

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday, August 24, 1966.

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

QUESTIONS

PESTICIDES.

The Hon. H. K. KEMP: Has the Chief Secretary an answer to the question I asked recently regarding pesticides?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: The answer is as follows:

Flora and fauna conservation authorities in all States are aware of the possible dangers of the widespread use of agricultural chemicals to wild life, and have investigated the occasional reports of suspected lethal effects on non-target species. The investigation of the sub-lethal and lethal effects of agricultural chemicals on wild life, and the collection of data thereon, is such a wide field requiring a considerable technical and analytical staff that it is generally agreed that complete investigations are beyond the resources, facilities and manpower available in any one State. There are, therefore, moves under way for a co-ordination of all activities in the control and use of pesticides throughout the Commonwealth, with the aim of the introduction of uniform legislation covering all aspects, including their effects on wild life. The following authorities are concerned in some measure with the use of pesticides:

1. The National Health and Medical Research Council has sub-committees concerned with pesticide residues in food and the pesticide aspects of occupational health.
2. The Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry has a committee of Commonwealth and State analysts dealing with analytical and residue problems and is proposing to set up a co-ordinating Commonwealth-States committee to be concerned with and co-ordinate all aspects of the use of pesticides in Australia.
3. The Agricultural Council has committees concerned with reducing residues in export products.
4. An Australian fauna conference, to be held early in 1967, will be discussing this problem on a national level.

In view of the existing co-operation between the States and the Commonwealth on all aspects of the control and use of agricultural chemicals, it would seem that a separate investigation by the Zoology Department of the University of Adelaide is unwarranted at this stage. The appropriate committees will no doubt find it appropriate to seek the advice and assistance of this department of the university as the occasion requires.

WATER STORAGEES.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Has the Minister of Labour and Industry, representing the Minister of Works, an answer to the question I asked last week regarding water storages?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: The Minister of Works has forwarded the following report, which was supplied by the Director and Engineer-in-Chief:

In Parliament on August 18, the Hon. M. B. Dawkins requested information regarding how the storage in certain reservoirs in and adjacent to the metropolitan area compared with the figures for last year. In the following table I have shown the quantity of water stored in these reservoirs on August 23, 1965, and August 23, 1966, together with the capacity of each reservoir. It will be seen that, for the nine reservoirs referred to, the total storage this year is slightly lower than it was at the same time last year.

Reservoirs.	Capacity.	Storage	Storage
		23/8/65.	23/8/66.
		(In millions of gallons)	
Mount Bold ..	10,440	5,812	6,535
Happy Valley ..	2,804	2,825	1,924
Myponga	5,905	3,260	3,243
Millbrook	3,647	1,391	2,601
Hope Valley ..	765	678	713
Thorndon Park	142	125	106
Barossa	993	849	732
South Para ..	11,300	6,945	4,564
Warren	1,401	427	1,083
	37,397	22,312	21,501

GUM TREES.

The Hon. C. M. HILL: Can the Minister of Roads say whether he intends to take any further action to prevent the destruction of the gum trees on Montacute Road, Campbelltown, and, if he does not, can he give his main reasons for not taking any further action in this matter in view of the public outcry?

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: I deprecate some of the comments that have been made in relation to this question, especially the comment that a Minister is only a "rubber stamp" anyhow and does what his department desires him to do. This does not apply as far as my Ministry is concerned. Members in this Chamber know that I will at no time act as a "rubber stamp" in relation to these trees. I am well aware of the public controversy regarding the trees, and I have before me some of the objections that have been forwarded to me in regard to the removal of the trees. Because of the accusations that have been made, and because of the objections being raised, I telephoned the Commissioner of Highways at 9 a.m. last Monday week and instructed that no further work be done on that section

of the road until I had had an opportunity to inspect the road and to decide what was the best thing to do with the trees. I did not have an opportunity of doing this before last Friday morning. I contacted the Commissioner of Highways and informed him that I was going out early in the morning to have an opportunity of seeing the traffic there in a peak period.

I was accompanied by the Commissioner of Highways. Montacute Road has been widened to a four-lane highway up to the commencement of the avenue of gum trees referred to; then it contracts to a very narrow two-lane highway. I am quite convinced that as regards the traffic I saw passing to and fro—heavy commercial vehicles, motor cars and public transport—Montacute Road, contrary to opinions expressed by various people that it is adequate to carry such traffic, is not adequate. I contradict those opinions without any hesitation. If we are honest with ourselves we must admit that this section of the road is inadequate to carry the volume of traffic using it. In addition to that, these gum trees are right on the edge of the road. There is no footpath, and pedestrians desiring to go shopping or attend to other business must walk on the road. At the moment this road is so narrow where it has the two lanes that it is necessary for a motorist attempting to pass even children on bicycles to pull over towards the opposite side of the road. This means that a portion of such an overtaking vehicle will be travelling on the wrong side of the road. So, if a motorist attempts to overtake a commercial vehicle or a bus, we can imagine what the result will be if he is completely on the wrong side of the road. This applies to traffic travelling both ways.

In addition to that, at present 252 pupils attend the Newton school, that being about half the capacity of the school, its full capacity being about 450 to 480 children. Of those 252 children, about 100 have to cross Montacute Road to get to the school. They live in the areas on the northern side of the road and must cross the road to get to school. Many of these children are escorted by their mothers. I spoke to some of these mothers about the trees, and not one of them told me she considered the trees should remain. The mothers I spoke to told me that they had to escort their children to school and back home again because it was too dangerous to allow them to walk across the road on their own. That is a fact. These gum trees are right on the edge of the road, and a motorist has no

opportunity of seeing a child coming from behind the gum trees and attempting to cross the road to go to the school. Also, a child has no opportunity whatsoever of seeing an approaching motorist until it steps out from behind the gum trees. Immediately the child does that it is on the road. On three occasions during the short period I was there (from 8.15 till about 9.45 a.m.) motorists violently braked their cars to miss children who had stepped out from behind the gum trees into the path of the approaching cars. If a child happened to be hit there, naturally the outcry would be against the motorist, but it is absolutely impossible for a motorist to see a child. Alternative schemes have been suggested, one of them being that the road should deviate around the trees, passing to the north of them, which would mean that we would take over part of the Newton school ground. The oval and playing area would be affected. Also, on the eastern side of the school considerable development has taken place. The houses there are privately owned, and they have recently been constructed. The Government would have to acquire these houses, which have been built for no longer than 12 months, if this suggestion were adopted. I pointed this out on Friday morning to the person who suggested that this was where the road should go.

It was also suggested that the gum trees should be left and that the properties on the northern side of the road should be acquired. On the northern side about three houses would be involved and, although the rest of the land has not been built on, it, too, would have to be acquired. A deviation could be made by leaving the road with two lanes for down traffic and having a two-lane deviation for up traffic, leaving the gum trees in the middle of a four-lane highway. This, however, is not conducive to road safety and it does not obviate the problem of the safety of schoolchildren, as the view of the motorist and of the children would still be obscured by the trees.

With the co-operation of the Education Department, the school entrance, which is on the western end of the school property, is to be removed and placed further up, and a pedestrian crossing and flashing lights will be installed. It has been suggested that the flashing lights can be placed overhead and that the trees can thereby be retained, but if that were done the lights would not be visible to the motorists. If lights are installed, the gum trees must be removed.

It has also been suggested that the entrance to the school should be on the eastern boundary, but the children would still have to cross the road to get to the school. I have examined all matters relating to this, and the only practical thing that can be done is for footpaths to be provided for the people to walk on and for the trees to be removed. There must be a road capable of taking the volume of traffic now using it; and this will increase in future. As I have said publicly before, and I repeat it, the life of one child is worth more to me than all the gum trees in this avenue. If these were the only trees in the vicinity, I would concede that perhaps there was a case for their retention.

The PRESIDENT: I think the Minister has answered the question. If he wants to make a Ministerial statement, he is welcome to do so.

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: I have little more to say, Mr. President. I have given this matter my full consideration, and as a result I have no intention at this stage of reversing my decision. I am satisfied. However, I have given a written instruction that if it is possible to save any of these trees they must remain.

WATERLOO CORNER ACCIDENT.

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

Leave granted.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I am sure that every honourable member who read this morning's paper was shocked at the tragic accident at the Waterloo Corner crossing, which is the intersection of Main Road No. 410, which leads to Angle Vale, and the road from Salisbury to Waterloo Corner. As I travel over this intersection every time I come to Parliament House, I know something about it. There has been yet another accident at the intersection, which is completely open and well sign-posted. It seems to me that apparently drivers become more careless when intersections are completely open. Will the Minister consider the possibility of providing a lower speed limit sign at the intersection, or the possibility of providing "stop" signs? I know that there are "give way" signs at the intersection, but I believe the public are more educated to "stop" signs than to "give way" signs. In view of the tragic happening yesterday and previous tragedies at the intersection, will the Minister ask his department to further consider measures designed to minimize accidents at the intersection?

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: I, too, was shocked to read of the tragic happening at the intersection yesterday. This morning I tried to get a report regarding the accident and the cause of it. However, at present nobody seems to be clear about the circumstances. I will have a full investigation made regarding safety measures at the intersection, and I assure the honourable member that I shall be only too happy to do all that can be done to make it safer.

APPRENTICES TRADE SCHOOLS.

