

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, May 19, 1965.

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

### QUESTIONS

#### SECOND CREEK, BURNSIDE.

The Hon. JESSIE COOPER: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question.  
Leave granted.

The Hon. JESSIE COOPER: On September 3, 1963, I asked a question concerning the silting and subsequent diversion of Second Creek, Burnside, and on October 2, 1963, was told by the Attorney-General, on behalf of the Minister of Mines, that an investigation had been carried out by officers of the Mines Department. Their report stated:

It was found that sand and gravel from a quarry had washed down Second Creek, Burnside, and had spread over a piece of flat ground several properties lower down stream, rendering it unusable. An extension of the bared quarry area, plus greater clearing of upstream properties inducing greater run-off, coupled with the unusually wet winter, have caused this situation. Remedial measures will be undertaken by the quarry proprietor, including removal of sand and gravel from the flat land, clearing out of the creek bed, and provision of a retaining wall on the creek bed.

The Minister then added:

These measures should prevent any recurrence of this situation.

These remedial measures were taken but were only partially successful. Last year I received many more complaints, and further investigations were carried out by the department. This year, with the first heavy winter rain, a spate of thick, creamy mud, sand and gravel has apparently been released down this stream, causing great damage on properties adjoining the creek. Will the Minister of Mines, therefore, be good enough to ask his department to inquire into the reason for this damaging material coming down in such heavy quantities?

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: I will have an investigation made and report to the honourable member.

#### GILES POINT FACILITIES.

The Hon. L. R. HART: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L. R. HART: My question relates to a question asked yesterday by the member for Yorke Peninsula (Mr. Ferguson) in another place about the deferment of deep-sea loading facilities at Giles Point. In his reply to the

question, the Minister of Works stated that the matter had been deferred to an indeterminate date —

THE PRESIDENT: The honourable member must not refer to answers given to questions in another place this session.

The Hon. L. R. HART: I beg your pardon, Mr. President. The position is that the matter of a deep-sea loading facility at Giles Point has been deferred. It has been stated by the Government and the Minister of Works that the question of bulk handling facilities throughout South Australia is to be investigated by a committee. Can the Minister representing the Minister of Works say whether in the setting up of this committee there will be adequate primary producer representation, whether the bulk handling authority will be represented, when the committee will be required to present its report and whether, when the report is presented, the information will be given to all members representing Yorke Peninsula rather than to only the two members mentioned in the reply given by the Minister?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I will convey the honourable member's question to my colleague and bring him a reply in due course.

#### GAWLER RIVER BRIDGE.

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

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Between the towns of Gawler and Virginia, a distance of 15 miles, there is only one bridge over the Gawler River. It is at Angle Vale and is approximately 100 years old. It was in a rather bad state of repair even 30 years ago when it was redecked. About 12 months ago it was declared unsafe for any traffic of over two tons gross. Many people observe this restriction, but it is hard to police the matter in this area and other people do not observe the restriction and risk the collapse of the old bridge. I believe a new bridge was provided for in last year's Estimates, but some delay has occurred. Can the Minister of Local Government say when the construction of the new bridge will commence?

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: I will make inquiries from the department and inform the honourable member of the position.

#### HOUSING TRUST HOUSES.

The Hon. R. A. GEDDES: Can the Minister representing the Minister of Housing say whether it is Government policy to reduce the

allocation of moneys for the maintenance and repair of Housing Trust houses?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I know nothing about any reduction of moneys available for the maintenance of Housing Trust houses. I will discuss the matter with my colleague, the Minister of Housing, and get a report for the honourable member.

#### ROAD MAINTENANCE TAX.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: In view of the reply given yesterday about exemptions on Eyre Peninsula, can the Chief Secretary say on whose advice the Government promised the electors that it could and would exempt that area from the provisions of the Road Maintenance (Contribution) Act, and whether the same person is still the Government's adviser?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I think that is a "Dorothy Dix" question, if I may say so. I ask the honourable member to place it on the Notice Paper.

#### JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I refer to the announcement by the Attorney-General that in future justices of the peace will be divided into two categories, namely, those who will witness documents and those who will sit in court. Can the Chief Secretary, representing the Attorney-General, inform me:

- (a) By what means will the justices who have already received their commission be divided into the two categories?
- (b) In the case of future nominations for appointment as justices will applicants be required to state whether they wish to merely witness documents or whether they also desire to sit in court?
- (c) By what means will the Attorney-General decide whether an applicant is sufficiently qualified to preside in court?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I will refer the question to the Attorney-General and submit a report as soon as possible.

#### TEACHING AIDS.

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question. Leave granted.

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: It has been the policy of the Education Department for many years to subsidize teaching aids in departmental schools. These cover a wide range, including direct teaching aids, library books, and many other accessories required.

This range has been extended from time to time, as more modern methods of teaching require greater numbers of aids, but recently there have been widespread complaints from parent bodies responsible for raising the money and from teachers that there has been an undue delay in answering and approving applications. Any delay causes much inconvenience to the parent bodies concerned, as they have to plan for raising finance and often it entails much correspondence, which is done voluntarily. Will the Minister of Labour and Industry say whether it is Government policy to maintain and extend the present system of subsidizing school teaching aids and, if it is, whether steps can be taken to expedite the approval of such applications?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I will convey the question to my colleague and give a reply as soon as possible.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY.

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.

(Continued from May 18. Page 36.)

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN (Leader of the Opposition): In rising to support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor, I express the pleasure of my Party in having you, Mr. President, to preside over us. Your impartiality is unquestioned, and we are pleased that you have recovered from the slight indisposition you suffered at the conclusion of the last session. We are pleased indeed that you are apparently fit and well again. I do not know whether it was the lightning trip you had overseas that worked the miracle, but you seem to have returned in very good fettle, and I trust that you will find this Parliament equally as pleasant as those over which you have presided in the past.

We were all impressed once again with the dignity shown by His Excellency and the manner in which he delivered the Opening Speech. Of course, he was not responsible for its contents, but he produced a quality of enunciation with all the conviction, I think, of his advisers. This is the fifth occasion on which Sir Edric Bastyan has opened Parliament, he having arrived in South Australia on April 4, 1961, to take up a five-year appointment. I associate myself, as I am sure all honourable members will do, with the comments of the mover regarding the activities of His Excellency and Lady Bastyan in not sparing themselves in becoming familiar with every-thing South Australian. They have travelled

the State from east to west and from north to south, and I do not think anyone is better informed about South Australia than are the Governor and his lady. Unless he is invited to serve a further period this could mean that he will not again open the South Australian Parliament. I suggest to the Government that it give earnest consideration to the high qualifications that His Excellency and Lady Bastyan have for the high office and seek an extension of their stay in South Australia. As Leader of the Liberal and Country League Party in this place I extend, through His Excellency, an assurance of our continued loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen in this period of world unrest, with the prayer that she may long reign over us as a symbol of the unity and loyalty that exists amongst the members of the British Commonwealth.

Since the prorogation of the last Parliament we have lost two respected former members. A tribute has already been paid to them. Mr. Corcoran, as mentioned by the mover, was a member in another place. The Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph was with us last session when he was not enjoying good health, and he missed the last night. We miss his face in this Council where he represented Central No. 1 for about 24 years. On a number of occasions he acted as the Leader of his Party in this place. The vacancy has been filled by the election of the Hon. Don Banfield, whom we heard to advantage when he moved the adoption of the Address in Reply yesterday. I congratulate him upon his maiden speech and I am confident that he will make a success of his career here when he settles down. I assure him that he will get the respect that is given to new members of this Council. I further assure him that he will make many friends here, and that he will find that we on this side are human and not the bad boys that his Party would have people believe. We look forward to our association with him.

