

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday, July 25, 1968

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

### QUESTIONS

#### BETTING DIVIDENDS

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I seek leave to make a short statement prior to asking a question of the Chief Secretary.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: Last year the Chief Secretary, when Leader of the Opposition in this Chamber, twice I think, asked me questions regarding guaranteeing the return to a punter of his 50c stake on a horse which had either won or run a place, and I said then that we as a Government would look into the matter. Nothing was done at that stage because Cabinet decided (I think rightly so) that the Totalizator Agency Board needed time to settle down and prove itself. As the T.A.B. has been operating now for some 14 or 15 months and has settled down and functioned rather well, does the Government or the Chief Secretary intend taking steps to see that, where it is necessary to pay a punter at least the amount of his stake, the money needed to meet this will be taken out of the general overall fractions rather than the fraction in respect of a particular race which, of course, necessitates shaving the punter's dividend?

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: The Leader is quite correct in his recollections regarding questions asked by me and the attitude of the then Government at that stage. I have asked for an inquiry to be made of the methods adopted in the other States regarding the shaving of the dividends and the guaranteeing of payout of the 50c dividend, and that inquiry is now proceeding. When the investigation as to how it may be possible to achieve this is completed, I shall make a recommendation to Cabinet.

#### SOUTH-EAST PORTS

The Hon. V. G. SPRINGETT: Can the Minister of Agriculture, representing the Minister of Marine, tell this Council when the improvements to the Beachport and Port MacDonnell slipways and other facilities are likely to be commenced?

The Hon. C. R. STORY: The honourable member's question is really one for my colleague in another place. Some two months ago I made an inspection of the fishing ports

referred to, and the Minister of Works has also inspected those ports. Money has been made available, and in some instances material is on site. I shall ascertain for the honourable member the exact date this work will be commenced.

#### BALAKLAVA COUNCIL

The Hon. C. D. ROWE: I saw a statement in the press this morning that there was some difficulty with the Balaklava council's possible repayment of certain moneys to the Highways Department. Can the Minister of Local Government amplify that statement?

The Hon. C. M. HILL: The honourable member very kindly contacted me this morning about this question and, as a result, I have obtained the following report:

On March 1, 1968, an inspecting officer of the Highways Department visited Balaklava and during his inspection he carried out a test check of the time sheets to the Government grants pay sheets. This check indicated that a substantial amount of moneys expended had been incorrectly charged against the Government Grants Account. This was reported to the then Minister of Roads and the Auditor-General was also advised. Arrangements were made for an officer of the Auditor-General's Department and the inspector of my department to accompany the officer of the Highways Department to Balaklava for the purpose of making a comprehensive examination of the council records over a number of years.

This examination revealed that from early in 1960 until late in 1967 moneys paid by the Highways Department in the form of Government grants had been used on works within the district other than those for which they were originally granted. The total amount overcharged to Government Grants Account was:

	\$
Main road grants . . . . .	63,928
Federal rural areas grants . . . . .	20,244
Debit order grants . . . . .	4,488
Total . . . . .	88,660

Until 1965, the Highways Department did not carry out systematic test checks of local authority time sheets and relied upon certificates of the District Clerk, Overseer, District Engineer and the council auditor. A limited amount of test checking was introduced in 1965, but the department still had to place considerable reliance on the certificates mentioned above. Following this investigation, some changes have been made in the methods of checking of Government Grants Account so that this type of misuse of funds can be more easily ascertained.

Following the receipt of the reports of the officers, I wrote a letter to the council requiring the repayment of the moneys which had been used other than for the purposes granted. The council has been requested to repay the money over a long but reasonable period. Since writing the letter I have had a discussion with the Chairman and the present District

Clerk and am awaiting a reply from the council giving details of financial arrangements proposed for the reimbursement of the funds to the Highways Department.

The Hon. S. C. BEVAN: Following that report, can the Minister say whether he will be prepared to table the report of the investigating officer in this matter?

The Hon. C. M. HILL: I should give this matter further consideration. The report of the investigating officer had to be sent to certain authorities (the Auditor-General being one of them) in accordance with that part of the Act amended during the term of the last Government. That has all been done. I will, however, give the honourable member's request the consideration I said I would and will bring down my considered opinion in this matter in the near future.

#### FISHING INDUSTRY

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: I address my question to the Minister of Agriculture representing the Minister of Marine. Fifteen months ago a three-man committee was appointed to take evidence regarding a deep sea fishing port on the western shores of Spencer Gulf. Can the Minister say whether the findings of this committee have been finalized and, if they have, when will they be made public?

The Hon. C. R. STORY: The committee took an immense amount of evidence and it is hoped that its report will be available early next month.

#### ABATTOIR

The Hon. L. R. HART: I seek leave to make a short statement prior to asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L. R. HART: In this morning's *Advertiser* appears an article in which the Chairman of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board (Mr. Joseph) is alleged to have said, when speaking at the annual State porker and baconer carcass competition field day at the Gepps Cross abattoir:

During the past 12 months, inspectors of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board had detected a number of consignments of soiled and rotting carcass meat being brought into the metropolitan area for sale.

The cases detected included carcasses of lamb and mutton, cartons of offal and cartons of beef rumps in an advanced state of putrefaction. Ten tons of boneless mutton from Sydney showed slight greening, was soured and had a most offensive smell.

Obviously, a breakdown in the inspection system could have appalling results. Previously

importers had been charged for the inspection of meat on a time basis. This had been a financial loss to the board which had recently adopted a system under which importers had to pay a charge based on carcass weight and meat type.

This is, of course, a very damaging statement. Obviously, if this class of meat is coming into South Australia, it must have been treated in an abattoir where the hygiene standard was appallingly low or where there was a defective inspection system. Under our system of transporting meat today in chilled waggons, it is quite apparent that this rotting of meat would not occur during transit.

