

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Tuesday, August 25, 1964.

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

QUESTIONS.**VICTORIA SQUARE FOUNTAIN.**

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: There is a wave of justifiable opposition by ratepayers in King William Street south regarding the suggested realignment of King William Street for the proposed site of the fountain to be erected by the Adelaide City Council. In view of that, will the Minister of Local Government intervene before the fountain is erected in order to prevent this part of Adelaide's main thoroughfare from becoming a dead end for business?

The Hon. N. L. JUDE: I suggest that for the moment the Government has no intention of intervening in this matter. As I understand it, there is no actual proposal before the public. The honourable member is aware that we do not interfere with local government more than we can help. I am expecting to receive soon a deputation from the traders of what may be termed King William Street south and I shall then have more information on the matter.

GAWLER BY-PASS.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Honourable members may have noticed that last week there was yet another regrettable tragedy at the oft-quoted intersection of Redbanks Road with the Gawler by-pass. I was pleased to get the reply of the Minister of Roads on this matter, as I know of his concern and the department's desire to find a satisfactory solution of the problem. In view of the continual accidents that occur at this intersection, will the Minister consider a temporary arrangement that will reduce the danger until the permanent plan is evolved?

The Hon. N. L. JUDE: I regret the further accident as much as the honourable member does but I can assure him that steps have already been taken to ensure some interim action at that junction.

WATER RATES.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question. Leave granted.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: In yesterday's *Advertiser* there appeared a letter from a correspondent about certain action taken in the collection of water rates. The correspondent stated that two police officers called at his home in Elizabeth Grove to collect water rates. As he was not at home, they said that they would return the next morning at 7.30, which they did. They then told him that he owed £2 10s. in water rates on an unoccupied block at Bridgewater. He gave them a cheque for £2 10s., according to the correspondent, and they offered to return later with a receipt. The correspondent was rather caustic about the action of the police because he had never received an account. Therefore, it was not as a result of a court action, and the police were not acting as bailiffs on this occasion. Can the Chief Secretary make a statement on this case, and is this usual police work?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: If the honourable member will give me the particulars, I will inquire into the matter and give him the information he seeks.

SPARK ARRESTERS.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: Has the Chief Secretary a reply to a question I asked on Wednesday, August 19, about spark arresters?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: Yes. I undertook to get the information from the Minister of Agriculture, who informs me that a booklet referring to spark arresters is in the course of preparation. This will be widely circulated and will incorporate the results of the survey made by Mr. W. H. Schneider.

TOXIC FUMES.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: Has the Attorney-General a reply to a question I asked on August 5 about the effect of toxic paint fumes on workers?

The Hon. C. D. ROWE: The honourable member referred to a newspaper report that some painters in Melbourne had become "drunk" as a result of inhaling paint fumes and asked whether any instances of a similar nature had been reported in this State. The answer is that no similar cases have been reported in this State and local inquiries have not revealed the type or brand of paint referred to in the newspaper report. The Secretary for Labour and Industry reports that he has written to the Departments of Labour in both

Melbourne and Sydney seeking information concerning the reported incidents, so that he will be in a position to know what is being done.

TAXI LICENCES.

The Hon. K. E. J. BARDOLPH: Has the Minister of Local Government a reply to my question of August 19 about the allocation of taxi licences?

The Hon. N. L. JUDE: Yes. On May 6 the Metropolitan Taxi-Cab Board decided to call for applications for 50 taxi-cab licences—25 to be issued on October 1 and 25 on December 1, 1964. A total of 112 applications was received, and these were referred to a special subcommittee of the board for recommendation. The subcommittee selected 50 applicants on merit, considering character, financial position, and competence to run a taxi-cab business. The subcommittee's recommendation was referred to the board for approval.

CREMATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Third reading.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN moved:

That this Bill be now read a third time.

The Hon. C. R. STORY (Midland): When I spoke on this Bill last week I raised certain matters relating to cremation charges, and I was surprised at the interest it created. I have received many letters and several telephone calls, and I have undertaken to ask the Government to take certain action on some of the allegations made. I was interested to read in the daily press on Friday a report that the official body of the funeral directors of this State thought I would be much more profitably engaged if I directed my attention to phases of burial and not to the funeral directors themselves. An inference was made that land was being exorbitantly charged for, and that certain other things related to funerals were costing far too much. I ask that the Government hold an inquiry to decide where the blame, if there is any, rests, as these charges and counter charges are most confusing to the public.

My conscience tells me that a funeral is costing far too much at present. I do not know where the difficulty arises, but I am raising the matter because I think it is necessary that some form of inquiry be made into it, taking into account all phases of burial and cremation. That is why earlier today I placed a question on notice.

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.

It provides for a total expenditure of £36,540,000 on capital works and purposes during 1964-65. To finance the programme new borrowings amounting to £29,510,000 will be available. These are to be supplemented by repayments and recoveries to the Loan Fund, and by the balance unspent and carried forward from 1963-64. During the year the State will also borrow £10,250,000 under the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. These funds are to be allocated to the Housing Trust, the State Bank, and building societies.

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

ADVANCES FOR HOMES, £250,000.—The State Bank, which administers the Advances for Homes scheme on behalf of the Government, also conducts the detailed allocation of a large part of the moneys which the State borrows under the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement and which are made available through the Home Builders' Account to finance home ownership. The bank is likely to have available for lending in 1964-65 Housing Agreement moneys, State Loan funds, carry-over funds from June, 1964, and repayments of previous advances, adequate to carry out a lending programme of about £5,700,000, some £240,000 more than the level of advances in 1963-64.

