

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(HANSARD)

---

**Third Session of the Forty-Eighth Parliament  
(1995)**

---

Parliament, which adjourned on 27 July, was prorogued by proclamation dated 17 August. By proclamation dated 17 August, it was summoned to meet on Tuesday 26 September, and the Third Session began on that date.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

**Tuesday 26 September 1995**

The **PRESIDENT (Hon. Peter Dunn)** took the Chair at 12 noon.

### OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

The Clerk (Mrs J.M. Davis) read the proclamation by Her Excellency the Governor (Dame Roma Mitchell) summoning Parliament.

### GOVERNOR'S SPEECH

Her 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 her summons, Her Excellency read her 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. With many of its economic and financial reforms in place, my Government is giving priority to the achievement of long term social benefits for the people of South Australia. The momentum of reform will be maintained, built on firm financial foundations and linked by economic, environmental and social development strategies which apply technological change and new technology to improve employment opportunities and community services. In some areas of service delivery, South Australia is now achieving international recognition for reform and innovation.
3. Legislation will be placed before you early in the session to achieve major reform of Local Government. This will facilitate council amalgamations based on an assessment of the current operational performance of councils and the achievement of rate reductions. My Government has undertaken wide ranging reform of its own operations and believes that this must be complemented by the Local Government

sector to enhance the standard and contain the cost of services on which the community and the economy rely.

### FINANCIAL POSITION

4. Since you were last called together, my Government has introduced two Budgets. The early presentation of the 1995/96 Budget has allowed Departments and Agencies, for the first time, to begin the financial year with clear budgetary targets.

5. A document on the outcome for the 1994/95 budget will be tabled shortly. It will show an underlying deficit in the non-commercial sector \$36 million below the original forecast.

6. My Government recognises the contribution its employees have made to this improved budget outcome.

7. Further legislation to support the reduction of debt will be introduced. This will allow for the sale of the timber processing operations of Forwood Products and the bulk loading facilities of the Ports Corporation. The sale of the State Government Insurance Commission and Austrust should be finalised by December and my Government is also proceeding with the proposed sale of the South Australian Meat Corporation. The Asset Management Task Force is supervising the proposed sale and leaseback of the Government's light motor vehicle fleet to reduce debt further. The effective work of this Task Force has increased significantly returns from asset sales.

### FINANCIAL STABILITY SUPPORTS ECONOMIC GROWTH

8. Employment in South Australia is at its highest level for almost five years. It now exceeds the pre-recession peak with the creation of 27 400 jobs since January 1994.

9. The Kickstart for Youth program, operating from 14 regional centres, has been introduced to provide training and employment for 1 000 South Australians aged under nineteen. My Government's Employment Broker Scheme is breaking new ground in converting part-time job opportunities into full-time employment.

10. Initiatives to contain the cost of services required by businesses have resulted in South Australia becoming a very competitive business centre on an international scale. For example, ETSA Corporation's operating expenditure is at its lowest level on record. As a result, there have been substantial reductions in prices across all customer segments

including the small business sector, which has received a 22% cut in nominal tariffs. The strong competitive position of South Australia has been highlighted to executives of major companies in presentations led by the Premier in Sydney and Melbourne, and at the recent APEC Conference in Adelaide.

11. While my Government has been encouraged by recent employment growth, it recognises that the re-building of the South Australian economy for the longer term requires the establishment of new industries with a focus on innovation and export growth. This is being encouraged by the policy to offer a 50% reduction in payroll tax associated with new export production.

12. The Premier's recent visit to the United States and Japan has confirmed the potential for the IT2000 Vision to be translated into significant investment and job creation. Important developments can be expected before the end of 1995 in the contracting out of Government data processing and telecommunications operations and the role my Government will take in the establishment of Electronic Services Business in South Australia. Major international companies have advised my Government that South Australia's IT2000 Vision leads the world in its objective to secure industry development through the participation of the private sector in the provision of existing government services and the development of new services. South Australia is ideally placed to serve as a base for the expansion of Information Technology companies into Asia.

13. The objectives of public sector cost savings and industry development through exports are also driving my Government's policy to develop a new water industry in South Australia. A prime contractor to manage, operate and maintain Adelaide's water and wastewater systems and to lead the development of an export oriented water industry will be selected before the end of 1995.

14. Aquaculture is another new industry with high growth and export potential. A study commissioned by my Government has estimated that annual production will increase from \$87 million at present to almost \$280 million within five years. Considerable resources have been committed to encourage this expansion through the preparation of coastal management plans and the provision of management advice and assistance to ensure orderly growth.

15. My Government, with the Commonwealth, is considering the recommendations of a Task Force which has reported on strategic options for Eyre Peninsula. This region supports annual primary production valued at \$1.75 billion. For pastoralists in the north of the State, amendments to the Pastoral Land Management and Conservation Act will be introduced to provide much greater security of lease tenure. Proposals have been developed to combat flooding and dryland salinity in the Upper South East to enhance the economic viability of this region.

16. Agreement has been reached with the Commonwealth for the establishment of AusIndustry to simplify the range of State and Federal business assistance programs.

17. The State's mineral potential is attracting an increased exploration effort. The Department of Mines and Energy is co-operating with private companies to investigate the feasibility of establishing a new smelting industry in the north of South Australia based on local iron ore and coal deposits. The State is in the forefront of action to provide an alternative right to negotiate process under the Commonwealth Native Title Act. It is expected that South Australia's proposals will be approved in the near future to provide a

more certain procedure to deal with native title claims and mining activity.

18. My Government is continuing to open up the provision of services to competition, to benefit consumers through increased choice and lower costs, and to encourage new industry development. The Passenger Transport Board will let, by the end of September, the first tenders to operate metropolitan bus services. Competitive bids for Government building and road maintenance services will be invited.

#### INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE ECONOMY AND THE COMMUNITY

19. The ability of South Australian businesses to compete and the living standards of South Australians depend on a co-ordinated program of infrastructure renewal and extension.

20. Agreement has been reached with the Commonwealth on the extension of Adelaide Airport's main runway. The preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment Statement will start soon. The extension is due for completion in the second half of 1998.

21. Detailed design for the proposed Adelaide to Crafrers Highway will permit construction to start in mid 1996. Another major roadwork will be the start of construction in December on Stage 1 of the Southern Expressway from Darlington to Reynella.

22. The sealing of South Coast Road, Kangaroo Island, will begin next year. This will be important for the attraction of new tourist facilities to the Island. The South Australian Tourism Commission is negotiating for the establishment of substantial developments on Kangaroo Island and at Wilpena Pound to add to the international profile the State is achieving through the Worrina Cove project. The first stage of redevelopment of Granite Island is due for completion early next year and new facilities for visitors to Mount Lofty Summit will be completed before the end of 1996.

23. The upgrading of the North Terrace Cultural Precinct is proceeding. Extensions to the Art Gallery are to be opened for the 1996 Adelaide Festival of Arts. The full Festival program will be announced in October following the injection of an additional \$ 1 million in funding by my Government. In 1998, Adelaide will stage the Ring Opera to reinforce its image as the principal centre in Australia for excellence in the arts, arts development and arts festivals.

24. My Government has endorsed the construction of new facilities for netball, athletics and soccer to be funded in partnership with these sports. These facilities will be completed in time for South Australia to play a major role in the preparations by local and international athletes for the Sydney Olympics and for Adelaide to be a host for Olympic Soccer.

25. An important objective of my Government's involvement in developing community infrastructure is environmental protection and improvement. Work is being planned through the newly established Catchment Management Boards to clean up the Patawalonga and River Torrens. MFP Australia is scheduled to complete, in 1996, the Barker Inlet Wetlands which will capture about 30% of inner metropolitan stormwater run-off. Another major MFP project will upgrade the Bolivar Waste Water Treatment Plant and pipe treated waste water to the Virginia-Two Wells area. This water currently flows into St. Vincent's Gulf, degrading sea grasses. Instead, it will irrigate extended horticultural crops, replacing an environmental problem with an economic opportunity.

26. My Government plans the construction of up to eleven water filtration plants to serve the Adelaide Hills and towns

in the Barossa Valley, Mid North and along the River Murray. These projects will proceed under the Build, Own and Operate scheme, with the successful tenderers to be announced by the middle of 1996.

27. South Australia is taking the lead in proposing to the Commonwealth, New South Wales and Victoria the restoration of the River Murray. A comprehensive review of South Australia's major water resources is being undertaken to identify options for their future management. A South Australian Water Plan, based on this review, will be released soon. Protection of marine waters will be enhanced through the introduction of codes of practice for stormwater management, environmental improvement programs for sewage treatment plants and effluent reuse schemes. Management of the metropolitan coastline is being reviewed.

28. New management plans will be released soon following the audit of the State's 311 national parks and reserves covering 22 million hectares. Other new environmental initiatives will deal with air monitoring, litter and waste management, Outback land management and stronger links with industry through the Environment Protection Authority.

29. Facilities for Technical and Further Education worth \$60 million are under construction or committed. Major additions to the Adelaide and Onkaparinga Institutes are scheduled for completion by the end of this year, while new developments will commence at the Mt. Barker, Mount Gambier and Urrbrae campuses.

#### SERVICES FOR QUALITY OF LIFE

30. My Government is determined to ensure that the community infrastructure and services it provides enhance the quality of life for all South Australians and that the gains from its financial and economic reforms are shared and long lasting. While the need for budgetary restraint remains, available funds are being managed carefully to ensure that priorities for new spending can be met.

#### EDUCATION

31. In school education, programs to support early intervention with literacy and numeracy problems, begun this year, will be further developed. A series of projects will assist young children to achieve their maximum potential as they progress through pre-school and the schooling sector. A new 'Parents as Teachers' intervention program will be trialled in the coming year.

32. Research into learning in the early years will be boosted by an agreement between my Government and the University of South Australia for the creation of a Chair of Early Childhood Research.

33. The Basic Skills Test with year 3 and year 5 students will be refined, in co-operation with the New South Wales Department for School Education, after the first year of implementation in South Australia. Community input will continue to be invited on improvement to the test materials and processes.

34. The new curriculum statements and profiles will proceed to provide a common curriculum framework for all government schools.

35. An updated School Discipline policy will be released for the 1996 year reflecting the best practice in schools, to provide Principals with a greater range of strategies to deal with inappropriate student behaviour. Funds have been provided for a 50% increase in the number of places in Learning Centre programs for students with extreme behaviour problems.

36. During 1996, my Government will also implement a new policy and program designed to nurture and develop the

outstanding gifts and talents of children and students, enabling children to take up higher level studies, extension courses and special extra curricular activities. Gifted and talented children will be able to enrol in school before they reach the age of five years.

37. My Government wishes to ensure that the benefits of Information Technology are available throughout the education sector, to all students and their teachers. As part of the new Departmental charter, a five year plan for information technology is being developed.

38. In Further Education, 100 new places in Information Technology have been provided. The Electronics Course at the Torrens Valley Institute is recognised as an international leader. New technology is being applied to overcome disadvantages faced by students in more remote locations, with 19 interactive video sites now linked across the State and more planned in what is becoming one of the world's largest electronic classrooms.

#### HEALTH

39. My Government will continue with its program of reform of health services to ensure that the health care needs of the community are met more effectively.

40. Regionalisation has commenced, with the establishment of seven interim regional health boards, to ensure that services are tailored to the needs of local communities.

41. The establishment of Options Co-ordination Centres will enable people with a disability to go to one location for information and advice about services and support. These one-stop information service centres will co-ordinate care for people with physical and neurological disability, brain injury and intellectual and sensory disability.

42. South Australia also proposes to be a leader in disability service reform through the development of common eligibility criteria, common assessment and recording of needs and establishment of service benchmarks. The transport subsidy scheme for wheelchair users is being extended to provide journey-to-work benefits and wheelchair accessible buses are being introduced to the public transport fleet.

43. In mental health, my Government will accelerate the development of community mental health teams and the provision of psychiatric services in general hospitals, with the aim of eliminating the stigma of mental disability and making care more accessible to the community at the local level.

44. With over 3 000 people throughout Australia waiting for organ transplantation, my Government will run a national pilot project based on the Spanish transplant co-ordinator network system. This has the potential almost to double the rate of organ donation and to make vast improvements in the quality of life of recipients.

#### FAMILIES

45. My Government's support of families and children is led by the Office for Families and Children which is being expanded to incorporate the Children's Interests Bureau and the Domestic Violence Resource Unit. The Office will soon release the Family Action Plan as a blueprint for family policy.

46. The delivery of care services for vulnerable children has been restructured to improve outcomes for the children concerned and their families.

#### WOMEN

47. The South Australian Women's Advisory Council has completed its inaugural year and will soon publish a report on its consultations with women in country areas. The Office for the Status of Women is working with the Department for Industrial Affairs and the Employee Ombudsman to ensure

that the needs of women are addressed through the enterprise bargaining process.

#### THE AGEING

48. In November, a 10 Year Plan for Aged Services will be circulated for public comment. This Plan will outline program, service and policy priorities for older people, with an emphasis on maintenance of independence and choice of lifestyle.

49. The Health of Older Persons' Policy to promote healthy ageing will be announced in conjunction with the formation of an Older Persons' Health Council.

50. At a time when surplus Government land is available for sale, and the not-for-profit aged housing sector is looking to buy suitable land, my Government is finalising a proposal for facilitating access to surplus land by approved aged care organisations.

#### ABORIGINAL COMMUNITIES

51. My Government is determined to improve the health status of Aboriginal people. An Aboriginal Health Division is being established within the Health Commission and will have, as a major priority, the implementation of the Aboriginal health strategy for South Australia—'Dreaming Beyond 2000'.

52. My Government recognises the significance of employment opportunities and economic independence as major factors in the health status of Aboriginal people. My Government congratulates Tjutjunaku Worka Tjuta Incorporated of Ceduna on its initiatives in emu farming and oyster farming and is also pleased to note promising initiatives of the Point Pearce Community Council in oyster farming and mud brick building construction. The Department of State Aboriginal Affairs will convene a forum to draw together expertise and explore further opportunities for economically sustainable projects.

#### LAW REFORM

53. My Government proposes to introduce legislation relating to racial vilification to make clear that such behaviour will not be tolerated in South Australia, while recognising the sensitivity of the right of freedom of speech.

54. Legislation to overhaul, modernise and reform the law and enforcement procedures dealing with the expiation of offences will be placed before you. The proliferation of enforcement schemes will be reversed and people suffering hardship will be given access to alternative ways of paying the debt without the necessity of proceeding to a court hearing.

55. A Classification (Publications, Films and Computer Games) Bill will be introduced to provide for the adoption by South Australia of a national, uniform classification scheme.

56. New legislation will enable the creation of common property within conventional subdivisions. The community titles created under this legislation will facilitate the development of land in several stages over time and permit multi-tiered management of complex resort style schemes.

57. My Government will continue to develop new legislation which reflects an updated, relevant and cost effective approach to consumer protection and industry and occupational regulation. New builders licensing and security investigation agents legislation will be introduced to encompass this new approach.

58. A model bill for registration of births, deaths and marriages will be placed before you which will facilitate development of national data banks for research, a wider choice for parents in naming a child to reflect different practices of non-English speaking persons, and registration

of still-born children in the same way as the registration of live births.

#### COMMUNITY SAFETY

59. My Government, in consultation with the Commissioner of Police, has initiated a review of the core business and organisational structure of the Police Department with a view to ensuring that the Department is in a strong position to deliver services required by the community. At the same time, it is expected that the review will identify significant savings to fund fair pay levels for police officers through enterprise bargaining.

60. Over the past 24 months, the cost of maintaining a prisoner in any of the State's eight correctional institutions has been reduced by more than 25% in real terms. A further 6% reduction is planned during this financial year. The first privately managed prison in South Australia has opened at Mount Gambier and now accommodates 98 prisoners.

61. The introduction of Mobile Work Camps for sentenced prisoners has proven to be highly successful. Work so far has included the development of tourism areas in the Gammon Ranges and work for the Royal Flying Doctor Service.