The Labor Party has been fortunate in its representation in this place. It must have saved much time in Caucus having three qualified members of the Party to take Ministerial office without having to depend upon a ballot. Whether the Labor Party was careful in its selection of its members in the Council I do not know, but it must have taken great care to ensure that the men selected were capable. Apparently Ministerial members of Caucus are not exempt from attack within Caucus, but, be that as it may, I congratulate all three Ministers. I think they would have won a

guernsey in any case. They are all well qualified to represent their Party as Ministers.

That brings me to welcoming my two new colleagues to represent the Northern District. I refer to the Hon. Richard Geddes and the Hon. Dudley Octoman. The Northern District has always enjoyed stable representation by men of repute with a keen sense of duty towards their electors. That will be maintained by these worthy successors to the Hon. W. W. Robinson and the Hon. R. R. Wilson who sat in this Chamber for a long period. Mr. Geddes revives history by the association of that family name with my own. In 1924, the late Jim Geddes at Port Pirie, and my father unsuccessfully contested an election for the Northern District in a three-Party contest. It was at the time when there was a Liberal Party, a Country Party and a Labor Party, and there were 12 candidates at that election. They missed out by a few votes and the four seats were divided equally between them—two for the Liberal Party and two for the Country Party. My new colleague, the Hon. Richard Geddes, is a son of Jim Geddes and therefore brings a consistent line of political reasoning that has served the electorate well. The Hon. Dudley Octoman also comes from a strong line of political work and action. His mother had a tremendous record of public service and has been a leading figure in the Country Women's Association, having served as a State President of that organization. She was keenly interested in the political welfare of the State. I always remember her as one whom I was pleased to have on my side. The Northern District will be well represented, as it has been in the past, by these replacements in Parliament. I extend to them a warm welcome to this Chamber.

Following the last election we have a Labor Government. I congratulate it on its successful campaign. During the hustings many promises were made, which no doubt the electors thought would be implemented "without delay"—words so often used during the campaign. But no sooner was the Government sworn in than promises commenced to be withdrawn. This was fairly obvious to all of us when the Premier started to draw a red herring across the trail by saying that the Government would not be able to give effect to its policy because of the composition of the Legislative Council. That was an early sign that it did not expect to produce all the rabbits out of the hat as suggested previously, and it was handy for the Government to attack this Council and blame it for any of its failures. Honourable members

representing the Labor Party in this Council know full well that there is no Party political partisanship in this Chamber. Labor Party members here have repeatedly claimed for themselves that they have helped me to get legislation through this Council. Every Labor Government starts off its first session of Parliament with its age-old cry—

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: You should reciprocate now.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: You have not given us a chance. You are trying to alienate us before any legislation is put before us, which I do not think is good tactics. I respected the other Party when I was Chief Secretary and we got on well and were firm friends. We did not abuse the Opposition. As I was saying, every Labor Government starts off its first session of Parliament with its age-old cry for the abolition of the Legislative Council. Over the years that has been consistently so. There is nothing fresh or new in that statement now. We saw the same thing in New South Wales and the policy there of abolishing all Houses of Review. The effort was made in New South Wales but it was soundly rejected by the people on a referendum, even though in that State it is not a House in any way representative of a cross-section of the people but is merely appointed by another place. I do not know how we tie that story up with one vote one value, but that was the position there, and the people endorsed it.

We have to thank the founders of our Constitution for what they did in providing a House of Review to watch the interests of minorities and to ensure that legislation would be properly discussed for the information of the public. I do not think the public quite appreciates and understands how important the bicameral system is and how it operates under the Standing Orders. We have of course as a first procedure a Committee initiating Bills in another place. A first reading takes place, then a second reading debate, followed by an analysis of the clauses in Committee. Very often the Committee work on Bills is left to the Legislative Council. Then, the Bill having passed through the Committee stage, there is a third reading, after which the Bill is transmitted to this place. That procedure is repeated. Some people may think that this involves needless repetition, but it does not. It provides an opportunity for legislation to be debated over a sufficient period for people to be properly informed of what is going on in Parliament, and what are the

arguments for and against, so that we are not the victims of rushed or hasty legislation that can be put through in one House, particularly when there is a large majority on the side that governs.

I wish to assure the Ministry that this Council will continue to operate in that capacity and exercise the same discretion and tolerance as it has done with every Government preceding this one. My Party does not associate itself with Party discussions in another place: it acts impartially in the interests of the people of South Australia.

Let me refer to some of the Government's promises that have either been negated already or conveniently deferred. We have heard many appeals about free school books but now we are told that that question requires investigating, and that it will take two years to implement. As has been mentioned previously, the facility for Giles Point has been deferred in spite of the fact that, according to the election promises made by the Government in its policy speech, it would accept the recommendation of the Public Works Committee. Also, the silo for Appila has been refused. I suppose that the one who finds the money has always the whip hand. Other than that, I do not know (I have not asked a question about it) what authority there is for the Government to refuse Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd. the establishment of a silo for the receipt of wheat. I should be interested to know what is the authority for refusing the erection of a silo.

Then there was another reply from a Minister yesterday about the abolition of the road maintenance tax, which was promised at election time for Eyre Peninsula. It was, I think, a deliberate promise to win seats in that area. But today we find what we knew all along, what every member of the last Parliament and every candidate knew was the legal position: it could not be done without upsetting the whole of the Road Maintenance Act, which is legislation that has been found necessary in every other State in Australia, and most of the States were going far beyond anything intended by the Act that we passed last session.

We are also informed that transport control will be re-instituted. The policy of my Party was to save the people all the embarrassment and trouble associated with form-filling, permits and delays, all of which affect the economy of the country. It is probable that the Government has found out what is the practice in

another State and it seems that there are States that charge up to 9d. a ton-mile on intrastate traffic, the carting of goods within the State itself. I hope that the Government is not contemplating the imposition of anything like that on the people. If it does that, some of the problems associated with primary industry today will be considerably enlarged.

The word "dictator" was used in this debate yesterday. Of course, we have heard for a long time that the former Premier was a dictator. However, it is surprising how quickly the new Premier wished to assert his authority in some things, probably due to a little competition as to who was going to be the spokesman for the Government. I think it is a pity when the Premier of the State has to tell people how they should dress for a function. It verges on the ridiculous. Where would we be if our policemen, nurses, Army and St. John Ambulance men dressed in such clothes as bikinis, shorts, or three-quarter-length clothing? It would be a ragtime show! I am not comparing the dress of an organization that has a uniform with ordinary dress, but I do think that dress often represents something of the behaviour and dignity of the people. I was pleased to see that the Leader of the Opposition in the Commonwealth Parliament dressed properly on a recent occasion by wearing honours conferred on him by the Pope. I hope that we will not lose dignity and that when we go into the presence of Royalty or their representatives, we will dress correctly. I was pleased to see that the Ministers here, at least, did the right thing.

In the last few days we have heard much about Parliamentary committees and I think that, due to a little campaigning by the Premier, some misunderstanding might have been created among the general public, who are, perhaps, not familiar with the work of these committees. They are not Government committees and do not affect the administration of the Government in any way. Let us look at some of them. The Standing Orders Committee deals with the Standing Orders of the Council, the order of debates and the relationship between the Houses. It is purely a Parliamentary body in which every member of Parliament is interested, probably private members more so than Government members, if it comes to a point, because the private members are sent here to represent their electorates and it is important that the Standing Orders protect the rights of members. That is exactly their purpose, as shown by the Standing Orders themselves. It is some-

thing that has grown up over the centuries. We have learned much from the Mother of Parliaments and have adapted its practices to our particular usage, in keeping with the size of our Parliament. The Standing Orders Committee is not any concern of the Government whatsoever; it is a committee that deals with the conduct of Parliament, and the representation on those committees should be in keeping with the representation in Parliament.

