

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday, September 5, 1968

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

QUESTIONS

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I ask leave to make a short statement prior to asking a question of the Chief Secretary.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: For many years there has been talk of building a new Government Printing Office. Even before I became a member of this Council it was accepted by most people that the present Government Printing Office building was inadequate and unsafe for the installation of further heavy machinery. During that time suitable sites were being sought by the Government Printer and other people until eventually about four years ago a site in Kent Town was selected; but this, too, was declared unsuitable. During the term of the previous Government a block of land at Netley was found and purchased. Then a committee from the Public Buildings Department, which included the present Government Printer, looked at the situation and the type of building, and plans were drawn which were eventually submitted when the matter was referred to the Public Works Committee.

That committee has had this matter in hand for some time and has visited other States and looked at Government Printing Offices there. It appears that a report on the Government Printing Office will be forthcoming in the near future. The matter is urgent. In view of the likelihood of an early report from the Public Works Committee on the Government Printing Office, can the Chief Secretary tell me whether, if this report is submitted in the near future, a start will be made on the new Government Printing Office in this financial year?

The Hon. C. R. STORY: I am sure the honourable member will not mind my answering that question, although he asked it of another Minister, as I represent the Minister of Works in this Chamber.

The Hon. A. J. Shard: The Government Printing Office comes under the Chief Secretary.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: As I understood it, the honourable member was asking his question more about the Public Works Committee and when the new printing office would be

built. My colleague the Chief Secretary has indicated that it might be better if the question was directed to me, representing the Minister of Works. As the honourable member has pointed out, the matter has been before the Public Works Committee for some time. When I was a member of that committee I took some part in the inquiry. When the committee's report is produced, I will certainly take up with the Government whether something along the lines suggested by the honourable member will be possible, but, first, it will be necessary for the Public Works Committee to report, and it is still deliberating the matter. I do not know how long it will take the committee to furnish a report, but I will certainly take up the matter for the honourable member.

SALINITY

The Hon. V. G. SPRINGETT: Has the Minister of Agriculture a reply to a question I asked on August 20 about the effects of frost and salinity on orchards at Mypolonga?

The Hon. C. R. STORY: Unfortunately, this matter of salinity and frost damage is common not only to Mypolonga but also to other areas in the Murray Valley. My colleague the Minister of Lands provided an officer to investigate the situation at Mypolonga, and an officer of my department, too, has provided a report. The Minister of Lands advises that he is prepared to consider applications for advances on the grounds of necessitous circumstances. Any application should be made in writing to his department.

PARLIAMENT HOUSE POLICE

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD: I ask leave to make a brief explanation before directing a question to you, Mr. President.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD: Over the last two weeks an extra policeman has been stationed inside Parliament House. This has given rise to many rumours throughout the place. Can you, Mr. President, explain to this Council the reason for the extra police protection being provided here?

The PRESIDENT: I do not quite get the import of the honourable member's question about rumours and what has happened. What has happened is nothing abnormal in any way. The obligation on the messengers is such that they are unable to police the entry and exit of visitors to and from this place, to direct them to their places and even to keep the Chair advised of people who are

in the galleries. This applies only, of course, when Parliament is sitting. As has been the practice in another place when a second officer has been stationed there, that assistance is being provided by the Police Force.

DERAILMENTS

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

Leave granted.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: My attention has been drawn to the fact that over a period several fairly serious derailments have occurred on the Angaston railway line, and two in particular in recent months—one at North Gawler and one at Light's Pass. In view of the fact that the Angaston line carries a considerable amount of heavy freight, can the Minister say whether the Railways Department has considered whether this line needs further strengthening or extra ballast so that these derailments, which must be costly, can be avoided? Can the Minister also obtain an estimate of the cost of those two derailments?

The Hon. C. M. HILL: I shall obtain a report from the Railways Department on those matters and shall ask that special mention be made in that report of the question of ballasting.

HOMES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS (Chief Secretary): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

The Homes Act was originally enacted in 1941. It empowers the Treasurer to give guarantees to certain approved institutions to enable loans to be made to a higher percentage of valuation than would normally be available. Normal procedures of lenders restrict loans to 70 per cent of valuation, but institutions operating under the aegis of the Homes Act may make loans up to 85 per cent and 95 per cent of valuation and the Treasurer guarantees that the lender will not make a loss on foreclosure and realization by so lending in excess of 70 per cent of valuation. This legislation has been of very great importance to house purchasers over the years, and since the commencement of the Act over 18,000 house purchasers have been assisted in obtaining housing loans totalling over \$78,000,000.

At the present time the maximum loan which may be made for advances in excess of 85 per cent and up to 95 per cent of valuation is \$6,000, whilst the maximum amount of advance up to 85 per cent of valuation is \$7,000. These maxima were fixed last in 1958, and the trend in housing price levels has tended to restrict the value of this Act with the present maximum loan of \$7,000. For example, a house valued at \$10,000 will attract the present maximum loan at 70 per cent of valuation and without the necessity for any guarantee.

In line with its recently announced decision to increase the maximum loans to be made by the State Bank to \$8,000, this Bill now increases the maximum loan on an 85 per cent valuation which may be made subject to guarantee under the Homes Act to \$8,000. It is not proposed to vary the maximum of high ratio loans from the present figure of \$6,000. Facilities for guaranteeing repayment of such high ratio loans up to and beyond \$8,000 are available through the operations of the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation, and the Government has already indicated that it is its policy to encourage as far as possible the insuring of high ratio loans through the corporation.

Clause 2 of the Bill provides for the substitution of \$8,000 for \$7,000 as the maximum loan which may be made pursuant to the Act, while clause 3 makes a general amendment to the principal Act relating to decimal currency.

