

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, July 26, 1972

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

PETITIONS: PARK LANDS PARKING

Mr. COUMBE presented a petition signed by 13,638 persons, stating that the Adelaide City Council, by its by-law increasing fees for car parking in park lands and by increasing areas available for car parking in the park lands, had shown that its conservation attitudes were unsuccessful. The petitioners prayed that by-law 73 made on May 8, 1972, in respect of stands for vehicles be disallowed and that a trust of salaried professional administrators be set up to protect the Adelaide park lands, thus removing them from the control of the council.

Mr. HOPGOOD presented a similar petition signed by 9,705 persons.

Petitions received.

DEATH OF HON. L. G. RICHES

The SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received the following acknowledgment from Mrs. Evelyn Riches, widow of the late Mr. L. G. Riches, C.M.G.:

Dear Mr. Hurst, Thank you for the tribute paid to Lin in the House last Tuesday, and for the sympathy expressed to my family and me. Thank you, too, for your kind thought in sending the *Hansard* proof, which I shall cherish. The many tributes to Lin's life and work have been very heartwarming to us, and a great help in bearing our grief.

Yours very sincerely,
Ev. Riches.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT: HOUSING LOANS

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The Government has decided to authorize the State Bank and the building societies which lend money provided by the State under the Home Builders Account arrangements to increase the maximum loans for new houses from \$9,000 to \$10,000. The Savings Bank of South Australia recently authorized a similar increase. At the same time the State Bank will increase the maximum loans upon established houses from \$8,000 to \$9,000. The new maxima will apply for any approvals given by the appropriate authorities for loans as from the beginning of August. Both the State Bank and the building societies have available for re-lending considerable funds derived from repayments of earlier loans in addition to the new moneys provided by the

Government. It is expected that for the current financial year to June 30, 1973, the State Bank will lend about \$20,500,000 involving about 2,200 homes, whilst the building societies will lend nearly \$3,000,000 gross of Home Builders Account moneys on about 300 homes. At the same time the Savings Bank of South Australia is expected to make loans to individuals for housing also of the order of \$20,000,000.

The State Government's provision of new money for housing continues to be at least twice as great in relation to population as in the other States combined. In 1971-72 this State provided for the Housing Trust and the Home Builders Account combined \$27,700,000 or the equivalent of \$23.50 a head whilst the other States together, with almost 10 times our population, provided less than five times as much. Their provision was barely \$134,000,000, or \$11.07 a head. Of our provision \$11 a head went to our Housing Trust and \$12.50 a head went for lending. For the other States their housing authorities got about \$8.04 a head and their provision for lending was about \$3.03 a head—the latter being little over a quarter of ours. This year the South Australian total housing provision is expected to be up by about 7 per cent and the other States combined possibly by 5 per cent.

QUESTIONS**OIL DISPUTE**

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Premier taken any action to form a special committee, preferably with executive power, to adjudicate regarding the provision of fuel supplies to emergency services in the event of the oil strike not reaching an early settlement? One appreciates that, as the oil dispute continues, the difficulty in making supplies available for emergency services becomes more apparent, and the need for supplies more important. In the community many services automatically qualify for consideration in this respect, namely, medical and food services, ambulances, fire brigades, and other services of this type. I believe that domiciliary care services, such as Meals on Wheels Incorporated and the Royal District and Bush Nursing Society, may have to be specially considered. Consideration should be given now to these organizations so that they may plan to continue the vital community services that they provide. On this basis, I ask the Premier whether any consideration has been given to emergency problems in the event of their arising soon.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The oil industry already has appointed a committee to arrange for priority in emergency supplies not only to normal medical, hospital, fire and police services but also to those organizations, such as Meals on Wheels and nursing and domiciliary care services, which purchase their petroleum supplies through normal retail outlets. That committee is already working and has arranged for centres in Adelaide at which priority will be given to the services that the Leader has mentioned. The Government has accepted the invitation of the oil industry to nominate an officer to the committee and Mr. Holland, of my department, is the Government's nominee. In the meantime, work within Government in co-ordinating supplies for Government services in South Australia is under Mr. Holland's care, and all departments now have been requested to forward information urgently so that the work of co-ordinating Government services with the supplies available to us may be ensured.