We have been sympathetic with the Government over the disposition of the members of the two Houses. The Government has chosen to increase its number of members on a committee in another place and all that we have done is make a comparable adjustment here where the numbers are different, but not so as to upset the equilibrium or the equal representation on the committee. Yet, we have had howls (as I call them for want of a better word) outside this Parliament that this Council is behaving in a petty manner and we have been told what it should do in justice to the Government of the day. I have been a member of the Standing Orders Committee for about 20 years. Discussion of the Standing Orders was always held on a completely impartial and not on a Party-political basis. The Clerk may shake his head if I am wrong but I do not remember meeting on more than six occasions. All this hue and cry that we are stifling the efforts of the Government or preventing it from carrying on the government of the State is too silly for words.

Then there is the Printing Committee that deals with the printing of Parliamentary Papers. That committee is the concern of every member of Parliament and determines what shall be printed as Parliamentary Papers. Publication by the committee means that the papers are publicly distributed instead of being left on the Clerk's table, available for perusal only if a person goes to see them. I was interested to find that the Printing Committee meets twice every session, each meeting lasting five minutes. That is the record of the Printing Committee and indicates the magnitude of the work it does. What is more important is that, although we had a majority on the committee when we were in office, the Hon. Mr. Bevan was the chairman of the committee. That indicates how Party political it was and how biased it was! I remind honourable members that no salary is connected with the position. I do not put that as any great tribute, although we sacrificed privilege and a member of the opposition, as chairman, got the honour!

The Library Committee is another unpaid committee that serves Parliament in relation to the library within Parliament. It does not embarrass the Government in any way; it is entirely a Parliamentary committee. The Joint House Committee is concerned only with the conduct and facilities within Parliament House. Surely there is no Party affiliation to worry about with that committee. If one takes the aggregate of both Chambers, the Liberal and Country Party has a majority of members. All we seek is equal representation, and that is all that has been done—no more. Its discussions are on a non-Party basis; at least, that is what I have been told—I have never been on the committee. I have had no reason to question its behaviour and I have not had any complaint from any member of the committee. It meets and comes to unanimous decisions, as in the case of other committees, where the Standing Orders provide that the chairman has only one vote, with no casting vote. It has never had, and I hope it never will have, a Party-political bias.

I turn now to money matters and to the Subordinate Legislation Committee, which examines regulations and by-laws as they are promulgated and reports to Parliament. It is proper that both sides of this Chamber should be represented on it. The Committee reports on and sometimes moves for the disallowance of regulations, council by-laws, or something of that type. It is there purely as a watchdog. I remember when it was established because members could not keep up with the number of by-laws and regulations presented and tabled from time to time, and sometimes by-laws that should have had the attention of Parliament slipped through without comment. That move, like most forward moves, originated in the Legislative Council, when in the old Chamber Hermann Homburg, who was a prime mover in many law reforms, suggested that it be set up so that someone would do the job, give extra consideration to these matters, and be paid a salary to meet and examine regulations as they came along. That is the work of the committee, but it is not the sole authority regarding regulations and by-laws. It can report to Parliament, but Parliament decides whether to adopt or oppose its recommendations. Whether or not the committee makes a recommendation, there is nothing to prevent any member on the floor of the House moving for the disallowance of a regulation or by-law. I think I have said sufficient about the committees I have dealt with to show that to suggest that this Chamber

is doing something to thwart or embarrass the Government is utter nonsense and without foundation.

I very much enjoyed the Speech with which His Excellency opened Parliament, because I think it was an excellent report on the achievements and planning of the Playford Government. I welcome the suggestion that the Government intends to accept the planning that is already completed. I suggest to the Government that it enjoys a rich inheritance from our administration in industrial development, employment, and sound finance.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: The only thing the present Government lacks is finance!

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I was going to mention that, and I thank the Minister for reminding me. The record of the Playford Government regarding finance has been most outstanding. That Government balanced the State's Budgets during its career. Last year the Budget provided for a deficit because on the eve of its presentation an award was made that cost the Government between £2,000,000 and £3,000,000 and thereby threw the whole Budget out of gear. This, coupled with the cost of the normal rate of development that takes place every year—it can be expected that an increase of 6 or 7 per cent will occur each year—had to be met out of a decreased income. Actually the taxing position was not as good as in the previous year to meet these increases in costs, and it was only because the Government had a little fat on its bones that it was able to maintain standards in South Australia on a restricted income. I have no doubt that the deficit would have been reduced considerably had the Playford Government continued in office.

I am glad the Minister thinks of the importance of money, but his Party should have thought about money before it started to give it away. It is no use howling about it now. If they wish to give away money without considering all factors, that is entirely on their own heads. However, the past Treasurer left this State in a healthy financial condition. Not only were the trust funds of the Treasury completely put in order during our regime but they were about £300,000 in credit. I shall be interested to see how the present Government handles these trust funds. We left everything completely in order, and I hope the Minister who interjected, who is interested in finance, will see to it that the same type of good Budget is continued during his Party's regime. If it is, there will be nothing to worry about. I ask honourable members to compare the position

now with the position that the Liberal and Country League Government found when it took office 30 years ago. Those who can remember those days will remember that South Australia was embarrassed because it was losing population through lack of employment and opportunities, primary industries were lagging, and living standards were low. I know something about it as I lived through that period. The L.C.L. Government set out to stem the drift in population by stimulating industry and stabilizing the economy of the State. Because of what was done then the present Treasurer assumed office with the finances in proper order and the Budget position sound.

In restoring the State to a better standard of living at that time (and I am going back to the 30's) early attention was given to the housing of the people. The result was that in 1936 the L.C.L. Government created by statute the South Australian Housing Trust. This was not the brainchild of a Labor Government. The Premier has created a Ministry of Housing, as window dressing, which he will administer, as did Sir Thomas Playford when he was Premier and Treasurer. Originally provision was made to provide houses of a high standard for a rental of 12s. 6d. a week. The houses were for people whose incomes were not higher than £4 10s. a week. In other words, the Government set out to provide decent housing for the people at a rental they could afford to pay. The charges were in accordance with the wages received at that time. It was done not only to provide decent housing but to stabilize industry to the extent that if we could provide good housing at a cheaper rate than any other State we would enable industry to compete against States with a higher population, and I think we were successful in so doing. Not long afterwards the Second World War began in 1939, and that slowed progress, but we had an organization established, which enabled us to take the lead in quality and quantity in the post-war period. That lead is still being maintained, and I emphasize quality and quantity.

This organization greatly assisted in the procurement of industry and in our rapid development as an industrial State. It enabled us to absorb the high rate of migration. This was due to the housing we were able to offer to industry, which enabled us to get good men. In this way South Australia developed industrially. From that development came the erection of low-deposit houses of which we have heard so much recently. There was also the scheme for marriage loans to assist house

building. The 3,200 houses referred to in the Governor's Speech this year were not an achievement of the present Government, but the result of organization by the previous Administration.

Paragraph 6 refers to the creation of a Minister of Social Welfare, presumably to relieve the Chief Secretary of some responsibility. Surely that is not because he is incapable of doing the job. According to the Minister, the services of the Children's Welfare and Public Relief Board will be dispensed with. This was not in His Excellency's Speech, but was a special report from the Minister concerned.

I want to say something about this board. It is an experienced board, which has carried on for many years sympathetically administering the functions associated with State welfare, and with a monetary reward only in recent years. It was an honorary board until recently when it was realized that its work had grown so much that the Government decided that its members should receive some consideration for the time the members gave to their work. They meet every week and visit institutions. In other words, they take a parental interest in the people who come under their care.

Segregation of delinquents into age groups, and the erection of modern types of building as an ancillary to boarding out, are more than equal to the Borstal institutions I visited when abroad. In every way we can hold our own with the system applying overseas. Our system of boarding out where possible, rather than directing children to institutions, has been most successful. The board gave much help in caring for these unfortunate children. The toddlers' home at Somerton so impressed the Duchess of Gloucester that she presented a portrait of her own child to the organization as a memento of her visit to the school. The standard that exists now, even if not appreciated here, is well regarded by people outside South Australia. Because of my long association with the members of the board I place on record my appreciation of the dedicated and unselfish service given by them. Credit must go to them for the high standard of care given to the unwanted and delinquent children of our day. The Minister would be well advised to retain their services to help him in this great work.