LOANS TO PRODUCERS, £200,000.—About £500,000 is expected to be required in 1964-65 so that the bank may continue to assist in financing small co-operative enterprises under the Loans to Producers Act. The sum of £200,000 is to be provided from Loan Account and £300,000 is expected to be raised by way of semi-governmental loans.

ADVANCES TO SETTLERS, £90,000.—This amount is provided to enable the bank to make advances to settlers for farm buildings, for clearing of land and development of pastures, and for water improvements.

ADVANCES TO STATE BANK, £500,000.—Advances of State Loan funds are made to the State Bank from time to time to provide additional capital for the bank's normal trading services for primary producers, for secondary industry, and for commerce. The sum of £500,000 is provided for this purpose in 1964-65.

STUDENT HOSTELS, £200,000.—This amount is provided for the State Bank to make advances to appropriate persons or bodies to finance the erection of boarding-houses, hostels, or similar accommodation to cater for the needs of country students at schools, the University of Adelaide, or other educational institutions.

ROADS AND BRIDGES, £200,000.—For 1964-65 a Loan supplement to the Highways Fund of £200,000 is proposed, and the funds will be devoted to various road and bridge works.

CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ADELAIDE—LOAN TO, £200,000.—In accordance with the Morphett Street Bridge Act the Government has made an arrangement with the Corporation of the City of Adelaide for the construction of new bridges in place of the Morphett Street and Victoria bridges and for other incidental works. The estimated total cost of the complete scheme is approximately £1,500,000. The work will be carried out by the council but the Government will provide the finance in the first instance. The council will then repay half the cost over a period of 30 years. It is proposed to provide the State proportion from the Highways Fund and the council's proportion from Loan Account, to which the repayments will be credited as received.

An amount of £400,000 is estimated to be required in 1964-65 for property acquisition, alterations to services, road widening, consultants' fees, and preliminary expenses. One half of this amount, or £200,000, is therefore provided from Loan Account.

IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS, £240,000.—Expenditure in 1964-65 is proposed as follows: The sum of £23,000 to provide a new electrically driven pumping unit and suction line at Cobdogla; £6,000 for the installation of a new pumping unit at Mypolonga to give a more efficient service for fruit blocks; £66,000 for the completion of the electrification and reconstruction of the pumping station at Waikerie; and £30,000 for enlarging and re-siting the town water supply mains to North Berri in order to improve pressure on the higher levels. Funds are also provided for various channels, pipelines, embankments, buildings, plant and minor works.

SOUTH-EASTERN DRAINAGE, £500,000.—A sum of £23,000 is provided to continue the construction of drains in the area north of Drains K-L in the Western Division, and £440,000 for the Eastern Division drainage scheme involving further work on enlarging Drain M, which discharges into the sea near Beachport.

RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST—LOAN TO, £25,000.—A total of £25,000 is provided to meet the sixth annual advance to the trust as provided by Statute for the purpose of assisting with its rehabilitation programme. This is additional to an annual grant of £150,000 to be made available from revenue and £25,000 which is to be provided each year by the trust itself. The present arrangements are intended to complete the rehabilitation programme in seven years—that is, in 1965-66.

AFFORESTATION AND TIMBER MILLING, £1,100,000.—For 1964-65 the more important provisions are as follows: An amount of £185,000 is required to meet the cost of recurring forest maintenance services, such as replanting, weed control, spraying, fire protection, etc.; £275,000 for preparation of land and planting. Approximately 8,000 acres will be planted during 1964-65, and, after allowing for clear felling and for fire losses, the total area of State pine plantations will be about 156,000 acres at the end of June next; £50,000 for the purchase of land suitable for forestry as it becomes available; £29,000 for a further contribution to the National Sirex Fund; £50,000 for the purchase and installation of barking and chipping equipment at Mount Burr sawmill; £25,000 for a mill building and £75,000 to commence work on a bandline at Mount Burr sawmill; and £70,000 to complete the replacement with modern machinery of the existing bandsaw line at Nangwarry sawmill. Funds are also provided for the installation of additional plant and machinery at Mount Burr, Mount Gambier, and Nangwarry, for houses for employees, and for minor buildings and services as required at mills and in forest areas.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION, £3,000,000.—An amount of £1,080,000 is required this year for way and works branch; £323,000 is provided to meet the cost of sundry small works such as track relaying, bridges and culverts, signalling and safety devices, minor buildings, improvements to yards, etc., as they are required. A total of £11,000 is required to complete the construction of a road bridge over the new railway from Hallett Cove to the oil refinery at Port Stanvac; £615,000 is proposed for further work in connection with the construction of the new railway from Ceduna to Kevin to replace the existing railway between Wandana and Kevin; £72,000 is provided to commence the construction of a spur line to Tonsley Park from the Marino line at Ascot Park; and £33,000 is set aside for the purchase or construction of houses for employees, and £26,000 for plant and sundries.

A total of £1,920,000 is proposed for the rolling stock branch in 1964-65 and the more important provisions to meet broad gauge requirements are as follows: £790,000 is provided for progress payments under contracts for the construction of 21 diesel-electric locomotives and spares. Eight of these locomotives are already in service; £100,000 is proposed to commence work on a further 11 steel brake vans; £60,000 for a further 15 workmen's sleeping vans, and £110,000 towards the construction of 30 motor body transport waggons; £458,000 is required to complete the construction of nine air-conditioned passenger cars for the Adelaide-Port Pirie service; and £186,000 is provided to continue the programme of improvements and modifications to freight vehicles.

Further work will also be undertaken during the year on the conversion to 4ft. 8½in. gauge of the existing narrow gauge railway from Port Pirie to Cockburn, and the extension of the 5ft. 3in. gauge from Terowie to Peterborough and rolling stock projects associated therewith—the funds for which are being provided initially by the Commonwealth Government.

