

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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## PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES (HANSARD)

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### First Session of the Forty-Fifth Parliament (1982)

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The Forty-Fourth Parliament of South Australia having been prorogued until 9 December 1982, and the House of Assembly having been dissolved on 14 October, general elections were held on 6 November. By proclamation dated 25 November, the new Parliament was summoned to meet on 8 December, and the First Session began on that date.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday 8 December 1982

The Council assembled at 10 a.m. pursuant to proclamation issued by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Donald Dunstan). The Clerk (Mr C.H. Mertin) read the proclamation summoning Parliament.

#### THE COMMISSION

The Commissioner appointed by the Governor to do all things necessary to prepare for the opening of the session, the Honourable Leonard James King (Chief Justice), was announced by Black Rod (Mrs J.M. Davis) and conducted by the President to the Chair.

A message was sent to the House of Assembly requesting members of that House to attend to hear the Commission read. The members of the House of Assembly having arrived, the Clerk read the Commission.

The Commissioner announced that His Excellency the Governor would, in person, declare the reasons for his calling the Parliament together as soon as the new members of the Legislative Council and the members of the House of Assembly had been sworn and the House of Assembly had notified him that it had elected its Speaker.

The members of the House of Assembly and the Commissioner retired.

#### SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS

The President produced a Commission from His Excellency the Governor appointing him to be a Commissioner to administer to members the Oath of Allegiance or receive an Affirmation in lieu thereof; also a writ and returns for the election of 11 members.

The Oath of Allegiance required by law was administered to and subscribed by those honourable members except the Hons. F.T. Blevins and J.A.W. Levy, who made an Affirmation.

*[Sitting suspended from 10.20 a.m. to 2.15 p.m.]*

#### GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

At 2.15 p.m., His Excellency the Governor, having been announced by Black Rod, was received by the President at the Bar of the Council Chamber and conducted by him to the Chair. The Speaker and members of the House of Assembly having entered the Chamber in obedience to his summons, His Excellency read his Opening Speech as follows:

Honourable members of the Legislative Council and members of the House of Assembly:

1. I have called you together for the dispatch of business.
2. During the month of November this year, the Ministry led by the Honourable David Oliver Tonkin tendered its resignation from office whereupon I invited the Honourable John Charles Bannon to form a Ministry. Mr Bannon formed a Ministry which was sworn in on the 10th of November.
3. During the past year we suffered the loss of two former members of the Parliament. I refer to the Honourable Cyril Douglas Hutchens, C.B.E., who represented the electorate of Hindmarsh from 4th March 1950 to 29th May 1970, and who was Minister of Works and Minister of Marine from 10th March 1965 to 16th April 1968, and the Honourable Gordon James Gilfillan who served as a member of the Legislative Council, representing the Northern District, from 3rd March 1962 to 11th July 1975. I feel sure that you would want me to place on record our appreciation of the services rendered by those gentlemen to the State and the sympathy that we all feel for their families.

4. For some time, South Australia has been facing severe economic problems. However, the situation has been made much worse by the sudden collapse of employment in the manufacturing sector that greeted my Government on assuming office.

5. My Ministers' immediate attention has been given to dealing with this crisis. Discussions have been held with representatives of employer and trade union organizations both within this State and at the national level. My Government has joined with the Governments of the two other major industrial States, New South Wales and Victoria, in formulating a plan for the immediate revitalization of the nation's economy. This plan has been put before the Commonwealth and the Governments of the other States and

negotiations are continuing.

6. Unfortunately, the state of the national economy, and the insistence of the Federal Government that it will maintain its present approach to economic management, does not give much hope for any marked improvement locally in the new year. Indeed, my Government has been advised that 1983 could be one of the most difficult years for this State in half a century.

7. My Government is well aware that within the small regional economy of which it is part, it has limited economic powers. Nevertheless, the primary thrust of my Government's programme will be to develop employment opportunities and it will use all means at its disposal to achieve this end.

8. The drought which is presently affecting most regions of the State has had a severe impact on our rural industries. It has also added to our general economic problems through its effects both on the manufacturing sector that services agriculture and on the general purchasing power of this major sector of the economy.

9. It is hoped that good rains will meet the opening of the season in April/May of next year. In the meantime, my Government is participating in a wide range of drought assistance measures which may involve an expenditure from State resources of as much as \$8 million in the 1982/83 financial year.

10. This combination of difficult economic circumstances and severe drought has also had an adverse effect on the financial position of the State. My Government has already commenced an urgent review of the Budget and the general financial position. At the earliest opportunity, the Parliament will be fully informed of the results of that review.

11. My Government recognizes that education is a vital investment for the future of the State and its citizens. It is committed to a policy that will ensure that education in South Australia is realistic, relevant, and designed to best equip young people with skills for their future. Schools must be properly staffed to serve these needs. My Government has already acted to retain over 200 teaching positions that were to be abolished. It has also acted to improve the support for teachers through school assistant positions.

12. My Government places major emphasis on the provision of housing for the citizens of the State. A number of measures to assist them to own their own homes are being considered and these will be put before you as the session progresses. Immediate action will be taken to raise to \$40 000 the exemption level for stamp duty payable by first home buyers on their principal place of residence. Steps have also been taken to return the administration of the Housing Improvement Act to the South Australian Housing Trust.

13. The State has in the past enjoyed an unequalled record of industrial harmony. My Government believes that good industrial relations are essential to attracting new industry. It is firmly committed to the view that consultation between employers, trade unions and the Government is crucial to maintaining this situation. In order to give effect to that view, an Industrial Relations Advisory Council, comprising representatives of employers, trade unions and the Government, will be established, on a statutory basis, under the chairmanship of the Minister of Labour. The functions of the Council will include advising on all proposed new legislation that could have a significant effect upon industry or industrial relations.

14. A vigorous private sector is essential to the long term well-being of our State. My Government is concerned that over the last few years investment has declined to a level well below what might be expected, given our share of the nation's population. There is particular concern that small businesses which employ the majority of our workforce are not able to expand because of insufficient capital. Planning

for the establishment of a Small Business Corporation and the South Australia Enterprise Fund has already commenced. You will also be asked to consider amendments to the Savings Bank of South Australia Act which will facilitate the operation of a new merchant banking venture between the Savings Bank and Credit Commercial De France.