Paragraph 7 states that the administration of the Alcohol and Drug Addicts (Treatment) Act will be transferred from the Chief Secretary to the new Minister of Social Welfare. In our efforts to deal with the alcoholics we

sent the then Sheriff, Mr. Jim Allen, overseas to study world trends, and he found nothing to compare with our project. It was only because a building to provide this new approach was beyond the vision of the Public Works Committee, combined with objections by the medical profession, that practical application was deferred. Amendments to the Act were made last session providing for the board to include a psychiatrist. Approval was given for planning a modified project to test the success of the scheme. It was modified in order to provide an alternative institution to give some relief to the people who are continually being sent back to gaols. It was done to give some help to the Sheriff in dealing with alcoholics. I hope that the proposals to deal with this social problem will not be further delayed. We know that delays do occur because of the amount of work departments have in hand, but I hope that this scheme will proceed and that we will, at least, be given credit for trying to do something for these unfortunate people.

Paragraph 8 refers to the co-ordination of transport. As I said yesterday, I shall be interested to hear what this means. The Government claims that it will increase railway revenue by £1,000,000, but it does not say how it will be done. Is it to be by means of restricted control on all road transport, and the compulsory diversion to the conveyance of goods by rail? I think that the Minister of Local Government meant that yesterday. I compliment the Railways Commissioner, who has done a good job in meeting competition by means of improved railway efficiency. I give him all credit for what he has done. The railways position has considerably improved under Mr. Fargher's administration. I hope that progress will not be stifled by prohibitions detrimental to industry. We have built up industry and production through freedom to use whatever is the most economical method to reduce handling, and to enable competition with other States to take place. Other States preceded us by a considerable period in levying taxation on road users. South Australia always remained more lenient as regards transport, because of its importance to our industries. A drain on our resources would mean little hope for increased industry in South Australia. There must be some margin somewhere to enable them to get their goods and compete with the manufacturers in the more populated States.

Paragraph 9 deals with aboriginal welfare. Whatever is in the mind of the new Minister

of Aboriginal Affairs, beyond the removal of liquor restrictions and improved conditions on reserves, is not stated. I pay a tribute to the former Minister, the Hon. G. G. Pearson, for the stimulus he provided on behalf of the Playford Government through his personal interest in aboriginal welfare, housing and the policy of assimilation he eagerly pursued. He certainly provided a foundation for future development. I am not aware of any prohibition relating to ownership of land by Aborigines. I suppose that question will be developed later.

Paragraph 10 deals with the Government's promise to pursue policies designed to make full use of the productive potential of the State in agriculture, mining, land settlement, forestry and other fields, which is welcomed. The development of the staff of the Agriculture Department was tremendous during the Playford regime. Both in extension work and in research the department was expanded with great improvement in farm management and production. The establishment of bulk handling has enabled the industry to absorb some of the increased costs, but farmers are concerned with production costs today and the calamity that could be associated with an adverse season or a collapse in the markets for our production. We already have the problems of wine and egg marketing as an example of what rising costs and restricted markets can mean. We cannot expect to maintain a buoyant economy if our primary industries become depressed through continual additional costs being passed on through dearer machinery, superphosphate, sprays, etc.

The development of our mineral resources we cannot relax. Ample demonstration has been provided since the war of the importance of the Mines Department to industrial development. When I became Minister of Mines, the department consisted of three geologists and a handful of clerical staff. The State mineral production was then about £3,000,000 a year. In 1945 the department had been extended to 24 salaried officers and 57 daily paid staff, a total of 81. In 1954 salaried officers totalled 400 and daily paid staff 800, a total of 1,200. That, of course, included uranium mining at Radium Hill.

Today the department includes about 50 geologists and geophysicists. There are 50 drills of all types capable of drilling down to 5,000ft. Mining is third only to wool and cereals, with a mineral production now of over £33,000,000, including construction materials of about £5,500,000. The activity of oil prospecting



companies is the result of legislation that I, as Minister, initiated and introduced into this Council in 1941. Again, the Legislative Council took the initiative in the progress of industry in this State.

Following uranium production, the department was geared to stimulate oil search. Of course, there was the question of uranium requirements that had been referred to us during the war, and some work had been done. That was continued and followed up. Thus there was the development of the mine at Radium Hill. When that concluded after a seven years' period, uranium was worked in other parts of the world where it could be produced more economically, and that put Radium Hill out of business purely on a cost basis. A remarkable thing occurred in the closing of the Radium Hill project. During the election campaign it was once again demonstrated how loosely the Labor Party makes promises to the people. It stated at that time that it would keep open Radium Hill and continue it as a mine. We said that it was not to continue, and made no secret of it. Everything had been explored. We had sent the Director of Mines (Mr. Barnes) overseas to study what could be done and we were satisfied that what existed in other parts of the world would make it impossible for us to remain in production without making huge losses. So we set about finding employment for everybody on the field, and we did find them employment. Everybody who wanted another job was found one. That, I think, is a good example of what should happen when an industry closes down—that we are able in similar industries to make recommendations and find jobs for the displaced employees. That was done by the Liberal and Country League Government.

Then we started to develop oil production and established seismic teams, with two seismic plants and equipment, costing £100,000 each. These are costly things to operate, but they were the means of providing co-operation with the exploration companies that came here and helped in the search for oil. We persisted in that and, for that reason, our department has earned commendation as being the best department in Australia. We attracted companies of good repute and the backing that came with them to join in the search for oil in South Australia. Unfortunately, results so far have not quite reached an economic minimum, but I hope the Government will provide every assistance to bring gas to industry when quantities and prices can be resolved.

Just as important, too, is the work upon old mines and anomalies in the mineral field with induced polarization methods, following flying with magnetic instruments. We purchased the induced polarization equipment as a result of our sending Mr. Barnes abroad. He saw that equipment in operation in Rhodesia. We have brought similar equipment here and so search has been recommenced on old mines which we tried during the war with all the means known to us then. It is now an attempt with new processes used in this way to achieve results similar to those obtained elsewhere. I assure the Minister of Mines that I am entirely behind him in every move he can make to keep his department at all times up to the leading position it occupies, and to maintain the qualifications of its officers and their capacity to do the work compared with officers in other States. We are knocking at the door of success, and staff and equipment must be maintained at a high level of efficiency to ensure future expansion.

Land settlement has been vigorously extended through legislation introduced by my Party, and the Land Settlement Committee established. This machinery has worked well and considerable success has been achieved. I hope that that venture will not lose any tempo under the new administration. Afforestation has been a major Government enterprise and we have been successful in obtaining industries to ensure that plantings can be marketed on maturity. Some use must be made of them if they are to be of any economic importance to the State. When I was in New Zealand some years ago I saw pines growing in abundance. A forest had been burnt down and there had been complete regeneration. The pines were as thick as the hair on the proverbial cat's back. I questioned my guide, who was a member of Parliament, as to why the trees were allowed to grow wild and not thinned out. He said, "The answer is that there is no use for them and, therefore, it is useless to spend money on them." I said, "There must be some use for them." However, it would have been necessary to bring machinery from abroad to make use of them and the Labor Government would not permit the purchase of the machinery, and so the forest was going to waste. I apply that simile to our own forests. As the pines mature the timber must be used. If the trees are not processed at maturity a loss of profit is the result.

