND STATIONERY DEPARTMENT: PLANT, MACHINERY, STORES, ETC., £35,000.**—This amount is provided for the purchase of various items for the capital re-equipment programme.

**PRODUCE DEPARTMENT: BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., £22,000.**—The sum of £2,000 is required for the completion of a new boning room and plant at Port Lincoln and £15,000 for the completion of bacon factory extensions also at Port Lincoln. An amount of £5,000 is provided for various items of plant and equipment and minor works.

**FISHING HAVENS, £50,000.**—Of this amount, £31,000 is required for the construction of a slipway and boat storage area at Port MacDonnell; £5,000 to complete the construction of a new slipway at Streaky Bay; £6,000 for the purchase of land at Robe for the Lake Butler scheme, and £8,000 for minor works which may be authorized.

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT: SCHOOL BUSES, £100,000.**—This amount is provided for the purchase of additional and replacement buses for the transport of school children in country areas.

**SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBS DRAINAGE, £250,000.**—During 1960-61 a section of reinforced concrete drain running west from Marion Road to the Sturt Creek was completed, work was commenced on a drain at Edward Street, Brighton, and investigations of the site for a flood control dam on the River Sturt were carried out. The sum of £250,000 is required this year to finance further work on the major drain running into the sea at Edward Street, Brighton, further work for the flood control dam, and the commencement of other drains as priorities are decided by the controlling committee.

**CELLULOSE AUSTRALIA LTD.: SHARES, £104,000.**—This amount is provided to enable the Government to take up shares in the proposed 1961 new issue to the extent to which it is entitled by its present holding and authorised by legislation.

I turn now to the clauses of the Bill. Clause 3 defines the Loan Fund, and clause 4 provides for the borrowing by the Treasurer of £27,000,000. The allocation to South Australia out of the borrowing programme approved by Loan Council in June last is £25,148,000 for works other than under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. However, in the

present state of the economy the Government proposes to keep in touch with the Governments of other States and the Commonwealth, to see if it may be possible to arrange a further loan allocation this financial year. With this in mind the borrowing authority in clause 4 has been set down at £27,000,000 to avoid having to call Parliament together again should it be possible to arrange an increased borrowing programme early in 1962. Clause 5 provides for the expenditure of £30,748,000 on the undertakings set out in the first schedule.

Clause 6 deals with expenditure on loan undertakings which were included in the Public Purposes Loan Bill of 1960, and for which additional appropriation was given by warrant by His Excellency the Governor under powers conferred on him by the Public Finance Act. Clause 7 makes provision for borrowing and payment of any amount to cover any discounts, charges and expenses incurred in connection with borrowing for the purposes of this Bill. Clause 8 makes provision for temporary finance if the moneys in the Loan Fund are insufficient for the purposes of this Bill. Clause 9 authorizes the borrowing of £10,000,000 for the purpose of carrying on loan works at the commencement of next financial year and until the Public Purposes Loan Bill for 1962 is considered by Parliament.

Clause 10 gives the Treasurer power to borrow against the issue of Treasury Bills or by bank overdraft. The Treasurer possesses and exercises this authority under other legislation, but it has been deemed desirable to make that authority specific year by year in the Public Purposes Loan Bill as is done with other borrowing authority. Clause 11 deals with the duration of certain clauses, and clause 12 directs that all money received by the State under the Commonwealth Aid Roads Act shall be credited to a special account to be paid out as required for the purposes of the Commonwealth Aid Roads Act. Clause 13 provides for this Bill to operate as from July, 1, 1961. I commend the Bill to honourable members.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD (Leader of the Opposition): I do not intend to take the usual course and ask for the adjournment of the debate. To facilitate the working of Parliament I will continue with the debate now. It would be almost an impossible task for a member to digest quickly all that the Chief Secretary said and to analyse the figures given. However, while listening to the speech it seemed that it was just a repetition of previous Loan Bill explanations, with no new

material included. I looked for an indication of new works in order to relieve the unemployment position, but it seems that the Bill covers only a continuation of works already in progress, some of which are behind schedule. There seemed to be no attempt to create new work, especially for the labouring people.

The Hon. G. O'H. Giles: Such as the power line to the South-East?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: That would be work for highly skilled tradesmen. If the work on that line were done by labouring people my sympathies would be with residents of the South-East. I do not think they would like it to be done by labouring people who have had no training in the work.

The Hon. G. O'H. Giles: Don't you think that when completed that power line will be a means of providing more work?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I don't know that it will.

The Hon. C. R. Story: Do you say that the labouring people are the ones most affected through unemployment?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Yes. Recently a cake manufacturer advertised for a man to deliver cakes. He had 40 applicants for the job but not one was considered by him to be capable of doing the work. In the main it is the labouring people who are out of work today.