15. During this session, a number of amendments to the Pay-roll Tax Act will be put before you. These will be designed to ensure that companies established in South Australia remain competitive with those located in other States.

16. Tourism will play a key role in the economic development of the State. My Government will work closely with the tourist industry to ensure that the potential for growth and employment in this area is fully realized.

17. The High Technology Industry is also an area in which my Government believes there are opportunities for expansion, and encouragement will continue to be given to companies that wish to establish their operations at Technology Park. A new Department of Technology is also being created to ensure that full attention is given to the implications of technological change.

18. My Government will give strong backing to our resources and mineral developments. The Cooper Basin projects which are vital to the future of this State and the nation will continue to receive full encouragement and support. Amendments to improve the operation of the Mining Act will be introduced during the coming session.

19. The difficult economic climate is subjecting families and individuals to severe stress. In these circumstances, my Government attaches particular importance to the work of the Community Welfare Department.

20. My Government will pursue policies to achieve genuine equality of opportunity for women. A Women's Adviser on Health and a Women's Adviser on Employment will be appointed to advise my Ministers. These, and other initiatives which are planned, will enable women to participate more fully in society.

21. A general review of consumer protection legislation will be undertaken with a view to achieving, where possible, uniformity with the legislation of the other States.

22. My Government will act vigorously in seeking to abolish all forms of discrimination based on race and ethnic background and will ensure that its relationship with the ethnic communities of South Australia is based on consultation.

23. The preservation of our environmental heritage is an important priority. My Government will ensure that, as far as is practicable, new development is in harmony with the natural and built environment.

24. The operation of the new Planning Act will be closely monitored and any amendments that may prove necessary to ensure an efficient and effective planning system will be introduced after proper consultation.

25. My Government will proceed with work on the Happy Valley Water Filtration Plant, and the Morgan Water Filtration Plant—the first of two required to filter Murray water pumped to Yorke Peninsula and the northern parts of the State.

26. The development of direct shipping services between South Australia and Japan will continue to be encouraged. A delegation of Government and industry representatives has recently returned from that country and indications are that direct shipping services may be established.

27. My Government intends that South Australia's health care system should be equal to any in the nation. It has already established an independent committee to advise on the future development of our hospitals. Planning is also underway to fulfil the commitments my Government has made to the communities in Adelaide's north-western and

southern suburbs concerning the construction of hospital and clinic facilities.

28. During the coming session, legislation will be put before you to modify the Aboriginal Heritage Act, to replace the outdated Medical Practitioners Act, to replace the Public Examinations Board and to ratify the River Murray Waters Agreement.

29. My Government, recognizing the importance of physical fitness and sport, has created a Department of Recreation and Sport. At an early stage, amendments to the Racing Act will be brought before you to permit wagers to be made on the foot racing at the Bay Sheffield Carnival, an event which forms an important part of our Proclamation Day celebrations.

30. Consideration will also be given early in the session to legislation to give effect to my Government's commitments to the Racing Industry which is of substantial importance to employment in our economy.

31. Other initiatives will be taken in the fields of transport, the administration of the penal system, and local government.

32. My Government understands that it has come to office at a most difficult time in the State's history.

33. It is confident that South Australia can and will enjoy a most prosperous future but concedes that our immediate problems are most pressing.

34. My Government believes that many matters of importance should be tackled in a bi-partisan and consensus way. It will actively attempt to develop that common approach.

35. In particular, my Government seeks an active and co-operative partnership between public and private enterprise. It believes that such a partnership is vital if our community is to tackle the problems of recession and unemployment.

36. I now declare this session open and trust that your deliberations will be guided by Divine Providence to the advancement of the welfare of the people of this State.

The Governor retired from the Chamber, and the Speaker and members of the House of Assembly withdrew.

The President again took the Chair and read prayers.

### PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORTS

The PRESIDENT laid on the table the following reports by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, together with minutes of evidence:

Engineering and Water Supply Department—Upgrading of Regional Headquarters at Crystal Brook,  
Morgan Water Filtration Plant,  
Paralowie School Upgrading (Stage I),  
Port Augusta North West Primary School—Stage II,  
Robe Slipway Replacement,  
Royal Adelaide Hospital—20 Megavolt Linear Accelerator.

### PAPERS TABLED

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Attorney-General (Hon. C.J. Sumner):

*By Command—*

Florey District By-Election, 4 September 1982—Statistical Return of Voting.

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Advisory Council for Inter-government Relations—Report for year ending 31 August 1981.

Children's Court Advisory Committee—Report, 1981-82.

Criminal Injuries Compensation Act, 1977-1982—Regulations—Costs.

Industrial Affairs and Employment—Department of—Report, 1981.

Long Service Leave (Building Industry) Act, 1975-1982—Regulations—Job Loading.

Public Service List, 1982.

State Clothing Corporation—Report, 1981-82.

Superannuation Act, 1974-1981—Regulations—Prescribed Public Authorities.

Trustee Act, 1936-1982—Regulations—Keeping of Records.

Workers Compensation Act, 1971-1982—Regulations—Workers Rehabilitation Advisory Unit Notification Form.

By the Minister of Consumer Affairs (Hon. C.J. Sumner):

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Builders Licensing Board of South Australia—Report of the Auditor-General.

Consumer Transactions Act, 1972-1982—Regulations—Rust Prevention.

Credit Union Stabilization Board—Report, 1981-82.

Hairdressers' Registration Board of South Australia—Report, 1981-82.

Places of Public Entertainment Act, 1913-1972—Regulations—Cinematograph Operators.

Trade Standards Act, 1979—Regulations—Puller Winch, Precious Stones.

By the Minister of Corporate Affairs (Hon. C.J. Sumner):

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Companies (Application of Laws) Act, 1982—Regulations—Exclusion from Operation.

National Companies and Securities Commission—Report and Financial Statements, 1981-82.

By the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. B.A. Chatterton):

*By Command—*

The Australian Forestry Council—Summary of Resolutions and Recommendations of the 19th Meeting, Sydney, 10 May 1982.