#### OTHER MEASURES

62. As well as the measures already referred to, during this session my Government will place before you bills relating to a new statutory framework for the resolution of disputed workers compensation claims; worker health, safety and welfare; the competitive basis of natural gas supply; the nationally agreed charging scheme for heavy transport vehicles; information available to victims of crime; arrangements to deal with prisoner mail and the searching of prison visitors; removal of old legal rules which impose restrictions on the ways in which owners may give away their property; a legal framework for teacher classification and employment practices; management of the South Australian Housing Trust; co-operative housing; national parks management; interstate trade in River Murray water allocations; expansion of the opal mining industry; supervisory procedures for Friendly Societies; investigatory, inspectorial, seizure and penalty provisions under the Tobacco Products Act; and a rewrite of the Stamp Duties Act to achieve uniformity in practices and procedures and improved compliance measures.

#### FORMER MEMBERS

63. Since you were last called together, the Parliament has recorded the deaths of three former long serving members. I join in the tributes already made to the work on behalf of this Parliament and the community of the Honourable Gordon Bruce, Mr. Jack Jennings and Mr. Howard Venning.

I now declare the 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.

#### MEMBER, NEW

The **PRESIDENT** produced a letter from the Clerk of the assembly of members notifying that the assembly of members of both Houses of Parliament had elected Mr Paul Holloway to fill the vacancy in the Legislative Council caused by the resignation of the Hon. Barbara Wiese. Mr Holloway, to whom the oath of allegiance was administered by the President, took his seat in the Legislative Council in place of the Hon. Barbara Wiese (resigned).

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

### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**The PRESIDENT:** I direct that written answers to the following questions from the previous session, as detailed in the schedule that I now table, be distributed and printed in *Hansard*: Nos 167-183, 185, 186, 188, 189 and 191.

#### EDUCATION STAFF, PORT AUGUSTA REGION

167. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. What action is DECS taking to overcome a shortage of temporary relief teachers in the Port Augusta region?

2. Is the Minister aware that during the second term there have been 90 occasions on which absent teachers have not been replaced?

3. Is the Minister aware that classes at the Willsden Primary School and the Flinders View Primary School have been regularly divided to cover teacher shortages resulting in instances where children have to sit on the floor because of the lack of furniture?

4. Will the Minister agree to the appointment of additional staff to the Port Augusta region to overcome these problems?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The following strategies have been put into place to assist in overcoming the shortage of temporary relief teachers in the Port Augusta region:

- There are two permanent relieving teachers located in Port Augusta, one at Carlton Primary School and one at Port Augusta Secondary School.
- Teachers on leave have been given approval to come off leave to undertake relief work.
- Approval has been given for part-time staff to temporarily increase their time to undertake relief work.
- By pooling their temporary relieving teacher allocations additional teachers could be employed to cover classes during periods of high teacher absenteeism. This option has not been taken up by the Principal of Willsden Primary School or other principals in Port Augusta.

I am aware that on a number of occasions it has not been possible to cover absent teachers in some Port Augusta schools.

On occasions, primary schools will divide classes if they are unable to obtain temporary relieving teachers. This strategy is only used on occasions when all other strategies (as outlined above) have been exhausted.

Offers to appoint contract teachers during periods of high absence of teachers have been made to the principals in the Port Augusta schools but this offer has not been taken up. This strategy was explained to principals by the Assistant Director, Personnel (Operations), when he attended a principals' meeting in 1994.

#### LOTE REVIEW

168. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. Can the Minister provide a copy of the terms of reference for the review into the provision of Languages Other Than English (LOTE) at Government schools?

2. Last year about 109 000 students were studying 28 languages under the LOTE program. What are the statistics for 1995?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

1. Terms of reference for the LOTE review:

- To review the outcomes following the implementation of the present State languages policy taking into account the recommendations of the 'Education for a Cultural Democracy' report.
- To identify areas of needs, concerns and interests relating to LOTE education in the South Australian schooling sector.
- To examine and make recommendations to the Minister for Education and Children's Services on structures and procedures required to best meet those needs, concerns and interests particularly in reference to the following areas:
  - policy directions for the next 10 year planning cycle in LOTE education
  - curriculum development
  - training of teachers
  - personnel practices as they impact on the implementation of LOTE programs
  - resource allocation, including funding, taking into account financial limitations.

2. Preliminary statistics for 1995 indicate that there are 117 560 students studying 20 languages.

#### SINGLE BARGAINING CENTRE

169. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. Has a Single Bargaining Centre been established as required by the Industrial and Employee Relations Act?

2. What is the membership of the centre?

3. Have procedures for the operation of the centre been agreed and can the Minister table a copy?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** A Single Bargaining Centre has been established for the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) in accordance with the South Australian Industrial and Employee Relations Act, 1994. The Single Bargaining Centre has met on three occasions, 2 February 1995, 3 May 1995 and 19 May 1995.

Membership of the Single Bargaining Centre reflects six management representatives (Chief Executive, DECS; Executive Director, School Operations; Executive Director, Children's Services; Director, Personnel; Assistant Director, Personnel (Policy); and Manager, Industrial Relations). An adviser from the Department for Industrial Affairs is also represented on the Single Bargaining Centre. Employee representatives have varied for each meeting of the Single Bargaining Centre. The Employee Ombudsman, an employee representative from the South Australian Institute of Teachers, and an employee representative from the Public Service Association are notable participants, whilst the remainder of those attending the Single Bargaining Centre meetings have been DECS employees representing themselves. The latter representatives have varied with each meeting.

Through a publication called the Enterprise Bargaining Update, DECS employees have been informed of the role of the Single Bargaining Centre and of employee rights for representation on the Single Bargaining Centre. To date, formalised procedures for the operation of the Single Bargaining Centre have not been agreed to by the Single Bargaining Centre and consequently not publicised. It is proposed that this will occur when a decision is made in relation to a proposal, currently being considered, to define more than one enterprise within DECS.

#### EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, VEHICLES/TELEPHONES

170. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. How many motor vehicles, excluding school buses, are operated by the Department of Education and Children's Services?

2. What will be the cost of operating these vehicles during 1995-96?

3. How many officers in DECS have mobile telephones and what instructions apply to their use?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

1. Currently the Department for Education and Children's Services operates 436 vehicles to ensure the effective and efficient delivery of essential services and programs to Departmental Schools, preschools and office sites located throughout the State.

These vehicles are leased from State Fleet and are approved and managed in accordance with Government policies and practices.

2. The estimated cost of vehicle operation for the 1995-96 year is \$2.3 million in order to deliver the same level of services as were provided in the previous year.

3. As of the middle of July 1995 there are 222 mobile phones in use by officers that are not school based.

The officers taking delivery of the phones, usually those who are frequently away from their normal work site, are expected to reimburse DECS for any personal calls on their mobile phones. A detailed statement of calls is issued each month for identification of such calls. Personal use of mobile phones however is not encouraged.

A policy document is currently being drafted regarding the use of mobile phones in the department.

#### SCHOOL BUS

171. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. What will be the cost in 1995 of providing bus services to country students and how many students use this service?

2. How does the cost of the country bus service for students this year compare with 1994?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

1. The total cost of providing school bus services to country students in 1994-95 was \$15.74 million with an average of 22 800 students using the services each school day.

2. The total cost of country bus services for students in 1993-94 was \$14.48 million.

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, STAFF**

172. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:** How many guidance officer and speech pathologist positions are there in DECS and how does this compare with 1994?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Prior to June 1994 the establishment head count of guidance officer positions was 50 FTE permanent positions and 3.0 FTE temporary positions (approved for the 1993-94 financial year only).

The number of guidance officer positions currently in DECS is equivalent to 56 FTE positions.

As of 5 July 1994 there were 25 FTE permanent speech pathology positions allocated to the Schooling Sector and 8.9 permanent FTE speech pathology positions allocated to Children's Services.

There are currently 11.9 FTE Speech pathologist positions in the Children's Services sector, and 27.4 FTE salaries in the schooling sector.

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, OVERSEAS MARKETING****173. The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. What is the 1995-96 plan for marketing school curriculum and management programs overseas, which countries will be involved, what is this year's budget allocation, has a business plan been prepared and how many staff are involved?

2. How many fee paying overseas students are attending South Australian Government schools this year and does the Minister support marketing an increase in the number of places?

3. What steps have been taken by South Australia to access funds through the Federal Government's new overseas education and training program announced as part of the Federal Budget?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

1. International education and the provision of the Department for Education and Children's Services (DECS) educational expertise, services and materials is a strategic initiative for DECS.

DECS school curriculum and management programs are marketed overseas through:

- the International Student Program
- Overseas Projects
- Materials Development and Technology Services

DECS International Student Program, established in 1989, provides international students with educational opportunities of a high standard leading to tertiary entrance to Australian and overseas universities, or for the international experience of studying English language and Australian culture in Australia.

International students are able to enrol in:

- Years 10, 11 and 12
- Years 8 and 9 where a student has a local guardian
- an Intensive Secondary English Course, offered in 10, 20, 30 and 40 week modules as preparation for secondary study.

The students pay an annual fee of \$6 800 which covers the full cost of their tuition, support and facilities.

The following countries have been targeted for recruitment in 1995:

- Hong Kong
- Indonesia
- Japan
- Korea
- Malaysia
- Thailand
- Singapore

The International Student Program is self-funding and does not incur any expenses from the State education budget.

On an estimated enrolment of 120 students, the expected income for the 1995-96 financial year is \$825 500. However, the number of students currently enrolled has increased to 140, bringing in an additional \$136 000 for the year.

This financial year, the International Student Program is expected to make a profit (based on an average of 130 students) of \$144 546.

The Program funds the salaries of:

- Two Senior Officers

- One Accommodation Officer
- One Administrative Officer
- 6.1 Full Time Equivalent English as a Second Language teachers

A significant portion of the duties of the two Senior Officers involves international marketing. It should be noted that the salaries of these staff are fully recovered from the program.

The marketing plan for the International Student Program is part of the DECS International Affairs Business Plan.

As a means of exploring market opportunities and promoting South Australian education, DECS has participated actively in the formation of Education SA. This is a consortium of South Australian public and private international education providers across all sectors that aims to establish co-operative marketing activities to share the cost of taking up opportunities in traditional or newly-emerging markets. DECS is currently a member of this organisation.

Education SA has developed a three year strategic plan for co-operative activities. For the 1995-96 financial year, some marketing activities are planned in Hong Kong, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia.

DECS has the expertise to provide a range of educational services, including support for other education systems through overseas project work or short-term customised courses.

One of the significant marketing steps DECS has taken in 1995 is to establish a consortium, in conjunction with the University of South Australia, the Department for Employment, Training and Further Education and SAGRIC, with the express aim of pursuing international educational opportunities to market DECS expertise and resources. SAGRIC is a registered company wholly owned by the Government of South Australia and established to market internationally South Australian expertise and materials. The consortium, to be formalised by the end of August, will be known as 'SAGRIC Education', and has developed a business plan.

Although the consortium is only in its infancy, it has already been successful in winning projects and bringing benefits to DECS. Examples of these include:

- a \$100 000 project for DECS to provide training to Indonesian educators
- a three week training course provided by DECS for Indonesian distance educators, utilising a range of sites including the School of the Air and the Open Access College.
- DECS provided consultants on a fee for service basis to Malaysia, Indonesia and Sri Lanka.

Countries which have been targeted for bids and proposals include Sri Lanka, Christmas and Cocos Islands, Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Under the terms of the agreement with SAGRIC, DECS provides a staffing allocation up to 60 days per year. A large part of this is taken up in pursuing international opportunities.

DECS is involved in the sale of materials overseas for schools including software, books and videos. Countries targeted for this sales activity are Canada, USA, UK and the Philippines. New Zealand and Papua New Guinea are also the focus of activity but are treated more as an extension of the national market.

A significant income source is from royalties paid to DECS, anticipated to be approximately \$250 000 in 1995-96 for a training and development program conducted by Rigby International.

There are no specific staff employed to market these programs and the international marketing of products is part of the Materials Development and Technology Unit business plan.

2. Currently there are 140 fee paying international students enrolled in South Australian Government Schools. Most of these students are placed at four nominated high schools, Charles Campbell Secondary School, Glenunga International High School, Marion High School and Norwood Morialta High School.

It is anticipated that the program will expand according to demand. Additional countries, Korea and Japan, have been targeted over the last year. The program will be evaluated late in 1996 and options for the future explored.

3. The new overseas education and training program initiatives announced in the Federal budget relate mainly to programs to be implemented by DEET.

However, two initiatives relate to marketing initiatives of DECS. These are:

- funds to undertake feasibility studies to establish schools overseas, and
- funds to support bilateral initiatives with South Africa.

DECS gained support through DEET in the 1994-95 financial year to undertake a feasibility study to establish a school in Malaysia.

If an opportunity exists to consider the establishment of schools in other countries, then DECS will once again seek DEET funding.

The University of South Australia, with the support of DEET funding, has established an agreement with a South African university. They have invited DECS to consider providing support for education initiatives in Eastern Province, South Africa. DECS is currently considering a response which may involve a further submission to DEET.

**CHILD-CARE FACILITIES**

**174. The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. What plans are there to expand child-care facilities at Aldinga Beach and Sellicks Beach?
2. Where will any new facilities be located?
3. What community consultation has and will occur in relation to the placement of new facilities?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

1. From 1 July 1995, the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health increased the Operational Subsidy from 30 to 40 places at Aldinga Community Child-Care Centre.

A request for capital upgrading of the centre is being considered by the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health. Aldinga Community Child-Care Centre is currently underutilised. There are no child-care facilities in operation at Sellicks Beach.

2. Under the National Child-Care Strategy the State and Commonwealth have worked together to allocate 21 centre based long day care places to the approved high need area of Willunga. It is proposed that the service be integrated with the Willunga Preschool.

A private operator is establishing a 45 place long day care centre in McLaren Vale.

3. Consultations with community and key service providers have led to a focus on the provision of a service in Willunga township. Private operators were included in the consultative process.

A community reference group has been established with representatives from the townships of Aldinga, Sellicks Beach, McLaren Vale and Willunga.

Contact was made and maintained both on an individual service level and by conducting a number of Reference Group meetings throughout an initial consultation period of approximately seven months.

Willunga Preschool and Aldinga Community Child-Care Centre Management Committees were provided with information regarding the National Child-Care Strategy, the consultation process and possible placement of the allocated places.

Throughout the consultation process it was stressed that the 21 Long Day Care places allocated to the Local Government Area of Willunga were to address the unmet need for a child-care service in that community.

It has been recommended by the community Reference Group that a viable service be established at Willunga and that any available additional places should be allocated to Aldinga.

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES,  
MINISTERIAL STAFFING**

**175. The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. What are the names, classifications, salaries and titles of all staff employed in the Minister's Office.
2. How many executive staff in the Minister's Department are now on contract, are any of these officers subject to performance reviews and at what levels are they paid?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

Chief of Staff	Mr R. Halsey	Ministerial appointment	\$75 000
Ministerial Adviser	Mr R. Duddy	Ministerial appointment	\$51 400
Media Adviser	Ms C. Boomer	Ministerial appointment	\$51 400
Policy Adviser	Mr M. Tainsh	Seconded Teacher L3	\$52 288
Policy Adviser	Mr W. Jones	ASO L8	\$55 818
Senior Administrative Officer	Ms D. Chadwick	ASO L5	\$37 932
Personal Secretary	Ms A. Lambert	ASO L3	\$31 475
Administrative Officer	Ms S. Harley	ASO L3	\$31 475

Administrative Officer	Ms M. Gillard	ASO L3	\$30 450
Administrative Officer	Ms J. Verner	ASO L3	\$29 425
Parliamentary Clerk	Ms E. Moore	ASO L2	\$27 375
Receptionist	Ms M. Podirsky	ASO L2	\$25 325
Administrative Support Officer	Ms C. Larwood	ASO L2	\$25 325
Correspondence Officer	Mr R. Luppino	ASO L1	\$21 840
2. The following five employees are considered executive staff within the Department for Education and Children's Services, all of whom are on contract and are subject to performance review:			
Director, Programs	Ms S Fueloep	Executive Officer Level 2	
Executive Director, Curriculum	Mr J Dellit	Executive Officer Level 3	
Executive Director, School Operations	Ms G Hancock	Executive Officer Level 3	
Executive Director, Children's Services	Ms D Davis	Executive Officer Level 3	
Chief Executive	Mr D Ralph	Chief Executive	

**EDUCATION ACT**

**176. The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. Does the Minister plan to introduce amendments to the Education Act during the budget or Spring sittings of Parliament?
2. If so, what will be the purpose of the proposed changes?
3. Will draft amendments be circulated for discussion before introduction to the Parliament?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

1. Yes.
2. To provide an appropriate legislative framework for current teacher classification and employment practices.
3. Yes.

**LENSWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**177. The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. When will DECS finalise negotiations on plans for the redevelopment of the Lenswood Primary School with the school council?

2. When will funding for this work be made available?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** A facilities review has been carried out and the Department for Building Management, at the request of the DECS Facility Office, has developed a master plan to address some issues.

The potential to modify the existing space and provide the essential accommodation at Lenswood Primary School will be considered during the preparation of the 1995-96 Programmed Maintenance/Minor Works program.

**EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES, STAFF**

**178. The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. Is the Minister aware that shortages of temporary relief teachers in the Port Augusta area have required the Willsden Primary School to divide at least one and up to five classes each week to cover teacher shortages?

2. In view of the disadvantage to students resulting from disruptions to programs and teachers working outside their roles, will the Minister undertake to consider the need for additional teaching resources at the Willsden School?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I am aware of the shortage of temporary relieving teachers in the Port Augusta area which has resulted in Willsden Primary School having to divide classes so that the classes of absent teachers can be covered.

The following strategies have been put into place to assist in overcoming the problem.

- There are two permanent relieving teachers located in Port Augusta, one at Carlton Primary Schools and one at Port Augusta Secondary School.
- Teachers on leave have been given approval to come off leave to undertake relief work.
- Approval has been given for part-time staff to temporarily increase their time to undertake relief work.

- By pooling their temporary relieving teacher allocations additional teachers could be employed to cover classes during periods of high teacher absenteeism. This option has not been taken up by the Principal of Willsden Primary School.

I have requested that the situation in Port Augusta be monitored by the Director of Personnel.

#### BOOLEROO CENTRE KINDERGARTEN

179. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:** Has the Minister investigated complaints from the Booleroo Centre Kindergarten Parent Committee concerning the delivery of pre-school services in their community and agreed to their requests for:

- an extra session entitlement for the children of the Booleroo Centre Kindergarten?
- the Minister to investigate the rights of rural children to access pre-school education sessions equal to those living in urban areas, that is 160 sessions of pre-school before entering primary school or four sessions per week?
- the review of the numbers formula that discriminates against rural children's access to pre-school sessions?

#### **The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:**

- I have received a submission from the parent committee of the Booleroo Centre District Kindergarten and have investigated their concerns. The Booleroo Centre District Kindergarten has applied for and been granted on a temporary basis, the additional salary for one session per week.
- The Government has a commitment to provide up to 160 sessions of preschool to eligible children in the year before school. In small rural centres in the country region which cannot because of low numbers of children involved, offer four sessions per week, children may enrol before they reach four years of age in order to receive the equivalent number of sessions prior to school entry.
- The Enrolment Policy for Rural Preschools was reviewed in 1994. The Children's Services Parent Consultative Committee was actively involved in the exercise. The revised policy came into effect in February 1995 and allows for the introduction of three session services where attendances numbers are 15 or more as well as the allocation of a salary in cases where the staff/child ratio unexpectedly exceeds 1:10.

#### MUSIC TEACHER, CENTRAL EYRE PENINSULA

#### 180. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

- What action has DECS taken to overcome the shortage of an instrumental music teacher in the Central Eyre Peninsula Region?
- Is the Minister aware of representations made by the Central Eyre Peninsula School Parents Association to DECS on this issue and of the association's proposal to resolve this problem?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Every effort has been made to fill the Instrumental Music Teacher vacancy to be based in Wudinna. The position was advertised in the *Advertiser* on three occasions with no suitable applicants being found. Posters were displayed at Adelaide University and the TAFE School of Music. Details of the vacancy were also circularised at no cost to DECS through a variety of publications including those of music and arts bodies in the SA Musicians' Union. Suitably qualified and experienced applicants were not prepared to relocate to the Eyre/Whyalla district.

Mrs Ramsey, Secretary, Eyre Peninsula School Parents Association, wrote to the Minister for Education and Children's Services on 23 May 1995 suggesting a member of the local community be appointed to the position. Copies of the letter were also forwarded to the honourable member.

I am advised the Country Regional Services Instrumental Music Coordinator was also contacted by the local community member referred to in Ms Ramsey's letter. Whilst having a current application with DECS, the community member has not nominated music as a teaching field. The information provided to the co-ordinator indicated she did not currently have the Instrumental Music skills required for a permanent appointment to this position.

As a result of the difficulties associated with filling this vacancy, permission was sought to advertise the position in the Saturday editions of the *Sydney Morning Herald* and the *Melbourne Age*. These advertisements were to have been placed during July but this was not necessary as in the interim the position has been filled on a contract basis from 24 July to the remainder of the 1995 school year. The successful appointee is a recent graduate who has family in the area where the position is based.

#### BRENTWOOD RURAL SCHOOL

#### 181. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

- Will the Minister take action to ensure the future of the Brentwood Rural School?
- Will the Minister undertake to assist long term plans for the school by providing tenure for the school leaders?
- Will the Minister give an assurance to the school community that there are no plans to close the Brentwood Rural School?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I am aware of the concerns of the Brentwood Rural School community regarding the future of the school. The current enrolment is 21 students and the school is located approximately 13 kilometres from the Minlaton District (R-12) School. Students from Brentwood attend Minlaton for their secondary school education and there is a school bus service which runs between Hardwicke Bay, Brentwood and Minlaton. However, some parents of Hardwicke Bay students are choosing to send their children to Minlaton District School, rather than Brentwood Rural School.

Officers from the Department for Education and Children's Services have advised me that the educational viability of maintaining year 6 and 7 classes at Brentwood (as with many small schools) is hard to maintain. I understand there is currently only one grade 6 student and one grade 7 student.

It is true to say that the Brentwood School has suffered a high turnover of people filling the principal position at the school. This is partly due to its size, its location and also because previous principals have moved from Brentwood to other promotion positions within the department.

At this stage, no decision has been taken to close the Brentwood Rural School but there has been ongoing dialogue between the school council and the District Superintendent of Education about the future of the school. Before a school closure is considered, consultation with the school community is required. I have now requested that the District Superintendent of Education undertake a full review into the matter during terms 3 and 4, 1995. I expect to have a report on the future of the school before the end of the school year.

#### ROADS, BRIDGES AND DRAINAGE

182. **The Hon. BARBARA WIESE:** As the Government budget allocation for roads, bridges and drainage has been under-spent by \$9.5 million and \$4.7 million in 1994-95, will the Minister provide detail of how much was budgeted and spent, and the reason for any underspending, for each project undertaken in each of the above two years?

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The figures referred to by the honourable member relate to the Department of Transport's total Capital Works Program as set out on page 117 of the 1994-95 Estimates of Payments and Receipts and page 112 of the same document in 1995-96.

These figures represent all Capital Programs within the Department of Transport and consist of hundreds of individual projects.

In both years referred to by the honourable member the most significant variation of expenditure occurred in the Accessibility Enhancement Program.

In accordance with the request, I have organised to have details of individual project expenditure variations within the Accessibility Enhancement Program, forwarded to the honourable member.

#### CORRECTIONAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT VOLUNTEER UNIT

#### 183. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

- Could the Minister for Correctional Services please provide details of funding for the Volunteer Unit of the Department for Correctional Services for the 1995-96 financial year?
- How many people are registered as volunteers with the Volunteer Unit?
- On how many occasions, on average, have members of the Volunteer Unit been assigned duties in the previous financial year, what was the general nature of the duties to which the volunteers were assigned and what was the average or typical length of time taken to carry out these assignments?
- Have the relevant experiences, talents and qualifications of the volunteers been appropriately recorded and how are these taken into account when duties are assigned?



5. What steps have been taken to publicise the Volunteer Unit and its services amongst prisoners throughout the State?

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:**

1. The budget for the Volunteer Unit of the Department for Correctional Services for the 1995-96 financial year is \$141 400.

2. There are currently 60 metropolitan and 20 country volunteers registered with the Volunteer Unit.

3. and 4. It is estimated that 75 per cent of the metropolitan volunteers have regular weekly tasks which range from literacy tuition, library duties, transport and recreational activities such as leadlighting and craft tuition. Volunteers also teach restoration, leatherwork, horticultural skills as well as provide support and teach daily living skills, e.g. budgeting, shopping and cooking to institutionalised clients in the community and in prison. Volunteers are also involved in the teaching of job interview skills, writing resumes, as well as liaising with employers to provide opportunities for work release from Northfield Prison Complex. Assignments can also be one-off and of an emergency nature. The length of time for each assignment varies according to the task and how much time the volunteer is prepared to offer.

5. As an aid to the department, the services offered by volunteers are known to staff within institutions. It is these staff who determine and match the skills of a particular volunteer to the needs of individual prisoners. Consequently, staff awareness of the services offered by the volunteers is of most importance and every effort is made to ensure this occurs. Records of the individual skills and expertise of volunteers are maintained and circulated to the relevant staff.

#### PARAFIELD GARDENS SCHOOL COUNSELLORS

185. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. Why will the school counsellor position at Parafield Gardens Junior and Primary Schools campus be discontinued next year?

2. As these schools have 485 students eligible for schoolcard and satisfy the formula for the allocation on counsellor positions, will the Minister now confirm that this position will be retained?

3. As the number of students on schoolcard at this campus exceeds the number of schoolcard students at other schools that have been allocated counsellor positions, will the Minister determine a more equitable way for the allocation of these resources?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The primary school counselling project was established during 1988 and 1989 in response to recommendations made by a review into primary education, and the report Interagency Responses to School Children with Social and Behavioural Problems (1988).

The Interagency Responses to School Children with Social and Behavioural Problems report made clear recommendations that primary school counsellors should be placed in schools with the greatest concentration of children with social, behavioural and educational problems and that the positions should be allocated on the basis of need rather than on numbers.

Concentration of disadvantage in a school is seen as a reflection of disadvantage in a community. The formula used to identify schools to which primary school counsellors are allocated therefore relies more heavily on the percentage, or concentration, of disadvantaged students rather than on total enrolments or schoolcard numbers.

The formula was refined this year after consultation with principals' and primary school counsellors' associations to take into account the historical and projected profiles of school populations and to recognise student transience as a complexity factor.

Schools were considered for placement of counsellors if both of the following applied:

- either their current or estimated (1996) number of schoolcard holders was over 100, and
- their weighted average percentage of schoolcard holders over the last three years was over 50 per cent.

Data on current schoolcard enrolments was provided by the Schoolcard Section and estimated 1996 schoolcard enrolments were provided by the Information Management Unit.

The weighted average percentage of schoolcard holders averages the percentage of schoolcard holders by July census and by Information Technology Branch (ITB). Data over the last three years, with a greater weighting given to the most recent data. The use of ITB data, which reflects the number of schoolcard approvals, means that schools with transient schoolcard populations are recognised.

Schools to receive counsellor positions were identified by ranking the schools which meet both criteria described above. To

rank the schools a 75 per cent weighting was given to the weighted average percentage of schoolcard holders, and a 25 per cent weighting to total schoolcard enrolments. A greater weighting was given to schoolcard percentage since the purpose of the positions is to address the needs of school communities with high concentrations of disadvantaged students.

The 44 top ranked schools, apart from those which have ongoing counsellor positions, were allocated positions commencing in 1996.

Parafield Gardens Junior Primary and Primary Schools have a weighted average of less than 50 per cent schoolcard holders over the last three years, which means they did not meet the formula criteria to qualify for a primary school counsellor.

Schoolcard figures of 16 June 1995 indicated a total of 428 schoolcard recipients at Parafield Gardens Schools. This figure differs from the 485 schoolcard holders claimed by the Hon. Carolyn Pickles. These figures are the most up to date available at the time the positions were allocated, and were used as a final check of the situation in schools being affected by the Allocation process.

It cannot be assumed that once a school has a counsellor it will have the position forever. Primary school counselling is an equity program involving a finite number of salaries. The positions should always be considered by schools as project positions aiming to bring about lasting change to improve the learning of students.

The Director, Programs, within the Department for Education and Children's Services has responsibility for managing the primary school counsellor salaries and will review regularly the criteria for the allocation of counsellors, in consultation with principals, counsellors and school communities.

When the placement of positions is considered for 1997, the formula and the situation at Parafield Gardens Junior Primary and Primary Schools will be considered again.

#### GUMERACHA PRIMARY SCHOOL

186. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:**

1. Why was the Gumeracha Primary School neglected in the recent round of Back to School Grants?

2. When will the following capital works be carried out at the Gumeracha Primary School:

- (a) the installation of verandahs to the new classrooms;
- (b) provision of a computer learning room;
- (c) provision of a new retaining wall at the front of the school, together with a new path and steps to provide safe access;
- (d) the installation of a verandah so that students can wait under cover for their school buses in wintry weather conditions;
- (e) the building of a pergola for additional shade for students?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The 1994-95 Back to School Grants were based on a proportion of the backlog and 1994 maintenance requirements which were identified in the Building Land Asset Management System (BLAMS) and Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare projects which required attention.

Schools were provided with the relevant BLAMS data in October 1994 and asked to comment on the accuracy of the data presented. No response was received from Gumeracha Primary School and as BLAMS did not identify any backlog maintenance at Gumeracha Primary School, the school did not qualify for a Back to School Grant.

The projects listed by the honourable member can be considered during the preparation of the 1995-96 Programmed Maintenance/Minor Works Program if submissions are received from the school.

#### PORT ADELAIDE GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

188. **The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:** Given the service provided to girls, in particular Aboriginal girls and girls with disabilities, by the Port Adelaide Girls High School, how does the Minister expect to answer a potential legal claim that closure of the school would amount to breaching the Equal Opportunity Act (S.A.)?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** There is no existing legal claim in the matter of the closure of Port Adelaide Girls High School at the end of the 1995 school year. The Government's view is that there has been no breach of the Equal Opportunity Act.

#### SHINE

189. **The Hon. ANNE LEVY:** What are the reasons for exemption from payroll tax in respect of production of the feature film entitled 'Shine' as proclaimed in the *Government Gazette* of 29

June 1995 (page 3074) and who are the directors and shareholders of Momentum Films Pty. Ltd?

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** This \$6 million feature film is financed with investment from the Film Finance Corporation (FFC), SAFC, Film Victoria, together with pre-sales to the BBC and Paris-based international sales agent Pandora.

Originally planned to be filmed in Sydney, the South Australian Film Corporation was successful in offering an investment package to ensure that this major production would be based in South Australia. In addition to the SAFC's investment, the Corporation sought from the South Australian Government an exemption from payroll tax liability which SAFC had identified as a much needed incentive for South Australia's competitive advantage as a production centre.

Payroll tax liability for any production can vary, depending on the time of year and the terms of employment for services (ie as individuals or as companies providing services). This requires the production to undertake time consuming calculations, though the end result may be a limited liability for payroll tax.

An exemption removes this requirement and financial liability, thereby permitting the production to redirect resources and to add more value in terms of financial and creative expenditures on the actual production.

It is estimated that the direct expenditure by the production of Shine in South Australia was between \$3 million and \$3.5 million. With the value added economic benefits, calculated under the SA Centre for Economic Studies' 1.7 multiplier, approximately \$8 million has been contributed to the State's economy through the SAFC's successful negotiations to return this production to South Australia.

