

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, March 29, 1972

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

COAST PROTECTION 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.

CROWN PROCEEDINGS 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.

DAIRY INDUSTRY ACT AMENDMENT 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.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BOARD OF ADVANCED EDUCATION 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.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY 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.

PETITIONS: SEX SHOPS

Mr. CLARK presented a petition signed by 147 persons, drawing attention to the recent appearance of sex shops in the community and expressing concern about the probable harmful impact of such shops on individuals and consequently on the community. The petitioners requested that Parliament would, if necessary, amend the law to put these sex shops out of business.

Mr. EVANS presented a similar petition signed by 167 persons.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON presented a similar petition signed by 214 persons.

Mr. MILLHOUSE presented a similar petition signed by 954 persons, and stated that several hundred other persons had signed petition forms that were not in conformity with Standing Orders.

Mr. MATHWIN presented a similar petition signed by 374 persons.

Mr. JENNINGS presented a similar petition signed by 13 persons.

Dr. TONKIN presented a similar petition signed by 152 persons.

Mr. CRIMES presented a similar petition signed by 115 persons.

Mr. SLATER presented a similar petition signed by 66 persons.

Mr. COUMBE presented a similar petition signed by 307 persons.

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY presented a similar petition signed by 61 persons.

Petitions received.

QUESTIONS

COMPANY CLOSURES

Dr. EASTICK: Will the Premier say whether any Government departments have evidence of impending company closures similar to the closure reported in this morning's press of Nairne Pyrites Proprietary Limited and Sulphuric Acid Proprietary Limited? The press report states that these two companies will be closing down in the next few months. Inquiry suggests that the companies have been aware of this possibility for some time, and it is recognized that the closures are due partly to the cessation of Commonwealth subsidies and partly to the rationalization of superphosphate production. For some time we have seen the results of other closures of industry in this State. I instance the problems arising from the closure of the punt maintenance unit in the Morgan area, where housing will become surplus if workers in this rural situation must move out to find other employment. Although the Kanmantoo complex may offer alternative employment to those who have been involved in the Nairne operation, it may be necessary for them to leave the district to find satisfactory employment. As a result, many properties will be for sale at the one time, and there will be a consequential reduction in value, as well as upheavals concerning not only the worker but also his family. Can the Premier say whether he or any Government department knows of any similar problems that may arise in future?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I know of no further moves at this time. The situation

concerning Nairne Pyrites Proprietary Limited and the Sulphuric Acid Proprietary Limited plant at Port Adelaide results from a fall in the market for pyrites and the cessation of the Commonwealth bounty. This situation has been known to the industry for a considerable time, and every effort has been made to try to find alternative sources of support or employment, but it has been impossible to do this. The Leader, knowing of the position in relation to the superphosphate industry in South Australia and the difficulties regarding sulphuric acid, will realize that it is not in the hands of the State Government to be able to provide substitute markets. The General Manager of the Nairne pyrites undertaking has consulted with the Government, which has endeavoured to find alternative sources of employment for the workers. This unemployment has occurred because of changes in Commonwealth policy and in the immediate demand for the product. That is not something that we can really correct. As far as other conditions are concerned, the change in the situation at Morgan was marginal and will result in expansion in a country area other than Morgan. We are constantly considering means of expanding rural employment. In fact, under this Government, far more money has been paid by way of grants to country industries than has been paid previously in the history of this State, and in the Murray River districts; for instance, David Shearer Limited at Mannum and another industry at Mannum have been singularly assisted by Government support. In addition, we have been able to attract new industries to Mount Gambier. We intend to pursue this policy, but I do not know of any further proposals that would effect a reduction in unemployment in country areas.

SCHOOL BOOKS

Mr. CLARK: Will the Minister of Education have investigated the reason why a text book set for Matriculation physics seems to be unobtainable? The book in question is *Physics—A Laboratory Oriented Approach (Theoretical)*, by Ingram, Kuhl, McCarthy, Sandercock, Smith and White. The son of one of my constituents, who is also a personal friend, has returned to full-time study at the Adult Education Centre at the age of 21 years, to try to matriculate. As the Minister knows, the first term is now seven or eight weeks old, but this book is still unobtainable. The teacher has told the student that he has not seen the book yet. As the delay in getting

it is causing much inconvenience, can the reason for this delay be found?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I shall be pleased to examine the matter for the honourable member. The book in question may well be recommended as a possible book to be used, whereas it may not be one of the textbooks laid down by the physics curriculum committee. However, I will find out for the honourable member what is the correct position and bring down a reply for him as soon as possible.

INDUSTRIAL ASSISTANCE

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Treasurer say whether the Industrial Development Branch is giving technical assistance to certain small industries in this State? For several years, under successive Administrations, technical assistance by way of engineering advice has been given to several small and medium-size industries already operating in this State that wish either to expand their activities or to improve their efficiency by better methods of operation. I know that this exercise has been extremely worth while and I should like the Treasurer to say whether this engineering expertise, as distinct from accountancy and financial advice, is still being made available to industry.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Requests for assistance of this kind will be considered, but the number of such requests to the branch has been falling markedly and the engineer who was formerly working in the branch has consequently been seconded to the Labour and Industry Department, where his services were sought for other activities. Consideration will be given to making assistance available to industry as previously in any case where this kind of assistance is sought.

RENMARK PUMPING STATION

Mr. CURREN: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about the site of a pumping station at Renmark?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The selection of the site for the proposed Renmark sanitary disposal station was made by departmental officers after consultation with the Corporation of the Town of Renmark. Consideration was given to five possible sites during a joint inspection of the riverfront at Renmark. Factors which resolved the choice included both technical and environmental aspects. It is intended that the station will be quite inconspicuous, and, furthermore, the council has been assured that copies of the plans of the

proposed station will be made available to them before construction commences.

HACKNEY REDEVELOPMENT

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Is the Premier satisfied that the interests of residents presently living in the Hackney area have been and will be safeguarded? I know that the Premier will not mind my asking a question that concerns the district he represents in Parliament, because in his place he cannot speak directly on behalf of those residents. In this morning's announcement of the Hackney redevelopment scheme, amongst other things the Premier is reported as saying:

The new Hackney redevelopment plan is a bold attempt to demonstrate how a run-down inner-city area can be revitalized.

The Premier is also reported as saying that the Government was bending over backwards to ensure that people living in the area did not suffer. He is also reported as saying that, if the scheme were approved, the State would have power to initiate compulsory purchase orders, but he hoped that this would not be necessary. It is well known that some residents in the area and nearby are bitterly opposed to the plan. Early this year, I was invited to attend a meeting of several members of the local ratepayers association to discuss this matter. As far as I know, residents of all political persuasions are opposed to the scheme. I was told of a meeting of the ratepayers association on December 16, 1971, which the Premier attended, together with others of his entourage, and I understand that it was a rowdy and disorderly affair at which strong protests were made about the plans which the Premier has been advocating for a long time. In view of that information and the remarks of the Premier last evening, which I quoted, I now ask the question.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am not certain in what capacity the honourable member is asking this question.

Mr. Millhouse: As caring for the interests of the people.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am interested to know that, because the honourable member's political affiliations seem at the moment to be very varied. The group which held this select meeting in my district, to which the honourable member was invited in my absence, is now the subject of take-over by the new left movement of the university, which has condemned the Government as being the lackey of neo-capitalism.

Mr. Millhouse: That's a change from its being the lackey of the trade unions.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am interested that the honourable member, in the course of his activities in the Liberal Movement, is pursuing progressive policies of this kind. However, suffice to say that it is untrue that people in the area affected are bitterly opposed to the Government's actions. In fact, the overwhelming majority of people within the area have expressed themselves as being delighted and satisfied with the plans. The Government has seen fit to ensure that people who do not choose to relocate within the redeveloped area are paid not only the market value of their properties but also the full expenses of relocating.

Mr. Millhouse: What if they don't want to move?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: In few instances is that the case. In fact, already the Government owns most of the property in the area, and this has not been arranged under compulsory acquisition at all. I appreciate the honourable member's political motive in doing a little stirring in my area. I wish he had been able to attend the meeting last evening in my district when it was explained to residents what was intended.

Mr. Millhouse: I would have gone if the House had not been sitting.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member has asked his question, and the Premier is replying.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I assure the honourable member that the rights and needs of the local residents have been protected. True, the Government is proceeding not on the lines previously declared by the honourable member's colleague in the previous Government regarding the redevelopment of Hackney (that was a most unsatisfactory plan, without proper compensation for people in the area and without provision for relocation). This Government has refused to proceed on that basis, and the people within the Hackney area are being carefully looked after, especially by Mr. O'Reilly of the Housing Trust, who has interviewed each resident and who, during the last few months, has been negotiating with the people concerned for the satisfactory provision for their future, either in regard to relocating or in regard to providing new residences within the scheme.

LAND ACQUISITION

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Is the Premier now stating a change in Government policy relating to compulsory acquisition? He

has just said that, in respect of the Hackney redevelopment plan, residents will receive not only the full value of their property but reimbursement for the total expense involved in their relocation. As I understand it, that is a new principle, and I should like to know whether that principle will be applied to acquisition in respect of other projects, such as the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study plan, and so on.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: We have not been able to take any such decision so far but, in relation to problems associated with urban renewal areas, the Government believes that a specific departure from previous policies should be made, and that is why the action referred to has been taken in this instance.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport raise with his Government the possibility of a change in policy regarding the acquisition of properties for transport proposals? The Premier, in reply to a previous question about the Hackney redevelopment plan, said that residents would be compensated not only for their property but also for the full cost of their relocation. When I asked the Premier whether this constituted a change in Government policy, he said that it did not, but that this policy would apply only in respect of the Hackney redevelopment plan. I know that the Minister of Roads and Transport acquires property under a different principle, because he does not pay the full cost of relocation; indeed, this has never been paid.

In the financial year ended June 30, 1971, the Highways Department spent \$3,487,000 on acquiring land for the building of freeways. That means that many people have been disturbed and we have frequently heard the Minister, particularly as a private member, express horror at the disturbance of so many people for freeway development. It appears, however, that the Government has an alternative policy on the acquisition of property and that this alternative policy will apply to the Hackney redevelopment plan whereby it will pay the full cost of relocation. In view of this, it seems only fair that the Minister should raise this matter with his Cabinet to see whether that alternative policy could be extended to cover people who are disturbed as a result of the M.A.T.S. proposals.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I did not hear the Premier's comment on this matter, so I cannot comment on what he said.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: Would you—

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: If the honourable member will just keep quiet for a minute, I shall try and give him the answer for which he has asked. If the honourable member will cast his mind back, he will remember that what I am about to say has been said at least a dozen times already, but I am happy to repeat it. There are two methods whereby property may be acquired by the Highways Department. First, there is compulsory acquisition which gives full payment for disturbance, which covers many items—the cost of floor coverings, window drapes, telephones, cost of removal, and so on. It also provides for loss of business incurred by private industry as a result of the disturbance. I believe this procedure is adequate at present.

The second method of acquisition is used when an owner approaches the department. Because of events in the past, people today are not always able to sell their properties on the open market, and the present legislation restricts the Government when it decides to help such a person by buying his property. The Government is not permitted to pay more than the valuation of the property itself. I have already announced publicly, and in this House, that we shall introduce legislation to provide for a committee to be set up for the purpose of dealing with the difficulties that people meet when they are being rehabilitated. I had hoped that that legislation would be introduced this session, but I am sure that members of the Opposition who have complained so bitterly about the amount of work we have had to do will not be disappointed that it will not be introduced this session. However, it will certainly be introduced next session and I am sure that we shall be able to provide such people with a fair deal so that their relocation will be effected much more simply than it is now.

The Hon. D. N. Brookman: Will they be fully paid or not?

The SPEAKER: Order! There can be only one question at a time.

Later:

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Am I to understand from the Minister's reply that, in the case of property acquisition, the Highways Department will pay not only the full value but also the full expenses of relocation?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I regret that the honourable member was not here when the member for Alexandra asked the question. I suggest that, if the honourable member reads *Hansard*, he will get the full text of what I have said, and the reply will then be plain.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, the question I asked was different from that asked by the member for Mitcham, but the Minister—

The SPEAKER: Order! There is no point of order. In fact, I did not rule the question from the member for Mitcham out of order.

Mr. Millhouse: The Minister is under a misapprehension.

The SPEAKER: Ministers are not obliged to reply to questions if they do not desire to do so. There is no point of order.

UNLEY INTERSECTION

Mr. LANGLEY: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my recent question about the purchase of land for the purpose of providing a lane at the south-eastern corner of the Greenhill Road and King William Road intersection, so that motorists may turn left at any time with care?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Negotiations are at present taking place to acquire sufficient land for a left-turn lane at the corner of Greenhill Road and King William Road.