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Citrus Organization Committee of South Australia—Report for year ended 30 April 1982.

Department of Marine and Harbors—Report, 1981-82.

Education Act, 1972-1981—Regulations—Classification Board Subcommittee.

Poultry Farmer Licensing Committee—Report on Operations and Activities, 1981-82.

Marine Act, 1936-1976—Regulations—Exemption for Trading Vessels from Regulations.

Metropolitan Taxi-Cab Act, 1956-1978—Regulations—Fares.

Motor Vehicles Act, 1959-1981—Regulations—Display of 'L' Sign.

Racing Act, 1976-1982—Rules of Trotting—Arrears. Deletion of Rule 511. Greyhound Racing Control Board—Report, 1981-82.

River Murray Waters Act, 1935-1971—Regulations—Control of Unauthorised Persons.

Road Traffic Act, 1961-1981—Regulations—Road Traffic Board Powers of Dispensation.

South Australian Meat Corporation—Report, 1981-82.

State Transport Authority—Report, 1982.

Sturt College of Advanced Education—Report, 1981.

The Flinders University of South Australia—Report and Legislation, 1981.

Water Resources Act, 1976-1981—Regulations—Fees.

Waterworks Act, 1932-1981—Regulations—Fees.

Sturt College of Advanced Education—Report, 1980.

By the Minister of Fisheries (Hon. B.A. Chatterton):

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Fisheries Act, 1971-1980—Regulations—Rock Lobster Fishery Zones.

By the Minister of Health (Hon. J.R. Cornwall):

*Pursuant to Statute—*

Alsatian Dogs Act, 1934-1980—Regulations—Revocation of ban on Kangaroo Island.

Australian Mineral Development Laboratories—Report, 1982.

Community Welfare—Department of—Report, 1981-82.

Lands—Department of—Report, 1981-82.

Food and Drugs Act, 1908-1981—Regulations—Residual Pesticide Levels in Food.

Historic Shipwrecks Act, 1981—General Regulations, 1982.

Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science—Report, 1981-82.

Parks Community Centre Act, 1981—Regulations—Election of Staff Representative.  
 Pastoral Act, 1936-1980—Out of Hundreds (Oodnadatta)—Cemetery Reserve Resumed and Dedicated.  
 Planning Appeal Board—Report, 1981-82.  
 South Australian State Planning Authority—Report, 1981-82.  
 Planning—Director of—Report, 1981-82.  
 Radiation Protection and Control Act, 1982—General Regulations.  
 Real Property Act, 1886-1982—Regulations—Descriptions of Offices. Registration of Division. Plans. Registration of Division. Plans (Amendment).  
 Stony Point (Liquids Project) Ratification Act, 1981—Regulations—Mining of Limestone.  
 South Australian Health Commission—Report, 1980-81.  
 The Commissioners of Charitable Funds—Report and Statement of Accounts, 1981-82.  
 The Institutes Association of South Australia—Report, 1981-82.  
 City of Adelaide—By-laws—  
 No. 2—Vehicle Movement.  
 No. 15—Obstructions to Streets.  
 District Council of Cleve—By-law No. 31—Control of Vehicles on Foreshores.  
 District Council of Kapunda—By-law No. 29—Kapunda Public Cemetery.  
 District Council of Murray Bridge—By-law No. 23—Cemeteries.  
 Supply and Tender Board—Report, 1981-82.  
 Planning Act, 1982—Regulations—Development Control.

## QUESTIONS

### WAGES FREEZE

**The Hon. M.B. CAMERON:** I seek leave to make a short explanation prior to directing a question to the Attorney-General. Before doing so, I seek the indulgence of the Council, first, to congratulate the Government on its win in the recent election. It is not the result that people on this side desired; nevertheless, we are all grateful that we live in a democracy and that these matters are settled amicably, even though we might not necessarily all agree with the result in terms of how it will affect us. Secondly, I congratulate the new Ministers on achieving their high offices. I am sure that they will carry them out to the best of their ability. I also congratulate new members of the Council, all of whom are on this side of the Chamber. Not all of them are in our Party, but I am sure that we will receive support from at least one member who is not a member of our Party. I am seeking leave to give an explanation before asking a question on the wages freeze.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. M.B. CAMERON:** Now that the friendly overtures are over, I will give my explanation. There is widespread confusion as to the stand of the South Australian Government on the wages freeze issue. The understanding of those involved in yesterday's conference was that all States had in Canberra indicated an agreement for a wages freeze—of varying lengths, of course.

Yet in this morning's press we read something completely different. Papers throughout Australia have quoted Mr Bannon as saying that the State will not give an undertaking to be involved in the freeze scheme. I quote from today's *Advertiser* and an article from Matt Abraham, a highly regarded political reporter in South Australia. The report states:

Canberra—The Premier, Mr Bannon, said yesterday he had given no undertaking to introduce a wages pause for either State public servants or private industry. Mr Bannon said that, while Federal public servants in South Australia would be bound by any 12-month wage freeze legislation introduced by the Federal Government, he did not plan similar legislation for a six-month pause for State public servants. On whether South Australia would follow the line adopted by the Victorian and New South Wales

Labor States in agreeing to a six-month wages pause for State public servants, he said: 'We have given no undertakings. We were prepared in the course of the conference to pick up the concept of a six-months pause on the basis all eight Governments would be involved in the exercise on a six-month pause. What we've been told now is, "Right, the Commonwealth's made its decision, this is it, we expect you to do something about a six-month pause." Well, I've noted their views and I'll go back and talk about it with employer and union groups in South Australia.'

But the *Advertiser* is not the only paper to report Mr Bannon's comments. The *Melbourne Age*, which backed the A.L.P. at the last Victorian election, said in an article on page 1, from Michelle Gratten and Micheal Gordon:

Although the New South Wales and Victorian Governments undertook to support a six-month pause, the South Australian Premier, Mr Bannon, gave no commitment.

And if that is not enough, the *Sydney Morning Herald* said the following on page 1, in an article by Paul Kelly:

Bannon said, 'We have given no undertakings.'

