

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday, April 1, 1971

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

ASSENT TO BILLS

His Excellency the Governor, by message, intimated his assent to the following Bills:

Agent-General Act Amendment,
Highways Act Amendment (Fund),
Lottery and Gaming Act Amendment (Tax),
Marketable Securities,
Motor Vehicles Act Amendment (Revenue),
Public Service Act Amendment (Leave),
Road and Railway Transport Act Amendment.

QUESTIONS

RURAL PROPERTIES

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Chief Secretary, representing the Premier.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: An article in the *South Australian Stock Journal* quotes the Premier as saying, when speaking of land tax assessments, that "just over 48,000 rural properties have been assessed". He went on to say, "Almost 38,000 (nearly 80 per cent) have an unimproved value no greater than \$15,000." However, according to the *Australian Year Book*, there are only 29,000 rural properties in South Australia, showing a discrepancy of 19,000 between the two figures for rural properties. Will the Chief Secretary take up this matter with the Premier and ask him how he has arrived at the figure of 48,000 rural properties?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: I will refer the honourable member's question to the Premier and bring back a reply as soon as possible.

ABATTOIRS

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: At present all sheep and lambs consigned to the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs for slaughter are required to be crutched. This is an added cost the producer must bear. I believe it is the intention of the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs

Board to install crutching facilities at the works so that sheep and lambs may be crutched on the chain rather than before being delivered to the works. Can the Minister indicate when these facilities are likely to be installed?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I cannot say exactly when these crutching facilities are likely to be installed by the Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board. It is a matter which must be looked at very closely. On a recent tour of New South Wales I inspected abattoirs where sheep were being crutched on the hook, and I did not think they were doing a very good job of it. We have probably the best system in Australia to ensure that the animals are in a very clean condition for slaughter. I can assure the honourable member that the matter will be looked into very thoroughly to find out the best method. This will depend, too, on the situation regarding the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industry, because the whole system of whether abattoirs will have licences granted or removed will now depend on the D.P.I., so the regulations set down by that department will have a great bearing on this matter.

The Hon. Sir ARTHUR RYMILL: The Minister has said that we have the best system at the moment. Is it also the most expensive system to the grower?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: As a grower myself I would say if it is in the interests of the grower to bring his stock into the market it will probably be cheaper for him to crutch the sheep himself, which I am sure the majority of primary producers are able to do and are doing today, rather than to pay someone to crutch the sheep, which may be the case if sheep have to be brought into the abattoirs and crutched there. This will also depend on what charges will be involved when crutching facilities are installed.

The Hon. R. A. GEDDES: When the Minister was in the Eastern States studying this matter were costs discussed at the abattoirs where sheep were being crutched on the hook?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: Yes, the matter was discussed, but unfortunately the sheep were not crutched there to the extent required in South Australia. I was rather surprised to see this, particularly as some of the abattoirs had export licences. They were having only a very minor tickle, as we call it, by the crutcher while they were hanging on the hook. It was not a full crutch as we know it.

The Hon. L. R. HART: If producers were willing to pay for the crutching of their stock

on the chain at the abattoirs, would the Minister support a project to install such facilities?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: This would depend on the recommendation from the Abattoirs Board. Until I see its recommendation I could not hazard a guess as to what my decision would be.

The Hon. Sir NORMAN JUDE: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture.

Leave granted.

The Hon. Sir NORMAN JUDE: In the last week or so one or two questions have been asked, and replies have been received from the Minister of Agriculture, specifically referring to the export of meat from the Gepps Cross abattoirs, and questions have referred also to pigs and lambs. As the Minister has said that the Department of Primary Industry is taking charge of the inspections, can he say when he expects conditions at the abattoirs to be acceptable to the D.P.I. to permit the export of beef?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: This depends on the D.P.I. I am unable to say when the licence will be granted.

The Hon. Sir NORMAN JUDE: In view of this reply and of his own statements when replying to other questions, does the Minister believe that conditions at the abattoir are satisfactory for meat export?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: At present beef and mutton are being exported from Gepps Cross to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics but no export licence is available for the United States of America. I have not had recent discussions with the D.P.I. on a personal basis, but I have spoken to the Chairman of the Abattoirs Board who assures me that it will be only a short time before the abattoir will be given an export licence by the D.P.I. I cannot say anything more than that. I cannot say whether it will be one, two, three or four weeks; that will depend on the inspection by the D.P.I. I know that every effort is being made to raise the standard to the department's requirements. I cannot add anything more.

