

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(HANSARD)

Third Session of the Forty-fifth Parliament
(1984)

Parliament, which adjourned on 10 May, was prorogued by proclamation dated 31 May. By proclamation dated 31 May, it was summoned to meet on Thursday 2 August, and the Third Session began on that date.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday 2 August 1984

The **PRESIDENT (Hon. A.M. Whyte)** took the Chair at 12 noon.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

The Clerk (Mr C.H. Mertin) read the proclamation by His Excellency the Governor (Sir Donald Dunstan) summoning Parliament.

GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

His Excellency the Governor, having been announced by Black Rod, was received by the President at the Bar of the Council Chamber and by him conducted 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. It is with regret that I record the deaths on 24 August 1983 of Harold Welbourn King, who was Member for Chaffey from 1956 to 1962, on 30 October 1983 of Harold Howard O'Neill, who was Member for Florey from 1979 to 1982, on 8 June 1984 of Ernest Claude Allen, who was Member for Burra from 1968 to 1970 and Member for Frome from 1970 to 1977, and on 5 July 1984 of Charles John Wells, who was Member for Florey from 1970 to 1979. I know that you will all join me in expressing sympathy to the members of their families in their sad loss.
3. The year past has been a time of recovery for our regional economy and a time of reconstruction and rebuilding for our State after the devastation caused by the natural disasters of 1983. My Government has been pleased to note the signs of renewed confidence in the future within the community and the evidence of increased economic activity. Unemployment, while still at unacceptably high levels throughout the whole nation, has fallen in South Australia during the twelve months to June 1984. This improvement has been accompanied by a strong growth in employment with over twenty thousand jobs being created in that twelve

month period. Other standard indicators of economic activity are also showing encouraging improvement.

4. My Government is particularly pleased that the measures it took in its first Budget, and the initiatives pursued in conjunction with the Federal Government, have shown a direct result in the strong upsurge experienced by the building and construction sector. The strong early growth in public sector building activity is now being matched by the private sector. In the coming year my Government intends to maintain a level of public sector housing activity which addresses the need of the community for low-cost housing, providing a direct stimulus to our regional economy, but also taking account of the need to avoid undue pressure on the industry. Major construction projects such as the redevelopment of the Adelaide Railway Station will also provide an immediate stimulus to our economy while establishing the infrastructure for further employment and development within the State.

5. However, my Government is still concerned that the recovery within our economy remains uneven and fragile. The rural uplift which marked the turning point in the cycle of recession cannot be expected to continue in the absence of good seasons. Widespread rains across most of the State's agricultural districts in the first few weeks of July have raised hopes of an average harvest and brought improved prospects for maintaining stock numbers. However, above-average rainfall over the next three months, together with mild weather conditions, will be necessary if cereal crops are to produce near-average yields.

6. The main thrust of my Government's economic development strategy will continue to be directed towards encouraging South Australian industry to become more competitive both interstate and internationally; in developing new markets for goods and services; and attracting and assisting the development of new industries of benefit to the State. Particular efforts are being concentrated on ensuring that South Australia is selected as the site for the manufacture of submarines to replace the existing submarine fleet of the Royal Australian Navy.

7. My Government also believes that the financial resources of the public sector must be fully utilised, in partnership with private enterprise, for the development of the State's economy. The merger of the State Bank and the Savings Bank of South Australia on 1 July 1984, has given our economy a new and vigorous institution dedicated to the development of South Australia. The new Bank has already acquired complementary finance company activities

to further strengthen its competitive position and range of services. Later this year the Enterprise Fund, which has been designed to fill a recognised gap in our State's financial sector, will become operational by the sale of shares and debentures to the public. Legislation passed in the last session established the Small Business Corporation which will commence operations within the next few months and provide a significantly expanded service to the important small business sector.

8. My Government is also aware that its industrial relations record is central to the State's industrial progress. In the last session of Parliament major amendments were made to the industrial laws of the State to ensure the continuation of South Australia's unequalled record of industrial harmony. My Government believes that the next priority is the important area of the protection of the employee in the workplace from industrial injury and disease. It is now twelve years since the current Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Act was brought into operation in South Australia and considerable changes have taken place in industry structure and industrial processes since that time. Accordingly, a Bill to overhaul the existing legislation will be put before you during the coming session. A further area of industrial law requiring review is that of workers' compensation legislation. In recent years there has been increasing concern at the poor cost-effectiveness, the lack of proper benefits and the insufficient emphasis placed on rehabilitation within the existing workers' compensation arrangements in this State. Following the staging of a most successful conference in Adelaide at the end of May to discuss alternative approaches, my Government proposes to introduce legislation to greatly improve the effectiveness of the workers' compensation system and the equity and level of benefits provided in South Australia. In each case, further consultation will be held with interested parties.

9. My Government believes that central to the good government of the State is the effective provision of constitutional and electoral laws which allow for the full expression of the will of the people and for the election of a Government which can be effective. Legislation will be placed before you in the coming session to amend the Constitution Act to provide for simultaneous elections and for a minimum Parliamentary term of three years with a maximum term of four years, and to remove the right of the Legislative Council to block Supply. Legislation will also be introduced to replace the present Electoral Act with an Act more in keeping with modern conditions and administration.

10. Action is also being taken to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Government administration. The initial report of the Review of Public Service Management has been made public and the basic principles outlined in that report have been endorsed by my Government. Legislation to establish a new basis for public sector management will be presented to the Parliament later in this session.

11. The education, health and welfare of all of its citizens remains the highest priority for my Government. It will continue to move toward the educational goals it set before coming to office, for example, a significant number of contract teaching positions will be made permanent to ensure greater stability and certainty within the education system.