The Hon. F. J. POTTER: Has the Minister of Labour and Industry an answer to a question I asked on July 20 regarding apprentices in trade schools?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: Yes. As the honourable member remarked when he asked this question, attendance at apprentice trade schools during the fourth and fifth years is voluntary for most apprentices. Therefore, if they are not attending during those years, it appears that the remedy is primarily in the hands of the employers. However, I remind the honourable member that figures taken out of their context often present a false impression, and that to assess trends it is necessary to examine the statistics over a period of years. The facts are that first year enrolments of apprentices at trade schools fell sharply in 1962, following a recession in the general economic situation. The number of enrolments in that year was 263 fewer than in the previous year and, whilst the total number of apprentices attending school has increased in each subsequent year, it is obvious that the smaller intake in 1962 is reflected in the figures cited by the honourable member for the year 1965.

I assure him that the drop in the percentage of fourth and fifth year apprentices between those years is a perfectly natural and inevitable result of the low intake in 1962. However, the Superintendent of Technical Schools has stated that this year there has been a substantial increase in the number of apprentices attending fourth and fifth year classes. The figures for the years 1961 to 1966 are as follows:

Apprentices attending trade schools.		
Year.	Number of first year apprentices.	Increase or decrease over previous year.
1961	1,862	+ 85
1962	1,599	-263
1963	2,155	+556
1964	2,309	+154
1965	2,453	+144
1966	2,686	+233

Year.	Number of fourth and fifth year apprentices.	Percentage of total apprentices.
1961	449	8.6
1962	473	8.9
1963	525	8.9
1964	829	12.1
1965	628	8.3
1966	834	10.1

I am confident that the situation will improve further when the effects of amendments to the Apprentices Act, and the results of the promotional campaign being undertaken by the recently appointed Apprenticeship Commission, become evident. I take this opportunity to appeal to employers to encourage their apprentices to complete these additional years of training and to give them every facility to do so.

GOVERNMENT DEFICIT.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: I ask leave to make a statement prior to asking a question of the Chief Secretary.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: The Attorney-General said in a recent broadcast that, by running a deficit, the Government had ensured that the State had kept a high level of employment. He also said that not to have run a deficit would have meant a reduction in employment. Will the Chief Secretary inform the Council in which avenues of State expenditure the Government has consciously overspent with the idea of stimulating employment?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I shall refer the honourable member's question to the appropriate Minister and endeavour to obtain the information.

LAW OF PROPERTY ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 17. Page 1107.)

The Hon. C. M. HILL (Central No. 2): I support the Bill and commend it, because it satisfies a need that exists in the community to help married people between the ages of 18 and 21 who wish to borrow money on mortgage for the purpose of purchasing houses in which to live. Previously, these people had to go to considerable expense and inconvenience if they wanted to have their own names on titles and to act as mortgagors and borrow money for this purpose.

It always seemed a great pity that these people had to get an order of the court to

enable them to borrow money, because of the expense and inconvenience involved. This measure will enable them to borrow from certain specified lending authorities for that purpose. In these days people tend to marry in the age group of, say, 19 onwards. There are many examples of the wife being under 21 and the husband over 21.

In the past they have had to buy a family home and place the property in the husband's name, wait until such time as the wife has reached 21, so that half of the husband's interest can be transferred to the wife. Unfortunately, expense comes into the picture, because the transfer of half an interest involves stamp duty being paid on half the value of the property. The amount of money involved in cases like that can well be about \$60 to \$80, which is an unfortunate state of affairs.

There have been cases, too, where people have married whilst both the husband and wife have been under 21. Their predicament can well be imagined. This measure will enable them to borrow from the particular authorities that lend for the specific purpose of home loans. By "home loans", I refer to long-term mortgages at very moderate rates of interest. These young people, in many instances, buy new homes in the outer suburbs. The purchase price is probably about \$9,000. They borrow from these lending institutions sums of about \$7,000, which means that they have an equity of about \$2,000 to put down by way of deposit.

The Bill gives careful protection to these people by stipulating the authorities from which loans can be sought but, unfortunately, because of this it will not assist as many people as I should like to see helped. When one weighs up points for and against an extension of the number of authorities, one runs into considerable risk because the situation apparent today is that some young people do not have the \$2,000 deposit and must borrow some of the balance by way of second mortgage. We all know that this entails the payment of high interest rates.

This can easily go to the extreme, and young people can over-commit themselves by borrowing more than they can afford to borrow. In some instances they come into contact with money-lending institutions that charge rates that are unreasonably high, even for this kind of lending. Some people might suffer if this section of the Bill is further extended. While it is prudent to be careful on this point at present, it may well be that in the future

we might have to further consider the matter and still endeavour to protect young people as much as we possibly can.

We might give some consideration to extending the list of institutions and permitting young people to borrow a limited amount on second mortgage, so that, at least, they can obtain their homes. Of course, there will be some people who could well afford to do that and repay money borrowed on second mortgage, but they will not be able to do it under this measure.

There is further protection, in that mortgages will not be able to be taken from private lenders, and in this category I refer mainly to vendors of house properties. There have been some examples where owners of houses, finding difficulty in selling the properties because the purchasers have not been able to obtain satisfactory finance, have tended to offer their properties at fairly high valuations and carry themselves the amount over and above the deposit offered by the buyers.

In this connection prices have been unreasonably high. In this measure young people are prohibited from borrowing from this kind of lender, and in that way we are giving some protection. It will mean that these young people will not be able to borrow on temporary mortgage. In 99 out of 100 cases temporary mortgages are obtained from finance companies at fairly high interest rates. Nevertheless, the banking institutions permit names to be listed with them of people who intend to marry within a few years. In this way the waiting period for these young people is taken up prior to their marriage, so that when they are married their loans will be available to them. From the point of view of temporary finance being restricted by this measure, some harm is being done.

Another feature of the Bill is worthy of comment. It is indicative of the help that will be given to young people who are thrifty, and whom we particularly want to help. They are the people who are prepared to put money aside for the purpose of buying their own houses. In putting this money aside, they are not spending it on matters far less worthy than the purchase of houses.

By this measure we are tending to assist those who will be helped by the Commonwealth homes savings grant scheme. Under it, if young people save \$1,500 they may be given a grant of \$500. On these figures they would obtain the necessary \$2,000 to which I have referred earlier. Honourable members know

that that scheme is administered by the Commonwealth Department of Housing and that it encourages thrift among young people who approach their married life in a sound manner. People who take that step and who jointly save for the purpose of buying a house, and yet marry under the age of 21 are able, under the Bill, to go to the banking institutions and enter into mortgages, which they were not able to do before.

Although the legislation will not help as many as I should like to see helped, I think that it goes far enough at present, and that it will prove a great boon to young people. I am sure that those who will be assisted by it will be extremely careful. I congratulate the Hon. Mr. Potter upon his initiative and practical approach, and his obvious desire to help young people. I hope that that obvious desire will be further evidenced by the measure passing in this Chamber. I support the Bill.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS (Southern): I offer my congratulations to the Hon. Mr. Potter on introducing a measure that will fulfil a very important need in our community. As has been explained, the Bill allows minors over the age of 18 to enter into contracts to obtain loans to purchase or erect a dwelling-house for their own occupation. We realize that previously a minor could purchase a block of land and the parent or guardian could accept it on behalf of the minor; but, having got that far, the minor could not do very much about building a house on it. There are, of course, provisos to the contracts that minors may make. One of them is that the money to be borrowed to build or purchase a dwelling for his occupation can be borrowed only from a specified institution. Some of the figures given by the Hon. Mr. Potter in his second reading explanation are illuminating. For instance, it is interesting to know that in South Australia in 1965, 1,260 males and about 3,000 females were married under the age of 21, and that more women marry under the age of 21 than marry between the ages of 21 and 24. This probably points to the fact that there is in our community at present an increasing number of people under the age of 21 getting married.

The need for this measure is particularly important when we consider that in some legislation in this State we go out of our way to encourage people to own houses under a joint tenancy. Many of our Statutes provide benefits and assistance to husband and wife who enter into a joint tenancy. The fact that in many marriages the male is over 21 years of

age and the female is under 21 makes this legislation so important, for it will allow our concept of joint tenancy to begin earlier in the marriage; and, not only that, it will save expense in the alteration of a title when one of the partners reaches the age of 21. I congratulate the Hon. Mr. Potter on bringing forward this measure, which will meet an important need in our community. I support the second reading.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN (Leader of the Opposition): I do not wish to prolong this debate but I think the importance of this legislation is such that the Hon. Mr. Potter should be complimented on introducing it. It does not provide perhaps anything much greater than can be accomplished now by different methods, but it means that it can in future be done more economically for the individual concerned. The protection hitherto given to borrowers through their parents will not be required in the same way now, but other protective measures are taken to protect the borrowers by means of a limitation imposed on the lending authorities. It will avoid the later expense, when minors reach the age of 21, of having to spend further money on getting titles transferred to their own names. Like the Hon. Mr. DeGaris, I was interested in the figures given by the Hon. Mr. Potter. They show the present-day tendency towards early marriages, particularly where women are concerned, more women, apparently, marrying between the ages of 18 and 21 than between the ages of 21 and 24. However, in the case of males those marrying between 18 and 21 are only one-third the number of those marrying between 21 and 24. That indicates the importance of this legislation and what it will mean in dollars and cents to young people. It will be a tremendous advantage to those who marry before reaching the age of 21, so I am happy to support it. We are grateful to the Hon. Mr. Potter for his initiative in introducing it.

Bill read a second time.

In Committee.

Clauses 1 and 2 passed.

Clause 3—"Certain contracts with infants for the repayment of loans to be valid."

The Hon. F. J. POTTER: Before moving a few drafting amendments, I should like to thank honourable members who have spoken in this debate for their commendation. I agree that this Bill is important and am pleased that I introduced it at this stage. I also express my thanks to the Registrar-General,

Mr. Dean Collins, who was kind enough to assist me with these minor drafting amendments. I move:

In new section 24a (1) (d) after "advanced" second occurring to insert "to the infant"; and after "assurance" to insert "company or".