The confusion was further heightened by the report in the *Australian* on page 1, by Russell Schneider, as follows:

Although the outcome of the meeting was still confused last night—with South Australia's new Labor Premier, Mr Bannon, saying he had not given a final commitment to freeze public sector wages in his State—senior Commonwealth and State officials privately confirmed the freeze would go ahead.

That is not South Australia, of course. Just what is the position? Mr Bannon is now saying that he was misreported by four separate reporters in four of the nation's top daily newspapers. He is now saying that he will seek a six-month wages pause, although it will not be legislated for and it will require trade union support. Of course, it is common practice for politicians, when they regret a statement or decision, to claim that they were misreported and thus imply that the journalists concerned were not competent.

I have always rejected this shallow device and do not accept that the nation's top political reporters are either wrong or deliberately misleading the public in this case. It appears now, from the Premier's most recent statements—if of course we are to believe the press—that Mr Bannon has done an about-face and that, provided unions agree, he will support a non-legislative, perhaps impossible to enforce, six-month wages pause. If this is so, then already the State's elected leader is abdicating responsibility to the trade union movement to a frightening degree. It leaves one fearful about future decisions affecting our State when one realises that this Government still has three years to go.

Is the Leader of the Government in this Council aware of the commitments given by the Premier to the Federal Government and other State Premiers at yesterday's Premiers' conference on the wages freeze? Can he clarify the Government's new position as of today? Can he also indicate whether the Government will reconsider its present position and whether it will perhaps legislate to show some leadership in the community?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** This matter is being handled by the Premier, as everyone knows. I am not in a position to respond specifically to the honourable member's question at this time. I understand that the Premier, on his return from the Premiers' conference, indicated that he would have discussions with employer groups and trade unions on the whole question and that, following those discussions, a statement would be made. Certainly, I will refer the honourable member's question to the Premier and bring him a reply at the earliest possible moment. I suspect that that will be when the Premier has concluded the discussions that he has said he intends to have on this topic.

**The Hon. J.C. BURDETT:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney-General, as Leader of the Government in this Council, a question on the wages freeze.

Leave granted.

**The Hon J.C. BURDETT:** I hope that the Attorney-General will see fit to answer this question. I do not think it is sufficient for him to say that he will wait until the Premier and Treasurer has had further consultations before answering this question. If the Government fails to make a decision about a wages freeze, the result will be that three States, namely, Queensland, Western Australia and Tasmania, as well as the Northern Territory, will have implemented a 12-month wages freeze, that Victoria and New South Wales will participate in the first six months of that freeze, and that, inevitably, the cost structure in South Australia will rise dramatically above that obtaining throughout the rest of Australia. The end result can only be a loss of industry in South Australia and a massive job loss. There can be no other result. Eventually, South Australia will be forced to conform, but the only way that that will be achieved if South Australia does not join in a wages freeze now will be to implement a cut in wages, or massive retrenchments, at some future time.

The Attorney-General should try to answer at least some aspects of this question now. Does the Government realise the huge disadvantage that South Australian industry will face, with other States agreeing to this proposal, if it refuses to legislate and union leaders reject this proposed six months wages freeze?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** As I have already indicated to the Hon. Mr Burdett's Leader, this matter is being handled by the Premier and, quite properly, he attended the Premiers' conference yesterday, arrived back last night and, I understand, this morning said that he would have discussions on this topic with employer groups and the trade union movement.

**The Hon. L.H. Davis:** He hasn't even consulted you as Leader of this House?

**The PRESIDENT:** Order!

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** I have been consulted. Because the Premier has said that he intends to have these discussions, any response from me about this matter would be premature. I have said that I will obtain a response to this question for honourable members at the earliest possible moment. That earliest possible moment will be when the Premier has concluded his discussions.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before directing a question to the Attorney-General about the wages freeze.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Government indicated today that it would not legislate for either a six-month or a 12-month wages freeze but that it will seek to negotiate with unions and industry to implement such a freeze. This action has obviously been taken with the clear knowledge that unions have already given a clear indication of their attitude to a wages freeze. For example, an article written by Michael Grealy appeared in the *Advertiser* of 24 November, as follows:

Leaders of seven unions yesterday rejected the Federal Government's proposed wages freeze package on the grounds that it would cut spending power, increase unemployment and force thousands more people below the poverty line.

The unions are the South Australian Public Service Association, the Australian Government Workers' Association branch of the Miscellaneous Workers Union, the South Australian Police Association, the South Australian Institute of Teachers, the Royal Australian Nursing Federation, the Fire Fighters Association and the Australian Workers' Union. The unions have more than 65 000 members, including more than 50 000 in the public sector.

The wage-freeze proposal also was rejected yesterday by South Australian leaders of two major Federal Public Service unions, the Australian Public Service Association and the Administrative and Clerical Officers' Association.

In the light of those comments made by union leaders, it appears that the Government's refusal to legislate and its proposal to negotiate are just back-door methods of killing

off the wages-freeze proposal. If, as appears likely, union leaders continue to reject the idea of a wages freeze, will the Government introduce legislation to impose such a freeze on the wages of public servants?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** I take this opportunity, because the Hon. Mr Lucas is the first new member to ask the Government a question, to congratulate him and other Opposition members who have been newly elected to this Parliament.

Also, in the vein of the Hon. Mr Cameron's earlier comments, I congratulate the honourable member and the other members who now form the front Opposition bench. Having said that, I point out that today the Opposition seems to have only one issue in mind.

**An honourable member:** There's more coming.

**The PRESIDENT:** Order!

**The Hon. L.H. Davis:** Don't you think this is important?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** Yes, I do. Indeed, it is very important.

*Members interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** Order! I ask honourable members to listen to the member who has the call and to stop interjecting.

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** Thank you, Mr President. In reply to the honourable member's question, I do not believe I can say very much more than what I have said in response to the Hon. Mr Cameron and the Hon. Mr Burdett. In fact, a lot of parties in Australia, not only the trade union movement, have rejected the Federal Government's wages freeze proposal.

