

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, July 31, 1962.

The PRESIDENT (Hon. L. H. Densley) took the Chair at 2.15 p.m. and read prayers.

QUESTIONS.**WOODVILLE ROAD-PORT ROAD TRAFFIC LIGHTS.**

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I wish to ask a question of the Minister of Roads and seek leave to explain the question briefly prior to asking it.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Some months ago the roadways at the junction of Woodville Road and Port Road were widened and prepared for the installation of traffic lights. I visited the site last week and could find no evidence of progress in relation to the installation of the lights. Can the Minister say why the installation of the traffic lights at that junction is taking so long and can he give any estimate of when the lights will commence to operate?

The Hon. N. L. JUDE: I am aware that the majority of the road work at this site has been completed, but I believe the public utilities have not yet been connected under the wider road system. I will ascertain when the lights are likely to commence to operate and inform the honourable member as soon as possible.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: Has the Minister of Local Government any further information on the question I asked earlier in the session relating to an amendment of the Local Government Act to provide for the legalizing of how-to-vote cards at municipal elections?

The Hon. N. L. JUDE: I have obtained a report from the Director of Local Government, which states:

Section 131 of the Local Government Act provides that any personal solicitation by a candidate of the vote of any elector within eight hours before the hour for commencement of voting on polling day or at any time on that day before the closing of the poll shall be an illegal practice, the commission of which, on proof thereof, renders void the election of the person committing the act. Section 133 provides that the acts of all authorized persons of a candidate in matters connected with the election shall be held, upon proof that those acts were committed with his knowledge and consent, to be the acts of the candidate. Both of these provisions have been contained in the Statutes for very many years, as have also provisions enabling any person to institute

proceedings to try the title of a mayor, chairman, alderman or councillor to his office. No such proceedings, in which the distribution of how-to-vote cards was a salient factor, have come under the notice of this department.

Section 763 provides for the imposition of a penalty not exceeding £10 upon any persons found guilty of, on polling day, within 20 feet of the entrance to the building in which any polling booth is situated, soliciting the vote of any elector or voter. The fact that a limitation as to distance from the booth is mentioned in that section appears to imply that the proffering of a card at any more distant point, is not an offence. If at some future time some interested person institutes proceedings to test the law on the practice of distributing cards at council elections, and the finding of the court renders it desirable to vary the existing provisions the matter can then receive further consideration.

ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.

(Continued from July 25. Page 245.)

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN (Central No. 1): I join with other honourable members in congratulating you, Mr. President, on your election to your high office. Your appointment was well merited, having in mind your long service to the State. I am sure that your tolerance and understanding will be of great benefit to honourable members. I also congratulate the mover of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply (Hon. Mr. Gilfillan) and the seconder (Hon. Mr. Dawkins). Both were delivering their maiden speeches in this Chamber, and, as the Hon. Mr. Kneebone mentioned, he had very vivid recollections of the occasion of delivering his maiden speech and therefore appreciated how these new members must have felt. Judging by their contributions to the debate, I think we can look forward to many more excellent speeches from them. It will be agreed that their contributions to future debates will be well worth listening to.

I join with other honourable members in extending sincere and deep sympathy to the relatives of the late Hon. Mr. Condon, the Hon. Mr. Edmonds, the Hon. Mr. Anthony, Mr. J. E. Stephens (former member for the Port Adelaide District in the House of Assembly), and Senator Rex Pearson. I had the honour to work in close association with the first four named gentlemen, and to a lesser extent with Senator Pearson, but especially with the Hon. Mr. Condon in connection with the trade union movement. For some years I

was a member of the Land Settlement Committee under the chairmanship of the Hon. E. H. Edmonds. The passing of these gentlemen will be a great loss to the State. Their sterling work will be missed.