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADVANCES FOR HOMES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS (Chief Secretary): I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

It amends the Advances for Homes Act so as to increase the maximum loan which may be made to home purchasers by the State Bank from \$7,000 to \$8,000. As with the amendments to the Homes Act, the increase applies to loans which are not in excess of 85 per cent of valuation. The bulk of the moneys lent through the State Bank are moneys made available from the Home Builders' Account under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, and I have already announced that, by agreement with the Commonwealth Minister of Housing, the maximum loan from Housing Agreement funds has been increased to \$8,000.

I am also arranging for the bank to advance high ratio loans when insured with the Housing Loans Insurance Corporation.

It has been recent practice to vote about \$500,000 each year for lending under the Advances for Homes Act to meet requirements for loans which may not be made, for one reason or another, from Commonwealth provided funds. These are almost entirely to purchasers of houses constructed by the Housing Trust. It is, of course, desirable and necessary that the conditions attaching to loans made under the Advances for Homes Act should be substantially the same as those applying to loans made from the Home Builders' Account, constituted under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement. The necessary amendments to increase the maximum loan to \$8,000 are made by clauses 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Bill. Clause 6 makes a general amendment to the principal Act relating to decimal currency.

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADVANCES TO SETTLERS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS (Chief Secretary):
I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

This Bill, like the Bills to amend the Homes Act and the Advances for Homes Act, raises the maximum amount which may be advanced for the erection of dwelling houses from \$7,000 to \$8,000. It is complementary to the other two Bills and is introduced for the same reasons. Clause 3 makes the necessary amendment. In addition, clause 2 increases the maximum amount which may be advanced by the State Bank to a settler for improvements and other purposes on his holding from \$4,800 to \$6,000. The present figure was fixed in 1952. Clause 4 makes a general amendment to the principal Act relating to decimal currency.

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD secured the adjournment of the debate.

PUBLIC PURPOSES LOAN BILL

Second reading.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS (Chief Secretary):
I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

At its meeting in June, 1968, the Australian Loan Council adopted a total new borrowing programme of \$710,000,000 for State works

and housing. This is an increase of \$33,000,000, or about 5 per cent above the 1967-68 borrowing programme of \$677,000,000. South Australia's share of this year's programme, determined on the proportion which has applied in recent years, is \$97,340,000, of which \$19,500,000 is to be borrowed in accordance with the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, leaving \$77,840,000 available for the normal works programme.

The \$19,500,000 for housing is \$1,500,000 less than the \$21,000,000 so allocated last year. The decision to nominate a smaller proportion of new moneys for housing, and thus to be able to allocate a greater proportion for other works, was taken after a careful examination of all requirements. This examination showed that recently there had been a considerable overtaking of the backlog in providing funds for housing finance, with a resultant marked decline in waiting time for individual applicants for loans. Also, it was clear that private enterprise was able and willing to provide a broad and satisfactory service in house construction, particularly sale housing. As a result, the pressures on the State Bank of South Australia and the South Australian Housing Trust have been reduced, and it is now both desirable and practicable to allocate more funds to other urgent works. Of the \$19,500,000 of new housing moneys, \$9,500,000 is to be made available to the Housing Trust and \$10,000,000 to the Home Builders Account. The latter figure will be supplemented by about \$1,450,000 of net recoveries from interest and repayments of previous advances, thus giving a total of \$11,450,000 to be distributed to lending institutions for housing loans. The proposed allocation is \$9,950,000 to the State Bank and \$1,500,000 to building societies.

In dealing with the programme of works apart from housing, the Government considered first what action should be taken in respect of the balance of \$5,658,000 which had built up in Loan Account by June 30, 1968, primarily as a result of shortfalls in expenditures of Engineering and Water Supply and Public Buildings Departments. Having regard to the deficits on Consolidated Revenue Account, which had accumulated to \$8,365,000 by June 30 last, the Government decided that the balance of \$5,658,000 of Loan funds should be held for the time being as a partial offset to those deficits and should not be used towards the 1968-69 works programme. At the same time, it is our firm view that the needs of the community, both for capital facilities and for

a stimulus to activity and employment, require that virtually all funds becoming available during 1968-69 should be used for works and development.

The \$77,840,000 of new borrowings available for general works and purposes will again be supplemented by recoveries of earlier expenditures. This year recoveries comparable with those of previous years are expected to amount to about \$12,300,000 and the total of the two sources of funds would be \$90,140,000. The Government has decided to reserve a further relatively small sum of \$400,000 towards offsetting past revenue deficits. This, together with the \$5,658,000 held from last year, will mean a little over \$6,000,000 so held by June 30 next. Having regard to the fact that \$2,000,000 of advances made or proposed to be made to the Natural Gas Pipelines Authority are on a short-term basis and may be considered as part of the reserve, the holding of some \$6,000,000 in Loan Account at June 30 next against accumulated deficits of \$8,365,000 appears to be a reasonable provision.

The balance of new funds becoming available in 1968-69 for works and so allocated would thus be \$89,740,000, but because of a changed method of accounting for certain Commonwealth grants the figures for recoveries and for expenditures are each increased by \$1,900,000, and the total of all works and purposes listed in the First Schedule to the Bill is accordingly \$91,640,000. In recent years special grants from the Commonwealth towards science laboratories, technical training and teachers colleges, have been paid to a trust account and, as authorized by the Public Finance Act, payments for approved purposes have been charged directly to the trust account. This year it has been decided to follow the practice already adopted with university and advanced education grants of asking Parliament to approve appropriations for payments on a gross basis and of taking Commonwealth contributions into the public accounts as a recovery. I should add that the estimate of Loan repayments of \$14,200,000, including these special Commonwealth education contributions of \$1,900,000, also includes \$93,000 to be recovered from the Commonwealth aid roads grants. The Commonwealth legislation permits a small portion of such grants to be used for works that are not roads but are directly connected with transport by road or water. The Government has decided that expenditure on fishing havens, estimated at \$93,000 this year, should be recovered from the grants.