Amendments carried.

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

In new section 24a (2) after "contract" third occurring to insert "or any".

This amendment anticipates another amendment to insert "to any such infant" after "assignment"; and I shall move a consequential amendment. This amendment clarifies the position: the infant will then not be able to repudiate any transfer of the land in the first place. It is a necessary drafting amendment.

Amendment carried.

The Hon. F. J. POTTER moved:

In new section 24a (2) after "assignment" to insert "to any such infant" and to strike out "any such infant" and insert "him"; and in new section 24a (4) (d) to strike out "any" second occurring and insert "an".

Amendments carried.

The Hon. F. J. POTTER: In new section 24a (2) "assignment" is spelt incorrectly and in new section 24a (4) (d) "registrable" is spelt incorrectly.

The CHAIRMAN: I shall make those corrections.

Clause as amended passed.

Title passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

SUPPLY BILL (No. 2).

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

Second reading.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD (Chief Secretary): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

It follows the usual form of Supply Bills and provides for the issue of a further \$24,000,000 so that the current financial commitments of the Government may be met until the Appropriation Bill has been passed by Parliament. Supply Act (No. 1) was for \$36,000,000, and its authority will suffice until early next month. This Bill for \$24,000,000 will bring the total authority for expenditure to \$60,000,000, and this should suffice until the latter part of October. I would expect the Appropriation Bill to have become law by then, so that it should not be necessary for a third Supply Bill to be introduced. Clause 2 provides for the issue and application of \$24,000,000. Clause 3 provides for the payment of any

increase in salaries or wages which may be authorized by any court or other body empowered to fix or prescribe salaries or wages.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN (Leader of the Opposition): I support this Bill, as I know that it is more or less of a formal nature and that it is necessary to enable the Government to carry on the financial responsibilities of Administration until the Appropriation Bill for the year has been dealt with by Parliament. When the first Supply Bill was before us this year I said I thought more money would be required a little sooner than the three months indicated by the Minister. I was referring to sterling, however, as I had not noticed that the figures were in dollars. The Budget last year was about \$200,000,000 (which represents about \$4,000,000 a week), and the money ran out earlier than had been expected. This Bill provides another \$24,000,000, which is sufficient to meet requirements for about six or seven weeks at the present rate of spending. We have been told that this money will enable the Government to carry on until the Budget is presented. I have only one query. We have not yet been supplied with the Auditor-General's Report.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: We hope to deliver it next week.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN: Members like to have guidance so that they can discuss the Budget, and I hope that we shall not have the usual two or three days in which to deal with it as a matter of urgency because Supply does not carry on. However, this money is required and is governed by the expenditure on the preceding Budget until an Appropriation Bill is presented. Therefore, I support the second reading.

Bill read a second time and taken through its remaining stages.

PUBLIC PURPOSES LOAN BILL.

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

The Hon. A. J. SHARD (Chief Secretary): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

At its meeting in June, 1966, the Australian Loan Council approved a total programme of \$645,000,000 for State works and purposes and for housing in 1966-67. This is an increase of \$40,000,000 above the total programme approved for 1965-66. South Australia's share of the 1966-67 programme is \$88,430,000, of which \$20,750,000 has been nominated for

housing under the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, leaving \$67,680,000 to be used towards other works and purposes. The \$20,750,000 of housing moneys will be supplemented by recoveries of earlier advances to the extent of some \$1,100,000, so that a total of \$21,850,000 is expected to be available for distribution for housing purposes. The proposed allocation is \$10,000,000 to the Housing Trust, \$10,800,000 to the State Bank and \$1,050,000 to building societies.

It is expected that the \$67,680,000 of new borrowings available for general Loan purposes will be supplemented by \$12,100,000 of repayments and recoveries. The year started with a deficit of \$2,465,000 on Loan Account and if this were to be made good entirely during the year 1966-67 it may be seen that a total programme of \$77,315,000 could be financed. The programme that the Government proposes in this Bill is for a total of \$77,459,000, so that a small deficit of \$144,000 is anticipated at June 30 next.

I would point out to honourable members that the Government, in framing this programme, has had careful regard to the overall situation of both Loan and Revenue Accounts. At the moment the difficulty of financing essential services is much more acute in respect of Revenue Account than for Loan Account. The Government has therefore decided to relieve Revenue Account to some extent by following the general practice of other States of charging to Loan Account grants for building purposes to tertiary educational institutions and non-Governmental hospitals. Such grants have in the past been met from Revenue Account in this State, but under existing conditions it would be unwise to continue the past practice, which would result in increased deficits on Revenue Account.

Such deficits could be covered only by setting aside a portion of Loan funds, with an eventual "funding" operation by which the deficits would be formally debited to Loan Account. Under the terms of the Financial Agreement, there are certain disadvantages in "funding" deficits, first, in the incurring of special heavier sinking fund payments and, secondly, in a possible adverse effect on the State's future annual loan allocations. Therefore, the decision has been taken to use a portion of Loan funds not to "fund" deficits but to meet directly certain capital expenditures which have previously been met from Revenue Account. The amounts involved are a gross \$3,800,000 of grants for university and

advanced education buildings, and \$2,600,000 of grants for non-Governmental hospitals. The Commonwealth will contribute \$1,900,000 towards the educational buildings and this has been taken into account in the estimated figure of loan repayments. The net impact on Loan Account will thus be \$4,500,000 for the two items of grants. I will now give honourable members a brief commentary on the main loan undertakings for which this Bill provides:

ADVANCES FOR HOMES, \$700,000.—The State Bank, which administers the Advances for Homes scheme on behalf of the Government, also handles 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 it makes available through the Home Builders' Account to finance home ownership. In 1966-67 the bank is likely to have available for lending Housing Agreement moneys, State Loan funds, carry-over funds from June, 1966, and repayments of previous advances adequate to carry out a lending programme of about \$13,000,000. This will enable the bank to give assistance towards the construction or purchase of about 2,000 homes during the year. In accordance with the policy brought into effect last year, it is intended that \$200,000 of advances for homes money be used in selective financing of the purchase of older homes.

LOANS TO PRODUCERS, \$1,050,000.—It is proposed that approximately \$1,290,000 will be available in 1966-67 to enable the bank to continue to assist in financing co-operative enterprises. The sum of \$41,000 has been carried forward from last year, \$1,050,000 is to be provided from Loan Account and \$200,000 will be raised by way of new semi-government loans.

ADVANCES TO SETTLERS, \$180,000.—This amount is provided to enable the bank to make advances to settlers for farm buildings, for land clearing and development of pastures, and for water improvements.

STUDENT HOSTELS, \$200,000.—This amount is provided to enable the bank to make advances under the Student Hostels (Advances) Act towards the financing of accommodation principally for country students at various schools and institutions.

MORPHETT STREET BRIDGE, \$750,000.—The statutory arrangement that the Government has with the Corporation of the City of Adelaide for the reconstruction of the Morphett Street Bridge and associated works provides that the works 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 with interest over a period of 30 years. The State proportion is being provided from the Highways Fund and the council's proportion from Loan Account, to which the repayments will be credited as received. The sum of \$1,500,000 is estimated to be required in 1966-67 for bridge construction and associated roadworks, and one half of this amount, \$750,000, is therefore provided from Loan Account.

SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBS DRAINAGE, \$420,000.—The scheme, which is designed to carry floodwaters from the south-western suburbs to the sea, was commenced in 1960-61 and was originally estimated to cost approximately \$4,400,000. Funds are being provided by the Government in the first instance and then half the cost is to be recovered from the local authorities whose areas will benefit from the scheme. The sum of \$420,000 is provided this year for the construction of Drain 10 west of the River Sturt, for land purchases and minor works.

METROPOLITAN AREA DRAINAGE, \$270,000.—In terms of the Metropolitan Area (Woodville, Henley and Grange) Drainage Act, the Government has made an arrangement with the two councils concerned for the construction of drains and associated works to drain floodwaters at Fulham Gardens and Henley Beach. The work, estimated originally to cost \$773,000, is being carried out by the councils, but the Government is providing the finance in the first instance. The councils will repay half the cost with interest over a period of 53 years. The work has been undertaken in two stages, the contract price for Stage I, now virtually completed, being \$510,000.

Prior to contracts being arranged for Stage II a re-estimate was made of the probable total cost. This re-estimate gave a total figure of \$1,200,000, considerably in excess of the amount provided in the Act. Accordingly, the Government has referred the matter to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for further investigation and report. The amount of \$270,000 proposed for 1966-67 is the remaining balance of the provision authorized under existing legislation.

IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS, \$400,000.—Expenditure in 1966-67 will include the following: The sum of \$25,000 to complete the laying and installation of a new rising main and chlorination plant to improve

the domestic water supply in the Chaffey-Coolong Division; the sum of \$76,000 to complete the laying of mains, the construction of an overhead tank and the installation of pumping plant for a stock and domestic water supply at Mypolonga; the sum of \$100,000 to continue work on enlarging and re-siting the town water supply mains to North Berri in order to improve pressure on the higher levels, and the sum of \$24,000 to complete a drainage scheme at Cadell.

SOUTH-EASTERN DRAINAGE, \$530,000.—The sum of \$10,000 is provided this year for the completion of the drainage scheme in the western division. The sum of \$480,000 is set aside to continue work on the eastern division drainage scheme.

RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST—LOAN TO, \$15,000.—The \$50,000 advanced from Loan Account in 1965-66 was the seventh and final advance provided under the earlier arrangements. This was additional to an annual grant of \$300,000 from Revenue and \$50,000 provided each year by the trust itself for the purposes of those arrangements. As at June 30, 1966, all of the approved works had not been completed and almost \$120,000 of these funds remained in the special trust account to meet commitments. It is estimated that the approved rehabilitation programme under these earlier arrangements will be completed and the funds disbursed by the end of December, 1966.