PORT AUGUSTA GAOL

Mr. KENEALLY: Will the Minister of Works ask the Chief Secretary whether the Government intends that the old gaol at Port Augusta be returned to service and, if it does, will he ask his colleague what action has been taken to make the gaol suitable for such further use? It has been suggested that the old gaol is to be used for women prisoners. If this is the case, and because the old gaol was a disgrace to an enlightened community, I should appreciate the Chief Secretary's advice on this matter.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will take up the matter with my colleague and bring down a report for the honourable member.

UNSOLVED MURDERS

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Will the Premier say whether the Government intends to offer a reward in connection with any recent murder apart from that of Dr. Duncan? It is well known that the Government has offered a reward for information concerning the dreadful incident on the Torrens River on May 10 but, as several people have pointed out, whilst that incident has aroused wide interest and upset in the community, there are several other unsolved crimes of murder in respect of which no reward has been offered but the circumstances of which are, in their own way, equally as ghastly and baffling. I see, only in today's newspaper, a report of yet another murder in South Australia. Therefore, I put

the question to the Premier, pointing out to him finally that, whilst there is public interest in the Duncan case, there is also, particularly amongst those concerned, much interest in the other unsolved murders committed in the last few months.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will examine the matter.

TRACTOR SAFETY

Mr. WELLS: Will the Minister of Labour and Industry, who I am informed has recently attended a Ministers' conference in another State, say whether any legislation is contemplated in this State regarding tractor safety?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: As I expected a question on this matter, I have had a report prepared. Although there is no legislative authority at present to enable any safety standards to be applied to tractors or any other types of farm machinery, it is proposed that the Bill for an Industrial Safety, Health and Welfare Act, which I will introduce this session, will enable regulations to be made concerning the safety of all persons in employment, including persons who work in the rural industries. This will enable regulations to be made regarding tractor safety. At the conference of Ministers of Labour last week, the New South Wales and Victorian Ministers said that it was proposed that tractor safety regulations be made in those States. The regulations, which will require guards for power take-off equipment and protective frames to be fitted to protect the drivers of tractors, will be introduced progressively over a period of years. Drafts of those regulations have been circulated to other States for comment so that whatever regulations are adopted will be acceptable to all States in order that there can be uniform legislation on this matter.

WATER RATING

Mr. COUNBE: Will the Minister of Works say, in view of the recent announcement of a 5c increase in excess water charges in this State, what additional amount will be returned to his department in a full year as a result of this further slug on taxpayers of this State?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The increase mentioned by the honourable member applies to excess water; the charge for rebate water has not changed. The amount that the Government expects to receive not only from the increase mentioned but also from an increase from \$12 to \$16 in the minimum rate and an increase in connection fees is, I think, about \$1,200,000 in a full year.

FISH DEATHS

Mr. BROWN: Can the Minister of Marine inform me whether the investigation referred to in a press statement in yesterday's *News* regarding fish dying in my district has been completed and, if it has, what were the results of that investigation?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I have received a preliminary report on the matter and as a result I can say that the dead fish (and they numbered only 50) were in the dockyard. It is believed that their death would have been caused by tests carried out on the new vessel *Clutha Capricorn*, when the boilers were filled with water and chemicals. That solution was then brought to the boil and discharged into the dockyard. No dead fish were found outside the dockyard; that is all the information I have now.

DARTMOUTH DAM

Mr. RODDA: Can the Minister of Works say what progress has been made with contract work on the Dartmouth dam?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will get a detailed report for the honourable member. I believe that the contract for preliminary site work was let in May, although I am not certain of that. However, I might add that I met Sir Reginald Swartz (Commonwealth Minister for National Development) this morning, and asked him what progress had been made, but he said that he did not know the current position. I will check with the Engineer-in-Chief (Mr. Beaney), who is a member of the River Murray Commission, and obtain details from him.

MULTI-LISTING

Mr. HOPGOOD: Will the Premier use the resources of his department to obtain the multi-listing of a house at 16 Randell Road, Morphet Vale, from the firm Woodham Biggs Proprietary Limited? One of my constituents recently purchased this house in the belief that it was connected to the sewerage system. On moving in to this house he found that, although the local area was sewered, the house itself was not connected to the sewerage system and that he would therefore be put to considerable expense to make that connection. He believes, from seeing the multi-listing earlier when negotiations were taking place, that the property is listed as being connected to a sewer. Unfortunately, however, his lawyer cannot get a copy of this document from the firm in question.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will ask the Secretary of the Land Agents Board to take up the matter.