Of the total programme of \$340,000,000 approved by Loan Council for normal semi-government borrowing, South Australia's share is \$18,030,000. The proposed allocations within this figure are \$10,000,000 to the Electricity Trust, \$4,250,000 to the Housing Trust, \$780,000 to the Natural Gas Pipelines Authority to supplement \$13,300,000 of specially approved raisings, and \$3,000,000 to the larger local government borrowers. For individual borrowings not in excess of \$300,000 there is no aggregate limit. The State Bank proposes to borrow \$300,000 towards financing the loans to producers scheme. The Electricity Trust and the Housing Trust will continue to supplement their capital funds with internal funds such as surpluses and depreciation and maintenance provisions. I will now give honourable members a brief review of the main Loan works and purposes for which the Bill provides:

ADVANCES FOR HOMES, \$500,000—For some years the State Bank has obtained the major part of its finance for loans to home builders from the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement moneys borrowed by the State at a concessional interest rate and advanced to institutions through the Home Builders Account. The advances for homes provisions have been a very small proportion of the bank's new funds. The State has agreed with the Commonwealth that Housing Agreement moneys be not used to finance the purchase by individuals of Housing Trust dwellings. The \$700,000 of State Loan funds allocated last year to the bank comprised \$500,000 for such purchases and \$200,000 to assist in the purchase of existing houses. This year the Government proposes that the purchase of existing houses be financed to approximately three times the former extent from the allocation of Housing Agreement funds, and \$500,000 is again provided under the Advances for Homes Act for loans to persons purchasing Housing Trust houses. In 1968-69 the bank is likely to have a total of about \$12,000,000 available for lending. This will be made up of new borrowings under the Housing Agreement \$9,950,000; State Loan funds \$500,000; and repayments of previous advances of about \$1,550,000.

LOANS TO PRODUCERS, \$900,000—To enable the bank to continue to assist in financing capital extensions by co-operative packing houses, distilleries, and other enterprises, it is estimated that about \$1,300,000 will be required in 1968-69. The sum of \$100,000 has been carried forward from last year; \$900,000 is to

be provided from Loan Account; and \$300,000 will be raised by way of new semi-government loans.

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

STUDENT HOSTELS, \$400,000—The purpose of loans under the Student Hostels (Advances) Act is to assist in the financing of accommodation for students, mainly country students, at educational institutions. Loans are made on a long-term basis and on conditions comparable with loans for housing purposes. Because of the advanced stage of planning reached by several institutions which have advised their intention to seek loans, it is estimated that \$400,000 will be required this year.

SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBS DRAINAGE, \$2,000,000—The drainage scheme was commenced in 1960-61 and the first stage is estimated to cost almost \$8,000,000. All of the funds required are being provided by the Government in the first instance and then half of the cost, apart from a special contribution of \$1,000,000 being made available by the Government towards costs associated with work in the lower reaches of the river, will be recovered subsequently by instalments from the local authorities whose areas will benefit. Amending legislation will be required to give effect to the arrangement for the special Government contribution. As it is desirable that the scheme be completed as quickly as possible, a substantially increased allocation of \$2,000,000 has been set aside in 1968-69. Work to be undertaken this year includes further earthworks on the Sturt River, the laying of pipes in drains east of the river, and additional land purchases.

METROPOLITAN DRAINAGE, OTHER, \$500,000—Following the receipt of a number of submissions from local government authorities for financial assistance with projects to dispose of floodwaters, the Government decided in 1967 that it would assist councils in this problem by providing \$1 for \$1 subsidies up to approved limits for the construction of suitable projects for main drains. Submissions from councils are examined by officers of the Highways Department to ensure that the proposals are technically sound and that they fit into an effective overall scheme for the suburbs. Councils are responsible for finding their quota of one half of the funds required and for carrying out the actual work. The sum of

\$500,000 is provided in 1968-69 as subsidies towards work on approved schemes in various council areas.

PUBLIC PARKS, \$300,000—This provision is for the purchase of land for public parks and recreation areas, and for grants to local government authorities to assist them in the purchase of open areas to be used for such purposes. In assisting local authorities in this manner the Government's normal policy is to provide a grant of one half of the Land Board's valuation of the open area being purchased. In accordance with recent practice it is proposed that any amount unspent at the end of the year from this provision be transferred to a Deposit Account and be available to be used for such purposes as required in the future. In recent years the Government's contribution has been appropriated from revenue.

IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS, \$425,000—Expenditure in 1968-69 will include the following: the sum of \$65,000 to complete a new pumping station at Cadell, the estimated total cost of which is about \$90,000; \$100,000 to construct a new overhead storage tank at Barmera; \$61,000 to complete the enlarging and resiting of the town water supply mains to North Berri; and \$35,000 to improve drainage facilities at Cadell.

SOUTH-EASTERN DRAINAGE, \$520,000—It was originally intended to proceed with major drain extensions, and these were covered within the estimate of \$520,000. In view of the recommendation of the Parliamentary Committee on Land Settlement that these works should be deferred, the programme has been revised. Cessation of major works will cause a closing down of construction activities later this financial year, and it is intended that culvert and bridge works, which would have been attended to at a later stage, will be constructed before activities in the area are terminated. It is expected that the revised programme will absorb the major proportion, if not all, of the amount which has been provided.

REMARK IRRIGATION TRUST, \$600,000—The Renmark Irrigation Trust Act provides that the Government is to finance the cost of constructing a pumping station at Renmark together with rising mains and ancillary works up to a total amount of \$1,120,000. Two-sevenths of the amount advanced is to be by way of grant and the remainder by way of loan, repayable by instalments by the trust. The Act also provides for Government grants not exceeding \$1,000,000 in total to be paid to the trust towards the cost of rehabilitation of the irrigation works and the provision of additional

drainage, and that such contributions shall not exceed the amount paid by the trust towards that cost. A recent estimate of the cost of completing the pumping station, rising mains and ancillary works is \$1,357,000. The previous Government agreed that this amount should be advanced on the same basis of sharing as laid down in the Act, and accordingly legislation will be introduced shortly to amend the amount specified in the Act from \$1,120,000 to \$1,357,000. The sum of \$500,000 is proposed in 1968-69 for further work on the pumping station and rising mains, and agreement has been reached with the trust for an annual payment of \$100,000, up to the limit of \$1,000,000 set down in the Act, towards rehabilitation of the irrigation works and additional drainage.