Further legislation was approved last session that provides that the cost of construction of a pumping station at Renmark and rising mains and ancillary works up to an amount of \$1,120,000 shall be financed by the Government in the first instance. Two-sevenths of this amount is to be provided by way of grant from Revenue and the remainder by way of loan repayable by the Renmark Irrigation Trust. The Government has also arranged to provide up to \$1,000,000 on a dollar-for-dollar subsidy basis toward the cost of channel rehabilitation and additional drainage. The sum of \$15,000 is provided from Loan Account this year towards preliminary planning and design of the new pumping station and rising mains.

AFFORESTATION AND TIMBER MILLING, \$1,900,000.—The more important provisions for 1966-67 are as follows: the sum of \$355,000 to meet the cost of recurring forest maintenance services, such as replanting, weed control, spraying, fire protection, etc.; the sum of \$550,000 for preparation of land and planting; approximately 6,000 acres will be

planted during 1966-67 and, after allowing for clear felling and for fire losses, the total area of State pine plantations will be about 171,000 acres at the end of June next; the sum of \$80,000 for the purchase of land suitable for forestry as it becomes available; the sum of \$58,000 for a further contribution to the National Sirex Fund; the sum of \$150,000 for the purchase and installation of log de-barking and chipping equipment at Mount Burr sawmill, and an amount of \$100,000 for the installation of a new bandline at Mount Burr sawmill.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION, \$5,600,000.—The requirement this year for way and works branch is \$1,816,000, the items being: \$1,540,000 to meet the cost of sundry works such as track relaying, bridges and culverts, signalling and safety devices, minor buildings, and improvements to yards, as they are required; \$76,000 for the completion of ballasting and fencing as required for the new railway from Ceduna to Kevin; \$15,000 for the installation of coding equipment to enable the junction of the new railway from Woodlands Park to Tonsley to be operated by remote control; and \$65,000 for the purchase or construction of houses for employees; and \$120,000 for plant and sundries.

For rolling stock branch items \$3,784,000 is required in 1966-67, the more important provisions being: \$1,789,000 for progress payments under contracts for the construction of 30 diesel-electric locomotives and spares, 14 of these locomotives being already in service; \$331,000 to commence work on 60 open waggons; \$829,000 to continue the construction of 16 suburban rail cars; \$17,000 to complete 13 motor body transport waggons; \$132,000 for the construction of two joint stock sleeping cars for the Adelaide-Melbourne service; \$205,000 to continue the programme of modifications and improvements to freight vehicles; and \$46,000 for sundry rolling stock items.

Narrow gauge requirements include \$27,000 to cover final contract payments for three diesel-electric locomotives for the Port Lincoln Division which were placed in service during 1965-66. 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.

HARBORS ACCOMMODATION, \$2,050,000.—Expenditure in 1966-67 provides for the following works: \$700,000 for further work on the major scheme 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; \$129,000 to reclaim an area for the establishment of an overseas container depot at the eastern side of Port Adelaide and for the construction of associated road and drainage works; \$384,000 to continue the reconstruction of Smelters wharf at Port Pirie; \$70,000 for the rehabilitation of the Thevenard jetty; \$18,000 for the widening of the Wallaroo jetty; \$60,000 for the purchase of spare parts for the recently completed bucket dredger; \$74,000 for progress payments under a contract for the acquisition of two additional 10-ton cranes for berths 13 and 14; and \$90,000 for the rehabilitation of dredging barges.

FISHING HAVENS, \$40,000.—The sum of \$20,000 is provided this year to commence additions to the jetty at Kingston (South-East), and \$20,000 for minor works.

WATERWORKS AND SEWERS, \$26,000,000.—The more important provisions for 1966-67 are as follows:

Morgan-Whyalla and Iron Knob Water Supply, \$3,018,000. An amount of \$2,984,000 is provided to continue work on the duplication of the Morgan-Whyalla main, the estimated total cost of which is approximately \$30,000,000.

Adelaide Water District, \$6,425,000. The sum of \$34,000 is required for chlorinating plant for the Mannum-Adelaide main, while \$333,000 is provided for further work on the scheme to increase the capacity of the inlet and outlet tunnels of Happy Valley reservoir, and \$210,000 is set aside for the purchase of land adjacent to the reservoir to provide against pollution. An amount of \$140,000 is provided for the purchase of land and \$160,000 for the construction of a contour drain at the Hope Valley reservoir as a protection against pollution of the water, while \$360,000 is proposed for work on Kangaroo Creek dam. This scheme will augment the supply of water to the metropolitan area and involves construction of a rock-filled dam on the River Torrens $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles upstream from Castambul. The reservoir will have a capacity of approximately 6,000,000,000 gallons and its cost is estimated at \$5,300,000; also, \$200,000 is required to continue work on the Elizabeth water supply scheme, which is proceeding in accordance with the development

of that city, and \$500,000 is provided for work on the construction of a main from Chandlers Hill to Heathfield, which is required to meet the increasing demands for water in the Stirling-Crafers area and the Onkaparinga Valley. Funds are also provided for extensions and improvements to the water supply at Clarendon, Belair, Blackwood, Modbury, Salisbury, Stirling and Crafers.

Barossa Water District, \$96,000.—A sum of \$40,000 is required to complete the duplication of portion of the existing Barossa trunk main between Sandy Creek and Gawler. This work is the first stage in the scheme to improve supplies in the Two Wells and Virginia area and it will also increase the flow to the Elizabeth-Salisbury area.

Warren Water District, \$161,000.—An amount of \$4,000 is provided to complete improvements to the Angaston water supply, and \$4,000 is proposed to commence improvements in the water supply at Hansborough.

Country Water Districts, \$2,945,000.—The sum of \$444,000 is provided for further work on the Middle River scheme, Kangaroo Island, which consists of laying a main from Middle River to Kingscote and the construction of a dam, a tank and a pumping station, and \$100,000 is provided to continue work on improving the supply to Mount Gambier, the estimated total cost being \$962,000. Also, \$1,360,000 is proposed to commence work on the construction of a main from the River Murray at Swan Reach to Stockwell. The chief function of the main is ultimately to relieve the Mannum-Adelaide main of the task of supplying considerable quantities of water to the Warren reservoir. The scheme involves the laying of nearly 33 miles of water main. Including the construction of the necessary pumping stations and storage tanks, it is estimated to cost \$8,000,000. An amount of \$390,000 is provided to continue work on the construction of a trunk water main from Taillem Bend to Keith. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$8,000,000. The present intention is to lay a further two miles of pipe this year to carry the main to Binnie Lookout, and then to cease further main construction as available funds are concentrated for the time on other more urgent works. Tanks and pumping stations will also be under construction this year so that the first section of main can be used effectively. Further main-laying will be resumed when funds permit. Funds are also provided for water supply schemes at Burra, Milang, Strathalbyn, Millicent, Penola, Streaky Bay and Whyalla.

Tod River Water District, \$1,302,000.—A sum of \$889,000 is provided for further work on the enlargement and replacement of the old Tod trunk main. The scheme involves the laying of 84 miles of large trunk main and is estimated to cost a total of \$8,196,000. Funds are also provided for extensions of mains to various sections of the Tod River district and for the construction of a storage tank at Pimbaacla.

Beetaloo, Bundaleer and Baroota Water District, \$440,000.—This year \$76,000 is proposed to continue work on the enlargement and extension of the Yorke Peninsula water supply system. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$913,000, and it involves the laying of 50 miles of subsidiary mains, duplication of part of the existing main between Minlaton and Yorketown and construction of storage tanks.

Adelaide Sewers, \$9,029,000.—The sum of \$3,285,000 is provided to continue work on the Bolivar Sewage Treatment Works. The complete scheme is estimated to cost about \$22,000,000 and will provide sewerage facilities for areas extending north to Gawler. The sum of \$442,000 is proposed for reconstruction of sewers in 1966-67. Of this amount, \$140,000 is required to complete the reorganization of the existing system to improve facilities for General Motors-Holden's and Actil, \$190,000 is required to commence the reconstruction of the sewerage system serving the south-western suburbs of Adelaide, and \$100,000 is required to commence reconstruction of the sewerage system of the south-eastern suburbs. The sum of \$1,390,000 is required 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. The sum of \$572,000 is proposed for new mains to provide additional capacity for several areas where extensive development is taking place.

Country Sewers, \$1,190,000.—This year \$270,000 is provided for further work on the Mount Gambier sewerage system, which is estimated to cost a total of \$4,142,000, and \$720,000 is proposed to continue work on the sewerage scheme at Whyalla, for which the estimated total cost is \$4,650,000.

Water Conservation, \$44,000.—The sum of \$40,000 is required to continue the sinking of a bore and the installation of a desalting plant to improve the supply of water to Coober Pedy.

RIVER MURRAY WEIRS, DAMS, LOCKS, ETC., \$800,000.—Provision has been made for the State's contribution of \$800,000 towards the cost of capital works being undertaken in terms of the River Murray Waters Agreement.

Chowilla dam is the main item, the estimated expenditure on this undertaking during the year being \$2,910,000, of which South Australia will meet one-quarter. Tenderers have been registered, the preparation of plans and specifications is nearing completion, and it is expected that all plans and documents will be ready for forwarding to tenderers by the end of September next. Payments will be required for land acquisition, for design and preliminary work, for plant and establishment advances to the successful tenderer, for construction of a railway to carry stone to the dam site, and for disposal of saline water.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, LAND AND SERVICES, \$22,310,000.