I congratulate His Excellency on the Speech opening this session of Parliament. It foreshadowed legislation the Government would introduce. I want to refer to several matters. Firstly, I will deal with the Industrial Code. It is pleasing to note that the Government intends to alter it with a view to meeting present day conditions. I visualize that many amendments will be made to it and that, as a result, we shall have a useful consolidated measure. Some of the provisions have served their purpose and are no longer of use. In consequence, some sections will be deleted. The Hon. Mr. Kneebone suggested certain amendments and I have several, too. Our industrial standards are based on legislation and our system of the Industrial Court and Wages Boards. The wages board system is used extensively but under the Code the boards cannot adjudicate on some matters, and in such circumstances they have to be referred to the Industrial Court. The representatives of employers and employees on our wages boards often find that after deliberating on certain matters there are others that must be dealt with by the Industrial Court, because the boards have no power to deal with them. The result is that we sometimes get a determination referring to practically all matters appertaining to an industry, and an award by the Industrial Court dealing with one matter. For instance, a wages board cannot deal with the right of entry of a union official to an industry for the purpose of inspecting time book records. Only the Industrial Court can approve this right of entry. It seems illogical that one tribunal can deal with such a matter and another cannot. On a wages board are representatives of employers and employees, and there is an independent chairman. If the representatives cannot decide a matter at a round-table conference it must be decided by the chairman. These boards should have the same powers as the Industrial Court to determine all matters coming before them, and this point should be considered when the Industrial Code is examined.

Under section 207 of the Code there is provision for the payment of wages. Actually, the section deals with the underpayment of wages, and says that where the wage prescribed has not been paid to an employee, and he

claims the difference between what he received and what he should have received, there is summary jurisdiction for the recovery of the difference. It is remarkable that no mention is made in the section about the non-payment of wages. There appears to be no jurisdiction in this matter, except for the employee to take the matter to the court in a civil action, but that is an expensive business. When I was an active member of the trade union movement I heard of an instance where a man worked for a fortnight for a firm, but after the first week of employment he gave his employer a week's notice. At the end of the next week no wages were paid to him. The matter was referred to the then Department of Industry, which said that it had no jurisdiction to make the employer pay the employee, and that the only procedure open was for the employee to go to the court in a civil action, but that would have cost him more than the amount due to him. This is another matter that should be investigated when alterations are made to the Industrial Code.

Further, the Code provides that meals shall not be eaten within the precincts of a factory, or near machinery, etc. However, there is nothing in the Code to make the employer provide adequate amenities in these cases. The employer need not provide lockers for clothing or adequate dining facilities. Provision should be made for canteens for employees; indeed, in most new factories built today canteens are provided and maintained by the firms. This enables the employees to purchase a hot or cold meal and eat it in pleasant surroundings. In the older establishments this cannot be done. There is a brief mention of dining room facilities in the Code but there is no authority to force an employer to provide them. There is nothing to prevent an employee eating his meal in the street, or while sitting in the gutter, but he is not allowed to eat it in the factory in the vicinity of machinery. There should be a section in the Code to include these facilities so that factory amenities would reach a higher standard.

I understand that section 307 of the Code deals with closet accommodation, and sets out what facilities should be provided in relation to the number of employees. There is no mention of urinals, and I consider that this section should be amended to ensure their provision.

When the Government is considering amendments to the Industrial Code, consideration should be given to the matters which I and other honourable members have mentioned so

that the Code is brought up to date in relation to working conditions in this State.

Paragraph 12 of the Governor's Speech deals with road construction. It is pleasing to note the amount of main road work being undertaken in this State, but a huge amount of work still remains to be done both in this State and throughout the Commonwealth. The State has limited finance to carry out this work, which in most cases is urgent. I consider that the Commonwealth Government should be more generous to the States in its allocation of finance for roads. Recently a move was made to increase the petrol tax by 3d. a gallon. At present there is a considerable impost on road users through petrol and diesel oil tax, and I do not agree that an increase should be made. The amount of petrol tax collected by the Commonwealth Government over the five years to June 30, 1961, was as follows:

	£
1956-7	46,379,995
1957-8	48,809,369
1958-9	52,773,297
1959-60	56,137,767
1960-61	60,249,155

The allocation to the States under the Commonwealth Aid Roads Act in 1956-57 was £8,587,000 to New South Wales; £5,495,000, Victoria; £6,009,000, Queensland; £3,509,000, South Australia; £6,105,000, Western Australia; and £1,563,000, Tasmania, making a total of £31,268,000.