Paragraph 12 refers to Government schools. There was a suggestion that they had not been developed as they should. I maintain that

schools have been astronomically developed in the postwar years, as is shown by the expenditure last year of over £19,000,000. It might be of interest to members if I refer to the report of the Auditor-General for the year ended June 30 last. It is not my claim, but there the facts are set out in a nutshell. The report states:

The net cost of the department to Consolidated Revenue was £19,357,000 compared with £17,164,000 in 1963, an increase of £2,193,000. There is also the statement that considering payments and receipts the net cost of the department to Consolidated Revenue for the year 1960 was £11,859,489. The increase in the net cost has been at the rate of £2,000,000 a year since that time. How can anyone say that the development of schools has not been progressive? For the year ended June 30, 1964, teachers' salaries cost £10,735,000, which was an increase of £1,097,000 or 11 per cent over the amount for 1962-63. The cost of training 4,995 students holding teaching scholarships or in training was £1,555,000, an increase of £149,000, or 11 per cent over the figure for the previous year when the number of students trained was 4,801. Payments for the conveyance of children to and from schools totalled £730,000, an increase of £74,000. At June 30, 1964, there were 583 buses serving 307 schools. The number of departmental buses was 199 and the balance operated under contract. Boarding and book allowances paid for students amounted to £596,000, a decrease of £10,000. Subsidies to parents' associations amounted to £213,000, an increase of £4,000 over the figure for the previous year. Debt charges on Loan funds expended on land, buildings and buses were £2,197,000, an increase of £288,000 over the figure for 1962-63. Payments by way of wages and allowances for cleaning of schools cost £582,000, an increase of £55,000.

The Auditor-General indicates that we have developed at a rate of 11 per cent, whereas the normal development and expansion is about 7 per cent. If that record can be beaten, I would like to know in which way, without pulling strings somewhere.

Paragraph 13 states that the Government will pursue an active policy with health services, including the planning of two new general hospitals and improvements in the care and treatment of the mentally ill. That is purely a statement of what the previous Government did, except that the present Government will do something "without delay". I know something of what is involved in establishing hospitals. Apart from planning and the

physical task of building, available finance and staffing are most important. That is a statement made from experience in developing services from an annual expenditure of about £600,000, the expenditure on health and hospitals when I assumed office, to an expenditure of £12,000,000 last year. A world war immediately followed the year in which expenditure was £600,000. The war continued for more than five years, during which time all the resources of the nation were directed to our survival against the aggressors. With the influx of displaced persons and the extensive migration programme after the war there came no contribution to the professional pool of nurses, because females were diverted to munition work. Our position was grim.

We have grown out of that delicate situation by improving conditions in hospitals and the accommodation for nurses, and providing increased facilities for training. These things are not done with the stroke of a pen, as was shown when The Queen Elizabeth Hospital was completed. It was brought into operation as trained staff became available. We were able to open a floor or half a floor at a time as we obtained staff, and we are still short of nursing staff. The worst sufferers in this regard are our country hospitals. The Royal Adelaide Hospital additions are under construction, and more staff and trainees will be required there. An extension of 300 beds at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital has been approved, and about 300 trained staff and nurses will be required for that hospital. The Port Augusta Hospital is due to be rebuilt now that the Port Lincoln Hospital has been rebuilt. The Port Augusta Hospital is the last of Government country hospitals that have been agitating for rebuilding for a long time, and the only reason why it has had to take a lower priority has been that Mount Gambier, Port Pirie and Port Lincoln urgently needed accommodation whereas Port Augusta with an old rambling building had accommodation even though it was outdated. As a result, its turn was last. I hope, Mr. Minister, this hospital will not miss out.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: It is on the boards.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: Good. It has been there a long time, but the plans have often been modified.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: I understand that it will go to the Public Works Committee at the end of this month or early next month.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I am pleased to hear that, as it has been waiting patiently for other hospitals to be completed.

A third teaching hospital was planned to be built in proximity to the new university at Bedford Park. The past Government had land for a hospital, but the Town Planner found it was convenient to take some of it away instead of taking other land for a future highway.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: The honourable member took some of ours once and we had to substitute another site!

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: The Minister is playing with the truth in saying he had to find a substitute site. Negotiations had been carried out for that land and the matter was waiting only on the first Cabinet meeting after the election. The Minister may have lost a week in approving, but it was negotiated for previously, and he had nothing to do with the search for it. He had only to approve the recommendation to purchase the land opposite the university at a cost of about £500,000. I advise the Minister to see that he does not lose it.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: The Highways Department had to find the land for a hospital in substitution for what was taken for the freeway.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I do not care about that. It is Government money, it was planned for, and it was awaiting approval. Is the building of a hospital near the new university to take precedence of and slow up work at the Royal Adelaide Hospital or The Queen Elizabeth Hospital, where buildings are required to establish several medical schools that will be necessary to meet requirements of the university? I say they are the first priority.

The Hon. C. D. Rowe: I think "defer" is the term.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: Then I will adopt it. At the end of my term of office the drawings were being made. The building operations at The Queen Elizabeth Hospital should be comparatively simple, as I was pleased and proud that all that was sought was a repetition of what was provided in the original building. The original building had not become out of date. All that some people can think of in these days is bulldozing a building and constructing something fresh. Apparently the building is satisfactory, and all that is necessary is a repetition of the existing building. I hope this will be done, as this is the type of thing which can be brought into operation with the least effect on the nursing strength and which will give the quickest results in relation to teaching.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: I can put the honourable member's mind at ease. I do not think there is any intention of upsetting any building arrangements of the hospitals.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I am pleased that the Minister has settled in on the good, sound foundation laid. However, I express regret that the Government has decided to stop the building of a hospital at Tea Tree Gully. Land was purchased and the first stage was approved. This stage covered the building of a hospital of 42 beds—some maternity and some general. The same procedure was followed in relation to the Lyell McEwin Hospital at Elizabeth, which was built in stages, and this year further wards are being added at a cost of £200,000. This hospital has developed into a very fine institution. The latest request made to me (and probably it has been made to the present Minister) was for a casualty section at that hospital.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: That is so.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: Casualty sections are not cheap or easy to run.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: They are very difficult.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I am glad the Minister realizes that. One cannot rush in and make a decision on this matter without going into it fully. That hospital has worked so satisfactorily that the matron who was there at the beginning is still there. Its design is different from that of any other hospital of its size in this State, but it was confirmed on my visit abroad by the Nuffield Research Organization that where there was sufficient area it was more economical to build horizontally than in the air.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: We could join issue not on the economics but on the suitability.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I think the horizontal design is both economical and suitable.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: I join issue regarding suitability.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: The suitability is evident because we get away from the institutional atmosphere when every nursing unit is distinct.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: It may be all right with a minicar to run around in.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: The Minister needs more experience in this matter. Scooters or small cars are needed in the larger hospitals that go up into the air and where long distances have to be covered. I have seen such a hospital in operation in Switzerland. One had to watch one's step or

be mowed down by nurses going along on scooters. Sometimes these scooters had outriggers, and they were a danger. In designing a pavilion-type building that extends horizontally, nurses do not leave, and nobody has any reason to go between the wards. Food, instead of being conveyed horizontally, is conveyed to the ward entrances, and it is there served out to patients. The only time that the nurses leave is when they are off duty. Anyway, it has worked satisfactorily and economically because building is proceeding as the demand grows and hospitals are growing with it. That is one big advantage from the point of view of outlay.

The provision in a single stage of a 500-bed hospital which is proposed as a Government hospital means that the State is providing hospitalization for a number of people that will not be required for many years if we accept all the figures quoted on the future population of the area, and it will be many years before there will be a demand for an institution of that size. The figures established upon investigations made by the Commonwealth Committee on Social Services back as far as 1943 were nine beds of all types, except mental, for each thousand people. Of course, you will not get every type in a general hospital, where the figure is about 5.5 beds a thousand—about four for general and 1.5 for maternity. That shows a hospital that is far bigger than the population to be catered for, and it would require an outlay of millions of pounds. When a Government starts to build a hospital the cost is about £10,000 a bed, and that adds up to big money.