The Hon. G. O'H. Giles: You misinterpreted my point.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: No. The honourable member referred to the labouring class. The honourable member cannot have it both ways, and when he is put back in his box he should be big enough to say that he was wrong and not go on with it.

The Hon. C. R. Story: Do you mean that the motor body industry has not put as many men off as we have been led to believe?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Workers in the motor body industry are not labourers, but specialists.

The Hon. C. R. Story: Would they not be useful for work on the power line to the South-East?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: No. The linesmen employed by the Electricity Trust are highly trained and highly paid. They do not get the £5 margin unless they have a particular skill in the work. I believe that the Railways Department has been let down by the Commonwealth Government. The South Australian Government has not proceeded with the matter of gauge standardization as efficiently

as it could have done. It is tragic to recall that years ago, long before the Western Australian claim for gauge standardization, the South Australian Government did not show any keenness to get standardization in this State. I vividly recall a friend of the Government getting a big spread in the centre page of the *News*. The article was written by Sir Barton Pope, who bitterly attacked the Government for its inactivity in this matter.

The Hon. N. L. Jude: You are not quite correct. Proceedings were taken immediately the Kingston line was completed.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I am referring to what Sir Barton Pope said. The Victorian Government was successful in getting the gauge between Albury and Melbourne standardized, and that was agreed to long before our claim was made. Standardization in Western Australia was not thought of in those days, yet it has beaten the South Australian Government to standardization. If our Government had shown more enthusiasm in this matter we would have had standardization work in progress, and it would have absorbed many of the labouring people who are now unemployed. We have nothing now and we do not look like getting anything in the near future. All we have got out of the argument is an offer of money for the provision of diesel-electric locomotives. I do not know whether the offer will be accepted, and in any case I do not think it would relieve the unemployment position. These locomotives would replace outdated engines, particularly on the northern lines, which might create further unemployment, so the position is not encouraging. On June 22 the Treasurer in one of his nightly visitations to fairyland to speak, which we hear through television on Thursday night and read on Friday morning when full blossom is given to his remarks, said that £250,000 would be made available to semi-governmental and local government bodies for public works in order that the unemployment position might be eased. That sounded very nice, and one would not have been critical if it had taken place. On August 21 a deputation from local government bodies waited on the Treasurer on this matter, but local government did not get one penny of the £250,000. The work envisaged could have been done by the labouring people of whom I speak.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: Do you think that would affect the unemployment situation?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I think so.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: There would be only a certain amount of money to go

around between the Government and local government.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: The honourable member cannot have it both ways. In one speech the Treasurer said that £250,000 would be available to local government and semi-governmental bodies.

The Hon. N. L. Jude: It would be better if you could quote the Treasurer's speech.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I quoted the date, June 22, on which he made it.

The Hon. N. L. Jude: Can you give the correct wording? Was it Commonwealth Loan money?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: The Treasurer said that South Australia's share of the additional money was about £1,250,000 for the official programme and £250,000 for semi-government works.

The Hon. N. L. Jude: That is quite right. The power to borrow.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: Was that for semi-government works or for councils?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Semi-government.

The ACTING PRESIDENT (A. J. Melrose): Order! This is not a free-for-all.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: My statements have touched members on the raw. I would not say these things if they were not true and everyone knows they are correct. Why mislead the people? Sir Thomas Playford said that under the Loan Council allocation approved recently an additional £248,000, to be raised by public loan, had been allocated for semi-government and local government purposes in South Australia.

The Hon. N. L. Jude: If the people were prepared to lend it to us.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: He said it would be made available, but not one penny has been made available. This is not bunkum: it is factual and that is my point. When the Treasurer makes these excursions into fairyland on Thursday night and he is tackled with it—

The Hon. G. O'H. Giles: Do you listen to him?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: No, but I have become so used to reading of these things that never happen that I wonder about them. When members tell people outside the Council that the Treasurer does not always tell the truth they look at us but if a record were kept of these fairyland speeches made by the Treasurer we could prove that time out of number. I am glad that members opposite have interjected because that means I must be making progress and touching them on a raw spot.

I refer now to public buildings and I am afraid that this item has been inflated for election purposes if for no other reason. I refer particularly to schools and I can only hope that the programme outlined by these Loan Estimates will be completed by next year. If that happened everybody would be happy but the people and, I think, particularly honourable members, know that there is no possibility of that work being completed by June next year. However, no-one can now say whether that statement is correct, but I hope to be here next year to show if it is correct. It is proposed to do this and that, but I do not believe that the 24 proposed schools will be completed.