SALISBURY TEACHERS COLLEGE

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture representing the Minister of Education.

Leave granted.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I understand that three stages of the building of Salisbury Teachers College have now been completed

and that the final stage is likely to be completed within the next month or so. Will the Minister of Agriculture ascertain from his colleague the maximum number of teachers who can be trained at this college at a time and how they will be distributed among the various branches of the department?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I will obtain a report from my colleague.

WILLIAMSTOWN SCHOOL

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: Will the Minister of Lands expedite a reply from the Minister of Roads and Transport to my question of March 10 concerning the suggested under-pass at the Williamstown school? I point out that the session is fast approaching its conclusion.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I will do that.

RECLAIMED WATER

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

Leave granted.

The Hon. L. R. HART: In reply to my recent question regarding the future use for irrigation purposes of reclaimed water from the Bolivar Sewage Treatment Works, the Minister of Agriculture said that a full investigation of the possible uses of that water had been authorized. It is evident that the Agriculture Department will be deeply involved in such an investigation. Can the Minister say who will conduct the investigation, how long it will be before the results of the investigation are available, and what the cost of the investigation will be?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: In his earlier question the honourable member asked that the matter be referred to the Minister of Works because it came under that Minister's jurisdiction. As the honourable member has said, the Agriculture Department will be involved in the investigation, particularly from the soils angle. I will attempt to get replies to the honourable member's questions as soon as possible.

ROAD SAFETY

The Hon. C. M. HILL: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Minister of Lands, representing the Minister of Roads and Transport.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. M. HILL: In November, 1970, the South Australian Committee of

Inquiry on Road Safety issued its report. That committee, which was chaired by Mr. Pak Poy, was appointed by the previous Government and it made an extensive inquiry into the causes of road accidents. The committee was asked to recommend how a reduction in the number of road fatalities could be brought about. The Government has now had over four months in which to study the committee's report. Will the Minister ask his colleague what the Government intends to do in regard to the report and whether any action has been taken so far to implement any of the committee's findings?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I will discuss the honourable member's question with my colleague and bring down a reply as soon as possible; I hope I can do that before the end of the session.

OVERLOADING

The Hon. Sir NORMAN JUDE: Has the Minister of Lands obtained from the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my recent question about prosecutions for overloading of vehicles?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: My colleague reports:

Of the 20 per cent of vehicles weighed by the Highways Department and found to be overloaded, up to 75 per cent of the overloads are of a minor nature only and no prosecution is made. Over the 12 months to January, 1971, fines amounting to \$156,967.50 have been imposed for overloading offences. As fines are paid direct to Consolidated Revenue, figures of actual payments of these fines can be obtained only from the various courts in which such cases were heard.

WANBI TO YINKANIE RAILWAY LINE

The PRESIDENT laid on the table the final report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence, on Wanbi to Yinkanie Railway Line.

CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (VOTING AGE)

The House of Assembly intimated that it had agreed to the recommendations of the conference.

BUILDING BILL

The House of Assembly intimated that it had agreed to the recommendations of the conference.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

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

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

That this Bill be now read a second time.

This measure is designed, in accordance with the statement made in the House of Assembly on February 23, to impose a tax on admissions to public entertainment. The duty will be on the admission charges at the rate of 7½ per cent but will not extend to admission charges that do not exceed \$1 for an individual admission. There will be other exemptions detailed in the Statute that will extend to entertainments for charitable purposes and admissions to agricultural shows and the like. Subject to the exemption the tax will extend to cinemas and live theatres, racing and other sporting entertainments, and to all other public entertainment for which admission charges are made.

Until taken over as a war-time measure by the Commonwealth Government during the 1939-1945 war, South Australia had for many years operated an entertainment tax, but it did not resume the tax when the Commonwealth subsequently abandoned it. At present, only two States operate such a tax. Victoria makes a levy on admissions to race meetings and Tasmania makes a levy on admissions to cinemas. I believe these States must consider an extension of their present levy, and the others will not be able to avoid moving back into the field to assist their serious budgetary problems. It is proposed to operate this new duty in South Australia on a much simpler basis than formerly. Instead of a duty endorsed on and payable on each ticket issued, promoters will be called on to render periodical statutory returns and pay the tax as determined therefrom. This will be far less costly to administer both from the point of view of the Government and the point of view of the promoter or taxpayer.