12. My Government also places a high priority on the extension of dental care to school children. As part of the phased extension of dental care to secondary students, my Government will extend care to all Year 8 students by the end of 1985 and all Year 9 students by the end of 1986. This year will also see the completion of the first stage of the Noarlunga Health Village which will provide medical, community health and 24-hour emergency services to the southern suburbs, as well as the commencement of the Lyell McEwin Health Village project in the northern area. Leg-

islation will also be put before you to replace the Food and Drugs Act which has been in operation since 1908. The new legislation will respond to industry and consumer demands, and will provide a comprehensive legislative framework appropriate to modern-day food production and distribution.

13. The welfare of aged people and their ability to play a greater role in all community and social activities is of particular concern to my Government. In the past session, legislation to establish a Commissioner for the Ageing was tabled to encourage community discussion and debate. This legislation will be re-introduced in this session. My Government has also joined with the Federal Government to bring about a significant upgrading in child care services. This program will establish seven new child care centres which will particularly benefit migrant, Aboriginal, and other disadvantaged families and shift workers in Adelaide.

14. My Government regards the provision of facilities for physical recreation and fitness to be important to the health and welfare of the community. Work has commenced on the upgrading of the State Aquatic Centre at North Adelaide to provide an international standard venue. Extra attention will be given in the Government's programs to the recreation needs of the disabled and the elderly. The success of the South Australian Sports Institute is now being reflected in the performances of South Australian sports men and women at an international level.

15. My Government recognises that despite significant achievements and advances over the past few years more effort must be given to the special needs of the Aboriginal community. A task force has been established to develop employment and training opportunities within Aboriginal communities, and wide-ranging consultation is currently taking place with those communities concerning long-term plans for Aboriginal people to manage their own welfare services.

16. The Maralinga Tjarutja Land Rights Bill which was passed by the Parliament in the last session will be proclaimed later this year after the various community structures as envisaged by the legislation are developed. With the passing of that legislation, public concern was again raised at the British Atomic Tests carried out at Maralinga and Emu during the years between 1952 and 1963. The South Australian Government established an inquiry into the effect of these tests on the health of Aborigines. My Government took forceful action in persuading the Commonwealth Government to undertake a full and open, national inquiry into the nuclear tests at Maralinga and Emu. A Commonwealth Royal Commission will now be conducted into the British Atomic Tests in Australia. My Government will continue its efforts to see that all issues associated with the atomic tests are dealt with by the Commission and that all persons affected by the testing finally receive fair and just treatment.

17. To provide further supply of urban development land, major developments in the Tea Tree Gully-Golden Grove area and at Morphet Vale East are being undertaken. My Government wishes to see these new developments proceed through integrated social and physical planning to ensure that those who live in these areas will have proper and equitable access to all services. A Bill to implement reforms arising from a review of the S.A. Planning Act will also be brought before the Parliament to ensure that the objective of a sensitive balance between the need for development and the protection of our natural and built heritage is met. To further strengthen its environment and land management programs my Government will also place before the Parliament legislation concerning Aboriginal heritage matters, as well as amendments to the South Australian Heritage Act, the Beverage Container Act, the Noise Control Act, the National Parks and Wildlife Act and the Coast Protection Act. My Government is also concerned that the present

Valuation of Land Act provides only for an appeal to the Supreme Court against rating and taxing valuations made by the Valuer-General. Legislation will be put before you to amend the Act to provide for a process of independent review to ensure a more practical, less formal and less expensive avenue of appeal for the average home owner, small business person and primary producer.

18. The prosperity of the rural sector remains an essential base of the continued prosperity of the State as a whole. My Government is well aware of the need for continued agricultural research and development, and has undertaken a program to relocate and develop the Department of Agriculture's Research Centres to ensure a more effective service for the rural community.

19. The mining and processing of our natural resources are playing an increasing role in the State's economy. My Government continues to promote and encourage the exploration for natural gas and petroleum, and expects that exploration in 1984 will be twice that undertaken in the previous year. Developments being undertaken at Olympic Dam in connection with the assessment of the Roxby Downs mixed mineral deposit are proceeding on schedule. A pilot plant has been commissioned on site and feasibility studies are being undertaken. The provision of sufficient energy for the State's industrial and domestic needs is a major priority of my Government. The Advisory Committee on Future Electricity Generating Options presented its report to my Government and recommended the establishment of an electricity interconnection between Victoria and South Australia, as well as the development of one of South Australia's lignite coals for base load generation. Detailed work on both the interconnection and coalfield selection are continuing.

20. The provision of adequate transport services is essential for the continued development of the State. My Government will continue to introduce improvements to the public transport system. Contracts for new buses for the Adelaide area have been let and tenders have been received for the supply of new railcars. Construction of the O-Bahn System to the north-east suburbs is proceeding. The transport needs of the southern suburbs of Adelaide are also under active study. My Government also intends to place greater emphasis on reducing the State's accident road toll. Death and injury resulting from road accidents continue to cause unacceptable emotional, social and economic costs to individuals and to the whole State. My Government intends that additional resources be allocated to reducing this toll.

21. Construction is continuing on the Morgan Water Filtration Plant—the first plant in a program to provide filtered water to the northern parts of the State. It is expected that it will be completed in 1987. The filtration of the water supply to the metropolitan area is also a high priority. The Little Para Plant will be commissioned later this year, and the Happy Valley Filtration Plant, which will provide filtered water to the southern suburbs, is proceeding on schedule. My Government has also been negotiating with the Government of Victoria in the equitable sharing of the ground water resources in the area of the South Australian and Victorian border. It is expected that a Bill for an Act to ratify the agreements reached will be put before you this session.