In 1957-58 an allocation was made to New South Wales of £9,495,000; Victoria, £6,264,000; Queensland, £6,585,000; South Australia, £3,879,000; Western Australia, £6,658,000; and Tasmania, £1,733,000, a total of £34,614,000.

In 1958-59 the allocation to New South Wales was £9,930,000; Victoria, £6,543,000; Queensland, £6,890,000; South Australia, £4,057,000; Western Australia, £6,967,000; and Tasmania, £1,812,000, a total of £36,199,000.

In 1959-60 New South Wales received £11,714,000; Victoria, £8,367,000; Queensland, £7,700,000; South Australia, £4,736,000; Western Australia, £7,383,000; and Tasmania, £2,100,000, a total of £42,000,000.

In 1960-61 the New South Wales share was £12,870,000; Victoria, £9,183,000; Queensland, £8,428,000; South Australia, £5,128,000; Western Australia, £8,091,000; and Tasmania, £2,300,000, a total of £46,000,000.

The surplus to the Commonwealth Government over this period was £14,249,155. An interesting comparison can be made between the figures for Western Australia and South

Australia, taking into account the differences in area and population. The amount granted to Western Australia compares favourably with that given to South Australia. The Commonwealth Aid Roads Act provides that each State shall spend two-fifths of the money received by it on rural roads and that implies that the remaining three-fifths shall be used in the metropolitan or near metropolitan areas. The States are obliged to observe that provision, although often they could probably use the total allocation in metropolitan or near metropolitan areas. That provision was probably enacted to ensure that adequate money was spent on main roads and highways in country districts.

Revenue derived from petrol tax almost equals the amount paid for the oil imported into Australia and motorists are called upon to pay much money through the imposition of this tax. I believe that the Commonwealth Aid Road Grant for 1962-63 will total £54,000,000. That amount was fixed in 1959. Apparently, under a five years' plan, the amounts to be allocated to the various States were fixed in that year. In addition to the money derived from the Commonwealth we find that South Australia derived £4,574,000 from registration fees and driving licences for the year 1960-61. After deducting working expenses £3,360,653 was paid into the highways fund. The amount proposed to be paid into the fund for 1961-62 is £3,390,000, or an increase of £129,347.

That money was levied on the motoring public by the State Government for roadworks and the Government is observing the purpose for the imposition of the tax. All the money derived, less the working expenses of the department, is allocated for roadworks. Therefore, the Commonwealth Government should allocate for roadworks all of the petrol tax collected before considering increased taxes, thereby further penalizing this section of the taxpaying community. At a recent Sydney meeting of Ministers of Roads from all the States a resolution on these lines was passed. The conference dealt with this question and the Ministers were unanimous that the petrol tax should be allocated to the States for roads and highways.

The Commonwealth had and still has a golden opportunity to make special road grants to the States. Vast improvements are needed to our roads and if additional money were made available many of our unemployed people could be given work and taken off the dole. I use

the word "dole" because I can think of no other that so suitably describes the position of these people. They are on relief and cannot obtain work. The Commonwealth Government provides an allowance for them and I am sure special grants could be made to the States to enable them to build and maintain roads. That would give the unemployed people purchasing power which would, in turn, increase demand, thereby increasing employment. That is the only way we shall relieve the present unemployment position. Unless there is a demand for goods employers will not increase production.