The provisions of the Bill are as follows: Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 provides for the amending legislation to come into operation on a day to be fixed by proclamation. Clauses 3 and 4 make amendments to the existing provisions of the principal Act which are consequential on the enactment of the new provisions relating to entertainment tax. Clause 5 enacts new sections 27a to 27j, which impose the new tax. New section 27a fixes the rate of tax at 7½ per cent of the gross receipts for admission

to a place of public entertainment. An exemption is granted in respect of admission charges of less than \$1; entertainments from which the proceeds are devoted to charitable purposes, agricultural and other like exhibitions, and entertainments on licensed premises where the admission fees are not paid primarily or substantially for the purposes of the entertainment. New section 27b deals with season tickets and subscriptions related to public entertainment. New section 27c enables the Minister to exempt any component of an amount paid by way of admission charge where he is of the opinion that the payment represents rights and privileges in addition to the public entertainment. New section 27d provides that the proprietor of a place of public entertainment is to be primarily liable for tax but that where an agreement in the prescribed form is made and lodged with the Minister the obligations under the entertainment tax provisions can be transferred to the promoter of an entertainment.

New section 27e requires the submission of monthly returns where taxable amounts have been paid for admission to an entertainment during the month. New section 27f provides for the payment of tax on submission of a return and empowers the Minister to issue an assessment tax. An assessment of the Minister may be challenged by appeal to a local court. New section 27g provides for the recovery of tax. New section 27h confers on the Inspector of Places of Public Entertainment certain powers necessary for the enforcement of the entertainment tax provisions. New section 27i enables the Minister to delegate any of his powers under the entertainment tax provisions to an inspector. Where powers are so delegated, a person affected by a decision of the inspector may appeal against the decision to the Minister. New section 27j enables the Governor to make regulations in respect of entertainment tax.

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

SUPPLY BILL (No. 3)

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

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

That this Bill be now read a second time. It provides for the appropriation of \$60,000,000 so that the Public Service of the State may be carried on in the early part of next financial year. As honourable members know, the annual Appropriation Bill does not

normally receive assent until the latter part of October and, as the financial year begins on July 1, some special provision for appropriation is required to cover the first four months of the new year. That special provision takes the form of Supply Bills, normally two such Bills each year, and without this Bill now before the Council there would be no Parliamentary authority available for normal revenue expenditure from July 1, 1971. For each of the past three years the first Supply Bill has been for \$40,000,000. With increasing salary and cost levels, it is necessary to up-date these measures from time to time and, accordingly, this Bill is for a higher amount of \$60,000,000. It should suffice to cover requirements through July and August. Accordingly, it will be necessary for a second Supply Bill to be submitted to the Council in the latter part of August to provide for requirements while the main Appropriation Bill is being considered during September and October.

A short Bill for \$60,000,000, without any details of the purposes for which it is available, does not mean that the Government or individual departments have a free hand to spend, as they are limited by the provisions of clause 3. In the early months of 1971-72, until the new Appropriation Bill becomes law, the Government must use the amounts made available by Supply Bills within the limits of the individual lines set out in the original Estimates and the Supplementary Estimates approved by Parliament for 1970-71. In accordance with normal procedures, honourable members will have a full opportunity to debate the detailed 1971-72 expenditure proposals when the Budget is presented.

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

AGE OF MAJORITY (REDUCTION) BILL

(Third reading debate adjourned on March 30. Page 4439.)

Bill read a third time and passed.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION BILL

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from March 31. Page 4556.)

The Hon. F. J. POTTER (Central No. 2): This Bill was introduced yesterday in this Chamber. I think all honourable members will agree that it is perhaps one of the most important Bills presented to this Parliament this session, because it is a completely new workmen's compensation measure, repealing

the existing Act; it is a complete redraft of the legislation. As the Bill was dealt with extensively in another place and I received a copy of it, as presented in this Chamber, only about half an hour before lunch today, I am not in a position to deal exhaustively with its various provisions, because in another place it was extensively amended. In fact, I think the number of amendments is almost a record. Consequently, the Bill as it now comes to this Chamber is in quite a different form from that in which it was introduced originally in the other House.