Hospital Buildings, \$7,280,000.

Royal Adelaide Hospital.—The sum of \$4,962,000 is provided to continue work on the rebuilding scheme for the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The work, which is being carried out in stages, is estimated to cost a total of \$23,800,000, and involves the erection of an administration and kitchen block, an out-patients' block, a theatre block, a ward block of 550 beds, a boilerhouse and a new nurses' home. The sum of \$1,000,000 is proposed for further work on the construction of a new seven-storey building to provide additional accommodation at the Dental Hospital. The estimated total cost of this building is \$3,022,000.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital.—An amount of \$25,000 is required to complete the provision of an emergency power plant.

Parkside Mental Hospital.—The sum of \$24,000 is provided to complete the first stage of the installation of steam heating in various wards at the hospital. It is proposed to progressively install steam heating throughout the hospital.

Enfield Receiving Home.—The sum of \$78,000 is proposed to complete work on the conversion of the laundry building to provide a self-service restaurant for the use of patients, and three occupational therapy rooms.

Palm Lodge Hostel.—The sum of \$10,000 is set aside to complete the conversion of 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.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS, \$10,640,000.—For 1966-67 the proposals for school buildings and associated works total \$11,440,000, and the ways in which the funds are to be used are as follows:

	\$
Work under 26 projects with a total value of \$12,379,000 for new schools, major additions to schools, Trade School, and Bedford Park Teachers College, which were in progress at June 30, 1966	5,233,000
The commencement of 14 projects with a total value of \$6,020,000 for new schools or major additions to schools	1,335,000
Work on craftwork centres, change rooms and typing rooms	333,000
Prefabricated classrooms or classroom equivalents	1,000,000
Additional Sameon school units and components	740,000
Purchase of land, buildings and residences for school purposes . .	1,050,000
Minor works, including grading and paving of school yards, fencing, roadways, toilets and facilities, furniture and equipment, preliminary investigations and design .	1,749,000
	\$11,440,000

Included in the proposed expenditures are science laboratories and trade schools towards which I expect Commonwealth contributions of about \$800,000, so that the net requirement of Loan funds is \$10,640,000.

POLICE AND COURTHOUSE BUILDINGS, \$790,000.—The sum of \$507,000 is provided to continue work on the construction of the first stage of new and improved accommodation at Fort Largs to make it suitable for use as a Police Training Academy, and \$43,000 is required to complete the construction of a new police station and courthouse at Tanunda.

OTHER GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, \$3,600,000.—The major proposals for 1966-67 are:

Agricultural College Department.—The sum of \$200,000 is provided to commence the construction of a new agricultural engineering centre, science laboratory and plant breeding centre, the estimated total cost of which is \$670,000. The Commonwealth Government is prepared to make grants to the State which may be used towards this project under technical training arrangements.

Department of Social Welfare.—An amount of \$280,000 is required to complete the construction of new buildings to accommodate senior boys at the training school at Magill, and \$22,000 is provided to carry out general improvements at Davenport House, Millswood, and \$23,000 for improvements at Struan Farm.

Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science.—This year, \$70,000 is provided to com-

mence work on the construction of a new pathology laboratory at the Berri Hospital, the estimated cost being \$106,000.

Libraries Department.—The sum of \$900,000 is required for further work on the erection of a new building in Kintore Avenue, which will provide additional storage and display areas for documents and books.

Prisons Department.—The sum of \$43,000 is provided to complete the first stage of the scheme for the construction of a new gaol at Port Lincoln, and \$80,000 is proposed to commence work on the construction of new buildings to provide additional accommodation at Yatala Labour Prison.

New Office Building, Victoria Square.—The sum of \$1,000,000 is provided for further work on the construction of a multi-storey building in Victoria Square to provide central office accommodation for about 1,600 public servants. The new building is estimated to cost a total of \$6,392,000.

Government Motor Garage.—An amount of \$163,000 is required to complete the construction of buildings in Gilles Street for a new Government Motor Garage, the estimated total cost being \$174,000.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST.—It is not proposed to make provision in the Bill for advances to the Housing Trust. As in recent years, the greater part of the trust's new money will be provided 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 allocation proposed this year is \$10,000,000. 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 \$29,400,000. The proposed dissection of this programme is \$5,530,000 for rental housing, \$6,800,000 for rental-purchase housing, \$15,170,000 for houses for sale, \$150,000 for cottage flats, \$1,000,000 for shops and industrial premises and \$750,000 for miscellaneous items.

ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA—LOAN TO, \$6,700,000.—During 1966-67 the trust proposes to spend \$35,000,000 on capital works: \$6,700,000 is to be provided from State Loan funds, \$7,214,000 to be raised by the trust from financial institutions and the public, with the balance of \$21,086,000 to be met from the trust's internal funds. The main proposals included in the programme are: \$14,310,000 to continue work on the first stage of the Torrens Island Power Station, including

progress payments on two 120,000-kilowatt turbo-generators with associated boilers and other equipment to be brought into service, one in 1967 and one in 1968; and for work on the second stage of the station which will accommodate a further two 120,000-kilowatt units required for service in 1969 and 1970; \$2,850,000 for further work on the 275,000-volt transmission system connecting Torrens Island to the existing transmission system and to improve supply into the southern metropolitan area and southern country districts; \$1,430,000 for progress payments on the 132,000-volt transmission line from Whyalla to connect Port Lincoln to the main transmission system in 1967; \$720,000 for progress payments on the second 132,000-volt transmission line from Port Augusta to Whyalla; \$3,300,000 for various new substations and new high voltage lines other than those I have just mentioned; \$3,400,000 for additional large transformers, circuit breakers and other major items of plant; \$3,400,000 for extending and strengthening the general distribution system including the routine connection of new consumers; \$1,200,000 for rural extensions; \$1,100,000 for distribution transformers required for general additions to the distribution system and for rural supply; \$1,250,000 for metering and control equipment; and \$1,100,000 for the completion of additional buildings, district headquarters and depots and for properties for new substations.

FESTIVAL HALL, \$30,000.—The Festival Hall (City of Adelaide) Act provides for the Government to join with the council of the City of Adelaide in the financing of a festival hall. In terms of the Act the Government has made a grant of \$200,000 towards the cost of land and may be called upon to find \$1,600,000, being half grant and half repayable advance, towards construction of the hall. The Act envisages that the council should be responsible in the first instance for finding \$400,000 towards a hall estimated to cost \$2,000,000, to be responsible for the whole of the finance required to meet costs in excess of \$2,000,000, and to repay to the Government over a period of thirty years the advance of \$800,000 together with interest thereon at 4½ per cent. The most recent estimated cost of a hall of the design and standard which the council wishes to build is in excess of \$4,000,000, and such a proposal presents severe financial problems. The council proposed that a special submission be made for Commonwealth financial support, the Government concurred without hesitation, and the council placed a sub-

mission before the Prime Minister. The submission is now under consideration, but, until the Prime Minister has made known the Commonwealth's attitude, I regret that I will be unable to give honourable members very much further information. In the meantime small payments are necessary for preliminary surveys and design. The Government has agreed to make advances to cover those costs and hence a provision of \$30,000 is included in the Bill.

UNIVERSITY AND ADVANCED EDUCATION BUILDINGS, \$3,800,000.—As honourable members know, the Australian Universities Commission makes its recommendations for periods of three years. The present triennium 1964-66 is now closing, and I expect that within a few weeks the commission's recommendations for the next triennium (1967-69) will be presented to the Commonwealth Government and made available to State Governments. At about the same time I would expect to have knowledge of the recommendations of the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Advanced Education, which has been appointed to advise on the development of non-university tertiary institutions such as the South Australian Institute of Technology. The committee also proposes to make recommendations for three-year periods, the first triennium being 1967-69 and thus coinciding with the university triennium.

Until the two bodies have made recommendations and the Commonwealth and State Governments have had full opportunity to study them and to determine the degree of financial support they are prepared to give, it is rather difficult to arrive at accurate figures of financial requirements in the current financial year, which takes in the early part of the new triennium. However, after taking account of the provisions required to complete the present triennium ending on December 31 next, the extent of planning by educational institutions for the next triennium, and informal discussions between the State, the Commonwealth and the two advisory committees, it has been decided to provide a total of \$3,800,000 for gross grants towards buildings for the University of Adelaide, the Flinders University of South Australia and the South Australian Institute of Technology. The Commonwealth one-half contribution of \$1,900,000 will be taken into Loan Account as a repayment when received, thus leaving a net impact of \$1,900,000 against State funds.

NON-GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL BUILDINGS, \$2,600,000.—The building projects at non-government hospitals for which the Government

proposes to make grants out of Loan Account this year are as follows:

Adelaide Children's Hospital.—The Government has agreed to contribute \$2 for each \$1 provided by the hospital itself to assist in the building of a new home designed for 151 nurses and estimated to cost \$1,750,000. A grant of \$510,000 is proposed this year towards the project, which is expected to be completed in 1968-69.

Queen Victoria Maternity Hospital.—The Government is meeting the full cost of a new 150-bed hospital building, the estimated cost of which is in excess of \$3,500,000. A grant of \$1,400,000 is proposed this year for work which will very nearly complete the building. Further grants of about \$20,000 are likely to be required for completion in 1967-68.

Lyell McEwin Hospital.—At Elizabeth, new pathology and casualty sections are being built for the Lyell McEwin Hospital. The cost is estimated at \$310,000 and a grant of this amount is proposed so that work may be completed this year.

Whyalla Hospital.—At Whyalla a new 150-bed hospital building will be completed this year and a grant of \$380,000 is proposed. The total estimated cost is \$2,115,000. The Government has provided \$2 for each \$1 raised locally.