Rent control is to be retained in this State for a further year. I commend the Housing Trust for its work in attempting to meet the demand for housing. Since its inception 25 years ago the trust has completed 46,575 dwellings throughout the State, of which 25,997 have been built as rental houses. Approximately 11,500 houses have been let in the metropolitan area and if we take into account the demand for houses in Whyalla and other large country areas where there has been considerable activity by the trust I think we can say that it is doing a good job in its attempt to supply the demand for both rental houses and houses for sale.

The trust was first established to provide the lower paid workers with rental houses at an economic rent. A five roomed double unit house is now let for about £3 12s. 6d. a week. One of the principles relating to the fixation of the basic wage under the C series index was that it should incorporate one day's pay, on the basis of a five-day week, to be set aside for house rent. That provision still has a considerable impact on courts in the fixation of the basic wage. The present South Australian basic wage is £14 3s. The other four days' pay would be used to meet the family's living incidentals. If we use that equation we find that the rent today, for Housing Trust houses on an economic basis, should be £2 17s. a week, but the rent I have just quoted amounts to about one-quarter of the basic wage. The Government has enunciated a policy to the trust on sale houses with a deposit of £50 and repayments over 40 years. This would approximate present day rentals, so the same amount would be passing through the trust as for rental houses. Unfortunately, it means the end of the building of rental houses as such, because those built under the scheme will be for sale. I consider that this is a step in the right direction because it will be an incentive to people to own their

own properties, and perhaps to pay for them in a shorter period than they anticipate, resulting in the houses becoming their own in less than 40 years. Despite the activities of the trust, we still find that there are from 8,000 to 10,000 applications still waiting to be dealt with by the trust. Considering the trust's present rate of building of 3,000 houses a year for all purposes, it will be some time before it can catch up with the demand. The demand for rental houses is still great. The rent control legislation should not only be retained but amended by deleting the provisions relating to entering into leases.

Whether we like it or not, there has been considerable exploitation under the conditions of these leases, as was anticipated at the time by members of my Party. Such exploitation is rife. Reference was made in the press recently to the high rentals being charged, there being a mild outcry against the exploitation of people who are urgently in need of a home. It is not uncommon to find £4 a week being charged for one room in which the whole family must live. Also, £5 to £6 is being charged for a three-roomed hovel. If many of these places were inspected by the authorities no doubt they would be condemned out of hand and the owners ordered to demolish them. There is practically no back yard and no bathroom or other facilities. These places were erected many years ago and yet these unfair rents are still being charged. In places with four or five rooms of slightly better standard the rental charged is between £8 and £10 a week. The people must live somewhere.

The demand on the trust is such that it cannot meet all requests and therefore people are forced to live under appalling conditions and forced by the landlords to enter into a lease, which then frees them from rent control. Landlords can go merrily on their way and charge whatever rent they like. The Government must consider these conditions and take appropriate action. Previously these houses were under rent control, but since the new provisions referred to have been written into the Act people are being forced to enter into a lease and pay an exorbitant rent. Not only should the Government, through the trust, provide that all rents should be controlled until the housing position has been reasonably met, but should also seriously consider the deletion of the provision relating to entering into a lease with a landlord. Then an adequate rental could be fixed by the trust in accordance with the condition of the house involved.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: Do they have a horse and buggy instead of a motor car?

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: It is all right for people who have an interest in houses when these exploitations are taking place. I suggest that the honourable member put himself in the position of those who are receiving the basic wage and are compelled to pay these exorbitant rents and then perhaps he would change his tune in relation to this Act.

I cannot let go unchallenged some of the Hon. Mr. Hookings's statements during this debate. He gave us an excellent and informative speech, but towards the end spoilt it. I consider that he descended to a very low level when he accused the Labor Party of having Communistic associations. To refresh the minds of honourable members of what he said I quote the following:

I would not allow the Communist Party to be legal, and would oppose any movement having anything to do with Communism or the Communistic way of life. I would support completely the way of life we have today in Australia, and particularly in South Australia. I think that we all agree with the latter part of his statement and this would also apply to the majority of Australians. The honourable member then went on to say:

This Government, and the Party to which I belong, have never in any way associated with Communism. I do not reflect on Opposition members here or in another place, but can the Labor Party state that it has never run along with Communists or the Communist Party, or that there are not Communists in the ranks of some of the unions in Australia?