Although I am pleased to have the assurance of the Chief Secretary on some matters I should like his further assurance on some other projects that are under way. I refer first to the Home for Incurables, where a new wing for 200 beds is being constructed which I think will require some £460,000 this year. Then there is the Queen Victoria Hospital with improved accommodation by 180 beds, plus accommodation for nurses, at an estimated grant of £700,000, and the Whyalla Hospital with accommodation to be increased by 100 beds at an estimated grant of £280,000. All of these projects add up to the substantial figure of over £1,400,000 for 1965/66. The additional accommodation provided will require a large number of nurses before it can function completely. As I mentioned earlier, getting a hospital in operation does result in money lying idle without earning interest and without use being made of it. The addition of these projects will make our hospital bed position com-

pare favourably with the optimum recommended by the committee established by the Commonwealth Health Services as that recommendation was nine beds for each 1,000 people in 1943.

According to the figures of the Commonwealth Department of Health we have now the figure of 8,661 beds, which does not include hospitals not enjoying hospital benefits such as the Morris Hospital, Kalyra, and others. It can be seen that the hospitals and projects mentioned have reached the optimum set down by the committee. Those figures were set down at a time when the case stay in hospital was longer than it is today. Patients today are not staying as long in hospital as they were at that time. Then the planning of the mental health services on a modern scale was well advanced with the provision of two training centres, one at Elanora and another at Strathmont. The psychiatric hospital at St. Corantyn was opened in January, the hospital at College Park has been opened, and considerable improvements have been made at Parkside and Northfield, where great advances have been made with occupational therapy. Dr. Cramond has more than justified his appointment from overseas and has spent much time in preparing plans for the modern developments taking place.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: I was at Parkside three weeks ago and the atmosphere was much better.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: Yes, there has been considerable improvement. I was always asking members of Parliament to go and visit it, but somehow there seemed to be a feeling that there is something there that most people would not like to see.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: I did not like the idea of going there, but I did.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: I don't think that there is any great sacrifice in doing that. Everybody is cheerful, and the old feeling of being walled in has gone. Now the patients are in an open park and it appears that everybody is happy. The best that can be done has been done while awaiting consideration of the plans being made. It has taken a long time for architects to develop the plans and for the Public Works Committee's inquiries. In fact, I think they thought that the plan was a little too luxurious. However, the plan is there, and I congratulate my successor on having the opportunity to go ahead with something really worthwhile.

Some reference was made to the Kent Town Occupational Therapy Centre yesterday. The answer is that the complaint made does not

embarrass me in any way as I know that it was raised with the Education Department. Had it not been for representations made then those children would not have been carried on until 20 years of age.

The Hon. D. H. L. Banfield: What do you do "after 20"?

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: The honourable member now has the opportunity of helping the Government do something about it.

The Hon. D. H. L. Banfield: And I will do that.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: Perhaps I have been speaking longer than advisable but I conclude by saying that I have pleasure in supporting the Address in Reply as drafted.

The Hon. C. C. D. OCTOMAN (Northern): I have much pleasure in supporting the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. I, too, consider that members are most appreciative of the dignified and able manner in which His Excellency the Governor opened this Parliament once more. Sir Edric and Lady Bastyan have endeared themselves to everyone in South Australia and particularly to people in the country. They have taken a keen and sustained interest in the lives and affairs of country people, and it is much appreciated by those who live far away. I join with other honourable members in expressing regret at the death during the past year of two sitting members, the Hon. K. E. J. Bardolph and Mr. Tapping, and three former members of Parliament. I express my sympathy to their families in their loss.

Since this Council last met, the death of the Right Honourable Sir Winston Churchill has occurred. Sir Winston was, without doubt, the greatest Englishman of modern times, and perhaps one of the greatest of all time. The free world is surely indebted to him for his leadership during the dark days of the war years. I also express sympathy to Her Majesty the Queen and the Royal Family in the loss sustained by the death of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal. The Princess Royal devoted a lifetime of service to many worthy causes. I thank the Hons. Mr. Kneebone and Sir Lyell McEwin for their congratulations and welcome to me as a new member of this Council.

I also refer to the retirement of two previous members of this Council for the Northern District—my immediate predecessors, the Hons. R. R. Wilson and W. W. Robinson. They have retired from Parliamentary, if not political, life. I pay a sincere tribute to these two

honourable gentlemen, and I use the term "honourable gentlemen" in its broadest sense. The Hon. Mr. Wilson was at one time a farmer and grazier at Yeelanna, adjacent to my own district. He was a leader in agriculture, not only in our area but in the State and the Commonwealth. He was a consistent winner of wheat crop competitions on Eyre Peninsula, and also won State wheat crop competitions and gained the highest awards for the best quality and highest grade wheat in Commonwealth competitions. His well-improved property at Yeelanna was a model even in the very hardest times in the 1930's. As a member for the Northern District in this Council he served the district faithfully and was a member of the Parliamentary Land Settlement Committee. This office must have been very near to his heart, combining his interest in the land with his interest in ex-Servicemen, whose welfare he promoted untiringly.

The Hon. Mr. Robinson, whose farming interests were at Crystal Brook, served the Northern District and the State no less faithfully. At the time of his retirement he was a member of the Public Works Standing Committee and his intimate knowledge of nearly every area of the State must have made him a most valuable member of that committee. Both these honourable gentlemen were, and still are, held in the highest regard throughout the Northern District and, I am sure, by honourable members of this Council. I trust that they both have many happy years of retirement ahead of them.

As one of the new members for the Northern District, I appreciate the difficult task I have in sustaining the high standard of service set by my predecessors who contributed much to the welfare and progress of the electoral district. The Northern District is vast in area and maintains a wide diversity of production. We have on the Upper Murray a wealth of horticultural production, and I am pleased to note that a move towards stabilized marketing of some products is being made. As a wheat-grower, I am appalled at the manner in which horticultural produce is marketed and would support any move for marketing improvement. The Hon. Mr. Story, I believe, intends to deal with horticulture; therefore, I leave this subject to his more expert knowledge of the problems involved.

In the Mid North and Upper North we have a vast primary producing area engaged in agriculture and animal production, where modern agricultural practices have greatly increased production in this fertile area. We

then shift westwards to Eyre Peninsula and the West Coast, where we are producing more and more cereals, wool and meat. It has been stated quite justifiably that an agricultural revolution is taking place on Eyre Peninsula. Conservative estimates are that at least 30,000 acres of new land is being cleared each year. Eyre Peninsula at present produces one-third of the State's wheat, and this percentage will rise. Wheat delivered during the last three years has averaged 15,000,000 bushels annually out of a State average of 45,000,000 bushels. Coming to lower Eyre Peninsula, we have Port Lincoln, known locally as the capital of Eyre Peninsula. It is a thriving port, through which a major portion of the cereals is exported. It is also the premier fishing port in South Australia, if not in Australia, and provides ancillary services in the form of superphosphate works, freezing works, fish canning works, and others.

The new hospital at Port Lincoln, to which the Hon. Sir Lyell McEwin referred and which he recently opened, will be of great benefit to that town and the whole district. There is, however, in Port Lincoln a severe shortage of Housing Trust rental houses available. Another requirement at Port Lincoln is improved wharf facilities needed for the use of the tuna fleet, which is reaching large proportions.

Of the industrial cities in the Northern District the story of Whyalla's rapid expansion has been told too often for me to repeat. However, I found it was interesting to attend the official opening of the steelworks at this centre, and I am sure that all who attended were amazed at the magnitude of this undertaking. Whyalla is a classic example of decentralization made possible by the availability of natural resources. The growth of the industries—blast furnaces, steel and shipbuilding—at Whyalla is of immense importance to Eyre Peninsula, providing a local market for produce, particularly meat. It is of even greater importance to the economy of this State and to Australia.