A number of new silos have been planned for South Australia by the South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd. and I believe that the bulk of the money for their construction is guaranteed by the South Australian Government.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: Part of it.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: A total of 16 silos is planned in the near future but I am perturbed at a statement made by the General Manager of the company (Mr. P. T. Sanders) that appeared in the *Advertiser*. Part of the statement is:

The General Manager of the South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited (Mr. P. T. Sanders) yesterday announced a £1,750,000 expansion programme. He said that tenders for the building of the first five storage silos, at Minnipa, Warrambo, Waddikee, Wirrulla and Cummins had been awarded to a Melbourne company, Ascot Pty. Ltd.

Will the Melbourne firm bring its own employees here or will it employ workmen from South Australia?

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: That will depend on what sort of wages you want.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: That may be right because we are not prepared to work for the basic wage when everybody else pays over-award rates, even if it means a bit of a dust up.

The Hon. L. H. Densley: The honourable member knows that farmers have to pay tolls for the silos.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Yes, but I also have something else to say about farmers. It would be wrong if this work were done by a Victorian firm with its own employees to the detriment of the unemployed workmen in South Australia, particularly as some of the money necessary is guaranteed by the South Australian Government. I would appreciate an answer on that point. Whilst talking about farmers I

wish to raise another question that I hope will be brought to the notice of the Minister of Agriculture. The selling operations at the abattoirs are proposed to be altered and a number of people have either telephoned me or approached me recently about this. We have talked together and prepared a statement to make the objections of these people understandable. The usual practice over the years has been that cattle only are sold at the abattoirs on Monday under the bull ring system which means that each beast goes into the sale ring, where it is viewed and auctioned. That system is to be replaced by the pen system under which the pens will be filled with cattle belonging to three or four different owners. This will mean that the cattle cannot be viewed properly to determine their weight.

The Hon. L. H. Densley: Aren't you interested in the new system?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Apparently the people who are concerned are not interested. The practice has been for the abattoirs to sell sheep on Wednesdays when it also sells calves and pigs. I understand that under the new system calves and pigs must be sold on Monday and I am informed that that will mean that the average small farmer, instead of being able to load cattle, pigs, calves and a few sheep on one truck, will have to make two trips for two sales. This will mean that he will have to make two trips to the abattoirs and will lose two days. I have asked these people to put their arguments into some lucid form and this is what I have received:

The Abattoirs Board intends to change the selling of cattle from what is termed the bull-ring to the pen selling method, and pigs and calves are to be sold on Mondays in conjunction with the cattle market, instead of on Wednesdays as at present. A meeting convened by the Stock Salesmen's Association and attended by the producer representatives of the Australian Primary Producers' Union, the Stockowners' Association and the South Australian Wheat and Wool Growers' Association decided that the proposed changes were not in the best interests of producers of fat stock, as the savings to the Abattoirs Board would be more than offset by additional costs to the men on the land.

Yet I thought the board was keen to assist these people to keep their costs down. Their statement continues:

The bull-ring selling system enables the 80 operators, both large and small, to view the cattle to the best advantage, whereas the pen system would not allow the cattle to be viewed by half this number, nor would the cattle be displayed so well. Therefore, butchers would not be able to bid with confidence on the estimated weight of the beasts, so the producer would not secure the best possible price.

The Hon. L. H. Densley: You do not know as much about butchers as you do about bakers!

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: The people who know the position supplied me with this information to put before the Chamber. I am prepared to say that I know little about it. At present many producers delivering stock to the abattoirs on Wednesday deliver mixed loads of sheep and lambs with either calves or pigs. This applies particularly between December and August. Under the proposed system two trips would be necessary or an alternative method of selling should be adopted. Pigs and calves coming in by rail to the abattoirs are loaded on Tuesday for Wednesday's market and if they were to be sold on Monday they would be loaded on Friday or Saturday. This would entail week-end untrucking and feeding at the abattoirs, and the cost would be paid by the producer.

Dangers from the producers' point of view would be that the pen selling of cattle would result in small butchers withdrawing from the market and taking their supplies from wholesalers, who would then control the market. The small butchers, having withdrawn from the cattle market, they would then be tempted to leave the sheep and lamb market as well, and so only a few wholesale butchers would operate. To offset producers' difficulties, I should like to know whether the Government would be prepared to follow the example of the New South Wales Government and finance the establishment of country killing works under local control with interest free loans for 15 years, and with only a small rate of interest during the following 30 years, after which provision for repayment could be made. I submit this information with the best of intentions. At least five people approached me on this subject, and as I have the interest of the community as a whole at heart, I felt that at least from their point of view I should put it before members.