Some meatworks in Australia are working under a Department of Primary Industry licence, whereas other licences are issued on a State basis. Obviously, there is a breakdown in meatworks somewhere in Australia in regard to inspection. In regard to charges, the Chairman of the Abattoirs Board said that previously charges for inspection were made on a time basis. Under this system a load of meat of, say, 10 tons coming from Sydney would take, I assume, less than one hour to inspect. Judging by the state this meat was in it could have taken less, or even longer, than an hour to inspect, for which a nominal charge would be made. Under the present system of charging at 1c a lb. the cost of this inspection would be about \$220, which would not be bad pay for perhaps two hours' work.

Will the Minister of Agriculture ascertain from which State and from which meatworks this meat has come and whether it was inspected at the meatworks where it was treated? I would also appreciate hearing any comments he might make on the charges that are made for the inspection of meat coming into the metropolitan area.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: The honourable member has given a very adequate explanation of his question, and I am prepared to consider the matter fully and supply an equally detailed report.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I ask leave to make a short statement prior to asking a further question on this matter of the Minister of Agriculture.

Leave granted.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I understand that until very recently, as stated by the Hon. Mr. Hart, the Metropolitan Abattoirs had a fixed hourly charge of \$1.60 for inspections. Of course, the reason for eliminating this charge and substituting another of 1c a lb. (which seems to me to be exorbitant) is that the Chairman of the Abattoirs Board

said that the abattoir was making a loss at the previous charge. Will the Minister ascertain exactly what the Abattoirs Board was losing when it charged \$1.60 an hour, and will he provide an estimate of the tremendous profit that will be made on the actual inspection service if the new exorbitant charge is made?

The Hon. C. R. STORY: The increased inspection fees of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board have been of real concern to me. When I assumed the office of Minister of Agriculture some regulations had been approved by Cabinet and passed through Executive Council and they came into operation on May 1; they completely altered the system of inspection charges, as the honourable member has said. The previous charge was \$1.60 an hour, and an extra charge was made if the overtime rate had to be applied.

Some of the permits under which meat is brought into the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board's area are under the jurisdiction of the Minister of Agriculture and some are directly under the board's jurisdiction. The regulations applying to this charge relate to meat brought in directly under the board's jurisdiction. The Minister of Agriculture has the right to set the fee in respect of permits issued by him, and these were, of course, all issued before I took office. The fees are fixed in the permits and will continue during the period for which the permits have been issued.

As most honourable members know, an investigator has been looking into the whole operation of the abattoir. I extended the ambit of his investigation to include the subject of meat coming into the metropolitan area. His report was made available to me a fortnight ago. I acted as an intermediary between the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board and the investigator, Mr. McCall, and, after negotiations, he was requested by the board to assist it in putting its affairs on a profitable basis and to look into the matters raised by the honourable member. I shall have to consider further the honourable member's request that I table figures regarding the board's losses, because it is an autonomous body and the Minister has very restricted powers in relation to its operations.

#### KIMBA MAIN

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: In an article on page 8 of yesterday's *Advertiser* the Minister of Works says that the Kimba-Polda main is "further down the list". When the Minister originally made his statement he was referring to a promise by the

Commonwealth Government to assist State Governments with approved water supply projects such as the Keith main, so perhaps the Kimba-Polda main was confused with another project. Will the Minister of Agriculture ascertain from the Minister of Works just what list the Kimba-Polda main is further down, and will he ascertain exactly what the Minister meant?

The Hon. C. R. STORY: I realize that the honourable member has been vitally interested in this subject since he first became a member of this Council. The Commonwealth Government is determining a policy regarding country water schemes throughout Australia and it will fix its own priorities. It has selected the main from Tailem Bend to Keith, so that is very near the top of the list. The Commonwealth Government has allotted a lower priority to the Kimba-Polda main than it allotted to the main from Tailem Bend to Keith, but this will in no way alter the State Government's undertaking that work will be commenced on the Kimba-Polda main this year.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption.  
(Continued from July 24. Page 211.)

The Hon. V. G. SPRINGETT (Southern): In rising to speak in support of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, I wish to pay my respects, as other honourable members have done, to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Mellis Napier, for the way he opened the second session of the Thirty-ninth Parliament. I also join in expressing pleasure and gratitude that his health has been so far restored that he can resume his duties, which are so valued by the citizens of the State. I also join in expressing my condolences to those families who were bereaved following the deaths of four former members of this Parliament in recent months. Each man has a memorial of which any family can be proud: he served his State. My congratulations, Mr. President, are extended, like those of other honourable members, to those who have accepted Ministerial office in this Parliament and I especially single out the three honourable members of this Council who are Ministers.

It is said that these are hectic, even turbulent, times in some parts of the world. The late Earl Attlee, before he was elevated to the peerage and when he was a newly elected Prime Minister in Great Britain just after the

end of the Second World War, referred to that particular era as the day of the common man. His words took on as a catch-phrase and they were quoted quite often by certain groups of people. The so-called little man, the everyday man in the street whom we all recognize and honour as the salt of the earth, had come into his own in this era of the common man. But it took Mr. Winston Churchill (as he then was) to put the matter into clearer perspective. He pointed out that nations and groups of people cannot progress, they cannot even be sustained, except by the controlled skill and dedicated service of uncommon men.

Earlier in this century and during much of the previous century the factor regarded as paramount was that of society as a whole based upon the family, consolidated by the sanctity of marriage and inspired by an ideal of national pride. The forces of influence and those stresses which come with change have varied until in the western world we almost seem to have entered the era of the protesting individual and the demanding group. These are characterized by what is called the permissive society, wherein movements can ignore discipline and wave aside community allegiance and responsibility, and in certain circumstances even seem to claim the right to undermine the law of the land, a situation and condition accepted by some as an inalienable right of their modern citizenship.