MINES DEPARTMENT—BUILDING, PLANT, ETC., \$250,000.—An amount of \$250,000 is proposed this year for capital items to continue the programme of exploration and development of the State's mineral resources. The provision will be used for new and replacement vehicles, minor additions to buildings, and for the purchase of replacement and additional plant, equipment and instruments.

PRODUCE DEPARTMENT—BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., \$100,000.—The main provision is \$70,000 for the completion of 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.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—SCHOOL BUSES, \$284,000.—This amount is provided for the purchase of additional and replacement buses for the transport of schoolchildren in country areas.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER'S DEPARTMENT—DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, \$100,000.—The Automatic Data Processing Centre has been set up to process commercial-type work and also ultimately to perform calculations of

an engineering and scientific nature. Water and sewer rate accounts and agriculture herd statistics are being processed. Preparatory work has commenced for the processing of teachers' salaries, motor vehicle registrations, and associated records. The sum of \$100,000 is provided for the final payment under the contract for the purchase and installation of the major equipment and for purchase of ancillary equipment.

And now, turning to the clauses of the Bill, we see that clause 3 defines the Loan Fund. Clause 4 provides for borrowing by the Treasurer of \$67,680,000. This is the amount of South Australia's allocation for works and purposes arranged at the June, 1966, meeting of the Loan Council. Clause 5 provides for the expenditure of \$77,459,000 on the undertakings set out in the First Schedule to the Bill. Clause 6 authorizes certain advances during 1965-66 for the undertakings set out in the Second Schedule. As no authority, or insufficient authority, was included in the Public Purposes Loan Act of 1965, appropriation was given by warrant by His Excellency the Governor under powers conferred on him by the Public Finance Act.

Clause 7 makes provision for borrowing and payment of an amount to cover any discounts, charges and expenses incurred in connection with borrowing for the purposes of this Bill. Clause 8 makes provision for temporary finance if the moneys in the Loan Fund are insufficient for the purposes of this Bill. Clause 9 authorizes the borrowing and the issue of \$30,000,000 for the purpose of financing Loan undertakings in the early part of next financial year until the Public Purposes Loan Bill for 1967 becomes effective. Clause 10 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 11 deals with the duration of certain clauses to the Bill. Clause 12 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 13 provides for this Bill to operate as from July 1, 1966.

The Hon. Sir LYELL McEWIN secured adjournment of the debate.

ABORIGINAL LANDS TRUST BILL.

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from August 23. Page 1215.)

The Hon. C. R. STORY (Midland): At the outset, I say that this is a discriminatory Bill. First, in my opinion it will, if passed in its present form, put the seal on a policy of separate development between the indigenous people of this State and the remainder of the population. Secondly, it will perpetuate for all time the gulf between people of one colour and another, and leave a permanent feeling of difference between Australians. Thirdly, it is a Bill designed to sell the idea that Socialism is the cure-all for social ills, and, fourthly, its effect will add to the frustration and confusion of the Aboriginal population when they realize that the scheme is a dream of idealists and that, in fact, no real plan exists to implement this wordy piece of legislation.

I ask the Council to note those four points. I hope that, before I conclude my speech, I shall develop them and that my case will stand on the facts I have mentioned. There has been much good debate in this Chamber on the measure and I do not intend to go over the historical part again, because it has been fully covered. However, I should like to say one or two things in connection with the whole picture of people moving from one country to another, and about indigenous peoples in certain countries who were not mentioned in the Minister's explanation of the Bill.

First, the Minister mentioned the Red Indians of America, the Eskimos and the Maoris. Those people are not comparable in any way with our own indigenous people and surely we do not want to perpetuate in this country what has happened in America in regard to the Red Indian situation. I certainly hope we do not. As far as the Maoris are concerned, New Zealand has adopted an entirely different approach. Lands were given to the Maoris by treaty and a succession of Governments in New Zealand has done much to integrate those people into the community. The two factions have been almost assimilated, and the Maoris are at a much more advanced stage of assimilation than are our indigenous people.

If we look at the position in Africa, Asia and Great Britain today, we see that there is always this problem. Huge numbers of Africans have gone to Great Britain. The position is not confined to Australia: it got completely out of hand in Great Britain, and the British Government had to restrict the

number of people entering the country each year, because of this great problem of black and white peoples. I thought that, when we passed the 1962 Act, we were going a long way in Australia and South Australia towards overcoming the problem of colour. It is probably the greatest problem in the world today. I believe that when that legislation was designed it was the most forward thinking of any in this country and, probably, in any country of the world, but the 1962 ideals have not been carried out. Even today, the Aborigines are not being treated as equals. The legislation went almost far enough to do that. It did not go that far because of amendments in another place, which removed portions of the visionary line the then Minister (the Hon. G. G. Pearson) took.

In looking at this matter we find two distinct problems: the problem of the reserves, and the problem of the people coming off the reserves. I have the utmost sympathy for the people who come off the reserves. They have much trouble getting back to the reserves, if, in the opinion of the board, they have reached the point where they can stand on their own feet and it is time for them to move on. Many of the people are off the reserves for that reason. Some have been put off because of their behaviour. It is of little use turning people out into the community, but many of the people off the reserves have been assimilated into the communities in which they live. I know very many of these families. The children go to school and there is not the slightest suggestion of prejudice. They are accepted completely and they live as other Australians in the community, although they are still subjected to discrimination, even under the 1962 Act. The local inspector, under the provisions of this Act, still goes around and inspects their homes and inquires into various things, and for every one of these people there is a dossier in the department. This is certainly very embarrassing to the Aboriginal family living in the same street as other people. No policeman investigates the position of ordinary citizens to see whether they have swept their floors or made their beds. The Aboriginal person, because of his colour, is subjected to regular visits, which is embarrassing and frustrating for him.

I am developing the argument that this Bill gives the power to the trust to control reserves and all people of Aboriginal extraction and blood. One of the reasons given for this Bill is that it will get over many social ills and much of the damage done in the past; but it

will not do so, because at the moment we are not practising what we have in the 1962 Act.

The Hon. R. C. DeGaris: It would be better to carry out that Act.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: That is the whole point. We are doing what we have seen so much of since this Government came into power. We seem to be people with a little time to live and we intend to live it up properly while we have the time. If this legislation came in gradually, after we had digested what we have in the 1962 Act, there would be some sense in it. The provisions of this Bill cannot possibly operate for many years to come. Certainly some of the lands unoccupied by Aborigines at present will come under the trust immediately. Such places as Point Pearce, Point McLeay and Gerard will not come under the trust for some time. To bring them under the Bill the trust has to be virtually invited to do it by the reserve councils. At this stage, although the present Minister has vested certain imaginary powers in the councils, they have no authority whatsoever. There are no regulations even to allow the councils to be set up; they are there on a purely voluntary basis.

These unfortunate people who comprise the councils on some reserves had a strong feeling that they were running their own show. They thought they were until such time as they endeavoured to put one person off a reserve and take on another. They found that they were overridden by the board and this has brought home to them that they did not have any power. I think the councils will guard jealously what they have, and they are not going to give up voluntarily what they have at present. One must remember that the population on the reserves is restricted, as was stated in the second reading speech of the Minister. At Point McLeay it is approximately 200, at Gerard 140, and a Point Pearce about 334.

I am curious to know what the councils will do when they are eventually talked into surrendering to the trust what they now have, and, perhaps, having to share their areas with a greater number of people. There is no provision at the moment for any great number of people to go on to the reserves. Earlier I said that this matter had not been given proper consideration, because no real plan exists. We have been told that this is a lovely bit of theoretical legislation. The Hon. Mr. DeGaris said earlier that it was a bit of window-dressing for the I.L.O., and I think that is right. This is the kind of thing that all

idealists like to have on the Statute Book. They like to say "Look, we are good boys; see what we have done." I am interested in these Aboriginal people and I do not think they are getting a fair go, although we hear much about what is happening. These people are buoyed up by the hope that something better will be done for them. If we let them down, we are really and truly to blame, because they have been let down many times in the long history of the white man in this country. They will resent it if these things do not come to pass. I do not believe at the moment that that can possibly come to pass for a long time.

The Hon. R. C. DeGaris: Will the reserve councils have any say in the election of a representative when the mineral rights go with the handing over?

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: The councils will not, but the the trust will.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: Not according to the wording of the Bill, which states that the councils will have the right, having handed over the land, to appoint; but it is not clearly worded. The Minister has the right, if he chooses, to put in some other person in place of their representative. These people could surrender what they had and then find that some other person had been appointed as their representative. This is very real. Some provisions here are not clear, but I am at the moment attacking not so much the Bill as the general effects of this legislation, which, as I have said, is not in the best interests at present of either this State, from a financial point of view, or the indigenous people.

About 10 years ago this State was spending about \$140,000 on its work for the Aboriginal people: this year I think it will be spending about \$1,400,000, which is a tremendous jump forward in expenditure. But what do we see for it? We see a bigger organization by far, but do we see any real benefit accruing to the people themselves? In my particular area the Gerard Reserve has an interesting history. A number of Aboriginal families used to camp on the river bank at Swan Reach in appalling conditions. Some of them were river people, some of them Ooldeans. Mr. Gerard, a benefactor, purchased for them this very fine area, in the hundred of Katarapko, of 4,440 acres along the river, an ideal spot for development and for irrigation. He handed that over to the missions, and these people moved into that general area. Some building had taken place on the area but I must say that conditions were not good. When the then Minister (Hon. G. G. Pearson), at the instigation of local

citizens from churches and other organizations, visited the Gerard Mission he was not impressed one bit: in fact, he was depressed. So he decided that something should be done, and the Government of the day took over the purchase from the Board of Missions of this particular area and got to work developing it in a way that anybody would be proud of. That was done mainly through the efforts of Mr. Jack Foot, a local resident, who resigned his position as Chairman of the district council. He sold his property, and he and his wife became dedicated workers for the Aborigines. With some Government assistance, they started something that is a monument to them.