Narrow gauge requirements include £27,000 to cover final contract payments for four diesel-electric locomotives for the Port Lincoln Division which were placed in service during 1963-64.

HARBORS ACCOMMODATION, £1,600,000.—Expenditure in 1964-65 provides for the following works: £330,000 is proposed to commence work on the major scheme of widening and deepening the Port River. This scheme consists of deepening and widening the present channel between the Outer and Inner Harbour, extending the Outer Harbour swinging basin, providing beacons in new positions and reclaiming low-lying land; £50,000 is proposed to extend the existing Adelaide Cement Company wharf to allow for the erection of a second unloader; £70,000 is provided to commence work on the construction of a new passenger terminal to improve the passenger handling facilities at Outer Harbour; and £80,000 is provided to commence work on the strengthening of the dolphins at Ardrossan, and £75,000 is required to strengthen the dolphins at Klein Point.

A total of £300,000 is proposed this year in connection with wharf reconstruction at Port Pirie. Of this, £35,000 is set aside to complete the reconstruction of the Railway, Federal, Queen's and Barrier wharves. In addition £265,000 is proposed to commence work on the

reconstruction of Smelters wharf to provide improved facilities for the export trade of the Broken Hill Associated Smelters Pty. Ltd.

The sum of £75,000 is provided for the construction of a dolphin and £51,000 for lighting and additional channel beacons at Thevenard, while £60,000 is provided to complete the dredging of the entrance channel and swinging basin at Wallaroo.

WATERWORKS AND SEWERS, £13,250,000.—The total amount proposed to be spent on water and sewer works in 1964-65 is £13,304,000. Of this, £13,250,000 is to be provided from Loan Account and the balance of £54,000 is to be met from the small residue of the special Commonwealth grant secured by the State at the February 1963 meeting of the Loan Council.

Morgan-Whyalla and Iron Knob Water Supply, £2,334,000. An amount of £2,314,000 is provided for further work in connection with the duplication of the Morgan-Whyalla pipeline, the estimated total cost of which is approximately £16,200,000.

Adelaide Water District, £2,913,000. The sum of £741,000 is proposed for further work on the Happy Valley system. The scheme, estimated to cost £3,710,000, provides for the enlargement of the existing inlet tunnel and the construction of a new outlet tunnel from Happy Valley reservoir to Darlington to meet the rapidly growing demand for water in the metropolitan area. The sum of £171,000 is provided to continue work on the Kangaroo Creek reservoir. The capacity of the reservoir will be approximately 6,000,000,000 gallons, and its cost is estimated at £2,650,000. An amount of £50,000 is required to complete work on the Clarendon-Belair-Blackwood scheme, while £150,000 is provided to continue work on the Elizabeth water supply scheme which is proceeding in accordance with the development of Elizabeth and Salisbury. Funds are also provided for water supply schemes at Lenswood, Modbury, Salisbury, and Stirling-Crafers.

Barossa Water District, £24,000.—A comprehensive scheme has been prepared to improve the water supply in the Barossa district to provide for future expansion and to allow for subsequent enlargement of mains to the Two Wells district. The first step is the duplication of 13,600ft. of main between Sandy Creek and Gawler, and a by-pass at Sandy Creek. This part of the scheme is estimated to cost £90,000, and £1,000 is provided to commence work this year, while £23,000 is required for cement lining and minor works.

Warren Water District, £129,000.—The sum of £36,000 is provided to continue the laying

of a new rising main, the construction of additional pumping plant and a new storage tank to improve the supply of water to Angaston. Provision is also made for water supply schemes for Manoora-Waterloo, Mar-rabel, and Watervale.

Country Water Districts, £1,149,000.—This provision is required for water supply schemes at Booborowie, Burra, Elliston, Iron Knob, Kingscote, Milang, Mount Gambier, Murray Bridge, Pata, Penneshaw, Penola, Streaky Bay, Tailm Bend-Keith, Whyalla, and Wirrabara.

Tod River Water District, £693,000.—The sum of £415,000 is proposed to continue work on the enlargement and replacement of the old Tod trunk main. The estimated total cost of the complete scheme is £4,098,000, and it involves the laying of 80 miles of large trunk main. An amount of £45,000 is provided for the completion of the scheme to tap the Lincoln underground basin to augment the Tod River system and the supply to Port Lincoln. Funds are also provided for the extension of mains to various sections of the Tod River water district, and for the enlargement and replacement of mains to improve the supply to the Kirton Point area of Port Lincoln.

Beetaloo, Bundaleer and Baroota Water District, £305,000.—The sum of £75,000 is proposed to complete the replacement of the final seven miles of the old steel Beetaloo trunk main, sections of which have been replaced over a period of years. An amount of £21,000 is proposed to complete the construction of a 250,000 gallon storage tank, pumping plant and connecting mains to improve the supply to Moonta, Moonta Bay, and Port Hughes, and £50,000 is proposed to continue work which was commenced last year on the extension of the Yorke Peninsula water supply system.

Adelaide Sewers, £4,465,000.—An amount of £2,239,000 is provided to continue work on the Bolivar sewage treatment works. This major project, which is estimated to cost a total of £11,070,000, is essential to permit the abandonment of the obsolete Islington sewage farm and to provide complete sewerage facilities for areas extending north to Gawler. The sum of £60,000 is proposed to complete the reconstruction of the sewerage system on LeFevre Peninsula, and £1,056,000 is set aside for the sewerage of many new housing areas, some of which are being developed by the South Australian Housing Trust and some by private enterprise.