I remind the honourable member that I and other members of the Labor Party have been overseas, but unlike him we had no desire to visit Communist-controlled countries, especially Russia. The honourable member also said, "I would not allow the Communist Party to be legal". Why doesn't his Party declare the Communist Party to be illegal? His Party has been in Government for many years, yet has taken no action in this matter. This was the first time I heard the honourable member refer to the legality of the Communist Party.

The Hon. A. C. Hookings: It makes a difference when you see it.

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: I have already said that I and other members of my Party who have been overseas did not want to see it. We knew what it was like. We knew what Communism was, and we had no desire to visit Communist-controlled countries. His Party has taken no action to declare the Communist Party to be illegal. I remind him that his

Party was returned to power by receiving the first preference of Communist candidates. It is always a Labor candidate who is opposed at election time by a Communist candidate and not in a Liberal stronghold. The boggy of Communism is something the Liberal Party has hung its hat on since 1949.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: We have not put them second on the list like the Labor Party has done.

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: The honourable member's Party has tried to fool the people, especially New Australians, by saying that the Labor Party is the Communist Party.

The Hon. A. C. Hookings: Rot!

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: The honourable member thought he would get big headlines in the press on the morning after he had made his speech, but he did not get them. Before he criticizes the Labor Party he should look at his own Party. The Labor Party has not been returned to govern with the help of Communist preferences. Records show where the Communist preferences go at election time. They do not go to the Labor Party. Liberal members should take another look at the matter and then they would not hang their hat up to another political Party. I and my colleagues have always opposed Communism and we shall continue to do so.

The Hon. A. C. Hookings: What about the trade unions?

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: In some countries the trade union movement caters for everybody. We cater for all types of political thought in our movement, and that includes Liberals. It is not the Labor Party.

The Hon. Sir Arthur Rymill: They must subscribe to it.

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: No. A few years ago Prime Minister Menzies and Mr. Holt took exception to unions being affiliated with the Labor Party, and said it was not proper for them to be affiliated with a political Party. Then the Prime Minister said that the Liberal Party and his Government represented the workers as much as the Labor Party did, and that it was proper for unions to be affiliated with the Liberal Party. How does the honourable member reconcile his statement that there are Communists in the Labor Party, yet his Party would receive Communists with open arms? The honourable member got down to a low ebb as he concluded his otherwise fine speech. Undoubtedly he tried to ride the boggy about Communists being inside the Labor Party.

Previously the Hon. Mr. Hookings had not mentioned this matter in any of his speeches in the Council. The Labor Party has no affiliation or association with the Communist Party. The Labor Party is not responsible to the trade union movement and cannot and does not answer for every member of the movement. Every worker in industry is entitled to become a member of a union. He can demand membership and must be accepted by the union. The Arbitration Act is controlled by a Government of the same political colour as the honourable member. If he does not like matters in that Act he can move for alterations to be made. No suggestions have come from him about declaring the Communist Party to be illegal. I suggest that he take up the matter with his Party, if he wants something done. I support the motion.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON (Northern): I have pleasure in supporting the motion and congratulate the Hon. Mr. Gilfillan on his excellent speech. He has been well-known to us for many years, during which time he has been an outstanding citizen of Jamestown in local government and other activities. He is well qualified to continue the excellent work done here by the late Hon. E. H. Edmonds. I wish him success and feel sure that he will be a worthy representative. I also pay a tribute to the Hon. Mr. Dawkins. The name of Dawkins has been well-known in South Australian agriculture for as long as I can remember, and the reputation associated with the name must have been of great assistance to Mr. Dawkins in winning a seat in this Council. I want to quote the record of the late Mr. A. M. Dawkins, the father of our new member, for few records can compare with it. He was honoured with the O.B.E. for services rendered as a member of the Advisory Board of Agriculture for over 40 years, and was twice Chairman of that body. He was Chairman of the governing council of Roseworthy Agricultural College for six years; Chairman of the Mudla Wirra District Council; and he won the State championship for the best 50 acre crop of wheat in the early 1930's. His uncle, W. J. Dawkins, perhaps better known even than his father, was also honoured with the O.B.E. He was one of the foremost Dorset Horn stud breeders in Australia; was State President of the British Breeds Society; a member of the Australian Meat Board for many years, and a member of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board. Such services should be recorded in *Hansard* so that it will be there for all time.