I am sorry that the Attorney-General is not present because I want to refer to a matter I discussed with him and about which I had been worried for a considerable time because of the action of Supreme Court judges and magistrates in the lower courts. It relates to the suspension of the licence of a driver who has been found guilty of certain offences. I spoke to the Attorney-General about it, because I thought it was a hardship for some of these people to have their driver's licence taken away after they had served their sentence. Recently I took up with the Attorney-General

the case of a member of my union and he was good enough to inform me that the authority was contained in section 38a (1) of the Road Traffic Act, which provides as follows:

(1) When any person is convicted, before the Supreme Court or any other court, for any offence against any provision of this Act relating to motor vehicles, or for any offence in the commission of which a motor vehicle was used or the commission of which was facilitated by the use of a motor vehicle, the court may order that that person be disqualified either for a fixed period by the court or until further order from holding and obtaining a driver's licence.

One person I knew was charged with breaking and entering, and at least two other persons were concerned. He was ordered six months imprisonment, which is a pretty severe sentence, and he had his driver's licence taken away for two years and will not get it back until March, 1963. Despite the fact that he has served his sentence he still has to suffer the penalty of not being able to drive his car. This young man, who has two or three children, took this sentence to heart to such an extent that he changed his name by deed poll and got a job away from the district in which he had lived, and he was taken to and from work in the car by his wife. Unfortunately, she had a gall attack and could not drive him to work and foolishly he took the risk of driving the car himself. Some kind person was good enough to inform the police, who waited at his place of employment, and despite the fact that his employer went to the court and spoke on his behalf and said what a good worker he was, he was sentenced to gaol for another three weeks. He came out one day last week, but it is difficult to rehabilitate this type of person in a decent job, particularly in our industry and, for that matter, in the majority of industries, if he does not have a driving licence. Due to the good nature of the employer and of the standing I am fortunate enough to have with the employers, this man was given employment driving a horse-drawn van.

This clause is too severe. I have spoken to my legal friends and am told it is a good clause because it is a good thing for certain people to lose their licence, but if a person after serving a term in gaol shows definite indications of wanting to reform, and behaves well in a job for a period, then that person should have the right to appeal to the court to have his licence restored before the term of suspension has expired.

The Hon. F. J. Potter: They have already got that right.

The Hon. N. L. Jude: Isn't the point you are making covered by the Road Traffic Act?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: It is in the Road Traffic Act and that is why I raise this matter. I am told that after a person is convicted in the Supreme Court on a breaking and entering charge, he receives a sentence, serves it, and then is not allowed to drive for a period of up to two years.

The Hon. F. J. Potter: There is nothing wrong with that, is there?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Yes.

The Hon. F. J. Potter: It is not much good suspending his licence while he is in gaol.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: He has it suspended for two years, but after having proved that he wants to be rehabilitated and it is necessary to have a licence for the particular job, surely he has a right to have the licence restored.

The Hon. F. J. Potter: There is power to review the suspension if application is made to the court.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I have received contrary advice, and that is my point. If there are ways and means of appealing, that would remove my objection, but it seems to me to be a long period of punishment. I was told of another case in which the period of suspension was for three years after a prison sentence and that seems very severe. I will speak to the Attorney-General, but because the Road Traffic Bill is in another place, and I do not know what will happen to it there, I will have more to say at a later stage, because I consider this clause should be removed from the Act. I support the Bill.

The Hon. JESSIE COOPER (Central No. 2): I support the Bill and draw the attention of honourable members to the fact that such a high proportion of the money allocated in this Bill is directed to the permanent improvement of the State's facilities for production and to the social requirements of an ever-increasing population. That may at first seem a superficial statement. It may, at least, seem axiomatic, but a closer examination of the implication will show that this Bill does support the Government's repeated contention that it is constantly planning to increase the wealth and the capacity of this State to a most marked degree. Although I realize that it is a general principle that Loan money should be used for continuing capital assets, I find it very interesting that the Government has planned such a high proportion of works which have the combined merit of being permanent or long term

in their existence, while, at the same time, being a direct aid to the accommodation of a greater population and to a greater degree of industrial activity. As the Chief Secretary said, almost £31,000,000 is being allocated, of which about £25,000,000 is for items of the nature I have mentioned, that is, permanent and developmental projects.

I consider that the Government should be heartily congratulated for its single mindedness as shown in pursuing its objective of forcing the pace of desirable development in this State. Turning to a few items, I notice that £45,000 is being set aside for additions and improvements to the Yatala Labour Prison. That is highly commendable, as is the £40,000 being allocated for additions to Vaughan House, but it is disappointing that no provision has yet been made to improve the lot of the unfortunate women prisoners who are housed in, shall we say, prehistoric conditions at the Adelaide Gaol. I understand that plans have been drawn for a completely new women's prison, and that is what is required. I hope that the omission of any mention of the women's gaol in these Estimates may mean that the Government is considering this most important project for next year.