SCHOOL COOLING SYSTEMS

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked on March 16 about cooling systems for both the Ridgehaven and Banksia Park Primary Schools?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Ridgehaven Infants School is being planned so that it can easily be adapted to a summer cooling system. However, I am sorry that Banksia Park Primary School, which was built several years ago, could not be so adapted.

RURAL UNEMPLOYMENT

Mr. RODDA: Can the Minister of Labour and Industry say what is his Government's policy regarding compulsory unionism in respect of those people who are temporarily employed under the rural relief scheme administered through local councils within the State? As the Minister knows, many people in the rural sector are employed under this scheme, and several instances have been referred to me wherein the people concerned have been requested to join a union. Of course, some of these people are employed only for periods of about three months, although I think the term of employment is actually indefinite. I understand that full membership of the union in question (I think it is the Australian Workers Union)

costs \$14, and naturally some people, to put it colloquially, have jacked up at this. Will the Minister say what is his Government's policy in cases where such an approach has been made, as it has been in certain instances, and will he say whether, when people object to joining the union, strikes will be the order of the day?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: I think the honourable member will recall that I have said several times that the Government's policy is one of preference to unionists. I understand that the work referred to is covered by the Australian Workers Union, which has a Commonwealth policy of not supporting seasonal tickets. I understand also that this policy has been challenged several times by union members, but the challenge has always failed because of lack of support. The main reason for this is that most of the people covered by the union are in far-flung and even remote areas, and this makes it difficult to contact them every quarter for the purpose of having their tickets renewed. The question asked is rather hypothetical, as some of the people concerned may be employed for a long time, but that is another matter. I suppose that, if people were working for only a week or a fortnight, appropriate arrangements could be made with the union, but it is not my place to interfere in the union's policy.

Mr. GUNN: Has the Minister of Works received from the Minister of Lands a reply to my recent question about rural unemployment grants?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states that initially the Commonwealth made a grant of \$945,000 to this State for the financial year 1971-72 for rural unemployment relief. This was later supplemented by a further \$675,000, making a total of \$1,620,000 available for expenditure by June 30, 1972. Of this amount \$1,600,000, or 98 per cent of the total, has been allocated to employment projects. The Lands Department has under investigation a number of applications, and these are expected to absorb the remaining \$20,000. It is not expected that the department will be in a position to consider any further applications for grants from these funds. The Minister has confirmed that grants have been allocated on the basis of registered unemployed in the district, and that not less than two-thirds must be spent on the labor component. In South Australia, careful administration and co-operation by local government bodies has resulted in a figure of about 75 per cent being achieved for the labour content.

RICHMOND SCHOOL

Mr. WRIGHT: Will the Minister of Education initiate an inquiry in order to determine how soon the existing Richmond Primary School might be replaced by a new school sufficiently large to accommodate all children from the preparatory grades to grade 7? Having had the opportunity now to inspect this school twice (the school is 74 years old and does not lend itself to being modernized), I believe that any further money spent on patching up the buildings would be a complete waste. One of the important facets of the school is that it is divided, one part being on the western side of South Road and the other being on the eastern side, although both parts are under the control of the same Headmaster. In both sections the noise hazard has now reached a point where it is almost impossible for children, especially those who sit nearest to the road, to hear the teacher giving instructions. Recently, when a test of traffic passing along South Road was conducted between 10 a.m. and 10.10 a.m., it was found that during the 10 minutes 370 vehicles, including small commercial vehicles and heavy semi-trailers and buses, which make extreme noise, went by. It is important that the two sections of the school be investigated, first as to the practicability of providing a new school as quickly as possible and, secondly, with regard to the possibility of providing an alternative site, because I believe that the present site is not adequate. In addition to the problems to which I have already referred, there are no playing fields in the present area.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It might be difficult in this area to find a new site for the school. I suspect that we would have to pay a very high price for land adjoining the present school. I have met the Headmaster at the school and I have seen, although only briefly, the conditions at the school. I will have an inquiry made into property in the immediate neighbourhood of the present school and adjoining the school property in an endeavour to extend the site in that way. I readily appreciate that the old solid construction buildings, which would normally be in reasonable condition and which it would be possible to upgrade, are far too close to the road. Conditions are therefore impossible and redevelopment of the school will have to involve the removal of the building, partly because of the road and also because of conditions similar to those existing in several old schools in the inner-metropolitan area where old buildings are immediately adjacent to roads

and where the teachers and children involved consequently suffer considerably from inconvenience and traffic noise. I would certainly agree with the Headmaster's view that there is a need to consolidate the school on the one site in order to avoid the problem of crossing over South Road that is entailed in the separation of the infants section from the primary section. The whole matter is already being investigated. However, at this stage it is not possible to give any indication of the likely siting of the school or the development proposals that will finally be adopted. I assure the honourable member that, as soon as these decisions have been made and the information is available, I will let him know.

DRUGS

Dr. TONKIN: Has the Attorney-General obtained from the Minister of Health a reply to my recent question about the Alcohol and Drug Addicts Treatment Board?

The Hon. L. J. KING: My colleague states that at Elura Clinic, North Adelaide, Dr. J. W. Gabrynowicz, the Medical Director, is the only full-time doctor available. His clinics are booked for between two and three weeks in advance. In addition to Dr. Gabrynowicz, Dr. C. Alexander from the Public Health Department conducts two half-day clinics and Dr. C. Gaa'l, Medical Officer, St. Anthony's Hospital, attends for one half-day clinic each week. To alleviate this situation, the Government has advertised for the services of a sessional specialist for four half-day clinics each week, but no appointment has been made to date. St. Anthony's Hospital, with a capacity of 21 beds, is the only inpatient unit conducted by the Alcohol and Drug Addicts Treatment Board. At present there are 21 patients in the hospital, with three awaiting admission. This situation varies from time to time, but the hospital usually operates at near to full capacity. When necessary, urgent cases are referred to other agencies for immediate treatment. This state of affairs will be somewhat relieved when the proposed night hospital of 10 beds is provided. The night hospital will accommodate patients who are ready to return to work but need continued supervision and treatment, and it will be built in the grounds of St. Anthony's Hospital, with supervision and therapy being provided by hospital staff. This night hospital will reduce the length of stay of many patients in St. Anthony's Hospital and will effectively increase the number of patients that can be treated. Tenders are at present being called

for the construction of the night hospital. The Government has approved investigations and planning for the construction of a 40-bed capacity voluntary centre in Folland Avenue, Northfield. It is expected that this will take two or three years to develop and build. When the voluntary centre is established, the Alcohol and Drug Addicts Treatment Board will be able to give considerably more assistance to the courts dealing with offenders involved with the misuse of drugs and alcohol, on either an out-patient or inpatient basis.

MOTOR VEHICLES DEPARTMENT

Mr. BURDON: Can the Minister of Roads and Transport say what progress is being made towards establishing an office of the Motor Vehicles Department at Mount Gambier? During a visit to Mount Gambier late last year, the Premier publicly announced that the Government was now able to honour its election policy by establishing an office of the Motor Vehicles Department in Mount Gambier, and hoped that it would operate by the middle of this year.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am pleased to inform the honourable member, who, I know, is most concerned about developments in Mount Gambier, that satisfactory progress is being made. We have been able to negotiate with an agent in Mount Gambier who is currently erecting a new building, which is expected to be completed and ready for occupation by July 3. The building is being erected on a block of land almost at the corner of James Street and Gray Street. This site was formerly occupied by an old cottage which was not worth retaining and which has now been demolished. Progress is being made in erecting the new building. When I was in Mount Gambier a fortnight ago, I was able to look at the site briefly, and I think it was an excellent choice on the part of the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, whom I would like to commend publicly for his selection. The site is far enough away from the busy shopping centre so that ready and easy access is available to members of the public who do business with the Registrar, but it is still close enough to the centre of the town, being only one street away from the main street, to make it readily acceptable.

Another point of interest is that the Motor Vehicles Department will lease only half of the building, the other half being used by the Royal Automobile Association, whose current lease on its existing premises at Mount Gambier has just about expired. The two halves of

the building will be completely separate. Therefore, in Mount Gambier there will be in the one building, although in completely separate sections, the Motor Vehicles Department office and the Royal Automobile Association office. The service that the Registrar will provide in Mount Gambier will be nearly as extensive as that which he provides in Adelaide. The extent of the service to be provided was carefully considered and it was decided that, if we were to establish an office in Mount Gambier, we should provide a complete service for the people of the South-East. That decision has now been effected. At this stage, I have every reason to believe that the undertaking given by the Premier that the building would be open and in business by July 1 will be honoured.

TAPLEY HILL WARNING SIGNS

Mr. HOPGOOD: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport have investigated the possibility of erecting more adequate warning signs at the top of Tapley Hill because of the gradient of the road down to Darlington? When travelling home in the early hours of this morning, I noticed that a semi-trailer had run off the road at this point. I subsequently found that a man had been trapped in the cabin for some time, although I do not believe any serious injury was sustained. I have since been contacted by a local resident who has told me that this occurrence is by no means uncommon and that he believes that there should be more adequate warning of the gradient down the hill. He said also that the spot where the semi-trailer bounced off the road was the spot where the police often set up their radar trap. He believes that, for the protection of the police, if they do not know of it already, they should be told of this danger and that they should shift a little farther down the hill. My constituent believes that more adequate warning signs should be made available by Easter Monday, when that down-grade will be carrying a heavy volume of traffic back from holiday.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall certainly be pleased to discuss with the Commissioner of Highways the honourable member's suggestion that more warning signs should be erected. However, all the warning signs in the world will not stop the person who is driving either an unroadworthy vehicle or an overloaded vehicle, or who is not taking sufficient care for any other reason. One of the points I had hoped this Parliament would have got over this session was the basis of the point raised by the honourable member, but, because of other factors, I will not pursue that matter at this

time. The Government has not been able to proceed in that area of road safety as much as it would have desired.

CEDUNA STOCK INSPECTOR

Mr. GUNN: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, a reply to my recent question concerning the stationing of a stock inspector at Ceduna?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague has been informed by the Director of Agriculture that, because of a staff resignation and retirement, it has become necessary to relocate certain animal health advisers. In determining these locations, it has been necessary to give consideration to stock densities, disease investigations in progress, and the suitability of officers for particular work loads. The Animal Health Adviser on Kangaroo Island has been transferred to Naracoorte. Mr. Clare from Ceduna has been transferred to Kangaroo Island. An officer has been granted leave of absence to complete further training at Roseworthy Agricultural College and will not therefore be available until December to allow the vacant position at Ceduna to be filled.

TOILET DEODORANT

Mr. PAYNE: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation investigate a new type of toilet deodorant and disinfectant, which is suspended in the cistern and functions over a long period? This product, which is becoming more common, colours the flushed water blue and is said to be biodegradable, but I believe that confirmation is desirable that it has no harmful effect on the environment or on the activities of the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: As this matter has already been brought to my attention, I am having it investigated and am discussing it with the Minister of Works to see whether his officers have found anything of concern in respect of the product. When I obtain a report, I shall be pleased to let the honourable member know.

GLANDORE INTERSECTION

Mr. BECKER: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport say whether an investigation of the Glandore intersection of Beckman Street, Glengyle Terrace, Winifred Avenue and Pleasant Avenue (where there are six vehicle and two tram approaches) has been made by the Road Traffic Board or by any other appropriate authority? This complex of intersections concerns several of my constituents living nearby but, up to the present, they have been unable

to obtain help at local government level or from any other organization. Beckman Street and Winifred Avenue provide the only through access to Cross Road from Anzac Highway and, being wide, they carry a large volume of traffic at high speed.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I cannot give the honourable member any information about the Glengyle Terrace and Beckman Street part of the intersection. However, I am fairly familiar with the Pleasant Avenue and Winifred Street part, which is in my district, and I know that this matter has been under surveillance by the Marion council for a long time. I also refer the honourable member to a statement which I have made in this House and which he may have overlooked, namely, that crossing device apparatus will be installed at the Beckman Street crossing in stage 2 of the scheme that I have asked be implemented to erect crossing protection along the whole of the Glenelg tram line. I think that, when this work is done, the position regarding the crossing to which the honourable member has referred will be vastly different from the present position.

GOVERNMENT PRODUCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. CARNIE: Will the Minister of Works find out whether the Minister of Agriculture has received the report of the committee of inquiry into the Government Produce Department and, if the Minister has received it, will he ask his colleague whether he intends to table the report?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will inquire of my colleague.