I shall not repeat all the references made by previous speakers to the distinguished members who have passed on. I support everything that has been said regarding them. We miss them because they were friends for many years and their passing has left a gap in our lives. However, I particularly refer to the late Harry Edmonds, who was so close to those of us representing the Northern District.

I congratulate the Hon. Sir Baden Pattinson on his recent knighthood bestowed in recognition of his services to the Education Department and to this State. There has been a rapid growth in the number of pupils since 1959, the total now being 184,000, with a 15 per cent increase in teachers during the same period. The honour conferred upon him was well merited, but credit must also be given to his Director and the officers and teachers of the department.

I congratulate you, Sir, on your appointment to the high office you occupy. I remember that many years ago, I think in 1908, you came to Ardrossan to learn farming. That is practically giving away our ages, but I still remember that time. Over the years you have succeeded as a primary producer, and also as a legislator, and I am sure that you will make a success of your present high office. Everyone realizes how difficult it will be for you to follow such an outstanding person as the Hon. Sir Walter Duncan, who added so much dignity to this Chamber. It will, however, not be for the want of trying on your part, Sir, for you to make a success of the position.

The Speech with which His Excellency the Governor opened this session was well delivered. We are fortunate in having His Excellency and Lady Bastyan as Vice-Regal representatives in this State. They have shown a keen interest in the welfare of the State and have associated themselves with citizens in all walks of life. Their frequent visits to the country have been greatly appreciated. During last month I inspected hundreds of thousands of acres of land that were referred to by His Excellency in his Speech.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph: Has the Land Settlement Committee gone into action again?

The Hon. R. R. WILSON: Paragraph 5 of His Excellency's Speech states:

My Government continues to encourage land settlement particularly in relation to areas which in the light of scientific knowledge are capable of economic development.

The Hon. Mr. Gilfillan referred to this item, and I intend to enlarge upon it because I recently visited this land. It can be developed

economically and there are ample opportunities for people who settle on this land, which has a good 15in.-16in. rainfall. The methods of clearing the land today are entirely different from those used in my day. Two tractors with chains are capable of bringing down 250 acres a day, and after this has been done only a small amount of cleaning up is necessary before the planting of crops. The country I refer to is mainly in the hundreds of Murlong, Hineks and Panitya to the north-west of Darke Peak. This land is at present held by the Fauna and Flora Board. I do not want to be misunderstood on this point. I am not opposed to that board, but if this land is suitable for agriculture and is in a good rainfall area, it should be made available to young men who are anxious to develop it for production. These men should be encouraged and given financial assistance, and perhaps a subsidy on superphosphate, to enable them to succeed in this venture.

The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph: You will only get this concession from a Labor Government.

The Hon. R. R. WILSON: No, we have it now under the land development scheme and the Advances to Settlers Act. I think the honourable member knows that. I hope that the Minister of Lands will release some of this land for settlement. I have visited many other places during the last month and have noticed that the crops are promising, but feed is scarce. None of the crops or pastures was as promising as those I saw adjacent to the land to which I have just referred.