Port Augusta, at the head of Spencer Gulf, is also growing in importance as the reticulation of electricity spreads further and further to our cities, country towns and throughout the rural areas from that centre. The extension of power lines from Port Augusta to Whyalla and eventually to Port Lincoln is a major step forward, because this will mean that the whole of Eyre Peninsula will be connected to the State grid. At the moment, it is connected only to a grid operating independently from Port

Lincoln. The new work of extending power lines to remote areas gives the people an amenity to which they are justly entitled. Port Pirie continues to play an important role in the treatment of ore from Broken Hill, and the new works soon to be established there will give the city a place of even greater importance.

Paragraph 14 of the Opening Speech deals with road works. Being such a vast and widespread area, and with production so diversified, it is natural that transport plays a major part in the development and welfare of the Northern District. Much of the area is not served by rail and, therefore, roads are an ever-present problem. The sealing of the Eyre Highway provides a link between the western districts and the mainland, as well as inter-town links. The forming of Main Road 42 from Yeelanna to Kyancutta in preparation for sealing will give these districts a much needed improvement. Unfortunately, due no doubt to the distances involved, progress on the Flinders Highway from Port Lincoln to Ceduna has been slow. The road has been sealed from Port Lincoln to Warrow and preliminary work has been done as far as Mount Hope. Having travelled over this highway several times during the past few weeks I know that sections of it between Mount Hope and Streaky Bay are in a shocking state. Towns between Port Lincoln and Streaky Bay rely solely on the road transport that uses this highway. For instance, all barley produced between Streaky Bay and Port Lincoln is, of necessity, hauled by road to Port Lincoln, and this is in addition to the normal heavy road freights of general cargo. It is an urgent necessity that something be done regarding improvements to this road. In addition to the highways on Eyre Peninsula, there are several lateral roads that need attention. I am sure this improvement must come about when the main highways have been completed.

Paragraph 8 relates to the co-ordination of transport and states that the Government's policy is to encourage the use of public transport to the greatest possible extent. Encouragement is an admirable thing, but coercion into using public transport is another matter. To coerce the public into using public transport would be a deplorable misuse of power. Time and time again we have seen bureaucratic controls stifle enterprise.

Paragraph 12 states that consideration will be given to increasing the allowances paid to teachers college students. I support this move wholeheartedly, because I believe that under the present scale of allowances country

students at teachers colleges who pay board (as nearly all of them are obliged to do), are at a serious disadvantage compared with metropolitan students living at home. Another aspect of education not generally appreciated is agricultural education. Agriculture has reached a stage where expert technological advice is a necessity for those engaged in this occupation. In order to appreciate this advice and to apply it intelligently to farming practice it is necessary to have at least a basic knowledge of the principles of agricultural science. Few of our area schools provide courses in agricultural science. Roseworthy Agricultural College provides the principal source of advanced agricultural education. The Leaving certificate is necessary for entry to Roseworthy College and, even then, more students apply for enrolment than can be accommodated at the college. Under the efficient direction of Mr. Herriott, Roseworthy has introduced a 3-year course incorporating farm management and agricultural economics. However, the educational standard required for entry and the capacity of the college still leave a big gap to be filled for those boys not continuing to Leaving standard but who require a basic general education in agricultural principles. A large percentage of our future farm owners and managers are leaving school without having the advantage of any training whatever in agricultural science, and a wide field is open here for investigation by the Education Department.

Paragraph 10 deals with policies in agriculture and states that research facilities will be provided. I support action to increase research and to provide an extension of advisory services by the Agriculture Department. The provision and equipping of the Northfield Research Centre will be of great benefit to the State agriculturally. I commend the valuable work being performed by individual officers of the Agriculture Department, very often far beyond the bounds of their duties. They are dedicated to their profession and the farming community is extremely grateful to them.

In connection with primary production, and the cereal-growing industry in particular, I refer to the bulk handling of grain. We have heard a little about this over the last two days. I am interested in the subject because I have been connected closely with the bulk handling of grain for several years, until the end of last month. As honourable members are aware,

an Act was passed in 1955 granting a charter to South Australian Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited for the bulk handling of wheat. Since that time the Act has been amended to give the company the sole right to receive, in addition to wheat, barley in bulk. In 1955 the average annual production of wheat in this State was about 28,000,000 bushels, and it was expected that it would take 12 years to provide bulk storage for this quantity of grain. It was envisaged that the necessary income would come from tolls paid by wheat-growers and the raising of a £1,000,000 loan. The State Government agreed to guarantee one-half of this loan from the Commonwealth Bank. Following the erection of the first silos, bulk handling became so popular that the few installations available were unable to cope with all wheat being presented for delivery. Therefore, another £1,000,000 was borrowed from the Commonwealth Bank, the State again guaranteeing one-half of the loan and the building programme from 1960 onwards for the erection of silos was greatly accelerated. The target of 28,000,000 bushels storage was reached in seven years, although it had been anticipated that that target would take 12 years to reach. However, the 28,000,000 bushels average in 1955 has risen dramatically and the State's average deliveries for the past three years has been about 50,000,000 bushels.

It is to the everlasting credit of South Australian wheatgrowers that they have been prepared to pay tolls towards the erection of silos, even though in many cases they themselves had no bulk facilities available. At present the company has over 25,000 members. It has raised loan moneys totalling £3,480,000. Of this amount £2,000,000 has been allocated to bulk storages for wheat and £1,480,000 for barley and oats. Of course, this aggregate amount of £3,480,000 is not still standing to the debit of the company, as agreed rates of repayment of principal and interest have been adhered to. At March 31 last the company's overdraft stood at about £1,500,000. Due to the revolving system of finance incorporated in the Articles of Association of the company the growers will receive refunds of tolls 12 years after the formation of the company. Therefore, in 1968 growers will be refunded one-twelfth of their toll contributions to the fund, and this will take place each year thereafter. As toll income alone is nearly £1,200,000 annually, it will be appreciated that the company is in a sound financial position to meet commitments for refunds of loan moneys and

of tolls, and at the same time to continue with the remainder of the silo-building programme. I have a schedule listing silo locations and capacities in the respective zones of this State, together with a summary of total State storage capacity, toll contributions, and capital employed. I am sure this would be of interest

to honourable members. I seek leave to have it incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading it.

The PRESIDENT: I point out to honourable members that I have seen the schedule, which is in order.

Leave granted.

SILOS CONSTRUCTED OR APPROVED BY S.A. CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LTD. TO 31/1/65  
FOR CONSTRUCTION IN 1965.

ZONE 1.

	Capacity.	
	Wheat.	Barley.
<i>Port Lincoln Division—</i>		
Port Lincoln Terminal Silo (3) . . . . .	2,300,000	540,000
Cummins . . . . .	330,000	
Yeelanna (2) . . . . .	330,000	625,000
Murdinga . . . . .	240,000	
Lock (2) . . . . .	440,000	240,000
Warramboe . . . . .	330,000	
Wudinna . . . . .	330,000	
Buckleboo (2) . . . . .	480,000	
Kimba (2) . . . . .	880,000	
Kyancutta . . . . .	330,000	
Waddikee . . . . .	330,000	
Darke Peak . . . . .	330,000	
Rudall (2) . . . . .	440,000	370,000
Mangalo . . . . .	240,000	
Cowell . . . . .	330,000	
Arno Bay . . . . .	240,000	
Wharminda . . . . .	330,000	
Ungarra . . . . .	330,000	
	8,560,000	1,775,000
<i>Thevenard Division—</i>		
Minnipa . . . . .	330,000	
Poochera . . . . .	330,000	
Witera . . . . .	330,000	
Wirrulla . . . . .	330,000	
Nunjikompita . . . . .	110,000	
Streaky Bay . . . . .	240,000	
Thevenard Terminal Silo (2) . . . . .	1,300,000	
Penong . . . . .	110,000	
	3,080,000	
<i>Emergency Storage—</i>		
Port Lincoln . . . . .	500,000	
Thevenard . . . . .	500,000	
	1,000,000	
Total wheat storage . . . . .	12,640,000	
Total barley storage . . . . .		1,775,000
Total oats storage . . . . .	555,000	
	14,970,000	
Total capacity . . . . .	14,970,000	