CIGARETTES

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Attorney-General a reply, for which I wait with baited breath, from the Minister of Health to the question I asked yesterday regarding placing warning labels on cigarette packets?

The Hon. L. J. KING: My colleague states that the dangers of cigarette smoking and the matter of placing warning labels on cigarette packets were discussed at the recent conference of Australian Health Ministers. At this stage, a majority of States has not agreed to pass legislation in respect of the labelling of cigarette packets.

Mr. MATHWIN: Will the Attorney-General ask the Minister to reconsider the position regarding the placing of warning labels on cigarette packets now that the Victorian Government has stated that it will proceed in this matter? One State is now taking action

in this matter, and any support we can provide would give a lead to the other States of Australia.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will refer the matter to my colleague.

GEPPS CROSS ABATTOIR

Mr. ALLEN: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture whether the incidence of bruising of cattle at the Gepps Cross abattoir is greater than or less than the Australian average? I visited the abattoir last Friday, following a complaint that I had received that there had been excessive bruising of cattle because of the conditions of the yard at the abattoir. A report in today's *Advertiser*, headed "Cattle losses staggering", states:

Cattle bruising costs the Australian meat industry \$16,940,000 during the 12 months ended June, 1971. The association said yesterday that a survey showed the figure worked out at about \$3.50 a head of cattle slaughtered during that year. The association said the use of cattle dogs and "ring" sales had to be eliminated to help stop the bruising losses. It is pointed out that the survey shows that 10 per cent of all first-quality stock slaughtered has been downgraded because of bruising, whilst 4.6 per cent of bullocks and between 12 per cent and 16 per cent of cows have been rejected for export, because of bruising.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will inquire of my colleague and bring down a report.

SWANPORT BRIDGE

Mr. WARDLE: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my question about work on the Swanport bridge?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: When the honourable member asked me the question on March 16, 1972, it was in two parts, and I answered the first part on that day. The second part related to when the bridge was likely to be completed. The Commissioner of Highways states that, if construction work goes according to plan, the bridge will be completed during the first half of 1976.

SUBSIDIZED EFFLUENT SCHEMES

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Minister of Works give the reason for the delay in implementing subsidized effluent schemes in the Murray River area and in gazetted watershed areas? The Minister has made statements to the House, listing the towns that are or will be eligible to receive assistance in respect of this major measure of pollution control. Several towns and areas have applied for assistance, according to the arrangements previously laid down. Regarding the township of Williamstown, in

the Barossa council area, arrangements have been proceeding to effect an effluent drainage scheme for this town and the last positive information the council has been able to get is contained in the following letter, dated November 22, 1971, from the Public Health Department:

I refer to your communication relating to a survey for the township of Williamstown for the purpose of providing a common effluent collecting drain. You are advised that as soon as the details of Government subsidy have been resolved, this department will negotiate with your local board with a view to determining an estimated commencing date.

Since then the council has written to the department on December 16, 1971, and February 16, 1972, seeking information on the current position, but up to the present the council is still unaware of when it can commence the project.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Leader of the Opposition is not up to date. Only two or three weeks ago the Minister of Health and I announced jointly that the Government had decided to extend the subsidy scheme to cover the whole State, not to restrict it to the Murray River, the watersheds, and Lake Albert and Lake Alexandrina, as had been announced initially. We also pointed out then that councils could apply to the Public Health Department to have their plans, as well as details of plans and designs, etc., drawn up by that department, but that, if it was not possible for the department to deal with plans at an early date, it would be competent for the councils to employ consultants. However, the councils were to understand that, if they engaged consultants to design the scheme, the cost of that would be taken into account as part of the capital cost of the scheme. I point out to the Leader that the Government will not subsidize schemes in every case, because in some cases the cost of connections will be less than that set by the Government, namely, \$30 for a household property and \$12 for a vacant block. The delay in formulating policy arose because we were considering the desirability of extending the scheme to cover the whole State. The drainage committee that reported to me on this proposal made three recommendations, any one of which could have been adopted, and one such recommendation was in terms of the action we took in the first instance. We did that because we thought that that was the most crucial area. However, when we were examining the position again, the township of

Clare particularly came into the considerations. That township, and also Port Augusta, have had an extremely difficult problem. We saw the need to extend the policy throughout the State. The number of towns that will be eligible for the subsidy will be determined by the amount of money the Government makes available each year, and in this regard the honourable member will appreciate that unlimited funds are not available. Not every town that may be eligible for a subsidy will be able to design, plan and install a scheme in the one year. I know that Williams-town was in the initial plan. I will ask why the authorities there have not been contacted since then because, as I understand it, the Minister of Local Government was to send out a letter to all councils likely to be involved in this type of scheme informing them of the policy decision and setting out clearly the steps that a council should take in order not only to enable the design and plans to be drawn up but also to enable the councils to borrow. It will be necessary to amend the Local Government Act to allow local government authorities to borrow so that they may employ consultants, because the Act currently stipulates that councils cannot borrow unless they present plans to the Minister. Naturally, this would not be possible in the case of a common effluent drainage scheme where the councils would have to have authority to borrow in order to pay the consultants so that the plans could be drawn up. I hope that a Bill to implement this will be introduced next session.

HOLDEN HILL SEWERAGE

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question concerning the sewerage of Waninga Drive at Holden Hill?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I have approved the construction of a sewerage scheme to serve this area. Financial provision will be sought on the 1972-73 Loan Estimates to enable the work to proceed during that year. I cannot say precisely when the work will be commenced, but it will be definitely during the next financial year.

ISLINGTON LAND

Mr. COUMBE: I seek information from the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Lands, on the progress made in regard to redeveloping the former Islington sewage farm site. This redevelopment plan has been contemplated for some years now, and at one time an ambitious plan was submitted which I believe would have taken care of this area adequately. Indeed, my attention was drawn to

this matter only the other evening when, while watching television, I saw a segment on two men who run an animal farm on the land in question and who are making good use of it while it is vacant. At it is some time since this matter was last brought to the notice of the House, I ask when it is likely that the various projects to be undertaken may be decided on and implemented.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will inquire of the Minister of Lands. I know that the matter is being actively pursued at present, and I will bring down a report for the honourable member.

PRISON READING MATERIAL

Mr. HOPGOOD: Will the Attorney-General ask the Chief Secretary what reading materials can be made available (and under what conditions) at the Yatala Labour Prison and other prisons in this State? I have been told that a member of the Free Rob Martin Committee (Mr. Martin being a Commonwealth prisoner at present held in Yatala) recently took to this gentleman a copy of the *Sunday Review* and also a novel. However, this reading material has not been passed on to Mr. Martin. Seeing that Mr. Martin is already paying a very heavy penalty for adhering to a principle in opposition to an iniquitous law of the Commonwealth Government, I think he is being sufficiently penalized without having reading material withheld from him.

The Hon. L. J. KING: I will refer the question to the Chief Secretary.

SCHOOL AIR-CONDITIONING

Mr. NANKIVELL: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question about the possibility of upgrading air-ducting systems in schools so that they may be modified if there is any future change in policy whereby air-conditioning may be installed?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: A committee comprising engineers and architects from the Public Buildings Department, together with representatives of the Education Department, has carefully considered all aspects of air-conditioning of schools. The findings of this committee are to be released soon and will contain recommendations relating to air-conditioning of future schools. The present position is that some solid construction schools planned some time ago, on which construction will begin soon and which would be seriously delayed by redesign, will be built with the present type of ducting. However, schools now being designed will include open spaces and have systems that can readily be

adapted for air-conditioning if it becomes policy.

WAR SERVICE SETTLERS

Mr. RODDA: Will the Minister of Works consult with the Minister of Lands regarding those single-unit soldier settlers in the Keith area who applied for a rural reconstruction grant and were told that their cases were being considered with a view to finance being made available through the war service land settlement scheme? The Director of Lands, in a letter dated March 16, stated, in effect, that funds were not available. However, certain settlers in the area in question are in an impecunious financial situation, as a result of the rural recession. I understand that several of them have applied for a rural reconstruction grant and that, because of their entitlements under the war service settlement scheme, approaches had been made to the Minister of Lands.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: Is this for carry-on finance?

Mr. RODDA: Yes. The people concerned were informed by the Director on March 16 as follows:

The question of provision of funds for war service land settlement purposes and returns likely to be obtained, together with the question of taking over stock mortgages of war service settlers who at present are so mortgaged to outside firms, is a policy matter currently under consideration in Canberra. In the meantime, I have not received adequate assurances that sufficient funds will be available to this department to enable commitments under the war service land settlement scheme to be increased beyond the current level.

Some of the people concerned have applied for rural reconstruction assistance but, because of the impending arrangements, I understand that their applications were not looked at. In view of the letter to which I have just referred, I ask the Minister whether the applications in question may be considered fully.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I am aware of the situation described by the honourable member in relation to stock mortgages under the war service land settlement scheme. I think that the member for Alexandra, who also asked a question about this matter, was given a reply similar to that given to the settlers in his district. I will certainly bring the matter to the attention of the Minister of Lands and ask him to ascertain whether or not the applications in question can now be considered under the rural reconstruction scheme.

LYELL McEWIN HOSPITAL

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Minister of Works ask the Chief Secretary what stage has been reached in providing extensions at the Lyell McEwin Hospital at Elizabeth?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I do not know offhand, but I will inquire and let the honourable member know.

STURT HIGHWAY

Mr. CURREN: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport have investigated the need for continuous centre-line marking on the Sturt Highway in places where forward visibility is limited by small rises or hillocks, which make overtaking hazardous? Recently, an accident occurred on the road between Renmark and Berri at a place where there was a rise or hillock that impaired forward visibility. The youth involved in this accident came from Victoria, where this system of line marking is used. I ask whether the Minister will have this matter investigated and have something done about it.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I shall be delighted to do so.

POINT McLEAY RESERVE

Mr. NANKIVELL: Has the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs a reply to my recent question about the Point McLeay Reserve school?

The Hon. L. J. KING: Since 1959, it has been the policy to send students from the Point McLeay Aboriginal school to the Meningie Area School when it is considered that they are capable of taking their place in the area school. At present the children complete grade 3 work at Point McLeay and then proceed to the area school at Meningie. There is some dissatisfaction among the parents at Point McLeay about the above arrangements. The matter has been discussed with them by officers of the Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs Department and the Education Department. Following those discussions, towards the end of 1971 the Aboriginal resources branch of this department commenced a full-scale study of the social and educational implications and problems of children continuing at the Point McLeay school until they completed primary school. The study will assess whether it would be a retrograde step educationally to return the children to the school on the reserve, whether that action would make a greater problem for the children when they enter secondary school away from the reserve, and other related aspects. Until the study is completed and the findings discussed with the Education Department and the parents at Point McLeay, no decisions

can be made. When the matter was discussed by the education authorities with the parents in 1971 they expressed agreement to a consolidation of the Narrung and Point McLeay schools but only on the basis that the Narrung children should go to Point McLeay.

CATTLE TESTING

Mr. CARNIE: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my recent question about the testing of infected cattle?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states that the routine testing and retesting of infected cattle herds in agricultural areas is undertaken by contractors. Contracts for testing of cattle provide for 97,000 to be tested each year in those areas covering that portion of the State south and east of Port Augusta, including Southern Eyre Peninsula. The testing of herds in pastoral areas and northern and western Eyre Peninsula is undertaken by officers of the Agriculture Department. During the year ended June 30, 1971, 199,385 cattle were tested in all areas and a further 102,987 during the subsequent six months to December 31, 1971. Contractors have been instructed to give priority to testing in those herds that have not been tested before. A Commonwealth-State sub-committee on brucellosis and tuberculosis eradication distributes funds to subsidize State expenditure on testing, and negotiations for further funds for this purpose in South Australia are proceeding at present.

PLYMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question about the Plympton Primary School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The Deputy Director-General of Education and the Principal Planning Officer of the Education Department have recently studied a report prepared by an architect of the Public Buildings Department on the general situation at Plympton. The Principal Planning Officer has also visited the site and discussed the project with senior architects of the Public Buildings Department. The report concurs in the Plympton school committee's concern, and recommends a redevelopment of the school in three stages. The first stage (the closing of roads) would obviously take time because there are problems that must be considered. It is therefore proposed that the report of the Public Buildings Department architect should be given to the school committee as a feasibility study, on

the understanding that other studies are being carried out and emphasizing that no commitment can be made to any current proposal at this stage. It is also proposed that the Deputy Director-General of Education, the Principal Planning Officer of the Education Department, and officers of the Public Buildings Department should invite the honourable member, the committee, the district inspector of schools, and the headmaster to come together to discuss proposals for the redevelopment of the school.