Under Hospital buildings, honourable members will see that £46,000 is to be spent on a new laboratory at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital. This hospital should be a source of great pride and satisfaction, not only to the Government and the Hospitals Department, but to every citizen of this State. Honourable members will remember the visit which took place in 1959. More recently, in fact only a few weeks ago, one of the honoraries of this hospital, knowing my interest in pediatrics, invited me to visit the pediatric section to see the wonderful work being done there. I inspected one complete floor of the maternity section. I started at the premature nurseries, where I saw tiny morsels of humanity gaining strength in humid cribs; then I saw those who had reached the next stage, where they were clothed and lying in ordinary cribs in heated nurseries. I passed on room by room until I saw the babies who were mature enough to be leaving hospital in a few days. It is a tale of success—the staff of the hospital can take great credit for the results of their patience, care and skill. I then visited the maternity section proper, where I saw and spoke to every mother, each with her baby beside her. The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, in common with other modern hospitals, is running on a system of complete

“rooming-in”, that is, mother and child are never separated unless there is illness of one or the other, from birth until they go home. The result is that the rate of infection has been greatly diminished. No longer is that scourge of the newborn, a form of golden staph, which has spread throughout the whole world in alarming proportions, occurring in this hospital. The odd case is traced scientifically to its source and isolated. In fact, the system of rooming-in has almost eliminated the disease. A further point of interest is that there is a lack of other infections, although fathers and friends visit the mothers to see the babies at close range. I found every mother happy and enthusiastic about the hospital methods. The babies were the most contented I have ever seen.

The point I wish to make in mentioning these matters is that I believe that the Government should, at the earliest possible moment, spend a little extra money on converting the unused, extensive expanse of nursery space into wards or other rooms. These empty spaces occur on each of the four floors and they are all air-conditioned. I want to stress that point that they are all air-conditioned. Last summer I received a complaint from one of my constituents, who said that, at this magnificent modern hospital, she had given birth to a child in heat-wave conditions. I was sceptical until I saw the proof of her statement. Only the empty nurseries are air-conditioned. The rooms and wards are not. Evidently the architects felt that only our newest Australians needed acclimatizing. When, during my visit, I suggested that it would perhaps be possible to move the mothers into these air-conditioned rooms during extreme weather conditions I was informed with a certain amount of derision that this could, of course, have been done if the doorways had been wide enough to get the beds through! May I, in all modesty, suggest that occasionally a woman's common sense in such matters might be of assistance?

The rooming-in system is not a new technique developed since the planning of the hospital. It has been the standard practice, I am told, in England and in U.S.A. for over 10 years, so it is difficult to understand why such extensive nurseries were ever included in the first place in the design. I would say that the amount of finance needed to convert these nurseries into useful rooms would be well worthwhile for our future. It would certainly be wise economically to plan now for an increasing birthrate.

Although it is not the duty or province of Parliamentarians to comment upon current technical problems in any field, it is their duty to ensure that when vast sums of the State's money are being expended the best advice available should be obtained from those who will be most intimately associated with the use of the structure being built. I am not presuming to say how things should be done, but my attention has been drawn to how things are done, not only in this hospital, but in others.

The provisions required by the very latest practices frequently seem to be subordinated to what the architects seem to think is suitable. I can only strongly suggest to the Government that in all cases where buildings or structures are required for any purpose associated with technology and science a more general use should be made of expert advisory committees at all stages of construction. I do not wish to delay the Council with an examination of other complaints I have received, but they do apply in practically every institution one inspects.

The only other matter I wish to mention is that one cannot help being amazed at the huge cost these days of developing the State. Enormous amounts have to be set aside for necessary developments. As an example £602,000 is provided for a new water main from Lincoln Gap to Iron Knob. Then there is the example of the cost of the two new narrow-gauge diesel-electric locomotives, £90,000 each. It must be no easy matter to work out the distribution of the Loan money each year.

It gives me great satisfaction to support this Bill. Generally speaking, it represents a sound and frugal use of the State's finances. I hope that the Government will continue to develop the State with the force and foresight it is showing at the moment.

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS (Southern): It gives me much pleasure to support the Bill. I congratulate the Hon. Mrs. Cooper on her excellent speech, and commend the Government for achieving a surplus of £1,188,000 in State finances at the end of the last financial year. This Bill is in keeping with the Government's financial policy that has proved to be so successful. I do not agree with the Hon. Mr. Shard that the Bill will not ease the unemployment position. I take the opposite view because I think everything possible is being done to ease that position and that the projects outlined will create employment. The Bill covers many matters and it would be impossible for a member to deal with all of

them, but each member is interested in the matters that concern his electorate. I propose to deal with three or four matters only.