22. Since coming to office, my Government has appointed a number of special advisers on matters concerning women. Particular attention will now be paid to the expansion of women's roles in South Australia's economy, to reducing the high level of unemployment among women and to assisting socially and economically disadvantaged women throughout the State. An amendment to the Family Relationships Act will be put before you to clarify the status of children conceived by artificial insemination and in vitro fertilisation.

23. My Government will continue to ensure that the laws of the State provide adequate protection to consumer interests. In line with the policy of truth-in-lending, amendments will be introduced to the Consumer Credit Act to require banks, building societies and credit unions to comply with the disclosure requirements under that Act. Legislation will also be introduced to amend the Classification of Publications Act to provide for a compulsory scheme for classification of videos.

24. Comprehensive anti-discrimination legislation will be put before the Parliament this session. This legislation will deal with discrimination on the basis of sex, handicap and race. My Government has also moved to restructure and enlarge the Ethnic Affairs Commission so that it can play a stronger role in ensuring that members of our ethnic communities enjoy equal opportunities with all other South Australians.

25. In the last session of the Parliament major legislation was introduced to reform the system of Local Government in this State.

My Government also believes it is necessary to rationalise the various controls exercised over the construction of buildings in the State, and will introduce a Bill to consolidate these controls under the Building Act.

26. My Government will continue to encourage the growth of the State's tourism industry as an important component of its broad economic development strategies. In addition to the Adelaide Railway Station development, major construction projects are also being undertaken at Port Lincoln, and a new ferry is being constructed to service Kangaroo Island. Advertising and promotional activities within Australia are being concentrated on the large markets of Sydney and Melbourne, and in South Australia specific initiatives will be aimed at encouraging South Australians to holiday in their own State.

27. My Government will continue its policy of supporting and developing the arts. Several major Capital Works programs are envisaged including the Museum Redevelopment Project on North Terrace. The Government will increase its emphasis on arts activities within the Community, both in metropolitan and country areas, and will also embark on a program of works of art in public places throughout the State.

28. Earlier this year the Commissioner of Police introduced the first of a series of annual strategic plans to direct the approach of his Officers to the task of modernising and further improving the Police Force. My Government has endorsed this strategic plan and has undertaken to provide the resources necessary to implement it. My Government will also continue with its plans to upgrade the Yatala Labour Prison to provide within that institution a separate high-security facility. The construction of the Adelaide Remand Centre is proceeding and, when completed, will replace the present unsatisfactory remand accommodation in the metropolitan area. Further alternatives to imprisonment are also being investigated, and the Community Service Order Scheme will be extended on a State-wide basis.

Amendments to the Prisons and Correctional Services Act will be put before you this session to provide a legislative basis for improving procedures relating to the management of offenders.

29. My Government is now at the mid-point of the term of office to which it was elected in November 1982. Its primary aim has been to restore South Australia's economic fortunes and to give the State a renewed sense of purpose and direction. The obvious improvement in the economy, and the new confidence which is apparent within South Australia, demonstrate that the State is beginning to move out of the economic recession of the past few years. While my Government takes great satisfaction in what has been

achieved, it is very well aware that considerably more progress must be made before South Australia enjoys the prosperity and pre-eminent position to which all its citizens aspire.

30. 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.

DEATH OF FORMER MEMBERS

The PRESIDENT: It is with profound regret that I have to draw the attention of honourable members to the recent deaths of Mr E.C. Allen and Mr C.J. Wells, former members of the House of Assembly. As President of the Council, I express the deepest sympathy of the Council to their wives and families in their sad bereavement, and I ask honourable members to stand in silence as a tribute to their memory and their meritorious public services.

Members stood in their places in silence.

[Sitting suspended from 12.56 to 2.30 p.m.]

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:

- Coorara Primary School (Additions),
- Mount Compass Area School Redevelopment, Stage I—interim and final reports,
- Mount Lofty Kiosk, Rebuilding—interim and final reports,
- Munno Para Holding School, Stage II Redevelopment,
- Port Augusta Netball Association (Relocation),
- Salisbury North Primary School (Part Replacement),
- Willunga Primary School Redevelopment, Stage I—interim and final reports.

PAPERS TABLED

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Minister of Health on behalf of the Attorney-General (Hon. C.J. Sumner):

- Pursuant to Statute—*
- Country Fire Services Board—Report, 1982-83.
- Rules of Court—
- Industrial Court—Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1972—Re-employment Jurisdiction.
- Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Act, 1972—Regulations—
- Pesticides (Safe Handling)—Injury Report Forms.
- Logging Industry Safety—Injury Report Forms.
- Industrial Safety Code—Injury Report Forms.
- Commercial Safety Code—Injury Report Forms.
- Rules of Court—
- Supreme Court—Legal Practitioners Act, 1981—Legal Practitioners' Disciplinary Tribunal—Communication of Orders.
- Motor Fuel Licensing Board—Report, 1983.
- Superannuation Act, 1974—Regulations—Membership.
- River Murray Commission.
- Trustee Act, 1936—Regulations—
- Authorised Trustee.
- Authorised Trustee, Elders.

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

- Pursuant to Statute—*
- Hairdressers Registration Act, 1939—Regulations—Examination Fee.
- Limited Registration.
- Land and Business Agents Act, 1973—Regulations—
- Land Brokers—Annual Returns.
- Land and Business Agents—Annual Returns.

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

- Pursuant to Statute—*
- Building Societies Act, 1975—Regulations—Loan Levels and Investments.
- Companies (Application of Laws) Act, 1982—Regulations—Instruction Ordinance.
- Securities Industry (Application of Laws) Act, 1981—Regulations—Contributions.

