

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, August 4, 1971

The SPEAKER (Hon. R. E. Hurst) took the Chair at 2 p.m. and read prayers.

MINING BILL

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the appropriation of such amounts of money as might be required for the purposes mentioned in the Bill.

QUESTIONS**RAIL STRIKE**

Mr. HALL: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport say what action he is taking today towards solving the rail strike in South Australia? I alert the Minister (if he does not know this already) that the people of South Australia are being inconvenienced in their transport arrangements and, probably more important than that, they will be threatened with severe industrial layoffs if the rail strike continues for a protracted period.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Mr. Conciliation Commissioner Neil has already conducted, I think, three conferences on this matter and has made certain suggestions to the parties. I conferred this morning with the Railways Commissioner and his Industrial Officer, and I am sure the Leader would be the first to acknowledge that the information I received at that conference was received under privilege and obviously should not be made public. The Conciliation Commissioner is calling the parties together again tomorrow morning, I think at 10.30 a.m., when the suggestions he has made will be considered. In addition, I understand that the matter has now been either considered or taken over by the Australian Council of Trade Unions. Obviously, the Government is most concerned at the state of affairs. However, I consider that it is doing everything possible. Public debate on this matter, which is of an inflamed nature, can do nothing other than make the situation more inflammatory.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Can the Minister of Roads and Transport say whether the Municipal Tramways Trust will be running extra services during the rail strike? The reports that we have seen up to the present regarding the rail strike are that the position is extremely serious, with a threat of the strike dragging on. Particularly in the metropolitan area, some bus routes complement rail routes—for example, the Port Adelaide line and the main

Melbourne line that goes through my own district. This morning, I noticed a number of people on the bus who I think normally catch a train. These people, who have had to change their usual method of getting to work, will obviously throw an added burden on the trust's buses. To alleviate to some extent the inconvenience to the travelling public in the metropolitan area and, indeed, throughout the State (although my question is limited to the metropolitan area), one way would be to increase the trust's bus services. I think I saw a report by the trust's General Manager to the effect that this was not to be done but, of course, the Minister is in charge and I therefore direct my question to him.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: No.

Mr. RODDA: What arrangements will the Minister of Roads and Transport make with regard to the situation that can arise if the present railway strike continues? The Minister is well aware that in the country there are many people who do not have their own transport and rely on railway services to get them to and from work, and this applies to schoolchildren, too. I know the Minister takes these matters to heart. As he is involved in this matter as the Minister concerned, will he inform the House what emergency arrangements will be made for those good country people who will or could be greatly inconvenienced if this strike continues?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am not in a position to tell the honourable member of any emergency arrangements that would be made for country people, whether they are good or bad country people. He has suggested that they are mostly good people; so, too, are the people of the metropolitan area, who also are, regrettably, being inconvenienced by this industrial disturbance. I can only hope that, as a result of negotiations, both current and impending, it will not be necessary for any further inconvenience to be caused to the public and that the whole situation will return to normal as soon as possible. However, as I said to the Leader earlier, I believe that a public debate on this or any other industrial matter would rarely, if ever, provide the answer. On the contrary, it would tend to inflame the situation.

COURT COMPLEX

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Has the Attorney-General had any information from the Commonwealth Government regarding the block of land on the corner of Wright Street and King William Street? Both my immediate

predecessor in office and I made public comment on the Commonwealth Government's intention to erect a Commonwealth building on the block of land to which I have referred to house courts and Commonwealth departmental offices, particularly, I think, the Attorney-General's Department and the Deputy Commonwealth Crown Solicitor's office in South Australia. Recently, I had an inquiry about this from a Labor member of the Commonwealth Parliament and I took up the matter, both because of that inquiry and because of my own curiosity, with a South Australian Senator, who last week sent me a letter in which he enclosed a copy of a letter he had received from the then Commonwealth Attorney-General (Hon. Nigel Bowen) to the effect that this project had been deferred. The Attorney will know that the buildings on this site are in a disgraceful condition: they are derelict, unsightly and, of course, are not being used for any purpose. The land is a part of the whole court complex, of which the State owns the major part. When we were in office we developed plans to complement those of the Commonwealth (or vice versa, really) for the development and use of the whole site. I hope that the present Government intends to adopt those plans, but I am most alarmed—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is commenting. He sought leave to explain his question.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: —and disappointed at the Commonwealth Government's attitude.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable Attorney-General.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I received a communication from the Labor member of the Commonwealth Parliament to whom the honourable member has referred enclosing a letter from the Commonwealth Attorney-General which indicated, as I read the letter, that the Commonwealth Government (this was the expression used, as I recall, without having the letter in front of me) had no plans for the construction of a court block on the site referred to by the honourable member. The letter reminded the addressee that the Commonwealth Government intended to erect a High Court building in Canberra. I was surprised at this information, because so far as I was aware there had been no intimation to the South Australian Government that the Commonwealth Government had changed its intention regarding the development of the site. I checked the office files and could not find any record of any communication from the

Commonwealth Government suggesting that there had been any change of plans in regard to that site.

Mr. Millhouse: The last I heard was that it had gone to the Commonwealth Public Works Committee.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Yes. I wrote accordingly to the Commonwealth Attorney-General last week, asking what was the Commonwealth Government's intention regarding the site and drawing his attention to the letter he had sent to the Commonwealth member. I pointed out that, if the Commonwealth Government did not intend to develop the site, I would appreciate it if the State Government could be informed. It may be (I put it no higher than that) that that site is important to the State regarding further development of a court complex. I am awaiting a reply from the Commonwealth Attorney-General.

CITY MARKET TRAFFIC

Mr. WRIGHT: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my recent question regarding the installation of traffic signals near the city market?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Adelaide City Council has approved the installation of traffic signals, incorporating a pedestrian crossing, at this location. It is expected that the installation will be carried out during this financial year.

OVINGHAM RAILWAY CROSSING

Mr. CUMBE: Can the Minister of Roads and Transport give up-to-date information on the proposed over-pass or over-way at the Ovingham railway crossing on Torrens Road, between the Prospect and Hindmarsh council areas, a plan of which was displayed in the press a short time ago?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: As the honourable member would appreciate, I cannot give the information off the cuff. I do not think I made the press statement: I think the Commissioner of Highways made it. In any case, that is not important, and I will get a time table of the work for the honourable member and let him know.

DEFENCE INSTALLATION

Mr. PAYNE: Has the Deputy Premier a reply to the question I asked yesterday regarding a recent visit by certain officers to the South-East?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yesterday the honourable member drew my attention to the fact that, I think last Tuesday, several Americans and some Commonwealth Government officers visited the South-East and were

taken to an area near Port MacDonnell, and the honourable member assumed that there might have been some possibility of a joint defence complex being established in that area. I contacted the Department of Supply this morning, and a spokesman for that department confirmed that officers of the Commonwealth Department of Supply and visiting American naval officers had gone to Mount Gambier, from where they journeyed to an area near Allendale, where there is an extremely deep hole on Mr. Kilsby's property and where, for about 18 months, secret tests have been carried out with a diving bell. Publicity was given to this when the diving bell was put into use in this area. The visit was purely to show visiting American naval officers some of the developments that had taken place in this area. In fact, the officers were to go to the Weapons Research Establishment at Salisbury. I have an article that appeared in the *Advertiser* on March 2, 1970, which reveals that a Weapons Research Establishment experimental team lowered a giant 78ft. diving bell into Kilsby's Hole, 10 miles from Mount Gambier, on Saturday, February 28, 1970. The report states that the W.R.E. was then carrying out secret weapons tests at the hole to help determine the behaviour of items of hardware on impact and after entry into the water. The report then goes on to detail the type of tests that had taken place. Although I was aware that these tests were being conducted, I had no knowledge of the visit of these people to this area. I was, therefore, a little surprised when the honourable member raised the matter yesterday.

NARACOORTE SCHOOL

Mr. RODDA: Will the Minister of Education tell the House what progress is being made on the most necessary renovations to the Naracoorte High School library, at which I believe the removal of a wall will facilitate the better working of the library?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

MUTUAL DENTAL AID

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Attorney-General a reply to the question I asked on July 15 regarding the activities of the Sydney-based dental benefit organization Mutual Dental Aid?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Following the appearance of an advertisement in a newspaper on August 26, 1970, seeking a representative for health insurance, the Public Actuary contacted the organization, which

turned out to be Mutual Dental Aid, and informed it of the existence of the Benefits Association Act. On November 5, 1970, Mr. Stephens, the South Australian Field Manager of Mutual Dental Aid, and Mr. Foster, the Field Manager of Accident Insurance Mutual Limited, called on the Public Actuary and were informed accordingly of the provisions of the Benefits Association Act. Subsequent to this there was considerable contact between the Public Actuary and Mutual Dental Aid and its lawyers.

On February 2, 1971, Mr. Hickey, the Director of Mutual Dental Aid, along with Mr. Stephens and Mr. Foster, again called on the Public Actuary to discuss how the organization could comply with the requirements of the Benefits Association Act. It was then explained to these officials that, before solicitation of business could proceed further, the organization would have to comply with section 14 of the Act and, in order to do so, they should provide the Public Actuary with adequate data for him to assess the adequacy or otherwise of contribution rates. In addition, they were told that they would have to set up a trust fund to secure the benefits. At this time they were told that continuation of solicitation of business without the approval of the Public Actuary would be an offence.

In view of the corporate nature of the insurance company of which Mutual Dental Aid was but a section, it was apparent that it would be difficult to draw up a trust for the fund that would adequately secure the benefits of contributors against the other liabilities of the insurance company and, recognizing this, Mr. Hickey stated that, if Mutual Dental Aid could not comply with the Benefits Association Act, premiums paid would be refunded.

The company has evidently now decided that it cannot comply with the Act and is closing down the organization in South Australia. It has been advised that continued collection of contributions from existing members or new members is a breach of the Benefits Association Act, 1958, and that it must desist from this practice. If the company does not act on this advice, prosecution under the Act will be contemplated.

Persons who continue to contribute to this organization through the head office in New South Wales must understand that in such circumstances they cannot rely upon the protection afforded them by the Benefits Association Act. Moreover, such persons would be committing the offence of aiding and abetting

the illegal carrying on of the business by the company. If the company refused to meet claims, the claims could not be enforced by legal action, because of the illegality of the transaction. Indeed, the mere making of the claim probably amounts to aiding and abetting the carrying on of the illegal business.

BANKSIA PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to a question I asked him on July 20 about the construction of a drainage system at the Banksia Park Primary School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It is intended to construct a system of drains to overcome the erosion problem at Banksia Park Primary School. Tenders are now being called for this work, closing on August 13, 1971.

ANDAMOOKA ELECTRICITY

Mr. GUNN: The Minister of Works has been good enough to inform me that he has a reply to my question about an Andamooka electricity supply.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Electricity Trust of South Australia has no plans for establishing a power station at Andamooka. A franchise was recently granted by the Government to a private company to operate an electricity supply at Coober Pedy but the trust is not aware of any proposals at Andamooka. In fact, I was a little confused between the two places when I replied previously. One of the applicants for the Coober Pedy franchise indicated an interest in Andamooka and is possibly making some inquiries there, but no approaches have been made to the trust.

WHYALLA HIGH SCHOOL

Mr. BROWN: Will the Minister of Education have investigated the possible shifting or at least the making safer of the transformer situated in the Whyalla High School grounds? I have been approached by the Headmaster of this school (and I took time out myself to look at the position of this transformer), who assures me that the present locality of the transformer and the ready access to it is causing some concern in relation to the safety of the children attending the school.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I have seen the transformer to which the honourable member refers and I appreciate that, quite apart from the safety angle, which presents a problem, it is unsightly standing in the middle of the school yard; so I shall be pleased to take up the matter and bring back a reply as soon as possible.

TRAPPING PERMITS

Mr. EVANS: Will the Minister of Works ask his colleague, the Minister of Agriculture, whether permits for the trapping and export of Adelaide Hills rosellas and West Coast wombats would be given to reliable trappers? There is a demand, both in other States and overseas, for these particular birds and animals. It seems a pity that at present we give permits to shoot and destroy them when they reach plague proportions in certain areas, when at the same time we have an opportunity to export them. I and others associated with this field believe that we could achieve the object of reducing their numbers by giving reliable people the opportunity to trap them and export them unharmed to other places.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes.

RAILWAY TRUCKS

Mr. CARNIE: My question is directed to the Minister of Roads and Transport. Will he ascertain whether it will be possible to fit automatic draw gear to trucks in the Port Lincoln subdivision of the South Australian Railways? Most, if not all, of the trucks in the subdivision have the old-type pin and hook couplings, which are inconvenient and slow and also can be dangerous. Not only that, but the present gear limits the load that trains in that area can pull. There are now modern diesel electric locomotives working in the division which, when used in couple, are capable of hauling 2,000 tons. It is impracticable to consider this at the moment because the state of the track and the gradients preclude this. This is a matter I will raise at another time.

However, because of the old-type draw gear, loads, even of the full capacity of one locomotive, cannot be carried. I believe that since the opening of the standard gauge line to Broken Hill, between 400 and 500 trucks have been stored on the narrow gauge line between Peterborough and Yongala. These trucks were equipped with new automatic draw gear five or six years ago. As I am assured by railway workers in Port Lincoln that this gear could be fitted easily to trucks in Port Lincoln, particularly during this quieter time of the year, could this equipment be removed from the unused trucks at Peterborough and used at Port Lincoln?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I will seek information about this matter.

OODNADATTA SCHOOL

Mr. ALLEN: Can the Minister of Education detail the Education Department's plans for a new primary school at Oodnadatta? I understand that a new primary school was suggested for Oodnadatta but, with the proposed re-routeing of the railway line to Alice Springs, it is feared by local residents that the department may now plan to defer the erection of the new school. These people have pointed out to me that, even if the railway line is rerouted, it will have little effect on the number of children attending the school, because at present there are fewer than 12 children attending the school from families associated with the railway service. A hostel has just been erected at Oodnadatta for Aboriginal children, and 24 children from the hostel attend this school. Also, it is expected that the numbers of children attending the Oodnadatta school will increase rather than decrease in future.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The honourable member was good enough to ring my Secretary this morning to say that he would ask this question this afternoon. A Samcon school for Oodnadatta is on the design list, and it is expected that designing will begin early in 1972. Sixty students attend the Oodnadatta school, and, although the department has no definite information about the effect of re-routeing the railway line, we have assumed from the information available that the school will be needed exactly as before. The Commonwealth Government has also invited us to apply for funds to erect a pre-school at Oodnadatta, and this is now being done. We are fairly confident that these funds will become available and that soon we can begin to build the pre-school at Oodnadatta, with a Samcon school to be provided later for the children of the primary school.

CITRUS

Mr. CURREN: Before asking a question of the Premier, on behalf of members on this side (and I trust on behalf of Opposition members) I welcome the Premier on his return from his overseas visit, and I hope that his negotiations were successful. My question is in two parts: first, was a break-through made by the Premier in his negotiations with the Japan Citrus Importers Association about South Australian oranges and, secondly, did the Premier invite the President of that association to visit South Australia? A report in the *Advertiser* of July 23, under the heading

"First step in S.A. citrus sales to Japan", states:

The Premier of South Australia (Mr. Dunstan) said here today that the major breakthrough of his Japanese visit was in the prospects for exporting citrus fruits, particularly oranges, to Japan.

That statement was contested by the Secretary of the Australian Citrus Growers Federation, and I quote part of the report in the *Advertiser* of Saturday, July 24, under the heading "Talks on S.A. citrus for Japan market" as follows:

Japanese visit: "At present we are awaiting confirmation of arrangements for a visit by the Japan Citrus Importers Association," Mr. King said.

Later, the article states:

It was unlikely that South Australia's present immunity from fruit fly would exempt its citrus fruits from the prescribed treatment.

That treatment is required in relation to the importation of Australian citrus into Japan.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am grateful for the honourable member's welcome. On the subject of citrus exports to Japan, a major change occurred during discussions that I had with officers of the Agriculture Department in Japan. Hitherto, the Japanese Agriculture Department has always insisted on treating Australia as a whole in relation to citrus exports to Japan and, as in some parts of Australia fruit fly exists, the Japanese have not been willing to accept our citrus fruit. In discussions with the Agriculture Department previously, officers of the Department of Trade, the Trade Commissioners in Tokyo and our own agent in Tokyo have not been able to get any break-through with the Japanese department, because it has insisted that, since the Commonwealth is a signatory to the International Convention on Citrus, it alone should be dealt with, and that Australia must be treated as a whole.

We spent some hours in argument at the Agriculture Department in Japan, and it was made clear to the officers in talks, which at times became almost heated, that, in fact, in relation to the control of fruit fly, the States in Australia were sovereign and that this was not a matter for the Commonwealth. It was pointed out that, in fact, the internal matters of control of fruit fly and the marketing of citrus were matters for the States and that we were able to distinguish our position from that of New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia by virtue of the bipartisan policy that has been adopted in South Australia of protecting this State from fruit fly infestation.

The Japanese eventually agreed that, provided it met the two requirements of the Agriculture

Department in Japan (first, that we should be able to provide a statement from our Chief Horticulturist that South Australia was free of fruit fly; and, secondly, that we would be able to meet the tests that the Japanese applied to California and to South Africa, both of which are currently exporting citrus to Japan) and provided that it met the tests that would require us to show that our quarantine measures would ensure that there was no possibility of fruit fly infestation of any kind, South Australia would be treated separately from the rest of Australia, if these representations were duly conveyed through the Department of Trade.

The officer of the Department of Trade who was with me at these discussions assured the Japanese that there would be no difficulty about this and that there would be full co-operation. Officers of the Department of Trade said that this was a major break-through (those were their own words) and that they had been unable previously on this score to have the Japanese treat parts of Australia differently from other parts. I undertook that, immediately on my return, a research programme to ensure that we would be able to meet the quarantine tests would be set up in accordance with the terms laid down in the note verbal sent by the Agriculture Department to the Department of Trade officers in Tokyo. In fact, I have initiated proposals for that this morning.

Concerning the visit by the citrus importers, I spent a considerable amount of time in Japan with Mr. Fuji, of the Fuji Hajema Company, who is the President of the Citrus Importers Association in Japan. I arranged with him that he would visit South Australia within the month and that the South Australian Government would make arrangements for his tour in South Australia. He assured us that he was seeking additional market bases for citrus imports to Japan and that he would do everything he could to further the programme that had been set out. He is also, incidentally, interested in additional meat exports from this area to Japan, another subject which was discussed and on which I had an opportunity of quite lengthy discussions with members of the relevant committee in Japan. On both of these scores I think we have made real progress.

MORPHETTVILLE PARK SCHOOL

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question regarding the Morphetville Park Primary School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: A firm of consulting civil engineers has prepared a report recommending the resealing of paved areas at Morphetville Park Primary School and the paving of the area adjacent to the bicycle racks. Tenders will be called as soon as possible to enable the work to proceed at the earliest possible date.

HILLS BRIDGES

Mr. McANANEY: I understand the Minister of Roads and Transport has a reply to my recent question regarding bridges at Carey Gully and Verdun.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: It is estimated that the Carey Gully Road overpass bridge will be completed in March, 1972. Delays have occurred on this job in the first place due to the inability of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company to supply steel as promised and latterly as a result of industrial problems affecting steel fabrication. The freeway overpass bridge at Verdun should be completed on time in December, 1971.

LITTLE PARA RIVER

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question on the proposed Little Para River reservoir?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Engineering and Water Supply Department is engaged upon a comprehensive investigation into the needs of the metropolitan area in the future and all possible water resources for the metropolitan area are being examined. It is expected that a firm decision can be made regarding a proposed reservoir on the Little Para River by mid-October.

BLACK FOREST SCHOOL

Mr. LANGLEY: Can the Minister of Education say whether the Education Department has any plans in view for the erection of buildings or the construction of a school oval on a vacant allotment in Forest Avenue, Black Forest, which has been owned by the department for some time? For many years there has been conjecture among nearby residents on the future of this land, and its appearance has caused them concern. The property is in a dilapidated condition and each year the growth of weeds and vegetation needs to be cleared because it constitutes a fire hazard.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am not familiar with the block of land to which the honourable member refers. However, I will have the matter examined and bring down a reply as soon as possible.

AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

Dr. EASTICK: I seek from the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my question regarding Roseworthy Agricultural College.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states:

No inference should be drawn from the call for positions of Senior Lecturer and Lecturer at Roseworthy Agricultural College in respect of the future of the college. No decision on the future control of the college has yet been made. I am advised that Sweeney salaries have been implemented at Gatton Agricultural College in Queensland, which is part of the Department of Education, and at Hawkesbury and Wagga in New South Wales, which are part of the Department of Agriculture. The terms of reference of the Sweeney report were "... To advise on salaries of Lecturer and Senior Lecturer in Colleges of Advanced Education having regard to present levels of academic and professional salaries in Australia . . ." There is no reference in the report regarding future status of Roseworthy. Any further restructuring of staff will be undertaken by the Public Service Board in consultation with the Principal. In regard to the salary of the Principal, it is pointed out that this was reviewed in April, 1971, together with the salaries of other senior officers of the Public Service and can therefore be regarded as an up-to-date salary. The \$13,350 p.a. provides a margin of \$2,200 p.a. over a Senior Lecturer. It is noted that applications are being called for the position of Principal, Hawkesbury Agricultural College, which is a larger college than Roseworthy, at a salary of \$13,780 p.a. It is normal procedure for applications for vacancies to be returnable to the permanent head of the department.

DIAL-A-BUS

Mr. SIMMONS: I believe that while the

Minister of Roads and Transport was overseas he investigated the development of the dial-a-bus system, which was suggested by Dr. Breuning as a possible future means of transportation. Since the Minister's return, has he taken any action to inquire into the feasibility of that system being used in South Australia? Several inquiries into the system have been undertaken in the United States of America, and I believe that while the Minister was there he inquired into this matter. Furthermore, the Professor of Applied Mathematics at the Adelaide University (Prof. Potts) has advertised for a research scholar to do research work into a dial-a-bus project, I believe in the Elizabeth area. Can the Minister say whether

the Government has taken any further action?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Yes, the Government has taken action. Only this morning I attended the initial meeting of a steering committee that

has been established to investigate the feasibility of undertaking such other research work as is necessary to launch a pilot dial-a-bus scheme. The committee will have the responsibility of overseeing the operation of the scheme and evaluating the results of the pilot study. The committee is rather larger than the normal run of committees; it has nine members. However, it was decided that it would be far better to involve representatives of the bodies concerned directly as members of the committee rather than by way of consultation; hence the need for a nine-member committee. The three major transportation departments are represented on the committee—the Railways Department, the Highways Department and the Municipal Tramways Trust. The Chairman of the committee is a representative of the Policy Secretariat of the Premier's Department. The private bus operators and the taxi-cab operators are represented on the committee because the dial-a-bus scheme will affect them.