SOCIAL RELIEF

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Social Welfare a reply to my recent question about the conditions in the waiting room at his department which must be used by applicants for social relief?

The Hon. L. J. KING: As promised when replying to her question on March 23, I took up with the Director of Social Welfare and Aboriginal Affairs the matter raised by the honourable member. The financial assistance branch of the department has experienced difficulties in dealing with applicants as expeditiously as it would wish or, for that matter, as it should. The situation has worsened over the last three months owing to a marked increase in the number of applicants, an increase of about 46 per cent. The department took action several weeks ago to improve the position, having applied to the Public Service Board for the appointment of additional staff. It is hoped that appointments will be made soon. It is conceded that the offices occupied by the branch are unsatisfactory, and it is planned to move the branch to a section of the ground floor at present tenanted by a private company. The lease over this portion of the building will expire at the end of November and will not be renewed. The section of the building will then be renovated for occupation by the financial assistance branch and other branches of the department. It is planned to provide more individualized waiting rooms, together with baby changing rooms and other facilities for people visiting the department.

In the meantime, action is being taken to improve the existing waiting room area by the installation of an additional exhaust fan and a rearrangement of existing fans and movable windows. This should improve the ventilation in the waiting rooms. Improvements to the lighting in the branch are also being undertaken. The department is actively engaged in a decentralization of its financial assistance function. Applicants are now able

to obtain financial assistance at the department's Elizabeth and Salisbury district offices and, as further staff become available, similar facilities will be provided at other district offices.

PENOLA COURTHOUSE

Mr. RODDA: Has the Attorney-General a reply to my question of March 15 about a new police station and courthouse for Penola?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Minister of Works states that it is intended to erect a new police station and courthouse at Penola, and contract documents for the project have been completed. Tenders will close on March 30, 1972, and it is expected that, subject to receipt of a satisfactory tender, the erection of the complex will be completed in about six months from the letting of the contract.

EYRE PENINSULA RAIL SERVICE

Mr. GUNN: In view of the recent rather unfair statement by the Railways Commissioner complaining about Eyre Peninsula producers not using the railways, will the Minister of Roads and Transport consult the Commissioner with a view to having him negotiate with the superphosphate company to provide bulk superphosphate facilities at some railway stations on Eyre Peninsula, in a way similar to that in which these facilities are now provided in the South-East? Obviously, the Minister is not listening.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is not permitted to comment.

Mr. GUNN: In my district there has been a rather strong reaction to the Commissioner's statement about Eyre Peninsula producers not supporting the railways. If the Commissioner were to negotiate with this company, some goodwill might result, because the Commissioner would be showing these people that the Railways Department was prepared to provide services in an effort to encourage people to patronize the railways.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Let me make one point clear to the honourable member: I have commended the Railways Commissioner previously in this House for his forthright statement. I do so again and reject completely the allegation by the honourable member, because it was an unfair statement.

Mr. Gunn: Well, it was—

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The honourable member wouldn't know!

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Eyre has asked his question, and

the Minister is replying. The honourable member must cease interjecting. The honourable Minister for Roads and Transport.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The member for Eyre could not determine whether the statement was fair or unfair. He has obviously not studied the facts associated with the whole proposition; nor does he understand what went before. The honourable member is now asking that the Railways Commissioner should consider providing bulk superphosphate hoppers on the West Coast. I think he said something about the Commissioner's goodwill towards the farming fraternity, or words to that effect. I remind the honourable member that many bulk handling facilities are made available on the West Coast and in other areas of the State. Bulk hoppers are made available for the transport of produce, and this is important.

Mr. Gunn: Would you—

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Eyre should not interject continually. If he interjects again while the Minister is replying, he will be named immediately. The honourable Minister of Roads and Transport.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: The Railways Commissioner has already provided many bulk trucks for the transport of grain and other produce, but the point that the Commissioner makes in his open letter is that the farming fraternity is not using these facilities. Either it must use them or consideration must be given to what must result. Not only did the Commissioner make this point in his open letter, but three weeks ago I attended, at Cummins, a local government conference which was attended also by the members for Eyre and Flinders as well as by a member of the Legislative Council. I told that gathering that the people of Eyre Peninsula would have to seriously consider their situation because, if they would not use the railway system, I hoped they would tell us, so that we could save the rest of the taxpayers of this State a tremendous sum. In a recent reply in this House to the member for Flinders, I pointed out that under normal conditions the Railways Commissioner seconded running staff for the West Coast. At this time, however, no staff has been seconded and the equivalent of only five trains a week has been running there. The situation is serious and I am delighted that the member for Eyre is taking note of what has been said. Indeed, I hope that he will not go off on the wrong tangent but that he will do what he can to help this important State enterprise.

WHEAT

Mr. RODDA: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my recent question concerning experimentation in the wheat industry?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague has informed me that the Agriculture Department is conducting an extensive programme of research into various aspects of the wheat industry, financed chiefly from wheat industry and Commonwealth funds. The State Wheat Industry Research Trust Fund, into which levies are paid on wheat delivered to the Australian Wheat Board in South Australia, makes an important contribution to this work, which includes a continuing programme of variety testing. These tests give information on the suitability of different varieties and hybrid wheats for the range of climatic and soil conditions in the wheat belt and provide information on quality characteristics as affected by changes in environment. Fertilizer investigations and the breeding of new pasture legumes for the wheat belt are other noteworthy features. The Wheat Industry Research Council, which receives from the Commonwealth Government a contribution to match the levies paid in all States, also provides assistance for the department's work. It is the policy of each of these bodies to maintain a financial reserve. Payments into the funds vary with the quantity of wheat delivered and, in the absence of an adequate reserve, a drought year could force the abandonment of costly but uncompleted projects and the retrenchment of staff.

REDWOOD PARK SCHOOL

Mrs. BYRNE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my question of March 21 concerning a new site for the proposed school at Redwood Park?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: A site has not yet been obtained for the proposed school, in the sense that we do not own it yet. A site was selected and incorporated in the draft regulations under the Planning and Development Act. It appeared as part section 1589 in the hundred of Yatala and contained 10 acres. The draft regulations have been made available for public inspection and appeals have been lodged in connection with some of the sites. One real estate firm recently submitted for consideration a plan of the subdivision of the area containing a proposal for an alternative site for the school in section 1590. The Director of the Public Buildings Department is arranging for examination of the site. This will be done as soon as possible.

BOTANIC GARDEN

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Works a reply from the Minister of Lands to my recent question concerning the Botanic Garden?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states that he has obtained a report on this matter, which indicates that copies of the amended by-laws were obtained after some delay but, because of a misunderstanding, only a few were correctly displayed. This, however, does not affect the validity of the by-laws and the position with regard to notice boards has now been rectified. The by-law to which the honourable member referred provides that no-one is permitted to play or sound any musical instrument or whistle or use an amplifier without written authority from the Board of Governors of the Botanic Garden. In the case referred to, an attendant approached a visitor to the garden to point out that he was contravening a by-law. The person concerned, however, responded by taking exception to what was a reasonable request.

CATHEDRAL LIGHTING

Mr. LANGLEY: Can the Premier, as Minister in charge of tourism, say whether the wiring for the floodlighting of St. Peter's Cathedral is permanent? During the Adelaide Festival of Arts, the floodlighting and coloured lighting that adorned the City of Adelaide was given high praise by visitors and local people alike. I have been told that the floodlighting of the cathedral was outstanding. If the wiring is of a permanent nature, will consideration be given for the cathedral to be floodlit on special occasions such as Christmas and Easter, and on other occasions if need be?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know, but I will find out. Personally, I thought the floodlighting of the cathedral was of a slightly bilious hue.

AMERICAN RIVER WATER SUPPLY

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question about the provision of a water supply for American River?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The necessary investigation by the Engineering and Water Supply Department will take about 12 months. A detailed examination and estimate of cost are required for increasing the capacity of the existing Middle River dam. It will also be necessary to make a survey and assessment for a possible new dam to be constructed on Middle River.

FLY STRIKE

Mr. RODDA: Has the Minister of Works received a reply from the Minister of Agriculture to my question about the scourge of fly strike?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague reports that the Director of Agriculture considers that the prolonged spells of damp humid weather experienced this spring and summer have been ideal for blowfly activity and have resulted in an unusually high incidence of body strike of sheep. The fly involved is mainly *Lucilia cuprina*, which is responsible for at least 90 per cent of primary strike of sheep, and is common in all States. The only control method available against body strike is the use of insecticides which include some of the organo-phosphorus group, but they are becoming less effective as the blowfly develops higher resistance to the chemicals in use. The problem was foreseen some years ago, and in 1967 the standing committee on agriculture resolved that an *ad hoc* committee, comprising the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization and the State Agriculture Departments, be formed to review current research in Australia and to indicate lines of profitable research by the various organizations. As a result, the search for insecticides alternative to those currently in use has been stepped up by the New South Wales and Queensland Agriculture Departments, while the C.S.I.R.O. has increased its investigations into other possible forms of control. To date no effective alternative chemicals have been developed for commercial use, nor has the research into alternative control methods yielded practical methods which can be recommended to graziers. The Director is of the opinion that, under normal summer conditions in South Australia, breech strike will continue to be the major worry. This can be adequately controlled by correct mulesing and tail stripping, and the department will continue to recommend these practices.

WEEDS

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture to give an assurance that, with the recommended disallowance of the new weeds regulations, on which recommendation I congratulate the Subordinate Legislation Committee, councils on the western slopes of the Adelaide Hills will honour their obligations under the Noxious Weeds Act to see that these weeds are kept under control? Councils are the people at fault: they are causing the trouble in this

matter. They have not honoured their obligations under the Act and, as the Minister has an overriding power to see that they honour them, I consider that he is obliged to do so. Members require an assurance that the Minister will see that the councils do their job.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will confer with my colleague, seek the assurance that the honourable member asks for, and let the honourable member know whether the Minister agrees with him.

T.A.B. FUNDS

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Attorney-General a reply from the Chief Secretary to my recent question about Totalizator Agency Board funds?

The Hon. L. J. KING: The Totalizator Agency Board has made loans to clubs in the racing industry under the provisions of sections 31h (1) (g), which provides that the board may invest any of its funds in investments of any kind which the board deems appropriate. The Government is not aware of any legal doubt on the board's activities in this direction.

FLORA AND FAUNA RESERVES

Mr. RODDA: Has the Minister of Environment and Conservation a reply to my recent question about fencing flora and fauna reserves?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I have already told the honourable member by letter of the policy currently being adopted by the National Parks Commission with regard to the fencing and provision of water points in flora and fauna reserves. As I explained in my letter, if money could be made available from rural reconstruction funds for these purposes, a serious problem would be solved. However, I have now been informed by the Minister of Lands that the funds that have been made available by the Commonwealth Government are to provide for the creation of employment opportunities for unemployed in rural areas to the maximum extent. To this end the Commonwealth has stipulated that a minimum of two-thirds of the total allocation made to this State be expended on direct labour. The cost of materials, supervision, vehicle hire, etc., for fencing of the boundaries of national parks and reserves would be well in excess of one-third of any grant allocation that could be made. Therefore, such a project would not meet the criteria specified by the Commonwealth. Funds made available for rural reconstruction are limited to debt readjustment and farm build-up, and the relevant State and Commonwealth legislation makes no

provision for the fencing of national parks or for similar purposes.

LAND TAX

Mr. GUNN: Can the Treasurer say when all of the 1,700 appeals against the new rural land tax assessment will have been considered by the Valuation Department?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot give an accurate reply at this stage.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General) laid on the table the report of the Standing Orders Committee, 1970-1972, together with the minutes of proceedings.

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

That the report be printed.

In so moving, I indicate to the House, without wishing to enter into a debate on the contents of the report, that it is the committee's wish that the House this session consider the adoption of the recommended changes so that they may come into operation at the commencement of next session. With one small exception, the recommendations of the Standing Orders Committee are unanimous.

Motion carried.