A large portion of the Loan money will be made available for afforestation and kindred activities. It is proposed to plant this year 5,000 acres of pines, which is an increase of 1,000 acres on the previous record figure. This indicates the stake that the State has in the industry. We all look forward to the establishment of the new paper mill in the South-East. Any day now we should hear that the interested companies have signed up and decided to establish the mill near Mount Gambier. Reference has been made to the proposal to pipe water from the Eight Mile Creek area to the mill site, which has not yet been announced. It is proposed to return the effluent from the mill by pipe for discharge into the sea. I am not a technician, but if the effluent is not harmful to plant life consideration should be given to running it on to nearby soil for productive purposes. Although it may be obnoxious I think that would be better than discharging it into the sea. Whether the land grows vegetables, grass or trees, something should be done with the water if it is not toxic. The proposals for water conservation in South Australia make interesting reading and Mrs. Cooper mentioned the cost of some of the pipelines. We have often been told that water will be South Australia's lifeblood in the future. This State is not well-endowed with water but it has one great lifeline in the River Murray. However, the expense involved in taking the water from the river to many parts of South Australia will be great. I congratulate the Government on its foresight in trying to do everything possible to conserve and improve the supply of water from the River Murray. Other members will probably speak on the proposed dam to be built in the vicinity of Renmark.

The sum of £75,000 is proposed for a water scheme at Millicent. A start has already been made and several bores have been sunk, but one aspect particularly pleases me. In the Housing Trust area at Millicent the supply of water has not been as satisfactory as many inhabitants desired and recently the press announced that one bore had been sunk and overhead tanks were to be erected to supply that area with good water until the scheme was completed. The money provided should get the complete scheme under way.

In the field of education the proposals for new schools in the coming year make interesting reading. Of the major works that were

completed in 1960-61 or that were in progress at June 30, 1961, four of the largest buildings were constructed or will be constructed of Mount Gambier stone. Of the major works to be commenced or designed in the coming financial year 17 are to be constructed of Mount Gambier stone. Occasionally the Government has been criticized for not using local products, but we must realize that the Government is doing everything possible, not only to use local products in local areas but to use them throughout the State. Several new schools are proposed to the north of Adelaide and they are a considerable distance from the normal sources of stone supplies. It is interesting to note that a high school is being erected at Millicent by a private contractor at almost a record rate. The construction of the building is of steel and precast concrete and indicates what private enterprise can do. I mentioned previously that I firmly believe in private contractors and private enterprise performing Government work although I know the Government has adopted a policy in various departments of carrying out its own works. I believe that the calling of tenders and the letting of certain jobs by contract can be of great advantage. The Millicent high school job is a splendid example of what private enterprise can do.

I have had much to say in the past on road construction and I praise the Highways Department for its work, but at times it would be possible to have road sections constructed by private contract.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph: Wouldn't some councils agree that there is no difference between day labour construction and the contract job?

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: I shall not enter into an argument about what they agree on, but I advance my own arguments because recently a dual highway was constructed between Geelong and Melbourne. Great sections of it were constructed by a private company and the speed at which it was built and the excellent job that resulted leads one to believe that in some areas, where we are getting behind, private contractors can serve a good purpose. I do not, in any way, criticize the Highways Department because its work is excellent but, at times, consideration should be given to calling tenders for certain jobs. A comparison of costs could only be ascertained when tenders were called and the contracts let.

Certain money has been provided for the completion of the Naracoorte sewerage scheme, which will be completed this financial year to

the great satisfaction of the citizens of that town. However, Mount Gambier is not mentioned because Nangwarry will be seweraged this financial year. I compliment the Government on its decision to let Mount Gambier wait a little longer because the proposed pulp mill will probably mean that Mount Gambier's population will rise steeply in the next few years. I believe that Mount Gambier has to wait mainly to enable the Government to ascertain what will take place in that vicinity before embarking on the big sewerage scheme that will be so necessary soon. No-one would deny that the scheme is not necessary now but it is better to wait a few more months.

The Hon. Mr. Shard mentioned the present and proposed selling methods of the Metropolitan Abattoirs and sale days for pigs and calves. I wish to make one or two observations about the method of selling that has been in operation at the abattoirs for many years. The method, which it is proposed to change shortly, is out of date and is not used now in other States. Pen selling is a method under which cattle may be sold much more quickly than under the present method. All kinds of arguments may be advanced to substantiate a continuance of the present ring method of selling but at Flemington, in Victoria, where thousands of cattle are sold each week, the pen-selling system is in operation. At our abattoirs there are two cattle sale yards. One is the isolation yard for cattle coming in from inside the pleuro free area (Central Australia) and the other holds cattle that come from anywhere else in Australia. These first-mentioned cattle can be sold and turned off in parts of the agricultural areas in the South-East or southern hills to be fattened for slaughter. Cattle coming in from outside the pleuro area must be sold in the bull-ring and only associated with those pens. The method in operation in the isolation yards is completely satisfactory. Under the ring system one or two animals come up to the ring to be sold, but under the pen method lines of from 10 to 20 or 30 steers may be sold in one pen at once, which enables much faster selling of cattle.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: How will that affect the butcher who requires only one beast?