In this form of society the individual is paramount, and the more "way out" that man is the more he is publicized. Rules, regulations and plans get bent and deviated to accommodate every possible and conceivable quirk of behaviour and interest. We spend a great deal of effort nowadays in providing for the non-conformist, so much so that one cannot be surprised that the average man who is a conformist wonders at times whether society has any backbone left and, if so, where it is. Moral values, loyalties, community and self-discipline, all once held as sacrosanct and fundamental by enlightened men, have been discarded by such sections of our community, sections which cut across all grades of wealth and all grades of experience and include even those to whom society has a right to expect to look for its future leadership at national and State levels in all influences of society.

Those who interpret social and moral trends of the day often refer to ours as a sick society. If so, is it because individuals are the causative organisms? All diseases of mankind manifest themselves as outward reflections of influences which are disturbing inwardly.

Social legislation which occupies much of a Government's thought and time and planning nowadays is geared to the needs of the individual. I sometimes wonder how far this process can go without ultimately destroying the very fabric of the community to which man belongs. So many human illnesses which are of a medical nature have disastrous consequences if they are not radically treated. Does the same apply to our community ailments? Man as an individual is regarded as having infinite worth, but surely that value and worth can only be conceded within the overall well-being of the society in which we live. The alternative, otherwise, is very sombre.

Over the years there has been gradually evolved in our society a system of law and order. This gives freedom within the law, liberty to all, and equality of justice. It is right and proper that changes have always been evolving and occurring steadily in keeping with the need of succeeding generations; but one cannot but question whether uncontrolled, unruly and dissident elements, minorities though they are, should be given the opportunity to damage severely and even destroy the whole edifice of peaceful and orderly progress merely to satisfy the restless discontent of a minority which is miscast. I emphasize the word "minority", because the vast majority of ordinary, decent people of all ages are not associated with this sort of thing.

Thinking still in terms of the individual, I was re-reading the Speech of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor when he opened this session, and it is quite clear and obvious that no item can be separated from the safety or the well-being of society as a whole and the individual in particular.

Education, with its growth and development, lays increasing emphasis on the needs of different groups of children and upon the personal needs of individual children and young adults, as the case may be. In liberalizing our educational facilities and in extending their horizons, we must be careful not just to draw more people into the net of learning but also to be sure that the facilities make the best use of those who are subjected to the system. A good educational system demands good teaching staff. Better a good staff and second-rate buildings than the other way around.

Looking over this State's history, no-one need be ashamed of the record of what has been attempted and what has been achieved in that time. But our teachers themselves have to be trained, and this section of the

community is an ever-growing one in a young and virile country such as ours. We have heard reference to the Western Teachers Training College, which I think all honourable members will agree has reached the stage of outgrowing its capacity for fulfilling its function adequately. I am sure every honourable member would agree with me that we all wish to see something done as soon as it is practicable for our less adequate educational buildings.

The Leader of the Opposition in this Council yesterday referred to prisons. They can be places of punishment (an old and outmoded idea) or their services can be directed towards restoring offenders back again to normal society. Some want it all one way, some want it all the other. Offenders still have to be punished, but that alone would only aggravate an already extensive anti-social group. The tendency in these circles is to deal with all offenders as mental or physical defectives and moral delinquents (as if those terms cover every crime from the most petty to the most vicious and cold-blooded deliberate assault). People who accept that concept seem to ignore and fail to recognize the right of society as a whole to expect from citizens a degree of self-control and conformity for the good of us all within the framework of the law. We have been informed in the Speech of His Excellency that steps are being taken to improve housing for offenders. This is good but, as with schools, the quality of the men and women who are members of the prison staff and the Police Force and who deal with these offenders is most important. Those in control of both schools and prisons (I do not associate the two necessarily) have to be of good calibre, and they deserve our thanks and respect for their work.

Reference was made by the Hon. Mr. Kemp to the training of students for professions, and he singled out agriculture and medicine. May I be permitted here to digress just for a moment, because I notice in today's press that in another place it was mentioned yesterday that the Council for Civil Liberties (to which the Hon. Mr. Kemp also referred) has a certain member of that other place on its books. It is stated in the paper (which is the source of my information) and also in the rough draft of *Hansard* of yesterday's proceedings in that other place that a 60 per cent vote of the members is required before one can retire from membership. Since that organization calls itself the Council for Civil

Liberties, I just wonder how much liberty there is. I have just been talking about prisons, and they are the only places I know of where one has to undergo a merit system in order to get out early.

I revert to education. The Hon. Mr. Kemp is an expert on, and various other members of this Chamber have great knowledge of, agriculture, but I can claim some experience and knowledge of medicine. I hope it is not too unfair to say that there has to be such a degree of specialization these days that we can almost be forgiven if we forget at times that we are dealing with a complete human being who is sick. I often think we have come almost to the point of regarding the human being as a mobile container containing various organs which, when they become guilty of malfunction, are handed over for the time being to the care of a specialist in that part of the human anatomy.

The advance of medicine as a science has become unbalanced with the art of healing, yet nowhere is a true balance between this science and this art more vital than in general practice. General practice has been called the front line of defence in the maintenance of community health and the spearhead of attack when sickness occurs. I pay a tribute to my professional colleagues in all spheres of specialties and general work but I suggest that, if we ever reach the stage of placing emphasis upon the more exotic and advanced types of surgical and medical therapy in our teaching centres at the expense of provision for a suitably trained and well-oriented group of general practitioners, then gross disservice will be done to the community at large.

It may be fascinating for a student to have the chance to watch the exciting and intricate techniques of advanced surgery, but other more prosaic studies may better equip him for his future work of general practice. In this connection, it is encouraging to know of the efforts being made under the aegis, help and impetus of the Australian College of General Practitioners towards better training for their particular discipline and art: towards continuing education during their years of professional work and towards better equipping them in their undergraduate training. Again, I think of the individual—that entity who in peacetime is considered beyond value.