MURRAY NEW TOWN (LAND ACQUISITION) BILL

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to authorize the acquisition by the State Planning Authority of not more than ten thousand hectares of land for the purpose of establishing a new town, and for purposes connected therewith. Read a first time.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Australia is one of the world's most highly urbanized countries and our major cities continue to grow larger. Few matters therefore can be of greater social significance than the quality of living in our cities of the future. As populations grow and urban areas spread, long-term planning is essential to ensure that everyone can live and work in healthy, convenient and pleasant surroundings. The Government is determined that the future city dwellers of this State should not be condemned to living in a metropolitan area characterized by congestion, noise, and smog, with the tiring long journeys to and from work and those other evils that are so readily apparent in large cities throughout the world. Adelaide is still a

pleasant place to live in, but what of the future? Present predictions are more than a little disturbing. We have only to go back to the forecasts contained in the 1962 Metropolitan Development Plan to see how urgent the problem will become in a very short time. Adelaide's present population is about 810,000. In 1962, the planners predicted that by 1981 our numbers would go beyond 1,000,000. Today I would not regard that as any sort of achievement. Not so many years ago, it would have been, but things are very different now. People are more conscious of the pollution problem brought about, almost automatically, by population pressures. By the year 1991, the prediction is for an Adelaide of about 1,384,000 people. This is based on an annual growth rate of 3 per cent, so one sees how the figures can mount up. By the turn of the century we should have reached 1,500,000, that is, if we just sit by and do nothing about it.

This sort of situation was brought home to South Australians when the implications of the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study plan became apparent. The authorities then realized how they would have to cater for this tremendous increase on the roads. People were not willing to accept the effect on their environment of the proposed massive structures of concrete and steel which were said to be needed to cope with the increased car volume. There will be not only twice as many cars but twice as many factories polluting the air, and twice as many people crowding our parks, beaches and sports grounds. This is not a particularly beguiling prospect. Of course, Melbourne and Sydney, both nearing 5,000,000, will be much worse off. It surely follows from what I have said (and I could have painted a much blacker picture very easily) that we must now take steps to ensure a more even distribution of population throughout the country. Otherwise our metropolitan living area will become unmanageable. We know that the Commonwealth Government is presently reassessing the immigration programme. Investigations are being made into desirable future population levels for Australia, and, most important, into how the nation's people should be distributed between the cities and other areas.

Australia urgently needs a plan for the distribution of its population. Such a plan would be useless without the backing of adequate legislation and finance. There is a growing awareness at Commonwealth level that action will have to be taken soon in response to

the mounting groundswell of public opinion demanding action on urban problems. The Commonwealth-State Officials Committee on Decentralization, first set up following the Premiers' Conference in 1964, is expected to submit its report shortly. The content of this report will undoubtedly have a major influence on future Commonwealth Government policy whichever Party is in power. There is widespread acceptance of the view throughout the country that new growth centres should be established at selected points in an effort to lessen the growth rate of the major metropolitan areas. Such centres should be capable of being expanded reasonably quickly to cities of 100,000 or even 250,000 so that their inhabitants can enjoy all the social and economic advantages commonly found in cities of that size.

Mr. E. G. Whitlam, Q.C., M.P. (Leader of the Opposition in the Commonwealth Parliament), addressing the Centenary Convention of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in May, 1971, said that he foresaw "that by the year 2000 we will see at least five more Canberras fully developed, and perhaps as many more in various intermediate phases of growth". Adelaide's Metropolitan Development Plan covers the period up to 1991, now a relatively short period in terms of city development. The State Planning Authority set out some of the alternative forms for growth for Adelaide and the implications of each in its pamphlet *Adelaide 2000—The Alternatives*, first issued in October, 1969. Councils, government departments, professional bodies and other interested organizations were consulted and public debate took place. The authority has analysed carefully the comment received and has concluded that the pattern of growth embodied in the Metropolitan Development Plan is valid up to 1991 with some modifications, but the concept of continued growth on the Adelaide Plains must be seriously questioned in the longer term.

Subsequently, the Government decided that steps should be taken to study the implications of establishing a major new town in South Australia. A small specialist committee of senior public servants, under the chairmanship of the Minister Assisting the Premier, was formed to make a preliminary assessment. It soon became clear that the considerable investigations needed for a project of this magnitude could not proceed under the cloak of secrecy necessary to prevent speculation in land. The committee therefore confined its efforts to a broad assessment of where action to establish

a new town would be most assured of success. After a careful analysis of the many factors involved, the committee concluded that a new town established near Murray Bridge was most likely to succeed. It was also essential that a site be secured in public ownership. Little further work could proceed on investigating a precise site for the town without involving large numbers of specialist advisers. It was necessary to ensure that any site finally selected could be purchased by the Government at a reasonable price. Steps having been taken to secure a site, the detailed planning of the town and setting up the appropriate constructing authority would follow. The Bill before the House represents the first step—securing the site. At this stage the Government has made no decision regarding the developing authority or other matters relating to the construction of the town. These matters must be the subject of subsequent legislation.

I will deal now with the factors that led to the selection of Murray Bridge as the site for the new town. In this State water supply is of paramount importance, and proximity to the Murray River ensures an adequate supply. High ground to the west affords ample elevation for sufficient head to reticulate water through gravity mains and no abnormal problems are expected. Any problems of quantity or quality that may arise in future would apply also to Adelaide's water supply. Treatment of sewage effluent would be possible by normal methods and treated effluent could possibly be used for irrigation purposes. Surface drainage will depend on the site finally selected, and gas and electricity supplies present no difficulties.

Murray Bridge is located 52 road miles east of Adelaide, on the main highway to Melbourne. The new freeway from Adelaide is expected to be constructed to the outskirts of Murray Bridge by 1977, when the time of travel will be drastically reduced. The main railway line linking Adelaide to Melbourne passes through Murray Bridge. A major new airfield could probably be established near Murray Bridge without undue difficulty. The climate is pleasant with warm summers and cool winters. The proximity of the Murray River, the sea, and the Mount Lofty Ranges affords a variety of scenery and opportunities for recreation. The productive river flats and nearby irrigation areas assure a nearby source of garden and dairy produce. Sources of suitable building materials are readily available and the building of a new town in the locality would not impair any large area of

outstanding scenic beauty. The reasonable proximity of the locality to Adelaide is one of the main reasons why the Government considers that at this stage in the State's development establishing a new town at Murray Bridge can be achieved despite all the major obstacles to be overcome.

The population which will have to be attracted to the new town to live, to work and to bring up families, will be largely the children presently growing up in Adelaide. There will be family ties and desires to visit at weekends and to make major shopping expeditions. Such social reasons can tip the scales between success and failure of such a project. In addition, manufacturing industries, tertiary educational institutions and Government departments that may eventually be located in the new town will have close links with Adelaide. Selecting a site further removed from Adelaide would only increase the major difficulties to be faced in securing adequate employment opportunities in the town. It is clear that, in coping with what would otherwise be an influx into the metropolitan area, the basis of expansion of industry will involve those industries that will rely on the Adelaide industrial supply base, which is a good industrial supply base. In that case, it is necessary to have an industrial complex reasonably near.

A further major reason for selecting Murray Bridge is the nature of the intervening country between Murray Bridge and the Adelaide metropolitan area. A new town must maintain its own identity and not link up eventually with the metropolitan area. We do not look forward to a major conurbation (a spreading of suburbs and urban development) between here and Murray Bridge which will mean that the whole system will be joined up and become something like the Newcastle-Wollongong situation. There must be a significant break of open country between the two. The hilly nature of the Mount Lofty Ranges and the controls existing on metropolitan watersheds, which now exist and which are being extended, will ensure that such a fusion of the two urban areas could not take place.

The Government intends at this stage that a site should be secured sufficient to house 100,000 persons. Such a population requires 10,000 ha of land. Before dealing with the Bill in detail, I assure all members that the Government sees this measure as only one of the steps necessary towards achieving a more even distribution of population throughout the State. There are many country towns through-

out South Australia where new development should take place. The Government will continue its endeavours to encourage and promote development in the most appropriate location. Even with the success of the venture we are now beginning, even if we do manage to go according to plan and sift off 150,000 people from Adelaide's expected over-spill, there are still an extra 400,000 or 500,000 from Adelaide to be accommodated elsewhere by the year 2000.

Plainly this Murray New Town is only one prong of our attack on the population problem. I can assure people in other parts of South Australia who are anxious to get more people and more industry that this proposal does not mean an end to their hopes. All areas with potential will be considered. The Government is asking this House to support one of the most important and far-reaching decisions taken in this State since the founding of Elizabeth. The occasion is supremely appropriate to recall the inspiring words of Daniel H. Burnham who, in 1907, when preparing the plan of Chicago, said:

Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical diagram once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone will be a living thing, asserting itself with ever-growing insistency.

The details of the Bill are now considered in detail. Clause 1 provides for a short title, and here I would indicate that the adoption of the description Murray New Town in the short title should not be taken to indicate that this will be the name finally adopted for the town. For the present at least the short title is only intended to indicate the general area in which the town will be established. Clause 2 sets out the definitions necessary for the purposes of the measure, and these definitions are, I feel, reasonably self-explanatory. Clause 3 provides for the actual designation of the site for the new town; and clause 4 formally provides for the acquisition of the necessary land within the designated area. Clause 5 extends the general power of approval or refusal of approval of plans of subdivision vested in the Director of Planning under Part VI of the Planning and Development Act by giving the Director power to refuse his approval to a plan of subdivision within the establishment area if, in his opinion, that plan of subdivision would prejudice the establishment of a new town. This decision of the Director is, of course, subject to appeal under the Planning and Development Act.

Clause 6 provides that on and from the day on which the boundaries of the designated site are established all changes of use of land and all improvements to buildings on land within the designated site must be approved by the State Planning Authority if they are to attract compensation upon acquisition. Improvements, which an owner is by law obliged to carry out, will be regarded as being approved by the authority for the purposes of this section. Clause 7 provides for immediate acquisition of land in case of hardship and is based on a comparable provision in the Highways Act. Clause 8 is perhaps the most novel provision in the Bill and has been drafted to cover a situation the Government considers should be covered but has found extraordinarily difficult in practice to provide for. Briefly, it represents an attempt to ensure that upon acquisition the owners of the land receive compensation based on comparable values of similar land elsewhere. In short, if over the 10-year land acquisition period land values rise generally, it is felt this should be recognized in fixing compensation for individual holdings when acquisition occurs. As members will be aware, when assessing compensation for land regard is paid amongst other things (a) to the price paid at any previous sale of that land; and (b) to the price paid at sales of comparable land elsewhere.

By and large this provision does not affect the aspect referred to in (a) above since certain modifications of the Land Acquisition Act have been suggested to cover this aspect. The amendment will, however, enable attributed prices to be placed on sales of comparable land in the establishment area on the basis that these attributed prices will reflect the general movement of land values as they would be if the new town was not established in the area. For this reason the attributed price may be higher or lower than the actual price. By this means it is hoped that owners will receive the advantage of having general movements in land values over the next 10 years reflected in their acquisition compensation. Clause 9 modifies the Land Acquisition Act in two important respects, as follows:

- (a) It provides that all dealings in land subject to acquisition under this Act that occur after March 29, 1972, will have to be proved to have been undertaken *bona fide*, that is, not merely for the purposes of enhancing the value of land for acquisition purposes. This is the situation that

presently obtains under the Land Acquisition Act after the notice of intention to acquire land has been served on the owner. This modification in effect proposes, in one sense at least, that the fixing of the designated site by proclamation under this measure will have effect as a kind of notice of intention to acquire land within the designated site.

- (b) It provides that improvements and changes of use carried out within the periods set out in paragraph (b) of the clause will be recognized in fixing compensation. Clause 10 confers a formal right of entry on land to certain persons for the purposes of the Act. Clause 11 merely incorporates certain financial provisions of the Planning and Development Act. Clause 12 provides for the expiration of the Act on March 1, 1982. In short, no further acquisition under this Act in its present form can take place after that day without further Parliamentary intervention.

Dr. EASTICK secured the adjournment of the debate.

METROPOLITAN AREA (WOODVILLE, HENLEY AND GRANGE) DRAINAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Metropolitan Area (Woodville, Henley and Grange) Drainage Act, 1964. Read a first time.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

This short Bill is intended to resolve a practical difficulty that has arisen in connection with the principal Act, the Metropolitan Area (Woodville, Henley and Grange) Drainage Act, 1964. This Act provided for certain drainage works to be carried out in the areas of the councils involved, the details of these works being contained in a report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works referred to in the principal Act. The cost of these works was to be borne in equal shares by the councils and the Government.

However, for a number of reasons the works referred to in the Act were not, in terms, entirely carried out, and in some cases were substituted for the works referred to in the report. These deletions and substitutions were carried out with the agreement of the councils

involved. At section 4 (5) of the Act provision is made for the Treasurer to publish a statement that the works are completed, and this statement must be certified by the Auditor-General. The purpose of the publication of this statement is to enable the councils involved to proceed with final repayment arrangements.