Unfortunately, like all people who show some ability, Mr. Foot was transferred from the reserve, where he was doing a very good job and would have continued doing it, to another State. At the moment the work that he has done is not at a standstill, but is not progressing nearly as fast as it was. The other point is that the reserve at Gerard is at present receiving education facilities from the Education Department school at Winkie, an excellent school. The school committee is happy to have the children come in from the reserve. We appreciate the work of a social worker there some years ago, Mrs. Pearson (no relation to the then Minister), who gave two years of her life entirely to setting up a kindergarten in the reserve. She trained the small children in all aspects of necessary hygiene—what to eat, how to keep their clothes clean, how to blow their noses and all the things that a mother teaches her children. They were things that the Aboriginal mothers were not quite capable of doing.

When these children were five years old they went off to school, as everybody else's children did. They are progressing very well at the Winkie school. One of the problems we get on reserves is that the children normally have to spend the first two years at school learning things that other people's children learned when they were two or three years old. So, before the Aboriginal children really get started on the academic side of their schooling, they are seven, eight or nine years old, and immediately they have slipped behind other children. They are big children in a class of small children. Anybody with any appreciation of child psychology knows what a dreadful thing it is for a big child to be a little behind and be put in among smaller children. Immediately a sense of frustration arises. We can almost see so many of the Aborigines'

problems in later life coming from the childhood effect of their early schooling. I do not think that anybody can be more cruel than a child aged seven, eight or nine. If such a child sets out to torment another child, he is a past master at it. This is a problem we have to face. However, at Gerard things are going along nicely. At Point Pearce many of the people have spent their whole life there, many of them being born on the station.

Then we come to a different category of person when we start looking at the missions at Koonibba and Yalata. The greatest problem of all, and the one that I am most perturbed about, is the North-West Reserve, because it is unique. It belongs to three States, and we have a portion of it. It is unique in that it is one of the few places where the Aboriginal people can still practise their tribal customs. They still remain in their tribal state. However, this great piece of legislation before us embraces all people of Aboriginal blood and all reserves, and places them all under one trust, irrespective of their stage of development or the type of country involved—whether it is a pocket handkerchief of 200 acres or an area of many square miles. This one little provision of about seven pages in the Bill covers the position. It is years ahead of its time; it is not in the best interests of the Aboriginal people, and it is certainly not in the best interests of land husbandry.

I should like to ascertain from the Minister how many Aboriginal people in this State are working as farmers, from whom someone can be drawn to sit upon this trust. There are a few academics, but there are very few people who can and are prepared to sit on a lands trust and take over the complete management (except for the few provisos put in by the Minister). Is this whole thing a sham? It could be, because one of the things that strikes me as rather peculiar is clause 10. If this thing is "fair dinkum", I go along with it but, if this is only a facade, I am not at all interested in it, as it is window dressing. Clause 10 (3) provides:

No meeting of the trust shall be held in the absence of the Secretary or, in the event of his illness or inability to act, in the absence of an officer of the Department of Aboriginal Affairs appointed by the Minister to act in his place.

The Bill provides that the Director of Aboriginal Affairs shall be the Secretary to the trust, so he will be the boss—the one who will really run this show—and these other people will be there as part of the window dressing. The Bill specifically provides that

no meeting shall proceed in the absence of the Secretary or a person appointed by the Minister, and this is not the way most board meetings are run. Nobody would say that a meeting of the Electricity Trust could not proceed in the absence of the Government nominee, so why discriminate against these people by having this provision in the Bill? If we have the people to run this show, if the time is ripe for this trust to be set up, and if we have the people available to set it up, why not let them have their heads and do what they want? I think this provision indicates that the Minister has many worries about the matter.

I think there is a clear-cut policy with regard to people on reserves. I have mentioned some of the things that happen with regard to people of Aboriginal blood who are on the register. When the 1962 legislation was passed we did not envisage a register other than a record of the number of Aboriginal people in South Australia. There is no significance in being on the register at present, unlike the position under the 1934 and 1939 Acts, where there was an exemption to enable Aborigines to take alcoholic liquor and do certain things. That was to be taken out of the Act. It was never in the 1962 Act, but an amendment moved in another place put the Minister under the obligation of proclaiming certain areas where people could freely take alcoholic liquor. When there was a change of Administration, one of the first things the new Minister of Aboriginal Affairs did was proclaim the whole of the State under the licensing section of the 1962 Act. So, there is no need for anyone to carry a card showing that he is an exempted person: all Aborigines are exempted persons, yet the dossier is still kept. Aborigines resent this, as a record is not kept of white people unless they have a criminal record. If the Minister wants to do something to help the Aboriginal people, the first thing he should do is abolish this system of keeping a dossier. He should also see that they are treated in the same way as other people are treated, in that if their children are a problem they will be dealt with by the ordinary social worker of the Department of Social Welfare. Why should they be separated from the rest of the community by having an inspector under the 1962 Act go around? This gives them a feeling of being different, and it is not necessary.

In the metropolitan area in the last two years there has been a great build-up of Aborigines. These people can go to the Royal

Adelaide Hospital for free medicine and treatment, but those living in the country and off reserves have to go to the local doctor and pay for medicine. Most of these people earn only \$28 or \$30 a week as labourers, and many of them are not skilled at budgeting, so they get behind. The unfortunate doctor and chemist in the country have a real problem, yet the privileges (they are rights in some cases) available in the city are not available to Aborigines living in the more remote areas. This is causing much hardship to some hospitals, as the Chief Secretary knows, because they, too, are getting into debt. I shall now deal with the clauses of the Bill, because I find certain provisions are interesting. Clause 6 (3) provides:

Any member of the trust may at the expiration of his term of office be re-appointed for one further term of three years: Provided that a member who has held office for two consecutive years shall not be eligible for appointment or re-appointment until the expiration of three years after ceasing to hold office, for two consecutive terms.

That procedure is not followed in local government and is not provided for under the Companies Act or in any other organization. I am a great believer in the old adage that, "When you are on a winner, stick to it". If a member is doing a good job, why should he have his service chopped off at the end of two terms? Why should he be sent out to pasture for three years before he can be brought back? We do not do this elsewhere, and I do not know why we should do it here. The members appointed by the Minister will be qualified. They will not be selected otherwise, and the councils will choose their best men.

The Hon. D. H. L. Banfield: My copy of the Bill does not provide for that.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: I may not have the amended Bill. That only vindicates what I have been saying.

The Hon. D. H. L. Banfield: We fixed it up in advance for you.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: It was wrong and the Minister saw the error of his ways when he had it pointed out by the Opposition in another place.

The Hon. D. H. L. Banfield: It came from the Government side.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: You are telling a good story!

The Hon. C. R. STORY: I am doing my best. I also find clause 16 (2) difficult to understand. I do not know how the people who administer this legislation or, which is even worse, the people who have to live under it

will understand this mumbo-jumbo. It must be a draftsman's dream. The subclause provides:

Notwithstanding anything in the Aboriginal Affairs Act, 1962, or any other Act contained, the Governor may by proclamation transfer any Crown lands or any other lands for the time being reserved for Aborigines to the Trust: Provided that no such proclamation shall be made in respect of any lands reserved for Aborigines within the meaning of the said Aboriginal Affairs Act and in respect of which a Reserve Council pursuant to regulations under that Act has been constituted without the consent of such Council: Provided further that no such proclamation shall be made in respect of any Crown lands (not being lands reserved for Aborigines) except upon the recommendation of the Minister of Lands or the Minister of Irrigation as the case may require.

First, we have no reserve councils at present. When one is doing business, it is normal to have some plan and a firm foundation on which to work. Some committees have been set up in the form of reserve councils, but there are no regulations setting up such councils. One needs to take Sunday morning off in order to sort out the provision.

The Hon. D. H. L. Banfield: That is better than gardening!

The Hon. C. R. STORY: I am not sure about that. At least, when we garden we see something for our labours but not much will come out of this provision. The councils, if and when they are constituted, will be in control of respective reserves. At present, if it is desired to get a person off a reserve for some reason, the council recommends to the Aboriginal Board that the person be put off. The board then obtains a report from the local officers, and various other people, including the Protector, are brought in. Eventually a decision is made. This same procedure applies to getting a person on to a reserve, unless he is a trainee, when a different procedure applies.

The Minister has promised to give councils the sole right of determining who goes on and who goes off the reserves and, because of that, an interesting situation could develop. It may be of much benefit to a person to become a member of the council if the councils are able to control the reserves in this way. I know that in the Upper Murray people have already been out to the Gerard area and have staked ground for themselves in anticipation of the passage of this Bill. However, those people have not yet been given permission to go on to the reserve and they have the job ahead of them, because the councillors

may not permit these people to go on to the reserves if the Minister vests in the councils the power that he says he will vest in them under the regulations. So, this is discriminatory.

Certain groups of people on the reserves now are all right, but, in my opinion, it will be necessary to amend the 1962 Act before many other people can go on. There are certain legal difficulties in regard to the matter. Subclause 16 (2) provides:

Subject to subsection (5) of this section, upon the making of any such proclamation such lands shall, together with all metals, minerals and precious stones, coal, salt, gypsum, shale, oil and natural gas therein or thereon be vested free of all encumbrances in the trust . . .