Medical services provided by Governments and other sources have the object in view of providing the greatest amount of good for the greatest number of sick people. We recognize an economic ceiling in dealing with roads,

buildings, railways and so on, and it is obvious that this same limit must apply in our spending on hospitals, public health measures and, indeed, all social services, if the State is to remain solvent. Research within the means available (and, as many honourable members will appreciate, no research worker ever has enough to cover his work) must be encouraged but it calls for considerable thought and even heart-burning to recognize the disparity between, say, the cost of transplanting one organ of the more advanced type and the number of persons who, for the same sum of money, can be restored to full active community service and life. In saying this—and let no honourable member think I despise or deny the importance and value of the research worker, who is the pioneer of most new advances—I should like to focus honourable members' attention for a few moments on just one small section of the community, though perhaps not as small as we think—those whom we call alcoholics. The cost of one major advanced surgical procedure together with its ancillary services and needs exceeds the total expense in our State of rehabilitating this group of people who are sick both socially and medically.

It is easy to laugh at the "no hope" drunkard in his torn and tattered clothes as he lurches along the street; it is easy to condemn the man who normally is impeccable in his behaviour but who is not so when he is in the grip of alcohol; yet organizations such as the foundation in this State for alcoholism have a considerable measure of success in restoring to moral dignity and useful productivity many of their patients—the sick people. Such organizations deserve the gratitude of society as well as the help of Governments.

May I also refer to certain other deeply motivated bodies, such as the Heart Foundation and the Anti-Cancer Foundation, to mention but two of several equally worthy bodies? The public in its support of these organizations has over the years relieved Governments of the day of all complexions of burdens which in some form or another they would otherwise have had to bear officially. The growth of these special groups has reached such a proportion that the multiplicity of calls upon the pockets of the generous public is increasing by leaps and bounds. I wonder how long this can be sustained or how soon the economy might necessitate a truncation of effort.

During this session we will be dealing with vital and varied issues: the revision of State electoral districts, concession travel

rates for pensioners (which is very important for that section of the community), road works, electricity works, reclamation works and the festival hall, to name but a few.

The maintenance and improvement of water supplies is of fundamental importance to this State, for without adequate water supplies there can be no progress in South Australia. Chowilla must, therefore, become a reality if our future is to be safeguarded—Chowilla at least, or something better than it, is needed. As a member for Southern District I am particularly interested in the continuation of the Tailem Bend to Keith main which, so far, has reached a certain point. I also have an interest in the study of the underground water supply in the South-East, while many of my constituents in that area await with interest the Bill for the new Fisheries Act.

In conclusion, is it inapt to recall to the minds of honourable members South Australia's first Surveyor-General, a man of vision whose efforts established this city in which we live and who did so much? This city is his memorial and we are his inheritors. He met with opposition, and I do not suppose the present Government will fail in doing that too. But may it be said at the end of this session that South Australia is better for the session having been held.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: The moral?

The Hon. V. G. SPRINGETT: Morals are good things that all good societies believe in.

The Hon. JESSIE COOPER (Central No. 2): In rising to support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply I add my thanks to those already expressed for the way in which our Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Mellis Napier, once more opened Parliament. I take this opportunity to wish him a complete recovery from his illness. May I also congratulate the three Ministers of this Chamber on their new status and wish them many years of happy service.

I concur with those moving the motion in expressing my sympathy to the relatives of those Parliamentarians who have died recently. I think particularly of Mr. Frank Walsh, a former Premier of this State, who was an honest and honourable man, dignified in the high office he held. He was loyal to South Australia at all times and always prepared to help any members of this Parliament in the pursuance of their duties. I think, too, of Mr. Fred Walsh, who held the respect of all members of the community who knew him and worked with him, for his wisdom, kindness and complete fairness of mind. I congratulate the

mover and seconder of the motion. It is never an easy task and on this occasion it was performed with courage and with knowledge of current events in both the city and the country.

The Hon. Mr. Kemp, in his interesting and forthright statement to this Council, underlined the need to examine closely the growth of a destructive dry rot in our social structure and the need to recognize the encouragement of disloyalty, the atheistic indoctrination and the general undermining of our social organizations and institutions, all of which are rife today.

Their origins are being well camouflaged and it is quite popular to say that no destructive force is in existence. It is, therefore, all the more difficult to delineate the dangers to those who do not wish to see them or to those who wish to conceal them, and it will be only because of the fearlessness and outspokenness of those who know the facts (people like the honourable member) that our fine heritage of laws and social justice will be protected and maintained.

The Hon. Mr. Whyte's description of the phenomenal season in the North and on Eyre Peninsula described exactly my own experience on Eyre Peninsula only last week. It has always been a part of South Australia that appeals to me greatly, even in dry seasons. But today it is a veritable paradise of beauty. I hope all honourable members will be able to see something of this country before summer comes, and I certainly hope the people of that area get their pipeline.

In reaffirming my loyalty to the Crown, I wish to mention the gracious visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh to Adelaide at the end of May. A highlight of his visit was the presentation at Government House of gold awards to six boys and 20 girls under the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme. As honourable members probably know, this scheme came into being in the United Kingdom in 1956 and began in Australia in 1961 under the aegis of the National Fitness Council. His Honour Mr. Justice Hogarth was its first chairman, and he continues to hold that office. I had the honour to be appointed to the State committee in 1963, so that I could assist in the formation of the scheme for girls; a pilot scheme for boys was then well under way. I think honourable members will realize from the figures how successful I was: we got 20 girls and six boys through to their awards.

The objects of this scheme are to set standards in public service, in self-reliance and

determination, in the pursuit of hobbies and in physical fitness. Those who participate in the scheme do not do so in any spirit of competition or to set records: they are merely (and I quote from the handbook) "taking up the challenge thrown down by the Duke of Edinburgh to show what they are made of, to test themselves against a set of standards." His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh said:

Young people growing up in industrial communities have many difficulties to face. Parents, clubs, voluntary organizations and industrial firms, in shouldering their responsibilities equally, have to overcome many problems. This scheme is designed to help both the young and the grown-up. It is designed as an introduction to new leisure time activities, a challenge to the individual to personal achievement. I hope that those who take part in this scheme will find an added purpose and pleasure in their lives, and that sense of satisfaction which comes from successfully overcoming a challenge or helping others to overcome it.