The Government has now agreed to amend the Payroll Tax Act to extend this specific exemption to feature films which provide economic benefits to South Australia. This will provide an enhancement to this State's competitive advantage, particularly at a time when the Fox Studio announcement and NSW's discounting loan facility are drawing interest again to Sydney.

The Directors of Momentum Films are Jane Scott and Scott Hicks. There are no other shareholders.

#### SOUTHERN EXPRESSWAY

191. **The Hon. BARBARA WIESE:** In relation to the 'consultation' to which the Minister referred in her answer to a question from the member for Mitchell in Estimates Committee B on 21 June 1995 regarding the Department of Transport's consultation with the City of Marion on the subject of the Southern Expressway:

1. on what dates, and in what form, did such consultations take place?
2. which departmental officers have been responsible for these consultative communications?
3. on what basis does the Minister suggest that consultation has intensified in more recent months?

**The Hon DIANA LAIDLAW:**

1. and 2. Prior to the Premier's announcement of the Southern Expressway project on 21 March 1995, numerous discussions, dating back to the mid-1980s, had occurred between departmental staff and elected members of the City of Marion regarding the previous Third Arterial Road project. During this period the department distributed a number of information brochures outlining this project and seeking local community input. The Southern Expressway project through the City of Marion is closely based upon the earlier proposals for the Third Arterial Road.

Since the announcement of the Southern Expressway these discussions have continued and included departmental officers giving a detailed briefing to key council staff on 27 March 1995.

The Department of Transport officer responsible for these consultative communications was the Manager, Planning Investigations.

In late May 1995 Maunsell Pty Ltd was appointed as Project Manager for the delivery of the Southern Expressway project. Since that time the following consultations have been held with the City of Marion:

- (1) Maunsell Pty Ltd wrote to the Mayor and City Manager of Marion on 2 June 1995 requesting an introductory meeting.
- (2) Maunsell's Project Manager, David Gray, met with Mayor Colin Haines and the City Manager, Mr Jeff Tate, on 22 June 1995 to discuss particular issues of interest to the City of Marion.

(3) On 21 June 1995 Mr David Bray, Transport Adviser to the Transport Policy Unit, and the Project Manager met with and addressed the Southern Development Board of Adelaide. The City of Marion has three representatives, including the Mayor and the City Manager, on this Board.

(4) On 28 June 1995 the Project Manager met with a group of officers of the City of Marion in order to establish a mechanism for ongoing communication and consultation and to answer questions.

(5) On 3 July 1995 the Project Manager addressed a full meeting of council and answered questions for over an hour.

(6) On 18 July 1995 the City of Marion participated in a workshop run by the Project Manager which also involved a wide range of parties interested in provisions for cyclists, pedestrians and other forms of non-motorised transport.

(7) On 18 July 1995 Maunsell's Project Services Manager met with the City of Marion's Infrastructure Manager to discuss local infrastructure services.

(8) On 19 and 20 July 1995 the City of Marion participated in a two day Value Management Study to look at issues of road cross-sections, connections and environmental issues.

(9) On 26 July 1995 the Project Manager met with the Community Environment Committee of the City of Marion to discuss a range of issues.

3. Consultation has intensified in more recent months with the Project Manager being in steady communication with Council as can be seen in 1. and 2. above.

#### MEMBER, NEW

**The PRESIDENT:** I lay on the table the minutes of the Assembly of Members of the two Houses held this day to fill a vacancy in the Legislative Council caused by the resignation of the Hon. Barbara Wiese.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (Minister for Education and Children's Services):** I move:

That the minutes of the proceedings be printed.

Motion carried.

#### AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT AND TREASURER'S FINANCIAL STATEMENT

**The PRESIDENT:** I lay on the table the Auditor-General's Report and the Treasurer's Financial Statement for the year ended 30 June 1995.

#### MEMBERS' INTERESTS

**The PRESIDENT:** Pursuant to section 5(4) of the Members of Parliament (Register of Interests) Act 1983, I lay upon the table the Registrar's statement, June 1995, prepared from ordinary returns of members, to the Legislative Council.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (Minister for Education and Children's Services):** I move:

That the statement be printed.

Motion carried.

#### STATUTORY AUTHORITIES REVIEW COMMITTEE

**The PRESIDENT:** I lay upon the table the interim report of the committee on a review of the Electricity Trust of South Australia (Accounting Issues) which is authorised to be printed and published pursuant to section 17(7)(b) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991.

**MEMBERS' TRAVEL EXPENDITURE**

**The PRESIDENT:** I lay upon the table members' travel expenditure 1994-95 under the Members of Parliament Travel Entitlement Rules 1983.

**PAPERS TABLED**

The following papers were laid on the table:

By the Minister for Education and Children's Services (Hon. R. I. Lucas)—

- Office for the Commissioner for Public Employment—Workforce Information—June 1995.
- Reports, 1994-95—
  - Asset Management Task Force.
  - Budget Outcome
  - Casino Supervisory Authority—1994-95—Third Annual Report on the Performance of Functions of the Casino Supervisory Authority.
  - Casino Supervisory Authority—1994-95—Tenth Annual Report on the Operation of the Adelaide Casino.
  - Department of Treasury and Finance.
  - Disciplinary Appeals Tribunal.
  - Lotteries Commission of South Australia.
  - Office for the Commissioner for Public Employment.
  - Police Superannuation Board
  - Promotion and Grievance Appeals Tribunal.
  - South Australian Asset Management Corporation and its Controlled Entities.
  - South Australian Government Financing Authority
  - State Government Insurance Commission.
  - State Supply Board.
  - State Supply Board—Gaming Machines.
  - Superannuation Funds Corporation of South Australia.
- Responses to Report—Economic and Finance Committee (The Disbursement of Grant Funds by South Australian Government Agencies).
  - By Minister for Education and Children's Services.
  - By Deputy Premier.
- Regulations under the following Acts—
  - Daylight Savings Act 1971—Summer Time.
  - Lottery and Gaming Act 1936—
    - Trade Promotion Lotteries.
    - Trader Offences.
  - Waterworks Act 1932—Definition of Commercial Purpose.

By the Attorney-General (Hon. K. T. Griffin)—

- Reports, 1994-95—
  - Citrus Board of South Australia.
  - Evidence Act 1929.
  - Motor Fuel Licensing Board.
  - Remuneration Tribunal.
  - Summary Offences Act 1953—
    - Dangerous Areas.
    - Road Blocks.
- Regulations under the following Acts—
  - Bills of Sale Act 1886—Requirements as to Instruments.
  - Fences Act 1975—Exemption—Land Used for Drainage Purposes.
  - Fisheries Act 1982—Ban on Net Fishing.
  - Industrial and Employee Relations Act 1994—Notice to be given by Association.
  - Meat Hygiene Act 1994—Standards/Codes of Practice.
  - Public Trustee Act 1995—Commission and Fees.
  - Real Property Act 1886—
    - Certification of Instruments.
    - Land Division.
  - Subordinate Legislation Act 1987—Postponement of Expiry.
  - Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986—Prescribed Notices.
- Rules of Court—
  - District Court Act 1991—District Court Rules—Various.

- Magistrates Court Act 1991—Magistrates Court Rules—
  - Landlord and Tenant—Forms.
  - Retail Shop Leases.

By the Minister for Consumer Affairs (Hon. K. T. Griffin)—

- Regulations under the following Acts—
  - Consumer Credit Act 1972—Revocation and Variations.
  - Consumer Transactions Act 1972—Exempt Transactions.
  - Land and Business (Sale and Conveyancing) Act 1994—Instalment Contracts.
  - Liquor Licensing Act 1985—Dry Areas—
    - Port Pirie.
    - Town of Gawler.
  - Residential Tenancies Act 1995—Water Rates.

By the Minister for Transport (Hon. Diana Laidlaw)—

- Border Groundwater Agreement Review Committee—Report, 1994.
- Development Act 1993—Amendment to Development Plan—Report.
- Regulations under the following Acts—
  - Development Act 1993—Adoption of 'Housing Code'.
  - Harbors and Navigation Act 1993—Exclusion of Vessels, Oil Platforms.
  - Passenger Transport Act 1994—
    - Conduct of Passengers.
    - Various.
  - Public Corporations Act 1993—Hills Transit.
  - Road Traffic Act 1961—Declaration of Hospitals.
- Racing Act Rules 1976—
  - Bookmakers Licensing Board—Principal.
  - Harness Racing Board—
    - Age Limit to Drive Horse.
    - Handicapping.
    - Powers of the Stewards.
- Responses to Economic and Finance Committee—
  - The Disbursement of Grant Funds by South Australian Government Agencies—
    - By Minister for Education and Children's Services.
    - By Deputy Premier.
  - Report on Compulsory Third Party Property Insurance.
- Response to Public Works Committee.
- Corporation By-laws—
  - Brighton—
    - No. 1—Permits and Penalties.
    - No. 2—Foreshore.
    - No. 3—Moveable Signs.
    - No. 4—Garbage Removal.
    - No. 5—Restaurants and Fish Shops.
    - No. 6—Bees.
    - No. 7—Public Conveniences.
    - No. 8—Caravans.
    - No. 9—Tents.
    - No. 10—Streets and Footways.
    - No. 11—Poultry.
    - No. 12—Inflammable Undergrowth.
    - No. 13—Parks and Reserves.
    - No. 14—Vehicle Movement.
  - Burnside—
    - No. 1—Permits and Penalties.
    - No. 2—Vehicle Movements.
    - No. 3—Street Conduct.
    - No. 4—Street Traders.
    - No. 5—Garbage Removal.
    - No. 6—Height of Fences Near Intersections.
    - No. 7—Drains.
    - No. 8—Park Lands.
    - No. 9—Fire Prevention.
    - No. 10—Caravans.
    - No. 11—Lodging Houses.
    - No. 12—Creatures.
    - No. 13—Library Services.
    - No. 14—Burnside Swimming Centre.
- Mount Gambier—

- No. 1—Permits and Penalties.
- No. 2—Moveable Signs.
- No. 3—Taxis.
- No. 4—Council Land.
- No. 5—Fire Prevention.

Noarlunga—No. 5—Dogs.  
Port Adelaide—

- No. 1—Permits and Penalties.
- No. 2—Moveable Signs.
- No. 3—Council Land.
- No. 4—Garbage Removal.
- No. 5—Caravans and Camping.
- No. 6—Restaurants and Fish Shops.
- No. 7—Inflammable Undergrowth.
- No. 8—Creatures.

Salisbury—

- No. 1—Permits and Penalties.
- No. 2—Moveable Signs.
- No. 3—Garbage Collection.
- No. 4—Council Land.
- No. 5—Fire Prevention.
- No. 7—Animals and Birds.
- No. 8—Bees.
- No. 9—Caravans.

District Council By-laws—

Mallala—No. 8—Animals and Birds.

Murray Bridge—

- No. 2—Council Land.
- No. 3—Taxis.
- No. 4—Moveable Signs.

Roxby Downs—

- No. 1—Permits and Penalties.
- No. 2—Taxis.
- No. 3—Street Traders.
- No. 4—Garbage Disposal.
- No. 5—Caravans and Camping.
- No. 6—Council Land.

Streaky Bay—No. 2—Council Land.

Tumby Bay—

- No. 1—Fees.
- No. 2—Camping Reserves.
- No. 3—Council Reserves.
- No. 4—Dogs.
- No. 5—Fences and Hoardings.
- No. 6—Foreshore.
- No. 7—Fuel Pumps.
- No. 8—Garbage.
- No. 9—Moveable Signs.
- No. 10—Parklands.
- No. 11—Poultry.
- No. 12—Traders.

#### BUDGET OUTCOME DOCUMENT

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (Minister for Education and Children's Services):** I seek leave to table a copy of a ministerial statement, made by the Treasurer in another place today, on the 1994-95 financial result.

Leave granted.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON OUTSOURCING FUNCTIONS UNDERTAKEN BY E&WS DEPARTMENT

**The Hon. L.H. DAVIS:** I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up its report be extended until Wednesday 29 November.

Motion carried.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON TENDERING PROCESS AND CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE OPERATION OF THE NEW MOUNT GAMBIER PRISON

**The Hon. J.C. IRWIN:** I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up its report be extended until Wednesday 29 November.

Motion carried.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE PROPOSED PRIVATISATION OF MODBURY HOSPITAL

**The Hon. BERNICE PFITZNER:** I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up its report be extended until Wednesday 29 November.

Motion carried.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON ALTERING THE TIME ZONE FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

**The Hon. CAROLINE SCHAEFER:** I move:

That the committee have power to sit during the present session and that the time for bringing up its report be extended until Wednesday 29 November.

Motion carried.

### QUESTION TIME

#### SCHOOL SERVICE OFFICERS

**The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Education and Children's Services a question about school service officers.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES:** The Minister has tried to justify cutting 250 school service officers by saying that even after these cuts South Australia will remain 10 per cent above the natural average. The first point is that the Minister would reduce everything in education to an average—no best practice, just Mr Average, the lowest common denominator. Now one of the Minister's colleagues, the member for Mitchell, has produced a set of statistics that show that two other States are ahead of South Australia in the provision of school support officers. A letter headed 'Facts on education spending' to the Chairperson of the Hamilton college states:

At recent school council meetings in the electorate of Mitchell the South Australian Institute of Teachers has been soliciting support in its industrial and political campaign against the Government of South Australia. Although I respect and defend the right of SAIT to express their point of view publicly, I am concerned at their use of school councils to achieve their industrial and political aims. For your information, I have listed below facts on education spending. The information provided represents the most reliable and objective summaries of our national schooling statistics available.

The member for Mitchell went on to point out in his letter that while South Australia has one SSO per 60 students the ratio in Queensland is one SSO for 55 students and in Tasmania is one SSO for 54 students. Western Australia is also close to South Australia, with one SSO for 64 students.

According to the figures given by the member for Mitchell, South Australia will fall to one SSO for 66 students after 250 jobs are cut, and fall behind Western Australia. We will then be the fourth best, the third worst of all the States,

only New South Wales and Victoria having worse ratios. Is the Minister satisfied that his decision to cut 250 school service officer jobs will mean that South Australia will have the third worst ratio of all the Australian States?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The information that the member for Mitchell (Mr Caudell) and I supplied is entirely consistent because the information that the honourable member supplied to the Hamilton High School was as a result of my office providing him with that information. The facts are entirely consistent. The Government's position is that, even after the reductions, the number of SSOs (or school support staff) in South Australia will be almost 10 per cent—about 9.2 per cent or 9.3 per cent—better than the national average for all other States. That is the statement that the Government has made: almost 10 per cent better than the national average for all other States. It does not say that we are better than every other State; it says that we are better than the national average for all other States. So, we are better than some other States and we are not as good as some other States, but in terms of the national average for all other States—the only equivalent Australian figure that you can produce—we are almost 10 per cent better than that national average.

Even the Institute of Teachers has conceded that the Government is not seeking, by this reduction, to reduce South Australia to the national average, because the Institute of Teachers' figures say that we are 5 per cent or 6 per cent better than the national average for all other States. There is no dispute about whether or not we are better than the national average. There is a difference of opinion: we rely on the independent Australian Bureau of Statistics' figures; I am not sure what the Institute of Teachers is relying on in relation to its estimates. The information we use comes from the only nationally produced independent figures, from the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and those figures clearly demonstrate that we are almost 10 per cent better than the national average for all other States.

Contrary to the claim by the Leader of the Opposition, it is not the Government's policy that South Australia be returned to the national average in relation to teacher numbers. Even after the budget reductions, we remain the best of all the States in terms of student-teacher ratios. We spend more money per head on education than any other State and, as I said, we have almost 10 per cent more school support staff than is the national average. That is not a summation of a Government policy that seeks to reduce this State to the national average: that was the recommendation of the Audit Commission, and the Government's response to that has been not to embrace those policy directions but to leave South Australia as the best-resourced education system of all the States in Australia, when one looks at total dollars spent on resources and the total commitment to teachers, together with a better than the national average number average of school support staff. As a result of that commitment to resources for education, there is no reason why we cannot continue to have the best quality education system of all States in Australia.