Country Sewers, £887,000.—An amount of £28,000 is provided to complete the construction of a sewerage system and treatment works to

serve the township of Gumeracha and nearby areas; £117,000 is proposed to continue the construction of a sewerage system and treatment works for the township of Lobethal; £350,000 is provided for further work on the Mount Gambier sewerage scheme which is estimated to cost a total of £2,200,000; and £317,000 is provided to commence work on the Whyalla sewerage scheme for which the estimated total cost is £2,325,000.

Water Conservation, £27,000.—The sum of £20,000 is provided for further work in connection with the sinking of a bore and the installation of de-salting plant to improve the supply of water to Coober Pedy.

RIVER MURRAY WEIRS, DAMS, LOCKS, ETC., £295,000.—Provision is made 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, £10,650,000.—The Bill provides for expenditure in 1964-65 under the following four main headings:

	£
Hospital buildings	2,500,000
School buildings	5,800,000
Police and courthouse buildings	750,000
Other Government buildings . .	1,600,000
HOSPITAL BUILDINGS, £2,500,000.—	

Royal Adelaide Hospital.—A total of £825,000 is provided this year for the rebuilding scheme for the hospital. Of this, £750,000 is proposed to continue work on Stage I of the scheme which is estimated to cost £2,183,000, and covers erection of the administration and kitchen block, the preparatory work of constructing the foundations, steel work and floor slabs of the outpatient and theatre blocks, demolition of existing buildings, and provision of external services for the new building and to enable existing buildings to continue in use. In addition, £75,000 is proposed for preliminary work on Stage II. This stage is estimated to cost £6,398,000 and involves the erection of the outpatient and theatre blocks, ward block, boilerhouse, nurses' home, chapel, workshops, connecting links, demolition as required and alterations to buildings which will be retained as part of the completed scheme. An amount of £18,000 is required to complete additions to McEwin Building, and £40,000 for work on additions at the Dental Hospital.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.—The sum of £18,000 is provided for minor alterations and additions and towards the provision of an emergency power plant.

Morris Hospital.—An amount of £5,000 is proposed to commence remodelling the operating theatre.

Parkside Mental Hospital.—The sum of £87,000 is provided for steam heating of wards, drainage and improvements to courtyards, additions to nurses' home, nurses' training school, drainage of creek, and a new chapel.

Hillcrest Hospital.—An amount of £50,000 is provided for paving and draining airing courts, nurses' training centre, pharmacy and office accommodation, and a new chapel.

Enfield Receiving Home.—The sum of £35,000 is proposed to commence work on the conversion of the present laundry building to provide a self-service restaurant for the use of patients, and three occupational therapy rooms, and £20,000 towards the provision of additional outpatient accommodation.

Child Guidance Clinic.—An amount of £20,000 is provided for additional classrooms and other facilities.

St. Corantyn Psychiatric Day Hospital.—An amount of £26,000 is proposed to carry out additions and alterations at this recently acquired property.

Palm Lodge Hostel.—The sum of £10,000 is required to commence converting this property into a hostel for patients who have been discharged from mental hospitals but who are not quite ready to resume their normal home life.

Barmera Hospital.—The sum of £30,000 is proposed to commence extensive alterations to the main hospital buildings to provide additional ward accommodation, extensions to the nurses' home, and new administrative offices.

Port Lincoln Hospital.—A sum of £261,000 is provided to complete the construction of a new hospital block of 50 beds, extensions to nurses' accommodation, and a new kitchen block and service buildings.

Group Laundry.—An amount of £600,000 is proposed to commence work on the construction of a group laundry at Islington. It is estimated to cost £1,022,000 and will serve all Government hospitals and institutions in the metropolitan area.

The Government has submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works a proposal for the erection of a new hospital and training centre at Northfield for the care and treatment of intellectually retarded patients. The scheme is estimated to cost approximately £3,250,000. Subject to a favourable report from the committee every effort will be made to provide funds to enable preliminary work to commence during the year.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS, £5,800,000.—For 1964-65 the proposals for school buildings and associated works total £6,100,000, and the ways in which the funds are to be used are as follows:

	£
Work under 27 projects with a total value of £4,276,000 for new schools, major additions to schools, trade school and extension services building, which were in progress at June 30, 1964	2,220,000
The commencement of 27 projects with a total value of £4,615,000 for new schools, major additions to schools, trade school and adult education centre	1,174,000
Work on craftwork centres, change rooms and playing fields	144,000
Prefabricated classrooms or classroom equivalents	600,000
Purchase of land, buildings and residences for school purposes	650,000
Minor works, including grading and paving of school yards, fencing, roadways, toilets and facilities, furniture and equipment, and preliminary investigations and design	1,312,000
	£6,100,000

This year the Commonwealth has made available special grants towards buildings and equipment for science teaching in secondary schools and for technical training. Included in the proposed expenditures by the Public Buildings Department is some £300,000 for science laboratories and trade schools, which I expect to be met from the special grants, so that the requirement of Loan funds is £5,800,000.

POLICE AND COURTHOUSE BUILDINGS, £750,000.—For 1964-65 funds are provided to continue the programme of construction of police stations and courthouses to serve the country areas. Provision is made to complete a number of works that were under construction at June 30, 1964, and to commence work on many new projects. A sum of £293,000 is provided to complete the construction of the new police headquarters building and cell block in Angas Street. The estimated total cost of this project is £1,260,000 and the building, comprising basement, ground floor and nine upper floors, will provide for the requirements of the Police Department for some years ahead. Also, £50,000 is proposed to commence work on the construction of new and improved accommodation at Fort Largs to make it suitable for use as a police training academy.

OTHER GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, £1,600,000.—The major proposals for 1964-65 are:

Agriculture Department.—A sum of £37,000 is proposed to complete the construction of a new research laboratory at Northfield, the estimated total cost of which is £140,000.

Botanic Garden Department.—An amount of £25,000 is provided to commence work on the construction of a new herbarium at an estimated cost of £129,000.