In this Chamber, we all support the principle of proper workmen's compensation law. We have had workmen's compensation with us since the 1890's, and over the years the legislation has been revised from time to time. That is absolutely essential, for it is most necessary that an Act of this kind keep pace with the changes that are occurring almost constantly in industry and commerce. Indeed, the industry and commerce that we know today bear no resemblance whatsoever to the industry and commerce we knew in 1890.

Once we accept the principle of workmen's compensation, as I am sure every honourable member does, we must ask ourselves whether this Bill is fair to all parties concerned. I maintain that it must, in all its provisions, be fair to the employees, who will derive benefits from it, and to the employers; it must be fair, too, to those people charged with the responsibility under the Bill of keeping employers indemnified against the amounts of money for which they may be liable. In other words, it must be fair to the people who are supplying the money by way of insurance.

That will be my approach to the Bill, which I emphasize is very largely a Committee Bill. It will be necessary in the Committee stage to look at all the various provisions to see where they tie in and to consider each one on the basis of its fairness to all parties concerned. The Bill now before us is in some respects an amalgamation of the legislation already in existence in South Australia, and obviously a good deal of attention has been given by the Draftsman to the Victorian and New South Wales Acts. Some provisions from those Acts have been adapted and included, but it goes further in that some completely new concepts in workmen's compensation legislation are now in the Bill.

It is necessary not only to look at the fairness to the parties concerned, but also to consider whether the Bill provides adequate safe-

guards. I use that expression in the broadest sense. Although it must provide adequate and fair cover for the employees concerned, it is the duty of Parliament to ensure that the general effect of the Bill is not detrimental to the economy of South Australia. We could have workmen's compensation where the benefits payable were very high, but we could pay too high a price for such benefits if their provision adversely affected the economy of the State. Mr. President, I seek leave to continue my remarks later.

Leave granted; debate adjourned.

[Sitting suspended from 2.54 to 7.45 p.m.]

SUBORDINATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

The Hon. F. J. POTTER (Central No. 2) moved:

That permission be granted to the Subordinate Legislation Committee to sit this evening during the period that this Council is in session.

Motion carried.

APPROPRIATION BILL (No. 3)

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

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

That this Bill be now read a second time. Before dealing with the details of this Bill, which appropriates a further \$2,800,000 for 1970-71, I should like to touch very briefly on the possible eventual results for this year.

REVENUE BUDGET 1970-71

In September last, the Government presented a Revenue Budget which forecast a deficit of just under \$5,000,000. As was explained then, the costs of further wage and salary awards were to be expected and these would be offset in part only by increases in the taxation reimbursement grant through the operation of the formula. In February, when the Government considered the prospective financial situation and announced the revenue measures which it proposed to introduce because of the Commonwealth Government's refusal at that stage to approve additional grants to the States, it appeared that the 1970-71 revenue deficit could be about \$11,500,000. The expected worsening of \$6,500,000 from the original forecast of just under \$5,000,000 was at that time accounted for entirely by the calculated cost of salary and wage awards given or expected to be given after the framing of the Budget, and amounting to some \$11,000,000, and offset in part only by an estimated increase

of about \$4,500,000 in the taxation reimbursement grant due to the operation of the formula.

The Government is now able to report a relatively small but nevertheless significant improvement in the year's prospective results, as a current review indicates that the deficit may be held to \$10,000,000 or perhaps a little less. The possible improvement of about \$1,500,000 from the review of mid-February is due in large part to the positive actions taken to increase revenues and to restrain expenditures. The group of revenue measures which were outlined are estimated to yield about \$700,000 this year, while the most up-to-date review of payments indicates that the eventual aggregate could be about \$800,000 less than shown by the February review. It is not possible to say just to what extent the apparent lower payments may result from the positive restraint in staffing, travel, printing, and use of other goods and services, but the firm measures are clearly having some appreciable effect.

A later advice from the Commonwealth Treasury now suggests that the taxation reimbursement grant could be about \$5,000,000 above the original estimate given to Parliament, that is to say, some \$500,000 higher than indicated in the February review. This possible addition of \$500,000 is likely to be offset, however, by the net adverse effect of other recent variations and trends in revenue receipts. To sum up, the original Budget forecast a deficit of just under \$5,000,000, the February review indicated that it might be as high as \$11,500,000, and an up-to-date assessment is that it may be held to just under \$10,000,000. Of course, with three months of the year still to go it is too early to make these forecasts of the probable end-of-year result with any great confidence.