I do not wish to weary honourable members with too much detail, but I think it might be of interest to them to know that there are two award schemes (one for boys and one for girls) and that there are three distinct levels—bronze, silver and gold.

I intend to give honourable members an idea of the standard reached to bear out what I will say later. The requirements for boys are service, expedition, pursuits and fitness and, at the first level (the bronze award), they undergo an oral and practical examination in first-aid, in accordance with an agreed syllabus drawn up by the St. John Ambulance Association. At the second level (the silver award) they have to qualify in one of the following: first-aid (higher standard for the bronze award); lifesaving; surf lifesaving; home nursing; volunteer coastal patrol service training; fire service training; helping the deaf, dumb and blind; youth leadership courses; knowledge and care of animals; mountain rescue; and civil defence. When these young people go through to the final phase or gold standard, they have to qualify in one of the services at a higher level, and in addition some form of actual service over a minimum of 24 hours spread over a period of six months, preferably in the same service as that chosen in the bronze award. Other suggested forms of service include help with the award scheme, the church, hospitals, or old or disabled persons.

In the expedition section at the bronze level, they must have preparatory training in map-reading, first-aid, camp-craft and cooking, and a 24-hour journey on foot to cover at least 15

miles across normal country. The night may be spent in a barn, shed or tent, or in the open.

At the silver level, they must have preparatory training in the use of the compass and in route-finding by day, and they must take a journey on foot (to include two nights in the open or in tents in separate camp sites, not less than five miles apart) and cover at least 30 miles in normal country, or an equivalent expedition by bicycle, canoe or small boat, or on horseback.

At the gold level, they must have preparatory training in route-finding by night and in low visibility, weather lore and mountain scrambling, and either a journey on foot (covering at least 50 miles in wild country and spending at least three nights in different camp sites) or an equivalent expedition by other means.

In the pursuits section there must be a continuing pursuit of a particular line of study over a period of six months, or the completion of a definite project chosen from a very wide field of activities, under the headings of arts, craftsmanship, science and natural history, and technical skill. This goes on through each section.

We must all be very glad that we do not have to do what is required at each of the levels of the fitness section. It is divided into six groups: running or walking, jumping, throwing, swimming, physical efficiency, and a special group. When gold level is reached, the young people encounter a very high standard indeed. The standard for 100 yards is 11.8 seconds; for 880 yards it is 2 minutes 20 seconds; for the long jump 17ft.; for swimming over 100 yards, 1 minute 20 seconds; and for throwing the cricket ball 185ft.

I can assure honourable members that those who qualify for the gold award have proved themselves beyond all reasonable doubt to be boys and girls of high ideals, of sound principles and of considerable courage. They are good citizens, disciplined in themselves and independent minded. One could be forgiven for holding the opinion that the only alleged idealisms today which are worth publicizing are those pertaining to political pressure groups with left-wing axes to grind, but there are other true idealisms and it is a joy to see the young working for those ideals without fuss or public demonstrations.

There are thousands of children doing secondary education in South Australia. Quite 90 per cent of them are hard-working, good citizens, so when I speak of the idealism of the

boys and girls in the Duke of Edinburgh's award scheme, I am thinking also of all the good young people in our community who quietly get on with their lives without any blare of publicity.

I now turn to another topic, the modern dissemination of knowledge. We are all very conscious today of the requirement for readily available new knowledge. We all know to our cost that, in the fields of learning and research, the textbook which is the last word on January 1 can well be out of date by July 1. In order to give our universities a vast file of information, we are spending hundreds of thousands of dollars in supplying university libraries and keeping them constantly supplied with new books.

My plea at the moment is that, when we lavish funds on publications, we should not do so only for the most vociferous and the most powerful groups in the community, but we should also remember the requirements of other sections of the community that are less organized but just as much in need of education and ready access to the wealth of new knowledge. I am thinking in this connection of the requirements of the thousands of nurses and trainee nurses in our community.

I am well aware that the cost of establishing a library at a new university is extremely high. The expenditure on the library at Flinders University for 1966 was \$94,265 and last year, the second year of its operation, it was \$150,227, and these sums are confined to the purchase of books: neither salaries nor maintenance is included, only the cost of actually buying stocks for the library. The assets at December, 1967, totalled \$604,897.

I have seen the library for trainee nurses at the Royal Adelaide Hospital; it consists of a set of books which does not even cover one wall. I am told that the amount set aside for textbooks and books containing the very necessary new knowledge is about \$60 a year. There is a very great discrepancy here. I know nursing is only one field, but it is still very necessary.

It is important that our Government should realize that all adult education does not take place in the universities and that, if industry and the professions in South Australia are to thrive in a way that will help this State to compete successfully in a highly competitive world, everyone in the community must have access to the new wealth of knowledge which is being published. This premise requires a complete re-thinking of the distribution of funds between not only such groups as our



nurses but also such institutions as libraries, particularly the State Library, and other semi-governmental instructional organizations.

The last matter I wish to discuss today is the old-fashioned attribute of loyalty, loyalty to one's family, or to one's State or to one's country. For months we in South Australia have had a constant hammering about our electoral system. It has been said in the Eastern States in the press, and on radio and television that South Australia's electoral system makes us the laughing stock of the rest of Australia, indeed, of all the British Commonwealth. We have been called the hillbilly State. We have seen the spectacle of certain members of our State Parliament condemning in other States their own State's electoral system. It is shameful disloyalty to bring South Australia deliberately into contempt and derision. Yet it was on the present distribution, let us not forget, that the late Mr. Frank Walsh was able to win an election and form a Government. Perhaps it was not the electoral distribution that went wrong in the last general election, only three years after the election in which Mr. Walsh was successful.