Children's Welfare and Public Relief Department.—A sum of £162,000 is required to complete the erection of a junior boys' training school at Lochiel Park; £204,000 is provided to continue work on the construction of new buildings to accommodate senior boys at the training school at Magill; £172,000 is provided to complete the construction of a new remand home at Glandore to provide accommodation for 108 children; and £68,000 is required to complete work on major additions at Vaughan House.

Libraries Department.—An amount of £70,000 is provided to commence work on the erection of a part two-storey and part three-storey building to provide additional storage and display areas for documents and books.

Sheriff's and Gaols and Prisons Department.—A sum of £20,000 is proposed to commence the rebuilding of the Port Augusta gaol, which is estimated to cost approximately £323,000. Provision is made for the erection of a modern cell block, administration and recreation block, workshop, and a new kitchen and laundry. Also, £20,000 is proposed to commence work on the first stage of the scheme for the erection of a new gaol at Port Lincoln. This stage is estimated to cost £98,000 and will provide accommodation for 10 prisoners. The complete scheme is estimated to cost, ultimately, £244,000. An amount of £100,000 is required for various alterations and additions at Yatala Labour Prison, including the provision of accommodation for the treatment of alcoholics.

New Office Building, Victoria Square.—A sum of £135,000 is provided to commence work on the construction of a multi-storey building in Victoria Square to provide central office accommodation for various departments. The estimated cost of the new building is nearly £2,660,000.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST.—It is not proposed to make provision in the Bill for advances to the Housing Trust. The Government's present financial arrangements for the trust are to provide the greater part of the trust's new money from funds borrowed under the provisions of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement at a concessional interest rate of 1 per cent below the current long

term bond rate. The trust's allocation of Housing Agreement funds in 1964-65 is £5,000,000. These funds, together with the use of internal funds, and loans to be raised from lending institutions, will enable the trust to finance a capital programme of £13,445,000. The general dissection of this proposed programme is £2,700,000 for rental housing, £2,600,000 for rental-purchase housing, £6,200,000 for houses for sale, £610,000 for flats for rental, £950,000 for shops and industrial premises, and £385,000 for miscellaneous items.

THE ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, £3,000,000.—During 1964-65 the trust proposes to spend £10,750,000 on capital works—£3,000,000 to be made available from State Loan funds, £3,250,000 to be raised by the trust from financial institutions and the public, with the balance of £4,500,000 to be met from the trust's internal and other funds. The last item will include a grant of £215,000 from Revenue Account towards the Kangaroo Island supply. The main works included in the programme are:

£148,000 on final payments for the last major items of plant at the Port Augusta power station; £1,147,000 to be spent at Osborne power station to complete the new oil-fired boiler and 60,000 kilowatt turbo-alternator; £2,806,000 for construction work for the Torrens Island power station. The first two boilers and the first two turbo-alternators have been ordered, and each machine will have an output of 120,000 kilowatts, twice the capacity of the largest machine at present in use; £103,000 is for completion of the 132,000-volt transmission line and terminal facilities, and other expenses associated with the acquisition of the distribution system at Whyalla; £445,000 is for preliminary work on the provision of a 275,000-volt supply to the southern outskirts of the metropolitan area and southern country areas; £1,245,000 is to be spent on new substations and new high voltage lines other than the Whyalla line. This includes provision for work on a supply to Kangaroo Island via an undersea 33,000-volt line; £747,000 for additional major transformers, circuit breakers and other plant; £1,306,000 for extending and strengthening the general distribution system, including the connection of new consumers; £790,000 for rural extensions; £612,000 for distribution transformers to be used for additions to the distribution system and for rural supply; £480,000 for metering and control equipment; and £465,000 for additional buildings, new depots, regional and district headquarters and substation sites.

MINES DEPARTMENT—BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., £200,000.—This amount is provided for capital items to continue the programme of exploration and development of the State's mineral resources. The sum of £5,000 is proposed to commence extensions to the machine shop, and £195,000 is required for new and replacement vehicles, minor extensions and additions to workshop and plant buildings, and for the purchase of replacement and additional plant, equipment and instruments for geological and geophysical survey work.

PRODUCE DEPARTMENT—BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., £75,000.—The main provision is £48,000 to commence a scheme of major alterations at the Port Lincoln freezing works to enable the works to meet treatment requirements for the export of meat to the United States of America.

FISHING HAVENS, £25,000.—This provision is for further work on the Robe boat haven and to commence work at Edithburgh.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—SCHOOL BUSES, £130,000.—This amount is provided for the purchase of additional and replacement buses for the transport of schoolchildren in country areas.

SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBS DRAINAGE, £630,000.—A contract has been let for a flood control dam on the Sturt River, and £225,000 is provided to continue the work this year. The sum of £405,000 is provided for the completion of drains west of the Sturt River and associated works. Detailed investigations for the Sturt River channel have been completed, and this part of the drainage scheme is almost ready for submission to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works. Subject to a favourable report by the committee, the Government will try to arrange funds so that construction work on the channel may be commenced during the year.

I now turn to the clauses of the Bill. Clause 3 defines the Loan Fund. Clause 4 provides for borrowing by the Treasurer of £29,510,000. This is the amount of South Australia's allocation for works and purposes arranged at the July 1964 meeting of Loan Council. Clause 5 provides for the expenditure of £36,540,000 on the undertakings set out in the schedule to the Bill. Clause 6 makes provision for borrowing and payment of an amount to cover any discounts, charges and expenses incurred in connection with borrowing for the purposes of this Bill.

Clause 7 makes provision for temporary finance if the moneys in the Loan Fund are insufficient for the purposes of this Bill. Clause 8 authorizes the borrowing of £12,000,000 for the purpose of carrying on Loan works at the

commencement of next financial year and until the Public Purposes Loan Bill for 1965 is considered by Parliament.