#### ***SOUTH AUSTRALIA—STATE OF BUSINESS***

**The Hon. R.R. ROBERTS:** I seek leave to make an explanation before asking the Minister for Education and Children's Services, representing the Premier, a question about the publication of the magazine entitled *South Australia—State of Business*.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. R.R. ROBERTS:** Members will have come across a recent publication distributed throughout South Australia in the *Saturday Advertiser* and also nationally through the *Weekend Australian* on 16 September entitled *South Australia—State of Business*. It is a glossy magazine-style advertising feature about our State's economic strength. It is not all that thick and it will probably get thinner over time. It appears that the much-vaunted slogan 'Going all the way' has gone, gone, gone. Instead, we are now the 'State of Business'. This magazine, which one presumes is a South Australian Government publication, has been described by the South Australian Farmers Federation, in its media release dated 19 September, as propaganda. The ire of the Farmers Federation has been raised by the fact that, although South Australia's agricultural and horticultural industries account for approximately 50 per cent of this State's export income, they barely get a mention in this publication. The Farmers Federation's media release states this about the Liberal Government's publication:

'Agriculture, likely to be responsible for close to \$3 billion of gross State product this year, receives only a brief mention under the minerals section,' said the Farmers Federation President (Mr Wayne Cornish) in disbelief. As well as supplying the people of South Australia with food and fibre, the rural sector provides about \$1 billion of export income each year from wheat, wool and meat alone, with a further \$315 million contributed by the barley, fruit and vegetable industries. 'Agriculture and horticulture are absolutely critical to the health of our State, which is totally unrecognised by the propaganda distributed on the weekend,' Mr Cornish has said.

The South Australian Liberal Government and the Premier (Dean Brown) may not recognise primary producers as making much of a contribution to the State's economy, but they certainly recognise the contribution made to the Liberal Party's coffers by Mr Rob Gerard. Whilst primary production is barely mentioned, Mr Gerard and his company have four lengthy paragraphs devoted to extolling his virtues, including a rather bizarre comparison of Mr Gerard with Rupert Murdoch. Also included is the fact that Mr Gerard is spending \$1 million to establish a technology centre at Prince Alfred College, a very worthy institution, I am sure, but not one that needs taxpayer-funded propaganda, as the Farmers Federation calls it, to promote it.

This piece of propaganda, to use the Farmers Federation's expression, appears to be little more than advertising material for the Premier's mates. The Adelaide Convention Centre has obviously paid for a full page advert in this publication but gets mentioned in only one line in the editorial comment. Gerard Industries placed a quarter page advertisement in the same publication and received four lengthy paragraphs of praise, courtesy of the taxpayers of South Australia. My questions are:

1. Why did the Premier put his name to a publication that gives so little recognition to the value of primary production in South Australia and to South Australia's export performance?
2. Did Gerard Industries pay for any of the editorial advertising, in addition to the quarter page advertisement, and, if so, how much did it pay?
3. If Gerard Industries did not pay for the editorial advertising, why did it not pay for it?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I came back from the parliamentary recess in a spirit of goodwill, wanting to get on with the positive aspects of working together in this Chamber and as a Parliament for the interests of the people of South Australia, but with what have I been confronted? In his first question, the Hon. Ron Roberts has tried to be negative about South

Australia and the attempts by the State Government to portray a positive image of South Australia for the people of this State, for those in the other States of Australia and, more importantly, to potential business investors in the other States. If the Hon. Mr Roberts has some suggestions whereby future communications of this nature could be improved, on his behalf I would be prepared to take them up with the Premier and his advisers, but only if the honourable member approaches such issues in a positive way, as the State Government is trying to do with respect to improved economic performance and investment in South Australia.

As a result of 10 years of economic and financial mismanagement by the Bannon and Arnold Labor Governments, some interstate business investors have an unfortunate image of South Australia, believing that this State has significant budgetary and financial problems. They do not believe that we have turned the corner in trying to resolve those difficulties. It is now time for South Australians, together with the South Australian Government, to work together to turn around that image. The selling of South Australia to the rest of Australia and to the world ought not to be a partisan political issue. If the honourable member wants to indulge in these tawdry political games and be negative and knock—

*Members interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** Order!

**The Hon. T.G. Cameron:** Tell him to answer the question. He does it every time.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I think that the Hon. Mr Cameron is in the running for a front bench post, so he is raising his voice.

*Members interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** Order! I call members to order on my right and my left.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The honourable member is raising his voice to demonstrate potential shadow ministerial capacity.

**The Hon. Diana Laidlaw:** Are they serious?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I understand that there were three front runners in the Lower House for the additional shadow Cabinet post. As I asked of one of the Labor Party members, if they were the front runners, who was trailing the field, because there are only three left in the Lower House looking for—

**The Hon. Anne Levy:** There were four.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Four? Who was missed out?

**The Hon. Anne Levy:** Frank Blevins.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Poor old Frank!

**The Hon. T.G. Cameron:** You have forgotten what the question is.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** No, I remember the question. What I was saying was that the Government has entered this new session with the view that, with goodwill, we should try as much as possible to portray to the national and international business community the preparedness of the South Australian Government and community to work together to portray South Australia as a good place in which to invest and to create employment for young South Australians.

We cannot do it in terms of business. We cannot do it by ourselves. We need to change the image of the South Australian business community and business environment in some way. This particular magazine is one part of an overall attempt to try to convince important national investors and businesses that South Australia is turning the corner and that they ought to consider investing in South Australia because

of the advantages that we have here, so that young South Australians can benefit.

As I said, rather than engaging in the tawdry negativism that characterised his behaviour in the last Parliament, if the Hon. Mr Roberts wants to make some positive suggestions as to how the Government can portray that positive image for South Australia, I would be happy to take up with the Premier and his advisers those suggestions that the honourable member might have in relation to future communications. In relation to some other aspects of the honourable member's question, I will take up those issues with the Premier and bring back a reply.

**The Hon. R.R. ROBERTS:** As a supplementary question, in response to the Leader's invitation for me to do something about a future publication, would he like me to write the editorial or would he prefer me to go all the way and print the whole thing?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I will leave that to the honourable member's judgment.

**The Hon. T.G. ROBERTS:** As a supplementary question, if it is the Government's intention to start in a positive light with new imagery in relation to further investment in South Australia, why was the South-East left off the map?

**The PRESIDENT:** What about the Upper North?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** Thanks for your help, Mr President! I must admit that I was not aware of problems with the Upper North but, coming from Mount Gambier, as both the Hon. Mr Roberts and I do, I have been made well aware of the views that constituents in Mount Gambier and surrounding areas have concerning that problem. I am not sure what the answer is. It was not the deliberate intention of the Government to exclude the South-East of South Australia. I know that on occasions the South-Easterners believed that they would have been better served by (and have had discussions concerning) linking with Victoria. That is certainly not the South Australian Government's view. It was certainly unintended, and what the reason for that problem was, I do not know. I would certainly be prepared to seek a response from the Premier on that issue and bring back a reply.

## PATAWALONGA

**The Hon. T.G. ROBERTS:** I seek leave to give a brief explanation before asking the Minister representing the Minister for Environment and Natural Resources a question about the dredging of the Patawalonga.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. T.G. ROBERTS:** During the break, I and a number of other members of Parliament on both sides of the Chamber attended community-organised meetings in the Glenelg and Henley Beach area to discuss the issue of the preferred option of the cleaning up of the Patawalonga. The Federal and State Governments have supplied money for development to present a better image of the Patawalonga area by cleaning it up, and there is a preferred option for dredging, draining and storage, with an option—one that is not preferred by the residents, by the way—of a channel being cut through the sandhills of West Beach and draining into the ocean.

The residents' meetings, which were well attended, certainly indicated to the people who addressed those meetings that the residents did not prefer the option of the cutaway through the sandhills. Also, objections were raised

to the option of cleaning the Patawalonga and storage of the materials in ponds without a study being made of the content and a microbiological test being pursued. The Government commissioned a report by Tonkin and Associates. The word within the community is that Tonkin and Associates is a respected consultancy, and no-one had any brief with the Government about employing Tonkin and Associates for conducting the surveys for the Government.

The area which the residents had concerns with were the lack of a microbiological test and the fact that residents are concerned about possible pathogens within those materials. The Tonkin and Associates report on pathogens states:

Although there is little data provided on the levels of pathogens in the sediments, it is concerned that there will be low survival rates of pathogens in such material. The chemical analysis of the sediment samples shows that the biological stabilisations occur during the deposition of the sediment. The possibility of pathogens surviving in sediments or being present in significant concentrations is low. Therefore the risk of aerial dispersal of pathogens is low. Also, there is little opportunity for pathogens to penetrate into the water table and the risk of pathogens entering the Patawalonga Creek catchment is also low.

Will the Government conduct the appropriate scientific assessments and tests to the Patawalonga sediments to enable guarantees to be publicly given that the method of dredging, storing and exposure of sediments and liquid do not expose the public to potential health problems?

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I will refer the honourable member's question to the responsible Minister and bring back a reply.

#### STATE SLOGAN

In reply to **Hon. BARBARA WIESE** (20 July) and answered by letter on 12 September.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** As previously announced by the Premier, the Government decided not to proceed with the slogan 'Going All The Way' on registration number plates.

The Premier has indicated that he will consider suggestions from the public on an alternative slogan for number plates, and will defer his decision on number plates until late September, after monitoring of the campaign.

In the meantime, registration number plates will continue to be issued with the existing 'Festival State' slogan.

#### RAILCARS

In reply to **Hon. G. WEATHERILL** (5 July) and answered by letter on 7 September.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I provide the following information in relation to the disposal of 79 surplus Redhen railcars during 1994 and 1995.

1. The manner of disposal of surplus 300 and 400 class railcars was by public tender.
2. 68 railcars were purchased by Simsmetal Ltd. Three were purchased by the Gippsland Tourist Railway in April 1994.
3. The sale was effected in February 1995.
4. A price of \$2 521 was received for each railcar.
5. The successful tenderer was to arrange the loading and removal of the railcars from TransAdelaide's Railcar Depot.
6. 68 railcars were sold to Simsmetal as scrap. The three sold to the Gippsland Tourist Railway were sold as operational vehicles. One Redhen railcar will be transferred to the History Trust of South Australia for display at the Port Dock Museum towards the end of 1996 and one has been transferred to the Australian Railway Historical Society (SteamRanger).
7. Sale was arranged through the State Supply Board for a total cost of \$1 600.
8. The costs covered the advertising and processing of the sale.

#### BEACH PROTECTION

In reply to **Hon. G. WEATHERILL** (18 July) and answered by letter on 6 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources has provided the following information.

The storm on 13 July was one of the most severe at Adelaide over the past 20 years. The combination of the high storm tide (recorded at 3.9 metres at Outer Harbor) and the 30-40 knot winds resulted in a storm intensity (or damage potential) such as might be expected to occur approximately every 10 years on average.

The storm was most severe and tides the highest at Adelaide and in Gulf St Vincent. While tides were also high elsewhere, there have been no reports of damage or of serious erosion from places outside Gulf St Vincent.

The most serious erosion occurred at Tennyson, Seacliff, and Kingston Park. The Coast Protection Board and the Hindmarsh and Woodville Council had been addressing erosion at Tennyson and were planning a seawall in the area most affected. While this seawall was to be in two stages, a greater length of coast was eroded by the storm, and the full length of seawall, approx 1 km, may now need to be built before next winter. Design and funding issues are presently being addressed. The cost of the second stage to be brought forward is approximately \$1 million.

At Seacliff a new seawall which was built this year undoubtedly saved buildings from damage. This, together with another short length of new seawall and an older section at Kingston Park suffered some damage, and will need repair. The unprotected coast between Seacliff and Kingston Park receded by 1 to 2 metres in front of the caravan park. The Coast Protection Board will be addressing repairs and further protection with the Brighton Council. Options are to extend and connect the rock seawalls or to redirect this year's dredged beach replenishment to this area. Cost estimates are not yet available.

Seawall damage elsewhere was relatively minor and such as might have been expected for a storm of the intensity. Repairs are likely to cost \$30 000 to \$70 000, with an additional approx \$20 000 cost to SA Water for repairs to the rock wall in front of the Glenelg sewage treatment works.

A trial protection at Semaphore Park by beach replenishment performed well with a substantial sand buffer remaining after the storm.

There was considerable erosion of sand dunes along the metropolitan coast, commensurate with the severity of the storm. This is a natural process and does not present a threat except at Tennyson and Seacliff. The dunes are expected to recover as they have from previous storms. Sand drift fencing was lost, especially at Brighton, and will need to be replaced at the start of summer. This is a normal and acceptable consequence of a major storm. Councils have yet to prepare estimates for replacing fencing.

In addition to the flooding at Port Adelaide, which was reported in the media, some shacks at Port Clinton and Middle Beach and a house on the waterfront at St Kilda were flooded.

The Minister for Transport has already reported on damage to jetties and boating facilities.

#### SELICKS BEACH SEWAGE

In reply to **Hon. T.G. ROBERTS** (19 July) and answered by letter on 15 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for Infrastructure has provided the following information.

Funding for capital works is limited and priorities have been set so that areas of greatest need are addressed first. This approach has resulted in the installation of the limited Aldinga Beach sewerage scheme which is currently under construction.

The provision of stormwater infrastructure is the responsibility of Local Government and developers. Government assistance for the provision or upgrading of stormwater drainage infrastructure is available through the Drainage Subsidiary Scheme. In this scheme, the Government can provide funding to assist Local Government on a one-for-one basis. Applications are considered on the basis of priority.

At the present time, funding for sewerage reticulation works is committed to completion of the limited Aldinga Beach scheme and further extension of the sewerage networks in the catchment areas in the Adelaide Hills which are considered high priority projects. It is, therefore, unlikely that funding will become available for a sewerage scheme for Sellicks Beach in the foreseeable future.

It is understood that Council has approached the Local Government Association, which administers the Septic Tank Effluent Disposal (STED) program, for funding a STED scheme for Sellicks Beach.

### ROADSIDE VEGETATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

In reply to **Hon. T.G. ROBERTS** (26 July) and answered by letter on 14 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources has provided the following information.

The Roadside Vegetation Committee operated for several years prior to 1991 and at that time proved to be an effective consultative and advisory body.

However, with the enactment of the Native Vegetation Act 1991, new measures for the increased protection of roadside vegetation were introduced under the control of the Native Vegetation Council. The functions of the Roadside Vegetation Committee were, in effect, taken over by the Native Vegetation Council.

The present arrangements under the Native Vegetation Council are considered to be working well and the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources sees no need to reconstitute the Roadside Vegetation Committee.

### PORT WAKEFIELD DUMP

In reply to **Hon. T.G. ROBERTS** (25 July) and answered by letter on 10 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations has provided the following information.

I have been advised by my colleague, the Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations that the proposal to establish a landfill site near Port Wakefield has been referred to the Minister for his determination, under the Development Act, as to the requirement for an Environmental Impact Statement.

The proposal is being assessed against the criteria set down in the Regulations under the Development Act. A decision on this matter is anticipated in the immediate future.

I am also informed by the Minister that whereas the proponent is also proceeding with development of a proposal to establish a waste transfer station, the proponent has indicated that any such proposal would be the subject of a separate development application. Whether an EIS is required for that aspect of the proposal would, again, be determined by the Minister.

The Inkerman proposal, if subject to an EIS, will also be subject to a separate decision by the Governor.

There is also an EIS in preparation for a landfill proposal in the District Council of Mallala, again to the north of Adelaide.

Specifically if the reference in the Honourable Member's question, to problems concerning the Highbury proposal relates to community concern over that proposal and that as a consequence of the Inkerman landfill proposal the EIS process for Highbury will be halted, the answer is no. The EIS process for Highbury will continue to the point of a decision by the Governor.