NATIONAL RESERVES, \$150,000—Provision of \$150,000 is made for the purchase of land suitable for national reserves as it becomes available. Funds for this purpose have previously been allocated in the Revenue Budget.

AFFORESTATION AND TIMBER MILLING, \$2,250,000—For 1968-69 a total amount of \$2,440,000 is proposed, \$2,250,000 to be provided from Loan Account and \$190,000 to be made available by the Commonwealth under the Softwood Forestry Agreement. The more important provisions are as follows: \$420,000 to meet the cost of recurring maintenance services involved in forest establishment and development; \$710,000 for preparation of land and planting. About 6,500 acres will be planted during 1968-69 and, after allowing for clear felling and for fire losses, the total area of State pine plantations will be about 180,000 acres at the end of June next; \$415,000 for the purchase of land suitable for forestry as it becomes available; \$58,000 for a further contribution to the National Sirex Fund, which was set up for the purpose of carrying out research on control measures against the Sirex wasp; and \$140,000 to complete the construction of a new regional office at Mount Gambier.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION, \$5,800,000—After allowing for \$100,000 of material to be supplied from stock on hand, a net \$2,130,000 is required this year for the Way and Works Branch to finance works to the value of \$2,230,000. The detailed proposals are: \$1,865,000 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; \$30,000 for the completion of fencing where required for the new railway from Ceduna to Kevin; and \$95,000 for the purchase

or construction of houses for employees and \$240,000 for plant and sundries. After allowing for \$200,000 of materials on hand, a net \$3,670,000 is proposed for the Rollingstock Branch in 1968-69, the more important provisions being: \$25,000 for final payments under contracts for the construction of five diesel electric shunt locomotives and spares, which were physically completed last year; \$914,000 to continue the construction of 24 suburban railcars, and \$11,000 to commence work on six joint stock power vans; and \$166,000 for the construction of five steel brake vans, and \$281,000 is set aside to continue the programme of modifications and improvements to freight vehicles. Narrow gauge requirements include \$278,000 for the construction of 34 hopper waggons and \$106,000 for the construction of six steel brake vans.

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, the funds for which are being provided initially by the Commonwealth Government under standardization arrangements, are proceeding satisfactorily. Further progress requiring expenditure of about \$9,430,000 from Commonwealth funds is proposed during 1968-69. The sum of \$1,710,000 is provided from Loan Account for the provision of six diesel electric locomotives and spares for 4ft. 8½in. gauge, the conversion of six diesel electric locomotives and 102 waggons from 3ft. 6in. gauge to 4ft. 8½in. gauge, and for sundry rolling stock items.

HARBOURS ACCOMMODATION, \$3,000,000—The major proposals for 1968-69 are: the sum of \$1,060,000 to commence work on the provision of berthing facilities for interstate container and roll-on-roll-off traffic. The scheme consists primarily of a wharf for a 430ft. long vehicular-container ship, dredging, paving and associated works. The berth and its approach will be 27ft. deep, but the wharf structure will allow of considerable deepening and lengthening should the need arise in the future; \$750,000 for further work on widening and deepening the river channel between the Outer and Inner Harbours. The scheme is necessary to cater for the larger ships now in general use and includes extending the Outer Harbour swinging basin, providing beacons in new positions, and reclaiming low-lying land; \$275,000 to commence the construction of a swinging basin opposite No. 3 Dock, Port Adelaide; and \$650,000 to continue work on the provision of bulk loading facilities at Giles Point on southern Yorke Peninsula.

FISHING HAVENS AND FORESHORE IMPROVEMENTS, \$210,000—The sum of \$33,000 is provided this year to continue work on additions to the jetty at Cape Jaffa; \$18,000 for the provision of a dinghy mooring area at Robe; \$10,000 to complete extensions to the jetty at South End; and \$32,000 for minor works, making a total of \$93,000 for fishing havens. As I have explained, this provision is to be recovered from the special amount available within Commonwealth aid roads grants. The sum of \$117,000 is required to complete the construction of a new jetty at Glenelg. The work is being carried out by the Government but will ultimately be vested in the Glenelg council and, in accordance with the agreed arrangements, \$43,000—that is one-third of the cost—is to be repaid by the council.

WATERWORKS AND SEWERS, \$28,420,000—The more important provisions for 1968-69 are as follows:

Morgan-Whyalla and Iron Knob Water Supply, \$2,114,000—The sum of \$2,100,000 is provided to continue work on the duplication of the Morgan-Whyalla main, the estimated total cost of which is approximately \$30,000,000. During 1968-69 it is proposed to continue construction of four pumping stations and the installation of pumps.

Adelaide Water District, \$8,253,000—The sum of \$910,000 is proposed to continue work on the provision of additional pumping plant for the Mannum-Adelaide main. This work will provide for the optimum capacity of the main. The sum of \$1,300,000 is provided for work on the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main. This major scheme will augment the metropolitan water supply by pumping water from the Murray River at Murray Bridge and lifting it through three pumping lifts over the Mount Lofty Ranges for discharge into the Onkaparinga River. The total cost of the scheme is estimated at \$25,250,000. Another scheme designed to improve the supply of water to the metropolitan area is the Kangaroo Creek reservoir, which will have a capacity of about 6,000,000,000 gallons. Construction commenced early in 1968, and \$1,690,000 is provided this year to continue work on the embankment and outlet works. The scheme is estimated to cost \$5,750,000. Funds are provided also for extensions and improvements to the water supply at Elizabeth, Heathfield, Lynton, Modbury, and Salisbury.