In view of the deletions and substitutions that have taken place the Auditor-General, quite properly, has taken the view that he cannot certify that the works as defined in the principal Act are completed. However, he has indicated that he could give his certificate that the agreed sum had been spent on the works, this agreed sum being, in terms of section 4 (1) of the principal Act, \$772,600. Accordingly, clause 2 of the Bill slightly varies the definition of the "works" for the purposes of this Act by including works substituted for the works. Clause 3 provides that the statement of the Treasurer duly certified by the Auditor-General may be published when the agreed sum has been spent on the works.

Mr. MATHWIN secured the adjournment of the debate.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN THEATRE COMPANY BILL

Consideration in Committee of Select Committee's report.

(Continued from March 28. Page 4351.)

Clauses 1 to 3 passed.

Clause 4—"Definitions."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): I move to insert the following new definition:

"subscriber" means a person for the time being a subscriber to the Company within the meaning of the regulations;

This amendment provides for subscribers to the company who will be able to elect members to the board.

Mr. COUMBE: As a member of the Select Committee, I indicate that I support this amendment and the subsequent amendments that the Premier will move.

Amendment carried.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

To strike out the definition of "the artistic director".

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 5 passed.

Clause 6—"The Board of Governors."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

In subclause (2) to strike out "five" and insert "six"; and to strike out paragraph (b) and insert the following new paragraph:

(b) of whom two shall be elected, in the manner provided for by the regulations, by subscribers;

Amendments carried.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

In subclause (4) after "Board" third occurring to strike out "on the recommendation of the artistic director,".

Amendment carried.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved to insert the following new subclause:

(6a) Every governor elected by subscribers shall, subject to this Act, hold office as such until the conclusion of the next election of governors elected by subscribers.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clauses 7 to 15 passed.

Clause 16—"Governor to declare interest."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

In subclause (2) after "players" second occurring to insert "and the governor elected by subscribers shall be deemed not to have a financial interest in a matter where that financial interest arises only by reason of the fact that he is a subscriber."

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clauses 17 to 19 passed.

Clause 20—"Employment of employees."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

In subclause (2) to strike out "its employees" and insert "the employees of the Company".

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 21—"Artistic director of the Company."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

In subclause (1) after "Company" to insert "and upon that appointment the artistic director shall become an employee of the Company".

Amendment carried.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

To strike out subclauses (2), (3) and (4) and insert the following new subclause:

(2) The terms and conditions of employment of the artistic director shall be as determined by the Board and approved of by the Minister.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clauses 22 to 26 passed.

Clause 27—"Power to borrow."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

After "may" first occurring to insert "with the consent of the Treasurer".

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clauses 28 to 33 passed.

Clause 34—"Regulations."

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN moved:

In subclause (2) to insert the following new paragraph:

(aa) provide for persons to be subscribers to the Company, for the rights and obligations of such subscribers, for the subscriptions to be paid by subscribers, for holding of elections of governors to be elected by subscribers and in the event of a vacancy in the office of a governor so elected, for holding of by-elections and for all matters incidental to all or any of the foregoing matters.

Mr. CUMBE: With the passing of this and other amendments, this is now a much better Bill. I believe that both the Select Committee and this Committee of the House are indebted for the valuable evidence, especially that given on behalf of the Council of the Arts by Dr. Jean Battersby. The theatre company can now be founded in a way that we would like to see, so that it is a credit both to the City of Adelaide and to this State.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Title passed.

Bill read a third time and passed.

DAIRY CATTLE IMPROVEMENT ACT AMENDMENT BILL

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Dairy Cattle Improvement Act, 1921-1968. Read a first time.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

It amends the Dairy Cattle Improvement Act, 1921, as amended, and its effect is (a) to provide that the Agriculture Department will be the sole licensing authority under the Act (previously this licensing function was shared between the officers of the department and police officers); (b) to raise the age from which a bull must be first licensed from six months to 12 months; and (c) to raise the licence fee from \$2 to \$4. The details of the Bill are as follows:

Clauses 1 and 2 are formal. Clause 3 raises the age at which bulls must be first licensed from six months to 12 months and makes certain minor drafting amendments to section 6 of the principal Act. Clause 4 when read with the amendments proposed at clause 9 provides for an increase in licence fees from \$2 to \$4. Clauses 5, 6 and 7 remove references to members of the Police Force. Clause 8 amends section 22 of the principal Act and removes a special period of limitation for actions against officials, this removal being in accordance with Government policy that such special periods should not now be provided for. Clause 9

makes appropriate amendments to the scale of fees for licences in the first schedule of the principal Act.

Mr. WARDLE secured the adjournment of the debate.

FRUIT FLY (COMPENSATION) BILL

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN (Minister of Works) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to provide for compensation for loss arising from measures to eradicate fruit fly. Read a first time.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I move:

That this Bill be now read a second time.

It follows closely in form and substance a number of similar measures introduced into this House and is intended to provide for the payment of compensation to persons who suffered loss by reason of actions of departmental officers in combating three recent outbreaks of fruit fly. As members are aware, in this season there were three outbreaks, one in the Prospect area, one in the Parafield Gardens area and one in the Morphettville area. Each of these outbreaks has been the subject of a proclamation under the Vine, Fruit and Vegetable Protection Act, 1885-1959, and those proclamations are referred to in clause 3 of the Bill. At this time an estimate of the number of claims likely to be received cannot be made with any degree of accuracy. In general it is not thought likely that there will be a large number of claims from the Parafield Gardens area and those from the Prospect area will be of the same order as is usual from a comparatively older, well developed area. However the quarantine area established in relation to the Morphettville outbreak did take in certain local vineyards and steps had to be taken to minimize the amount of compensation in this area.

Mr. CARNIE secured the adjournment of the debate.

INDUSTRIAL CODE AMENDMENT BILL (TRADING HOURS)

Consideration in Committee of the Legislative Council's amendments:

No. 1. Page 2, line 4 (clause 4)—Leave out "12.30 p.m." and insert "11.30 a.m.".

No. 2. Page 2, line 15 (clause 4)—Leave out "12.30 p.m." and insert "11.30 a.m.".

No. 3. Page 2, line 20 (clause 4)—Leave out "12.30 p.m." and insert "11.30 a.m.".

No. 4. Page 3, lines 1 to 15 (clause 5)—Leave out paragraphs (a) and (b) and insert new paragraphs (a) and (b) as follows:

(a) in the case of such shop assistants other than hairdressers, shall cease no later than the hour of 5.30 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays inclusive, the hour of 9 p.m. on Fridays and the

hour of 11.30 a.m. on Saturdays and no shop assistant shall be required to work in such ordinary hours on more than five consecutive days in any one week and more than eighty hours in any period of two consecutive weeks;

and

(b) in the case of shop assistants being hair-dressers, shall cease no later than the hour of 6 p.m. Mondays to Thursdays inclusive, the hour of 9 p.m. on Fridays and the hour of 12.30 p.m. on Saturdays and no shop assistant shall be required to work in such ordinary time on more than five consecutive days in any one week, and more than eighty hours in any period of two consecutive weeks:

The Hon. D. H. McKEE (Minister of Labour and Industry): I move:

That the Legislative Council's amendments be disagreed to.

I ask the Committee not to accept amendments Nos. 1 to 3, first because it is not mandatory for stores to open until 12.30 p.m. and, secondly, because these amendments would adversely affect employees and small businesses, which would have difficulty competing with larger stores.

I also ask the Committee to disagree to amendment No. 4. It provides that one of the alternatives to the working week for shop assistants can be an 80-hour fortnight rostered over six days. Shop assistants should be able to work their normal working week between Monday and Friday, like all other workers. The roster system would mean that on alternate Mondays they would, in effect, take time off in lieu of overtime worked on Saturdays and Friday evenings. I ask the Committee to disagree to these amendments, because they will take away from shop assistants existing conditions and force them to take time off in lieu of pay.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I am not surprised at the Minister's attitude, but I am disappointed. When the amendment was moved by the Opposition when the Bill was before us, we explained why we considered it perfectly proper and in the interests of those concerned. I cannot accept the Minister's reasons for disagreeing. Stores close at 11.30 a.m. now, and the provision inserted by the Legislative Council would bring the law into line with practice.

Dr. EASTICK (Leader of the Opposition): I support what the member for Mitcham has said. The Minister and his colleagues have told the Opposition repeatedly that they are interested in the workers and the people in the community, yet they deny the opportunity to define a maximum period of time that the shop

assistants will be required to work on Saturday. One of the great fears of shop assistants at present is that there could be a shift in trade requirements and they could be required to work until 12 noon, 12.15 p.m., or 12.30 p.m. as the Bill stands. If they were asked to work until 12.30 p.m., their sport and leisure would be affected. Because we believe in sport and leisure for the shop assistants, the amendment is the provision we want.

Mr. McANANEY: Do not some workers work shift work now, and do they not receive different pay? Like the Municipal Tramways Trust—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! This is not Question Time. We are dealing with the Legislative Council's amendments, and any discussion must take place on the amendment.

Mr. McANANEY: Since I have been here, we have been able to raise points and the Minister has replied to them. I point out that other people work broken shifts. If one section of the community does this to provide a service, this is a practice. The workers in the shops have indicated their willingness to accept this, and the Minister has not submitted a logical argument against the amendment. The provisions of the original Bill will result in considerable cost increases.

The Committee divided on the motion:

Ayes (25)—Messrs. Broomhill, Brown, and Burdon, Mrs. Byrne, Messrs. Clark, Corcoran, Crimes, Curren, Dunstan, Groth, Harrison, Hopgood, Hudson, Jennings, Keneally, King, Langley, McKee (teller), McRae, Payne, Simmons, Slater, Virgo, Wells, and Wright.

Noes (18)—Messrs. Allen, Becker, Brookman, Carnie, Coumbe, Eastick (teller), Evans, Ferguson, Goldsworthy, Hall, Mathwin, McAnaney, Millhouse, Nankivell, and Rodda, Mrs. Steele, Messrs. Tonkin and Wardle.

Majority of 7 for the Ayes.

Motion thus carried.

The following reason for disagreement was adopted:

Because the amendments would adversely affect the interests of employees.

Later:

The Legislative Council intimated that it insisted on its amendments Nos. 1 to 4, to which the House of Assembly had disagreed.

Consideration in Committee.

The Hon. D. H. McKEE (Minister of Labour and Industry) moved:

That the House of Assembly insist on its disagreement to the Legislative Council's amendments.

Motion carried.

A message was sent to the Legislative Council requesting a conference at which the House of Assembly would be represented by Messrs. Dunstan, Eastick, McKee, Millhouse, and Virgo.

Later, a message was received from the Legislative Council agreeing to a conference to be held in the Legislative Council conference room at 7.45 p.m.

At 7.45 p.m. the managers proceeded to the conference, the sitting of the House being suspended. They returned at 12.55 a.m.

The Hon. D. H. McKEE (Minister of Labour and Industry): I have to report that the managers for the two Houses conferred together but that no agreement was reached.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN (Premier and Treasurer): In reporting to the House on the negotiations on this Bill, I can only say that never has there been such an extraordinary action on the part of another place as there has been in this case. The Government and the managers on the part of the House of Assembly went to extraordinary lengths to meet the Legislative Councillors in this matter and offered in compromise to the Legislative Councillors, as an alternative to the provisions of the original Bill, that, if on the application of an employer to the Industrial Commission the Commission was satisfied that the majority of shop assistants employed by the applicant employer genuinely did not desire the ordinary hours of work prescribed in the Bill but preferred the roster system proposed by the Retail Traders Association, that should be prescribed; but that provision was refused by the Legislative Council.

The Legislative Council has chosen to throw this out on the feeble excuse that industrial conditions were not to be prescribed by legislation when, already in this Bill under the Legislative Council's own proposals, industrial provisions were to be prescribed by legislation, and that has been done several times before by this House under special conditions. The Legislative Council managers then suggested that there was some influence on other awards that would arise from this provision by special legislation, but not one single award could they cite that would be affected. We invited the Legislative Council to put forward a proposal, but it simply set the Bill aside. Either we would agree to a provision that did not protect shop assistants or we were not to have a Bill at all. That is unfortunately the

position, but it is clear that the Legislative Council is not representative of the opinion of this State; it never has been; and it will be put to the test.

MOTOR VEHICLES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (LICENCES)

The Legislative Council intimated that it insisted on its amendment No. 1, to which the House of Assembly had disagreed.

ADELAIDE FESTIVAL CENTRE TRUST ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Returned from the Legislative Council without amendment.

NATIONAL PARKS AND WILD LIFE BILL In Committee.

(Continued from March 23. Page 4231.)
Clause 5—"Interpretation."

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL (Minister of Environment and Conservation): I move:

In definition of "private land" to strike out "perpetual lease" and insert "lease or licence"; and after "Crown" to insert "(except a lease or licence granted in pursuance of the Mining Act, or the Petroleum Act)".