What the words "free of all encumbrances in the trust," mean I am not sure. I know what it means to have something free of encumbrances, but the provision says they shall be vested free of all encumbrances. I am not speaking of minerals; this provision applies to the land. Does it mean that for all time these lands are not subject to any form of encumbrance whatsoever? It looks to me that that could be the case. If it is so, this must be an added benefit that the Minister is intending to confer upon a small section of the Aboriginal community. Those living in the towns will have to pay rates and taxes as we do, because they are like ourselves except for the colour of the skin. I should like to take up the point about encumbrances. The position is confusing. Subsection (6) of clause 16 states:

The trust may—

- (a) with the consent of the Minister, sell, lease, mortgage or otherwise deal with land vested in it pursuant to this Act; or
- (b) develop such land subject to compliance with the provisions of any Act or law relating thereto,

as it thinks fit. The Minister shall not withhold his consent unless he is satisfied that the sale, lease, mortgage or dealing fails to preserve to the Aboriginal people of South Australia the benefits and value of the land in question.

If any honourable member can read this three or four times and not be completely confused, I think he should apply to the Attorney-General for a job as a special magistrate.

The Hon. C. C. D. Octoman: He would probably get a Q.C. out of it!

The Hon. C. R. STORY: He probably would. I think I have the gist of it, but it takes a long time to work it out. Why it should be necessary when drafting things to make them as complicated as that, I find it difficult to

understand. I take it that this was vetted by the Attorney-General himself. Clause 18 states:

Subject to the approval of the Minister the trust may grant technical or other assistance or advance moneys to Aborigines and persons of Aboriginal blood or to recognize Aboriginal groups for such purposes and upon such conditions as the trust thinks fit: Provided that no assistance shall be granted and no moneys shall be advanced under this section to any member of the trust or, except with the consent of the Minister, to any relative of a member of the trust.

What a peculiar thing this is! We might have the very best settler on the reserve. He may be the one trained man who is getting along all right, and because he is bright we choose to put him on the trust (which would be only a part-time job), but the moment we put him there we hamstring him and say, "Bad luck, Charlie; you cannot have any more assistance from the trust; your tap is turned off; no more finance for you." That is bad enough but the words "or, except with the consent of the Minister, to any relative of a member of the trust" are added. It would be difficult if this were applied to other things in the community. This is supposed to be a Bill to help Aborigines, yet we hamper the very sinews of war by including such a provision. I cannot understand it. It only goes to prove that the drafters and the advisers to the drafters of the Bill were not in full possession of the facts.

The Hon. C. M. Hill: They want to set up a hierarchy.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: Quite! It is not what we want or what the Aboriginal people want. I have pointed out a few of the things in the Bill that I do not like, and a few ways in which the Aboriginal people are being treated at present in South Australia. We have heard and have read in the press that various academic people have given advice, as have Aborigines at university level in other States. I cannot find anywhere in my reading and listening that the Aborigines who are affected have had a say in whether this legislation is a good thing or not; in fact, I know they have not.

People on the reserves who have reached the standard where they are capable of looking after themselves, and people outside of the reserves (and many of them hold good jobs and mingle in the community) do not know the precise terms of the legislation. They believe that they are to get a better deal and that all

will get a piece of land. This is what they want; they want a bit of security where they can build a house and say that it is theirs.

I do not believe that sufficient consideration has been given to this Bill. Had the advice of the other place been taken and a Select Committee set up to deal with the Bill we would have been much better served, because people on the lower rungs of the ladder could have been invited to give their views on it instead of our having the Minister's ideas, many of them preconceived, and those of people who are highly theoretical in these matters. I support the second reading of the Bill, but reserve the right to further consider some clauses in Committee.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS (Midland): In rising to speak to this Bill, first let me say that I am fully in favour of improving the lot and status of our Aboriginal people. I think every honourable member has agreed with that. However, I am doubtful about the effect of this Bill in that regard. I am aware that my colleagues have dealt with it in some detail so I do not intend to go through it all again. While I am fully in favour of improving the lot of the Aboriginal people, I do not believe it can be done in leaps and bounds: it must be a gradual process. I do not believe it is wise to make alterations to their rights and privileges in big strides, because the average member of this race (and I agree with the honourable member who has just spoken that there are many exceptions to every rule) cannot cope with sudden wider responsibilities or the gift of wholesale rights that may be tossed into his lap overnight. He can cope with this sort of improvement in his status only if he is first trained to expect these things: in other words, if he is educated along the lines of the coming responsibility and perhaps even given a trial period of wider privileges in the full knowledge that these rights will be taken away from him and further postponed unless he proves to be capable of handling them responsibly.

Previously, I have said that the Department of Aboriginal Affairs may be idealistic. I believe that probably the Minister is idealistic, but it should be realized that it does not always benefit people to grant them full citizenship rights or privileges if they are not ready for them. Not all Aborigines are unprepared or unfitted for full responsibilities, but many are. This is an unfortunate fact, and perhaps we are to blame, and it is our job to bring these people to a position in life where

they can be given full responsibilities. I believe that this must be a gradual process.

There was in the daily press recently some comment about the position at Alice Springs, in the Northern Territory, where restrictions on drinking were lifted; and, more recently still, I noticed in the press another reference to the conditions of the Aborigines at Alice Springs. It was stated in this newspaper that much the same conditions now existed at Koonibba, which is near Ceduna, and probably at other Aboriginal reserves. At Koonibba there was formerly a high proportion of what might be called good Aborigines, who worked and mixed with white people and were responsible. Now I believe there are very few Aborigines over there who are responsible or are to be trusted or are valuable to the community. It is said that the provision of full drinking rights was the cause of and the reason for this retrograde position of the Aborigines. If this is true (and from other comments I have heard and read elsewhere there is at least a substantial amount of truth in it) it would appear that we have been too precipitate in lifting those restrictions on drinking. If this is so (and all the evidence I can gather leads me to believe it is) we would have been far wiser to lift these restrictions gradually, and perhaps give a trial period, as I suggested earlier. Perhaps we are being too precipitate also in setting up this Aboriginal Lands Trust—especially in relation to the North-West Reserve. This is too soon. As the Hon. Mr. Story said, it is years ahead of its time. We have to bring the Aborigines to the position where they can really enjoy and use responsibly the type of privilege envisaged. In referring to the Bill for a moment, I look at clause 6, and particularly the words:

Each member of the trust shall be an Aboriginal or person of Aboriginal blood within the meaning of the Aboriginal Affairs Act, 1962.

I wonder why only Aborigines should be on the board.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: Why not, in order to look after their own affairs?

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Yes, but they are not ready yet. Surely it would have been a wise provision to include one or two white people on that board, not to overrule the Aboriginal members but to be available to give them constant advice and to be a steady influence should this advice be needed, as I can well imagine it would be. It is asking too much of this race, in which there are some gifted people, but the majority of which is,

to some extent, primitive, to set up a trust like this and then in the same breath ensure that all members of the board, no matter how many there are, shall be Aboriginal people or people of Aboriginal blood. This clause should be looked at again. It is not a good thing, especially in connection with the North-West Reserve, that an all-Aboriginal board should have the control, or even partial control, of such large areas of land where the Aboriginal inhabitants are still in their tribal or nomadic state. I am firmly of the opinion, as has been stated earlier, that this area should be excluded from the provisions of the Bill. I am sure that the Aborigines in this area have not reached a sufficient stage of education or sophistication, or are anything like being reasonably enough informed, to know what it is all about. Furthermore, I do not believe the trust should be in a position (as stated in clause 16 (6)) to sell existing reserves for Aboriginal people even though the Minister's consent has to be obtained, although I realize that, because of an amendment, this does not apply to the North-West Reserve unless both Houses of Parliament agree. I am glad that this amendment, pressed in another place, has been included. I believe this Bill will have the effect of bringing about a permanent separation of the Aboriginal people from the white people of South Australia in that they will be permanently under a different set-up. I do not think this will assist in the assimilation of these people into the community.

I think it was the Hon. Mr. DeGaris who suggested that it would be better to carry out the provisions of the 1962 Act before we tried to go further and bring in something like this. I strongly support the suggestion of previous speakers that a Select Committee should be appointed to go thoroughly into the Bill as a whole and have particular reference to the situation on the North-West Reserve. I support the appointment of this committee because in my opinion the Bill will not do what it sets out to do, and I do not think it will be, in the immediate future at least, of any great benefit to Aborigines as a whole.

I wonder also what the trust will use for money. It is set up to do this, that and the other, and it must have funds. I am aware that clause 19 provides that the trust shall maintain an account at a trading bank and that the Minister may from time to time from moneys provided by Parliament pay to the trust by way of grant or loan such sums as he thinks proper. In the first place, I do not really think that any trading bank will be

throwing up its hat in the air at the thought of granting a large overdraft to a board constituted entirely of Aboriginal people, and I wonder what funds the Minister is going to provide, as I can remember very well that three or four months ago I saw a letter from the Minister addressed to the Maitland Hospital, in which he said he was not able to give it any assistance as a result of its representations about bad debts of the Aborigines in that area. He concluded his letter by saying, "I am afraid that the assistance which the department can give is exhausted." If it was exhausted then, and if these other things are brought to fruition, how will they be paid for?

I do not believe at this stage that the move to set up the trust will help the Aboriginal people. I think it was the Hon. Mr. Hart who said that this Bill was a most overrated and emotional measure, and I entirely agree. It is also a most wordy Bill and, as the Hon. Mr. Story has said, it causes confusion by its very wordiness. I reserve the right to give the matter further consideration in Committee.

The Hon. R. A. GEDDES secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADJOURNMENT.

At 5.21 p.m. the Council adjourned until Thursday, August 25, at 2.15 p.m.