Warren Water District, \$201,000—The sum of \$15,000 is proposed to commence work on the Watervale water supply scheme.

Country Water Districts, \$5,138,000—The sum of \$2,416,000 is proposed for further work on the construction of a main from the Murray River at Swan Reach to Stockwell, the estimated total cost of which is \$8,000,000. During 1968-69 it is proposed to complete pipelaying and continue the construction of pumping stations and storage tanks. An amount of \$1,517,000 is provided to continue the construction of a trunk water main from Tailem Bend to Keith. The estimated cost of the scheme exclusive of branch mains and extensions is \$8,000,000. The provision this year will allow main-laying to proceed and structural work to continue on the pumping station at Tailem Bend. A detailed report has been submitted to the Commonwealth Government to support a request for a grant under the National Water Resources Development Programme to assist with the whole scheme, including extensions from the trunk main, to enable full development of about 2,800 sq. miles of farming and grazing land. In addition, funds are provided for water supply schemes at 16 other country areas.

Tod River Water District, \$1,391,000—The sum of \$734,000 is provided to continue 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 \$8,196,000. An amount of \$175,000 is provided to commence the construction of a main that will connect the Tod trunk main near Lock with Kimba at an estimated cost of \$2,264,000. The water will be drawn from the Poldia Basin, and the scheme involves the laying of 68 miles of main and the construction of pumping stations. In addition to providing an assured water supply to the township of Kimba, the scheme will enable farm production to be increased in the extensive rural area it will serve.

Beetaloo Water District, \$477,000—An amount of \$69,000 is required to complete improvements to the water supply at Port Pirie to cater for development by Broken Hill Associated Smelters and for additional domestic requirements.

Adelaide Sewers, \$8,045,000—Provision of \$1,814,000 is made to continue work on the Bolivar sewage treatment works, the total cost of which is estimated to be \$24,875,000. The sum of \$521,000 is proposed for work on the Christies Beach sewage treatment works, which are required to cater for the extensive housing development taking place in the South Coast area. An amount of \$833,000 is proposed for reconstruction of sewers in 1968-69. Of this

amount, \$424,000 is provided to continue work on the reconstruction of the south-western suburbs drainage area to cope with increasing outflows, and \$300,000 for the reconstruction and replacement of many old trunk sewers in the western suburbs. Funds are also provided for other reconstruction works, for sewerage of many new housing areas, and for treatment works and pumping stations.

Country Sewers, \$1,652,000—The sum of \$110,000 is provided to commence work on the extension of sewerage facilities to Gawler to provide for the increasing development in that area. The scheme is estimated to cost about \$3,300,000. An amount of \$312,000 is provided to continue work on the Mannum sewerage scheme which is necessary to prevent the possible pollution of Murray River water, and \$470,000 for further work on the sewerage scheme at Millicent which is proceeding satisfactorily despite difficult ground conditions. Work on the sewerage scheme at Whyalla is progressing according to plan, and \$500,000 is provided to continue work this year. The estimated total cost is \$4,650,000.

MURRAY RIVER WEIRS, DAMS, LOCKS ETC., \$400,000—Provision has been made for the State's contribution of \$400,000 towards the cost of capital works being undertaken in terms of the River Murray Waters Agreement. Of this amount, \$170,000 is required towards purchase by the River Murray Commission of a new derrick boat.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, LAND AND SERVICES, \$28,700,000—

Hospital Buildings, \$11,600,000. The main proposals for 1968-69 are:

Royal Adelaide Hospital—The sum of \$6,200,000 is provided to continue work on the rebuilding scheme for the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Of this, \$2,500,000 is for work on a new nurses home and a new wing for the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science. A single contract has been arranged for both buildings together. The sum of \$3,700,000 is for work on the ward block of 550 beds and the conversion of the old outpatients building for use as a nurses training school. The full scheme, including the new wing at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, is estimated to cost \$26,200,000. An amount of \$71,000 is required for final payments for the new seven-storey building to provide additional accommodation at the Dental Hospital.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital—The sum of \$1,700,000 is proposed for further work on major additions at the hospital involving a

new nine-storey ward wing with specialist wards and laboratories, an additional floor over the existing ward block, extensions to the outpatients block and the theatre suite, a new pharmacy, and additions to the medical officers accommodation and the nurses home. The estimated total cost of the full scheme is \$8,400,000.

Glenside Hospital—An amount of \$100,000 is proposed to commence the construction of a new nurses training school.

Strathmont Hospital—An amount of \$1,800,000 is set aside to continue work on the new Strathmont Hospital to provide a training centre for the intellectually retarded. The scheme is based on the concept of a village community and comprises groups of single-storey buildings consisting of administration and community centre, diagnostic-treatment buildings, villas, staff accommodation, nursery and service buildings, and is estimated to cost about \$6,600,000.

Modbury Hospital—The sum of \$150,000 is proposed to commence the construction of a new hospital at Modbury to serve the north-eastern suburbs extending through to Modbury, Tea Tree Gully and Golden Grove. The hospital is to be constructed in two stages. Stage I is estimated to cost \$9,600,000 and consists of the main hospital building to accommodate 236 beds, a home for 250 nurses, accommodation for 10 resident medical staff, a boiler house and workshops. Stage II is estimated to cost \$3,300,000 and is planned for completion in 1981. This stage will comprise a new ward wing of five floors to be added to the main building, increasing the bed total for the hospital to 450; an additional wing to be added to the nurses home to provide accommodation for a further 190 nursing staff; and an additional 10-bed wing to be added to the resident medical staff building.

Port Augusta Hospital—The sum of \$100,000 is provided to commence construction of new buildings at the Port Augusta Hospital which will increase total bed capacity from 93 to 108. The new buildings are estimated to cost \$2,512,000 and will replace the existing accommodation, which is outdated by present-day standards.