The district councils of Elliston and Cleve desire that some of this land be released for agricultural purposes. Much wild life exists there, and it is difficult for the adjoining landowners to keep their places clear of vermin coming from the large area held by the Fauna and Flora Board. Perhaps it would be a good idea to reserve, say, 100 acres out of every 1,000 acres, and fence it and make it available for wild life. There is a vast area of first-class land which should be developed because we need to increase our production and develop the land as much as possible. Other land near Cowell has a much lower rainfall, but those who have taken up the land, provided they have older land nearby on which to keep going, are farming successfully. The sooner we bring this land into production the better it will be for all concerned, because many people in other parts of the world need our primary produce. In addition, our increasing population will absorb much of our primary produce.

Paragraph 19 of the Governor's Speech referred to the important subject of aborigines. It states:

While the policy of special assistance by way of grants, provision of housing, education, training and health services for aborigines will be continued, my Government proposes to direct its activities towards helping aborigines to help themselves. Legislation will be introduced which will have an important bearing on the status of aborigines and part-aborigines in the community.

I emphasize the words "help themselves". I have had ample opportunity, practically all my life, to observe the lives of aborigines. I have lived not far from the Point Pearce Mission Station, and I know the habits of these people and the type of people they are. There are good and bad amongst them as there are good and bad amongst the white people. Every encouragement should be given to them to lift themselves to a higher standard. I am particularly sympathetic to certain castes. The quarter-caste boy or girl, particularly, is usually not wanted by white people or by the natives. Many aspects of this question deserve consideration from anybody who is able to help them.

Grants have been made to the missions for housing, maintenance, education of children, training for employment, and medical, dental and hospital treatment. It is intended to enlarge the department and change its name to that of the Department of Native Affairs. The head of the department will be known as the Director of Native Affairs, who will work under the Native Affairs Board. Last week I was in the vicinity of Ceduna where many of these people live. The South Australian reserves now contain 2,253 full bloods and half-castes, though many others do not live on the reserves. Again, many aborigines have taken out citizenship rights and do not live on the reserves because, once having taken out citizenship rights, they are excluded from the reserves.

The Premier referred to this subject last week and I am glad to know that the Government intends to assist these people. The aborigines receive rations and should do something in return for them. I was in the vicinity of Koonibba and Yalata last Friday and Saturday and I know that many of the people there receive rations but have no work to do. What can we expect in those circumstances? The people on the missions should be encouraged to work for what they receive and that would help them to help themselves. Opportunities for them to work exist and

should be provided in clearing land and line fishing. Some people regard the inhabitants of the stations as outcasts and do not wish to have anything to do with them, but we must remember that we took this country from them and they are the true natives of Australia. It is our duty, as citizens, to help them. Koonibba is occupied by 300 of these natives and Yalata has 300 who were transferred from Oodlea in the Far West of the State near the transcontinental railway line. The people living there are having a lean time.

I pay a tribute to the Lutheran Church and its two missions for the great work they have done. The Church of England Bush Aid and others have also done much to help. However, we should not expect the religious bodies to be responsible for these people. It is our duty and responsibility and the Government is exhibiting an interest in this matter. These people must be assimilated in some way and they should be given an opportunity to live as we live.

I refer now to the fishing industry at Port Lincoln and to the firm known as South Australian Fishermen's Co-operative Limited whose cannery produced 4,000,000 cans of tuna. If those cans were placed end-on-end, they would

reach from Port Lincoln to Port Augusta, a distance of 240 miles. The tuna fishermen were paid £200,000 this year for the season's catch. Six vessels came from New South Wales and the catch of 3,270 short tons constituted an Australian and State record and represented 50 per cent more than the previous year's catch. The catch in 1956-7 was only 240 tons and the increased catch illustrates that the industry is thriving. It has been assisted by the Loans to Producers Act and by the expenditure of money on the Government freezing works at Port Lincoln. Slipways for vessels have also been built at that port.

Many other items are mentioned in the Governor's Speech and, although I could refer to them, the questions on which I have spoken are those I particularly wished to bring forward. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

The Hon. Sir ARTHUR RYMILL secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 3.34 p.m. the Council adjourned until Wednesday, August 1, at 2.15 p.m.