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

- Pursuant to Statute—*
- Alcohol and Drug Addicts Treatment Board—Report, 1982-83.
- Chiropodists Act, 1950—Regulations—Fees.
- Clean Air Act, 1984—General Regulations.
- Coast Protection Act, 1972—Regulations—Definition of Boundaries—
- Adelaide.
- Eyre.
- Fleurieu.
- Kangaroo Island.
- Metropolitan.
- Spencer.
- Yorke.
- Yorke Coast Protection District.
- Crown Lands Act, 1929—Section 5 (f) —Statement of Land Resumed.
- Food and Drugs Act, 1908—Regulations—
- Breath Alcohol Testing Devices.
- Cordials, Fats and Oils.
- Fruit Juices.
- Labelling of Containers.
- Labelling of Poisons.
- Residue of Pesticides in Foods.
- Restricted Substances.
- Health Act, 1935 and Fees Regulation Act, 1927—Regulations—Clean Air.
- Local Government Act, 1934—Regulations—
- Accounting Schedules.
- Long Service Leave Contribution.
- Local Government Finance Authority Act, 1983—Regulations—
- Council Purchasing Authority.
- Guarantee Fee.
- North East Community Hospital.
- Mental Health Act, 1976—Regulations—Access to Ombudsman.
- Director of Mental Health Services—Report, 1982-83.
- National Parks and Wildlife—Report, 1982-83.
- Physiotherapists Act, 1945—Regulations—Subscription Fees.
- Planning Act, 1982—Crown Development Reports by South Australian Planning Commission on—
- Proposed erection of a transportable classroom at Surrey Downs Primary School.
- Proposed construction of a pesticide store at Northfield Research Centre.
- Proposed establishment of a temporary construction depot, Golden Grove Road, Modbury.
- Proposed erection of a single unit timber classroom at Clare High School.
- Proposed single unit transportable classroom at Macclesfield Primary School.
- Proposed upgrading of a travellerway at G.S. 426557, Mount Barker Creek, Part Section 4486, Hundred of Macclesfield.
- Proposed erection of a dual unit timber classroom at Yorketown Area School.
- Proposed development on the Bremer River.
- Redevelopment of the Willunga Primary School.
- Proposed quarry for materials to be used on the Stuart Highway.
- Proposal to construct additions to the Mount Gambier Police Station.
- Proposed construction of a Police radio tower and installation of communications equipment on Mount Barker, Sections 142, 143, 144 and 54, Hundreds of Kanmantoo and Macclesfield.

Proposed erection of a river flow gauging station 25 kilometres upstream of Waikerie in the River Murray.

Proposed division of land in Perpetual Lease 86992.

Proposed construction of a mobile radio base station, Trig Reserve, Section 325, Hundred Tungkillo.

Proposed erection of a transportable toilet block at Lochiel Rural School.

Proposed erection of a transportable classroom at Redwood Park Primary School.

Proposed Common Effluent system for Indulkana Aboriginal Community.

Proposed redevelopment of the Victor Harbor High School.

Proposed erection of a single transportable classroom at Mitcham Primary School.

Proposed use of residence as a group home for intellectually disabled persons, Myall Road, Para Hills.

Demolition of a former dwelling at Rose Park Primary School.

Proposed construction of a feed shed at Northfield Research Centre.

Proposed construction of storage shed at Northfield Research Centre.

Proposed construction of a library resource centre—Northfield High School.

Proposal to erect a mobile radio base station, Section 61, Hundred of Encounter Bay.

Proposal to erect two concrete water tanks on a Council Road Reserve adjacent to Mylor Primary School.

Proposed construction of 2 multi-purpose activity centres at Munno Para Primary School.

Proposed construction of a single transportable classroom at Angle Vale Primary School.

Proposed construction of two single metal and one single wooden transportable classrooms at Salisbury East High School.

Proposed construction of dual unit transportable classroom at Salisbury Heights Primary School.

Erection of a gymnasium at Marryatville High School.

Proposed development at Stirling North Primary School.

Proposal to erect an illuminated Police sign at Kingston South East Police Station.

Proposed construction of a radio hut at Part Section 4146B, Hundred Munno Para within the Hills Face Zone.

Division of land at Hackham.

Proposed land transfer to West Lakes Ltd.

Proposed land division at Port Adelaide.

Proposed redevelopment of Yelkindjeri Children's Centre, Alberton.

Hospital By-laws—South Australian Health Commission Act—Port Pirie and District Hospital.

Racing Act, 1976—Rules—

Betting Control Board—Bookmakers Fees.

Trotting—

Appointment of Officials.

Club Secretary Betting.

Fees.

Syndicates.

Surveyors Act, 1975—Regulations—Cadastral Survey.

City of Adelaide—By-law No. 33—Lodging Houses.

Corporation of the City of Salisbury—By-law No. 51—Keeping of Dogs.

District Council of Loxton—By-law No. 28—Traffic.

District Council of Murat Bay—By-laws—

No. 5—Public Health.

No. 8—Cemeteries.

No. 11—Reserves, Plantations, Playgrounds, Parks, Ornamental Grounds and other Public Places.

No. 12—Bathing and Controlling the beach and foreshore.

No. 14—To amend certain By-laws.

District Council of Wakefield Plains—By-laws—

No. 3—Placing, Fixing, and Maintaining of Petrol Pumps.

No. 4—Keeping of Animals or Birds within Township.

No. 5—Obstructions of Streets and Footways.

No. 7—Bees.

No. 8—Dogs.

By the Minister of Agriculture (Hon. Frank Blevins):
By Command—

Australian Agricultural Council—Resolutions of the 118th Meeting, Perth, 6 February 1984.

Pursuant to Statute—

Boating Act, 1974—Regulations—

O'Sullivan Beach Zoning.

Bucks Bay Zoning.

Dried Fruits Board of South Australia—Report for year ended 29 February 1984.

Engineering and Water Supply Department—Report, 1982-83.

Harbors Act, 1936—Regulations—

Mooring Fees, Port Pirie.