School Buildings, \$13,700,000—For 1968-69 the proposals for school buildings and associated works total \$13,700,000, and it is proposed that these funds will be applied as follows:

	\$
Work under 28 projects with a total value of \$12,587,000 for new schools or major additions to schools, technical colleges, teachers colleges and Raywood Training Centre, which were in progress at June 30, 1968 .	5,786,000
The commencement of 15 projects with a total value of \$7,479,000 for new schools or major additions to schools. Bedford Park Teachers College (Stage II), and Adult Education Centre	2,090,000
Work on craft work centres, change rooms and typing rooms	659,000
Prefabricated and transportable classrooms or classroom equivalents	1,200,000
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, subsidized works, additional samcon schools and components, and preliminary investigations and design	2,915,000
	\$13,700,000

Included in the proposed expenditures are technical colleges, science laboratories and teachers college projects, towards which Commonwealth contributions of about \$1,700,000 are expected.

Police and Courthouse Buildings, \$700,000—
The sum of \$150,000 is provided to complete work on the second stage of new and improved accommodation at Fort Largs to make it suitable for use as a Police Training Academy. The estimated total cost of this stage is \$232,000 and it comprises the construction of classrooms, group discussion rooms, library, staff rooms, typing rooms and storerooms. The sum of \$36,000 is proposed to commence the erection of a new police station at Snowtown; \$50,000 to commence work on new police stations and courthouses at Blanchetown and Ceduna; \$58,000 for alterations to the old Police Headquarters; and \$18,000 for alterations to the Adelaide Juvenile Court.

Other Government Buildings, \$2,700,000—
The major proposals for 1968-69 are:

Agricultural College Department—The sum of \$200,000 is provided to commence work on remodelling the wine cellars at the college to provide improved demonstration and laboratory facilities for oenology students. This project is being financed by Commonwealth grants for technical training.

Agriculture Department—The sum of \$47,000 is required to complete the construction of a laboratory and offices at the Kybybolite Research Centre, and \$50,000 is required to commence work on a new laboratory and offices at the Loxton Research Centre.

Department of Social Welfare—The sum of \$45,000 is provided to complete extensions to the dormitory and classroom wing at Brookway Park, and \$46,000 is required to commence additions at the junior boys training school at Lochiel Park.

Prisons Department—The sum of \$42,000 is proposed to complete a new building at Cadell Training Centre to provide improved dormitory accommodation, messing and recreational facilities. The sum of \$200,000 is provided to commence the construction of a rehabilitation centre at Northfield designed to accommodate 46 women under modern conditions. The centre is estimated to cost \$400,000, and will replace the existing inadequate accommodation for women prisoners at the Adelaide Gaol. The plans provide for single rooms and partitioned dormitories with adequate facilities for training, education and recreation purposes.

New Office Building, Victoria Square—The sum of \$350,000 is required to complete the installation of the necessary internal fittings for the new multi-storey office building which was physically completed last year. The estimated total cost of the building, including the purchase of modern furniture and equipment, is approximately \$6,350,000. Portion of the building is already in use and the remainder will be progressively occupied as the internal fittings are completed.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST—It is not proposed to make provision in the Bill for direct advances to the Housing Trust. As has been the practice for some 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. The allocation proposed this year is \$9,500,000. The trust will also borrow part of its requirement of new money direct from lending institutions and \$4,250,000 of semi-government borrowing authority has been set aside for this purpose. In addition, the trust has the use of funds recovered from the sale of houses and certain internal funds such as maintenance and depreciation provisions as well as its surplus on current operations. From all sources it will have funds capable of financing a capital programme of \$24,250,000.

It has become increasingly evident that builders and developers are in a position to provide such a broad and satisfactory service in sale housing that the need for the Housing Trust to continue in the field of sale housing has been lessened. It is undesirable that the Government should continue to use so extensively public funds to provide sale housing, and so restrict the opportunities of private builders to carry out the function which they are prepared both to perform and finance. As a result, the trust is now able to concentrate its resources more in the important rental field in which private enterprise is less able to operate, and to reduce its proportionate share in house construction overall. By such a re-organization of the Housing Trust's operations a greater effective contribution to housing can be made by the trust and private enterprise combined, and at the same time a small proportion of Loan funds may be released to be used for other forms of construction.

The general dissection of the trust's capital programme of \$24,250,000 planned for 1968-69 is \$9,210,000 for rental housing, \$3,400,000 for rental-purchase housing, \$8,700,000 for houses for sale, \$920,000 for flats, \$1,300,000 for shops and industrial premises, and \$720,000 for miscellaneous items. I would add that within the trust's overall programme there is room for flexibility to meet special and urgent needs of industry which the Government is working strenuously to promote, whether it be for the expansion of industries existing in the State, or for new industries attracted to South Australia from within Australia or overseas.

ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA—LOAN TO, \$6,000,000—During 1968-69 the trust proposes to spend \$28,620,000 on capital works. The sum of \$6,000,000 is to be provided from State Loan funds, \$10,000,000 to be raised by the trust from financial institutions and the public, with the balance of \$12,620,000 to be met from the trust's internal funds. The main proposals for 1968-69 are: An amount of \$9,370,000 for further work on the Torrens Island power station. Of this, \$2,220,000 is for Stage I, comprising the first two turbo-generators each of 120,000 kilowatt capacity with associated boilers and ancillary equipment, the second of which is now being brought into service. An amount of \$7,150,000 is provided for work on Stage II of the station, which will accommodate a further two units, each of 120,000 kilowatts, required for service in 1969 and 1971.