Clause 9 gives the Treasurer power to borrow against the issue of Treasury bills or by bank overdraft. The Treasurer possesses and may exercise this authority under other legislation, but it is desirable to make the authority specific year by year in the Public Purposes Loan Bill, as is done with other borrowing authority. Clause 10 deals with the duration of certain clauses to the Bill. Clause 11 directs that all moneys 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 12 provides for this Bill to operate as from July 1, 1964.

I commend the Bill to honourable members for their consideration.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD secured the adjournment of the debate.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GAS COMPANY'S ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 19. Page 497.)

The Hon. C. R. STORY (Midland): This is a simple Bill, and, in view of the importance of the matters it deals with, it is a small measure. I believe it will facilitate the transfer of shares, mortgages, etc., of the South Australian Gas Company, as it will remove the necessity for the rather cumbersome process of having to resort to deeds in each case. The original Act was passed in 1861, and I imagine that when the company was set up it was a monopoly, as it would have had practically the sole franchise for lighting except by oil lamps in the whole State. No doubt members of Parliament in those days were keen to see that the heel was kept a little on those who were to run this monopoly.

Over the years, the company has developed into a big and necessary utility for secondary industry and for other users. Before the days of electricity it was much more important, so one can understand why the original provisions were enacted. This measure will make it much easier for the company and the public to transfer shares, as at present much rigmarole has to be gone through. No doubt it will make it easier for the Stock Exchange, too. I do not think I can say more than that it is a good amendment to the principal Act which will speed up the administrative work of the company, assist the public in the transfer

of stocks and shares, and bring the company into line with modern business procedures. I have much pleasure in supporting the second reading.

Bill read a second time.

The PRESIDENT: I rule that this Bill is a hybrid Bill and must be referred to a Select Committee pursuant to Standing Order 268.

Bill referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hons. Sir Lyell McEwin, K. E. J. Bardolph, Sir Arthur Rymill, A. J. Shard and C. R. Story; the committee to have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to adjourn from place to place; the committee to report on September 15.

LOCAL COURTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 19. Page 501.)

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS (Southern): I support the second reading of the Bill, which makes two amendments to the Local Courts Act and one to the Workmen's Liens Act. Clause 4, which amends section 16 of the principal Act, will allow the Attorney-General to appoint bailiffs or remove them from office. The position in regard to bailiffs in local courts has changed over the years. I think I am right in saying that the bulk of bailiffs' work is done by members of the Police Force. This amendment will obviate the rather cumbersome requirement of appointing bailiffs under the Public Service Act. I agree up to a point with the Hon. Mr. Potter, who said that consideration should be given to appointing people outside of the Police Force to do the work of bailiffs in local courts; and I think a case can be made out that police officers are possibly being engaged too much in the administrative work of the courts.

I strongly oppose any move for centralization in this matter. The Attorney-General knows that attempts have been made at different times to centralize the work of the courts. I remember when it was proposed to remove the work of the court clerks from certain towns in the Southern District and centralize it in one major centre. This has always been strongly opposed, not only by the local people but also by legal practitioners operating in these smaller country towns. I agree with the Hon. Mr. Potter that these positions should be filled outside the Police Force and without the need of any centralization.

Clause 5 is the second amendment to the principal Act and enlarges the jurisdiction of the local courts in relation to the recovery of premises. At present the landlord of any premises, the rental of which is not greater than £312, can file a claim for recovery of those premises, and the amendment increases that amount to £520. I think we all agreed with the Attorney-General when he said that it would be appreciated that the amendment was made necessary by the change in money values. I stress that we should consider the enlargement of the jurisdiction under the Local Courts Act. Although these amendments may be keeping the jurisdiction of the local courts up to the level of previous years, I think that consideration should be given to an overall enlargement in many matters of the jurisdiction under the Local Courts Act.

I consider that many matters that now come under the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court should be under the jurisdiction of the local courts. This would relieve the Supreme Court of much of its work. I admit that I am speaking of something about which I do not know very much, but I know from personal experience that it may be possible to assist the administration of justice by adopting a new concept of local court work. I realize that in the local courts the justices do an excellent job, but even under this system many anomalies creep in. I am not criticizing the work of the justices, but under a new concept of the work of the court in the country many of these anomalies could be overcome.

The final amendment is to section 28 of the Workmen's Liens Act. It is proposed to increase the amount from £490, which originally was the limit of the general jurisdiction of local courts, to £1,250. This will bring that Act into the same field as that covered by the Local Courts Act. I support the second reading.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Clauses 1 to 4 passed.

Clause 5—"Amendment of principal Act, section 216."

The Hon. F. J. POTTER: I move:

To strike out "twenty" and insert "thirty". I pointed out in my speech on the second reading that there was an anomaly in this section and that to make sure that jurisdiction was given to the local courts for a rental of £10 a week there should be a figure slightly in excess of £520, because £10 a week was not

in actual fact £520 a year but was slightly in excess of that amount. My amendment will meet that position.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE (Attorney-General): There is some merit in the honourable member's suggestion and in the circumstances I agree to the amendment.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 6—"Amendment of principal Act, section 228."

The Hon. F. J. POTTER moved:

To strike out "twenty" and insert "thirty".

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 7—"Amendment of principal Act, section 259."

The Hon. F. J. POTTER moved:

To strike out "twenty" and insert "thirty".

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 8—"Amendment of Workmen's Liens Act."