In addition, the Transportation Planning Engineer is a member of the committee, and I am delighted to be able to tell the House that Professor Potts has also accepted a position on the committee. The experience and knowledge of Professor Potts will be of tremendous value to the committee. A representative of the trade union movement, Mr. Alan Yuill, currently Secretary of the Tramway Employees Union, is also a member of the committee. So, the committee will be capable of representing a wide cross-section of all those who will be involved in the dial-a-bus scheme when it becomes operative. Without suggesting that there is any pressure on the committee in the form of a time table, I would like to think that well before Christmas a dial-a-bus system will be operating in South Australia.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport say what type of vehicle is intended to be used for the pilot dial-a-bus system? If my ears serve me right—

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: And they do.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: —the Minister said, in reply to a question asked by a Government back-bencher a little while ago, that the pilot scheme would, he hoped, be in operation some time before Christmas, which is now only five months away. From this, and from the composition of the nine-man committee to which he has referred, I conclude that either buses or taxis are to be used for this purpose. I therefore seek his confirmation or otherwise regarding the new types of vehicle to be used for the pilot dial-a-bus scheme and, if he is so

minded, I ask the Minister to tell the House what area the pilot scheme will serve.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I will run the risk of your criticism, Sir, by answering both the question originally asked and the honourable member's final question asked at the end of his explanation. Had the honourable member listened to what I said, he would have gathered (as I hope other members did) that I have appointed a committee to study all aspects of this question, one of which would obviously be the type of vehicle to be used. I assume the honourable member understands that, if we have a dial-a-bus system, we must have a bus to dial. However, the vehicle certainly will not be the one that astronauts James Irwin and David Scott have had on the moon: it would not be suitable, and I do not think it would be back in time. It would be farcical for the Government to decide (and I do not think even the honourable member would do so) on the various questions that ought to be considered by a committee, and then appoint a committee and ask it to supply all the answers.

Mr. Millhouse: You say that the system is going to be operating in five months, but that is impossible unless decisions have already been made.

The SPEAKER: Order! The Minister is replying to a question. Interjections are out of order.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The member for Mitcham does try to test one out. The best way in which I can handle the matter is to ignore him and continue with my reply, hoping that he hears me this time. I repeat that I have appointed a committee to determine all the aspects necessary to launch a pilot study in South Australia. That committee will determine the size of the vehicle to be used, its brand, whether it should have solid or pneumatic tyres, whether it should run on petrol, diesel fuel or butane, or whether it should operate in, say, the Salisbury, Mitcham or Glandore areas. The committee might even select a better suburb, such as Henley Beach or Prospect. In any event, all these matters will be within its province. When the committee has reported to me, it will give me much pleasure to inform the honourable member of the answers that he is now prematurely seeking.

RAILWAY CROSSING

Mr. WARDLE: Can the Minister of Roads and Transport say whether the Highways Department is considering alternative methods of crossing the "S"-bend eight miles west of Murray Bridge? No doubt the Minister is

aware that on Monday the seventh fatality within the last two years occurred at that "S"-bend, and I am certain that accidents occurred there previously. I do not think any of the accidents have involved the railway line or trains: they have all involved the approach of motor vehicles to the crossing. I believe that alternative methods are probably linked to some degree with the new freeway. Can the Minister say whether the department is investigating alternatives in connection with the crossing?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: My understanding is that, with the new Swanport bridge, the Princes Highway will have a different alignment, but I am speaking purely from memory when I say that. I shall be pleased to check out this matter with the Highways Department. The crossing that exists at present is a standard type of crossing designed to do one thing: to slow down motor vehicles when they are crossing what is an extremely busy railway line. The honourable member will know that the south-east railway line is at saturation point. If there were any type of crossing that permitted vehicles to cross the line at high speed, I would fear that the results might be even worse, although this is only conjecture. I am painfully aware of the fatality that occurred last Monday. I had the pleasure of being at a wedding only a few years ago when the lass involved in the accident was a bridesmaid to one of the officers of the Premier's Department. I shall certainly have the matter checked out to see what the alignment for the new road is. Without laying blame in any direction, I believe that that crossing, if negotiated at the speeds displayed on the advisory signs, is as safe as possible under the prevailing circumstances.

EDUCATION ARTICLE

Mr. CUMBE: Has the Minister of Education seen the article in the latest issue of the *South Australian Teachers Journal* by Mr. Dean Ashenden, a lecturer at Bedford Park Teachers College, headed "Karmel committee report: One of the greatest barriers to educational reform"? Although I do not necessarily agree with many of the comments in the article, I ask the Minister to explain the Government's views on many of the critical matters raised by Mr. Ashenden.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Although I have not seen the article, I shall be pleased to read it and see what can be said about it. I know that Mr. Ashenden holds views relating to the educational administration which

advocate what I think he might call a very extensive version of participatory democracy. If those views are the nature of the article he has written, then I think the honourable member can work out the answer to the question himself. As a general rule, I do not intend to comment on every newspaper article ever written. In fact, I would be out of order if I did that.

VICTORIA SQUARE DEVELOPMENT

Mr. HALL: In view of the answer I received from the Deputy Premier, in the absence of the Premier, that the block in Victoria Square bought by the previous Government for the building of an additional Government administration building would be offered to overseas private industry or overseas private commercial interests at a rental, I ask the Premier whether he will assure the House and me that any offer will be made on a completely economic basis so that the Government and, therefore, the people will not be involved in any subsidy in relation to those commercial interests?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No, I will not give the Leader that assurance. All tourist Ministers of whatever Party in Australia have pointed out to the Commonwealth Government that it is vital that there be governmental concessions or assistance in establishing effective first-class international hotel facilities and that without some special concessions, sought initially by Mr. Askin and by Sir Henry Bolte, it would be impossible to establish such facilities in Australia on the present economies facing the hotel industry. I have seen some of the Leader's remarks made in my absence. He suggested that there had not been a consultation with the committee concerned with the development of Victoria Square on this matter, but that is not true. The recommendation for the use of this site for hotel development was made by Professor Winston, the consultant to the committee on Victoria Square development, and was in accordance with the committee's recommendations. It was following his recommendations that the Government decided that this site should be made available for hotel development and that alternative sites should be acquired for Public Service accommodation development. Those alternative sites were acquired before the Government's decision to let this site out in accordance with the committee's recommendations. Regarding the letting out of the site, the Government is concerned to see that, in the provision of first-class hotel accommodation, costs to the developers (who, I can assure the Leader, will

be not only overseas developers) will be reduced to a minimum in order that we may ensure that we get the kind of hotel development that will be essential for the provision of added tourist trade in South Australia. South Australia has in the past under-spent every other Australian State in tourist development, and it is vital that we reverse this process.

Mr. HALL: In view of the surprising reply the Premier has given to my question about whether public moneys may be involved in granting a subsidy to a private development company that may build a tourist hotel in Victoria Square, and as finance is required urgently for needs in Government services, such as hospitals, that have not been met, can the Premier say how much public money may be involved in any subsidy granted to such company and, if a subsidy is to be available, can he say whether subsidies will also be available to other companies that build tourist hotels?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: No. I cannot say that, simply because it will be a matter of negotiation. However, I point out to the Leader that this is not a new departure by the Government and, indeed, it is not a departure from a course that this Government followed in relation to the development of industry in South Australia. I point out, too, that the area of land in the West Lakes Development Scheme was let out, under the indenture signed by the Labor Government and supported by the Leader's Government, at less than the normal market price.

Mr. Hall: But—

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: However, when things are different they are never the same with the Leader.

Mr. Hall: You draw your own conclusions.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will draw my own conclusions, and I am doing so now. The Leader knows full well that the South Australian Government has constantly given subsidies to industries. At present a record sum of money is being paid out by the South Australian Housing Trust for the provision of factories in this State.

Mr. Coumbe: But under guarantee.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes, but they are recommended by the Industries Development Committee.

Mr. Hall: There is no subsidy by the State Government.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is a subsidy—

Mr. Hall: But not as far as the State is concerned.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There is a subsidy, because the Government is paying out Loan moneys, which it has borrowed; it is letting out the money on the lease back system at very much less than current rates of interest.

Mr. Hall: But you aren't losing on it.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: We are not losing on this other development either and, in order to get the type of development we want, this State will have to consider letting out the money at less than the current rate. That is perfectly clear from the brochure that has been published, which is available to the public and which has been circulated to industry here and overseas. This development was welcomed not only at the Tourist Ministers conference but also by the Australian Tourist Commission, and is recognized as being a break-through by Government in the provision of realistic assistance regarding the development of major hotel facilities, not one of which ever looked like getting established under the previous Liberal Government.

FIRE QUEEN

Mr. RYAN: Will the Attorney-General, representing the Chief Secretary, obtain a report on the usual and legal method of disposing of assets of semi-government instrumentalities such as the Fire Brigades Board? Recently, as the result of being declared unseaworthy, the *Fire Queen* was disposed of by the board for \$50. I am also told that the sale was made privately, and there has been much comment on the board's method of sale.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

EGGS

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, a reply to my recent question on eggs?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague reports:

Egg production in South Australia has continued to rise over the past 12 months with S.A. Egg Board receipts to June, 1971, 15,371,654 dozen compared to 13,112,752 dozen last year. This represents an increase of 2,258,902 dozen, or 17.2 per cent. Although local sales increased 10 per cent over last year, the surplus available for overseas markets and local pulp sales rose by 25 per cent. Chicken hatchings to June, 1971, increased 1.9 per cent over last year, but there was a sudden increase in hatchings of 27.5 per cent during January-March, 1971. The present production level, which is a result of this increase, is likely to continue for the next six months at least. Because of the high production level, producers are experiencing low net

returns. The average net returns to producers (after heavy hen levy) for 1970-71 is 26.6c a dozen eggs compared to 34.2c in 1969-70, a decrease of 7.6c a dozen. This is the lowest net return since 1961-62.

Indications are that production will continue to maintain this high level for the present. Until production decreases, it appears that producers will be forced to accept low net returns because of the over-supply of eggs and poor overseas market returns. It is difficult to answer in specific terms the hypothetical question posed by the honourable member regarding the situation if what he refers to as a "uniform marketing scheme" cannot be achieved. However, the Minister thinks that most people (certainly most egg producers) realize that, unless some system of egg production control is instituted, the economic position of the industry will continue to deteriorate and eventually collapse. All State Governments, with the exception of Victoria and Tasmania, have recognized this situation and have accepted the principle of production control, and one can only hope that these two States will align themselves with the rest of the Commonwealth in this matter before it is too late.

UPPER GREENHILL ROAD

Mr. McANANEY: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my recent question about work on the Upper Greenhill Road?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Insufficient funds are available to enable the complete reconstruction of the Upper Greenhill Road to be carried out at present. Investigations are being undertaken, however, into the possibility of providing "passing" sections along this road to facilitate the overtaking of slow-moving vehicles.

SPEED LIMITS

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport consider introducing more liberal speed limits for commercial vehicles in this State? At present drivers of semi-trailers from other States that have more sensible speed limits are likely to be prosecuted after they cross the border into South Australia for exceeding the speed limit. In South Australia the speed limit for semi-trailers is 30 miles an hour in the country and 25 miles an hour in built-up areas. The traffic authority apparently realizes that accidents are less likely to occur on a busy suburban road if all traffic is able to flow at the same pace. However, at present in the cities some vehicles are travelling at 35 miles an hour and some at 25 miles an hour.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Obviously, the honourable member has missed about four

public statements I have made on this matter and the replies that I have given in the House.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: There was one last week.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Government has said that it is reviewing the speed limits applicable to heavy vehicles, but this review will take place only having regard to the braking requirements of those vehicles. It would be quite irresponsible to increase the speed limit without having additional safeguards regarding braking. If we did that we would have more tragic accidents involving these vehicles than we have had. I have previously made several statements to that effect.

DAYLIGHT SAVING

Mr. GUNN: Will the Minister of Education explain to the House what course of action will be available to headmasters to vary their time tables to offset the problem caused by daylight saving?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I think one must be tolerant in these matters, and I think all that is required is that the headmaster should consult the parents and staff of the school and, if there is general agreement that the time of starting school is to be put back one hour when daylight saving is introduced, the headmaster can do this without any difficulty. If transport problems affect more than one school in an area, consultations between the schools would have to take place. However, I think that certain schools may desire to experiment with earlier starting times. I think that the Booleroo Centre school starts earlier in summer, by agreement between the staff and parents. This has the advantage of having the schoolchildren undertaking a significant part of their intellectual activity during the cooler part of the day. That system may be worth trying on the West Coast.

HOSPITAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Attorney-General ask the Minister of Health why the advisory committee at the Royal Adelaide Hospital has not been reappointed since its term expired last March? Advisory committees at both the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Royal Adelaide Hospital make a real contribution to the efficiency and conduct of these hospitals and, because of that, they contribute great help to the Government and the community generally. All parties benefit from the work of the committees. Persons who have been on these advisory committees are in somewhat of a quandary about where they stand at present.

They do not know whether they are still members of the committees and whether the committees are to be continued: in fact, they just do not know what is happening, and the Government has not told them.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I shall obtain a reply for the honourable member.

NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. RODDA: Can the Minister for Conservation say whether an officer will be appointed to act as a ranger on reserves under the Minister's control? In my district and in the South-East generally, there are many reserves under the Minister's control and, whilst it is important that we have these reserves, many of them are unfenced and local councils are concerned about vermin getting into them, and there is also a fire hazard. It is desirable that the Minister have an officer in charge on the spot to liaise with councils so that matters that require attention receive attention.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: The point that the honourable member has raised is causing me concern. Honourable members will probably be interested to know that since 1962 the number of national parks in this State has increased from 14 to more than 90. With this large increase in the number of parks, the problems of maintenance and the general matters to which the member for Victoria has referred are causing difficulties for the present staff of rangers. As a result, urgent action was taken about two weeks ago to appoint four more rangers, and it is intended that one of these will be located in the South-East. Although we have one officer in the South-East at present, an additional ranger is certainly needed in that area. Applications are being invited for this position, and an appointment will be made soon.

INFORMAL EDUCATION

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Education read the article entitled "Effects of informal education in Sweden", which appeared in the June 23 issue of the *South Australian Teachers Journal*, and, if he has, will he, as Minister of Education, ensure that this State's education system does not suffer the same fate? This article refers to another article written by a Swedish correspondent for the American periodical *Newsweek*, part of which is as follows:

In Sweden a type of informal education has been in force since the early 1960's . . . Discipline has been reduced, and children are encouraged to express themselves freely, to learn individually according to the pleasure principle. To a large extent they choose their

own subjects, regardless of ability or previous achievements. While teachers will act as advisers, they no longer have the power either to promote or deter.

The effects of a decade of this sort of permissiveness are now beginning to show. Classroom chaos at the lower levels and truancy in high school are now so widespread that a parliamentary commission has been appointed to investigate. The standard of attainment has sunk to previously unrecorded depths, and many present-day school drop-outs remain semi-literate.

Untrained to work methodically, capable only of gratifying the whim of the moment, they feel bewildered and out of place in the adult world. What she called, "Play your way through school," might work at the infant level, she said, but higher up it becomes disastrous. She concluded that the "crisis" it had precipitated in Sweden should serve as a warning to others. "We had no precedents for our reforms," she wrote. "You have!"

I ask this question of the Minister so that he is informed of the problems that can arise as a result of students being given too much freedom or being able to gratify the whim of the moment.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The short answer to the honourable member's question is "No". Neither I nor the Education Department advocates a system of education that leaves everything to the whim of the students and avoids any attempt to organize their instruction.

UNDERGROUND WATERS

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Minister of Works get a report for me on the progress being made in the investigation of underground waters in the South-East, which has been going on for some years now?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes; I shall be glad to do that. Rapid progress has been made over the past 12 months on this project and a grid of some 650 bores has almost been completed. In addition to this, some gauging stations have been established in various parts of the South-East from Bordertown southward, and more intensive investigations are now taking place in such places as Padthaway, Mount Gambier and the Snuggery area. A meteorological station has been established near Greenways and it should not be very long before we are in a position to evaluate some of the data that will be available. The whole investigation will be spread over a period of about 10 years. However, I think we can say now, with some degree of accuracy, that with our present knowledge the known underground water resources in the South-East could support a population of up to 250,000 people in that area—and that is being conservative.

The most important point to stress so far as the resources are concerned is their protection, because the people in the South-East are living virtually on top of their water supply and it may be that at some time in the near future certain regulations will have to be drawn up in order to give the necessary protection to those resources that the people value so much. I will get a detailed report of what has been done so far and a report also on the programme ahead.

PROPERTY SYNDICATES

Mr. BECKER: Has the Attorney-General considered encouraging the formation of an institute of property syndicators similar to the Real Estate Institute, setting down guidelines for brochures and for the protection of investors? I understand that several property syndicates have been formed in South Australia during the past month, obtaining tens of thousands of dollars from the public. Some of my constituents and I consider that an institute of property syndicators would be advisable.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Real Estate Institute is formed by a voluntary association of people engaged in the real estate business, and the formation of a similar institute for those people engaged in the formation and operation of property syndicates would be a matter for the people engaged in that work. However, the question of the solicitation of investment by members of the public in property syndicates is engaging my attention at present and consideration is being given to what legislation is appropriate to provide protection for those members of the public who might invest funds in those syndicates. Some type of protective legislation is undoubtedly necessary. Whether it should take the form of provisions similar to those of the Companies Act in relation to prospectuses or whether it should take some other form I have not yet determined, but the matter is at present being studied and in the relatively near future some legislation will be introduced to provide protection for the public in respect of this type of business.

SOCIAL WORKERS

Dr. TONKIN: I direct my question to the Minister of Social Welfare. How many qualified social workers are there at present on the staff of the Department of Social Welfare, and how many more are there now than there were at this time last year? What steps are now being taken to attract more social workers to the department? Recently, I heard an excellent

address by the Minister outlining the Government's proposals to establish community welfare centres. I supported him on that occasion by talking about the need for social workers to work in association with general medical practice. Whatever scheme is proposed, it seems that it will depend entirely on the availability of qualified social workers. Whether or not this will be a successful move will depend on that fact.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I agree it is essential that we attract more social workers for work in this field. I do not, however, agree with the honourable member that this is the only factor involved; there are others, one of which the honourable member himself has mentioned on more than one occasion—the attraction of voluntary workers who can be trained to supplement the work of social workers. I will, however, obtain the figures for which the honourable member has asked and bring back a reply.

SUNDAY HOTEL TRADING

Mr. GUNN: Can the Attorney-General give an assurance that Sunday hotel trading will not be introduced in South Australia? I, like other members of the House, have received a letter from the Temperance Alliance of South Australia Inc., outlining its strong opposition to any relaxation of Sunday hotel trading in South Australia. It gives the following four main reasons:

- (1) The further disintegration of family life, as at present Sunday is the one day when most families stay together.
- (2) Increase in road toll because of extended Sunday drinking.
- (3) Increased alcoholism and resultant crime.
- (4) Encroachment on the day of Christian worship.

The Hon. L. J. KING: No approach has been made to the Government for any alteration in the laws about Sunday trading. The matter has not been considered by Cabinet at any time since the present Government has been in office and, therefore, no decision has been made or is contemplated with regard to this matter.

GLENELG EFFLUENT

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Works obtained a report about the killing of marine growth at Glenelg North near the sewage treatment works? Early this year the Minister met a constituent of mine on the beach near the sewage treatment works, where it was claimed that effluent from the works was killing the marine growth. As the Minister promised

to investigate this matter, has he obtained a report?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes.

Mr. BECKER: Can the Minister say what were the findings contained in that report, and will he table it?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The findings are for my use, and I will not table it.

Mr. BECKER: Does the Minister of Works intend to make a Ministerial statement on the report obtained regarding my constituent's claim that marine growth has been affected by effluent discharged at the Glenelg treatment works? This afternoon, the Minister, in reply to a question that I asked previously on this matter, said that such a report was for the Minister's personal information. I find this extremely difficult to understand, for the Minister promised he would obtain a report on the matter.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: No.

SAFETY SALLS

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister for Conservation, in the temporary absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, a reply to my recent question about safety salls?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: My colleague states that the safety sall is used where the conventional school signs and flags are in conflict with the side environment, such as advertising, trees, stobie poles, etc., and where a significant number of motorists are found exceeding the 15 m.p.h. statutory speed limit. Their use is confined to locations where "school" signs have been erected on a road which abuts the school property. The safety sall has been designed to indicate the location of a school with the figure of a girl student holding a replica of a "school" sign, with an advisory speed limit of 15 displayed on the "school" sign. The figurines are usually placed in the centre of the carriageway opposite the existing "school" signs as an additional device to remind the motorist of his obligation to proceed at 15 m.p.h. while children are between "school" signs proceeding to and from school.

The present policy is to approve the use of safety salls at locations where they are justified and the above conditions are complied with, and this would apply, also, to any future application. Where children cross the road at places not abutting the school the local authorities may, at their discretion, erect symbolic "children" signs, and with Road Traffic Board approval, display "children crossing" flags

during the times when children are proceeding to and from school. The exceedingly low accident rate within school zones is indicative of the motorist's behaviour and his appreciation of the figurines and their logical placement. It is not considered desirable to alter the specifications for the use of these safety salls.

NORTH ADELAIDE POLICE STATION

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Minister of Works obtain a report on the progress of renovations to the North Adelaide police station, which is one of the oldest in this State? Does the Minister recall that I have asked this question several times? As I believe he said that he would obtain a report on this matter, when he replies to this question will he be so kind as to be more definitive than he was yesterday when, in reply to my question about the North Adelaide school, he said that it would be completed in the 1971-72 financial year?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: It will be done, but I do not know whether it will be early, middle, or late in this financial year. However, I will try to obtain this information. I think the same thing could be applied concerning the answer I gave yesterday to the member for Hanson about a trash rack. I will try to find out when the fabrication will be carried out. In reply to the member for Torrens, I will obtain a report and make it as definitive as he requires.

FREEWAYS

Mr. HALL: Following the recent reply of the Minister of Roads and Transport to me that no freeways would be built for 10 years, can he say whether the Government is still purchasing property from those who wish to sell, or who consider that the sale of their property is being affected by the already published plans of the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Report? Also, can he say whether the Government is willingly buying from those people who want to sell because they consider themselves to be situated in the pathway of a proposed M.A.T.S. freeway route?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I understand the Leader tried to ask a question of me a few minutes ago, and was critical that I was not in the House. I apologize to you, Mr. Speaker, but I was speaking on the telephone to Sydney concerning the current railway dispute.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: You are not supposed to do that!

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I hope the Leader will accept my apologies for not being present at that time.

Mr. Millhouse: What can you tell us about it?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I thought that the question was about freeways!

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Mitcham is out of order.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I merely offered a reason for my absence. Some time ago I made a statement in the House (I think it was a Ministerial statement) about the freeway question. It would have been printed in *Hansard*. The Leader could check on that, but to save him trouble I remind him that I said:

As these corridors would not be required for at least 10 years, if even then, no restrictions will be placed on home alterations or improvements or the sale of any homes on any of these future transport corridors. However, if any owner whose home is in one of these corridors chooses to sell his home and is unable to do so, the Highways Department will be a willing buyer, without asking for the proof of hardship that was required by the previous Government. I think that statement, given in the House last year, fully answers the question. However, in addition, I add that that policy has been adhered to completely by the Government since then.

SCHOOLYARDS

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Minister of Education say whether his department has prepared schedules of priorities for schoolyard levelling, building retaining walls, and other associated works and, if it has, whether the schedules are available to members? Representatives of several schools have approached me (as have representatives of schools I have attended whilst seeking information about their needs) and have indicated that they have been given a guarded reply that these levelling works will be undertaken in the near future, but they have been unable to ascertain what "near future" means.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The reply to the second part of the question is "No". The answer to the first part is that it is a matter for the Public Buildings Department to arrange the order in which work is to be done. I understand that certain changes of procedure that are being made may assist in this matter. However, if the honourable member cares to refer any instance to me I shall be pleased to examine it.