The sum of \$2,250,000 is required to continue work on the 275,000-volt transmission

system connecting the Torrens Island power station to the existing system and transmission lines between the Magill, Cherry Gardens and Happy Valley substations; \$60,000 for final payments on the 132,000-volt transmission lines and equipment from Whyalla to Port Lincoln, and \$30,000 for the transmission line from Port Augusta to Whyalla; \$130,000 for initial work on the reinforcement of a 132,000-volt supply to the Lower Murray areas and the South-East, including a start on a transmission line from Cherry Gardens to Murray Bridge and the Murray Bridge substation; \$650,000 for reinforcement of a 132,000-volt supply to the Upper Murray area, including a transmission line from Waterloo to North-West Bend; \$920,000 for construction work associated with the reinforcement of supply to northern areas by interconnection of the 275,000-volt and 132,000-volt systems near Brinkworth; and \$100,000 for the purchase of the Penola Electricity Undertaking (the final amount yet having to be determined).

The sum of \$2,180,000 is required for miscellaneous transmission lines and associated work to augment and improve supply throughout the State; \$3,600,000 for the purchase of large transformers, circuit breakers and other major items of equipment; \$3,660,000 for extensions and improvements to the medium and low voltage sections of the general distribution system throughout the State; \$1,300,000 for rural extensions; \$860,000 for the purchase of transformers required for the general distribution system and rural supply; and \$1,230,000 for the purchase of meters and control equipment.

NATURAL GAS PIPELINES AUTHORITY OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA, LOAN TO, \$1,000,000—The total cost of the planning and construction of a 22in. pipeline to carry gas from the Gidgealpa-Moomba area to Adelaide is currently estimated at closely \$40,000,000. The authority, through Bechtel Pacific Corporation, the engineering manager, has arranged the supply of pipes and has entered into a contract for construction. It is expected that the pipeline will be completed by October, 1969. The Commonwealth Government has agreed to make available a special loan of \$15,000,000 towards financing construction, and the Australian Loan Council has approved a special allocation of \$20,000,000 of semi-government borrowing authority. The remaining \$5,000,000 is to be provided by advances from the normal State Loan programme and from borrowings arranged as part of the normal semi-government programme.

To the end of June, 1968, funds totalling \$2,350,000 had been made available to the authority to meet progress payments for planning. These consisted of:

	\$
State Loan funds	1,000,000
Semi-government borrowings—	
Part of the special \$20,000,000	381,000
From normal annual borrowing programme	969,000
	\$2,350,000

The requirement for new funds in 1968-69 is expected to be about \$30,080,000, which it is proposed to provide as follows:

	\$
Special Commonwealth loan	15,000,000
State Loan funds	1,000,000
Semi-government borrowings—	
Part of the special \$20,000,000	13,300,000
From normal annual borrowing programme	780,000
	\$30,080,000

METROPOLITAN AND EXPORT ABATTOIRS BOARD, LOAN TO, \$100,000—The board normally finances its small capital works programme out of internal funds such as depreciation provisions, but from time to time it has a requirement to borrow either from the Government or from lending institutions. An advance of \$100,000 is proposed this year if required to assist in capital improvements to raise the standard of treatment of meat for export.

FESTIVAL HALL, \$500,000—Decisions affecting the festival hall project are primarily a concern of the Adelaide City Council, which is still investigating matters that have a vital bearing on the planning and construction of a hall. The Government has set up a small committee to report on the matter of an alternative site. I am unable to give honourable members very much information at this stage, and it is best that my comments be brief.

The Government has offered to secure Parliamentary approval to make a capital grant of \$2,500,000 towards a hall to cost \$4,000,000. The Bill appropriates \$500,000 for these purposes on the assumption that necessary legislation will be passed in the current session and that this amount will be required in 1968-69. It may be noted that the Government has offered to provide additional support of up to \$40,000 towards running costs each year for a period of 10 years.

UNIVERSITY AND ADVANCED EDUCATION BUILDINGS, \$5,000,000—This provision is to cover grants towards new buildings, associated site development, and furniture and equipment for the University of Adelaide, residential

colleges affiliated to the university, the Flinders University of South Australia and the South Australian Institute of Technology. The building projects involved have been investigated and recommended by the Australian Universities Commission or by the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Advanced Education. The total programmes recommended for the triennium 1967 to 1969 and accepted by the Commonwealth and the State for financial support are:

	\$
University of Adelaide	2,968,000
Flinders University of South Australia	4,322,000
South Australian Institute of Technology	5,437,000
Residential colleges	860,000
	\$13,587,000

The provisions totalling \$5,000,000 set down in the Bill are to cover expected claims for progress payments in 1968-69. The \$5,000,000 is a gross figure: that is to say, it comprises the State and Commonwealth contributions, the Commonwealth grants being credited to Loan Account as repayments when received.

NON-GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTION BUILDINGS, \$2,525,000—The major building projects at non-government hospitals and institutions, for which the grants are proposed this year, are as follows:

Calvary Hospital—The Government has agreed to grant assistance to the hospital for a new surgical wing, recovery room, central sterile supply, and accommodation for an additional 50 beds. The cost is estimated at \$881,000, and a grant of \$300,000 is proposed this year.

Helping Hand Centre—The Government is providing \$2 for each \$1 raised by the centre itself to assist in the building of a 100-bed infirmary for chronically sick aged persons. The estimated total cost of the new building is \$384,000, and \$100,000 is provided for work to proceed this year.

Lyell McEwin Hospital—The Government is meeting the full cost of a new nurses dining room, pharmacy, staff amenities and alterations to the kitchen at an estimated total cost of \$146,000. A grant of \$125,000 is proposed this year towards the project, which is expected to be completed in 1969-70.

Minda Home—A major scheme of alterations and additions, estimated to cost \$300,000, is to be carried out at Minda Home, and the Government has agreed to contribute \$2 for each \$1 raised by the home itself. A grant

of \$130,000 towards the work involved is proposed this year.

Murray Bridge Hospital—Extensive alterations to the existing hospital and a new nurses home are required at Murray Bridge and the Government is providing \$2 for each \$1 raised locally. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$500,000, and \$110,000 was provided last year; \$200,000 is proposed so that work may continue this year.