The true picture is that in South Australia, with votes almost equally divided, the distribution worked evenly. We have heard a lot about the alleged electoral disparity because the Liberal and Country League group won 48½ per cent of the seats in another place on about 46 per cent of votes and preferences. This seems to me to be about as near to an ideal set of proportions as one could ever expect to accomplish. However, in reply to the claim that South Australia is unique in its electoral arrangements (an absurdity when we consider other States) perhaps one should point out something that appears to have escaped the notice of the critics of all Parties and of a number of academics, namely, the result of the recent election in Canada. Despite the fact that we in South Australia have been accused of being the laughing stock of the British Commonwealth and of all Australia, we seem to be as white as the driven snow in comparison with Canada. The *Advertiser* reported, under Ottawa date-line June 26, that Mr. Trudeau's Liberal Government had obtained 154 seats out of 264, or 58.5 per cent of the seats in the House, in a nation-wide popular vote of 46 per cent. There has been no suggestion in the press that Canada is upset or that it intends to fool around with electoral redistribution. Strange, isn't it? I support the motion.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS (Midland): Mr. President, I am very pleased this afternoon to be in a position to support this motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. I join with other honourable members in congratulating the mover and the seconder upon their very fine speeches, and I endorse much of what they said. I commend the Hon. Mr. Whyte for the way he brought to the fore the needs of his district and particularly the needs of Eyre Peninsula as a whole and the situation in which we find that splendid part of this State at the present time. I also commend the Hon. Mr. Kemp, who had the intestinal fortitude to bring to note an activity which corresponds, to some considerable degree at all events, with what we used to call the fifth column.

I also hasten to reaffirm my loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen. I join in offering congratulations to His Excellency, the Lieutenant-Governor, and I rejoice at his recovery from his illness. I congratulate you, Mr. President, on your re-election to your high office, and I trust that you will be able to preside over us for a long time to come.

I wish to be associated in the expressions of regret which have been made by my colleagues at the decease of five former members of this Parliament and in expressions of condolence to their families. I did not know all of them, but I was pleased to know the late Hon. Frank Walsh and the late Mr. Fred Walsh, C.B.E., as my friends, although we were on the opposite sides of the political fence. Mr. Frank Walsh was always a friendly and a kindly man, as I found out in my early days in this Council when his office was situated not very far from mine. I also remember that soon after he became the Premier of this State my wife and I had a trip to the Centre and to Darwin. When we arrived at Alice Springs I remember very well that we were taken to our motel, and in the diningroom we encountered the Premier, as he then was, on the way down from Alice Springs with a party of people. As soon as Mr. Walsh was informed that my wife and I were there he disengaged himself from his party and spent 20 minutes with us talking about various matters. This, of course, was typical of the late honourable gentleman's friendly attitude.

I also spent some time with Mr. Fred Walsh, a valued member of this Parliament and a valued member of the Public Works Committee. In fact, I spent the last few days of Mr. Fred Walsh's Parliamentary career with

him when we were both delegates to a Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference in Tasmania prior to the 1965 elections, when he retired. Mr. Fred Walsh was an experienced politician, a loyal servant to his Party, and a wise and moderate-minded man, who served South Australia with distinction. I would again say that I valued the friendship of these gentlemen and I regret their passing. As I previously stated, I extend condolences to their sorrowing relatives.

On this occasion, as we re-assemble, there are no new members of this honourable Council, but there has been, of course, an infusion of new blood into the other place. The other place is, of course, as members there would hasten to tell us, a part of this Parliament, and no doubt they would think it is a most important part of the Parliament as a whole. I also refer to the retirement of several members that caused the vacancies that were filled. I regret their retirement. I pay a tribute to the former members of another place, particularly to the Hon. Sir Thomas Playford and also to Mr. Shannon, Mr. Bockelberg, Mr. Heaslip and Mr. Quirke. But these things, of course, have to happen. We have to give way, and eventually new members come into this Parliament. However, I would echo the Hon. Colin Rowe's sentiments regarding the using of the great abilities and experience of the Hon. Sir Thomas Playford. I believe the State could well use the great experience and wisdom of this gentleman for some time to come in some manner within the management of this State.

I wish all the new members of another place a successful career, and I trust that they will make worthwhile contributions to this Parliament as a whole. I congratulate the Premier and his Government upon assuming office, and I wish them well in their task. I particularly mention, as some of my colleagues have already mentioned, our new Ministers in this Chamber. I know that our own Ministers have the esteem and the goodwill of all their colleagues. While the Leader of the Opposition and his colleagues are probably not in agreement on our policies, I know (and the Leader mentioned this yesterday) that the Ministers in this Council have the esteem and goodwill also of the members of the Opposition in this place. I extend to the Ministers my congratulations, and I wish them well in the task they have in front of them.

I turn now to the matters contained in His Excellency's Speech. I notice in paragraph 10 that the Government intends to continue the

development of Crown lands. I was interested and very pleased to see that the Government intends to freehold land where it seems to be appropriate. I have mentioned previously in some detail the lack of incentive which the removal of this right has created. There are parts of South Australia, notably in the Upper South-East and on Eyre Peninsula and Yorke Peninsula, where land still can be developed and where some land that has been partially developed can be further developed. I believe that some incentive should be given to a man who spends years of his life and hard toil improving land, and that the incentive that is given to him if he is given security of tenure is well worth while.

I endorse the comments of my colleague, the Hon. Mr. Rowe, with regard to land tax. I understand that that honourable gentleman took a deputation to the Treasurer while I was engaged on Government matters in the South-East. The high incidence of land tax in some areas has concerned me, as honourable members will know from my questions on this subject. The lack of the right to freehold land or to secure extended tenure would retard development, and exorbitant land tax would do likewise. I believe that in those instances where land tax has become really burdensome the Government might well look at the situation, and I am sure it will do this.