The Hon. C. D. ROWE: In the second reading debate the Hon. Mr. Kneebone made two suggestions. He said this Bill should be withdrawn and two separate Bills brought in, one to amend the Local Courts Act and the other the Workmen's Liens Act. There is considerable merit in the suggestion. Criticism is levelled against us when we amend an Act in a Bill relating to another Act, and confusion is caused to the legal profession, but it was thought that this was an instance where an exception should be made. On the more important point that the Workmen's Liens Act has not been amended for some time and that provisions in it require attention, I inform the honourable member that I am considering that matter now to see whether further amendments are needed. I do not know whether it will be possible to do anything about amendments this session. In the circumstances, and to cope with one of the problems, I think it would be wise to let this amendment go through and deal with the other matter later.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I thank the Attorney-General for his reference to my suggestion. I think something more than is being done should be done to amend the Workmen's Liens Act.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I appreciate the Attorney-General's point of view but urge him, even at this stage of the session, to consider the matter. The Act refers to a lien on wages and mentions four weeks' wages, with a maximum of £12. That is out of proportion

to present-day wages, which is the very point my friend makes. We feel that this provision could lead to many complaints. Another matter concerns subcontractors, but I do not want to mention what is going on in the building trade. An amendment to the Act would give protection to a workman against a subcontractor. The £12 has no relation to four weeks' wages, and I urge the Attorney-General to consider the matter.

The Hon. C. D. ROWE: I am prepared to agree to a further adjournment of this debate in order to investigate the matter. Under the circumstances I ask that progress be reported. Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

SECOND-HAND DEALERS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 19. Page 502.)

The Hon. A. J. SHARD (Leader of the Opposition): I oppose the Bill. I did not intend to speak on it until we had the two speakers last week. They did not appear to have much interest in the measure. The impression I gained was that their only intention in speaking was to score off my colleague (Mr. Bevan) or the Labor Party. Not at any stage did they say anything about the effects of the Bill except that the Hon. Mr. Dawkins said it would give effect to what it was designed to do, and with that I agree. He also said there was some confusion about the measure. Let me assure him that if anyone was confused it was himself, because what he said has only tended to confuse other people. Before I finish speaking I hope to remove any confusion on the Bill, as I hope to explain it fully. I have always been told, and there was an article in this week's *South Australian Farmer* on the matter, that this is a House of review and not a House of initiation, but I inform the honourable gentleman that in the 1962 session more than 29 per cent of the legislation passed by Parliament was initiated in this Chamber.

The Hon. M. B. Dawkins: I stated that previously in the *Farmer*.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Yes. We are told that we are individuals here, and do not represent Party or play politics. If one wanted a better exhibition of playing Party politics than we had last week one would have to go far to see it, and if I am guilty this afternoon of the same offence it was initiated by the gentlemen who spoke last week. It is not what they said: it is what they implied. They did

not deal with the merits of the Bill. The Hon. Mr. DeGaris mentioned what was done in 1932.

The Hon. M. B. Dawkins: To what Party did they belong?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: The Labor Party, and we make no excuses for that. I am a proud member of the Labor Party, and I do not print in a paper that I am a member of Parliament and can do as I like. Let me tell the honourable member that when the whips are cracked he will not be able to do as he likes.

The Hon. M. B. Dawkins: I never made the statement.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: When the whips are cracked the honourable member will not be able to do as he wishes. We readily agree that the Labor Party amended the Early Closing Act in 1932.

The Hon. R. C. DeGaris: I never mentioned the Labor Party.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: The honourable member should read *Hansard*.

The Hon. R. C. DeGaris: I did not say it was the Labor Party.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I do not know where we are getting. The speech is there and the honourable member had great delight in pointing out that it was the Labor Party, and he mentioned the Hon. Mr. Jelley.

The Hon. R. C. DeGaris: I did not mention the Labor Party.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: If the honourable member did not refer to the Labor Party, he should do some homework. The logical conclusion is that if it was right in 1932 it should be right today. I do not think the matter will bear investigation. Let us be frank. I do not think one of my friends in the L.C.L. wants to see a return of the conditions that existed in 1932. I am talking about the living conditions. We want to be better off and have more Labor Governments. Some legislation put through by the present Government has been supported by the Labor Party. Indeed, it would not have passed without our support.

The Hon. C. R. Story: You were probably vindictive on those occasions!

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: We supported it because it was the policy framed by our policy-making Party. Any individual in the State has a right to be present at that conference.

The Hon. M. B. Dawkins: What has my article in *The Farmer* to do with the Bill?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Let me tell the honourable member that it is only because

our conference meets at the Trades Hall that it is said that we are dictated to by the Trades Hall. If our conference met at the Liberal Party clubroom, one would say that we were dictated to from the Liberal Party clubroom. The Trades Hall merely happens to be the place where we meet; we are not dictated to by the Trades Hall. Nobody wants a return of the living conditions of 1932. This interpretation may have had some meaning in 1932 because then not only did the public have no money with which to buy what it wanted; it may well be proper to say that the merchants and storekeepers themselves had little money with which to maintain their stock at a time when people were leaning on each other to keep the community going. Thank God we are a Party that believes in progress! I do not think anybody can say that we have not played some small part in improving living conditions over the last 30 years.

Before 1932 the Liberal Party, which was in government, used to make certain exemptions from the Holidays Act by a Bill each year. What is the good of dealing with this problem every 12 months? Why introduce a new Bill every year? Why not make the legislation permanent? My Party takes the view that Easter Saturday was once needed as a business day for the ordinary people to help the community keep going, but it used to be exempted by the Government year in and year out until it was properly put into the Early Closing Act, which had exempted it. That was the procedure; that was done by the Labor Party.