These amendments are necessary because it is necessary for us to include under the definition of "private land" any land subject to any form of lease or licence with certain exceptions.

Amendments carried; clause as amended passed.

Clauses 6 and 7 passed.

Clause 8—"Subrogation of the Minister to the rights and liabilities of the Fauna and Flora Reserve Board of South Australia."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: In an earlier debate I said that I was concerned about the future of the staff at Flinders Chase. I also said that I regretted losing my official connection with the Fauna and Flora Board, which I have had for about 20 years. Nevertheless, I applaud the move, which I think is a step in the right direction. I am particularly concerned about the future of members of the Lonzar family who have been connected with the Chase for many years; I should like all the staff to be assured of future employment. They have given outstanding and conscientious service, and I think the thousands of testimonials they have received illustrate that.

The board has decided to submit to the Minister a report on its general aims and objects and the Minister has agreed to accept it. Flinders Chase, which is somewhat unique, does not fall into the same category as that

of other recreation parks, such as Belair and Para Wirra. The area in question, comprising about 220 square miles, is mostly natural untouched scrub, and it is a magnificent reserve free of rabbits and foxes. Unfortunately, it is not free of wild cats, but I do not really think that this is a significant problem. In addition, it is not free of either goats or pigs, which were introduced many years ago, but these numbers can be controlled, if not eliminated. Everyone who goes to Kangaroo Island wants to see Flinders Chase, and few go away disappointed. If the Minister can give an assurance along the lines I have indicated, I have no further comment on this aspect.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: We are anxious to ensure the rights of the employees to whom the honourable member has referred, and we have provided for them as best we can. Members of the staff at Flinders Chase have been fortunate in having had the personal supervision of members of the board, who have advised and helped them in the various matters. I believe that nothing will be lost as a result of the change contemplated in the Bill. I hope that additional staff will be appointed on Kangaroo Island, that is, for the other conservation parks there (I remind the Committee that almost 25 per cent of the island is now dedicated to conservation or national parks). I agree that Flinders Chase is unique in that it is visited by many people, all of whom regard it as the highlight of their visit to the island. I hope the staff at Flinders Chase will be able to carry out the same work under the new arrangements as they have carried out in the past.

I agree that there is a need to consult with members of the new advisory board on what is the best way of managing the area in the future and on what plans may be drawn up regarding the future of Flinders Chase. I am grateful for the information offered to the advisory board, for it can be used when a development plan concerning Flinders Chase is prepared in the future. I hope that when we are considering appointments to the advisory board it will be possible to appoint one of the officers previously on the Fauna and Flora Board who would be able to provide direct information on how the area should be properly managed.

Clause passed.

Clause 9 passed.

Clause 10—"Wild Life Conservation Fund."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: What has the Minister in mind regarding "any donation

or grant" that may be received for the purposes of the fund? Under subclause (3) the Minister "may apply any portion of the moneys constituting the fund towards . . . (b) the promotion of research into problems relating to the conservation of wild life". Several people whom I have interviewed regarding this matter have said they believe that many of the provisions of the Bill are not sufficiently strong in relation to obliging the Minister to do certain things. I think it is important to have an assurance from the Minister that he intends to spend certain sums in the way suggested in the Bill.

Indeed, the relevant provisions in the Social Welfare Bill make it mandatory for the Minister to undertake research into various matters affected by that measure, whereas in this case it is more optional. I should like to be assured that the Minister will undertake research, for instance, into the situation concerning the wedge-tailed eagle, the subject of a later amendment.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: As I pointed out previously, I should not have been averse to a provision requiring the Minister to take certain steps. The purpose of the present wording is simply to indicate that we intend to undertake research in many ways into the problems relating to the conservation of wild life. I have pointed out many times in the past, when publicly addressing meetings of people interested in this matter, that insufficient research is being undertaken, because of the shortage of staff in the Fisheries and Fauna Conservation Department and in the section of the Lands Department concerned with the control of national parks. As I have said previously, we need to undertake much more research work in the future than has been undertaken in the past. To achieve this, we have recently appointed a scientific officer in the national parks field. I will do all I can to impress on my Cabinet colleagues the need to update research and to ensure that we are able to deal with the problems that constantly arise.

The honourable member referred to the case of the wedge-tailed eagle, and we have also been concerned with matters relating to penguins, wombats, and so on. We have not determined any priorities in relation to expenditure from the wild life conservation fund. This fund has been established to enable members of the public to make donations for wild life conservation. In the past there have been difficulties with regard to taxation. The honourable member will probably be aware

that a substantial donation has been made for conservation purposes, and there was the necessity for that matter to be dealt with through the Commonwealth conservation organization. I am certain that people will want to make donations, and we now have the machinery to allow that to be done.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: It was suggested to me that the Bill should state that the Minister shall make provision for the conduct of research into the management of wild life and reserves and into problems affecting wild life generally; that he shall make provision for investigation into new reserves; and that he shall make provision for the dissemination of information on wild life conservation, and the promotion generally of interest in wild life and reserves constituted under this legislation. Such provisions would have been much more mandatory. It was suggested to me that, if there were this obligation on the Minister, he might get a better allocation of funds. It is felt that, if the provision in the Bill is not worded strongly enough, conservation interests may be by-passed when funds are allocated. Will the Minister comment on this?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: If we provide in the Bill that the promotion of research shall be mandatory, that will not have any great effect on the activities of the department. The honourable member will realize that the number of national parks has increased from a small number in 1956 to about 150 now. During this time, we have not kept up with expenditure for maintenance and general upkeep of these areas, or with the number of staff needed to service the areas and research the various problems that arise. The allocation of additional assistance likely to be available to us will depend on the priorities that are determined. I assure the honourable member that we intend to undertake as much research as our resources permit. With regard to future national parks, I have already discussed with the Director of the department, the State Planning Office, and conservation groups the need to undertake an overall study to ascertain areas in this field that need to be improved so that, instead of simply purchasing land as it becomes available, we will direct our resources where they are most needed. One of the first duties that I will ask the new Director to perform will be to undertake a survey of national parks throughout South Australia with the idea of implementing the policy that the honourable member has suggested should be followed.

Clause passed.

Clauses 11 to 13 passed.

Clause 14—"Establishment of Council."

Mr. GUNN: I should like to see represented on this council people from outlying areas. Organizations such as the United Farmers and Graziers of South Australia Incorporated should be represented on the council, because their members have considerable knowledge of the problems of outlying areas.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I support the suggestion of the member for Eyre. An important consideration in conservation administration is the lack of knowledge of the conditions operating in arid areas by those living in the southern wetter areas. I do not especially refer to administrators, but most people in the south think that they know something about the outback. However, most people know much less than they think they do, and more wrong can be done in administering a Bill such as this concerning arid areas than can be done in respect of other areas. There is an urgent need for someone who has a knowledge of arid areas and who has a loud voice to put forward the point of view of the people living in those areas. I do not mean that the person should not be sympathetic to conservation or must always adopt a contrary view on everything; but there are many outstanding people living in the arid areas of this State who are not only interested in conservation but also know the problems to be tackled. Their assistance would be valuable. There should be several people with that knowledge on the committee.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: It was my intention in preparing the Bill to spell out the areas from which council members should come. I considered such people as botanists, zoologists and veterinarians and others representing bird societies and other such organizations. However, after speaking with a wide range of conservationists, as most likely have members opposite, I believe that, rather than list them in such categories in the Bill, the greatest discretion possible should be left to the Government to determine the type of person to be appointed, because a person could be a pastoralist as well as having knowledge in some other field in which he is expert. We might be confining ourselves if we categorized the types of area or the professions from which members should come.

That has been the unanimous view of all those with whom I have spoken: that we should leave our options as open as possible, bearing in mind the council is limited to 15 members. As

this is not a large group, considering the wide range of interests covered in the Bill, it is still as many as can efficiently perform the work required of them. The council will also be able to appoint committees and call for advice on any matter on which it may require expert assistance. I assure the honourable member that we intend to place on the board a person with rural interests, and there could be more than one such person. I pointed out in my second reading explanation that on the National Parks Commission we have three people representing the interests of the agricultural field. It depends on the individual whether or not the member has limited knowledge or whether he has knowledge that may be useful to the board in other directions.

Clause passed.

Clauses 15 to 25 passed.

Clause 26—"Constitution of national parks by Statute."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: The next few clauses deal with reserves and national parks. Can the Minister say what possibility there is for the transfer of a park or reserve from one category to another? It is conceivable that a conservation park may be promoted to the status of a national park, or some other change may be required. Can such a transfer be satisfactorily achieved? It would have to pass through Parliament before such a change could be made.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: There are no problems. The transfer can be effected by amendment to the schedule by Act of Parliament. I see no difficulty because, if it were considered by the council or the Government that a conservation park should become a national park or that the category should be changed for some other reason, it would be obvious that, until it was convenient for the schedule to be altered, the management would be aware of what should apply. The policy could then be determined by me or by the council and an area could be managed as a national park, even though it still remained in another category, until it was convenient for the schedule to be amended. I see no problem in this area.

Mr. EVANS: The Governor may, by proclamation, alter the name of a national park constituted under clause 27. I bring to the attention of the Minister a matter related to Old Government House in the Belair National Park. I recently received a telephone call from a constituent, one of the Melville family, concerning Melville House. I was told that

Melville House had not been kept at a high standard, was not being used as a conference centre (as was originally intended), and was not being kept up to the desired standard. Will the Minister consider removing this type of building from the jurisdiction of the National Parks and Wild Life Act and placing it under the control of, say, the Museum, or some other body, where it is not necessarily part of a national park? It may be wisest to put it into another category. Proof has already been given that Old Government House has not been kept in good repair, although it is pleasing that work is to be done on that building. Will the Minister consider such a move as that to which I have referred?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: It will be necessary for me to look at the question as it concerns Melville House. I shall be pleased to do that and to give the information to the honourable member next week, perhaps in reply to a question.

Clause passed.

Clauses 27 to 30 passed.

Clause 31—"Constitution of game reserves by proclamation."

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I move:

In subclause (1) (a) to strike out "production" and insert "conservation".

Some people interested in conservation regard the word "production" as offensive. I do not know whether changing the word would make any legal difference, and I think "conservation" is a better word. I have discussed the matter with the Minister's officers at his invitation, and they see no objection to the alteration.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I know that some people have been concerned about the term. I do not think it really matters, because the game reserves are established for the purposes that we have set out. However, I accept the amendment.

Amendment carried.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I ask the Minister for his views on the security of game reserves. Protection is given regarding other reserves dealt with by regulations, but there is no such security for game reserves. I understand that these reserves are fully owned by the Government. Perhaps people will shoot on them for only a few days a week, and it seems that they will be valuable conservation areas.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Although one would not try to suggest that game reserves were not important from a conservation aspect, we have unusual security of tenure for conservation parks and national parks, where even

minor alterations cannot be undertaken without Parliament's approval. That is how it should be. However, we have only six game reserves and these are often in areas where, for good management reasons, it may be necessary to alter the boundary, and the Minister should be able to do that without referring the matter to Parliament. Although game reserves are important, obviously they are not held in the same public interest as conservation parks and national parks. I think I have stated that, if a Minister did something regarding a game reserve that was against the interests of the community, he could still be required to answer to Parliament by way of question or other action by members. The standards set by national park bodies throughout the world, certainly in the rest of Australia, are in line with the provisions of the Bill, and I believe this is satisfactory.

Clause as amended passed.

Clause 32—"Constitution of recreation parks by Statute."

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I move to insert the following new subclauses:

(4) A proclamation shall not be made under paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection (3) of this section by virtue of which any land ceases to be, or to be included in, the Belair Recreation Park, or the Para Wirra Recreation Park except in pursuance of a resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament.

(5) Notice of a motion for a resolution under subsection (4) of this section must be given at least fourteen sitting days before the motion is passed.

The new subclauses are identical to the provisions in clause 33. We have simply switched the subclauses for clarity because they fit into clause 32 better than they fit into clause 33.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 33—"Construction of recreation parks by proclamation."

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I move:

To strike out subclauses (3) and (4).

These are the provisions that we have already placed in clause 32.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 34—"Control and administration of reserves."

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I move:

In subclause (1) to strike out "established" and insert "constituted".

This amendment is being made to achieve consistency.

Amendment carried.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I move:

To strike out subclause (2) and insert the following new subclause (2):

(2) All such reserves are vested in the Crown.

This amendment is to comply with the definition of Crown land as it appears in the Crown Lands Act and it is made for consistency.