It is up to us, Mr. President, to develop to the best of our abilities the remaining land, and there is not a great deal of it, compared with some other States. It is up to us to improve land and also to build up the fertility and the productivity of the land in this State which is already developed, and we should not be penalized for so doing.

I now refer to that part of the Lieutenant-Governor's Speech which deals with the Government's intention to press for the continuation of the construction of the Chowilla dam. His Excellency said:

My Government regards it as vital to the future development of South Australia that in order to ensure our water resources this project should proceed.

I support the Government completely on this matter and believe that the construction of the Chowilla dam is essential to the further development of South Australia. It has to be done sooner or later, come what may, and the sooner it is done the better will be the result. Of course, there have been objections to the cost. The gross cost has been estimated at \$70,000,000, part of which has already been spent. This is not exorbitant if we take the long-term view. If the construction of this

dam means that it will be possible to place within this State another 1,000,000 people who will be paying taxes over many years to both State and Commonwealth Governments, this cost of \$70,000,000 is not the frightening amount some people seem to think it is, because, after all is said and done, if we can develop this State to contain another 1,000,000 people (in other words, to double the population), it is not merely a matter of developing this State: it is developing Australia as a whole. Another 1,000,000 people would be important to the development of this State.

I believe that the average amount of water that passes through Chowilla (that is, considering the very wet and the very dry years and taking an average) is about 9,000,000 acre feet a year, and the portion of that water that could be stored would be directly available to South Australia. There might be some side benefits to Victoria and New South Wales but South Australia would benefit directly. Also, with this average of 9,000,000 acre feet, it would be possible to hold the Chowilla dam at a satisfactory level, for the most part.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: Where do you get that information from?

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: The information, as I remember it, was quoted to me by Sir Thomas Playford, and I do not think anybody knows more about this than he does.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: Do you take him as an authority on a construction of this nature?

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Not as an authority on the construction but as an authority on this matter generally.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: On the need for this water?

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Yes.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: I agree with that.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I believe he was working on information given to him at the time.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: As I understand it, the problem is not the cost: it is the construction.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: If the Leader will listen to me for a little while—

The Hon. A. J. Shard: We want to be fair dinkum about it.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: —At Dartmouth on the Mitta Mitta under 1,000,000 acre feet of water would be available in an average year, which is a very much smaller amount. Not only that but it is a matter of six weeks in time of flow away from South Australia, and not only is it six weeks away but it is two States away, and the two States would be

happy to have a little chip out of this amount of water coming down the Murray. While it would be subject to an agreement with the River Murray Commission, it might be possible to chip away a small amount in variations of that agreement from time to time. The construction of the Chowilla dam, therefore, is vital to South Australia and, if it is not done by the Governments concerned at the present time, it will have to be done within 20 years, at probably twice or three times the cost. Perhaps we ourselves shall not be vitally interested in what happens, but in due course the Teal Flat construction will be necessary as well. I commend the Government for its intention to press in every possible way for the construction of this dam at Chowilla.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: Why does the Government not create a dispute and go to arbitration about it?

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I think the Government will do its best. For two years the former Government was messing about with service pay and other things and losing the opportunities it might have had for getting on with the job.

We are having an excellent season at the moment and the position on Eyre Peninsula, about which my friend, the Hon. Mr. Whyte, was talking, is such (as the Hon. Mrs. Cooper has said) that it has to be seen to be believed. I was on Eyre Peninsula not very long ago and can well believe in its present condition because even then the prospects were excellent. I believe, with my very small knowledge of Eyre Peninsula, that it is one part of South Australia still open to considerable improvement and expansion. Many of our people who rush over to Western Australia should look at Eyre Peninsula before they go to another State.

We have much to be thankful for in the bountiful season now with us and the splendid prospects ahead of us. In some areas, of course, it has been too wet, but we cannot expect to have it all our own way in every district. I commend the Government for its statement that it will do everything possible to expand our forests. His Excellency said:

My Government will do everything possible to expand existing forests and it is planned this year to establish a further 6,000 acres for forestry purposes.

I commend the Government and the Minister, because this is a necessary and far-sighted policy.

In passing, I refer to paragraph 13 of His Excellency's Speech, in which he referred to

the concessional rates for travel by pensioners by rail, Municipal Tramways Trust buses and private licensed buses in the metropolitan area, which will be extended to include peak-hour travel. That is something on which the Government should be commended. I trust it will be able to carry this out by the time stated in this paragraph. In paragraph 14 the Lieutenant-Governor said:

My Ministers are considering a proposal for the erection of the festival hall and it is hoped to lay before you during this session a Bill to amend the Festival Hall (City of Adelaide) Act so that the project may proceed without further delay.

I happened to come across something I said five years ago about this—and that is how long this thing has been going on.

The Hon. C. R. Story: You must have been having a tidy-up!

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Yes, and it is marvellous the number of things that came to light. Five years ago we were debating the setting up of a festival hall in South Australia and since then we have had a few red herrings drawn across the trail: there has been talk of a cultural centre and a theatre. Sir Robert Helpmann, if he got the bit between his teeth, would finish up with something unsuitable for concerts.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: It would be all right for ballet.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: The Government has suggested that a hall of 2,000 capacity be built at Carclew. I do not quarrel with Carclew; I believe it is an excellent site.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: The Adelaide City Council does not think so.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Naturally, the City Council has some interest in the matter, but it is also a State matter, and some other opinions should be listened to as well. I am worried about the present proposal because it has been suggested that the hall should seat only 2,000 people. If I remember correctly, it is about 100 years since the Adelaide Town Hall was built. That is an excellent hall; its acoustics are excellent and it accommodates 1,200 people. If one liked to move the organ to the back of the banquet hall, chop out a wall or put a balcony on each of its sides, its capacity could, perhaps, be increased to 1,600 or 1,700 people, although its acoustics might be ruined. We are thinking now of spending \$4,500,000 on a hall that will hold only 300 or 400 more people than the Town Hall, which was built 100 years ago. I believe, Sir, that if the Government and the

City Council are thinking of doing something about this proposal after five years, they should consider erecting a hall with a seating capacity of not less than 2,500 or 3,000 people.