Robe Boat Haven.

Kindergarten Union of South Australia—Report, 1983.

Metropolitan Milk Supply Act, 1946—Regulations—Metropolitan Area Zone.

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

Road Traffic Act, 1961—Regulations—

Brake Fluids and Seat Belts Child Restraining Devices.

Traffic Prohibition—

Northfield.

Port Adelaide.

Tea Tree Gully.

Windsor Gardens.

Roseworthy Agricultural College—Report, 1983.

South Australian Meat Hygiene Authority—Report, 1982-83.

South Australian Teacher Housing Authority—Report, 1982-83.

Tertiary Education Authority of South Australia—Report, 1983.

Vertebrate Pests Control Authority—Report, 1982-83.

By the Minister of Fisheries (Hon. Frank Blevins):

Pursuant to Statute—

Fisheries Act, 1982—Regulations—Schemes of Management.

Fish Processors.

Aquatic Reserves.

General Regulations, 1984.

Exotic Fish, Fish Farming and Fish Diseases.

Scheme of Management (Restricted Marine Scale Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Marine Scale Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Southern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Northern Zone Rock Lobster Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Gulf St Vincent Prawn Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Spencer Gulf Prawn Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Southern Zone Abalone Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Central Zone Abalone Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Western Zone Abalone Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Miscellaneous Fishery).

Scheme of Management (River Fishery).

Scheme of Management (Lakes and Coorong Fishery).

By the Minister of Correctional Services (Hon. Frank Blevins):

Pursuant to Statute—

Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act, 1982—Interstate Transfers.

Prisons Act, 1936—Regulations—

Parole.

Remissions of Sentence.

QUESTIONS

URANIUM

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: I seek leave to make a statement before asking the Attorney-General a question about uranium mining.

Leave granted.

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: Once again we have recently gone through the contortions of the Labor Party at its Federal conference where South Australia was seen to

develop some prominence because of the question of uranium mining. It seems that the whole uranium policy of the Labor Party revolved around what was seen as the potential future of the South Australian Labor Government.

The PRESIDENT: This should not be an opinion, but an explanation.

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: It is not an opinion: it is a fact. The fact is that, time after time at the recent Federal Labor Party conference, members indicated clearly that the question of uranium had to revolve around whether or not it would affect the survival of the Bannan Government. That was stated time after time by speakers at the conference: by Mr Bannan, by Mr Hawke and by every person addressing the question. One of the multitudinous sections of the Labor Party—

An honourable member interjecting:

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: The Labor Party is a multifaceted society and if members divided themselves up it would be easier for Opposition members to know where everyone sits.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order! We are not getting away to a good start.

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: The fact is that in South Australia we have a very serious situation where the largest uranium mine in the world is now allowed to proceed. That is great news for South Australia, the only problem being that it is the only mine of many in South Australia that is ready to go or potentially to be found.

Does the Attorney-General expect any mineral exploration to occur in the North of South Australia for uranium or any other mineral where uranium is likely to be found while this policy remains in effect? What percentage of other minerals has to be found in a uranium deposit before it can be approved by the Australian Labor Party under this new policy? Does the policy automatically exclude mining at Honeymoon and Beverley for the next two years? What special qualities does the uranium mined at Roxby Downs have that makes it safe to mine and sell by comparison with uranium from Honeymoon and Beverley? Is this a special quality called "political expediency"?

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: This question is somewhat similar to questions that the honourable member has asked of me on previous occasions in this Council.

Members interjecting:

The PRESIDENT: Order!

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I have answered those questions on previous occasions and, as far as I understand it, the recent decision of the Federal conference of the Labor Party—and I should add that I was not present at the conference as I had other duties to perform—

The Hon. R.I. Lucas: You were balancing 10 hats on your head.

The PRESIDENT: Order! Come to order!

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: As I understand the situation, as far as South Australia is concerned, the policy that has been adopted is the same policy that I outlined in this Council on previous occasions, namely, that Roxby Downs can proceed. That policy was taken to the electorate in November 1982, that was the point of view that I put to this Council on previous occasions, and it is the point of view that I put now.

That was the commitment made by the Premier following changes to the policy of the Labor Party at a Federal conference in 1982, and that is the policy at present. I have answered the honourable member's question in relation to this matter on previous occasions, and I am not sure whether he now—

The Hon. M.B. Cameron: I want answers to those questions I asked you.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: The honourable member can get answers to those questions.

The Hon. M.B. Cameron: When?

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I have answered them. I have answered No. 4 on previous occasions. I would think that the honourable member had asked this same question on perhaps four or five occasions during the past 18 months or so, but I have answered them. To answer questions 3 and 4, I do not believe that the policy as far as South Australia is concerned has changed as a result of the Federal conference decision.

I put the position of the South Australian Government prior to the Federal conference decision, and I put it again. There is no impediment to the development of Roxby Downs proceeding.

As to the other questions, whether or not mineral exploration will proceed in this State depends on the attitude of the companies that are carrying out the exploration and on the attitude of the Government, but this Government has not been opposed to mineral exploration. It has allowed legitimate exploration throughout the State of South Australia where it is within the authority of the State Government to determine that issue.

It is not possible to answer the second question. As I understand it, the policy of the Labor Party does not refer to certain percentages of minerals that are needed or not needed in order to enable a mine to proceed. The policy refers to Roxby Downs' being able to proceed, which was the situation prior to the conference and is still the situation.

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: I ask a supplementary question: the Minister did not answer the last question. What special qualities does the uranium mine at Roxby Downs have that make it safe to mine and sell by comparison with Honeymoon and Beverley? Surely the Minister must have an answer to that.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I have an answer, and I refer the honourable member to the answer that I gave in *Hansard* on the four or five occasions in the past 18 months on which he has asked me that question.