Amendment carried.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL moved:

In subclause (3) after "any person a" to insert "lease or".

Amendment carried.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I move to insert the following new subclause:

(4) Any lease or licence granted in respect of land constituted as a reserve under this Act, and in force immediately before the land is so constituted shall, subject to its terms and conditions, continue in force for the remainder of the term for which it was granted in all respects as if it had been granted by the Minister under this section.

This rectifies an omission from the original Bill, and it is necessary to ensure that leases and licences which are currently in force will continue in force under the provisions of this legislation. It is necessary in the interests of those persons who may have a lease or licence applicable at present that they have the opportunity to have that lease or licence continued.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 35 passed.

Clause 36—"Objectives of management."

Mr. EVANS: I am concerned about paragraph (d), which deals with the control of noxious and dangerous weeds and exotic plants. I do not believe that the provision places a big enough obligation on the Minister or the permanent head of the organization. I believe that we have today an attitude in Government departments (the Woods and Forests Department is not so bad as some others) of allowing noxious weeds to spread on their land, and national parks are no exception to this statement. To strengthen the clause, I move:

In paragraph (d) to strike out "control of noxious and dangerous weeds" and insert "destruction of dangerous weeds and the eradication or control of noxious weeds".

The amendment conforms to the appropriate wording in the Weeds Act. Much of the Belair National Park is infested with African daisy and other noxious weeds that are detrimental to the native plants in the area. Indeed, this problem will arise in the area being developed at Cherry Gardens and Bradbury, and it has already arisen in other parks. If the Government cannot set an example in this regard, we cannot expect adjoining landholders to try to eradicate noxious weeds.

Mr. McANANEY: I support the amendment. I believe that national parks should exist under the same conditions as the conditions applying to the properties of adjoining landholders. The Subordinate Legislation Committee recently decided, wisely, not to allow regulations that would have had the effect of permitting African daisy in certain areas to get out of control. Unfortunately, the Burnside council and certain district councils have allowed the weed to get out of control on the eastern slopes of the Adelaide Hills. Immediate steps must be taken to control African daisy, but it will be much more difficult now than it would have been had action been taken earlier. However, I have every confidence that the Minister will appreciate the situation and accept the amendment without argument.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Perhaps the Minister will consider introducing a system of requiring people who walk through the affected areas to contribute so much a mile towards eradicating African daisy.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I regret that we have not been more successful in eradicating noxious weeds, although I point out that often, when control of a park is handed over to the Government, the area in question is already badly infested. As I have said, staff problems have prevented our undertaking the sort of programme desired. However, I am happy to accept the amendment.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Clause 37—"Management plans."

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I move:

In subclause (6) to strike out "interested". There is doubt whether or not an interested person who approaches the Minister is a person directly involved with activity in that area. We wish to make clear that we mean any person, not necessarily only an interested person. This amendment will remove any misunderstanding or legal difficulty.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: This matter has been brought to my attention also, and I would have moved the amendment had the Minister not done so. It is a sensible provision because, unless that word is removed, some people will believe their advice is not wanted, and that is not what should be the spirit of the Act.

Amendment carried.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: I move:

In subclause (9) after "adopt" to insert "and make public".

It has been put to me that there is not enough information as to what should be the manage-

ment plan. I have no answer on that, nor have I any comment on it. I have discussed the matter with the Director of the National Parks Commission and I believe that we cannot specify this. Nevertheless, it is obvious what is intended. Subclauses (7) and (8) provide:

(7) At the expiration of the period during which representations may be made, the Minister shall refer the plan of management together with any representations received by him to the Advisory Council for its consideration and advice.

(8) After consideration by the Advisory Council, the plan of management shall be forwarded to the Minister together with any comments or suggestions of the Council.

The point is that the plan should be made available to the public. It is suggested that provision be made for that, and the simplest way to do that is by means of this amendment.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: I pointed out earlier how the management plan would be undertaken. It is to be published; people will then be asked to comment on it; and it will then go to the Minister. It is not stipulated that the final plan shall also be published but, if there is any doubt, it may be just as well to insert this requirement. I am happy to accept the amendment.

Amendment carried; clause as amended passed.

Progress reported; Committee to sit again.

[Sitting suspended from 6.10 to 7.30 p.m.]

LOTTERY AND GAMING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (T.A.B.)

The Hon. L. J. KING (Attorney-General) obtained leave and introduced a Bill for an Act to amend the Lottery and Gaming Act, 1936-1971, and for other purposes. Read a first time.

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

That this Bill be now read a second time.

One of its principal objects is to make provision for the establishment of funds for the development of racecourses for horse-racing, trotting and dog-racing in this State. The moneys for these funds will be derived from double, treble, and jackpot totalizator pools where the Totalizator Agency Board operates on or off-course. Under the principal Act as it now stands, the deduction to be made from all moneys invested with a totalizator, whether on or off course, is 14 per cent. It is intended to increase the deduction by a further 1 per cent in respect of moneys invested on double, treble, and jackpot totalizators where T.A.B. is operating. This should yield about \$115,000 a year, which will be paid to a board

to be known as the Racecourses Development Board. The board will consist of seven members: one will be an independent chairman, two will represent horse-racing other than trotting, two will represent trotting, and two will represent dog-racing. The main function of this board will be to maintain three separate funds.

The first fund will be called the horse-racing grounds development fund and will consist of that part of the 1 per cent deduction which is derived from horse races. The portion attributable to trotting races will be paid in to the trotting grounds development fund and the portion attributable to dog-racing will be paid into the dog-racing grounds development fund. For the purposes of administering each of these funds, the Racecourses Development Board will be formed into three groups. The Chairman will attend every meeting, but the other members present will be the two members who represent the racing interests for which the fund in question is maintained. Thus, the Chairman and the two members who represent horse-racing (other than trotting) will attend those meetings dealing with the administration of the horse-racing grounds development fund, and so on.

It should be emphasized that the funds are to be used only for the provision and improvement of approved public facilities on any race-course. At the present time, racing clubs are finding it extremely difficult to meet rising costs and almost impossible to provide or improve public facilities on racecourses. One example can be found in the out-of-date totalizator facilities which are inhibiting substantial turnover increases. The clubs make very little profit on race meetings; in fact, some clubs operate at a loss. Therefore, the present distribution from the T.A.B. is needed in some cases merely to keep the club in existence. The Government believes that by establishing the development funds the burdens on the racing clubs will be eased and the racing industry as a whole should eventually be improved. The States of Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland have a similar scheme and its operation has been most successful and beneficial in each of these States.

The Bill also contains sundry amendments to the principal Act: some correct minor defects and anomalies in the Act, some make metric conversions, and some effect various substantive alterations to the operation of the Act. In the last category comes the proposed amendment enabling the T.A.B. to make "same day

pay-outs" with respect to off-course betting, which merits some explanation at this point.

After careful consideration of the possible advantages and disadvantages of the various same day pay-out systems, the Government now firmly believes that the benefits which would flow from the system adopted in this Bill, both to the racing industry as a whole and to the revenue of the State, far outweigh any possible disadvantages. In some other States dividends on off-course betting are paid out after each race. However, the Government believes that this is a system which could lead to loitering in T.A.B. premises and so the idea has been discarded. The Bill provides that the T.A.B. may pay out dividends on off-course betting after the conclusion of the particular race meeting and that such payment shall be made in accordance with the rules of the board.

It is expected that a metropolitan agency, for example, will be open between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. or 8 p.m. on the race day and following days. The present manner in which agencies are conducted will be continued and there is no evidence from those other States that pay out under a similar system that the incidence of loitering will increase. There is ample evidence however to prove that, upon the introduction of such a system, there is a very significant increase in betting turnover.

The Government believes that such an increase in turnover will occur in this State if this Bill becomes law. The obvious benefits that would flow therefrom are as follows:

1. An increase in State revenue.
2. An increase in revenue for the various racing bodies.
3. A reduction in the present security problem which results from the large sums of money held in agencies at the end of a race day.
4. More active competition with the licensed betting shops in Port Pirie which of course can pay out after each race.
5. Further discouragement of the activities of illegal bookmakers.

Clause 1 of the Bill is formal. Clause 2 fixes the commencement of the Act on a day to be proclaimed. Clause 3 amends the arrangement of the principal Act. Clause 4 rectifies an error that was made in the proclamation fixing the date of commencement of the Lottery and Gaming Act Amendment Act (No. 2), 1966. Clauses 5 to 12 inclusive make certain metric measurement conversions. Clause 13 increases from 14 per cent to 15 per cent the deduction to be made from moneys invested

with a club on any double, treble or jackpot totalizator on which the T.A.B. conducts betting.

The increased deduction of 1 per cent will operate from a day to be fixed by proclamation (called "the appointed day") and will be paid by the club to the Racecourses Development Board for credit to the various development funds in the proper proportions according to the derivation of the moneys. Clause 14 contains a consequential amendment. Clauses 15 and 16 effect metric measurement conversions. Clause 17 contains the amendment which enables the T.A.B. to pay out dividends on an event at any time after the conclusion of the race meeting at which that event was held.

Clause 18 increases from 14 per cent to 15 per cent the deduction to be made from moneys invested with the T.A.B. on any double, treble or jackpot totalizator. Clause 19 contains consequential amendments. Clause 20 provides for the payment to the racecourses development fund of the extra 1 per cent raised by virtue of clause 18 of this Bill. Clauses 21 and 22 effect metric measurement conversions.

Clause 23 amends section 38 of the principal Act which deals with the granting by the Betting Control Board of licences for bookmakers, bookmakers' agents and bookmakers' clerks. The Act places an overall condition on the granting of any of these licences that the applicant must have resided in this State for at least 12 months before his application. This is a somewhat stringent requirement, and has, in the case of an application for a clerk's licence, caused some hardship. As the board has an unfettered discretion in the granting or refusing of licences, it is felt that the residential qualification need only be kept in the case of bookmakers, thus enabling the board to give a licence to an interstate clerk or agent who has good references but who has not necessarily resided in this State for any fixed period before his application.

Clause 24 effects a metric measurement conversion. Clause 25 effects certain metric measurement conversions to section 42 of the principal Act which deals with the registration of betting shops by the Betting Control Board. Paragraph (a) of the clause amends subsection (6) which prohibits a betting shop from opening on a day on which a race meeting is held within a radius of 10 miles of the betting shop. The definition of race meeting was amended some time ago to include horse-racing, trotting and dog-racing, and this has meant that a betting shop cannot open for the purpose of bet-

ting on horse races on a day when a trotting meeting or dog-racing meeting is to be held within that radius. This obvious error is remedied.

Clauses 26 and 27 effect metric measurement conversions, and the latter clause also corrects an incorrect reference to the Trotting Control Board. Clause 28 inserts new Part IVA of the principal Act which deals with the Racecourses Development Board. New section 48d establishes the board and gives it the normal powers of a corporation. The board will consist of seven Governor-appointed members, as I have already explained. The members will be paid out of such of the three development funds and in such manner as the Minister may determine.

New section 48e provides for the establishment of the three development funds referred to earlier. Each fund will consist of the moneys paid to it in respect of its proportion of the 1 per cent deduction, income from investment, interest on loans, and any other moneys it may receive. The board may invest surplus moneys with the approval of the Treasurer. New section 48f deals with the appropriation of the moneys in the various funds. After payment of its share of the administrative costs and the members' allowances, the horse-racing grounds development fund may provide, erect, improve or repair approved public facilities on grounds used for horse-racing other than trotting. The Minister is given power to approve the public facilities to which moneys may be directed. The trotting grounds development fund may be used for public facilities on trotting grounds, and similarly the dog-racing grounds development fund may be used for public facilities on dog-racing grounds. The board may, for these purposes and with the consent of the Treasurer, provide grants, subsidies or loans to racing clubs or may pay off any debt of a racing club incurred with respect to a public facility.

New section 48g provides that the board shall sit as a whole for the disposal of general business and, for the disposal of business arising out of the administration of the funds, shall be comprised of three members, one being the Chairman and the other two being those members who represent the interests relative to the particular fund the subject of the meeting. When the board sits as a whole, three members shall constitute a quorum. When the board meets for the administration of a fund, two members shall constitute a quorum. The Chairman or his deputy must be present at every meeting of the board. New section 48h obliges

the board to present an annual report to the Minister on its work during the previous financial year. New section 48i requires the board to keep proper books of account and for the Auditor-General to audit the accounts of the board annually. Clause 29 effects a metric measurement conversion.

Mr. BECKER secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADJOURNMENT

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

That the House at its rising do adjourn until Tuesday, April 4, at 2 p.m.

Motion carried.

At 1.2 a.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, April 4, at 2 p.m.