It would pay honourable members to examine these three Acts. I do not argue with the Chief Secretary when he said in his second reading explanation that there was an anomaly between the three Acts. I believe it was caused by the interpretation given to the Early Closing Act of 1932. I have looked at the position. As far as I can see, the Holidays Act came into force in 1910 by the repeal of four other Acts—the Bank Holidays Act, 1873, the Civil Service Act, 1874, the Bank Holidays Amendment Act, 1893, and the Holidays Act, 1909. So the Holidays Act, as we have known it, has been in existence since 1910, and in that time it has been amended only twice. The second schedule gives the holidays as Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday, the day after Good Friday, Easter Monday, the second Wednesday in October (as it was in 1910; it was the second Monday in October in 1947). That was the second amendment.

Until 1947 there was only one amendment. The only other amendment to the Holidays Act since then was in the third schedule, which declared Saturday a bank holiday, that coming to pass in 1958. So from 1910 to 1932 we find there was no need to disturb the Holidays Act.

The Second-hand Dealers Act, as far as I can see, came into force in 1919. Section 17, which has not been amended and indeed is not proposed to be amended by the present Bill, states in subsection (1):

A licensee shall not buy or sell second-hand goods (a) on any Sunday or public holiday. It is not even suggested that that be amended, but we shall return to that a little later.

The Hon. R. C. DeGaris: Did that amend the definition of "public holiday"?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: No. If there is an anomaly, we plead guilty to it. The provision was inserted in the Early Closing Act in 1932. That Act interprets "public holiday" as follows:

"Public holiday" means any day, other than the day after Good Friday, which is by or under the Holidays Act, 1910, declared to be a public holiday.

Quite clearly that is when an anomaly was created because the other two Acts were straight-forward, plain and clear. If that interpretation had not been put into the Early Closing Act, we should not now need any amendment to the Second-hand Dealers Act. This Bill proposes by clause 3 to amend section 3 of the principal Act by inserting, after the definition of "licensee" therein, the following definition:

"Public holiday" means any day, other than the day after Good Friday, which is by or under The Holidays Act, 1910-1959, declared to be a public holiday.

If anyone can tell me that that would not be an anomaly when considered with section 17 of the principal Act, I do not know what an anomaly is. If we are to remove the anomaly, we must delete the interpretation of "public holiday" in the Early Closing Act and let the Holidays Act stand on its own.

I have had some experience of industrial matters. We are always of the opinion that industrial matters connected with working conditions and the needs of the public in its shopping are the responsibility of the industrial tribunals. Let us look at the *Government Gazette* of August 13, 1964, where we see at page 329 a Shop Board determination published. The board considers the weight of the evidence regarding the hours to be worked and the public need, and makes its determination in accordance with that. Both the union and the

employers have right of appeal to the Industrial Court which, in regard to this particular clause, has never been appealed to. This determination states:

Holidays and Sundays. Sundays and the days on which New Year's Day, Australia Day, Good Friday, the day after Good Friday, Easter Monday, Anzac Day, Queen's Birthday, Eight Hours' Day, Christmas Day and Commemoration Day are observed, and any other day which by Act of Parliament or proclamation may be created a public holiday or may be substituted for any of such holidays shall be holidays and all time worked on these days shall be paid for at the rate of double time. All employees not required to work on these holidays as defined shall be paid for such holidays at the rate of ordinary time.

The appropriate authority appointed by Act of Parliament, and charged with the responsibility of declaring the time of beginning and finishing work and of deciding what should and should not be public holidays, made inquiries, heard evidence from the people concerned, and decided that Easter Saturday should be a public holiday despite the definition of "public holiday" in the interpretation section of the Early Closing Act.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: That must be why they closed down last year.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I am coming to that. The people most vitally concerned—the members of the Retail Traders' Association, which I believe takes in the larger establishments in Rundle Street, and the Retail Storekeepers' Association—on their own initiative decided that they would not open last Easter Saturday. Despite this, the Government is anxious to create a further anomaly just to meet the wishes of people in the motor car trade. Can anyone say it is urgent that the public be able to deal in second-hand motor cars on Easter Saturday? I think it would make no difference to them if this Bill were passed or not because, if dealers wanted to sell used cars on Easter Saturday, they would. Why should we create another anomaly just to give them the right to do this, when other people in the commercial world of this State have decided that there is no need for the public to have shopping facilities on Easter Saturday?

The Hon. Sir Lyell McEwin: They do not have that opinion in Sydney, do they?

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: We are not in Sydney; we are in South Australia.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I cannot win, even if I say that we lead the way. Our State has given a good lead to other States in this matter. Employers, who support our friends opposite, say there is no need in the

public interest to open on Easter Saturday, so why should we give the right to open on that day to a section of the community that deals in non-perishable goods? There is no need for the sake of their living standards for them to have this right. If people wanted to sell second-hand cars on Sundays they would do so, and that applies to other industries.

The Hon. C. D. Rowe: Is the honourable member advising people to break the law?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I am stating what people do. Recently I had to take up with a well-known Rundle Street firm a matter relating to a hire-purchase agreement under which somebody had been treated wrongly. The sale was completed on a Sunday; the salesman was waiting at the door for the lady concerned to come home from church so that he could clinch the deal. The Department of Labour and Industry is doing a reason-

ably good job, but there are not enough inspectors to stop this practice. I agree entirely that there should not be any sales on Sunday, and nobody could charge me with being an over-enthusiastic churchgoer. However, I think Sunday is one day when we should do as little as we can. This practice is going on, however, and I do not think it is necessary for people to be able to sell motor cars on Easter Saturday to the disadvantage of the vast majority of people in industry. I do not think the Bill is worthy of the Government, and I hope it will be withdrawn and that the definition of "public holiday" in the Early Closing Act will be removed.

The Hon. C. R. STORY secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 3.52 p.m. the Council adjourned until Wednesday, August 26, at 2.15 p.m.