LEGAL OFFICERS

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Can the Attorney-General say what is the point of appointing a

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Commercial Prosecutions Officer and a Senior Legal Officer in the Attorney-General's Department? In a recent issue of the *Law Society Bulletin*, I noticed a supplement to the effect that applications were invited for these two positions, which carry a salary, in the case of the Commercial Prosecutions Officer, of \$13,866—

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: Did you apply?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I know that members opposite would like me to apply, but I do not intend to do so, because I think the job is misconceived. The salary being offered the Senior Legal Officer is the same (\$13,866), although I understand this is to be reviewed. The applications have presumably closed, the date given being July 19. When I came into office, I found that my immediate predecessor had created a position similar to this and had left the department in a complete administrative muddle. The work being carried out by the officers at that time should properly have been done by the Crown Law Department. I suspect that the same is also true now, and that is why I ask this question of the Attorney-General.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The comment the member made about the alleged muddle that was found in the office when he went into it is gratuitous and also quite untrue.

Mr. Millhouse: You weren't there.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I made some inquiries about this matter, following an earlier remark made in this House by the honourable member. The purpose of seeking an experienced barrister to fill the position of Commercial Prosecutions Officer—

Mr. Millhouse: Are you after a barrister?

The Hon. L. J. KING: —is to endeavour to fill a gap that exists in the present organization. At present, there are matters of a criminal nature and some of a civil nature which involve a knowledge of commercial law and which make great demands on the time of the Crown Law Department, if it is to prepare and present a case effectively. Commercial cases tend to be heavy cases; they tend to make great demands on the time of the law officers involved and, if those officers either are lacking commercial experience or are engaged on other matters, it becomes difficult to prepare and present effectively cases in commercial matters, especially of a criminal nature. The result is that, where involved criminal cases of a commercial character have come forward for prosecution, they have frequently been delayed, at times for quite an unconscionable period (a

period which in my view, at any rate, brings the administration of the law into disrepute and involves injustice to a defendant who has to wait a long time to be brought to trial).

Mr. Millhouse: Are you thinking of Davco?

The Hon. L. J. KING: No, although Davco was undoubtedly a case which, if a Commercial Crown Prosecutor had been available, would have been pursued much earlier.

Mr. Millhouse: Who has been—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member can ask only one question at a time.

The Hon. L. J. KING: If the member for Mitcham familiarized himself with the affairs of his department when he was Attorney-General, he would be well aware of the type of case to which I refer and, if he thought about it, he would know that when I took over there were cases which had been in the Crown Law Department for a long time and which were not pursued and could not be pursued, simply because insufficient experienced prosecutors were available to attend to these matters. I assume that the honourable member knows of those matters. I do not attach blame to him for the fact that they were there, but I hope that he knows they were there and that a reflection on them might bring him some recognition of the need for filling a post of the kind to which I have referred. In addition, the appointment of a Commercial Crown Prosecutor (an experienced legal practitioner with commercial experience) would mean a considerable strengthening of the Crown Law Department.

It would mean that not only would we have an experienced man available to conduct commercial prosecutions but also that he would be available, if needed, to conduct general prosecutions and, indeed, he would be available to handle commercial matters generally, if required and if his other duties did not fully occupy his time. Whether he would be fully occupied on commercial prosecutions would depend on the amount of work at that time: one heavy case might occupy a long time and there might be periods when there were no such cases to occupy his time and he would be required for other duties. I think it would be a great advantage to the legal department of the Crown if it were possible to fill this position with a suitably experienced person. Whether it is so possible, I cannot say at present, but I hope that it may be so.

Mr. Millhouse: What about the other position?

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Mitcham is trying to take an unfair advantage of his own Party members. He has been given the call; he is continually asking question after question—

Mr. Millhouse: No I'm not.

The SPEAKER: —and it must cease.

Mr. Millhouse: It's the same question.

The SPEAKER: If the honourable member asked his question properly he should not be interjecting all the time.

Mr. Millhouse: Dear me!

The SPEAKER: I am not going to permit any reply to this further question. I call on the member for Hanson.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I take a point of order on that, Mr. Speaker. The question I asked in the first place dealt with two positions (Commercial Prosecutions Officer and Senior Legal Officer), and so far the Attorney-General has only answered my question regarding the first officer.

The SPEAKER: I have warned the member for Mitcham about making interjections. He is continually breaching in this respect and I am going to see that proper order is maintained in this House. The honourable member would assist greatly if he did not interject.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I ask the Attorney-General to complete the reply to my question, particularly regarding the point of having a Senior Legal Officer in the Attorney-General's Department.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I think the honourable member is asking me the reason for seeking the appointment of a legal officer in the Attorney-General's department. He acknowledges that that is the question, and I shall proceed to reply to it. At present the Attorney-General is responsible, as the duties are arranged in the present Administration, for a very considerable programme of law reform extending to the area of consumer protection, and the formulation of the legislation necessary to put this programme into effect requires a considerable amount of work at officer level in the Attorney-General's Department. At present there is no qualified legal officer in the department. The assistance available to the Attorney-General in his own department is confined to officers who, excellent though they be, are nevertheless untrained in law, so that in order to obtain the assistance of a legal officer it is necessary to borrow one, so to speak, from the Crown Law Department thereby taking him from the normal duties of that department, and disrupting the work of the Crown Solicitor's office.

In addition, the work associated with the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General requires the services of a qualified lawyer for quite a considerable part of the year; hitherto that work has been divided, somewhat unsatisfactorily, between an officer of the Crown Law office (at present the Assistant Crown Solicitor, Mr. Prior) and one or other of the Parliamentary Counsel. Mr. Prior is fully occupied with his duties as Assistant Crown Solicitor and is quite unable to spare the time necessary to attend to the work of the Standing Committee, and the Parliamentary Counsel are more than occupied with the drafting of the Government's legislative programme and with accommodating the demands on their time frequently made by members of the Opposition in both Houses of Parliament. Therefore, it is quite impracticable to use the services of the Parliamentary Counsel on Standing Committee work. It is, in my view, quite important that a qualified lawyer be appointed to the Attorney-General's Department to handle the Government's legislation emanating from that department at officer level, and to handle the work of the Standing Committee of Attorneys-General.

Once again, I am not able to tell the honourable member at this stage whether it will be possible to fill this position with a suitable person, but I can assure him that if it is so possible the work of the Government will be greatly facilitated and that the appointment will be of considerable benefit to the Administration.

DEEP SEA PORTS

Mr. HALL: In view of the long delay since I asked a question concerning the port of Wallaroo and any alternatives that may be investigated by the special committee set up for that purpose, during which time I understand that no report has been made by the committee, can the Minister of Marine assure me that the report will soon be available?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I expect that the report will be in my hands by the end of August.

INTERJECTIONS

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I ask you, Mr. Speaker, to clarify the position regarding interjections during sittings of this House. From time to time it appears that there are differences in your administration in this regard. Everyone will agree that excessive interjections are undesirable, and it seems that everyone in this House is guilty of interjecting, sometimes to excess, but confusion is arising

because of your apparently different treatment of these situations. On some occasions you simply call members to order and say that they must not interject further; on other occasions you criticize the person speaking, telling him that he should not reply to interjections; and on one occasion last night, for example, you insisted that any member who interjected would be named. That is the most far-reaching statement you have made, and it occurred last night when a Minister was speaking and thereby had a protection not given to every other member in this House.

Today the member for Mitcham has done what is very frequently done. After asking a question and listening to the Minister's reply, as has happened to members from all corners of the House, he was moved to ask for some clarification as the Minister was replying. Normally, so long as it is not done to excess, this does not seem to excite any criticism, but on this occasion you immediately stopped the question and moved on. I have set out several different sets of circumstances which indicate some inconsistency, causing confusion to members of the House. I ask that, either today or tomorrow, after consideration, you clarify the position as to your instructions regarding interjections.

The SPEAKER: This matter has received my consideration over a long period. Standing Orders are quite specific, and I intend to exercise my prerogative of determining when things are getting out of control. Every honourable member has his own idea. However, I asked members during the vacation to have a look at themselves. I would like them to do this, and I think they will find that I am applying Standing Orders fairly. Some honourable members will not comply with requests, just continuing on and ignoring them. In the case of the member for Mitcham referred to by the member for Alexandra, a question had been asked and there were continued interjections while the Minister was replying. Cases can be quoted from Erskine May, if the honourable member for Alexandra would care to look at them, where Speakers have ignored members in the Chamber when those members have refused to obey the ruling of the Chair. I intend to apply Standing Orders in that manner. I now call on the business of the day.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Mr. Speaker, I signalled you twice.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member for Mitcham.

EDUCATION POLICY STATEMENT

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I had wanted to ask a question of the Minister of Education, but he had gone out of the Chamber and therefore I could not proceed. When does the Minister intend to issue a policy statement following the meeting held on June 16 in the Norwood Town Hall, and when does he intend to answer the detailed matters requiring attention in the various schools in members' areas? I wrote to the Minister following that meeting setting out matters concerning schools in my district. I received a reply from him on July 16 saying that he intended to issue a policy statement and also answer the various queries in detail, but I have heard nothing further from him.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The answer to the honourable member is that this will be done in due course. The honourable member will appreciate that there is a great deal of work involved. I have received a large number of letters as a consequence of that meeting. He will also appreciate that we must be sure the normal work of the department is not unduly interfered with.

HOSPITALS

Dr. TONKIN (Bragg): I move:

That, in the opinion of this House, non-profit church-administered hospitals with recognized nurse-training schools should receive the same rate of Government subsidy as do community hospitals.

Knowing that action has, in fact, already been taken in this matter since I gave notice of the motion, I move the motion with much pleasure. Community hospitals (which we all realize play a significant part in the health and welfare of our community) have received the well-deserved help of a \$2 for \$1 subsidy for capital works over the years. However, for many years church-administered hospitals (Calvary Hospital, Memorial Hospital and St. Andrews Presbyterian Hospital, which are nurse-training hospitals, and McBride Maternity Hospital, which is not a nurse-training hospital) received a \$1 for \$1 subsidy, not a \$2 for \$1 subsidy. Try as I might, I was not able to find out why this anomaly had been allowed to persist for so long. I can only say that it has, for a considerable number of years, seriously hampered the development of these hospitals.

The McBride Maternity Hospital is one of the many worthy activities of the Salvation Army; it is perhaps less well known than are some of the Army's other worthy activities,

but it is nonetheless a most important activity. It was my pleasure, during a brief period in general practice in this area, to visit the McBride Maternity Hospital regularly; that was more years ago than I care to remember now. I can remember that I was always impressed by the cheerfulness, efficiency and dedication of the staff.

I have always had a great admiration, as I think all members of the public have, for the work of the Salvation Army in the community. Many people are thoroughly grateful for the benefits given by the McBride Maternity Hospital. The Government (I do not mean the present Government particularly, but any Government) should be grateful, too. The recognition it is now given has been long delayed, and the moneys involved in any future subsidy payments will really represent repayment of a long-owed debt to the McBride Maternity Hospital for the services it has rendered to the community. These are services which the Government might otherwise have had to provide and which, until now, have been left almost entirely to the resources of the Salvation Army in this area.

St. Andrews Presbyterian Hospital is one of the church-administered hospitals which, having been rebuilt in recent years, has become one of the leading private hospitals in Adelaide. It is a hospital of which we can be really proud, because it has first-class facilities and accommodation. Calvary Hospital, administered by the Sisters of the Little Company of Mary, a dedicated and devoted body, has also recently built a new theatre block and provided new bed facilities and other facilities. Full utilization of these facilities is nevertheless not yet possible, because of a lack of funds to complete plans for more patient accommodation. In saying that I mean not new buildings but simply the remodelling of facilities that have become available in the old part of the hospital as a result of the building of the new wing and the provision of new theatres.

Memorial Hospital, an institution of the Methodist Church, intends to rebuild theatre facilities and provide more beds and other facilities very soon. These works are desperately needed, and from personal experience I can say that implementation of the plans has been hampered for far too long: the plans have had to be deferred to the detriment of the public as a result of the limited degree of Government help available. As I said earlier, this help has often been only half of that available to community hospitals, yet these church-administered hospitals play

an equally important part in community health.

The fees of church-administered hospitals are no higher than those of community hospitals, and their services are of equal standard; indeed, in some cases they provide services not always available in all hospitals. In particular, Memorial Hospital, Calvary Hospital and St. Andrews Presbyterian Hospital, through their nurse-training programmes, provide about 120 nurse graduates for the community annually. I think all members will agree that this is a most important further contribution to community health and welfare.

The Opposition is occasionally criticized, by those who are not fully aware of the facts, for not being sufficiently constructive in its approach to its duties. I am extremely pleased that the Minister of Works, while Acting Premier, two days ago foreshadowed the Government's agreement to this motion, when he announced the granting of a \$2 for \$1 subsidy to the four hospitals I have mentioned. I first raised this question in this House 12 months ago—almost to the day. It is thus another of a growing list of suggested measures brought constructively into this House by the Opposition and acted on by the Government.

I welcome the Government's adoption of this policy, as indeed I have of the other proposals which we have put forward and which the Government has adopted. The Government seems to have gone out of its way to ensure that the Opposition does not get credit for its constructive proposals in the past, but on this occasion I must give credit where credit is due; I must say how pleased I am that the Government has acted so promptly to implement the suggestion in this motion. I am sure that its action will be applauded by the hospitals concerned and the community generally, and I am sure its action will be endorsed by this House in supporting the motion.

Mr. CARNIE (Flinders): I support the motion. I am pleased to see that the Government has once again taken action recommended by the Opposition. As the member for Bragg has said, the reason for his moving the motion lies in an anomaly that has existed for many years with regard to non-profit church-administered hospitals. The hospitals to which he has referred have performed a vital function not only with regard to medical services but also with regard to the training of nurses. In this connection they have relieved Government hospitals of a

very large burden. Nurses trained by these hospitals are very highly regarded throughout the profession. Non-profit hospitals, together with Government hospitals and community hospitals, play an important part in the medical services of this State, yet for many years they have received only half of the subsidy granted to community hospitals—a \$1 for \$1 subsidy as against a \$2 for \$1 subsidy. Of course, all hospitals play a vital part in the health of the community.

I hope that I never see any possibility of our losing community hospitals, particularly those in country areas, where there may not be a large hospital for many miles. The hospitals referred to in the motion can in many cases provide more complicated services because of their size and location. They are part of the chain of medical services of which South Australia can be so proud. These hospitals are no more exempt than is any other service in the community from spiralling costs which, unfortunately, have prevented the necessary expansion to enable them to continue to provide the services that they have provided for so long. The member for Bragg mentioned certain hospitals, about which he would know in his capacity as a doctor. It must be obvious to everyone that all hospitals must continue to provide more beds and greater facilities to cater for the growing population and need. These hospitals have been limited in this regard for many years by the anomalous situation of the lower subsidy that has always applied. I can say little more, because the member for Bragg, in his usual thorough way, has covered the matter very well. It is obvious that the Government agrees with what the member for Bragg has said and with my remarks, as it now intends to institute the matter contained in the motion. I second the motion.

Mrs. BYRNE secured the adjournment of the debate.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL (PRIVATE)

Dr. EASTICK (Light) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Local Government Act, 1934-1970. Read a first time.

Dr. EASTICK: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Although the official documentation will never indicate this fact, the Bill I present could justifiably be called the Eastick Version Abridged Local Government Act Amendment Bill, 1971.

With the presentation yesterday by the Minister of Local Government of a speeded-up Local Government Act Amendment Bill, it was necessary to prepare a redraft of the Bill of which I gave notice last Wednesday 24 hours before the then stimulated Minister gave notice of a similar intention. The Bill I now present does not impinge on the subject matter of the Minister's Bill, which now takes precedence. In the presentation of the Local Government Act Amendment Bill, 1970, many desirable features were included—features desired by and acceptable to local government and the community at large. Not all of these desirable features have been encompassed by the Minister in his "hurry up" Bill presented to the House yesterday. As the clauses I now submit for the attention of the House were acceptable to the Minister less than 12 months ago, I look forward to his and his colleagues' support on this occasion.

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 removes an anomaly that has existed for many years whereby the elected members of councils are required to pay rates and/or fines in advance of the remaining members of the community and, further, requires the clerk to give preferential notice (treatment) to elected persons in writing of their situation. Although the reason for deletion is different from that expressed by the Minister in 1970, the purpose of the clause is in my opinion nonetheless necessary. Clause 3 removes an area of doubt as to the course of action to be taken by a returning officer, hence possible consequential expense which has in the past confronted councils. Clauses 4 and 12 insert procedures to be followed at polls. The 1970 Bill sought to remove sections 119 and 811, which require the ballot box to be exhibited empty "immediately before taking the votes . . . The proposed sections 119a and 811a now require the exhibition of an empty box at the completion of the poll, without disturbing the original and desirable sections described above.

Clauses 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, which refer to sections 218, 219, 222, 230, 232 and 233, streamline features of the overall requirements for presentation and implementation of memorials for special works. Section 218 empowers a certain proportion of ratepayers representing a certain proportion of assessed value to present a memorial for specific works to be carried out. Clause 5 amends this provision to provide that a majority of ratepayers in a portion of an area may present such a memorial. Clause 6 makes consequential

amendments, in respect of memorials, to section 219. Clause 7 repeals section 222 (1), which refers to separate rates as mentioned in memorials. This is rendered unnecessary. Clauses 8, 9 and 10 make consequential amendments to sections 230, 232 and 233 regarding the contents of such a memorial and the rating powers of the council if council agrees with the memorial. In such cases, councils will be able to declare separate rates for a limited period. Clause 11 provides an alteration to section 336 to permit persons desiring access to roadways to obtain that permission without the previous considerable administrative details. The amendment provides that any person may make a request, and for the council to recover the cost of acceding to the request of that person. I commend the Bill to honourable members.

Mr. WARDLE (Murray): I support the second reading, particularly regarding the returning officer's role, the inspection of the ballot box at the close of the poll, and the simplification regarding the presentation of memorials to councils. Much has been said in this House over the years about the Local Government Act, which is the most complicated Act of all, I believe. This is probably because it is the largest Act on this State's Statute Book. It has many aspects, and over the years it has been amended and added to many times. All members will be delighted to be presented by the Minister of Local Government with a Bill for a completely new Act, and I am sure that all the work that has been done by the Local Government Act Revision Committee will make it more condensed and easier to interpret.

The exhibition of the ballot box by the returning officer to those in attendance has to a large extent been practised by local government officers in the past anyway, and if the Bill is accepted by this House this aspect will be written into the Act. I cannot recall in the past the validity of the returning officer's authority in this respect ever having been challenged. Perhaps it has been left open in this respect in days gone by. At least it will be clear, if this Bill is passed, that the returning officer has the sole responsibility of examining the validity of an application and that his word will be final.

The clauses dealing with memorials to councils have always been cumbersome. It has always been difficult to administer this section of the Act, and much work has always been involved for those making memorials. In the past a memorial had to be signed by a sufficient

number of ratepayers representing three-quarters of the assessed value of property within the area concerned. The amendments simplify this situation, as in future a majority of ratepayers in a portion of an area may now present such a memorial. This will overcome the difficult administrative situations that have arisen in the past when people have wanted to make a memorial to a council. These several matters will help to add to the efficiency of the Local Government Act, and will simplify it and make it easier to administer and interpret. I support the Bill.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO secured the adjournment of the debate.

ROAD TRAFFIC ACT AMENDMENT BILL (SEAT BELTS)

Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Road Traffic Act, 1961-1969. Read a first time.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

I very much appreciate the courtesy of members on both sides in allowing me to give the second reading explanation of this Bill immediately so that it may have a speedy passage through this House and, I hope, through another place. When, in 1963, I introduced an amendment to the Road Traffic Act to provide for the compulsory installation of seat belts in cars, I resisted an amendment from the then Australian Labor Party to make compulsory the wearing of the belts thus installed. At that time, I did not think that the community was ready to accept both the compulsory installation of belts in new cars and their compulsory wearing. Then, eight years ago, people were not used to wearing seat belts or seeing them in motor cars; they were a comparatively recent innovation. Their efficacy in saving lives and reducing injury was less well proven then and certainly less well accepted by the community than it is now. I believe that this situation has now changed, as there has been time for the acceptance of the use of belts and, certainly, an acceptance by people right throughout the community of the efficacy of seat belts in the saving of lives and the reduction of injury. I believe the time has now come when we can move to the next stage, which is to require the wearing of belts by those who drive or are passengers.

Mr. Jennings: In other words, you support compulsion.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I do, and I will deal with that point later. I knew that my good

friend the member for Ross Smith or someone else would fling this up at me, and I am willing to deal with it in due course. For the moment, I point out that Victoria has had this provision for more than six months and, only at the beginning of this month, New South Wales also introduced the compulsory wearing of seat belts.

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: It's the beginning of September.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I am sorry, I thought it was August 1. However, that is a difference of only a month. The Minister of Roads and Transport was good enough to circulate to honourable members the quarterly reports of the Road Safety Council; in the report for the quarter commencing April 1, the Chairman (Mr. Boykett) says:

Council has noted the favourable reports of the Victorian compulsory use law and the announced intention of New South Wales to follow suit.

When I first introduced a Bill on this subject one of its chief opponents was the Royal Automobile Association, and I vividly remember attending, one lunchtime—

Mr. Jennings: And the then Premier, Sir Thomas Playford.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes, and whilst he felt under an obligation to move an amendment for compulsory wearing, the then Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Frank Walsh, (all the giants of Parliament of that day) were opposed to this move, and I regarded it as something of an achievement that we got it through the House. However, outside the House one of the chief opponents was the R.A.A. and one day I had to go down to R.A.A. headquarters in Hindmarsh Square to meet the council of that organization to discuss the matter, and I did my best, in a full hour, to convince them that seat belts should be installed in motor cars. Alas, that was without any effect whatever: I was told that was five years before my time, and so on. I mention that only to contrast it with the change of attitude, and I am pleased to say that the R.A.A. has adopted as its policy the compulsory wearing of seat belts.

Mr. Jennings: You were always a radical!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Yes, I have always been a radical. I am willing to meet anything that may come in this way, but I am now fortified in introducing this Bill by the intention of the Government, announced since I gave notice of the Bill, to support it. One of the actions by the previous Government was to set up the Pak Poy committee on road

safety and the report of that committee sets out the benefits to be achieved by using seat belts. I intend to quote from the report and I refer particularly to pages 21 and 22, where the report states:

The seat belt is unlike most other car design standards in that to be effective, it requires the co-operation of the occupants of the vehicle in wearing them. Surveys conducted in South Australia indicate that in 1968 only 27 per cent of drivers actually wore the seat belt when it was fitted, and this percentage was decreasing as compulsory fitting of seat belts extended to a greater number of vehicles. In the United States of America studies indicate a reduction of 30 per cent in serious injuries or fatalities occurring to seat belt wearers in the period when lap belts were most commonly used.

I pause here to say that, in my view, the lap-sash belt is immensely superior to the lap belt and I use one always, as I hope all other honourable members do. The report continues:

In Great Britain, where the lap-sash belt is more commonly used, similar studies report a 50 per cent reduction in injuries of all degrees of severity for seat belt wearers. The benefits accruing to seat belt wearers occur only in the post-accident phase and therefore the potential benefits will decrease as successful accident measures for prevention are implemented. With present accident rates, however, the potential benefit of a 100 per cent acceptance of the wearing of seat belts in South Australia would be a reduction of about 60 fatalities and 1,600 injuries annually to drivers and front seat passengers.