One could get completely laid aside on this matter and finish up with a grandiose project: a large hall, small theatre, a medium sized theatre, a broadcasting studio, annexes, etc., in which case one would finish up with something like the Sydney opera house or with nothing. We should only do what was intended to be done in the first place: build a festival hall. This matter really only arose in the first place because we started the Festival of Arts in Adelaide, when we found that we did not have a large enough concert hall for that purpose.

I believe that when the Government and the City Council can agree about this they should build a festival hall, because I can foresee that, should some of these other schemes become effective and should Sir Robert Helpmann have his way, we shall have a theatre of a sort that will not be entirely suitable for the large-scale concerts that have been held in recent years. Also, in that event, if the largest concerts are still to be held at the festival, we shall find ourselves having to go back to Centennial Hall, which is where we are now.

The Government should remember that this matter was brought up in the first place not because we did not have a theatre (although I am not suggesting that at some stage a theatre should not be added) but because we did not have an adequate concert hall. That is the first requirement, not merely for Adelaide but for South Australia as a whole, in the staging of a Festival of Arts, which should be of benefit to everyone in making the State known overseas. I am sure it is accepted that our Festival of Arts does make South Australia known all over the world. I hope the City Council and the Government keep in mind that our first requirement is a concert hall. With all respect to my colleague, the Hon. Mr. Hart, I do not believe the Centennial Hall will ever become an entirely satisfactory concert hall, no matter how much money the Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society or the Government spends on it.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: Some have a different view from that.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I now turn to education and commend the Government and the previous Government for the facilities that have been and are being provided in South Australia for adult education in the country.

I was indeed glad to see the completion during the term of the previous Government of the Gawler Adult Education Centre. This scheme was commenced during the last year of the Playford Government's term of office and was completed during the Hon. Mr. Loveday's term as Minister of Education; indeed, he opened the centre. It is not just a matter of erecting a building. The adult education services in the country do give country people an opportunity to broaden their secondary education which they have sometimes had to conclude sooner than they wished. It also gives them, to a limited degree at all events, the opportunity of obtaining tertiary or semi-tertiary education, especially in the field of accountancy or in such short-term courses as agriculture or wine making. These centres provide an excellent opportunity for these people who cannot get to the city to continue their education.

The Hon. C. R. Story: It has been suggested it is a little extravagant.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I would not think that was the case. I think it is necessary that country people should have the opportunity to continue their education or to broaden the secondary education that they have already had. I mention Gawler as one instance, but I am glad to know that it is happening at various other centres throughout South Australia. While I am close to the parish pump I also mention the Hutchinson Hospital at Gawler, which has been extended considerably over the last three years. I remember introducing a deputation to you, Sir, when you were Chief Secretary, and getting, to some extent, the green light, and shortly after the change of Government the member for Gawler and I introduced a deputation to the Hon. Mr. Shard, who was then Chief Secretary. The people of that district are grateful for the rebuilding and improvements that were carried out at the Hutchinson Hospital. I believe the provision of hospital facilities, both in the city and the country, is a necessary activity of Government.

I refer now to paragraph 20 of His Excellency's Speech where he dealt with road-works. I bring to the attention of the Minister of Roads the miles (I think 56) of unsealed road on the Murray Valley Highway. Of course, this is a sealed tourist highway extending from Albury along the Murray River to Blanchetown, and it then continues unsealed, in some parts, from Blanchetown to Murray Bridge.

The Hon. S. C. Bevan: That part is under construction.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: The Murray Valley Development League is anxious that this work should proceed and, indeed, it asks the Government to proceed with it. As the Hon. Mr. Bevan just said, at least part of it is under construction anyway. Quite a lot of that 56 miles needs sealing in a reasonably short time, and I bring the matter to the notice of the Minister of Roads.

I commend this Government and the previous Government for the work that has been and is being done with regard to the provision of water in the country. I am pleased to see that the Kangaroo Creek dam is nearing completion. I am pleased also to know that progress will be speeded up on the Taillem Bend to Keith main and the Swan Reach to Stockwell pipeline, which will increase the efficiency of the Warren system considerably and which, I hope, will help the bottom end of Yorke Peninsula with extra storages down there. They may be helped, too, in regard to underground water supplies.

Although the matter I am about to raise does not relate directly to my own parish, I should like to refer to it because it is of great importance to the whole State: I wish to refer to the investigation of underground water supplies on Eyre Peninsula. I was very pleased this afternoon to hear the Minister say that the Kimba main would be commenced this year, as has been suggested. Having looked around the Kimba area, I believe that this project is one of the most urgently needed in South Australia. I commend its urgency to the consideration of the Government. The construction of the Chowilla dam, or some greater storage, is the backbone of these schemes.

Before I conclude I want to commend my colleague the Hon. Les Hart on his thoughtful and well documented case for an all-States barley board, because I believe this is a necessity. I do not wish to waste time by repeating what has been said, but I believe the Hon. Mr. Hart made out a very good case for a barley board that would not be a three-piece set-up similar to the one we have at present (a Queensland barley board, a Western Australian barley board and a so-called Australian barley board, all competing with each other to sell barley on oversea markets) but an Australian barley board that is really all-Australian, or alternatively, as has been suggested, an Australian grains board.

I should also like to commend my colleague the Minister of Agriculture for the positive steps being taken to correct the difficult situation that has arisen at the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs. I believe the Minister has made a move in the right direction in securing Mr. David McCall to assist in straightening out the situation and I wish him well in his efforts to achieve a successful outcome. I wish the Government every success in its efforts to

further develop this State, and I have pleasure in supporting the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 3.53 p.m. the Council adjourned until Tuesday, July 30, at 2.15 p.m.