**The Hon. B.A. Chatterton:** Farmers.

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** As the Hon. Mr Chatterton has advised me, farmers rejected the original proposal, as did the States of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

**The Hon. Frank Blevins:** And the employers.

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** As the honourable member says, the employers also rejected the proposal. There was far from unanimity on the Federal Government's wage freeze—far from it. I believe that I have made the position of the South Australian Government quite clear. The Premiers' conference was held yesterday, the Premier has returned and has stated that he is having discussions with interested parties (and, indeed, that is the proper course), such as people involved in the industrial and employment fields particularly, the employers and representatives of the trade union movement. Honourable members will have to await the conclusion of those discussions, at which time I am sure that the Premier will make a statement on the matter. I will be quite prepared to convey information to the Council at that time.

#### Mr E.C. SPLATT

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** I direct the following questions to the Attorney-General:

1. Has Dr Curry, the forensic expert engaged by the previous Government to advise on the forensic material in the Splatt case, left South Australia?
2. Has the Attorney-General received Dr Curry's report and, if so, when was it received by the Government?
3. Will that report be released to the public, and when?
4. If it will not be released to the public, why not?
5. When will the Attorney-General make a decision on the submission by Splatt's legal adviser for a royal commission?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** I trust that my memory and my capacity to write are such that I can answer the questions in sequence. The answer to the first question whether Dr Curry has left South Australia is, 'Yes, as far as I am aware.'

In answer to the second question whether his report was presented to the South Australian Government, the answer is, 'Yes, it was received.' I cannot give the honourable member the precise date on which it was received, but I believe that it was about a week after the Government took office. In answer to the third question whether the report will be made public, the answer is that no final decision has been made on whether the report will be made public, but I hope that it can be made public. I believe that the answer to that question also answers the fourth question.

I refer now to the situation with respect to the request by Splatt's legal advisers for a royal commission, a request, I might add, which was made to the previous Government well before the last election and to which the Attorney-General at that time, Mr Griffin, did not respond except in the sense of obtaining a report from Dr Curry. I hope that there can be some resolution of this matter in the near future. I have had discussions with Mr Splatt's legal advisers for the past couple of weeks. I do not believe it is appropriate for me to make any further comment on the case until those discussions have been concluded.

### BARRAMUNDI

**The Hon. ANNE LEVY:** I seek leave to make a brief statement before asking the Minister of Health a question about barramundi.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. ANNE LEVY:** In the dying days of the last Government I asked the Minister representing the Minister of Health a question about barramundi, but there was no time for me to receive a reply to that question before the Parliament was prorogued. I would now like to ask virtually the same question of the new Minister of Health. A constituent complained to me that, when he was served in a restaurant with fish that was classified on the menu as barramundi, in fact, it was no such fish. This man, who is a very keen fisherman and knows his fish very well, was prepared to swear that the fish he was served was not barramundi but was flake or, in other words, shark.

This raises the question of incorrect advertising, one could say, or possible misrepresentation of food in a restaurant. The constituent approached me to find out the best possible course for him to take should another such incident arise. I am aware that it is possible to characterise animal or fish species electrophoretically, but I am not sure whether this can be undertaken in South Australia, whether tests can be undertaken satisfactorily with cooked specimens or whether the raw material is required before electrophoresis can be carried out.

In this case, the sample of fish no longer exists, as it is at least a couple of months since I raised this matter. As far as this constituent is concerned, therefore, the question is academic. However, I am sure that other people must be concerned that the fish which they buy and which is classified as barramundi may not be barramundi. What advice can the Minister give to people who believe that they have not received what they ordered, particularly in regard to barramundi, where it has been suggested that the quantities of barramundi sold are about 10 times the amount caught? Will the Minister inform the Council of the procedure to be followed and say whether tests can be carried out in South Australia to protect consumers?

**The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL:** I am delighted to see that the Hon. Miss Levy is apparently as indefatigable in Government as she was in Opposition, pursuing such a wide variety of matters in the public interest. Miss Levy's indefatigability and diligence are such that she has not only asked a question but also has been instrumental in ensuring

that I was well prepared. In answer, I advise that section 22 of the Food and Drugs Act provides that it is an offence to sell, or have in possession for sale, food that is not of the substance, nature or quality that it is represented or purported to be.

A customer who suspects that fish served in a restaurant is not of a species demanded should lodge a complaint with the Metropolitan County Board or local council (depending on whether the premises are in or outside the metropolitan area) or with the health surveyors of the South Australian Health Commission. Retention of a portion of the fish in question would assist any inquiry.

All complaints would be investigated at the restaurant and with the fish suppliers. Samples would be collected as needed and examined by electrophoretic methods at the Forensic Science Centre. Present technology is more satisfactory for raw meat and fish than for cooked samples. However, some samples of cooked fish have already been examined and further developmental work is proceeding to ensure that the technique is satisfactory for cooked fish and meat.

Mr President, as you have a lively interest in the matter, you will be aware that technology development was hastened for species of meat and fish following the kangaroo meat substitution scandal. When examinations of samples are carried out the results are usually available within seven to 10 days. I am told that the Metropolitan County Board is continuing to monitor this alleged practice of substituting other fish for barramundi. Customers who have any doubt should contact the Metropolitan County Board if they live in the city, and they should contact local councils if they live in non-metropolitan areas.

### DEATH UNDER ANAESTHESIA

**The Hon. R.J. RITSON:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister of Health a question about deaths under anaesthesia.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. R.J. RITSON:** During the past 48 hours or so I have heard discussion and rumours amongst the medical profession regarding several instances of cardiac arrest occurring during operations of a relatively minor nature. It is said that there has been one and possibly two deaths within recent weeks. Rumours within the medical profession are to the effect that there is an association between these cardiac arrests and the use of the muscle relaxant Alloferin, which is often administered during anaesthesia.

One view expressed is that the cardiac arrests may have been due to anaphylaxis or some other unfortunate idiosyncrasy which may rarely occur. However, a small handwritten note appeared on a hospital notice board stating:

Alloferin! Bad batch. Discard Batch 165E.

The rumours also suggest that pharmacists at at least one Government hospital are investigating this drug and that other hospitals are raising a cautionary warning regarding Alloferin. There are several possibilities: either the association, if any, between cardiac arrests and the drug is tenuous and unlikely to recur and the batch warning was issued out of an abundance of caution, or there is significant suspicion of accidental lethal contamination of the drug.