APPROPRIATION

Early in each financial year Parliament grants the Government of the day appropriation by means of the principal Appropriation Act. If the allocations therein should prove insufficient there are three other sources of authority for supplementary expenditure, namely, a special section of the same Appropriation Act, the Governor's Appropriation Fund, and a Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

Appropriation Act—Special Section 3 (2) and (3): The main Appropriation Act contains a section that gives additional authority to meet increased costs due to any award, order or determination of a wage-fixing body, and to meet any unforeseen upward move-

ment in the costs of electricity for pumping water through the three major pipelines. This special authority is being called on this year to cover the larger part of the cost to the Revenue Budget of the National Wage Case decision and a number of other salary and wage determinations, with a small part of wage increases being met from within the original appropriations. It has not been necessary to call on the special authority to cover any part of the cost of pumping water.

Governor's Appropriation Fund: Another source of appropriation authority is the Governor's Appropriation Fund which, in terms of the recent amendment to the Public Finance Act, may cover additional expenditure up to the equivalent of 1 per cent of the amount provided in the Appropriation Acts of a particular year. Of this amount one-third is available, if required, for purposes not previously authorized either by inclusion in the Estimates or by other specific legislation. Until the amendment to the Act was passed last year the authority provided in this way was a fixed amount which rapidly became inadequate as the scope and cost of the Government's activities expanded. As was explained at the time, the intention behind the new provision was not to depart from the tradition of closely restricting the authority for "excess" expenditure without prior reference to Parliament, but rather to avoid frequent amendments to the Public Finance Act to increase the amount in absolute terms, or alternatively the burdening of the annual Supplementary Estimates with a great deal of detail. Even with the extra and increasing appropriation available in the Governor's Appropriation Fund each year it was to be anticipated that there would still be the necessity for a supplementary Appropriation Bill from time to time to cover the larger departmental excesses.

The main explanation for this recurrent requirement lies in the appropriation procedures which do not permit variations in payments above and below departmental estimates to be offset against one another. If one department appears likely to spend more than the amount provided at the beginning of the year the Government must rely on other sources of appropriation authority irrespective of the fact that another department may be underspent by the same or a greater amount. Similarly, where a department gains automatic additional appropriation for a wage award pursuant to the main Appropriation Act, but then makes a corresponding saving on

salaries and wages because vacancies remain unfilled, the additional authority may not be transferred to cover excess spending on contingencies.

I should point out that the excess of the grand total of all anticipated payments this year beyond the total originally estimated is expected to be much the same as the actual increased costs arising from wage and salary awards. The appropriation available in the Governor's Appropriation Fund is being used this year to cover a number of individual excesses above departmental allocations but, because it is not permissible to offset "overs" against "unders", it is not sufficient to provide for all the larger excesses.

Consequently, the Government has decided to introduce a Supplementary Appropriation Bill to cover the estimated excess expenditure in certain of the major areas of the Budget and to relieve the fund accordingly. The proposals for additional appropriation of \$2,800,000 in all are:

Hospitals Department	\$ 350,000
Public Buildings Department	800,000
Education Department	630,000
Minister of Education—Miscellaneous	350,000
Railways Department	670,000
	\$2,800,000

DETAILS OF APPROPRIATIONS

I shall now explain in more detail the reasons for seeking further appropriation in these areas.

Hospitals Department—The amount provided originally for the Hospitals Department was \$34,313,000 but since the Budget was first framed there have been increases in the prices of many of the items essential to the operation and maintenance of Government hospitals. While some reduction in the level of purchases may be possible the Government, as it has stressed on a number of occasions, is determined to ensure that drugs and other supplies continue to be available as required to provide those health services vital to the well-being of the community. For this reason appropriations of an additional \$100,000 for the Royal Adelaide Hospital and \$250,000 for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital are required.

Public Buildings Department—The original provision for the Public Buildings Department was \$10,231,000. Extra funds are now being sought to meet unavoidable commitments in the maintenance and repair of public buildings, particularly Education Department buildings. The department is making every effort to slow

down the rate of commitments while still continuing essential services, but work on a large number of minor contracts let in the time of the previous Government has proceeded more rapidly than expected. Despite recent economies made by the department the original estimates will be exceeded, and to cover this excess it has been necessary to provide for a further \$800,000.