The Hon. M.B. Cameron: It is a terrible thing to see an honest man—

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I have answered that question on previous occasions, and I refer the honourable member to my answer.

ENERGY PLANNING

The Hon. I. GILFILLAN: I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister of Agriculture, representing the Minister of Mines and Energy, a question on a W.D. Scott and Co. report on energy planning in South Australia.

Leave granted.

The Hon. I. GILFILLAN: W.D. Scott and Co. last year prepared and presented a report to the Minister of Mines and Energy, entitled, as far as I understand, 'Energy Planning Processes in South Australia'. I have been told that the report has been in the Minister's possession for 12 months and that it still has not been presented to Cabinet for consideration; nor were its findings made available for the Stewart Committee's deliberations. At a time when decisions are about to be made on which coalfield is to be used for future power generation in South Australia, it is essential for this report to be made available as it is quite possible that it could show that no extra power station is required with the proper management of South Australia's current power producing facilities. My questions are:

1. For how long has the report 'Energy Planning Processes in South Australia' been in the Minister's possession?
2. Why has the Minister taken no action over it?
3. Why were the findings of the report not made available to the Stewart Committee?
4. When will Cabinet consider the report?
5. When will it be made available to the public?

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: I will refer the honourable member's question to my colleague in another place and bring down a reply.

MURRAY MALLEE RURAL HEALTH

The Hon. J.C. BURDETT: I seek leave to make a brief statement before asking the Minister of Health a question about rural health in the Murray Mallee.

Leave granted.

The Hon. J.C. BURDETT: In the *News* of 19 July there was an article headed 'Big Plan for Rural Health'. Amongst other things, the report states:

The Health Minister, Dr Cornwall, said today the plan would be based on the needs of the local population, distribution of existing health services and availability of resources. The local government areas of Mannum, Murray Bridge, Meningie, Karoonda-East Murray, Lameroo, Pinnaroo, Peakc, Ridley and Coonalpyn Downs were included.

So were public hospitals at Murray Bridge, Mannum, Tailem Bend, Karoonda, Lameroo, Pinnaroo and Meningie. 'The hospitals provide a range of acute medical, surgical, obstetric, primary care and long-term chronic care services,' he said. 'In line with Government policy, the Health Commission must co-ordinate services so we make the most efficient use of available facilities and provide the best possible standards of health care,' Dr Cornwall said.

The Sax Committee Report recommended that the status of the Tailem Bend Hospital (the Lower Murray Hospital, as it is correctly called) be reduced to a health centre and nursing home. Can the Minister provide further details of the plan in regard to the Murray Mallee, and can he say what status is envisaged for the hospitals at Mannum, Karoonda, Lameroo, Pinnaroo and Meningie, which are referred to in the article? I ask the Minister particularly what plans are envisaged in those hospitals in regard to obstetric care.

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL: Of course, the short answer is 'No'. There is not much point in setting up this consultative mechanism, which is what this is all about and which involves representatives from the hospital boards, community health people and community representatives generally, as well as Health Commission people, and then pre-empting the whole thing by standing up in Parliament and telling them what I think they ought to find. I am not about to do that. That would be quite foolish. There will be lots of consultation. I promised this to the people at Tailem Bend when I met with them over three months ago. I canvassed with them the idea that there was a possibility that some of the more extensive surgical procedures currently conducted at the Tailem Bend Hospital were not appropriate. Some of the anaesthetics delivered at that hospital, as the Hon. Mr Burdett knows, are not appropriate. Open ether is not the way to give anaesthetics in 1984, as the Hon. Dr Ritson knows. It may well be that, as a result of the recommendations of this study, which will involve local people, local members of the board and local members of the communities in all places mentioned, there will be recommendations for some sorts of change.

I have already given the people of Tailem Bend and District the firm undertaking that the Tailem Bend Hospital will not be closed. I cannot envisage any circumstances arising in the foreseeable future in which it would be closed. It may be, however, that some of the more acute surgical

services and obstetric services are inappropriate, and a recommendation of the consultative committee which has been set up may well be that it would be better if those sorts of procedures were performed in the Murray Bridge Hospital, for example. However, the Tailem Bend Hospital will certainly be retained with a range of functions other than acute, major surgical or obstetric. I have been perfectly honest in telling the people of Tailem Bend that there is no intention to close the hospital and I repeat that fact today.

PAROLE

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister of Correctional Services a question about parole.

Leave granted.

The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN: There is no doubt that there is concern about the operation of the Government's scheme of parole, particularly about the lack of discretion in the Parole Board to effect the date of release of prisoners because of the automatic release provisions in the Government's scheme. The Board, of course, can only fix conditions of release and do nothing more. I have been informed that members of the Parole Board as well as the Crown Prosecutor's staff have expressed concern about the operation of the Government's scheme.

I have been informed, also, that either formal or informal representations have been made to the Government for amendments to be made to the scheme. Therefore, my questions are as follows:

1. Has the Government undertaken any review of the operation of its parole scheme and, if so, with what conclusion?
2. Has the Government received formal or informal representations for amendments to be made to its scheme?
3. If it has received such representations, whom were they from, what were they and is the Government doing anything about answering them?

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The answer to the first question is 'Yes': we have had a look at the operations of the parole legislation. This Government continually monitors all its legislation. We are very happy indeed with the principle of the legislation as it went through the Parliament, including this Council. The answer to the second question is 'Yes': the conclusions are that it is working excellently. Yes, there have been representations made about the new parole system. Those representations deal mainly with technical and legal matters and certainly not with the principle of the legislation. They are being addressed.