If the latter is the case, then either the exact nature and circumstances of the defect are known and, therefore, known to be confined to batch 165E, or are not known and, therefore, all batches must be suspect. The surprising aspect of this is that there has not been, to my knowledge, any co-ordinated official and universal warning issued to the medical profession by the Health Commission. One hears remarks

by specialist anaesthetists such as, 'I do not know what is going on' and 'It is strange that we have not heard anything officially.'

Is the Minister aware of these matters? If not, will he take immediate pharmaceutical and anaesthesiological advice as to the circumstances of the Alloferin scare? Will the Minister direct that an immediate official Government warning be issued to the medical profession and hospital administrators? If the Minister was aware of this situation, why has he not issued a warning already? Will the Minister request an inquest into at least one of these instances, the details of which I will provide to him, so that there may be an inquisitorial investigation as to the role of Alloferin in these deaths?

**The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL:** I have not been made aware of the matters raised by the honourable member. He said that this matter came to his attention through discussion and rumour. These matters have not been brought to my attention and I will seek immediate advice on them. I ask that the honourable member provide me with further details of hospitals and possible persons concerned at the conclusion of Question Time and I assure him that I will then be on the phone very quickly.

**The Hon. K.T. Griffin:** Will you be saying very much?

**The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL:** I will be saying a great deal, I can assure members of that. I will be finding out in a responsible manner what is going on. Regarding an urgent investigation, if there is any substance to the discussion and rumours, then I will direct that there must be an urgent investigation. I will seek further details in co-operation with the honourable member who, with his background, will be able to assist me.

Regarding an official Government warning, if there is substance to the matters raised, then an official Government warning will be issued at the earliest possible opportunity. Concerning an inquest, without having further details before me, it is difficult to comment on that. As members know, in normal circumstances a decision as to whether or not there should be an inquest is taken by the Coroner. If there are grounds for an inquest, the matter will certainly be taken up by the Coroner. I am anxious to find out more about the matters raised and to see whether or not they can be substantiated. I will act quickly and urgently in this matter.

## DROUGHT

**The Hon. H.P.K. DUNN:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister of Agriculture a question concerning drought assistance.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. H.P.K. DUNN:** On 17 November, whilst speaking on the A.B.C. *Country Hour*, the Minister of Agriculture stated that the drought assistance fund had only \$800 000 in credit, the implication being that there should have been much more in the fund. As I understand the workings of this fund, it is an agency division of the department for State and Commonwealth moneys. Those funds loaned to farmers are repayable to Commonwealth and State accounts in accordance with the Commonwealth-State agreement.

Throughout the term of the previous Government the Minister of Agriculture met his department's repayment commitment to both the Commonwealth and State Treasuries and had no difficulty in financing the demonstrated needs of South Australian farmers following incidents of fire, flood, storm and drought—all identified as natural disasters which the Primary Producers Emergency Assistance Act is designed to fund.

Indeed, on page 4 of Parliamentary Paper No. 9, there is a line 'allowance for increased prices', with an additional sum of \$7 500 000 included for use in 1982-83 for the purpose of funding farmers in the event of need. Is the Minister satisfied that the Government can meet its commitment for carry-on loans to drought affected rural industries?

**The Hon. B.A. CHATTERTON:** The Government has every intention of meeting its commitment to farmers under the various schemes funded on a State and Commonwealth basis. The point I was making on the *Country Hour* was that the farmers assistance fund, with its \$800 000, was the only amount of money the previous Government had made available for drought.

Further, there was not an allocation within the State Budget presented to Parliament some months ago for the drought that is facing primary producers in this State. That was in spite of the fact that the previous Government was well aware of the drought crisis and had made numerous statements in the press saying how severe it was.

**The Hon. C.J. Sumner:** They did not allow anything in the Budget.

**The Hon. B.A. CHATTERTON:** No, they did not, in spite of the fact that the department had prepared various estimates of what the drought might cost the State in total. The estimate was that about \$25 000 000 would be paid out under the various schemes, and under the natural disasters funding arrangement the State contribution would be about \$8 000 000. The only funding actually allocated was the \$800 000 in the farmers assistance fund. Now, the State Government will meet its commitment, but certainly those commitments were not provided for in the Budget.

## MINISTERIAL TITLE

**The Hon. J.C. BURDETT:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before directing a question to the Attorney-General in his capacity as Minister of Consumer Affairs and Minister of Corporate Affairs on the subject of his Ministerial title.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. J.C. BURDETT:** In the *Gazette Extraordinary* of 10 November, which contains the appointments of the new Ministers, it appears that the Hon. Mr Sumner was appointed as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs. In the same *Gazette* there are proclamations under the Administrations of Acts Act committing to the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs the Acts traditionally administered by the Minister of Consumer Affairs and those traditionally administered by the Minister of Corporate Affairs. The *Government Gazette* of the next day, 11 November, contained the resignation of the Hon. C.J. Sumner—

**An honourable member:** He wasn't serious.

**The Hon. J.C. BURDETT:** I am sure that he was serious. That *Gazette* contained his resignation as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and his appointment as Minister of Consumer Affairs and Minister of Corporate Affairs. The same *Gazette* contained proclamations under the Administration of Acts Act committing the Acts traditionally administered by the Minister of Consumer Affairs and the Minister of Corporate Affairs to him. Of course, it is obvious—and should have been obvious to the Minister—that, because of the complexity of the uniform national companies and securities legislation, corporate affairs ought to be in a separate portfolio and have a separate administration. It would have been inappropriate to have, by legislation, incorporated the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs with the Corporate Affairs Commission, which is incorporated by Act

of Parliament. My questions are:

1. Why was the Hon. C.J. Sumner appointed as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs on 10 November and why did he resign on 11 November?

2. What circumstances were different on 11 November when the Minister resigned as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs from those that existed on 10 November when he was appointed to that position?

3. Was the Government contemplating combining the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs with the Corporate Affairs Commission?

4. Was this the first administrative blunder of the new Government?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** I congratulate the honourable member on his diligence in actually reading the *Government Gazette*. I had the impression that no-one read the *Government Gazette*, but, obviously, I was quite wrong in that assumption and I can see that he started off his duties as a shadow Minister with great gusto by making sure that all the *Gazettes* had been read from the beginning to the end since the change of Government. I can assure the honourable member and the Council that the reasons for this somewhat curious exercise have their roots in the bureaucracy, as I suspect the Hon. Mr Burdett may well know.