Woodville Spastic Centre—The Government is contributing \$2 for each \$1 raised by the centre itself towards extensions to existing buildings to provide additional accommodation, sheltered workshops and service areas. The proposed grant of \$200,000 will enable completion of the project, which is estimated to cost \$300,000.

MINES DEPARTMENT—BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., \$300,000—The sum of \$300,000 is proposed in 1968-69 for capital items to be used in the programme of exploration and development of the State's mineral resources; \$30,000 is provided to commence the erection of a departmental depot at Naracoorte, and \$30,000 to commence construction of additional buildings at the Thebarton depot to provide improved office accommodation and facilities for the storage of cores. The balance of \$240,000 is for new and replacement vehicles, minor additions to buildings, and the purchase of replacement and additional plant, equipment and instruments.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—SCHOOL BUSES, \$320,000—A sum of \$320,000 is provided this year for the purchase of additional and replacement buses for the transport of school-children in country areas. The conveyance of children to school now involves a total fleet of 647 buses, of which private contractors run 368 and the Government 279. The distance travelled by private contractors is about 3,900,000 miles a year in carrying some 14,000 children, while departmental buses run about 3,200,000 miles a year carrying some 12,000 children. The costs of operation in 1967-68 were: \$905,000 for hire of private buses and \$831,000 (including depreciation) for running departmental buses.

I turn now to the clauses of the Bill. Clause 3 defines the Loan Fund. Clause 4 provides for borrowing by the Treasurer of \$77,840,000. This is the amount of South Australia's allocation for works and purposes arranged at the June, 1968, meeting of Loan Council.

Clause 5 provides for the expenditure of \$91,640,000 on the undertakings set out in the First Schedule to the Bill. Subclauses (1),

(2) and (3) are in the same form as in previous years. Subclause (4) has been added simply to clarify a point which has always applied but which has caused a little confusion from time to time. Its wording has been taken directly from the Appropriation Act which deals with the expenditure of moneys from Revenue Account. In spending moneys from Revenue Account the Treasurer has not only the appropriation given by the Appropriation Act itself but also the appropriation given by certain other special Acts (such as the Constitution Act, the Highways Act, the Superannuation Act, etc.) and the appropriation given by the Governor's Appropriation Fund. A clause in the Appropriation Act makes it clear that the appropriation being given is in addition to any other appropriation properly given by law.

A similar situation applies to expenditure from Loan Account. The Treasurer has not only the appropriation given by the Public Purposes Loan Act, but also appropriation given by special Acts from time to time and the appropriation given by warrants issued by the Governor under the provisions of section 32b of the Public Finance Act. It is rather rare for special Act appropriation to be called on to authorize Loan expenditures. The Government would propose to continue the practice of including in the Loan Estimates and the First Schedule to the Public Purposes Loan Bill all probable commitments known at the beginning of the year, whether or not appropriation may be contained in some other Act. However, if a new purpose were authorized during the year by Parliament in an Act containing special appropriation, and expenditures had to be made at short notice, the appropriation authority in the special Act itself would be the logical source to use. On the other hand, the use of warrants under section 32b of the Public Finance Act to give appropriation for properly approved purposes, the existence or the extent of which was not known at the time of framing the Loan Estimates, is common. Seldom a year goes by without such use of warrants. Accordingly, it seems desirable to have in the Public Purposes Loan Bill a provision such as in clause 5 (4) to make it clear that there are other proper appropriations. Appendix III of the Treasurer's statement on the Loan Estimates gives information about sources of appropriation used in 1967-68, including transfers by the Treasurer pursuant to Clause 5 (3).

Clause 6 authorizes certain advances made during 1967-68 for the undertakings set out in the Second Schedule. This ratification is required to be included in the Public Purposes Loan Bill next brought before Parliament after warrants have been issued by the Governor pursuant to section 32b of the Public Finance Act. This is one of the additional forms of appropriation to which I referred a moment ago.

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 1969 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 that Act.

I point out that previously this clause provided that "The Treasurer shall on the request of the Minister of Roads issue and pay" etc. This year the words "on the request of the Minister of Roads" have been taken out. No purpose appears to have been served by the words in past years, and this year, when part of the Commonwealth Aid Roads grants is to be used for fishing havens for which the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Marine have the responsibility, it seems inappropriate to continue to have the Minister of Roads request the Treasurer to take action. Clause 13 provides for this Bill to operate as from July 1, 1968. I commend the Bill to honourable members.

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

DAIRY CATTLE IMPROVEMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from September 4. Page 1037.)

The Hon. C. R. STORY (Minister of Agriculture): I am grateful to honourable members for the attention they have given to this very small but important Bill. The Hon. Mr. Bevan obviously had his heart in his work, while the Hon. Mr. Hart gave us a most interesting historical dissertation on the setting up of the original legislation. The Hon. Mr. Dawkins raised several points of interest and showed that he, too, had analysed the Act very carefully. The Hon. Mr. Kemp, in his speech, referred to the changes that had taken place since 1921 when this Act first came into operation.

The Hon. H. K. Kemp: You also compliment me, I hope.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: Yes, but I cannot give a guarantee to honourable members that every time we bring down an amendment we shall not increase fees. However, I am glad to see that honourable members have noted that we did not do so on this occasion. The Hon. Mr. Kemp raised a valid point when he referred to the change that has taken place in recent times with beef cattle being used more and more in the inside areas. He referred particularly to the use of beef bulls on dairy cows.

I have taken serious note of the points raised by honourable members in the debate. I think those points are sufficiently important to be referred to the Advisory Committee for Dairy Improvement, a committee that has been set up to advise the Minister on these matters, and I will have them considered by that committee at the first opportunity. After the committee has inquired into these matters, I shall be prepared to have the legislation further amended if necessary.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.42 p.m. the Council adjourned until Tuesday, September 17, at 2.15 p.m.