In answer to the third question, the representations in the main have been made by the Chairperson of the Parole Board, who has suggested certain amendments to make the operation of the parole system more efficient. To give an indication of the type of thing that will be coming into the Council later this session, I point out that, as the Parole Board meets only once every three weeks, if in fixing a non-parole period a court says that a prisoner has to be released forthwith, that creates administrative problems. So, amendments of that nature will be coming before the Parliament. In explanation of his question the Hon. Mr Griffin said that parole is automatic. That is not strictly correct, because the Parole Board not only sets conditions of parole but also must have the agreement of a prisoner to the conditions of parole set by the Board before that prisoner is released. It has happened that a prisoner has not agreed to such conditions and has not been released, so release is not automatic.

PRISON SITE

The Hon. L.H. DAVIS: I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister of Correctional Services a question about a future prison site.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L.H. DAVIS: I have been advised that approaches have been made by the Prisons Department to secure premises for a new prison facility at the present Metropolitan Fire Service training site at Brookway Park, Campbelltown. Therefore, my questions are as follows:

1. Is the Prisons Department seeking to obtain the premises presently occupied by the Metropolitan Fire Service Training Division?

2. If so, for what purpose will the facilities be used?

3. Will they be used for a minimum security type facility?

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: There is no 'Prisons Department', so I assume that the honourable member means 'The Department of Correctional Services'. I have no knowledge of that department seeking the site that the Hon. Mr Davis mentions. However, I will have the matter investigated. I can assure the honourable member that there are no plans to build minimum security type accommodation for prisoners either on that site or anywhere else. The fact is that in this State we have an overabundance of minimum security type accommodation. Some would argue that it is all minimum security, but that is another story. There is certainly no proposal relating to this particular site.

I have no knowledge of this site and it may well be that a small site could be used for offices, for parole, probation or community service orders, or something of that nature. In such a case the matter would not be brought to my attention. However, if anybody was looking for a site for a minimum security prison I would know all about that.

PORT LINCOLN SAMCOR WORKS

The Hon. PETER DUNN: I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister of Agriculture a question about the Port Lincoln Samcor Works.

Leave granted.

The Hon. PETER DUNN: On 1 July 1984 the Government closed the Samcor Works at Port Lincoln, despite the fact that there were many pleas from farmers, slaughtermen, meat inspectors and concerned citizens that the extension of the time of closing by three months would allow the slaughter of this year's fat lambs. Further, the slaughtermen and inspectors would have been able to seek other employment and thus relieve the hiatus that has occurred since the works were closed. Those employees who have been dismissed would have had time to find other employment.

During the Minister's reply to a question in May he suggested that the Port Augusta abattoir would have plenty of capacity to take up and slaughter the stock that the Port Lincoln abattoir will not now be slaughtering. My questions are as follows:

1. Can the Minister assure the Council that this is the case?

2. Have there been any inquiries made of the Government by any individual or organisation seeking information about the Port Lincoln Samcor Works?

3. If so, have they requested financial assistance?

The Hon. FRANK BLEVINS: The honourable member's first question related to capacity to slaughter stock not slaughtered by the Port Lincoln Samcor Works. I assure the Hon. Mr Dunn that, if half the remaining abattoirs in South Australia were closed, there would still be surplus capacity, as there is an enormous amount of surplus killing capacity in South Australia, and in Australia as a whole.

The question of Port Augusta was not raised in isolation, because I also mentioned Port Pirie, Noarlunga, Metro Meat at Murray Bridge, Stirling, and a number of small abattoirs. There is tremendous capacity. I do not know whether the Hon. Mr Dunn wishes to hear a dissertation on the Port Augusta facilities; I understand that he does not. If the Hon. Mr Dunn asks a further question on another day, I will outline the exact position at Port Lincoln.

The Hon. Mr Dunn's second question was whether we had received any inquiries regarding the operation of the works at Port Lincoln. The answer is 'Yes'. As has been made public, an inquiry has been made to the Government. In reply to the honourable member's third question, 'Has any financial assistance been requested?' I point out that the terms of the inquiry made to the Government were very clear—all details of the discussions and negotiations would be kept confidential. That was at the request of the people making the inquiry. I feel that it is only appropriate that I, on behalf of the Government, honour that request.

SECTION 127 OF THE JUSTICES ACT

The Hon. I. GILFILLAN: I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney-General a question about section 127 of the Justices Act.

Leave granted.

The Hon. I. GILFILLAN: Section 127 of the Justices Act provides that, where a charge on information (that is, one of the more serious criminal charges) is dismissed, the defendant is not entitled to payment of his legal costs by the prosecution. In other words, even where the defendant is found to be completely innocent he still has to bear a penalty for the crime he did not commit.

The rationale given for this section is that the informant is acting not for personal pecuniary advantage but on behalf of the public and the public interest. It is surmised that to expose the informant to the risk of having to pay the defendant's costs would be to dissuade the informant from laying the charges. However, this argument is really not valid. The informant invariably is a Government employee. He is indemnified by the Government. It is inconceivable that a Government with expenditure running into millions of dollars could be swayed by the possible liability for a defendant's legal costs which amount to only a matter of a few thousand dollars at most. Indeed, frequently the defendant's legal costs are hardly comparable to the costs incurred in a prosecution. It is also noted that, when the State has to pay a defendant's legal costs through the Legal Services Commission, this does not act as a deterrent for the State to launch a prosecution.

The fact that the State is relieved from paying the defendant's legal costs in the event of an unsuccessful prosecution could actually encourage the State to bring senseless prosecutions. I understand that it is the police practice to launch a prosecution where a complaint is made to it even if they have severe doubts about the veracity of the complaint.

A recent example of the ridiculousness of this rule occurred in the Adelaide Magistrates Court. The police had laid an information for assault following a complaint by the alleged victim. During the course of the hearing, and before the defence had finished its case, the magistrate dismissed the charge. He found that the alleged victim was lying. This necessarily involved the finding that the alleged victim was in fact the perpetrator of an assault upon the defendant but was forced to certify that the alleged victim, who had perjured himself and was in fact the perpetrator of a crime, was entitled to a \$50 witness fee.