**The Hon. K.T. Griffin:** Blame the public servants!

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** No, the reasons lie in the bureaucracy. It is quite true that, initially, I was appointed Attorney-General, Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs and Minister of Ethnic Affairs. When I was appointed Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs there was no intention of amalgamating any departments or of putting the Corporate Affairs Commission in the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs in any way whatsoever. It was a Ministerial title which incorporated both Ministers in one title just to shorten the number of words that were needed in my various Ministerial titles. That was the reason for it. However, when I took up my duties in the various offices that I held, along with the avalanche of paper and public servants that were there to greet me on the first day there were some representations that the title I had of Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs could cause some bureaucratic difficulties. The reason for this is that traditionally the Corporate Affairs portfolio is administered in secretariat terms, as the former Attorney-General will know, through the Attorney-General's office in the S.G.I.C. building, and the Corporate Affairs Commissioner does his work through the Attorney-General's office in terms of making appointments and the like.

On the other hand, the Department of Public and Consumer Affairs has a different structure. It is located in the Grenfell Centre, as I am sure that the honourable member who asked the question will know, on the 24th or 23rd floor in quite resplendent offices—he occupied them for three years. The problem that we had as far as some people were concerned—and I think that they were quite valid in what they said—was that there could be some confusion if I had the Ministerial title with two parts to it, consumer affairs and corporate affairs, as part of one title. There could be confusion in terms of where correspondence ended up. If someone addressed correspondence to me as Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs, where would it go? In which office would it end up? After a lot of discussion it was felt that it was probably better to separate the four portfolios. For the benefit of honourable members—and I draw it to their attention—if they have matters dealing with the Attorney-General portfolio or the Minister of Corporate Affairs portfolio, I suggest that they write to me in my office in the S.G.I.C. building. If, on the other hand, they have matters which involve consumer affairs or ethnic affairs, I suggest that they write to me in my office in the

Grenfell Centre. I trust that that has adequately allayed the terrible fears that the honourable member had about this matter and that I have clarified the position for the benefit of honourable members.

#### ETHNIC AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO

**The Hon. C. M. HILL:** I seek leave to make a statement prior to asking the Minister of Ethnic Affairs a question in regard to the title of Minister of Ethnic Affairs.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. C. M. HILL:** During the term of the Dunstan Labor Government, the then Premier paid a compliment to the ethnic communities of this State by holding amongst his portfolios the Ministerial office of Minister of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. During the term of the Corcoran Labor Government the then Premier maintained his predecessor's tradition by being Minister of Ethnic Affairs, and he also appointed the Hon. Mr Sumner as Minister Assisting the Premier in Ethnic Affairs. In the Tonkin Liberal Government the then Premier was Minister of Ethnic Affairs, but I held the portfolio of Minister Assisting the Premier in Ethnic Affairs. The new Premier, Mr Bannon, has seen fit to discard from his responsibilities the title and the work involved, and the Hon. Mr Sumner is now Minister of Ethnic Affairs. Members of the ethnic communities have approached me and expressed surprise and concern that the Premier appears by his decision not to be as interested in them as he should be, and certainly not as interested as three former Premiers, to their credit, were. Ethnic communities found the opportunity to go directly to those Premiers a proud privilege, one which was not abused and which was a genuine acknowledgement of former Government's appreciation of the extensive contribution to this State in the areas of the economic, social and cultural life of South Australia.

Because these people feel slighted and claim that the status of ethnic people has been downgraded by the new Premier, they have asked me to raise the matter in Parliament. First, can the Minister give the reasons for the new Government's discarding the ethnic people from the Premier's direct and formal interest? Secondly, what advice, if any, was tendered to the Premier by the Hon. Mr Sumner on this matter? Lastly, will the Minister refer this issue to the Premier to determine whether or not it is too late for the Premier to involve himself directly, as his predecessors have done?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** I must say that the interest in my titles since I have become Minister somewhat surprises me. I would have thought that perhaps the honourable member might have been able to find something a little more significant in the ethnic affairs area about which to ask me a question. Nevertheless, I refute the accusation of the honourable member that the Government structure and the Ministerial set-up which this Government has decided on in any way downgrades the importance of ethnic affairs policies in this State.

*Members interjecting:*

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** Certainly, it does not mean that the Government is not interested in ethnic affairs. The Government has made a firm commitment in that area as, indeed, Labor Governments did in the 1970s, before many other Governments in Australia. In fact, I would say that the Labor Government's commitment to multiculturalism in Australia was the first of any Government in Australia, and that is a record of which we are very proud.

To say that this change in any way downgrades the importance of this portfolio, or to say that it in any way means that the Premier is not interested in ethnic affairs, is quite



erroneous. If they wish to, people can still go to the Premier directly about ethnic affairs matters. There is no objection to that at all. The honourable member should know that the Premier has an oversight and an overview of all policies and programmes which are part of his Government. The reason for the change was that the situation had become quite unrealistic and artificial because, as the honourable member knows, he did all the work in the area of ethnic affairs—the Premier did not do anything. The Premier held the title, but that was all.

**The Hon. Frank Blevins:** It was a sham.

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** Yes, it was a sham. When the Hon. Mr Dunstan held the title of Minister of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs he was the Minister responsible and he did the work. There was then no Minister Assisting the Premier in Ethnic Affairs. For a brief period the Hon. Mr Corcoran did keep the two portfolios of Minister of Ethnic Affairs and Minister Assisting the Premier in Ethnic Affairs as two separate Ministries, but there is no question that in the past three years the division became artificial almost to the extent of being farcical.

Everyone went to the Hon. Mr Hill, unless the persons involved could not get what they wanted, in which case they went to the Premier. It is the same kind of situation now. If people are not satisfied in their dealings with me, the Premier is always available to see people. There was little significance in maintaining a situation which had become artificial. I am third in the Government hierarchy and, as such, ethnic affairs has been given a high priority. Indeed, I suspect that I was chosen because of the interest that I have had in ethnic affairs matters over the time in which I have been in Parliament. Since I was first elected in 1975 I have had some responsibility on behalf of the Labor Party in one form or another in maintaining relations with ethnic minority communities.