### ROAD TRAINS

In reply to **Hon R.R. ROBERTS** (20 July) and answered by letter on 6 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** Section 119 of the Road Traffic Act requires that all lighting on a vehicle be on when it is being driven, or is standing on a road, between the hours of sunset and sunrise, or during a period of low visibility. The matter of driving at night is, therefore, adequately covered by legislation.

In terms of day-time driving, all road train permits include a condition that vehicles driven on public roads must have their headlights on. There is also a condition that a distance of at least 200 metres must be kept between the road train and other heavy vehicles on the open road. In view of the Honourable Member's concern the Department of Transport will increase surveillance on Route 1 between Port Augusta and Lochiel to ensure that road train operators comply with the requirements.

### PORT WAKEFIELD BYPASS

In reply to **Hon. SANDRA KANCK** (19 July) and answered by letter on 6 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:**

1. The \$53 million project cost reported in the *Advertiser* on Wednesday 12 July, referred to the total estimated cost of upgrading Port Wakefield Road between Port Wakefield and Two Wells. The total cost of upgrading the section of national highway which currently passes through the eastern fringe of Port Wakefield is expected to be between \$9 million and \$14 million, depending on the

nature of the chosen solution. I should emphasise that no decision about the nature of this solution has yet been made. Rather a range of alternative solutions have been developed and these will shortly be discussed with the local community before any decisions are made. A preliminary assessment of the economic viability of the alternatives suggests that total benefits, including travel time savings, vehicle operating cost savings and road crash cost savings, will exceed the estimated total project cost and that this proposal would be justified.

2. The road safety performance of this section of the national highway is not as good as that of adjacent sections, particularly following the recent upgrading of the Highway to the south of the town. This Government views this proposal as the final stage of the major upgrading of Port Wakefield Road between Port Wakefield and Two Wells, which addressed a serious road safety problem.

Funds for this proposal would come from the Federal Government's national highway program, and the State Government considers that in the context of this program, this proposal has a high priority. Certainly the State Government is keen to see decisions about the nature and timing of this proposal made soon.

3. As I indicated in my earlier reply, no-one is actively lobbying for a bypass. The road planning study which is underway is considering the need for, and the nature of any improvement of this section of the national highway. This study has concluded that some improvement of the existing road is necessary. Any improvements will need to take account of the Federal Government's national highway standards and guidelines, and I again emphasise that, as far as the nature of any improvement is concerned, no decisions have yet been made, and also that the Federal Minister will be involved in the final decision making.

### VETLAB

In reply to **Hon. M.S. FELEPPA** (20 July) and answered by letter on 10 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for Primary Industries has provided the following information.

1. The Government is seeking to ensure that the essential services required by the community from Vetlab are provided in the most cost effective way. The level of funding required to do that has yet to be determined following completion of the current review.

2. No.

3. Further to the response to Question 1, the issue of who should provide those essential services and any savings that may result, will also be determined following completion of the review.

### PLANNING LAWS

In reply to **Hon. M.J. ELLIOTT** (20 July) and answered by letter on 9 August.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations has provided the following information.

1. The suggestion for interim operation of the Mount Barker Rural Living Review Plan Amendment Report (PAR) initially came from the planning consultants engaged by the council to prepare the plan. The consultants then followed up this suggestion with a more detailed report on the benefits of applying the interim authorisation. This report was subsequently endorsed by the local council and submitted to the Development Policy Advisory Committee, which agreed with the council.

On 4 August 1994 the Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations granted interim authorisation of the plan for the following reasons:

- There appeared to be a considerable risk that under the current provisions of the development plan the only remaining broadacre land available within the current town boundary, apart from land zoned as residential, would be divided into minimum allotment sizes of two hectares, which would have precluded its use for future urban growth. To prevent this from happening it was desirable to allow closer subdivision of the land, as proposed in the PAR, and to bring the plan into immediate operation.
- The use of the interim authorisation provisions was supported by both the local council and the Development Policy Advisory Committee.

The interim authorisation provisions applying to the PAR lapsed on 4 August 1995. This accords with the clear intention of Parliament that interim control should not extend beyond 12 months. Following the public consultation process on the PAR the Minister



for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations expects the council to review the plan and public submissions and submit it to the Governor for consideration.

2 3 4. Section 53 provides that where an application is made for a development authorisation under the Development Act, the law to be applied in deciding the application and the law to be applied in resolving any issues arising from the decision in any proceedings (whether brought under this Act or not) is the law in force as at the time the application was made.

Under these circumstances and the interim authorisation provisions of the Act, the Mount Barker Rural Living Review Plan amendment became the law to be applied. As such, Section 53 has not been contravened. Therefore, the current situation does not require rectifying.

5. Notice to Parliament on the interim authorisation was caught up in transition phase between the old Planning Act and the new Development Act, hence the length of delays which occurred. The Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations is confident that now that we have settled into the operation of the new Act, that the same delays will not be experienced again. Indeed the parliamentary report is now forwarded immediately after the Governor's approval.

#### NATIVE VEGETATION

In reply to **Hon. M.J. ELLIOTT** (18 July) and answered by letter on 7 September.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources has provided the following information.

The names of all individuals and companies that have received approval for clearance of native vegetation are in the register. If the honourable member was to name the persons and or companies he is referring to then a search of the register would supply the information. However, the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources requests the honourable member to be specific as there are about 3 400 records and 69 members of Parliament, the majority of whom are members of the Government.

Members of Parliament represent their constituents and quite rightly may be asked to help in applications coming to the Native Vegetation Council. The fact that most applications are from country areas means that help will be mostly sought from Government members.

No formal complaint against any member of Parliament has been received by the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

In reply to **Hon. M.J. ELLIOTT** (26 July) and answered by letter on 17 September.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** The Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations has provided the following information.

1. The MAG report suggested that . . . the City of Adelaide has a number of unique features. As the consultant's report states it was the first Local Government entity in the State and nationally. Secondly, it acts as a central identity for many of the activities of the residents from the wider metropolitan Adelaide, and, thirdly, despite its small resident population base it has a very sound financial position (total operating revenues in 1994-95 of \$70 million, published asset values of \$270 million and 'net worth' of \$211 million at June 1994).

In addition to this, the Ministerial advisory group received several written submissions and heard speakers during the public hearing process that supported retaining the City of Adelaide as it is presently constituted, largely due to the reasons outlined above.

The Ministerial advisory group mentions in its report the issues of the management, 'image' and 'factional' problems faced by the Adelaide City Council. These concerns, as mentioned in the MAG report, based on community perceptions and poor reputation of the Adelaide City Council should not cloud the fact that the capital city of South Australia should have a clear identity, vision for development and clear tourism focus. The MAG report recommends that these can be achieved by the boundaries remaining unchanged, but with the Adelaide City Council being subject to the other recommendations of the report namely major reforms in function and management.

2. The consultant, Emcorp Pty Ltd was retained by the Ministerial advisory group.

3. The two consultant's reports (Emcorp and Hassell) were made available publicly on the same day as the public release of the Ministerial advisory group's report.

Notwithstanding this, as the honourable member knows the Ministerial advisory group report is a series of recommendations to the Government. It is now up to the Government to take time to consider the report. The Government will then announce the course of action it wishes to take. A consultation and communication process will also be discussed as part of a process which would be put in place should the Government proceed to implement the MAG's recommendations. It is during this time that the debate on other details such as those the honourable member raises pertaining to the Adelaide City Council will be discussed.

#### SOUTHERN EXPRESSWAY

In reply to **Hon. T. CROTHERS** (25 July) and answered by letter on 12 September.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:**

1. In 1994-95 \$1.7m was spent on the Southern Expressway Project on land acquisition, site clearing (removal or relocation of unoccupied houses), transport planning, survey, Aboriginal heritage studies, Project Management, communication and consultation with the community and similar pre-construction activities all of which are necessary before actual road construction work can start.

The Project Manager, Maunsell Pty Ltd, has advised that the budget for the community information and consultation activities for Stage 1 of the Project (Darlington to Reynella) is \$250 000 i.e., 0.44 per cent of the project value. This budget is based upon experience and is in line with similar major projects here and interstate. It is likely that a further \$200 000 will be required for the second stage of the Expressway to Old Noarlunga.

The budget is targeted at informing, communicating and consulting with the community to a level required to achieve appropriate community knowledge of and input to the project.

Total expenditure on the community information and consultation activities prior to commencement of construction work in December 1995 is expected to be in the order of \$150 000.

2. I approved the Department of Transport's recommendation to appoint O'Reilly Consulting to undertake community information and consultation work on this project on 6 January 1995, effective from 16 January 1995.

3. Prior to this time, the Department of Transport discussed the project with five Adelaide public relations firms, including O'Reilly Consulting. Three firms, including O'Reilly Consulting, submitted proposals for the work.

4. It is not appropriate for the names of the other firms to be made public knowledge in the circumstances arising from the Opposition's questions. As advised in relation to question 2, I approved the Department of Transport's recommendation on 6 January 1995, effective from 16 January 1995.

5. As I advised at the Estimates Committee, this consultancy was not put to tender. It was let following discussions by the Department of Transport with five public relations firms who were considered to have the ability to undertake this project. Expressions of interest were submitted by three of the firms, hence a competitive process was followed.

6 and 7. As I indicated in my response to the Honourable Member's question without notice, I did not know that Mr O'Reilly was approached to bid for the contract, or had decided to do so, until I was advised that O'Reilly Consulting had won the contract—and that was after Mr O'Reilly had left the Premier's employment.

#### GRANITE ISLAND

**The Hon. M.J. ELLIOTT:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Transport, representing the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources, a question about the Granite Island development.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. M.J. ELLIOTT:** I believe that the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources is the appropriate Minister to whom to direct this question, but it may need to go to others. The development of Granite Island at Victor Harbor has led to several areas of concern from the local community, as well as the wider South Australian com-

munity. While people have expressed fears about the scale of development on the island and the impact on the resident penguin colony, that is not the issue that I raise today. My question relates to the threat to the community's freedom of access to the island as a result of the development.

The island has always been freely accessible to the public, but concern has now been raised that the developers of the island intend to charge visitors an entrance fee to gain access. This would give them the opportunity to exclude people from entering the island at certain times of the day or night or at certain times of the year. This raises questions about what leases have been offered or have been granted in relation to the island, or parts of the island, and how conditions of these leases may impact on the public. People are seeking assurances that no fees will be charged for public access to the island and that the vast majority of the island will remain readily accessible to the public. My questions are:

1. Will the Minister give an assurance that no fees will be charged for public access to the island?
2. What leases currently apply to the island, or what leases does the Government intend to apply to the island?
3. Which parts of the island will become inaccessible to the public when the development is complete, and in what way will conditions of leases impact on the public?

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I will refer the honourable member's question to the Minister and bring back a reply.

#### REPATRIATION GENERAL HOSPITAL

**The Hon. M.S. FELEPPA:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Minister for Transport, representing the Minister for Health, a question about Daw Park Hospital.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. M.S. FELEPPA:** The Modbury Hospital is well on the way to being fully privatised, in keeping with the policy of this Government, and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital is the next that is expected to be sold off, with the closure of wards and operating theatres, while facing a budget crisis of millions of dollars. The hospitals have no other option than to close wards and theatres when faced with funding problems. Also, it is expected that the Flinders Medical Centre and the Lyell McEwin Hospital will join the sell-off in two or three years, although no-one knows, of course. That will leave the Royal Adelaide Hospital, which can expect to be a candidate for privatisation.

The process of privatisation of health services is in keeping with the economic philosophy of this Government. Mr Ray Blight of the South Australian Health Commission summed up this philosophy, as reported in the *Advertiser* in April, when he said:

... the commission's core business was not to operate hospitals and other health services.

The Government does not want the bother of providing these services. It simply wants to meddle in the supervision of the services, leaving the real responsibility to others, and then no blame for failure can be seen to devolve upon the Government.

One hospital left on the hands of the Government is the Repatriation General Hospital at Daw Park, which has now passed into the control of the State Government. Many veterans who use and need this hospital are concerned that this establishment will be sold off, like the others, to the

detriment of service of many veterans. It is a grave concern to ex-servicemen. My questions are:

1. Does the Government intend to privatise the veterans' own hospital in keeping with Government policy now that it is a responsibility of this Government?
2. If it does not intend to sell it off, how can it justify on economic grounds retaining it while not being able to economically and efficiently operate hospitals that are or have been under the commission's control?
3. Will the Government guarantee that there will not be other ward or theatre closures at the veterans' hospital?

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I will refer the honourable member's questions to the Minister and bring back a reply. I am not sure whether it will be here by Thursday, when the honourable member retires from this place, but he will receive it in due course.

#### AQUACULTURE

**The Hon. T. CROTHERS:** I seek leave to make a brief explanation before asking the Attorney-General, representing the Minister for Primary Industries, a question about aquaculture.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. T. CROTHERS:** Having listened to Her Excellency's speech when opening Parliament today, and having had this question already drafted, I was not sure whether it was a matter of wise men never differing or fools seldom doing so, either. Over the past five years or so Australia has seen much development in respect of its aquacultural industries. Many Australians would be aware of the development of the Atlantic salmon industry in Tasmanian waters and a series of fish farms located in that State's territorial waters. Others, though, perhaps fewer in number, would be aware of the tuna aquacultural industry fish farms in waters adjacent to Port Lincoln and the ongoing development of the oyster farms on South Australia's West Coast. These are splendid examples of what our industry people have achieved in this area.

Of course, we must not forget the research and development work currently being carried out in respect of the abalone industry—with much success also—on our West Coast. Other work has been carried out on our West Coast in respect of some of our fresh water species, which also have some commercial application.

Given that over-fishing by many of the world's maritime nations has, it is said, savagely depleted naturally occurring fish stocks, one does not have to be an Albert Einstein to realise the enormous potential of aquacultural industries around our coasts and in our few inland waterways if they are properly developed and researched. The culture pearl industry of Australia's Far North clearly shows the potential commercial value of such industries, both as to value enhancement and employment of unemployed people. In relation to employment, it is sad to see that some 300 manufacturing jobs have been lost to South Australia in the past fortnight or so: some 40, as I understand it, from James Hardie; 130 from Texas Instruments; and some 110 from Email. I understand, though, that the Government and, in particular, the Premier, have been trying desperately to attract overseas industry to this State.

*The Hon. L.H. Davis interjecting:*

**The Hon. T. CROTHERS:** Listen and learn, Mr Davis, listen and learn—stop being so rash. I also understand that the Premier has been trying desperately, with some success, to

attract overseas industry to this State, although it has been put to me that the price this State is paying in dollar terms is far too high and that some of that money would be better spent in assisting local industries already established here, or which are trying to establish here, with some of their research and development work in a much more liberal fashion (no pun intended) than would appear to be currently the case. With the foregoing statement in mind, I direct the following questions to the Minister:

1. Which new projects in respect of aquaculture has the present Government initiated, and provided seed money for, which were not in place when it assumed office back in December 1993?

2. What is the present export worth to South Australia of our aquaculture industries in dollar and cent terms?

3. What is the present budget allocation for this financial year, in dollar and cent terms, for aquaculture research which is provided solely from State Government financial resources?

4. Has the Government done any case studies in respect of how much additional employment a successful and fully mobilised aquacultural industry would mean to South Australia and, in particular, to those towns in our rural coastal areas?

5. How much research has the Government done relative to the value enhancement of the products of aquaculture? One that springs to mind is the tuna industry, where tuna for the Japanese market is treated in a particular way and then the value of the fish in question is at least eight to 10 times the value of ordinarily processed tuna.

**The PRESIDENT:** Before the Attorney-General answers the question, I remind members that this is the start of a new session and, if they have very long questions, it is very difficult to control Ministers' long answers and I would have no alternative but to allow Ministers to ramble on.