Even though a law makes the use of belts compulsory, I do not suppose that we will get 100 per cent acceptance of it. There will always be people who will break the law, but if we are aiming to reduce fatalities in this State by 60 and injuries by 1,600 we are aiming high indeed. The report goes on:

The proven value of seat belts in the reduction of injury severity makes their use one of the most potentially beneficial of all safety measures.

Curiously (and it would be unfair of me not to refer to this), the report does not recommend the compulsory wearing of seat belts, apparently because (and this is the only reason that I can see given by the report) the enforcement of such a law would seem to be difficult. Well, that has not been the experience in Victoria, although I understand that all the belts worn in that State are three-pointers, lap-sash belts, and therefore, it is much easier to see from outside the vehicle whether a belt is being worn. Nevertheless, even though it may be difficult at times to enforce a law requiring the wearing of belts, I do not consider that this is sufficient reason for not recommending the

compulsory wearing, and to that extent I disagree with the report of the Pak Poy committee. I think it stops short of the logical culmination of the points made on the wearing of belts. The sad fact is that some people in the community are simply not willing to use belts voluntarily, even though they may acknowledge freely the benefits that come from the wearing of belts in the event of an accident.

The reasons for this are not known but we have all had experience of it, I suppose. When this House sits late this evening the Government is kind enough to send us home in taxis, because we cannot use buses or trains. When I use taxis on those occasions (and that is my most frequent use of them) I invariably get out the belt and put it on. When I have done this the driver has always said to me, "You are the first person in 18 months to bother to do that." That is one example. The other day when I was on military duty I saw a couple of soldiers going out in a private car and they were both sitting on their seat belts. That was crazy. They know that in an Army vehicle, if it is fitted with belts, they are obliged to wear them.

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: Did you put them on the mat?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Not yet, but I will speak to them when I see them again and point out the error of their ways, I hope to good effect. All of us can recount a similar experience about the fact that people will not voluntarily use seat belts. No-one knows why this should be so but I have received some letters from people who have complained about wearing seat belts and have set out reasons why they object to this Bill. One letter, from a man at Farrell Flat, states:

Could I please bring to your notice that I object to your proposed private Bill regarding the wearing of seat belts? I object most strongly that this type of legislation should never be applied. However, should your conscience dictate you carry on—

and it does—

and in view of the very poor framing of recent Bills—

I have no comment about that.

The Hon. L. J. King: They are drafted by the same people as before.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The letter continues:

—would you please consider making it your concern to see this Bill states clearly that it only applies to those vehicles compelled by law to have seat belts fitted?

I have been able to reply to that effect. The letter continues:

I am a farmer and see trouble wearing belts while droving stock and carting grain.

Another letter I have from a person living at Tennyson states:

I carry many awkward passengers and there are times when belts would be most inconvenient. Also, among my immediate family and friends there are more cases of benefit because belts were not worn in an accident than in the opposite case.

That is one of the most common and fallacious arguments that is advanced by those opposed to the wearing of belts, and I was amazed, if I may say so, that a person who is, I think, a prominent pathologist in this city used that argument only a few days ago. The letter also states:

We only hear one side published in this belt argument. Who is getting the monetary benefit?

So far as I know, no-one is getting monetary benefit but the whole community will get a benefit from wearing belts. This question of the reluctance of people to wear belts was summed up in an article that appeared in the magazine *Ahead*. I got it only the other day. This is an article put out by the Australian Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, headed "Traffic Safety—a new approach". This paragraph sums it up better than even the letters do. It states:

We have found at the research unit that despite the fact that people know that seat belts are of proven value they choose not to wear them. Why this should be so, we are just finding out—there are many reasons, many of which are bound up with notions of personal invulnerability—"it couldn't happen to me—it's inconceivable". There is also the fact that in many cars the seat belt assemblies are a nuisance and people do not like them.

Like most people in the community I reject those arguments, irrespective of the compulsory wearing of belts. I come now, though, to the point which was raised by interjection by the member for Ross Smith and which is frequently raised against me in particular in my championing of the compulsory use of seat belts—that it is an infringement of personal liberties—

Mr. Jennings: Just like compulsory unionism!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: —and, therefore, should not be allowed. I freely acknowledge that this is, to an extent, an infringement of our personal choice to wear or not to wear a belt but, while I make that acknowledgement freely, I am convinced that the benefits to the individual and to the whole community are so great that we are justified in overriding that principle and enforcing the use of seat belts.

Mr. Payne: The same applies to compulsory unionism.

Mr. Mathwin: You would not get killed if you did not join a union, would you?

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I have made an acknowledgement of my attitude to the principle involved.

Mr. Jennings: You have spoken about compulsory military training and compulsory wearing of seat belts—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I am disappointed that my good friend from Ross Smith should try to reduce the level of discussion of this matter by interjection, because he and I know how important a measure this may be, whatever our personal views on it are. This question of personal freedom and the overriding of it is well summed up in a Department of Motor Transport, New South Wales, publication entitled "Compulsory Wearing of Seat Belts—a Feasibility Study". On page 3 it states:

These arguments are disposed of by a decision at Government level—

that is the decision of New South Wales to make the wearing of belts compulsory—

that compulsion is necessary to secure the greatest good for the greatest number, that society is entitled to protect individuals from their own foolishness, and that it is superficial for the individual to assert that his own death or incapacity because of accident affects only himself.

That, of course, is absolutely true. We may say that injury to ourselves is our own business. Of course it is not: it affects our families, friends and those with whom we work; it affects the whole community. It amounts to a cost in money and in human suffering not only to us but also to other people—and this is only one example of many examples that could be given in which the community believes that compulsion is justified in the interests of all.

Since I gave notice of this Bill (and perhaps because I gave notice of it, although in my notes I say this will be vigorously denied by the Government and its supporters) the Government has announced its support for the compulsory wearing of belts. Well, here is the Bill. I hope it will be passed quickly by this House, go through another place unscathed and come quickly into operation.

I turn now briefly to an explanation of the Bill itself. It is modelled closely on the Victorian Act which, as I say, has been in operation for a number of months and which, according to a report in the *News* (one of many) of the 22nd of last month, is "paying off", according to a senior police officer in that State. Clause 2 of the Bill inserts a definition

of "seat belt". It is not in the present Road Traffic Act; it was unnecessary for the purposes of the amendment inserted in 1963. Clause 3 of the Bill inserts new section 162ab, the operative part of which is as follows:

A person shall not be seated in a motor vehicle that is in forward motion in a seat for which a seat belt is provided unless he is wearing the seat belt and it is properly adjusted and securely fastened.

Honourable members will notice that this applies only in a motor car in forward motion. There are valid objections (valid to some people, although not to me) that it is difficult, if not impossible, for a driver to reverse a car if he is wearing a seat belt. Subsection (2) of the new section provides for exemption by regulation of either persons or classes of persons to whom it is felt that this provision should not apply. That will take care of classes of people perhaps like children under six years of age (it has been suggested that they should not wear belts) and taxi drivers, who say they are getting in and out of their vehicles all the time. This will be a matter for the discretion of the Government and the House, because this will be enforced by means of regulations.

I hope that this Bill will be accepted, as the principle has been accepted, by the Government. I believe this is a proven safety measure. I am quite happy to take the responsibility for the element of compulsion it introduces and for the element of compulsion introduced in 1963. I have never regretted introducing that legislation to this House. I believe it has saved and does save lives of and injuries to South Australians. This measure, when it is passed by this Parliament, will save lives and prevent injuries in even greater numbers than the present legislation does; and it follows irresistibly that, the sooner this law is introduced, the greater will be the number of deaths and injuries avoided.

Mr. WARDLE (Murray): I support this Bill. I notice that the member for Mitcham stressed the importance of its quick passage through this House, so I presume that is an indication that speeches should be short in the hope that the Government will co-operate in the measure. I do not want to quote from any of the reports that the member for Mitcham has quoted from (they are sufficient in their kind) but I want to say several things representing, I believe, a group of people whose responsibility it is to attend to accidents on the roads—the St. John Ambulance Brigade. Having been an operator of an ambulance on

the Princes Highway for over seven years in an ambulance that brought some 1,050 people to hospital, many of them people involved in vehicular accidents, I think I have some appreciation of this problem.

To my mind, the whole matter begins with compulsion, which is something we have to justify within ourselves—whether we are prepared to accept compulsion as being consistent with or against our attitudes to our freedoms as individuals. I believe that, because of a change of mind in our community, more and more people believe that this so-called freedom we have should be surrendered to compulsion. When we think of traffic accidents we all tend to believe that it would never happen to us or to our family. This attitude has been disproved, in that there are few people in the community whose families have not been affected in some way by a vehicular accident. The change of heart in the community has largely arisen because of the effect of motor vehicle accidents on ourselves or on our immediate families.

I wonder why we accept the infringement of our liberty by giving way to traffic on our right; is it because we have discovered that we should do so for our physical good, or for orderly movement, or do we know the consequences that would automatically follow if we did not give way? I believe the matter is as simple as that. My experience has been that there are few situations (and of course people are ready to cite a situation) in which the wearing of a seat belt is a danger. I can recall just one case of a fire in a motor vehicle in which the driver was able to get out of his seat belt. I believe that many cases cited in opposition to the wearing of seat belts are pure supposition. I am sure that those who attend road accidents would say that most people involved in them are saved from serious injury, probably death, because they wore seat belts. Some people say they have been thrown free of a vehicle and their life was thereby saved. However, they are more than lucky, and I am sure that more people are injured or killed by being thrown from a vehicle because of the impact, than there are people whose lives have been lost because they wore a seat belt.

Recently, close friends of mine on their way to Western Australia were in a vehicle that rolled over. Both were more than satisfied that had it not been for the fact that they were wearing seat belts (and about \$2,000 damage was caused to the car) they would have lost their lives. If I had known 10 years

ago that I would be involved in this type of debate, I would have kept strict records of the accidents that I attended to show whether the people did or did not wear seat belts. My experience has proved to me the wisdom of the compulsory wearing of seat belts, because this action will save many lives, much suffering, and reduce the tremendous cost to the community. Therefore, I support the Bill.

Dr. TONKIN (Bragg): I, too, support the Bill, with some reservations that are not serious. I appreciate the Deputy Leader's motives in introducing the Bill and congratulate him on his action. It has become widely accepted in our community that the use of seat belts saves lives, and several published articles and statistics tend to support this attitude. One of the strongest advocates for many years has been Dr. John Birrell, the Victorian Police Surgeon, who has also had much to say about the relationship between alcohol and the road toll. The Royal Australian College of Surgeons strongly favours the use of seat belts and, as the member for Mitcham has pointed out, the Royal Automobile Association now favours their use.

Dr. Birrell and others say that compulsory wearing of seat belts in Victoria has saved many lives, and he quotes statistics which, from memory, prove that there has been a 12 per cent reduction in the number of people killed and a further 12 per cent reduction in the number of people injured since the introduction of compulsory wearing of seat belts in Victoria. Of course, statistics are not always to be trusted, and it is possible that other factors have caused the reductions. We must not be carried away and assume that the compulsory wearing of seat belts has, necessarily, caused the reduction in the figures.

However, our attitude must be positive, and we must assume that wearing seat belts could well have contributed towards the reduction in injuries caused by road accidents. Many injuries are caused by mobility within the car on impact: head injuries, limb injuries, and sometimes crush injuries. Many of these injuries are the result of a person striking his head against a poorly designed rear-vision mirror, or a hard fascia board, or other fittings in the car. Crush injuries are sometimes caused when the driver is thrown against the steering wheel of a car. As the member for Murray has said, many other injuries are caused by people being thrown out of a car, perhaps through a sprung door or through a windscreen.

There is something hideous about the look of a person who has gone through the windscreen and received multiple lacerations. It

is a ghastly sight, which I have seen (and I am sure the member for Murray has seen) many times. Gravel rash, caused when a person is thrown out of a motor car and slides along a metal road or along the side of the road, can be most disfiguring and cause terrible scarring. I do not believe that people who have been thrown out of a motor vehicle come off scotfree: they often suffer severe injury, if not death. It is an exceptional case when a person is not injured, and those who are not are the exceptions that prove the rule. Head injuries (with the possibility of permanent brain damage), broken limbs, chest injuries, and internal injuries are, at the least, a common occurrence.

Undoubtedly the use of seat belts will minimize the possibility of these injuries. However, we must not forget the other side of the picture; that seat belts can cause injuries. This whole subject has been thoroughly discussed in articles in many journals in recent times. It is necessary to consider and balance the possible injuries and possible causes of these injuries. As has been said, seat belts have been known to trap people in cars and to prevent them from taking evasive action where possible, and these belts may certainly cause or lead to whiplash injury. They may cause direct injuries, both externally and internally, at the point of contact with the belt itself.

The whiplash injury is particularly difficult to treat, and I am sure all members are well aware of its nature: the rest of the body is fixed and the head whips forward on the end of the spinal cord. I am sure the member for Goyder, if required, could give us an excellent description not only of the injury itself but also of the *sequelae* and the weeks spent in a jacket and collar. This all comes down to the point that most of the injuries caused in this way are caused by incorrectly designed and incorrectly installed or applied seat belts, and such injuries, even jack-knifing with the lap belt (the driver's head striking the dashboard), are likely to occur through incorrectly adjusted or incorrectly applied seat belts equally as much as through not wearing them. The effect of seat belts in this regard assumes that most accidents take place when the car is proceeding in a forward direction and suddenly stops, and the body, by reason of inertia, moves forward suddenly.

I must say that I am guilty at times of believing that seat belts are perhaps not a good thing, because I was once involved in a car accident when, sitting in a stationary car, I was struck violently from behind, and the car

overturned. This was a most unpleasant experience, which I do not recommend to anyone. I felt that, if I had been wearing a seat belt, I would have been in rather more trouble than if I had not been but, as it happened, it did not really make much difference. However, I think this is the sort of argument that people use, saying "Of course, I wasn't wearing a seat belt, and I was all right." Because they were not wearing a seat belt, they proceed to justify their attitude and say, "I got out of it all right; therefore, it must have been the right thing not to be wearing a seat belt."

Mr. Ferguson: Particularly if you're stationary.

Dr. TONKIN: I am glad the member for Goyder has made it quite clear that I was not moving at the time; nor was I blamed for the accident. This raises the whole question of the design of seat belts and of cars generally. I agree that, regarding the design of belts, the full harness, as worn in aircraft, is by far the most efficient, but it is also the most difficult to manage; it involves the unfortunate problem of a driver not always being able to reach the controls. Once again, this comes back to the design of cars: all controls in cars should be so positioned that they can be easily reached by the driver, sitting in the one position. The lap sash (the three-point type) is, I think, the most efficient form of belt for everyday use, but it must not only be securely fitted: it must be properly fitted whenever it is put on.

There is a special form of belt called the inertia belt, which does not have a rigid and secure fixing but which has provision for inertia to be taken up in elasticity, thus cushioning the sudden impact of the belt on the body. I think this will inevitably become a necessary feature of seat belts in the future. I refer now to the design of cars. In the incident that I recounted, where I suffered a mild form of whiplash injury when being struck from behind, a headrest incorporated in the seat would have saved me from this injury, and I believe that this is another safety feature which will prevent injury, which is gradually becoming accepted and which, I believe, will (and should) be incorporated in the design of new cars. I believe that other measures will be dealt with, not only radical changes in the shape and strength of cars but also in regard to a built-in air cushion that instantaneously inflates on sudden deceleration and comes into the forward driving compartment between the driver and dashboard and between other parts of the car and the exterior.

I emphasize that the need to use seat belts is only one aspect of the whole matter concerning the prevention of injury, and that the wearing of belts does not prevent accidents. We must not sit back and say, "If we have persuaded everyone to wear seat belts, we have done all we can, and the accidents will now look after themselves," although there is a natural tendency to think this way. Urgent investigations are still needed into the basic causes of accidents and, as in medicine and other fields, it is the cause of these accidents that must be treated, rather than their effects. I believe that the use of the breathalyser will do far more to prevent both accidents and injuries than will the use of seat belts but, nevertheless, the use of seat belts is of prime importance in protecting the individual. Those members of this House who are chronic smokers (and I am rather disappointed that the member for Florey is not here at present) will know my views on smoking.

Mr. Hopgood: Has he given it up again?

Dr. TONKIN: I am not sure whether he has or has not, but I would certainly like him to give it up if he has not. People who smoke and who do not want to stop smoking will always find excuses for not giving up smoking; they will always say that it has never been proved that smoking will cause cancer. As I have said many times before, I think there is sufficient evidence to indicate that it is a pretty sure thing. It is not going to help anyone to stop smoking once he has cancer, and it is not going to help anyone to repair his broken bones or brain damage by deciding that he will wear a seat belt after he has had his accident. I repeat that much more research has to be done into this whole problem but, while there is any doubt at all (and I admit that the case for the compulsory wearing of seat belts has not been absolutely proven, and I believe it cannot be absolutely proven), and while there is any chance that the wearing of seat belts will reduce injury, I believe that we must give people that chance.

Therefore, as I said previously, I believe that the wearing of seat belts is desirable and, until someone can come along and tell me that it is not having the effect that many people claim it is having, I think people should be encouraged to wear seat belts.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO secured the adjournment of the debate.

LOAN ESTIMATES

His Excellency the Governor, by message, recommended to the House of Assembly the

appropriation of such amounts of the revenue and other moneys of the State as were required for all the purposes set out in the Loan Estimates for the financial year 1971-72 and the Public Purposes Loan Bill, 1971.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Treasurer) moved:

That the Speaker do now leave the Chair and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the purpose of considering the Loan Estimates for the year ending June 30, 1972, as set out in Parliamentary Paper No. 11.

Motion carried.

In Committee.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have pleasure in presenting to the Committee the Government's proposals for financing the capital works programme in 1971-72. Early next month I shall put before members the details of the proposed Revenue Budget, and at that time I intend to follow the normal practice of reviewing in some detail the financial trends of the past year, of indicating the probable movements of the coming year, and of explaining the Government's overall financial policies. However, in this present statement it is necessary that I make some brief comment about Revenue Account, and in particular because prospective deficits on Revenue Account make it desirable to hold some reserve of funds on Loan Account.

I reported to the Committee 12 months ago that the allocation of new moneys determined for South Australia by the Australian Loan Council was \$112,420,000, of which \$24,000,000 was nominated for housing under the terms of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, and \$88,420,000 thus remained available to support the general programme of capital works. The expectation of repayments and recoveries of expenditures to become available for respending during 1970-71 was \$20,500,000. The Loan Estimates detailed provisions of \$113,220,000 for capital works and advances, and thus it was anticipated that the programme might make it necessary to call on the opening balance of funds to the extent of \$4,300,000. During the year two factors occurred that had a marked effect on the Loan programme. The first, and major one, was the deterioration in Revenue Account, particularly at the end of 1970 and the beginning of 1971, while the second was the increasing requirement of housing funds.

At the beginning of 1970-71, Revenue Account had recorded accumulated deficits of \$4,579,000. The Revenue Budget presented

last September indicated a 1970-71 deficit of \$4,896,000, but this figure took no account of likely substantial increases in expenditures as new wage and salary awards became operative. By February last it was clear that all States faced serious problems with their Revenue Budgets as a result of increases in wage levels and other costs, and a meeting was held by the States with the Commonwealth to consider these problems. At that stage it appeared that South Australia might, unless remedial action were taken, face a current deficit of the order of \$11,500,000. The Commonwealth, after referring to the dangers of inflationary pressures, declined to offer any special assistance to the States, but asked them to take whatever action might be practicable to restrain expenditures on both Revenue and Loan Accounts and to meet again in April to assess the situation. Accordingly, South Australia, along with all other States, took steps to protect and even build up its Loan balances, in order to finance what promised to be an unavoidable large Revenue deficit. Members will recall that the Government also announced in February, and subsequently implemented, a number of revenue-raising measures. As a result of those measures, together with an offer of special assistance by the Commonwealth in April, supplemented by a much greater than expected increase in general financial assistance grants due to the effect of higher wages on the formula used in calculating the grants, and the operation of some salary awards a little later than forecast, it eventually proved possible for the Government to avoid the impending deficit and finally to record a nominal revenue surplus of \$21,000.

In attempting to hold or build up the balance on Loan Account we were materially assisted by increases above estimate in a number of recoveries and repayments. The largest variation was an increase of almost \$1,300,000 for the loans to producers activity, as the Commonwealth made a special contribution as its half-share with the State in reducing the outstanding debt of canneries adversely affected by overseas marketing problems. Increased recoveries were also secured from forestry operations and from disposal of property. In aggregate, repayments and recoveries, at \$24,682,000, were \$4,182,000 above estimate. This increase in funds available for general purposes was offset to the extent of \$1,000,000 as it was found necessary to transfer that amount, with the approval of Loan Council, from the general programme

to the Commonwealth-State Housing programme to meet the requirements of the Housing Trust. The demands upon the trust for provision of low-cost housing reached record levels last year and it was essential that additional low-interest money be made available.

The total of payments for works and purposes financed through the Loan Estimates last year was \$110,666,000, a reduction of \$2,554,000 below the original provision of \$113,220,000. The biggest variations were an excess of \$2,087,000 for Government buildings, land and services, of which \$1,385,000 was for school buildings, and an underspending of \$2,153,000 for waterworks and sewers. The largest single element in the latter arose from a later start than had been anticipated in development of the former sewage farm at Islington. The net effect of the expansion of repayments, the transfer of new funds from general works to housing, and the deferments and net savings of expenditure, was to increase the balance held on Loan Account by \$1,779,000 to an aggregate of \$14,811,000 at June 30, 1971.

Turning now to the volume of new funds expected to become available towards financing a capital works programme in 1971-72, I report that at the meeting of Loan Council in June last the Commonwealth agreed to support a total programme of \$860,000,000 for all State works and housing purposes. This figure is an increase of \$37,000,000, only 4½ per cent above the 1970-71 total of \$823,000,000, which included a special \$3,000,000 for Western Australia. Excluding that special \$3,000,000, which is not repeated this year, the increase is just under 5 per cent. South Australia's share of the total determined is \$117,900,000, which is \$5,480,000 above the allocation of \$112,420,000 for 1970-71. Under the new arrangements agreed between the States and the Commonwealth in June, 1970, and reported to the Committee 12 months ago, \$28,760,000 of our allocation is by way of grant, free of interest and repayment, and \$89,140,000 by way of loan, subject as in the past to payment of interest and sinking fund.

In previous years it has been customary at this stage of the explanation for the Treasurer to specify the allocation of new capital funds between the amount nominated to be borrowed for housing under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement and the amount to be devoted to general works and purposes to be financed by borrowings and capital grants and set out in the Loan Estimates. The most

recent Housing Agreement expired on June 30 last and, while there have been discussions about the method of financing housing in 1971-72 and future years, the Commonwealth has not yet announced whether it is prepared to renew the agreement in its old form or an amended form or to assist State housing programmes in some alternative manner. At this stage, then, the only way the Government can ensure adequate appropriation for housing purposes is to include its proposals in the Loan Estimates along with other works and services, and this has been done. The details of this year's proposals for housing and the comparison with last year are given later in this explanation as part of the departmental review.