It is clear in this case that the defendant, who was quite clearly an innocent man above reproach, was quite unne-

cessarily penalised by this provision. Does the Attorney-General have any plans to amend or repeal section 127 of the Justices Act and, if not, why not?

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: In relation to the question of costs in criminal matters, matters dealt with on complaint in the Magistrates Court can lead to costs being awarded against the police. However, there is no power to award costs in cases dealt with in higher courts. I suppose the distinction is that, in matters dealt with in the higher courts, a defendant must first run the gauntlet of a committal proceeding, and before a matter reaches a higher court a *prima facie* case is made out against the accused person. That is the distinction between matters dealt with exclusively within courts of summary jurisdiction and those matters dealt with in the District Court or the Supreme Court on information—indictable offences.

What the honourable member has said may well be theoretically justifiable. However, at this stage, the Government has no plans to move on the matter referred to by the honourable member. All I can say is that there is a distinction between those matters dealt with exclusively in the Magistrates Court and those dealt with in higher courts. Before a matter reaches a higher court, a magistrate in a lower court at the committal proceeding must find that there is a case to answer.

OUTBACK MAIL DELIVERIES

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: I seek leave to make a statement before asking the Attorney-General a question about outback mail deliveries.

Leave granted.

The Hon. M.B. CAMERON: In February and March this year a working party comprising Federal and State Government representatives and representatives of Australia Post and the air charter companies met to review air services to outback stations on what is known as the 'Channel Run'. As a result, the Federal Government imposed a \$10 per visit landing fee on stations in this area.

This fee, something which city and most country people in less remote areas do not have to pay, is a levy on communications, and they can only be described as 'essential' communications. The mail plane is the main source of communication for families in the remote regions of the State. Now they are being penalised with the approval, it would appear, of the State Government. In all, 15 stations are affected in the area. They rely on the weekly service for mail, including accounts, newspapers, Correspondence School lessons (which are essential, because in these days of compulsory schooling it is the only way that children can receive their lessons), and even medical supplies.

It is a vital service on which these people (who in many ways still represent the pioneers of the past) desperately rely. We should be encouraging and rewarding people who are prepared to make these sacrifices of isolation—not penalising them. Will the Attorney-General ensure that the State Government's support for the new fee is withdrawn and will he arrange for an immediate approach by the State Government, through the representatives present at the meeting, to the Federal Government for the removal of this unjust and unwarranted impost?

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I will have the matter referred to by the honourable member inquired into and I will bring down a reply.

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking the Attorney-General, repre-

senting the Minister of Labour, a question about replies to questions.

Leave granted.

The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW: In the previous session I asked two questions to which I am still awaiting replies: the first on 22 March about the participation of women and girls in the community employment programme, and the second on 12 April about the objective of the community employment programme to create jobs in areas of high unemployment. I appreciate that, during a Parliamentary Session, Ministers are under pressure and that the relevant Minister in this case (the Minister of Labour) may have been unable to answer the question before we rose on 10 May. However, I thought that the Minister and his staff might have been able to get their act together during the recess.

Certainly, that example was set by other Ministers in this Chamber and elsewhere when replying to other questions that I asked. Fortunately, the subjects on which my questions are based remain topical. I ask the Attorney-General whether he will ask the Minister of Labour to pay me the courtesy of responding to the questions I asked of him over four months ago.

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER: I do not know of the questions to which the honourable member has referred. However, I can assure the Council that the Government has been assiduous over the past few months in attempting to answer all the questions, and I am sorry if we have overlooked two questions asked by the honourable member of the Minister of Labour. I will attempt to see what has happened to the replies and let the honourable member know.

JOINT COMMITTEES ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF PARLIAMENT AND ON THE LAW, PRACTICE AND PROCEDURES OF THE PARLIAMENT

The Hon. C.J. SUMNER (Attorney-General): By leave, I move:

That the members of this Council appointed to the Joint Select Committees have power to act on the committees during the present session.

Motion carried.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Sessional committees were appointed as follows:

Standing Orders: The President and the Hons G.L. Bruce, 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 G.L. Bruce, 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 M.B. Cameron, H.P.K. Dunn, M.S. Feleppa, Anne Levy, 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.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON REVIEW OF THE
OPERATION OF RANDOM BREATH TESTING IN
SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

The Hon. G.L. BRUCE: By leave, I move:

That the select committee have power to sit during the present session, and that the time for bringing up the report be extended to Tuesday 13 November 1984.

Motion carried.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON TAXI-CAB INDUSTRY
IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

The Hon. BARBARA WIESE: By leave, I move:

That the select committee have power to sit during the present session, and that the time for bringing up the report be extended to Tuesday 13 November 1984.

Motion carried.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON ST JOHN AMBULANCE
SERVICE IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

The Hon. J.R. CORNWALL (Minister of Health): By leave, I move:

That the select committee have power to sit during the present session, and that the time for bringing up the report be extended to Tuesday 13 November 1984.

Motion carried.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT
BOUNDARIES OF TOWN OF GAWLER**

The Hon. ANNE LEVY: By leave, I move:

That the select committee have power to sit during the present session, and that the time for bringing up the report be extended to Thursday 16 August 1984.

Motion carried.

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON BUSHFIRES IN SOUTH
AUSTRALIA**

The Hon. ANNE LEVY: By leave, I move:

That the select committee have power to sit during the present session, and that the time for bringing up the report be extended to Tuesday 13 November 1984.

Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.30 p.m. the Council adjourned until Tuesday 7 August at 2.15 p.m.