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: If he does not operate with another butcher who requires one or two beasts, he will have to make other arrangements.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph: Do they have group buying?



The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: Yes, and they will have it again. We must keep up with the times because the demand is increasing.

The Hon. Sir Lyell McEwin: Do they have to buy a whole pen?

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: Not necessarily. One buyer could take one or two beasts out of a pen.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph: Have the farmers or stock owners complained?

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: I am not dealing with what they have complained about to me in general and I do not wish to debate many of the finer points of this form of selling, but I wish to make one or two observations regarding statements made by Mr. Shard. The change of selling days for calves and pigs from Wednesdays to Mondays has been considered by men on the land and I think the matter is well-known to the Minister of Agriculture, who conferred with members of the Abattoirs Board, and I respect his judgment. The answer given me is that a large number of men are needed at present on Wednesdays to cope with the movements of stock when pigs, calves, lambs and sheep are sold on the one day. It is found that not so many men need be employed on Mondays. Surely it would be better to have a little more uniformity than at present with the same number of men employed on Mondays as on Wednesdays.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: Even at the expense of making farmers do two trips?

The Hon. A. C. HOOKINGS: Some farmers cannot make any trips at all. Only a small percentage have the opportunity to take their stock to the abattoirs. We have to provide facilities for all primary producers in this field. No doubt the Minister of Agriculture in his wisdom and also the Abattoirs Board will work out a method to suit the majority of producers and keep the abattoir's costs down. If fewer men are needed for the selling of pigs and calves on Mondays, it will be an economic advantage to everyone concerned. I have not had the time to study every feature of the Bill, and no doubt other honourable members will wish to mention other points. I have much pleasure in supporting the second reading.

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### WHYALLA TOWN COMMISSION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 24. Page 557.)

The Hon. A. J. SHARD (Leader of the Opposition): I support the Bill. A friend who is a commissioner on the Whyalla Town

Commission prepared a speech for me and it is as follows:

I have examined the Bill to amend the Whyalla Town Commission Act and I am quite satisfied with the proposals. The Whyalla Town Commission made unanimous requests in respect of declaring Whyalla a city and of the right of an appointed Broken Hill Proprietary Company commissioner to nominate a proxy. The third matter respecting the chairman's right of appeal against removal from office was not advanced by the commission so far as I remember, but it is a desirable provision and one that was obviously overlooked when the Act was framed. You can rest assured that no member of the commission would object to this. When an appointed commissioner representing the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Ltd. is away for one or two meetings it is a considerable disadvantage to have to explain to a person who is filling the gap and attending for those meetings only what matters are pending and what were the previous decisions and policy of the commission on matters under discussion. The proposal in the Bill will remedy this by placing all commissioners on the same footing and able to nominate a proxy from among other commissioners who will be present at the meeting. It seems to me to be a happy set-up. I take this opportunity to congratulate Whyalla, which is so rapidly becoming a city.

The Hon. W. W. ROBINSON (Northern): I also support the second reading of the Bill, which amends the 1944 Act. First, it provides for the alteration of the status of Whyalla from a town to a city, and secondly that the Chairman of the Commission shall have the right of appeal against removal from office on the resolution of other members of the commission sitting in conference. It also provides for the B.H.P. Company's representatives to nominate in writing a substitute to fulfil their duties at meetings of the commission. Under the present conditions the company cannot appoint proxies, but this provision is included to place all the commissioners on the same basis. Those representing the ratepayers have the right to nominate in writing a substitute with full powers at meetings of the commission. Section 13 of the principal Act provides that the Chairman of the Commission may be removed from office, either by the Governor, or by six members of the commission unanimously resolving that he is not a fit and proper person to hold office. It is felt that the chairman should have the right of appeal to the President of the Industrial Court, in the same way as a suspended or dismissed Town Clerk has in other local government bodies.

As regards raising the status of Whyalla from a town to a city, I suggest Mr. President, that you and other members of this Chamber

have been given great pleasure by the growth of this town. I remember when this area was part of a station property on the salt bush plains, with just a wood and iron store. Today it is a thriving town, and should this Bill be passed, it will be a thriving city. Recently I visited Whyalla with the Public Works Committee to inspect a site for an additional school on the western side of the town. We were informed that the surrounding areas would have a population sufficient to warrant the building of the school in 1963. While at this site, we were shown the area over which Whyalla will extend within the next few years.