## ZONE 2.

	Capacity.	
	Wheat.	Barley.
<i>Walleroo Division—</i>		
Walleroo Terminal Silo (3) .. . . . . .	2,860,000	540,000
Bute (2) .. . . . . .	600,000	500,000
Snowtown .. . . . . .	600,000	
Blyth .. . . . . .	600,000	
Brinkworth .. . . . . .	600,000	
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	5,260,000	1,040,000
<i>Port Pirie Division—</i>		
Port Pirie Terminal Silo (2) .. . . . . .	2,200,000	
Redhill .. . . . . .	330,000	
Gulnare .. . . . . .	440,000	
Gladstone .. . . . . .	440,000	
Wirrabara .. . . . . .	240,000	
Melrose .. . . . . .	110,000	
Wilmington .. . . . . .	110,000	
Quorn .. . . . . .	110,000	
Orroroo .. . . . . .	110,000	
Booloroo Centre .. . . . . .	660,000	
Yongala .. . . . . .	240,000	
Jamestown .. . . . . .	240,000	
Caltowie .. . . . . .	240,000	
	<hr/>	
	5,470,000	
<i>Port Adelaide Division—</i>		
Andrews (2) .. . . . . .	220,000	
Hallett .. . . . . .	110,000	
Burra .. . . . . .	110,000	
Farrell Flat .. . . . . .	330,000	
Robertstown .. . . . . .	330,000	
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	1,100,000	
Emergency storage .. . . . . .	900,000	
Temporary storage .. . . . . .	550,000	
Mill storage .. . . . . .	20,000	
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	1,470,000	
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Total wheat storage .. . . . . .	13,300,000	
Total barley storage .. . . . . .		1,040,000
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Total capacity .. . . . . .	14,340,000	

## ZONE 3.

	Capacity.	
	Wheat.	Barley.
<i>Ardrossan Division—</i>		
Ardrossan Terminal Silo (2) .. . . . . .	2,150,000	400,000
<i>Walleroo Division—</i>		
Paskeville .. . . . . .	320,000	
Nantawarra .. . . . . .	440,000	
Balaklava .. . . . . .	600,000	
Hoyleton .. . . . . .	370,000	
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	1,730,000	

*Port Adelaide Division—*

Owen . . . . .	400,000	370,000
Long Plains . . . . .	240,000	
Mallala . . . . .	330,000	
Hamley Bridge . . . . .	240,000	
Saddleworth . . . . .	330,000	
Tarlee . . . . .	240,000	
Eudunda . . . . .	110,000	
Stockwell . . . . .	240,000	
Kapunda . . . . .	240,000	
Roseworthy . . . . .	240,000	
Cambrai (2) . . . . .	220,000	
Apamurra (2) . . . . .	220,000	
Monarto South . . . . .	110,000	
Strathalbyn . . . . .	110,000	
Port Adelaide Terminal Silo . . . . .	1,100,000	1,100,000
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	4,370,000	1,470,000
Emergency storage . . . . .	300,000	
Mill storage . . . . .	400,000	
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	700,000	
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Total wheat storage . . . . .	8,950,000	
Total barley storage . . . . .	1,870,000	
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Total capacity . . . . .	<u>10,820,000</u>	

## ZONE 4.

<i>Port Adelaide Division—</i>	Capacity.		
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.
Geranium . . . . .	240,000		
Lameroo (2) . . . . .	440,000	500,000	
Parilla . . . . .	240,000		
Pinnaroo . . . . .	440,000		
Peebinga . . . . .	110,000		
Gurrai . . . . .	110,000		
Karoonda . . . . .	110,000	550,000	
Galga . . . . .	110,000		
Copeville . . . . .	110,000		
Wanbi . . . . .	110,000		
Alawoona . . . . .	110,000		
Meribah . . . . .	240,000		
Taldra . . . . .	240,000		
Paringa . . . . .	110,000		
Loxton . . . . .	240,000		
Wunkar . . . . .	240,000		
Waikerie . . . . .	110,000		
Keith (2) . . . . .	110,000		100,000
Bordertown (2) . . . . .	330,000		100,000
Wolseley (2) . . . . .	240,000		100,000
Frances (2) . . . . .	110,000		100,000
Cannawigara . . . . .			100,000
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	4,100,000	1,050,000	500,000
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Total wheat storage . . . . .	4,100,000		
Total barley storage . . . . .	1,050,000		
Total oats storage . . . . .	500,000		
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Total capacity . . . . .	<u>5,650,000</u>		

## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CO-OPERATIVE BULK HANDLING LIMITED.

*Disposition of Silos, Bulk Grain Storage and Summary of Toll Receipts and Capital Expenditure.*

Zone.	Silos.			Storage.	Tolls received to 31/3/65. £	Capital expenditure. £
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.			
1 .. .. .	29	4	3	14,970,000		3,563,854
2 .. .. .	25	2	—	14,340,000		3,040,553
3 .. .. .	23	2	—	10,820,000		2,660,227
4 .. .. .	21	2	5	5,650,000		1,372,929
	98	10	8	45,780,000	£5,846,953	£10,637,563

*Bushels Storage Space.*

Wheat .. . . .	38,990,000
Barley .. . . .	5,735,000
Oats .. . . .	1,055,000
	<u>45,780,000</u>

The Hon. C. C. D. OCTOMAN: The cost of the erection of silos, although rising like most other costs, is still satisfactory. The smallest of the concrete vertical silos—that is, of 110,000-bushel capacity—has involved a capital outlay of an average of 6s. 2d. a bushel; the 240,000-bushel silos an average of 5s. a bushel; and the 330,000-bushel silos an average of 4s. 3d. a bushel. The total State storage of 45,780,000 bushels, involving a capital expenditure of £10,637,563, gives an overall cost of 4s. 8d. a bushel. This cost compares more than favourably with the cost of bulk grain handling authorities in other States.

I am sure that I am supported by directors and members of the company in expressing appreciation to honourable members on both sides of this Chamber for their past support of this enterprise. However, I have two criticisms to make, and I refer first to the Bulk Handling of Grain Act, 1955-1964. It has always been the practice of the company to seek the approval of the Minister of Agriculture to erect silos at particular places and of particular design. Recently, approval was sought for the erection of a silo at Appila, which is the centre of a productive wheat-growing area. Incidentally, it was the first rejection that the company had had. In rejecting the proposal the Minister said that it was Government policy that approval would not be granted for silos to be erected in locations off the rail system. I contend that the Minister has no authority under the Act to reject silo locations. Section 14 (1) clearly states that the company shall erect bulk-handling facilities at each terminal port and at a sufficient number of railway stations, rail-

way sidings, and depots. Section 14 (3) provides:

The company shall not erect a country bin unless the design and materials of such bin have been approved by the Minister.

Nowhere in this Act has the Minister power to prohibit the erection of silos at any particular location; the Act gives authority to the Minister only to approve or reject the design and materials.

Secondly, there is a need for up-to-date rail waggons for moving bulk grain. This could be achieved either by the present bulk grain trucks being equipped with end doors, so that end tipping could be practised, or by providing rail trucks with self-emptying hopper bottoms. With the present side-door openings, heavy manual labour is involved in clearing grain from trucks either with Clarke power shovels or with manually manoeuvred sweeps. The late Mr. O'Halloran said in another place, when supporting the Bulk Handling of Grain Act, that men's backs were made for better things than carrying bags of wheat. The present sweeps and power shovels are no less arduous. With self-emptying trucks heavy manual labour would be eliminated and a quicker turn-round of trucks could be effected. To be efficient, our railways must progress with the times.

In conclusion, I thank honourable members on both sides of this Chamber and members of the staff for their help and consideration to me as a new member.

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

## ADJOURNMENT.

At 4.22 p.m. the Council adjourned until Thursday, May 20, at 2.15 p.m.