In addition to the new funds amounting to \$117,900,000 available to finance the programme, the Government expects to have repayments and recoveries of about \$23,500,000, so that works and advances of \$141,400,000 could be financed without calling on the balance held at June 30 last. The estimate for recoveries at \$23,500,000 is rather less than last year's actual recoveries of \$24,682,000 but well in excess of recoveries in any previous year. The main factors in this estimate are lesser recoveries from the Commonwealth towards tertiary education buildings corresponding to a decline in gross payments from the peak in 1970-71, and lesser recoveries on account of the loans to producers activity which were abnormally high last year for reasons I have explained. Offsets include a probable recovery of portion of the bridging finance earlier advanced to the Natural Gas Pipelines Authority, and anticipated recovery from the Highways Fund of proposed expenditures upon a Kangaroo Island ferry service.

In determining the total of the 1971-72 Loan programme, and in considering the extent to which we might properly draw upon the balance of \$14,811,000 held at June 30 last to supplement new funds coming forward this year, the Government has been influenced to a very great extent by the present situation and future prospects of Revenue Account. In our conferences and discussions between February and June, 1971, all State Governments were seriously concerned about the 1970-71 trends, but they were even more concerned about 1971-72 and the longer term future. The immediate problem of 1970-71 was largely met by increased Commonwealth grants, and the Commonwealth has also offered some assistance towards the 1971-72 problems both by way of a supplementary grant and

by way of an improvement in financial assistance grants as part of the overall arrangements to transfer payroll tax to the States. Nevertheless, it is clear from the detailed submissions put forward that all States are certain to be faced with the prospect of large deficits on Revenue Account in 1971-72 despite the improvement in grants and the opportunity to increase pay-roll tax. The continuing pressures to provide more extensive and higher standards of services in education, health and social welfare, are such that there will be great difficulties in all States' finding in areas under their own control the additional revenue resources to meet them. As members are aware, South Australia is also being assisted by special grants recommended by the Commonwealth Grants Commission but we cannot expect special grants of an order to put us in a better overall situation than the larger States. We therefore cannot possibly escape the common problem.

The cumulative deficit on Revenue Account at June 30 last was \$4,558,000. The present assessment is that 1971-72 will record a further considerable deficit unless there is a quite unexpected favourable trend of events, and deficits beyond 1971-72 must be regarded as a distinct possibility. Of course, the Grants Commission has not yet conducted a full review of South Australia's accounts, and we would hope that when the commission does so we may receive some further grant to supplement the advances first recommended. However, even if the deficits I now mention may eventually be made good in part by such special grants, we will have to finance those shortages in the meantime.

In all the circumstances, the Government considers that it should hold in reserve as much as practicable of the balance of Loan funds held at the end of 1970-71. We have come to the decision that it would not be reasonable or prudent to draw on those funds this year to the extent of more than about \$1,500,000 towards financing capital works. The total appropriation of \$142,940,000 included in the Loan Estimates is based on that decision. It envisages the use, if necessary, of \$1,540,000 of funds in hand to supplement new borrowings, capital grants and repayments, which I have indicated are expected to aggregate about \$141,400,000. I should add that the maintenance for a period of a modest reserve of funds has a further important advantage, that of facilitating a smooth expansion from year to year in the capital programme rather than a greater immediate

increase offset by a subsequent cut-back. In a situation in which the Commonwealth is concerned about inflationary pressures in the economy, and at the same time has been persuaded by the States that significant increases in general revenue grants are essential, it may subsequently take the view that funds for capital purposes should be rigidly controlled, perhaps even more firmly than to permit a repetition of the very small expansion of funds supported for 1971-72. In such a situation the holding of a reserve on Loan Account would help the State Government to avoid any subsequent dislocation of the capital programme. The programme of semi-governmental borrowing approved by the Australian Loan Council in June last for all States totalled \$425,000,000, excluding \$2,000,000 special arrangement later confirmed for Western Australia. South Australia's share is \$21,450,000. The Government proposes that the allocations therefrom be \$9,500,000 to the Electricity Trust, \$6,850,000 to the Housing Trust, and the balance of \$5,100,000 to the larger local government borrowers.

LOANS TO PRODUCERS, \$1,800,000—During 1970-71, the State Bank advanced \$2,566,000 under the Loans to Producers Act. This amount was made up of \$2,249,000 to wineries and distilleries, fruit canning and fruit-packing houses and other processors of fruit, \$138,000 to processors of dairy products, \$66,000 to finance an egg marketing co-operative, and \$113,000 to fish handling co-operatives. Approvals of loans were generally higher last year than in 1969-70, with the largest increase being in advances to wineries and distilleries. Of the total amount advanced, \$2,300,000 was provided from State Loan funds, the remainder having been derived from moneys borrowed under the semi-governmental programme. It is intended that a total of \$2,302,000 will be available this year—\$1,800,000 is to be provided from Loan Account, \$300,000 will be raised as new semi-government loans, and \$202,000 from funds in hand from earlier borrowings.

ADVANCES TO STATE BANK, \$1,000,000—Advances of State Loan funds are required by the State Bank from time to time to provide additional capital for the bank's normal and expanding trading bank services. This year, it is proposed that an advance of \$1,000,000 be made to assist the bank to finance the requirements of its existing customers in the rural sector and in secondary industry and commerce. This provision is entirely apart from funds made available for loans for housing through the State Bank.

SOUTH-WESTERN SUBURBS DRAINAGE, \$1,500,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$966,000. The drainage scheme is estimated to cost almost \$11,000,000, and \$8,365,000 had been spent to the end of June last. The original legislation provided that all of the funds required be provided by the Government in the first instance with half of the cost to be recovered subsequently from those local authorities whose areas will benefit. Members will recall that the Act was amended last year varying the provision relating to the sharing of contributions and the repayments required of the councils involved. Of the estimated total cost of almost \$11,000,000, the Government will provide a special unmatched contribution of \$1,000,000 towards the added costs associated with the work in the lower reaches of the Sturt River and will also bear the full cost of works proposed on the Patawalonga Basin, presently estimated at \$1,240,000. The balance of the cost of about \$8,800,000 will be shared equally by the Government and the councils involved. A provision of \$1,500,000 is proposed this year, \$500,000 being required for improvements to the river channel and Patawalonga Basin, and \$1,000,000 for the construction of drains and associated works.

OTHER URBAN DRAINAGE, \$1,400,000—Provision has been made this year for assistance to councils in connection with schemes associated with both stormwater drainage and effluent drainage. Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 towards stormwater drainage were \$640,000. To assist councils in the disposal of floodwaters, the Government provides \$1 for \$1 subsidies for approved works. Councils are responsible for carrying out the construction of the drains and for finding their share of one-half of the funds required. Work was carried out last year on the eastern suburbs drainage scheme and on other approved schemes in the Adelaide, Enfield, Gawler Mitcham, Noarlunga, Port Adelaide, Prospect, Salisbury, St. Peters, and Woodville council areas. The sum of \$1,250,000 is provided in 1971-72 to continue work on many of these schemes already approved and for such new schemes in the metropolitan area and in country towns as may be approved during the year. This year's provision includes \$150,000 for subsidies for effluent drainage schemes as may be required.

LANDS DEPARTMENT—BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., \$300,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$337,000. The amount intended this year includes \$143,000

for the purchase of special machinery for the Mapping Branch of the Lands Department which is to be installed in the new Government Printing Office building, and \$157,000 for various other items of plant and equipment and for minor works.

IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS, \$1,100,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$649,000, and work commenced on a scheme for the urgent replacement with pipe main of a number of old channels which have latterly been requiring increased amounts of uneconomic maintenance expenditure. A total sum of \$1,100,000 is intended in 1971-72 to continue the channel rehabilitation programme and for work on a number of other projects, including stock and domestic water supplies, extension of mains to new areas at Waikerie, and certain investigation and design work.

RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST, \$800,000—The Renmark Irrigation Trust Act provides for the Government to finance the cost of constructing a new pumping station at Renmark, together with rising mains and ancillary works up to a total of \$1,120,000. Two-sevenths of the amount provided is to be by way of grant and the remainder by way of loan repayable by instalments by the trust. The Act also provides for Government grants not exceeding \$1,000,000 in total to be paid to the trust towards the cost of rehabilitation of the irrigation works and the provision of additional drainage. Actual payments from Loan Account last year were \$300,000, of which \$64,000 was for work on the pumping station and associated works and \$236,000 towards rehabilitation of the irrigation works and for additional drainage. The special committee that supervises the work has reviewed the estimates of costs to complete the pumping station and associated works and it now considers that the cost to complete the programme is \$1,675,000. The Government has agreed to finance this work up to a total of \$1,675,000, and amending legislation will be introduced shortly; \$700,000 is provided this year to continue work on the pumping station and rising mains, and \$100,000 towards channel rehabilitation and drainage.

NATIONAL RESERVES, \$470,000—Last year the Government spent \$333,000 on the acquisition of land for reserves, \$23,000 of this amount being covered by a special contribution from the Australian Conservation Foundation. This year it is proposed to spend on acquisitions the \$167,000 remaining out of the foundation's gift of \$190,000 and also to pro-

vide about \$300,000 of State funds for further acquisitions, structures and other improvements.

AFFORESTATION AND TIMBER MILLING, \$3,000,000—Actual payments on the forestry undertaking in 1970-71 were \$3,118,000, of which \$3,068,000 was provided from Loan Account, and \$50,000 from special advances from the Commonwealth under the terms of the Softwood Forestry Agreements Act. For 1971-72, a total amount of \$3,300,000 is intended, \$3,000,000 to be provided from Loan Account and \$300,000 from Commonwealth advances under the Softwood Forestry Agreement. The major provisions include \$500,000 for forest establishment and development, \$775,000 for preparation of land and planting, and \$375,000 for the purchase of suitable land as it becomes available. At Mount Gambier, \$30,000 is required to complete the construction of a new regional office, \$150,000 for log debarking and chipping equipment, and \$100,000 to reorganize the wood preservation plant. In addition to the expenditure of new Loan funds, about \$7,700,000 will be expended upon felling and hauling and upon sawmilling expenses, which will be charged against a working account and subsequently recovered out of receipts from timber sales.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION, \$7,900,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$7,745,000. Major works completed during the year included the construction of six diesel-electric locomotives, six suburban railcars, four joint stock power vans, and projects for freight waggons. For the Way and Works Branch, \$3,300,000 is provided this year. The major provision is \$1,950,000 for works such as track re-laying, bridges and culverts, signalling and safety devices, minor buildings and improvements to yards. Included is \$200,000 for houses for employees and \$275,000 for plant and sundries. In addition, \$875,000 is proposed towards the special programme of upgrading main lines. This special programme is estimated to cost about \$5,050,000, of which \$1,136,000 had been spent to the end of June last. The Rolling Stock Branch requires \$4,600,000 in 1971-72, and of this \$1,101,000 is proposed for progress payments for eight diesel-electric locomotives. The completion of joint stock sleeping cars will cost \$262,000, and \$70,000 is required for the provision of refreshment facilities on diesel railcars. In addition, \$1,775,000 is provided for the construction of new freight vehicles and \$559,000 for modifications and improvements to freight vehicles. During 1970-71 the standardization works between

Port Pirie and Broken Hill were almost completed. The estimated total cost of the standardization work being undertaken by the South Australian Railways is about \$45,000,000, and \$44,345,000 had been spent to the end of June last. All work on the scheme should be completed during 1971-72. The funds are being provided initially by the Commonwealth, with the State accepting responsibility for repaying three-tenths of the cost over a period of 50 years.

HARBORS ACCOMMODATION, \$3,700,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$5,307,000. Major works completed during the year were bulk loading facilities at Port Giles at a cost of \$2,630,000 and berthing facilities at Port Adelaide for interstate container and roll-on-roll-off traffic. Due to a rearrangement of commitments in 1971, payments for 1970-71 were higher than previously expected, with a consequent reduced requirement in 1971-72. An amount of \$3,700,000 is proposed this year. Of this, \$500,000 is required for further work on widening and deepening the navigation channel between the Outer and Inner Harbours. The scheme includes extending the swinging basin, providing beacons in new positions, and reclaiming low-lying land. The estimated total cost of this work is \$6,845,000, of which \$6,232,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$1,230,000 in 1970-71. To continue construction of the new passenger terminal at Outer Harbour, \$450,000 is provided. It is estimated to cost \$1,640,000, and \$900,000 had been spent to the end of June last.

Expenditure of \$500,000 is proposed to commence work on a roll-on-roll-off berth at Port Adelaide to improve facilities for the interstate steel traffic. The work comprises a new wharf, dredging of the berth and its approaches, heavy duty paving of the wharf apron, an approach roadway, and essential services. The estimated total cost is \$1,507,000. An amount of \$450,000 is provided to commence construction of a high-capacity bulk grain loading facility at Port Lincoln at an estimated total cost of \$7,050,000. The scheme consists of an extension of the existing shipping pier for a length of 1,950ft., providing an inner berth for unloading phosphate rock and two outer berths for the loading of grain. An amount of \$690,000 is required for further work on dredging and other port improvements at Thevenard to enable larger vessels to engage in the export of gypsum, grain and salt. The

estimated total cost is \$3,260,000, of which \$2,570,000 has been spent to the end of June last, including \$1,920,000 in 1970-71. An amount of \$110,000 is provided for modifications to the loading gantry at Thevenard associated with the reconstruction of the shipping pier.

FISHING HAVENS AND FORESHORE IMPROVEMENTS, \$225,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$140,000. This year \$225,000 is proposed for work on improved facilities, the more important being \$50,000 for a new jetty at Wallaroo, \$25,000 to commence work on a new pier at Port Lincoln, and \$25,000 to commence a slipway and storage area at Beachport.

WATERWORKS AND SEWERS, \$32,850,000—Actual payments from Loan Account for water and sewer works in 1970-71 were \$30,527,000. During the year the foothills trunk main, a water supply scheme at Beachport, and a number of large storage tanks to improve supplies and distribution in the metropolitan area, were completed. Sewerage schemes were completed and brought into commission at Grange-Fulham, Modbury and Tea Tree Gully, Athelstone and Millicent. Work was carried out on a number of projects which were still in progress at the end of June, 1971, and I shall comment on these when dealing with the provisions for 1971-72, for which \$32,850,000 in all is proposed.

Metropolitan Waterworks, \$11,969,000—An amount of \$113,000 is required for final contract payments and miscellaneous charges for additional pumping plant for the Mannum-Adelaide main. This scheme, estimated to cost \$1,951,000, will enable the maximum annual capacity of the main to be increased from 21,500,000,000gall. to 26,000,000,000gall. An amount of \$6,590,000 is provided to continue work on the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main which will augment the metropolitan water supply by pumping water from the Murray River for discharge into the Onkaparinga River. The scheme involves the laying of 30 miles of main and the construction of three pumping stations and four storages. A total of 18 miles of pipemain has been laid, and construction of the pumping stations and storages is well advanced. Contracts for electrical and mechanical installations have been let. During 1971-72 it is proposed to lay the remaining 12 miles of pipemain and to continue work on the pumping stations and storages. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$25,300,000, and \$11,697,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including

\$5,837,000 during 1970-71. An amount of \$512,000 is proposed for work on approach trunk mains and alterations to existing mains in connection with the West Lakes housing development scheme. These departmental works are estimated to cost \$1,045,000.

Country Waterworks, \$8,313,000—An amount of \$859,000 is provided to continue the construction of a main to connect the Tod trunk main near Lock with Kimba. The scheme is estimated to cost \$2,867,000, and \$1,423,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$665,000 in 1970-71. A submission has been made to the Commonwealth Government for financial assistance towards the scheme under the National Water Resources Development Programme. An amount of \$788,000 is required for work on a scheme to provide the township of Murray Bridge and adjacent farm lands with an adequate water supply by a branch main and booster station from the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main. The project is estimated to cost \$1,100,000. An amount of \$280,000 is provided for further payments on the construction of the main from Swan Reach to Stockwell. All mains work and pumping station structures have been completed and expenditure this year will complete the installation of pumping plant. The scheme is estimated to cost \$7,800,000, and \$7,190,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$891,000 in 1970-71. An amount of \$2,100,000 is proposed for further work on construction of a main from Tailem Bend to Keith. Including about 500 miles of branch mains, the scheme is estimated to cost \$14,256,000, and \$10,047,000 had been spent to June 30 last, including \$2,150,000 in 1970-71. Construction work on the main pipeline and the pumping stations has been completed, and the laying of branch mains and the installation of pumping plant is in progress. A special grant of \$6,000,000 is being provided by the Commonwealth under the National Water Resources Development Programme to assist with the scheme, and \$1,500,000 of Commonwealth funds has been advanced in each of the last two years. The proposed expenditure in 1971-72 contemplates a further Commonwealth contribution of \$1,500,000, and this amount is shown as a repayment in the Loan Estimates. An amount of \$1,203,000 is provided to continue the enlargement and replacement of the old Tod trunk main, the estimated total cost of which is \$15,919,000. Expenditure to the end of June last was \$6,911,000, including \$1,095,000 during 1970-71. Funds are also provided for water supply schemes at

many other country areas as detailed in the Loan Estimates.

Metropolitan Sewerage, \$6,374,000—The sum of \$180,000 is required for final payments for the Bolivar Sewage Treatment Works, which are estimated to cost a total of \$25,333,000. The works are in full operation, and they provide complete sewage treatment for a contributing population of 600,000 persons from the Adelaide-Elizabeth drainage areas. Also, \$223,000 is provided to complete work on the Christies Beach Sewage Treatment Works. The works will serve the extensive housing development at Port Noarlunga, Christies Beach and surrounding areas. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$2,762,000, of which \$2,539,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$1,223,000 during 1970-71. Then \$982,000 is proposed to continue work on major extensions at the Glenelg Sewage Treatment Works, the estimated total cost of which is \$2,930,000. The proposed extensions will increase the capacity of the plant by about 40 per cent; \$127,000 is also provided to complete extensions to the effluent utilization works at the Glenelg treatment works to permit maximum use of reclaimed water by the surrounding recreation areas and the Adelaide airport. Further, \$450,000 is provided to continue reconstruction within the south-western suburbs drainage area to cope with increasing outflows and to provide for the sewerage of the Blackwood and Belair area. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$2,600,000, and \$2,004,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$380,000 in 1970-71. Funds are also provided for sewerage of many new housing areas, including Blackwood and Belair, Christies Beach and Noarlunga, and West Lakes.

Country Sewerage, \$2,470,000—The sum of \$400,000 is provided to continue work on the extension of sewerage facilities to Gawler. Reticulation works within the town are in progress, and \$390,000 was spent during 1970-71. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$3,670,000, and \$1,074,000 had been spent to the end of June last. An amount of \$280,000 is proposed for further work on the sewerage scheme at Murray Bridge, which will provide sewerage facilities in the town and prevent pollution of the Murray River. The treatment works are in operation and the laying of sewer mains is almost complete. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$1,638,000, and \$1,344,000 had been spent to the end of June, 1971, including \$412,000 during last year. Then \$750,000 is required for work on the sewerage

scheme at Port Pirie, and satisfactory progress is being made in the installation of sewers. The scheme is estimated to cost \$4,225,000, of which \$1,142,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$978,000 in 1970-71. Finally, \$330,000 is provided to commence work on a sewerage scheme at Victor Harbour, the estimated total cost of which is \$1,570,000.

Other works—Included in the appropriation for waterworks and sewers is a provision of \$300,000 towards the development costs of that portion of the old Islington sewage farm area which is to be developed and sold for industrial use. The development involves the provision of heavy duty roads, stormwater drainage, water supply and sewerage facilities.

Murray River Weirs, Dams, Locks, etc., \$500,000—Provision has been made for a State contribution of \$500,000 towards the cost of capital works being undertaken in terms of the River Murray Waters Agreement.

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, LAND AND SERVICES, \$36,950,000.

Hospital Buildings, \$11,950,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$10,669,000. During the year the new Strathmont centre for the intellectually retarded was completed at a cost of \$6,600,000. The main proposals for 1971-72 are:

Royal Adelaide Hospital—A sum of \$220,000 is provided for further work on the rebuilding scheme for the hospital, which is now virtually complete. The scheme is estimated to cost \$19,700,000, and \$19,267,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$267,000 during 1970-71.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital—An amount of \$2,300,000 is proposed to continue work on major additions at the hospital involving a new north wing, an additional floor over the existing ward block, a new pharmacy, additional theatres, and an enlarged outpatients department and X-ray facilities. The additions are estimated to cost \$7,530,000, and \$5,063,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$2,315,000 in 1970-71.

Modbury Hospital—A sum of \$4,500,000 is provided to continue work on the first stage of the new hospital at Modbury; \$2,497,000 was spent last year on the main hospital building comprising the ward block, surgical and casualty suites, outpatients department and the pharmacy. Work was also carried out on a new nurses home designed to accommodate 225 nursing staff. This work will continue in 1971-72 and it is proposed also to commence work on accommodation for resident medical staff and the hospital workshops. The

estimated total cost of the first stage is \$11,900,000, and \$3,334,000 had been spent to the end of June last.

Port Augusta Hospital—An amount of \$1,110,000 is provided to continue work on the redevelopment of the Port Augusta Hospital to provide modern accommodation for patients, a new kitchen and dining room, nurses home and training school, and a boiler house and laundry. The estimated total cost of the scheme is \$4,110,000, and \$2,021,000 had been spent to the end of June last, including \$1,867,000 in 1970-71.

Port Pirie Hospital—A sum of \$400,000 is proposed to commence work on the redevelopment of the Port Pirie Hospital, which is to be carried out as two separate projects. The first project comprises a children's and maternity ward complex, nurses training centre, administration accommodation, resident medical staff quarters, bulk store and mortuary, and is estimated to cost \$1,700,000. The second project comprises a geriatric ward of 60 beds, physiotherapy unit, and a new nurses home, and is estimated to cost about \$1,500,000.

School Buildings, \$19,300,000—During 1970-71 actual payments from Loan Account totalled \$17,885,000, which was made up as follows:

	\$
The completion of 29 projects with a total value of \$11,545,000 for new schools or major additions to schools, a teachers college and adult education centres.....	5,138,000
Work under 46 projects for new schools or major additions to schools, technical colleges, and teachers colleges with a total value of \$15,664,000 still in progress at the end of June, 1971.....	4,039,000
Minor new buildings.....	587,000
Library buildings.....	817,000
Prefabricated classrooms and transportable units.....	1,650,000
Flexible school units.....	172,000
Purchase of land, buildings and residences for school purposes	1,222,000
Minor works, including grading and paving of school yards, fencing, roadways, toilets and facilities, furniture and equipment, subsidized works, and preliminary investigations and design.....	4,260,000
	<hr/> \$17,885,000

Work to the extent of about \$2,300,000 for science laboratories, technical training projects, teachers colleges and secondary school libraries, included in this aggregate of \$17,885,000,

was supported by specific purpose Commonwealth grants. The Government promised Parliament, when announcing its estimated 1970-71 school buildings programme of \$16,500,000, that it would endeavour, if at all practicable, to expand that programme, which it regarded as a bare minimum. In fact, the expenditure was increased beyond that minimum by about 8½ per cent, notwithstanding that the works programme in the aggregate had to be contained.