I am pleased that I have been given this portfolio because it will allow me now, in a Ministerial capacity, to continue with those relations and to do something in terms of the implementation of policy. I did not give any advice specifically to the Premier on the matter. I agree with the decision that he has made because of the artificiality that had developed over the past three years. I will refer the question to the Premier, because the honourable member has raised it in this Council, for the Premier's comment, but I believe that the arrangement is satisfactory and gives direct responsibility to a Minister without having the artificial situation that pertained under the previous Government.

### WAGES FREEZE

**The Hon. M.B. CAMERON:** I seek leave to make a short statement before asking the Attorney-General a question about the wages freeze.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. M.B. CAMERON:** We have an amazing situation now in this Council where a number of questions have been asked of the Attorney-General on what surely must be considered to be the most important matter facing this Parliament and this State, yet the Attorney has failed to provide any information whatever. Obviously, the Attorney was unaware that his Leader, the Premier, was making a Ministerial statement on this matter in another place, because if the Attorney were aware—

**The Hon. J.C. Burdett:** Why was the Ministerial statement not made in this Council?

**The Hon. M.B. CAMERON:** That was surprising. If the Attorney was aware of that, then I would say that he has treated this Council and the Opposition with some discourtesy. If the Premier has made such a statement, it means

that the Government has a view on the wages freeze, and surely the Attorney, as an important member of the Government, must have some information on that matter. Therefore, in view of the obvious lack of information that the Attorney has on the Government's attitude and on what it intends to do about the wages pause, will the Attorney-General suspend the sittings of the Council (with which we would certainly agree) in order to allow him to find out exactly what is the situation so that we can then ask the remainder of our questions? Until then it is a waste of time asking further questions of the Leader of the Government in this Council, who has no idea about what is happening.

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** It may surprise the honourable member to learn that I have no intention of suspending the sittings of the Council to enable me to obtain further information on this matter. I have fully explained the position to the Council and I will provide information for honourable members. I am happy to concede that, if a Ministerial statement on a topic is being made in another place, then it should also be made in this Council. If such a statement has not been made on this occasion, then I am happy to apologise for that. Certainly, there should be statements of that kind made in this Council in the future, and I fully accept that position.

On this occasion, if what the honourable member has said is correct, I will take action to ensure that statements of this type are made in this Council at the same time as they are made in another place. In regard to the honourable member's other statements, I cannot say anything more than I have already said, namely, that I will obtain information for honourable members at the earliest opportunity.

**The Hon. L.H. DAVIS:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney-General a question on the wages freeze.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. L.H. DAVIS:** A Gallup poll taken on the first two weekends in November indicated that 65 per cent of the Australian community, including 58 per cent of Labor voters, support a wages freeze. More of these people favour a 12-month freeze than any other period. In view of this information, and in view of the information that the Leader of the Opposition has just given about the Ministerial statement being made elsewhere, does the Attorney accept that those Gallup poll figures show the widespread community support which exists for a wages freeze and the concern held by many South Australians that the apparent rejection of a wages freeze by this State Government could lead to a diminution of job creation opportunities and increase prospects of higher unemployment? Secondly, will the Government review immediately its failure to make a firm decision on this proposal, in light of the extensive community support for it?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** With due respect to honourable members opposite, I have outlined the position in relation to this matter. I have said that if such a statement was made in the House of Assembly it should also have been made in the Legislative Council.

**The Hon. L.H. Davis:** That is not the question I asked.

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** I am not in a position to make, nor do I intend to make, any further comment on this matter. If honourable members opposite continue asking similar questions all afternoon, they will get a similar answer, namely, that I will refer all their questions, statements and comments to the Premier, who has said that he is having discussions with the people who are rightly concerned in this area—the employer groups and the trade unions—and that when those discussions are finally concluded a statement will be made. That is the present position. I have explained that on, I think, four occasions this afternoon and I will continue to give the same explanation as long as honourable

members continue to ask questions on this topic.

**The Hon. M.B. CAMERON:** In view of the Attorney's obvious lack of knowledge about this matter, and as the Opposition has a number of questions to ask him about it (which questions at the moment appear to be a waste of time because he obviously knows nothing about this subject), will the Attorney-General ensure that before Question Time starts tomorrow he has discussions with the Premier and that he has sufficient information to enable him to answer questions asked by Opposition members about this matter?

**The Hon. C.J. SUMNER:** I will certainly discuss this matter with the Premier. The honourable member may not be aware that the Premier was at a Premiers' conference yesterday. I have not had an opportunity this morning to have detailed discussions with him about the result of that conference. As the honourable member would realise, this morning there were one or two other activities (such as the swearing in of members, the opening of the standard gauge railway line and the Parliamentary luncheon that we enjoy on opening days) that prevented me from having detailed discussions with the Premier about this matter. However, I will have those discussions and ascertain the position in relation to matters that the Premier is raising with employers and trade unions. I hope that by tomorrow I will be able to provide honourable members with additional information. However, I certainly cannot undertake that I will be able to answer instantly every question asked about a wages freeze or any other economic matter that is within the Premier's responsibility.

#### SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Sessional committees were appointed as follows:

**Standing Orders:** The President and the Hons Frank Blevins, J.C. Burdett, M.B. Cameron, and C.J. Sumner.

**Library:** The President and the Hons Anne Levy, R.I. Lucas, and Barbara Wiese.

**Printing:** The Hons Frank Blevins, L.H. Davis, H.P.K. Dunn, M.S. Feleppa, and Barbara Wiese.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

**The PRESIDENT** having laid on the table a copy of the Governor's Speech, the Hon. C.J. Sumner (Attorney-General) moved:

That a committee consisting of the Hons Frank Blevins, J.C. Burdett, M.S. Feleppa, Diana Laidlaw, and C.J. Sumner be appointed to prepare a draft Address in Reply to the Speech delivered this day by His Excellency the Governor and to report on the next day of sitting.

Motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 4.1 p.m. the Council adjourned until Thursday 9 December at 2.15 p.m.