I pay a compliment to the Town Commission and the way in which it has carried out its work in the development of Whyalla, and also to the Broken Hill Proprietary Company which saw fit to establish a blast furnace and later the ship building industry. These things have made possible the development of the area, and speaking of the ship building industry, we should also pay a tribute to the late Hon. George McLeay and Sir Phillip McBride for the part they played in the establishment of that industry at Whyalla. We owe a great deal to those two gentlemen for the way in which they watched the interests of South Australia when they represented this State in the Commonwealth Government.

I draw the attention of honourable members to the position as it is today, and refer to such schemes as the Snowy Mountains project and the diversion of the Murray into the Tumut River, and the allocation of funds for roads into the cattle country in Queensland and Western Australia. Unless greater attention is given by our representatives in the Commonwealth Parliament to State matters, we will find this State lagging in its development, particularly in relation to the proposed Chowilla Dam on the River Murray. As an example of what can be done, the establishment of the ship building industry at Whyalla has played a large part in the development of that area.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph: Wasn't the basis of that laid down during the war by the Chifley Government?

The Hon. W. W. ROBINSON: The ship building industry was established during a Liberal Government of which the Hon. George McLeay was a member.

Prior to 1944 local government affairs in Whyalla were controlled by the Broken Hill Proprietary Company, which carried out works and services. In 1944 it was realized that the

town was likely to grow considerably and that a local government body would be necessary. The B.H.P. Company, to assist in the development, agreed to pay £30,000 a year for the first five years to the local government body, and it contributed an additional sum towards completing and improving roads and streets. The commission today consists of seven members, the chairman appointed by the Governor, three elected representatives of the rate-payers, and three commissioners appointed by the company. The first three commissioners were elected by the Legislative Council electors resident in the area. Over a period, they have carried out their work in an efficient manner, and I believe the amendments are necessary in order to place the Town Commission on the same basis as other local government bodies. I support the second reading.

The Hon. E. H. EDMONDS secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### FRIENDLY SOCIETIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 24. Page 561.)

The Hon. L. H. DENSLEY (Southern): I rise to support this Bill. Largely it provides for a standard of payments to members of friendly societies to keep pace with the decrease in the value of money. It allows for a payment of £2,000 in the case of death instead of £1,000 and an increase to 10 guineas instead of five guineas for sickness benefits. At present a person who is a member of a friendly society has to make a statutory declaration that he has no investment with any other friendly society, but this Bill will relieve him of this duty and he will be able to invest in more than one society. I do not think there is any great difficulty about that, and I support it. Clause 5 provides that the amount of indebtedness by way of loan to a member of a society may be increased from £100 to £200. Again it is a matter of the value of money in these days, and I think we can all agree to the increase. It is also proposed to increase from £200 to £500 the amount payable on the death of a member to a person outside the family. Perhaps the most important amendment concerns investments by trustees. Section 12 of the Act provides that investment of funds may be made:

On the security of South Australian Government bonds or Treasury bills or otherwise in any loan raised or guaranteed by the authority of the Parliament of South Australia, or in any securities of, or guaranteed by, the Government or the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, or upon fixed deposit in any bank, or upon the bonds of the Corporation of the City of Adelaide, or upon the debentures of any municipal corporation of the State, or on mortgage of freehold property, or in the purchase of any freehold property in the State.

That is a fairly wide provision. Now, with additional means of investment available, such as the Electricity Trust, the Housing Trust and other sound concerns, the provision is widened. Clause 6 adds the following paragraph to subsection (1) of the section:

Upon any other security, whether of a similar class to those hereinbefore mentioned or not, subject to the approval of the committee of management of the society or branch (as the case may be), and with the consent of the Public Actuary and subject to such conditions as the Public Actuary may impose.

Because of these investments being available, the broadening of the provision is justified. The fact that the Public Actuary must give

his permission, and impose conditions as he deems fit, seems a reasonable security for an investment by a board of management, which has already been given the power to invest.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: Do you think that is a sufficient safety?

The Hon. L. H. DENSLEY: One man will be a referee after the board of management has made a decision on the matter. I should say that if the Adelaide City Council wanted to make an investment and the Public Actuary supported it, not many of us would have any doubts about agreeing to the proposal. I think the Government can be relied upon to ensure that the Public Actuary will be a man capable of such a duty, and in any case he will be able to refer to the Minister, if necessary, before giving his permission. Although there may be some discussion on this matter, I support the Bill in its entirety.

The Hon. Sir FRANK PERRY secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

At 4.50 p.m. the Council adjourned until Thursday, August 31, at 2.15 p.m.