For 1971-72 the proposals for school buildings and associated works total \$19,300,000, a further 8 per cent increase, and it is intended that these funds will be applied as follows:

	\$
Work under 46 projects with a total value of \$15,664,000 for new schools or major additions to schools, technical colleges, and teachers' colleges which were in progress at June 30, 1971	7,618,000
The commencement of 43 projects with a total value of \$12,941,000, for new schools or major additions to schools, technical colleges, and an adult education centre	3,950,000
Minor new buildings	450,000
Library buildings	332,000
Prefabricated classrooms and transportable units	1,400,000
Purchase of land, buildings, and residences for school purposes	1,550,000
Minor works, including grading and paving of school yards, fencing, roadways, toilets and facilities, furniture and equipment, subsidized works and preliminary investigations and design	4,000,000
	<hr/>
	\$19,300,000

Included in the proposed expenditures are science laboratories, technical colleges, teachers colleges and libraries projects towards which the Commonwealth will continue to contribute unmatched grants in accordance with its legislation. The extent of Commonwealth support in 1971-72 for these purposes is estimated at about \$3,200,000. A table listing school works completed in 1970-71, works under construction at June 30, 1971, and works to be commenced or designed in 1971-72 appears as Appendix I.

Other Government Buildings, \$5,700,000—Included in this provision is the amount proposed for various police and courthouse buildings which in the past have been shown in a

separate section in the Loan Estimates. Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$6,533,000. Works completed during the year included remodelling the wine cellars at the Agricultural College Department, new police stations at Blanchetown and Elliston, a new library and administration wing at the Botanic Garden and a number of projects for the Agriculture Department. The more important provisions for 1971-72 are reviewed in turn:

Agricultural College Department—A sum of \$590,000 is provided to continue work on the first stage of a scheme for major extensions at the college for which the estimated total cost is \$700,000. The work comprises a new dormitory block for 70 students, kitchen and dining-room facilities, and a laundry and stores building. Of this programme, \$95,000 had been spent to the end of June last. The cost is being shared equally with the Commonwealth in terms of special Commonwealth legislation providing financial support for colleges of advanced education.

Public Health Department—An amount of \$100,000 is proposed for work on a further five dental clinics, three of which will be at country schools and two at metropolitan schools. During 1970-71, eight dental clinics were completed at country centres and two in the metropolitan area.

Government Printing Department—The sum of \$400,000 is required to commence construction of a new printing office and mapping branch at Netley. The project is estimated to cost \$5,140,000, and incorporates a mapping branch building comprising photogrammetry and cartography production areas together with ancillary training facilities.

Immigration, Publicity and Tourist Bureau Department—An amount of \$300,000 is provided to commence work on a new administration building for the Tourist Bureau. The building is estimated to cost \$1,150,000 and will comprise a basement, ground floor, mezzanine, and four upper floors.

Minister of Roads and Transport Department—Provision is made this year for the construction of a road safety instruction centre at Marion. The centre has been designed as the permanent base for all road safety activities carried out by the Road Safety Council of South Australia, and it includes administrative headquarters, lecture rooms, workshops and instruction areas, as well as a comprehensive road system. The project

is to be carried out in two stages and is estimated to cost \$467,000. Stage I, estimated to cost \$292,000, comprises the road system, drainage, fencing and the administration building. The second stage will include the instruction and maintenance building, classroom, field observation and toilet blocks, and general lighting: \$292,000 is provided to enable the first stage to be completed during 1971-72. Provision was made in amending legislation last year for a portion of the additional revenue from increased driving licence fees to be used for purposes associated with road safety. The cost of the centre will be recouped from those special funds held within the Highways Fund, but it is not expected that sufficient funds will have accumulated by June 30 next to cover the full cost incurred in 1971-72, and accordingly Loan Account will need to carry a part of the cost temporarily.

Police Department—The sum of \$50,000 is provided to commence the fourth and final stage of the development scheme for the Police Training Academy at Fort Largs. It is estimated to cost \$300,000. An amount of \$395,000 is proposed for work on a number of new police stations as set out in the Loan Estimates, and \$140,000 for work on divisional headquarters at Berri and Whyalla.

Prisons Department—A total of \$300,000 is provided to continue work on the new gaol at Port Augusta. The estimated total cost is \$745,000, and \$384,000 had been spent to the end of June last. The scheme also provides for women prisoners to be accommodated in the existing gaol, and \$51,000 is set aside for the necessary conversions.

ADVANCES FOR HOUSING—\$26,500,000—I have already explained that, because the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement expired on June 30 last and has not yet been revised or renewed, it is necessary to include in the Loan Estimates this year the major allocations of funds for housing purposes. Last year the Government originally nominated \$24,000,000 to be borrowed under the agreement but, because of very heavy pressures on available housing funds, Loan Council approval was secured for the diversion of a further \$1,000,000 from the general works programme, and new borrowings under the terms of the agreement were accordingly \$25,000,000. These new funds were supplemented by \$1,900,000 of net recoveries of interest and repayments of previous advances within the Home Builders Account, so that a total of

\$26,900,000 was available for distribution. The allocations were \$11,750,000 to the Housing Trust, \$13,250,000 to the State Bank, and \$1,900,000 to building societies. In addition, there was a very small expenditure of \$2,000 directly from Loan Account under the Advances for Homes Act administered by the State Bank for the Government on an agency basis. The latter provision was required to supplement \$150,000 carried over from 1969-70 in providing for minor extensions and additions to houses previously financed under the scheme.

This year a further small provision of \$50,000 is included for the Advances for Homes scheme and is again shown in the Estimates with the group of State Bank activities operated on an agency basis. The major provisions which compare directly with the aggregate of \$26,900,000 handled under the housing agreement last year will this year total about \$28,600,000, that is to say, an increase of about \$1,700,000. This total of about \$28,600,000 comprises the \$26,500,000 of new funds included in the Estimates and the net recoveries expected to build up in the Home Builders Account. The \$26,500,000 of new funds comprises a proposed \$14,250,000 for State Bank lending and a proposed \$12,250,000 for the Housing Trust, each to be advanced directly from Loan Account. The Home Builders Account will continue to record transactions flowing from previous borrowings under the housing agreement, and it will be convenient to make the current proposed advance of about \$2,000,000 to building societies from the net recoveries to that account.

State Bank of South Australia, Housing Loans, \$14,250,000—The State Bank is able to supplement the new funds allocated by the Government by recoveries of previous advances made to individuals and, last year, after borrowing \$13,250,000 of new agreement funds, the bank actually made advances of about \$16,000,000 to 1,900 individual borrowers. In 1971-72 the new borrowings of \$14,250,000, together with recoveries, are expected to permit total advances of about \$17,000,000 to about 2,000 prospective homeowners.

South Australian Housing Trust, \$12,250,000—In 1970-71 the trust used new borrowings of \$11,750,000 under the housing agreement, semi-government borrowing of \$6,400,000, and cash balances and internal funds from house sales, depreciation provisions, etc., to finance a total capital programme of \$27,400,000. This was

made up of about \$24,100,000 for house construction, including land and site development, about \$2,830,000 for industrial and commercial buildings, and about \$460,000 for plant, equipment and miscellaneous items. During the year the trust completed 2,213 housing units compared with 1,712 in 1969-70. Dwellings for sale numbered 362, including 13 cottage flats; those for rental 1,319, including 260 flats and 124 cottage flats; and those under the rental-purchase scheme 532. The total of 2,213 comprised 262 in the Elizabeth and Smithfield Plains area, 347 in the Christies Beach and O'Sullivan Beach area, 696 in other parts of the metropolitan area, and 908 in other country areas. At June 30, 1971, there were 1,769 houses or flats under construction, of which 290 were in the Elizabeth area, 311 in the Christie Downs area, 406 in other localities in the metropolitan area, and 762 in other country areas. For 1971-72 the main source of funds will be the allocation of \$12,250,000 from Loan Account. It is proposed that it be supplemented by semi-government borrowing of about \$6,850,000 and internal funds of \$10,100,000, to finance a total capital programme of \$29,200,000.

[Sitting suspended from 6 to 7.30 p.m.]

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The trust expects to commence work on 2,224 houses or flats during 1971-72, including 874 in the country. The total number of dwellings on which work will be carried out (that is, the total of those now under construction and those to be commenced) is thus 3,993 and this is the figure shown in the details of the Loan Estimates. It is also proposed to carry out an expanded programme totalling \$3,900,000 for industrial and commercial buildings, which is a record, well above that of any previous year.

ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA—LOAN TO, \$4,500,000—Expenditure by the trust in 1970-71 on the capital works programme of the electricity undertaking was \$20,200,000. The No. 4 unit of 120,000 kilowatt capacity at the Torrens Island conventional steam station was commissioned in June, 1971, and completes the section "A" of this station. Construction of the first stage of section "B" Torrens Island will continue with progress being made on the erection of the main building, the chimney and other associated civil works, and initial progress payments are to be made on the first boiler. The first gas turbine unit is to be installed at the new Dry Creek

station by July 31, 1972, and the second unit is to be delivered by October, 1972. Development of the metropolitan 275,000-volt system will continue with the provision of a new circuit between Para and Magill substations, involving a new section of line from Para to Norton Summit, and rearrangement of the existing lines. A start will be made on a new 275,000-volt line from Para to connect into the 132,000-volt system at Tailem Bend. The scheme will reinforce supply into the South-East, and work will continue on the construction of the second 132,000-volt transmission line between Tailem Bend and Mount Gambier.

The schemes to supply the Murray Bridge to Hahndorf and the Swan Reach to Stockwell pumping stations will be completed. A start will be made on the 132,000-volt development to supply increasing loads on Yorke Peninsula. Most of the provision for 1971-72 is required for the early stages of construction of a transmission line from Hummocks to Ardrossan. It is expected that the scheme to supply mid-Eyre Peninsula will be completed with supply extended to Lock, Darke Peak and Caralue, and the pumping stations being established by the Engineering and Water Supply Department. Considerable progress will be made on a new transmission line from Willunga to Yankalilla and Rapid Bay to improve the reliability of supply to these areas and to Kangaroo Island. The rural programme is the smallest for many years. Most of the areas of the State which it is feasible to supply economically have now been, or are being, reticulated, and the proposed programme is concentrated in the South-East.

During 1971-72 the trust proposes to spend \$25,400,000 on capital works of which \$4,500,000 is to be provided from State Loan funds, \$9,500,000 is to be raised by the trust from financial institutions and the public, and the balance of \$11,400,000 is to be met from the trust's internal funds. The main proposals set out in the Loan Estimates relating to power generation are \$4,090,000 for further work on the Torrens Island power station and \$5,140,000 to continue the construction of the gas turbine power station at Dry Creek. Of the latter amount, \$4,030,000 is proposed for progress payments on turbo-alternators and associated equipment, including gas supply and plant, and \$1,110,000 for civil works, including main building, roads, drainage, and electrical equipment. The major part of the trust's works expenditure will be upon improving, reinforcing, and extending its transmission system, and this

is expected to involve \$14,310,000 in all. Noteworthy in this is \$2,480,000 providing for continuing work on the second South-Eastern transmission line.

MUNICIPAL TRAMWAYS TRUST—LOAN TO, \$1,000,000—The major re-equipment programme to replace the older diesel bus fleet with diesel vehicles designed for one-man operation, being undertaken by the trust, requires new loans aggregating about \$3,000,000 being made available to the trust over a period of three years. The sum of \$1,000,000 was advanced from Loan Account in 1970-71 and it is proposed that a further \$1,000,000 be provided this year.

METROPOLITAN AND EXPORT ABATTOIRS BOARD—LOAN TO, \$300,000—The Government proposes to provide up to \$300,000 this year, if necessary, to assist the board in financing its essential capital programme. It has already advanced \$150,000 to meet immediate necessities. It may be practicable for the board to borrow the balance of its requirement directly from a lending institution under terms and conditions applicable to semi-government borrowers, in which case the remainder of the appropriation will lapse.

INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE CORPORATION—LOAN TO, \$50,000—The main source of funds for the corporation to use in its assistance to small industries is expected to be semi-government borrowings of up to \$300,000 each year. Such a borrowing of \$300,000 was arranged in June last and it is proposed in 1971-72 to borrow a further \$300,000 direct from a lending institution. In addition, a small provision of \$50,000 was made available from Loan Account last year and the cash balance of \$20,000 in the Country Secondary Industries Fund was taken over by the corporation. It is unlikely that advances directly from Loan Account will be necessary in 1971-72, but a small appropriation of \$50,000 is included in the Loan Estimates in case further support should be required.

FESTIVAL THEATRE AND ASSOCIATED CULTURAL FACILITIES, \$1,700,000—The Government has arranged to contribute \$3,950,000 to the Adelaide City Council towards a festival theatre estimated to cost \$5,750,000. So that the impact on Loan Account might be spread evenly over a period, amounts totalling \$2,500,000 have been set aside in a special account during the last three years. The proposed appropriation for this purpose in

1971-72 is \$900,000, taking the total of such appropriation to \$3,400,000. Accordingly, it may be expected that some \$550,000 will need to be appropriated next year. Actual advances to the council to June 30 last to finance construction had amounted to \$800,000. It is likely that advances of about \$2,500,000 will be required as work proceeds in 1971-72, with the balance of about \$650,000 being advanced in 1972-73. In addition to the normal annual appropriation of \$900,000 towards the theatre, a contribution of \$800,000 is appropriated in the Loan Estimates as a first instalment towards a cultural complex associated with the theatre, and which is presently under discussion with the City Council. It is anticipated that this matter will be the subject of enabling legislation in due course.

TRANSPORT RESEARCH, \$500,000—The Government proposes to finance a programme of research and development relating to public passenger transport. A first contribution of \$500,000 in 1971-72 is provided. A more detailed announcement will be made later in the session as planning progresses, and if necessary enabling legislation will be submitted.

FORESHORE PROTECTION, \$250,000—At present a committee is working upon methods of preserving from erosion and rehabilitating our foreshore along St. Vincent Gulf near Adelaide, and preliminary reports and recommendations have already been received by the Minister for Conservation. Provision is made tentatively for \$250,000 for this purpose, which will probably extend to land acquisitions, stockpiling of sand, and other protective measures, and will extend over several years. It is anticipated that an authority will be set up in conjunction with the councils concerned, and that this, too, will involve enabling legislation.

KANGAROO ISLAND FERRY SERVICE, \$900,000—This matter is already under close review, but as yet it is not possible to determine the exact nature of the works and equipment involved, the form of control, or the extent of funds required. A provision of \$900,000 is presently made. As the costs of the programme will be reimbursed out of the Highways Fund in accordance with legislation approved last session, they will not ultimately impinge upon the Loan Account. Accordingly, this \$900,000 is duplicated in the estimated loan repayments.

UNIVERSITY AND ADVANCED EDUCATION BUILDINGS, \$6,600,000—The 1970-72 capital programme recommended by the Australian

Universities Commission and the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Advanced Education, and accepted by the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments, is for a total expenditure of \$20,062,000 made up of:

University of Adelaide.....	6,352,000
Flinders University of S.A. . . .	4,460,000
S.A. Institute of Technology .	9,000,000
Residential Colleges.....	250,000

The programme was rather peaked last financial year and, accordingly, the appropriations were much more than one-third of the three-year commitment. State and Commonwealth grants aggregating \$9,328,000 were made. For 1971-72 the requirement is somewhat less at \$6,600,000. The Commonwealth contributions equal to one-half of the cost of progress work under the approved programme are credited to Loan Account as received quarterly and are included in the estimate of Loan repayments.

NON-GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTION BUILDINGS, \$5,000,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$2,749,000. The major building projects at non-government hospitals and institutions for which grants are proposed this year are as follows:

Barmera Hospital—The cost of building this 44-bed hospital and nurses quarters to replace the existing Government hospital is estimated at \$1,250,000. The full cost will be met by the Government; \$800,000 has been provided for this year.

Home for Incurables—The Government intends to meet the full building cost of \$11,000,000 for the expansion programme spread over several years; 400 additional beds will double the present accommodation; \$800,000 is provided so that construction may commence this year.

Karoonda Hospital—Subsidies are to be provided towards the cost of erecting a completely new 14-bed hospital expected to cost \$335,000; \$160,000 has been provided as subsidy for this year.

Keith Hospital—The Government is providing subsidies towards the cost of increasing the bed capacity of this hospital from 33 to 52 beds. The estimated total cost is \$650,000, and a subsidy of \$320,000 is proposed for this year.

North-Eastern Community Hospital—This project envisages a complex of 40 beds in the general hospital section, 44 beds in the nursing home section, and domiciliary services. The cost of the hospital section is expected to be \$1,212,000, and a subsidy of \$550,000 is provided this year.

South Coast District Hospital (Victor Harbour)—The Government is subsidizing the cost of a 20-bed extension to the hospital block, and an additional 16-bed extension to the nurses home; \$250,000 is provided this year towards the total estimated cost of \$529,000.

Western Community Hospital—A new 56-bed hospital is to be built at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000. The Government will provide funds by way of subsidy, and for this year \$250,000 has been provided.

MINES DEPARTMENT, \$325,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$264,000. The sum of \$325,000 is provided this year for capital items to be used in the programme exploration and development of the State's mineral resources; \$47,000 is proposed to commence the construction of new administration and workshop buildings at the Naracoorte Depot, and \$278,000 for new and replacement vehicles, minor additions to buildings, and for plant and equipment.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—SCHOOL BUSES, \$395,000—Actual payments from Loan Account in 1970-71 were \$379,000. It is intended that \$395,000 be available this year for the purchase of additional and replacement buses for the transport of schoolchildren in country areas.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD—DATA PROCESSING EQUIPMENT, \$380,000—New equipment is being purchased for the Automatic Data Processing Centre to enable development in data processing to continue and to permit the eventual phasing out of the original equipment at the end of its economic life; \$920,000 was provided from Loan Account last year for these purposes and \$380,000 is required this year to continue with the programme of upgrading and replacing equipment.

I ask leave to have the accompanying appendices incorporated in *Hansard* without my reading them.

Leave granted.

APPENDIX I
SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Major Completed Works, 1970-71

Locality	Final Cost	Type of Construction
Primary and Infants Schools—	\$	
New Schools—		
Athelstone Infants.....	145,000	Brick
Ingle Farm Central Primary and Infants	379,000	Brick
Ingle Farm East Primary and Infants . .	375,000	Brick
Modbury West Primary.....	237,000	Brick
Morphett Vale Town Infants.....	144,000	Brick
Para Hills East Primary and Infants	352,000	Brick
Major Additions—		
Bordertown Primary.....	344,000	Samcon
East Marden Primary.....	45,000	Samcon
Findon Infants.....	138,000	Brick
Madison Park Primary.....	44,000	Samcon
Marree Primary.....	149,000	Samcon
Mitchell Park Primary and Infants	23,000	Samcon
Mount Barker Primary.....	24,000	Samcon
Nangwarry Primary.....	190,000	Samcon
Newton Infants.....	130,000	Brick
Salisbury Primary.....	310,000	Samcon
South Downs Primary.....	46,000	Samcon
Willsden Primary.....	295,000	Samcon
High Schools—		
New Schools—		
Marden.....	854,000	Modular masonry
Royal Park.....	940,000	Modular masonry
Smithfield.....	760,000	Modular masonry
Major Additions—		
Clare.....	960,000	Brick
Northfield.....	158,000	Modular masonry
Urrbrae.....	530,000	Brick
Technical High Schools—		
New School—		
Christies Beach.....	910,000	Brick
Major Additions—		
Goodwood Boys.....	68,000	Brick
Teachers Colleges—		
New College—		
Salisbury.....	2,995,000	Brick
General—		
Adult Education Centres—		
Adelaide.....	75,000	Brick and stone
Upper Murray (Renmark).....	173,000	Brick
Library Buildings—		
Glengowrie High.....	100,000	Brick
Mitchell Park Boys Technical High	100,000	Brick
Northfield High.....	94,000	Brick

Major Works in Progress at June 30, 1971

Locality	Estimated Cost	Type of Construction
Primary and Infants Schools—	\$	
New Schools—		
Airdale Infants.....	202,000	Brick
Christies East Primary—Stage I .	110,000	Samcon
Highbury Primary.....	255,000	Brick
Marion Primary.....	225,000	Brick
Major Additions—		
Allenby Gardens Primary.....	78,000	Brick
Angaston Primary.....	102,000	Brick
Blackwood Primary.....	90,000	Brick
Brighton Primary.....	77,000	Brick

APPENDIX I—continued

SCHOOL BUILDINGS—continued

Major Works in Progress at June 30, 1971—continued

Locality	Estimated Cost	Type of Construction
Primary and Infants Schools— <i>continued</i>		
Major Additions— <i>continued</i>		
Brompton Primary.....	86,000	Brick
Burnside Primary.....	82,000	Brick
Campbelltown Primary.....	117,000	Brick
Christies Beach Primary.....	124,000	Brick
Colonel Light Gardens Primary . . .	76,000	Brick
Elizabeth Grove Primary.....	77,000	Brick
Evanston Primary.....	90,000	Brick
Ferryden Park Primary.....	79,000	Brick
Fulham Primary.....	122,000	Brick
Fulham Gardens Primary.....	80,000	Brick
Grange Primary.....	219,000	Brick
Henley Beach Primary.....	120,000	Brick
Klemzig Primary.....	125,000	Brick
Lockleys Demonstration.....	124,000	Brick
Mount Gambier North Primary . . .	104,000	Brick
Murray Bridge South Primary.....	147,000	Concrete block
Netley Demonstration.....	78,000	Brick
One Tree Hill Primary.....	77,000	Brick
Port Augusta Park Primary.....	280,000	Samcon
Port Augusta West Primary.....	231,000	Samcon
Port Pirie Primary.....	105,000	Brick
Salisbury Primary.....	24,000	Samcon
Salisbury North West Primary.....	82,000	Brick
Stradbroke Primary.....	83,000	Brick
Tailem Bend Primary.....	94,000	Brick
Virginia Primary.....	241,000	Samcon
Whyalla Town Primary.....	103,000	Brick
High Schools—		
Major Additions—		
Henley.....	239,000	Precast concrete
Mount Barker.....	618,000	Brick
Murray Bridge.....	1,162,000	Modular masonry
Technical High Schools—		
Major Additions—		
Campbelltown—Stage II.....	550,000	Modular masonry
Area Schools—		
Major Additions—		
Cooper Pedy (Special Rural).....	330,000	Samcon
Geranium.....	136,000	Brick
Swan Reach.....	245,000	Samcon
Technical Colleges—		
New Colleges—		
Elizabeth.....	1,150,000	Brick
O'Halloran Hill.....	1,900,000	Brick
Teachers Colleges—		
New College—		
Murray Park.....	3,530,000	Off-form concrete and modular masonry
Major Additions—		
Bedford Park—Stage II.....	1,495,000	Modular masonry
General—		
Library Buildings—		
Brighton High.....	108,000	Brick
Campbelltown High.....	107,000	Brick
Christies Beach High.....	104,000	Brick
Elizabeth Boys Technical High.....	104,000	Brick
Findon High.....	103,000	Brick
Gilles Plains High.....	107,000	Brick
Mount Gambier High.....	109,000	Mount Gambier stone
Plympton High.....	103,000	Brick