**The Hon. T. CROTHERS:** On a point of explanation—

**The PRESIDENT:** Order! I do not believe there is any necessity to have extremely long questions—

**The Hon. T. CROTHERS:** I agree.

**The PRESIDENT:**—particularly as the honourable member sought leave to make a brief explanation. I merely ask that members look at their questions before they put them to Ministers and then I will control the Ministers if I think it necessary.

*Members interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** Order!

**The Hon. T. CROTHERS:** I do take the direction that you, Sir, have given me. I understand and I totally agree with it. Normally, if the question I was asking was directed to any of the three Ministers here, I would keep it brief. However, my question was directed to a Minister in another place through the Minister representing him here and, as such, I wanted to ensure that that Minister in the other place fully understood precisely what my question was. I point out that the Minister on the other side can shorten his or her answer by merely saying that they will refer the question asked to the Minister in the other place.

**The PRESIDENT:** I remind all members that long questions can be put on notice.

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** It is all very well for the honourable member to say that I can merely, in this instance, say that I will refer these questions to my colleague in another place and bring back replies, and I will certainly be doing that. However, in his explanation he made a number of

statements which do need to be answered, and it is appropriate that I just briefly touch upon those.

*The Hon. T. Crothers interjecting:*

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** I will refer those questions to my colleague in another place and bring back replies. In effect, they are in the form of questions on notice. The honourable member said in his explanation that the Premier was desperately trying to find new business to come to South Australia. That suggests desperation. The point I want to make is that the Premier is not desperate to find new business. In conjunction with all his Ministers, the Premier is vigorously pursuing new investment opportunities in South Australia. That is what we were elected to do, to try to correct the problems in the South Australian economy. No-one can say that in the short time we have been in office we have not been vigorous in our promotion of South Australia and the opportunities which we believe businesses have in establishing in this State. I will not run through the list of new businesses which have established here but, obviously, South Australia is gaining a reputation for confidence, proficiency, efficiency and forward thinking, particularly in relation to its information technology strategy. I did not want to refer the questions with the explanation to my colleague without at least putting them into a different context than the suggestion in at least one of the statements in that explanation.

The second point is that the Premier has already made extensive statements about the Government's initiatives in relation to aquaculture and our desire to expand that area of endeavour in this State quite dramatically. I am sure that the reply that comes back will contain an explanation of a number of those areas where we are trying to put in place strategies that will facilitate the development of aquaculture projects rather than acting as a deterrent, which many businesses in the past have found in the way in which they have had to wade their way through some of the red tape that has previously confronted them. I will refer the questions and bring back replies.

## WATER SUPPLY

**The Hon. T.G. CAMERON:** I seek leave to make a brief statement before directing some questions—

*Members interjecting:*

**The PRESIDENT:** Order!

**The Hon. T.G. CAMERON:** A bit of protection please, Mr President. I will try to keep my preamble brief. I seek leave to make a brief statement before asking the Minister representing the Minister for Infrastructure a question about the future changes for South Australia's water supply.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. T.G. CAMERON:** In November 1990 a parliamentary inquiry was set up in France to investigate the consequences of the privatisation of the water supply in France. Some of the main conclusions of that inquiry were as follows. Privatisation is not cheap. Prices have gone up 170 per cent in 10 years of privatised management contracts, prices that the inquiry found to be higher than those in water supply areas in France that still remained under Government control. Profits do not stay in the industry to improve installations and service: in fact, profits are transferred to other subsidiaries and divisions which run at a loss. The French parliamentary report was also highly critical of other matters, such as poor installation of equipment leading to loss of water through leakage, and again the report was highly critical of the fact that some 9 million people in France were

still not connected to their sewerage networks. What emerges from these reports would be clearly discernible to all, namely, that private companies that handle water supply do so in order to make a profit.

Another thing that emerges is that maintenance and new services appear to be given very low priority by private companies, and it appears that reports from Britain, which recently privatised its water supply systems, show the same alarming tendencies, yet both those privatised water supply systems which operate in France and Great Britain are operating in nations whose populations are 50 times larger than ours and whose geographical areas are smaller than ours. I therefore ask the Minister the following questions:

1. What conditions does he propose to insert in the contract with the private company which will operate South Australia's future water supply needs with respect to maintaining our water supply infrastructure and the connection of new services?

2. What steps does he intend to take to ensure that the profit motive of the new private company does not add to the price charged for water supply here in South Australia?

3. Is he aware that the privatisation of France's and Great Britain's water supply has led to increases in charges for water supply that are much higher than would have been the case had they been left under Government control and ownership?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I am pleased to refer those questions to the Minister, but as I understand it the honourable member is on a select committee at the moment inquiring into the whole issue of SA water. I would have thought that a number of these issues had already been or could be explored by the honourable member through that committee process.

**The Hon. T.G. Cameron:** We want to hear what the Minister has to say.

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I am happy to refer the honourable member's questions to the Minister, but I would have thought that he was able to explore some of them through the select committee.

#### PLASTIC RECYCLING

In reply to **Hon. T.G. ROBERTS** (6 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** My colleague, the Minister for Industry, Manufacturing, Small Business and Regional Development, has provided the following response.

Year	Primary	Variance	Secondary	Variance	Total	Variance
1992	117 354.2		69 435.4		186 789.6	
1993	117 739.2	385.0	66 032.9	-3 402.5	183 772.1	-3 017.5
<sup>^</sup> 1994	117 422.2	-317.0	63 758.8	-2 274.1	181 181.0	-2 591.1
<sup>*</sup> 1995	115 647.3	-1 774.9	61 806.9	-1 951.9	177 454.2	-3 726.8

<sup>^</sup> Adjusted after Audits

<sup>\*</sup> Actual enrolments as at 24 February 1995 (First Term Enrolment Census date).

2. Retention Rates at secondary school.

The only retention rates that are calculated and reported are those that can be bench-marked at the national level and these rates are based on nationally agreed definitions of a full-time student as at the mid-year census. The most recent information is therefore as at mid-year 1994. Government school information is as follows:

The Government does not perform the role of a banker providing development or working capital finance for businesses. Rather it seeks to assist them best position themselves to attract funding from either the banking or commercial lending sectors or from equity partners. The EDA, through SACFM, has been working with Omnipole over the past eighteen months and it has advised the company that while assistance for the preparation of a business and/or marketing plan is available, development or working capital finance cannot be provided. I am advised that the technology in question is at a pilot plant stage and that further work needs to be carried out to prove its commercial viability.

#### TOBACCO REVENUE

In reply to **Hon. T.G. CAMERON** (20 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Treasurer has provided the following response.

The Tobacco Products (Licensing) Act currently imposes a licence fee calculated at 100 per cent of the wholesale price of tobacco products.

The tobacco industry battle for market share, however, has seen the wholesale prices significantly discounted resulting in a dramatic reduction in tobacco revenue.

I have already gone on record that I will not tolerate a situation where South Australian taxpayers were effectively subsidising the discounting wars of the major cigarette companies.

The tobacco licence fees have not increased but the basis on which they are payable has been clarified with the wholesalers to ensure that the tax is payable on the wholesale price as appearing in the published price list (applicable to South Australia) issued by the tobacco manufacturer or importer of the product.

The manufacturers and wholesalers can continue to sell cigarettes at whatever price they see fit but they will do so at their own cost or loss and not at the expense of taxpayers

#### FOSTER CARE

In reply to **Hon. BARBARA WIESE** (16 March).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The School Card Scheme Policy was changed for 1995, so that assistance is targeted more effectively to low income earners.

Given the role Foster Parents play within the community and the concerns expressed by Foster Parents I have indicated a willingness to review this aspect of the proposed changes.

I have accordingly amended the School Card Policy for 1995, so that Foster Parents continue to receive automatic approval for School Card. Future policy for 1996 and beyond will depend on the outcomes of the review.

#### SCHOOL ENROLMENTS

In reply to **Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES** (9 February).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The numbers and retention rates of primary and secondary students enrolled since 1992 and the retention rates at secondary school are set out the tables below.

1. Primary and Secondary Enrolments.

Year	Year 10 Per cent	Year 11 Per cent	Year 12 Per cent
1992	98.3	92.2	87.6
1993	96.0	90.5	80.5
1994	92.9	86.1	75.5

Year 12 repeating students.

Enrolments	1992	Per cent of Total	1993	Per cent of Total	1994	Per cent of Total	1995	Per cent of Total
Year 12 (FTE)	13 104	79.71	11 323	76.43	10 726	79.93	9 260	84.96
Year 12P (FTE)	3 336	20.29	3 492	23.57	2 694	20.07	1 640	15.04
Total	16 440	100	14 815	100	13 420	100	10 900	100

Year 12P=Those students who have already spent one year at Year 12, and have chosen to undertake further study at Year 12.

**SAWLOG**

In reply to **Hon. R.R. ROBERTS** (18 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Premier has provided the following response:

1. No.
2. The contract with Western Pacific Wood states that local processing of roundwood meeting local sawlog specifications will occur.

**THE GEN**

In reply to **Hon. ANNE LEVY** (20 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** 'The GEN' is a publication funded by the Commonwealth Department for Employment, Education and Training.

Gender equity officers in all states and territories manage the provision of material for the back page of the magazine referred to in the honourable member's question. In South Australia curriculum officers responsible for education of girls and gender equity provide reports or arrange for others to do so.

Material from South Australia has been provided for fifteen out of seventeen issues from January 1994 to June 1995.

In March 1995 there was no article from South Australia because the information forwarded regarding the Women's Studies Resource Centre's twentieth anniversary unfortunately missed the deadline.

Over the last eighteen months, South Australia has featured in two lead stories and in a number of other articles, and there is always a response to information provided. For example, the response nationally for copies of the Department for Education and Children's Services Curriculum Division's publication. *We can make a difference. Increasing girls' participation in mathematics and science: an annotated bibliography of resources*, led to a reprint to meet the demands.

**ABORIGINAL HERITAGE**

In reply to **Hon. SANDRA KANCK** (25 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Premier has provided the following response.

1. The Draper Report is deemed by Section 35 of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988 to be a confidential document. Its contents can be divulged only following consultation with the Aboriginal individuals and organisations with a particular interest in the matter. The Draper Report was provided to Professor Cheryl Saunders to assist her in the preparation of her report. The Saunders Report states (P.31) that the issue of secret knowledge of women emerged in late March or early April 1994. Specifically, the Saunders Report states—'Allusions to it can be found in the Draper Report in late April 1994.' It makes the further point that by tradition, this knowledge cannot be divulged to men.
2. Aboriginal Affairs has never tried to provide a copy to the Premier and accordingly, the Premier has not read the Draper Report. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs has briefed the Premier on many aspects of the Hindmarsh Island Bridge issue and in doing so, the Minister was informed by the Draper Report.
3. The Minister for Aboriginal Affairs does not consider that the Draper Report precludes the possibility of fabrication.
4. The Premier does not intend to anticipate matters which may come before the royal commission.

**EXPORTING**

In reply to **Hon. T. CROTHERS** (25 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Minister for Industry, Manufacturing, Small Business and Regional Development has provided the following response.

1. Yes.

In 1993-94 South Australia's exports for the Asia-Pacific region exceeded \$2.3 billion, constituting 60 per cent of all of this State's exports, and dramatic growth throughout Asia is reshaping global markets.

With this excellent foundation, South Australia is now single-mindedly focused on further developing competitive enterprises to produce value-added, quality products for world markets. The State is focussing on the next generation of industries which will provide sophisticated and innovative goods and services for world markets, and on the provision of the skills and research capabilities necessary to facilitate this.

2. Yes.

Currently, the top 15 countries of importance to South Australia, in terms of trade and investment, are Japan, USA, China, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Netherlands, Canada and Thailand (not in any order).

In some markets (eg USA, UK, Japan, New Zealand, Europe in general), investment attraction is the Government's prime focus, as these are the main sources of foreign investment in South Australia. In Asia excluding Japan however, our market focus is to increase trade, and in the long run, investment. A trade and investment focus is therefore appropriate in these markets.

Development opportunities in areas such as India, South Africa and Central and South America are also closely monitored.

3. Yes.

Federal Government initiatives in relation to greater integration with Asia is strongly supported by the Economic Development Authority and these benefits are promoted widely.

4. Yes.

The emphasis of Government programs is directed towards improving the international competitiveness of export oriented businesses, to ensuring the appropriate infrastructure is available to support these industries and ensuring that they have a competitive business climate in which to operate.

The Government understands the need for South Australian companies to continue to develop a strong export culture and the role which dedicated export marketing resources can play to achieve the necessary level of global awareness in a company. As such, there are a number of grant and tax rebate schemes which are available to exporters to assist companies to increase their overall level of exports.

Most importantly, assistance and incentive packages are framed to meet the specific needs of business. The form and extent of assistance will depend on a range of factors, including the benefits which will flow on to the South Australian economy.

Following a recent extensive review, overseas representation for South Australia focuses upon Asia, with representative offices in Indonesia (Jakarta), Hong Kong, Singapore, Japan (Tokyo), and China (two offices—Jinan and Shanghai).

The South Australian Government's export development and investment attraction efforts also places significant emphasis on utilising the existing expertise, overseas contracts and market experience of the various international Chambers of Commerce.

Asian business opportunities have been further enhanced by significant arrangements with the Northern Territory.

The South Australian and Northern Territory Governments have formally recognised Shandong Province, China's richest province which contains a population of 85 million. This agreement sets out the future commercial relationships between the two States, particularly in the areas of agribusiness, including interests in beef cattle, aquaculture, deer farming, and in automotive components, irrigation equipment and technology.

The Economic Development Authority's South Australian Centre for Manufacturing, the Department for Employment, Training and Further Education, Department for Education and Children's Services, Department of Mines and Energy, Department of Primary Industries, SAGRIC International, and the South Australian Research and Development Institute have all entered formal Memoranda of

Understanding and agreements and have formal associations with many similar institutions throughout the region. These links greatly enhance access to international markets and facilitate technology transfer, in both directions.

### BASIC SKILLS TESTING

In reply to **Hon. CAROLYN PICKLES** (25 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** I provide the following responses:

1. I table the two reports on the trial in 1994 of the Basic Skills Testing Program in aspects of literacy and numeracy. These reports are publicly available and have been distributed to the trial schools and to others on request.

Report 1 Trial of 1994 Basic Skills Tests in South Australian Schools

Report 2 The Views of Parents, Students, Teachers and School Principals Concerning the Reporting of the Basic Skills Testing Program in South Australia

2. The reports provided a detailed analysis of the findings of the trial and made a number of recommendations which the Department for Education and Children's Services has considered and acted upon.

3. Report 1 was completed by departmental officers and Report 2 was conducted by Professors Anderson and Keeves from the Flinders University of SA and managed by departmental officers. Both reports provide recommendations which have been taken into account in the implementation of the Basic Skills Testing Program in aspects of literacy and numeracy.

4. The Basic Skills Test results must be seen within the context of other important information collected about student achievement. The Basic Skills Test results will indicate the areas and identify issues and concerns which DECS needs to look at closely. There are three types of extensive reports providing valuable information. The report for parents indicates individual student achievement, the teacher and school reports provide extensive information about student achievement in aggregated form whilst the state report summarises achievement in terms of groups of students. Such extensive assessment information collected by DECS will enable quality decisions to be made regarding resourcing, training and development and specific needs.

5. The State Government has allocated extra resources to assist students identified as having learning difficulties. The Basic Skills Tests assist in this identification. The Government's \$10 million Early Years Strategy indicates our commitment to that priority.

6. The Department for Education and Children's Services has received many telephone calls from Independent and Catholic schools seeking information about the Basic Skills Test. As well, several parents whose children attend private schools sought to have their child tested this year. If the New South Wales experience is mirrored in South Australia then we can expect many non-government schools to participate in the Basic Skills Testing Program when it is possible for them to do so. The curriculum division of DECS is pursuing this matter at the present time.

### BUSHFIRES

In reply to **Hon. R.R. ROBERTS:** (26 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Minister for Industry, Manufacturing, Small Business and Regional Development has provided the following response.