Education Department—The sum of \$74,697,000 was appropriated for the Education Department at the beginning of the year but increases in the prices of materials and equipment used at departmental schools, and in items of cost such as postage, seem certain to make the original appropriations for these purposes inadequate. In addition the volume of requirements has been greater than originally estimated.

Payments of salaries to teachers who have been given leave from teaching duty in order to improve their qualifications are regarded as scholarship payments and, because the people undertaking study in this manner are more senior than had been anticipated, the total of debits to scholarships will be increased and the existing authority will not be sufficient. Largely as a result of these factors extra appropriation of \$630,000 for the Education Department is sought for this financial year.

Minister of Education, Miscellaneous—For many years it has been the practice for finance for the universities to be determined for three-year periods and for Commonwealth legislation to set out the amount of Commonwealth grants which will be attracted by specified levels of State grants and fees. It has also been the practice for the legislation to be amended to make provision for additional finance to cover the heavy additional costs involved when academic salaries have been reviewed. However, it has been customary for the original financial provisions fixed for three-year periods to take account of the much smaller increases in costs, which may flow from increases in non-academic salaries and, of course, for universities to plan in their annual budgets to meet such increases.

Arrangements for the financing of colleges of advanced education have followed a similar pattern and, with the acceptance of a recommendation by Mr. Justice Sweeney that the salaries of suitably qualified staff at these institutions should be the same as the salaries of comparable staff at the universities, the treatment of the two types of institution is now very much the same. It is therefore to be expected that the legislation dealing with

the colleges will be amended to provide for higher academic salaries in much the same way and at much the same time as the universities legislation is revised for this purpose.

When Mr. Justice Eggleston reported last year on appropriate levels of academic salaries for Australian universities he made his recommendations on the assumption that these salaries would be adjusted in line with the National Wage Case decisions, and that the Governments concerned would arrange finance for the universities to cover the additional costs so incurred. As the South Australian Government accepted these recommendations, subject to the Commonwealth legislating to provide its share, the grants to the universities will have to be increased to cover the additional cost of the 6 per cent decision as it affects academic salaries from January 1, 1971, and provision is required accordingly for the latter half of this financial year.

The Eggleston report did not deal specifically with staff at colleges of advanced education, but in the present circumstances the salaries of academic staff at the colleges may be expected to move in line with salaries of comparable staff at the universities. Subject to the Commonwealth accepting an obligation for its share of the cost, college academic staff will receive the benefit of the National Wage Case decision, and appropriation is necessary in anticipation of this.

The additional amounts involved in grants, which must be appropriated in full by the State for the three major institutions in 1970-71, are as follows:

	\$
University of Adelaide	210,000
Flinders University of South Australia	70,000
South Australian Institute of Technology	70,000
	<u>\$350,000</u>

It is expected that by June 30 the State will recover 35 per cent of these amounts from the Commonwealth as that Government's normal share of the additional costs, and the

sums so recovered will be paid to the credit of Revenue Account.

Railways Department—The original provisions included \$38,066,000 for the running expenses of the Railways Department. A further \$670,000 is now required to meet increased costs of a number of items. The main reasons for the increase are unexpectedly heavy costs incurred in the repair of tracks other than the main arterial lines, expenditure above estimate in the repair and maintenance of rolling stock, and an increase in the price of distillate for diesel fuel. I shall now turn to the clauses of the Bill.

Clause 2 authorizes the issue of a further \$2,800,000 from the general revenue. Clause 3 appropriates that sum and sets out the amount to be provided under each department or activity. Clause 4 provides that the Treasurer shall have available to spend only such amounts as are authorized by a warrant from His Excellency the Governor, and that the receipts of the payees shall be accepted as evidence that the payments have been duly made.

Clause 5 gives power to issue money out of Loan funds, other public funds or bank overdraft, if the moneys received from the Commonwealth Government and the general revenue of the State are insufficient to meet the payments authorized by this Bill. Clause 6 gives authority to make payments in respect of a period prior to July 1, 1970. Clause 7 provides that amounts appropriated by this Bill are in addition to other amounts properly appropriated. Except for the amount of appropriation sought and the period covered, this Bill is the same as the supplementary Appropriation Bills passed by the Council in recent years. I commend the Bill for consideration by honourable members.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.53 p.m. the Council adjourned until Tuesday, April 6, at 2.15 p.m.