APPENDIX I—continued
SCHOOL BUILDINGS—continued

Major Works to be Commenced during 1971-72

Locality	Estimated Cost	Type of Construction
Primary and Infants Schools—	\$	
New Schools—		
Fulham North Primary.....	281,000	Brick
Glencoe Central Primary.....	100,000	Samcon
Hackham East Primary.....	220,000	Samcon
North Ingle Primary.....	555,000	Brick
Major Additions—		
Ascot Park Primary.....	520,000	Brick
Brahma Primary.....	147,000	Brick
Balaklava Primary.....	145,000	Brick
Christies East Primary—Stage II.....	478,000	Samcon
Dover Gardens Primary.....	128,000	Brick
East Marden Primary.....	74,000	Samcon
Elizabeth Downs Primary.....	149,000	Brick
Flinders Park Primary.....	125,000	Brick
Hampstead Primary.....	126,000	Brick
Holden Hill Primary.....	60,000	Samcon
Iron Baron Primary.....	107,000	Samcon
Linden Park Primary.....	128,000	Brick
Mansfield Park Primary.....	135,000	Brick
Millicent North Primary.....	100,000	Samcon
Mount Burr Primary.....	233,000	Samcon
Mount Gambier East Primary.....	170,000	Mount Gambier stone
Padthaway Primary.....	145,000	Samcon
Para Hills Primary.....	140,000	Brick
Payneham Primary.....	124,000	Brick
Penola Primary.....	160,000	Brick
Port Augusta Primary.....	120,000	Brick
Port Lincoln Primary.....	160,000	Brick
Port Noarlunga Primary.....	128,000	Brick
Renmark North Primary.....	195,000	Brick
Ridley Grove Primary.....	138,000	Brick
St. Morris Primary.....	148,000	Brick
Strathmont Primary.....	135,000	Brick
Thebarton Primary.....	395,000	Brick
Trinity Gardens Primary.....	95,000	Brick
Tea Tree Gully Primary.....	355,000	Brick
Whyalla (Hincks Avenue) Primary . . .	170,000	Brick
High Schools—		
New Schools—		
Stuart (Whyalla).....	1,619,000	Brick
Para Vista—Stage I.....	900,000	Brick
Major Additions—		
Daws Road.....	300,000	Brick
Norwood.....	440,000	Brick
Area Schools—		
Major Additions—		
Andamooka (Special Rural).....	368,000	Samcon
Technical Colleges—		
New College—		
Croydon Park—School of Graphic Arts and School of Hairdressing.....	1,650,000	Brick
Major Additions—		
Panorama.....	800,000	Modular masonry
Adult Education Centre—		
Murray Bridge.....	275,000	Brick

APPENDIX I—continued
SCHOOL BUILDINGS—continued

Major Works for Which Planning and Design is Proposed During 1971-72

Primary and Infants Schools—

Blackwood Infants
Crafers Primary
Darlington Primary
Elizabeth East Primary
Elizabeth Park Primary
Elizabeth Field Primary
Elizabeth North Primary
Elizabeth Vale Primary
Elizabeth West Primary
Enfield Primary and Infants
Ethelton Primary
Gawler East Primary
Gilles Plains Primary
Glen Osmond Primary
Hectorville Primary
Hillcrest Primary
Largs Bay Primary
Lockleys North Primary
Loxton Primary
Modbury Primary
Morphettville Park Primary
Morphett Vale East Primary
Naracoorte Primary
Oaklands Primary
O'Sullivan's Beach Primary
Plympton Primary
Pooraka Infants
Prospect Primary
Reynella Primary
Ridgehaven Infants
Salisbury Park Primary
Seacliff Primary
Seaton Park Primary
St. Leonards Primary
Taperoo Primary
Tanunda Primary
West Lakes Primary No. 1
Woodville Primary

High Schools—

Burra
Gladstone
Moonta
Morphett Vale
Mount Gambier
Northfield
Para Hills
Port Augusta
Port Lincoln
Seacombe
Tea Tree Gully

Area Schools—

Brinkworth
Lameroo
Streaky Bay
Tumby Bay

Technical College—

Port Pirie—Motor Mechanics Building

General—

South Australian School for Deaf and
Blind

APPENDIX II
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN HOUSING TRUST—COUNTRY AREAS
Being Localities Outside the Metropolitan Planning Area

Locality	Houses completed, 1970-71	Under construction, June 30, 1971	To be commenced, 1971-72	Locality	Houses completed, 1970-71	Under construction, June 30, 1971	To be commenced, 1971-72
Ambleside . .	—	1	—	Millicent . . .	16	31	30
Balaklava . .	1	—	—	Minlaton . . .	1	2	1
Barnera . . .	9	3	8	Minnipa . . .	1	4	—
Berri	27	4	18	Moorook . . .	—	2	—
Bordertown .	8	8	6	Mount Barker	13	14	13
Borrika	—	1	—	Mount Compass	—	1	—
Burra	11	2	—	Mount Crawford .	1	—	—
Cadell	8	—	—	Mount Gambier	49	10	40
Ceduna	18	1	8	Murray Bridge	31	37	36
Clare	4	4	6	Nairne	5	5	5
Cleve	5	—	1	Naracoorte . .	20	9	6
Cooper Pedy .	1	—	—	Nuriootpa . . .	1	1	—
Coonalpyn . .	1	3	—	Padthaway . .	13	4	3
Cowell	1	—	2	Paringa	—	1	—
Crystal Brook	3	3	7	Parndana . . .	1	—	—
Cummins	1	2	3	Penola	12	2	8
Darke Peak . .	1	—	—	Peterborough .	9	—	2
Echunga	2	—	2	Pinnaroo . . .	1	—	—
Elliston	2	—	2	Point Turton	1	—	—
Gawler	13	2	53	Port Augusta .	105	96	80
Georgetown . .	1	—	—	Port Lincoln . .	26	27	30
Gladstone . . .	6	1	3	Port Pirie . . .	37	32	60
Glencoe	1	—	—	Prince Alfred	—	—	—
Hawker	1	—	—	Mine (Carrieton)	4	—	—
Indulkana (via Oodnadatta)	1	—	—	Quorn	1	—	—
Iron Baron . . .	1	—	—	Renmark	18	—	30
Iron Knob . . .	12	2	12	Riverton	1	—	—
Jamestown . . .	2	—	2	Robe	2	—	—
Kadina	13	3	4	Stansbury . . .	1	—	—
Karkoo	1	—	—	Strathalbyn . .	—	5	2
Keith	7	4	—	Streaky Bay . .	10	1	2
Kimba	3	—	1	Tanunda	—	—	4
Kingscote . . .	3	—	—	Thevenard . . .	2	—	—
Kingston	4	—	—	Tintinara . . .	2	3	—
Kulpara	1	—	—	Tumby Bay . . .	1	—	1
Lobethal	7	9	4	Waikerie	6	3	10
Lock	6	3	—	Walleroo	2	—	—
Lock 8 (River Murray) . .	—	2	—	Warooka	1	—	—
Loxton	8	2	6	Whyalla	304	408	344
Lyrup	6	—	10	Woodside	1	2	6
Macclesfield . .	1	—	—	Wudinna	—	1	1
Maitland	1	—	—	Yalata	1	—	—
Mallala	1	—	—	Yorketown . . .	1	—	—
Mannum	1	—	2				
Meningie	3	—	—		908	762	874
Meribah	—	1	—				

APPENDIX III

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATION AUTHORITIES FOR ACTUAL PAYMENTS FROM THE LOAN FUND, 1970-71

Loan Undertaking		Appropriation Authorities Pursuant to the Public Purposes Loan Act, 1970			Pursuant to Section 32b, Public Finance Act	Total Appropriation Authorities	Actual Payments
		Schedule to the Act	Increase	Decrease			
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
State Bank	Advances for Homes	50,000	—	—	50,000	—	2,438
	Loans to Producers	1,400,000	900,000	—	2,300,000	—	2,300,000
	Advances to Settlers	220,000	—	100,000	120,000	—	90,559
	Loans for Fencing and Water Piping	14,000	—	—	14,000	—	4,689
	Loans for Vermin Proof Fencing	28,000	—	—	28,000	—	26,000
	Advances to State Bank	1,000,000	1,000,000	—	2,000,000	—	2,000,000
	Student Hostels	200,000	—	150,000	50,000	—	33,500
Highways and Local Government ..	Roads and Bridges	1,000,000	—	1,000,000	—	—	—
	South-Western Suburbs Drainage	1,750,000	—	550,000	1,200,000	—	966,242
	Other Urban Drainage	1,000,000	—	—	1,000,000	—	639,828
	Public Parks	300,000	—	250,000	50,000	—	50,000
Lands, Irrigation and Drainage	Lands Department—Buildings, Plant, etc.	400,000	—	—	400,000	—	337,288
	Irrigation and Reclamation of Swamp Lands	788,000	—	—	788,000	—	649,053
	South-Eastern Drainage	180,000	—	—	180,000	—	65,347
	Renmark Irrigation Trust	400,000	—	—	400,000	—	299,611
	National Reserves	250,000	200,000	—	450,000	—	332,541
Woods and Forests	Afforestation and Timber Milling	2,900,000	200,000	—	3,100,000	—	3,068,087
Railways	Railway Accommodation	7,800,000	—	—	7,800,000	—	7,744,556
Marine and Harbors	Harbors Accommodation	4,500,000	1,000,000	—	5,500,000	—	5,306,751
	West Lakes Development	10,000	—	—	10,000	—	10,000
	Fishing Havens and Foreshore Improvements	225,000	—	—	225,000	—	140,238
Engineering and Water Supply	Waterworks and Sewers	32,680,000	—	1,700,000	30,980,000	—	30,527,367
	River Murray Weirs, Dams, Locks, etc.	400,000	—	300,000	100,000	—	48,000
Public Buildings	Government Buildings, Land and Services	33,000,000	2,100,000	—	35,100,000	—	35,086,938
Other Capital Advances and Provisions	Electricity Trust of South Australia—Loan to	6,000,000	—	1,500,000	4,500,000	—	4,500,000
	Industries Assistance Corporation—Loan to	—	—	—	—	50,000	50,000
	Municipal Tramways Trust—Loan to	1,000,000	—	—	1,000,000	—	1,000,000
	Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board—Loan to	100,000	—	—	100,000	—	100,000
	State Government Insurance Commission—Loan to	—	—	—	—	50,000	50,000
	State Planning Authority—Loan to	250,000	—	—	250,000	—	250,000
	Festival Theatre and Associated Cultural Facilities	900,000	—	—	900,000	—	900,000
	Universities and Advanced Education Buildings	9,400,000	—	—	9,400,000	—	9,327,500
	Non-Government Hospital and Institution Buildings	2,750,000	—	—	2,750,000	—	2,749,174
Miscellaneous	Expenses and Discounts of Floating Conversion and Public Loans	350,000	200,000	—	550,000	—	425,052
	Mines Department—Buildings, Plant, etc.	325,000	—	—	325,000	—	264,478
	Government Printing Department—Plant, Machinery Stores, etc.	120,000	50,000	—	170,000	—	106,544
	Produce Department—Buildings, Plant, etc.	110,000	—	—	110,000	—	65,016
	Education Department—School Buses	380,000	—	—	380,000	—	378,846
	Department of the Public Service Board—Data Processing Equipment	1,040,000	—	100,000	940,000	—	920,279
Total		113,220,000	5,650,000	5,650,000	113,220,000	100,000	110,665,922

* Includes \$343,972 discount on loan raisings.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I thank Mr. Seaman and the other Treasury officers for all the work they have done on the preparation of the Loan Estimates and the necessary accounts. We are very fortunate in this State in having Treasury officers who are admired by all Ministers in Australia; this is particularly evident at Loan Council meetings and Premiers' Conferences. I move the adoption of the first line.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TRUST PROPERTY BILL

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to provide for the administration of trust property and affairs of any church or other institution or organization within any diocese of the Church of England in Australia situated within South Australia. Read a first time.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

It concerns trust property vested in any trustee or trustees on behalf of or for the purpose of any church or other institution or organization within any diocese of the Church of England situated within South Australia and the vesting of that property in the synod of that diocese in which such church or other institution or organization is situated and enables that synod to declare the trusts upon which the trust property is held and (if thought desirable) to provide for the alteration, addition or revocation of the trusts applicable to such property and gives power to mortgage the same.

Upon the foundation of the Colony (now the State) of South Australia, the spiritual welfare of its inhabitants was looked after by a member of the clergy known as the Colonial Chaplain, who was appointed and paid by the Colonial Office in England. As the Colony expanded, centres of worship for those colonists who were members of the Church of England were founded in various localities and land for this purpose was acquired or given and on this land churches were erected from funds subscribed by worshippers, and in some cases assistance was given by grants from the State. Generally speaking, the land on which the churches were erected was conveyed to trustees upon trusts set out in the deed of conveyance or alternately were contained in deeds poll executed by the trustees, which set out the trusts upon which the land was held and would continue to be held.

The first Bishop of Adelaide was the Right Reverend Augustus Short, D.D., and certain of

the church lands were vested in his name only. Upon Bishop Short's death an Act of this Parliament known as the Church of England Succession Act was passed, whereby all church lands vested in Bishop Short's name were vested in the name of his successor for life and, on his death, in certain trustees and in their successors duly appointed in accordance with the provisions laid down in the Act.

Upon the establishment of synodical form of government in church matters in South Australia, the Synod of the Church of England in the Diocese of Adelaide became an incorporated body. Being by its constitution capable of acting as trustee, many church properties were thereafter conveyed to the synod which by deed poll declared that it held the land upon the trusts contained in one or other of the various model trust deeds adopted by the synod for this purpose.

The framers of the trusts upon which these early church properties were held had little to guide them. They were accustomed to the situation as it existed in England, where the church was the Established Church, and problems of landholding and trusts did not arise. At times they found it difficult to appreciate that, so far as South Australia was concerned, church property did not and could not vest in the diocesan bishop as a corporation sole, as in England. This accounts for the paucity of some of the early trusts. In particular, land granted under Ordinance 10 of 1847 was in some cases conveyed with no, or virtually no, trusts at all. Moreover, the early trusts were singularly rigid. Frequently they contained no power to vary the trusts and in some cases actually forbade any variation. Similarly, they contained no power of disposition by sale, lease or mortgage. Again, Parliament had to come to their aid and legislation was passed, which is now embodied in sections 51 and 53 of the Trustee Act, 1936-1968. To overcome the inconvenience of having to appoint fresh trustees from time to time, some congregations resorted to the provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act and became juristic bodies in their own right. This did not alter the fact, however, that the corporate body in which the church property became vested frequently had extremely limited powers of dealing with such property.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that such trusts as existed were in favour of the worshippers of particular churches—not in favour of the Church of England in the Diocese of Adelaide as a whole. Even where

power to mortgage existed, or was conferred by the forerunners of sections 51 and 53 of the Trustee Act, the money raised by the mortgage could be applied only for the benefit of a particular congregation. And, in the case of church property becoming redundant because, for example, a township had gone out of existence, even if power to sell existed, the proceeds of sale could not be applied for church purposes in any other part of the diocese.

To make matters worse, where land was subsequently acquired within a parish for, say, day school, parish hall, rectory or cemetery purposes, such land was not infrequently vested in different trustees upon trusts which might be wholly irreconcilable with those affecting the church itself. When the Diocese of Willochra and, more recently, the Diocese of the Murray were formed, the church properties transferred to the jurisdiction of the new dioceses still remained impressed with the original trusts, so that at the present time there are in South Australia three dioceses, all suffering from the extreme inconvenience of this multiplicity of trusts affecting properties within the respective dioceses.

At a special call of the Synod of the Diocese of Adelaide held in May 1969, it was resolved that the Bill in its present form be adopted by the synod and presented to Parliament. Subsequently, the Synod of the Diocese of Willochra on October 17, 1969, expressed itself to be in favour of the presentation of the Bill to Parliament. The proposed Act is purely an enabling Act. Before any trusts are affected, the following steps must be taken: (a) The diocesan synod must first resolve to seek the benefit of the Act (clause 2); (b) the vestry or other body administering the trusts of a church or other organization within that diocese must resolve to seek the benefit of the Act and the trustees must also approve. If the trustees are not available to approve, the bishop may approve in their place (clause 3).

Once the Act applies to a church or other organization (that is, when the steps referred to in the above paragraph have been taken) existing trusts are abrogated and the trust property of that church or organization vests in the diocesan synod upon trusts to be declared by the synod (clause 4). Clause 6 enables the synod to alter, add to or revoke the provisions of its model trust deeds, thereby enabling the trusts from time to time to be brought up to date. Clause 7 empowers the synod to mortgage church trust property and

to apply the proceeds either for the purposes of the church or institution concerned or for the extension and development of the work of the Church of England in Australia within that diocese. Two safeguards are however provided: (a) the consent of the vestry or other body administering the affairs of the church or institution concerned is requisite; (b) land set apart for cemetery purposes or upon which a consecrated church has been erected may not be mortgaged.

The affairs of the church are at present greatly hampered and inconvenienced by the multiplicity, the rigidity (in some instances) and the inappropriateness (in some instances) of the trusts affecting church properties, and the inability of the church to put its assets to best advantage for the furtherance of its work. The rationalization and simplification of administration, which should result from the passing of the Act, must prove extremely beneficial to the church. Moreover, the ability to modify trusts should ensure that, as the work of the church expands and changes from time to time, the trusts can be appropriately enlarged and altered to meet changing circumstances.

The members of the Church of England in South Australia have, through their elected governing bodies (named the respective synods of the dioceses of Adelaide, Willochra and Murray), indicated (or are about to indicate) their desire that the Bill in its present form become law. These dioceses and many of the churches and parishes included in each diocese have so arranged their affairs that they may take advantage of the Bill as soon as it becomes law. and have expressed to me their hope that the benefit of this Act be made available to them as soon as possible. This is a hybrid Bill and will, in the ordinary course of events, be referred to a Select Committee of this House.

Mr. MILLHOUSE (Mitcham): I support the Bill.

Bill read a second time and referred to a Select Committee consisting of the Hon. L. J. King, Messrs. Curren, Millhouse, Nankivell, and Slater; the committee to have power to send for persons, papers and records, and to adjourn from place to place: the committee to report on August 19.

CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL In Committee.

(Continued from August 3. Page 533.)
Clauses 2 to 4 passed.

New clause 2a—"Periodical retirement of Legislative Councillors."

Mr. HALL: I move to insert the following new clause:

2a. Section 14 of the principal Act is amended by striking out the passage "on the day of the next general election of the House of Assembly".

After the Government's promotion of this legislation, I believe that, to show its sincerity, it will accept sensible amendments so that adult franchise can be achieved for the Legislative Council. If the Government takes that attitude it will approve of the measures I have outlined to ensure that the vote for the Legislative Council is a voluntary one. No-one could quarrel with the contention that the present vote for the Legislative Council is not a voluntary vote, because, generally, it is held on the day when the House of Assembly elections are held. It is not a conscious move by electors to vote for the Legislative Council, but is a dual role fulfilled, in the main, on behalf of the House of Assembly. Whilst I fully approve, as I have done for some time, the extension of the franchise to make it a complete franchise regarding the Upper House, I maintain that the Upper House must be a House of Review and, to be this, it requires a different type of election on which to base its existence. This can be achieved through providing a truly voluntary vote, and that will give both Parties or any Parties the right to promote their cause and their policies and not place them at an electoral disadvantage.

As Governments are formed in the Lower House and not the Upper House, the same argument does not apply as the Attorney-General applied last evening when he said that there should be the same electoral conditions regarding members and, therefore, regarding the constitution of each House. I believe that the first amendment should be the test amendment, on which will depend the success or failure of the Government's move concerning adult franchise. I am certain that the Upper House will not accept full adult franchise with voting on the same day as that for the House of Assembly. The Government knows that from previous experience and, unless it accepts these amendments, it will be making yet another show in this House for the public.

The test is whether the Government is simply making another show or whether it really wants adult franchise, and these amendments will find that out. I submit the first amendment, hoping that the Government will see its way clear to fully back adult franchise

and that it will not put on a show for the sake of propaganda.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I support the Leader's amendment, which is clearly designed to ensure that the spirit of the law is, in fact, carried out, providing a truly voluntary vote for the Upper House. It cannot be said that under the present conditions it is a voluntary vote whilst at the same time there is compulsory voting at a House of Assembly election or at any other election. It is a quibble if anyone claims that it is a voluntary vote in those circumstances. I support the Leader in his endeavours to have this Bill made truly voluntary.

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General): I remind the Committee that the subject matter of the Bill relates to the franchise of the Legislative Council. It is a Bill to provide that every adult person in South Australia has a vote not only for the House of Assembly but also for the Legislative Council. It is a simple Bill, making a simple provision to extend the franchise from the group that has the privilege at present to vote for the Legislative Council to the whole adult population of South Australia. It is as simple as that, and I think that those who favour adult franchise as a democratic principle will find no difficulty at all, if they are serious and genuine, in supporting the Bill as it has been introduced. The Leader of the Opposition has claimed that he supports the principle of adult franchise; I ask him why he thinks it is necessary to attach to that support conditions that make it quite certain that the principle of adult franchise cannot be brought into practical effect.

What is the purpose of attaching to a supposed support for adult franchise a condition that an election for the Legislative Council be held on a different day from that for the House of Assembly? What purpose is served by that?

In the first place, of necessity it involves the public in the inconvenience of voting on another day. Secondly, it involves the State in the expense of about \$100,000 of polling on another day. I would be the first to concede that, if there were a good, sound and sufficient reason for spending money on a poll, that argument should not be regarded as conclusive, because the exercise of the people's right to vote for those who are to make their Jaws is so important that financial considerations can never be conclusive. However, what I ask is this: what good purpose is served by this exercise? What are we seeking to attain? The Leader of the Opposition says, "You cannot have a truly voluntary vote unless it is on a

separate day." In the first place, let me say that I adhere to the principle that I discussed at some length during the debate on the Constitution Act Amendment Bill last year, the principle of compulsory voting, and I gave reasons why I did that last year.

Tonight I think that I need do no more than paraphrase the expressions used by the member for Mitcham this afternoon in relation to another subject; he pointed out, with justice, that the good of the community as a whole in many instances justifies the exercise of compulsion to ensure that the overall good of the community is attained. Surely there could be no more important common good than to see that the people of the State are encouraged to apply their minds to public issues that need to be decided at an election. If it is right to say that the people realize in their own minds that it is good to wear seat belts but, human nature being what it is, require the compulsion of law to encourage them to do so, surely it is also true to say that, when citizens realize, as all responsible citizens do, that they have the right to apply their minds to public issues and exercise their franchise but, human nature being what it is, they will sometimes not do so if left to their own devices, in these circumstances the compulsion of the law should be exercised by the community on itself for its own good.

I accept the propositions that the member for Mitcham put this afternoon; I thought that they were convincing, and I suggest that he apply them to the subject we are discussing this evening. He may then find that they are completely convincing. They are convincing arguments for saying that voting for both Houses of Parliament should be compulsory so that we may obtain a full and genuine consensus of community opinion on the public issues that fall to be decided at an election. Having said that, let me point out that there is nothing in this Bill about compulsory voting. The law as it stands provides for voluntary voting for the Legislative Council, and nothing in this Bill changes the existing situation. What the Bill provides is that the franchise should be extended so that everyone has a right to vote. I suggest that those who believe in that principle will have no difficulty in supporting the Bill as it stands. What is thought to be achieved by changing the voting day? If the objection to compulsory voting is simply, as has often been put by honourable members opposite, that it involves some sort of undesirable compulsion from which people should be free, surely the present law does

not provide for compulsory voting for the Legislative Council. How are things improved by providing for an election on a different day?