ETSA Corporation has advised that there are no plans to shed at least half of its line clearance inspectors after this bushfire season. Nevertheless as with other ETSA activities, there is a need to review the number of inspection staff to ensure that resources are matched to the workload.

Over the last few years transmission line inspection requirements and practices have altered. ETSA Corporation has invested millions of dollars in removing bushfire risks, thus reducing the workload associated with bushfire season inspection. During the last 10 years ETSA has:

- removed thousand of kilometres of bare wire constructions
- relocated many lines away from trees
- installed thousands of kilometres of insulated conductors, and
- used tree growth regulators to reduce the growth rate of trees to remove the risk of bushfire in rural areas.

Since the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfire, ETSA has installed over 3069 kilometres of Aerial Bundled Cable (ABC) and covered conductors in the high bushfire risk areas. The ABC and covered

conductors have eliminated the risk of fire starts from molten metal which could result from conductors clashing under high wind conditions. This in turn has reduced the amount and cost of tree cutting around ETSA lines. A major activity currently performed by ETSA inspectors in negotiating and arranging tree cutting followed by supervision and auditing of contract clearance work.

The Government has no intention to alter the legislation which would remove the requirement for ETSA Corporation to inspect and clear transmission lines prior to the bushfire season.

### MYER REMM SITE

In reply to **Hon. T.G. CAMERON** (27 July).

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** The Treasurer has provided the following response.

1. The last independent valuation of the Myer Centre (Remm has had no involvement with the property for some years now) was carried out by a Licensed Valuer of Jones Lang Wootton Advisory Corporate Property Services. The property was valued at \$155 million as at June 1994.

2. The information sought in respect of rental income is commercially confidential. However, the Treasurer has indicated that he would be prepared to make the information available to the honourable member on a strictly confidential basis.

3. All rentals currently being achieved are considered to be in line with market rates.

### RAPE

**The Hon. ANNE LEVY:** I seek leave to make an explanation before asking the Attorney-General a question about the definition of rape.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. ANNE LEVY:** After being away from South Australia for some time I returned at the weekend to be greeted by the headline in the newspaper 'Drunk girl rape charge acquitted'. The article detailed a case where an individual had been acquitted of a charge of rape because, reading from the newspaper, it seemed that the female in question was drunk at the time the intercourse occurred and was so drunk that she was unconscious and so not able to either give or refuse consent. I have always understood that the definition of rape provides that a person commits rape when he has unlawful carnal knowledge of a female without her consent, knowing that she is not consenting, or recklessly indifferent as to whether or not she is consenting.

It would seem to me and to many of the women who have contacted me that, if someone is so drunk that they are unable to give consent or refuse it, to have intercourse in those circumstances is surely showing a reckless indifference as to whether or not the individual consents, particularly as I understand that evidence was given in the court case that, prior to becoming unconscious, the woman concerned had clearly indicated that she did not wish to have intercourse with the male concerned. This newspaper report has disturbed a great number of people as it seems to fly in the face of what everyone has understood was the definition of rape and appears to be an invitation to rapists 'just get them drunk and then you can do what you like'.

I understand, again according to the *Advertiser* newspaper—and I have no information other than what was in Saturday's *Advertiser*, which may or may not be able to be relied on—that there was a suggestion of other circumstances which led to the acquittal. Whatever these other circumstances were, they were not given in the paper. It leaves the impression that if someone is unconscious rape is permissible without conviction, and this sets a very dangerous precedent.

Can the Attorney indicate what were the other circumstances which led to the acquittal in this case? Does he consider that the current definition of 'rape', which includes

reckless indifference as to whether or not consent is granted, is an adequate definition, since it apparently led to acquittal in this case? Is he concerned about this matter? Will he introduce legislation to make clear that rape in such circumstances is rape and should lead to a conviction? I am sure that the Council would expedite the passage of such legislation.

**The Hon. K.T. GRIFFIN:** There is no need for legislation: the law is clear. The newspaper report was wrong. The information that I have is that the accused was charged on two counts. The trial judge (Judge Hume) took the view that in relation to one count he ought to direct the jury to enter a finding of not guilty, and in respect of the other the accused pleaded guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse, and that was the verdict which the jury finally brought down.

As I understand it, there were a number of issues relating to the factual circumstances. I think what the newspaper report did was to simplify it and convey the wrong impression. I was concerned about the article and obtained a briefing from the Director of Public Prosecutions about what had happened, and the information that I have given to the Council is the information that was provided to me.

It is clear from the transcript that the judge took the view that there was not sufficient evidence to prove, at least on the first count, that rape had occurred within the meaning of the law. The law is quite clear: consent is clearly consent or no consent. I would have thought that the difficulty lies in the ruling of the trial judge and not in the law. The advice which I have had is that there has been an acquittal by a jury and that there is no point taking this matter as a case stated to the Court of Criminal Appeal on a matter of law because the law is quite clear. The advice that I have from the Director of Public Prosecutions is that at least there was a case to answer on the count of rape which should have been left to the jury and should not have been the subject of a direction by the trial judge that the jury could not find that the accused was guilty on that count.

The Court of Criminal Appeal has set out clearly the tests for a case to answer in two previous cases stated on questions of law reserved on acquittal. On the last occasion the court said, during a course of argument, that the law was very clear and why was it necessary to say again what the law was. That is one of the reasons why the DPP has advised against the third case stated. In answer, Ms Abraham, who was the representative of the DPP, said that the law was clear but that it was not being applied. The court then delivered a further short judgment in which it reiterated the test. It is worth noting that the trial judge giving rise to this referral (the one to which I have referred) was again Judge Hume, the trial judge in the current case. The advice which I have is that, in light of the court's information on the last occasion, there is no purpose to be served in stating yet another case on this point.

I make a general observation about jury trials. There have been some discussions with the new Chief Justice. He has indicated to me that he wants to have prepared a set of standard summings up for trial judges in the criminal jurisdiction. I think that that is a very significant development, and he is putting that in place. I support what he is doing to endeavour to ensure that those judges who do not have a lot of experience in the criminal jurisdiction, and even those who do, have before them a standard set of summings up which clearly identify the law and which can be applied to each case in referring matters to the jury.

It is a difficult issue. There is nothing that I, as Attorney-General, can do to remedy the verdict in this case. It is, I

think, easy to jump to a conclusion on the basis of an inaccurate newspaper report. If there is further information which any honourable member wishes to have in relation to this, I will be pleased to endeavour to obtain it.

### HOUSING TRUST TENANTS

**The Hon. SANDRA KANCK:** I seek leave to make an explanation before asking the Minister for Transport, representing the Minister for Housing, Urban Development and Local Government Relations, a question regarding the share option plan being offered to Housing Trust tenants.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. SANDRA KANCK:** I refer to the long-held position that Housing Trust tenants can choose to purchase their rented property. Many of these tenants were working and were expected to be receiving a reliable income in the future. This plan offered low income households an opportunity to purchase their own home. I have been informed that at least one tenant has been offered a deal to purchase his rented trust property. However, this man, who is a social welfare recipient, cannot afford to purchase even a quarter share of his rented home. Furthermore, as he is not expected to acquire full-time work because of an illness, the chances of his ever having the money to purchase the property outright is zero.

Despite this man's financial and health circumstances, the Housing Trust is still putting up an offer for this tenant to purchase the rented home. Upon further investigation by my office as to why this person was even contemplating the purchase of his rented home when it was clear that he could not afford it, he said that it was because he believed that part ownership of the home would secure his residency in the home. My questions to the Minister are:

1. Is the Minister aware that Housing Trust personnel are putting trust tenants at financial risk by offering home purchase deals to tenants even though they are not in a financial position to purchase them?
2. Is the Minister aware of the anxiety amongst such Housing Trust tenants because of the sale of trust property?
3. More particularly, is the Minister aware that some would-be purchasers of trust homes are considering purchasing their rented trust home only because they believe that their home security is at risk?
4. Will the Minister reassure tenants that they are not under any obligation to purchase their rented property?

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I will refer the honourable member's question to the Minister and bring back a reply.

### MUSIC EDUCATION

**The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY:** I seek leave to make an explanation before asking the Minister for the Arts a question about young musicians.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY:** In a letter to the editor in this morning's *Advertiser*, a spokesperson for the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra, Mr Paul Blackman, noted that 'Members of the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra are greatly disturbed at the recent news of the cuts to the Special Music Program.' Mr Blackman states:

The Special Music Schools are a shining example of the standards that we as a community can achieve. They have helped produce players for our orchestra as they have for orchestras interstate and overseas. They also have developed players for

chamber music ensembles as well as musicians and teachers in the broader music industry. Our understanding of the proposed cuts leaves us convinced that there will be significant effect on the standards that have been achieved over the years.

My questions are:

1. Does the Minister agree with Mr Blackman that the proposed cuts by her colleague (the Minister for Education and Children's Services) will have a significant effect on the standards of music in South Australia and, if not, will she say why?

2. What action has she taken or will she take to ensure that the Government reconsiders these cuts and that the standards of musical excellence in South Australia are maintained?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** This was a budget decision taken by me as Minister for Education and Children's Services and, therefore, I should like to place an answer on the record. This matter is not within the responsibility of the Minister for the Arts. The Government is committed to the retention of the special interest high school programs, particularly the special interest program in relation to music education. The Government reduction for the four schools (Fremont-Elizabeth, Brighton, Marryatville and Woodville) involves the elimination of one teaching position out of a total allocation of four additional salaries that are provided to those schools. As a result, those schools will receive additional resources to the value of \$175 000 each, over and above a comparative high school, to provide the additional programs of excellence at those schools.

The reduction has been from an additional resource of a deputy principal, coordinator and two teacher positions to deputy principal, coordinator and one teacher position. There is some discussion as to whether or not those schools might like to continue with the actual division of salary allocations, that is, deputy principal, coordinator and teacher, and that is a judgment for those schools, and they can discuss it with the department. The Government will continue to provide to those schools \$175 000 of additional resource over and above a comparable high school, so that they can continue to offer programs of excellence.

Those schools do offer excellent music programs, and I can only agree with the writer of the letter to the editor in this morning's paper. The difference is that I have confidence in the leadership and the staff of the schools concerned and, in particular, in the expertise available within the special interest music sections, that they will continue to offer programs of excellence.

The Government has announced that it intends to nominate a number of additional special interest schools for academically gifted and talented students, and it has already nominated Wirreanda High School as a specialist physical education and sport facility. The Government cannot provide for each of those new schools four additional salary allocations. In the difficult financial and budgetary circumstances at the moment, that is not possible. The new sport and physical education school will get only two additional salaries and the new schools for academically gifted and talented students will receive up to a maximum of two additional salaries, although the final decisions have not been taken.

**The Hon. T.G. Roberts:** Where do the unloved and uneducated go?

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS:** No-one in the Government system is unloved or under-educated. I am surprised that the Hon. Mr Roberts has even suggested it. Those new schools will be able to get only two additional salaries so, even with

this reduction, the special interest music schools will be more generously provided for because they will retain three additional salaries to allow them to continue to offer programs of excellence in music. I have every confidence in the ability of the staff at those schools to continue to provide programs of excellence for their students.

**The Hon. P. HOLLOWAY:** I have a supplementary question. I directed my question to the Minister for the Arts and I should like to know what action she has been taking to guarantee that the standards of musical excellence are maintained in this State.

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I have had informal discussions on this matter with the Minister and I share the Minister's confidence that the standards of excellence and achievement that we have enjoyed in the school system in music will continue.

### BEACH PROTECTION

**The Hon. G. WEATHERILL:** I seek leave to make an explanation before asking the Minister for Transport a question about sand erosion.

Leave granted.

**The Hon. G. WEATHERILL:** On 18 July 1995 I asked the Minister a question about the storm damage that was done to the beaches at that time, and I received a reply to that. What concerned me was the discussion about building up the sea walls along the coast. When he was the Minister responsible for marine issues, the Hon. Glen Broomhill had sand dunes built all along the coast, especially at West Beach and Henley Beach. The seagrasses that were planted at that time have been very successful. Recently I was at Aldinga Beach, where I spoke to some of the local people. People have to cross the sand dunes to get onto the beach and, although there are walkways through the dunes, the last step has about a five-foot drop onto the beach, so people cannot use the walkways. That erosion damage was caused by the storms. From talking with people from that area, it appears that this matter has not been addressed.

According to the department, every 10 years Adelaide is hit by a massive storm that creates havoc along our coastline. The problem seems to be that, although the damage is repaired, nothing further is done and we wait until it happens again and then spend more money. For years in England and Scotland, a successful practice has been to place sticks in the sand towards the incoming tide and to put two or three plants around those sticks, and that seems to contain the sand. It could be compared with a farmer who has planted trees in his paddocks to stop the topsoil from blowing away. Those trees protect the soil. The same thing seems to apply in England and Scotland on the beaches. This practice is in use at Victor Harbor, and the sand has built up over plants and they are barely visible now, although they have not been in place that long.

**The Hon. T.G. Roberts:** It is at Southend.

**The Hon. G. WEATHERILL:** Southend, yes, and I saw it down there, too. It tends to be working. Will the Minister have her department look into this to see whether it is an option to build up the sand on the beaches in order to protect the dunes in severe storms?

**The Hon. DIANA LAIDLAW:** I suspect that the question is to be directed to the Minister for the Environment and Natural Resources in respect of coastal management issues, and I will do that. The honourable member mentioned Victor Harbor. I am familiar with the wooden groynes in



Bridge Terrace, Victor Harbor. He said that they were not too old. I can remember them for almost 40 years, and they have withstood the test of time over that period, so they have clearly been a good investment in financial terms as well as in coastal management terms. With pleasure I will forward this question to the honourable member and bring back a reply.

---

#### MATTERS OF INTEREST

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (Minister for Education and Children's Services):** I move:

That, for the remainder of the session, the Standing Orders be so far suspended as to provide that, at the conclusion of the period for Questions without Notice, on Wednesdays, members may make statements on matters of interest. Up to seven members may speak for a maximum of five minutes each. The President may order the member to resume his or her seat if, in the opinion of the President, the member infringes Standing Orders governing the rules of debate.

Motion carried.

#### JOINT COMMITTEES ON WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT, SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S LIVING RESOURCES, AND RETAIL SHOP TENANCIES

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (Minister for Education and Children's Services):** I move:

That the members of this Council appointed to the Joint Committee on Women in Parliament, the Joint Committee on South Australia's Living Resources and the Joint Committee on Retail Shop Tenancies have power to act on those joint committees during the present session.

Motion carried.

#### SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE PROPOSED PRIVATISATION OF MODBURY HOSPITAL

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (Minister for Education and Children's Services):** I move:

That the Hon. P. Holloway be substituted in the place of the Hon. Barbara Wiese (resigned).

Motion carried.

#### LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE

**The Hon. R.I. LUCAS (Minister for Education and Children's Services):** I move:

That, pursuant to section 21(3) of the Parliamentary Committees Act 1991, the Hon. P. Holloway be appointed to the Legislative Review Committee in the place of the Hon. Barbara Wiese (resigned).

Motion carried.

#### SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Sessional committees were appointed as follows:

Standing Orders: The President and the Hons. K.T. Griffin, R.I. Lucas, Carolyn Pickles and G. Weatherill.

Library: For this session, a committee not appointed.

Printing: The Hons. M.S. Feleppa, J.C. Irwin, Bernice Pfitzner, A.J. Redford and T.G. Roberts.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

**The PRESIDENT** having laid on the table a copy of the Governor's Opening Speech, the Hon. R.I. Lucas (Minister for Education and Children's Services) moved:

That a committee consisting of the Hons. M.S. Feleppa, P. Holloway, J.C. Irwin, R.I. Lucas and Bernice Pfitzner be appointed to prepare a draft Address in Reply to the speech delivered this day by Her Excellency the Governor and to report on the next day of sitting.

Motion carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 4 p.m. the Council adjourned until Wednesday 27 September at 2.15 p.m.