It was stated by one member opposite, either the member for Alexandra or the member for Victoria, that it is true that voting is voluntary but that, if people go along on polling day for the House of Assembly and are handed ballot-papers, it is likely that they will exercise their rights and vote. It was put as something undesirable that people should exercise their rights and vote. Surely anyone who subscribes to the democratic principle should think it a desirable practice that the more people who vote, the better. One would think that even those who favour voluntary voting would like to think that most people would indeed exercise their franchise, because surely the more people who vote the greater the consensus we get in the community. What possible virtue can there be in the kind of happening we had in the recent Midland by-election when only a relatively small percentage of those entitled to vote exercised their franchise? What possible advantage to the community could there be in that kind of situation? How could it be said that it is desirable that only a limited number of people should vote? Even those who object to compulsion surely must concede that voluntary voting ought to be held in circumstances that will encourage as many people as possible to exercise their franchise.

Mr. Jennings: They can refrain now if they want to.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Of course; under the present Bill, they can still vote or not vote for the Legislative Council as they see fit. It raises in one's mind that there might conceivably be some other reason for the Opposition to seek to have polling for the Legislative Council on another day. What could that reason possibly be? It could conceivably be that the Opposition sees some advantage to their political Party in having voting on a separate day. It may just conceivably be that the Opposition thinks that many of the ordinary people in the community may just be sick and tired of having to go to vote on so many days and might just possibly stay away, that those who are interested in preserving the privileges which the restricted franchise gives in the Legislative Council may decide to go along to vote, and that the Liberal and Country League, representing those interests, might thereby derive a benefit. I wonder whether that could possibly be a reason why

the Opposition desires to have voting for the Legislative Council on a different day. If one asked the man in the street whether he wanted another voting day it may be that one would get a fairly emphatic "No". It may be that he will say, "We have already had the experience of polling days for the House of Representatives and the Senate on different days, and we jolly well wish they would get them to come together again so that we can exercise our franchise for both Houses on the same day." In South Australia the framers of our Constitution wisely provided that voting for the Legislative Council would be held on the same day as voting for the House of Assembly. One wishes that they had shown the same wisdom in other respects in framing the Constitution, but they certainly showed that much wisdom, and it seems very strange now that we should be faced with a proposition of having separate days for polling for the House of Assembly and the Legislative Council.

Mr. Jennings: I wonder whether it has been thought of anywhere else?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The position is quite the reverse, because I understand that this position did obtain at one time in Victoria and that the Liberal Government then in office deliberately altered it and that polling day for the Legislative Council is now the same day as the polling day for the Legislative Assembly.

Mr. Gunn: What about Tasmania?

The Hon. L. J. KING: That is an interesting observation, because I suppose that in other States, where they are accustomed to the idea of adult franchise for both Houses of Parliament and where they feel no difficulty about this so-called mirror image or carbon copy that members opposite say they fear here, they do not see this problem at all. They have two Houses of Parliament elected on adult franchise and elected on the same day, but, because of different electoral boundaries and the fact that members retire at different times, they do not necessarily get even a majority of members of the same political complexion in both Houses.

I put it that the people of this State certainly do not want another polling day. I am certain that they can see no possible justification for the additional expense involved in having another polling day, and I am equally certain that there is no possible reason for it, except an imagined political advantage that members opposite see in it. The whole thing is designed, I suggest, to enable members of the Liberal Party, who in their hearts are determined to

retain Liberal domination of the Legislative Council, to give to the public the appearance that they accept the principle of adult franchise but nevertheless they want to retain the reality and substance of privileged Liberal control in the Legislative Council.

Mr. McAnaney: We reject compulsion.

The Hon. L. J. KING: The member for Heysen says he rejects compulsion. I only wish he was in the Chamber (and perhaps he was) to hear the persuasive arguments that the member for Mitcham put on that subject this afternoon. They were extremely persuasive arguments but if the honourable member was in the Chamber, he apparently was not convinced by them.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I must ask the honourable Attorney-General to link his remarks to the clause under discussion and not to refer to remarks made in a previous debate.

The Hon. L. J. KING: Yes, Mr. Chairman. I was trying to save the time of the Committee by not repeating the persuasive arguments that I heard this afternoon on this question, because they persuaded me if persuasion were needed, that compulsory voting was a desirable thing. However, I remind the member for Heysen that that is not the subject under discussion this evening and that we are discussing an amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition that provides, in effect, that voting for the Legislative Council will be on a different day from that for voting for the House of Assembly, and I simply put it that no argument has been put forward to justify this proposition on any ground of sense or logic, that it is put forward, I suggest, for no other reason than that honourable members opposite who follow, at any rate, the line of the Leader of the Opposition on the issue (and that is not by any means all of them, as we saw last evening) wish to give to the public the appearance that they support the democratic principle of adult franchise but at the same time want to so arrange things as to ensure that they will retain the reality and substance of Liberal domination of the Legislative Council. For that reason I ask the Committee to reject the amendment.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: We hear the Attorney-General tonight to very much less advantage than we did last night. I have seldom heard weaker arguments put forward to rebut a case than we have just heard from the Attorney-General. He spent most of his time tonight justifying his opposition to the Leader's amendment by reference to remarks that I made in

another debate this afternoon, in which I made it perfectly clear that I believe that freedom of choice is precious, that it is an overriding principle but that there must be exceptions to it. I believe that in that particular matter there was a justifiable exception.

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: There was nothing whatever in what I said this afternoon—

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: —that could give the Attorney any comfort tonight.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I drew the attention of the Attorney-General to the rule about remarks made in a previous debate. I call the attention of the honourable member for Mitcham to the same rule. The honourable member for Mitcham.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The Attorney-General said, not once but several times, that there was no reason in logic that had been advanced for this amendment. Only a man who had deliberately closed his ears to what was said by my Leader and what has been said many times in this Chamber in debates on this matter could say such a thing. The reasons why we put forward this proposition have been spelt out as clearly as possible. Because of what the Attorney-General said, may I put the position as plainly and simply as I can so that there may be no misunderstanding about it. If we have elections for both Houses of Parliament on the same day, those people who are obliged by law to go to vote for the House of Assembly do not have to make what we believe should be made, namely, a conscious and independent decision to vote for the Legislative Council, because they are there. If their name is on the roll, they will be handed a ballot paper for the Council when they are handed a ballot paper for the Assembly, and in 999 cases out of 1,000 they will fill in both.

If there is to be a true voluntary vote, what is required of every elector is that he or she should make an independent decision to vote, to go to the polling place to get his or her ballot paper and fill it in. That cannot be achieved if by law the elector must in any case go to the polling place. That is patently obvious and unanswerable, I should have thought, because, as I have said, only one who deliberately ignored what had been said could possibly argue to the contrary. Whether it is right or wrong that we should do that is another matter, but the reasons are obvious.

Let us not hear from the Attorney-General again this nonsense that he does not know

the reasons that we put forward. He said we have a voluntary vote now for the Council. What have we got? We have a common roll for the two Houses, the only difference now being that electors who have filled in an enrolment card for the Legislative Council have a particular notation opposite their name on that common roll. The Government has gone all out to enrol as many people as it can on the Legislative Council roll. I have received complaints (and have referred them to the Attorney-General) from people who say that their names have been put on without their consent or permission or even their application. We know this has been a tactic of the Government. Enrolment for both Houses is becoming almost synonymous. Then the process is gone through as I have described, if the elections are held on the same day. This is happening now, and it is not, in anything but name, a voluntary vote, and the Attorney knows that. We propose that the elections should be separate, although that means expense. It could be argued, also, that there may be some inconvenience.

In nearly every other democratic country in the world people have the independent exercise of the discretion of whether to vote or not to vote. That is what we want. Government members have suggested that there is some other sinister reason why we are putting this forward. It has been suggested that we believe it will be to our Party's advantage if there is a voluntary vote, and the implication behind the suggestion is that Labor voters will be less anxious to go to the polls than will Liberal voters. They cannot have much faith in the people who support them if they put that argument forward seriously, yet that is what they are saying when they reproach us. I do not know whether a voluntary vote would favour us or not.

Mr. Payne: You have a fair idea!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: So what? I know that some Labor people believe a voluntary vote would favour the Labor Party. Is there anything wrong about this if one Party can get out its people to vote for that Party? Why should it not have the advantage over the other Party? That is what happens in Great Britain and the United States of America, so why not here? There is nothing wrong with that. The arguments used by the Attorney about the good of the community in compulsion in voting would sound hollow to anyone outside Australia. I remind him that most Parliamentary democracies are outside Australia and they contain an overwhelming number of people who

have a democratic system of government; and they totally reject the Attorney's argument about a compulsory vote. We are reproached for being less than democratic, because we force people to vote. The Attorney's argument may appeal to the Labor Party and to every Government member because they are bound by their rules to support a compulsory vote. However, that argument is rejected by everyone else. The Attorney also chided us about the expense. I have acknowledged that it does mean rather more expense than having the elections together, but it ill behoves a Labor Minister to reject a proposition of this nature on that ground when it is the Labor Party that does not scruple, when things are in its own interests (although they often boomerang), to have a referendum, which costs as much as a general election, as we know.

Mr. Keneally: And which you severely criticized.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: All right, but it ill becomes a Minister, less than 12 months after a referendum, to say that we cannot do this sort of thing because it will cost the State \$80,000, \$90,000 or \$100,000 (he varied in his estimates).

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Any reference to a referendum is not contained in the clause now under discussion. I ask the member for Mitcham to relate his remarks to the clause now under discussion.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Finally, the Attorney-General says that people certainly do not want another polling day. I do not know on what he bases that remark; it is an assertion that is just as easy to make as it is to deny. We do not know, but I strongly believe that what people want in this State is a full franchise for both Houses of Parliament, and it is patently obvious that the only way in which a full franchise for both Houses of Parliament can be achieved is by both sides of politics being prepared to compromise and to go some way towards meeting the viewpoint of the other side. We believe that a fair way to attain a full franchise, which, after all, as the Attorney-General said last night, is the most important consideration, is by the system which the Leader has proposed and of which this amendment is a part.

If the Attorney-General is genuine in his desire to achieve full franchise, he and his colleagues will be willing to go as far as we ask in this way. If they are not genuine, though, and if they just want to keep this sore open for their own Party-political benefit, as I strongly suspect they do, the Attorney-

General will persist in the attitude he has shown. However, I hope he will not persist and that the Government will have second thoughts on this matter and accept the amendment, which is sensible and practical.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I support the amendment. We have heard a fair exposition from the Attorney-General in the last day or so on the democratic faith, as he refers to it, and this evening he has sought to obscure the basic principle embodied in this amendment. The basis of the amendment is simply that we on this side believe in the democratic principle, and we believe that this principle involves—

The Hon. L. J. King: You voted against it last night.

Members interjecting:

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: The amendment involves a simple principle. I opposed the Bill last evening simply because these amendments were not contained in the Bill and the Government had indicated that it would not accept them.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I cannot allow any references to a debate that has taken place at another session.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: As the interjections were allowed I was attempting—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I rule that no reference can be made to a vote taken at some other session.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I was referring to the interjections.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Kavel is out of order in making references to remarks that have been ruled out of order.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: I must apologize; I must have missed the ruling that the interjections were out of order. In our view, the idea of democracy involves freedom when it can reasonably be granted. The Attorney-General has made much of the fact that we should encourage people to exercise the franchise. I believe that he is pressing the meaning of "encourage" to the extreme limit. People should be encouraged to vote and take an interest in public affairs but I cannot, by any logical means, interpret the word "encourage" in the way that he does. I see little similarity between the Attorney-General's argument and the submission of the member for Mitcham about seat belts; it is generally agreed that argument by analogy is not a very strong form of argument.

The Attorney-General claimed that the Leader of the Opposition considered that voluntary voting would assist the Liberal and Country League. Of course, we could apply all the arguments used by the Attorney-General in reverse: we could well argue that the Labor Party seeks advantage for itself through compulsory voting. It was more than by mere chance that the shopping hours referendum was originally to be held on the same day as the Midland by-election for the Legislative Council. I suspect that the Labor Party saw some advantage in that procedure. I believe that it seeks some advantage in forcing people to go to the polls.

The basic reason for the Opposition's submission that the Legislative Council elections should be held on a separate day is that we want voting for the Legislative Council to be truly voluntary.

Mr. Keneally: There is no compulsion.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Government members make great play of the fact that there will be no compulsion in connection with voting for the Legislative Council. However, if a Legislative Council election is held on the same day as an Assembly election, there will, in effect, be compulsory voting for the Legislative Council. If people are compelled to go to the polls and a Council ballot-paper is offered to them, that is totally different from leaving it open to them to make up their own minds about attending at a polling place and exercising their franchise.

The Attorney-General said that in South Australia we have come upon one of the real democratic insights, in that we compel people to vote in House of Assembly elections. As the member for Mitcham has said, it is amazing that that insight has not dawned on most democratic countries in the world. I suggest that the insight is peculiar to the Labor Party, which chooses a path that leads to its own political advantage. However, the Labor Party imputes a motive to our arguments. The clear-cut reason for the amendment is to produce a truly voluntary vote and to ensure that there is a reasonable difference between the franchise of the two Houses. Because I see no weight in the Attorney-General's arguments, I support the amendment.

Mr. HALL: I cannot find out why the Labor Party is frightened of voluntary voting. No Government member has said what his objection really is to giving people the right to choose whether they will go along to a polling booth to vote. As the member for Mitcham said, this right of choice is given in

most parts of the free world. What is it about voluntary voting and voluntary choice that members opposite object to? The only answer I can find is that those who dictate to others and support totalitarian moves, as this Government has done, are frightened of freedom. If one looks around the world one finds time after time that people's free choice is removed when that choice endangers a fixed position, and this is the case here. Those who advocate compulsory unionism will obviously try to compel their supporters to go to the poll. Members opposite admit that their people will not vote for them unless they are compelled to go to the polls by law. Do they apply the same rules to other sections of the community that are having widespread effects on almost every person in the Commonwealth? Do they apply compulsion to union elections?

The CHAIRMAN: I draw the Leader's attention to the ruling I have given. We are now dealing with an amendment, and any debate must be in accordance with the amendment under discussion.

Mr. HALL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I understand it, the amendment is a test case for the other three or four amendments, and I take it that my argument can encompass all the amendments.

The CHAIRMAN: As the Leader has said it will be a test vote, I will allow a little more freedom in discussing the amendment, but I cannot allow debate outside the terms of the amendment.

Mr. HALL: I appreciate your ruling, Mr. Chairman. I have never had cause to quarrel with your chairmanship. The amendments encompass a wide range of electoral procedures. The substance of them is that elections for the House of Assembly would be held on a separate day from those for the Legislative Council, voting would be voluntary, enrolment would not be compulsory, and a separate roll would be kept for Council elections. What is it that frightens the Labor Party from joining the custom in vogue throughout most of the world? What makes them force their people to vote? It is their people, because they have all said that voluntary voting would be an advantage to them. Therefore, it is not our people they say they have to force to the polls. This attitude is the basis of why the people of Australia are so apathetic to their political responsibilities. Because they are forced, they tend not to care. This Government will not entrust them with the responsibility. They are told, "You have no choice; you will go and vote."

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: There is nothing about compulsory voting in this Bill. You have had to do a deal with DeGaris, and it is a crook deal and you know it.

Mr. HALL: As a matter of comparison, I draw the attention of members opposite to the facts surrounding the redistribution of House of Assembly districts. The L.C.L. offered too little in its first move in the 1963-64 session, and in 1965 the Labor Party tried to institute the greatest gerrymander that the free world has seen. Members opposite ask why we should be suspicious of the Labor Party, but I have not the time now to detail all the reasons. It is sufficient to refer to the gerrymander that the Government led by the late Frank Walsh tried to institute. Add to this the declared intention to abolish the Legislative Council, and we have a situation of extreme suspicion of the Government's motives that I and, most certainly, members of our Party in the Legislative Council hold. Members opposite would be suspicious if legislation for the abolition of the House of Assembly were introduced in the Legislative Council.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I rule that the honourable Leader cannot make remarks along the lines of those he has been making. Once again I point out that we are in Committee and dealing with an amendment, and that all remarks at this stage must refer to the amendment and must not be in the form of a second reading speech on the Bill.

Mr. HALL: If members opposite are serious, they will have regard to the give and take that occurred in the situation leading up to the acceptance of the redistribution for the House of Assembly. Neither side got exactly what it wanted, yet the overwhelming majority of the people have accepted the result. The Government must ask whether it wants to achieve the same sort of satisfactory result here. It knows that it will not get this passed: let us be realists and stop talking fairy tales.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Do you know what the Council will do with this Bill?

Mr. HALL: I know that the Minister has more sense and realism than he is showing at present. The hot breath of preselection is on his neck. The same applies to the other member opposite who stood on a stage at Elizabeth and said, "I want to vote otherwise but I cannot, because I have signed a pledge."

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Order! When order is called I expect every honourable member to abide by the call from the Chair. The remarks now being made by the Leader are out of order. I am not going to rule

that way again in future. The remarks of all honourable members must be confined to the amendment under consideration by the Committee.

Mr. HALL: These amendments, therefore, are essential if this Bill is to become law in South Australia.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Why? This is the best sideshow we have had in years.

Mr. HALL: I find the Minister of Education irritating. He is like the little bit of dirt that irritates an oyster.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Mr. Chairman, on a point of order. I may be irritating to an oyster but do not think I can produce a pearl out of this.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I cannot sustain the point of order. The amendment has nothing to do with pearls.

Mr. HALL: I did not insinuate that the Minister of Education would ever turn into a pearl. Therefore, if the Government is serious and if it wants to move effectively, as we did in 1969 in relation to the redistribution of boundaries for the House of Assembly, it has only 18 months left in which to leave its mark on electoral reform in South Australia. If it does not achieve it now, we shall when it goes out of office. We had to do so last time in respect of the House of Assembly, so the public, I suppose it can be claimed, will not have a long time to wait. However, I want to see it get adult franchise as soon as possible, and that is why I have moved this amendment. Members opposite know all about expense, for they organized an expensive referendum that was only—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I have ruled that any reference to a referendum is out of order; the Leader's remarks are out of order.

Mr. HALL: I ask the Government to be consistent in applying its principles and not to have compulsory voting for one form of election and voluntary voting in another form of election. I ask it to accept the reality of the situation and to agree to the amendment, which will provide for adult franchise and establish a compromise that I believe all the people of South Australia want.

Mr. HOPGOOD: I oppose the amendment. In doing so, I apologize to the Leader of the Opposition. For some time I thought he was serious but when he suggested that the Walsh Administration had tried to exercise some form of gerrymander, and if he thinks that the principle of one vote one value involves a gerrymander, I am afraid he is using words wrongly. I agree with the member for Mitcham that

nobody really knows which Party would benefit from the introduction of voluntary voting here or the introduction in another place of compulsory voting instead of the present voluntary voting. In this respect, the member for Mitcham disagrees with his Leader, who seems to have a fair idea that we on this side think that the Liberal Party would benefit from voluntary voting. We do not. We honestly do not know. If voluntary voting became law, no longer would arguments win elections: money and resources would do so. The member for Mitcham was candid about this. He said that if one Party could get people out to vote, that was its good luck. My fair interpretation of what he said was that money and resources should be used to win elections rather than logical arguments with compulsory voting. We know that 95 per cent to 97 per cent of the people will vote and there is not messing around with using motor cars and knocking at doors.

In a compulsory vote we nationalize the getting-out process, and I believe that this is fairer than any other system. When Opposition members speak about compulsory voting they read a list of countries, about 12 or 13, in which compulsory voting applies, and say that in all the rest it does not. However, when we discuss whether the vote for the Legislative Council should be held on a day different from that for the House of Assembly, we never hear of countries that use this novel procedure. The Commonwealth elections in Australia used to be held on a weekday but were changed to a Saturday for the obvious reason that a weekday prevented many people from realistically exercising their franchise.

Who introduced compulsory voting in Australia? It was the forerunners of the Liberals in the Commonwealth sphere in the 1925 election. Is it not true that the Liberal Party in South Australia in the 1944 election introduced compulsory voting? Is it not true that the Liberal Party has occupied Government benches in the Commonwealth and State spheres for most of the time since compulsory voting was introduced? Is it not true that it had ample opportunity to change back to voluntary voting? Is it not true that it has not done so? What is its motive for talking about compulsory voting now? We know, because we think it is an attempt whereby they can solve the present inherent contradictions in the Liberal and Country League. I am not sure that Opposition members believe they would benefit from voluntary voting; they

do not seem to be able to make up their minds on this issue.

Mr. Goldsworthy: How did you make out on the shopping hours referendum?

Mr. HOPGOOD: Honourable members opposite seem to be exercising about three different motions at the one time, and the sort of thing that we are hearing is extremely garbled. It is so garbled that we do not know what members opposite intend to do.

The Committee divided on the new clause:

Ayes (17)—Messrs. Allen, Becker, Brookman, Carnie, Coumbe, Eastick, Evans, Ferguson, Goldsworthy, Gunn, Hall (teller), McAnaney, Millhouse, Nankivell, Rodda, Tonkin, and Wardle.

Noes (24)—Messrs. Broomhill, Brown, and Burdon, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Clark, Corcoran, Crimes, Curren, Dunstan, Groth, Harrison, Hopgood, Hudson, Jennings, Keneally, King (teller), Langley, McKee, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, Wells, and Wright.

Pair—Aye—Mr. Venning. No—Mr. McRae.

Majority of 7 for the Noes.

New clause thus negatived.

New clause 5—"Enactment of sections 22a, 22b and 22c of principal Act."

The CHAIRMAN: Does the Leader of the Opposition wish to proceed with new clause 5?

Mr. HALL: No, Mr. Chairman. I think everything has been covered.

Title passed.

Bill reported without amendment. Committee's report adopted.

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General) moved:

That this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. HALL (Leader of the Opposition): I will vote for the third reading of this Bill but, in doing so, I want to make my position quite clear. I do not approve of adult franchise for the Legislative Council unless a Council election is held on a different day from that for an Assembly election. However, as I said during the Committee stage, we have to be realists in relation to what we are setting out to achieve by supporting this measure. If we are realistic, we will know that, whilst the Labor Government is in office, any compromise will have to be made in another place or in conference with another place. To this end, I do not want to delay the passage of this Bill to another place. I want to facilitate its passage to that place for discussion there. For that reason I shall vote for the third reading of the Bill, but I do so on the basis

that the finished product that I want to see and the one I will support in the end is one that provides for a Legislative Council election to be on a separate day from an Assembly election.

The SPEAKER: As this Bill amends the Constitution Act and provides for an alteration to the Constitution of Parliament, the third reading requires to be carried by an absolute majority. In accordance with Standing Order 300, I now count the House. There being present an absolute majority of the whole number of members of the House, I put the question: that this Bill be now read a third time. Those for the question say "Aye"; against the question say "No". There being a dissentient voice, it will be necessary to divide the House.

The House divided on the third reading:

Ayes (32)—Messrs. Becker, Broomhill, Brown, and Burdon, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Carnie, Clark, Corcoran, Coumbe, Crimes,

Curren, Dunstan, Groth, Hall, Harrison, Hopgood, Hudson, Jennings, Keneally, King (teller), Langley, McAnaney, McKee, Millhouse, Payne, Ryan, Simmons, Slater, Tonkin, Virgo, Wells, and Wright.

Noes (10)—Messrs. Allen, Brookman (teller), Eastick, Evans, Ferguson, Goldsworthy, Gunn, Nankivell, Rodda, and Wardle.

Majority of 22 for the Ayes.

Third reading thus carried.

The SPEAKER: I declare the third reading to have been carried with the requisite absolute majority.

Bill passed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9.16 p.m. the House adjourned until Thursday, August 5, at 2 p.m.