SUCCESSION DUTIES

Mr. HALL: Does the Premier intend to introduce legislation into the House this session to reduce the incidence of death duties on estates which have been bequeathed to various people and which provide the business and working capital, and often the residence, of the beneficiaries? Is he aware that, in the reverse way of what was intended when death duties were introduced, it is now often the smaller operator whose undertaking is destroyed by these imposts? I refer the Premier to the increasing severity of the effect of death duties on those who conduct family businesses, whether trading or business concerns, or farming properties. It is obvious that many individuals in this community must pay heavy capital taxation in the form of death duties and, as a result, they can do nothing more than earn, at best, a reasonable living. Many individuals would tell the Premier that they believe it is totally unfair that they should pay this form of taxation to gain a living, while many others in the community can earn a higher income without paying any capital taxation.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: From time to time, proposals have been put to the Government concerning alterations in succession duties in South Australia, and each of these proposals has been examined on the basis of the cases submitted. While it is true that not inconsiderable sums are paid in succession duties on properties in South Australia, our payments are still significantly below the comparable per capita payments in death duties in the standard States of Australia, even taking into account a lower base of taxation in this State. Any retreat from the succession duties area would require an expansion of taxation in other areas and, so far, my discussions with those who have put forward a proposal of this kind have shown that they find alternative forms of taxation much less palatable. If the honourable member has special cases he wishes to put to me showing difficulties and anomalies, I shall be happy to examine them and to discuss them with him.

MARGARINE

Mr. SIMMONS: Has the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, a reply to the question I asked last week about restrictions on the production of margarine?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague the Minister of Agriculture has made it clear repeatedly that he is concerned at the lack of

availability of table margarines, including polyunsaturated varieties, in Adelaide shops. He intends to raise this matter at a meeting of the Australian Agricultural Council to be held next month. As the honourable member is no doubt aware, it has been standard practice for many years for that council to set table margarine quotas for Australia. It is not practicable for one State to act in isolation to increase local quotas, although, of course, manufacture for export is not subject to the same quota restrictions. My colleague is confident that the Australian Agricultural Council will see the wisdom of increasing the quotas for polyunsaturated margarine so that production is more in line with present-day demands.

CLARENDON RESERVOIR

Mr. EVANS: Has the Minister of Works a reply to the question I asked last week about the Clarendon reservoir?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Clarendon dam is an essential part of the Onkaparinga River supply system and will be scheduled for construction as soon as practicable. Its actual construction phase is at present shown in departmental budget planning to commence in 1976, but this may be brought forward, subject to the availability of Loan moneys and the requirements for rational work sequences.

GUN LICENCES

Mr. PAYNE: Will the Minister of Conservation and Environment clarify the position in South Australia concerning gun licences? A constituent of mine recently purchased a rifle which he duly registered, and last week he sought a licence to permit him to shoot unprotected animals in this State. He was told by a police officer that, because of the passing of the new National Parks and Wild Life Act, he did not require such a licence. Can the Minister say whether this information is correct?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: When the National Parks and Wild Life Bill was before this House last year members were told that the provisions relating to the licensing of fire arms were not included in that Bill because it was believed appropriate to transfer them to the Firearms Act, but the Firearms Act was not amended last session. There is now a hiatus between the operation of the National Parks and Wild Life Act from July 1 until the present regarding the issuing of gun licences. The issuing of gun licences is not likely to cause a problem from, the

point of view of protecting our native animals because the other provisions of the Act provide adequate safeguards, and the only effect of the current situation is that there is some loss of revenue to the Government. This is the only impact of that provision.

PARK LANDS

Mr. CARNIE: Can the Premier say whether the Government will carry out its announced intention to disallow car parking in the park lands further by not allowing encroachment on the park lands by Government departments? I refer specifically to the Highways Department, which I believe is the author of the recommendation of transportation plans for the city of Adelaide. This plan indicates an enormous encroachment on park lands, which includes the extension of Hutt Street through the south park lands; the extension of Grenfell Street through the east park lands to Dequetteville Terrace; the extension of Flinders Street through the east park lands; the extension of Hackney Road through the park lands to Mann Terrace; the extension of Frome Street through the south park lands; the North Adelaide Connector, which takes a huge slice of the north park lands; and the diversion of Wakefield Road to Angas Street, Kent Town, in which 20 century-old gum trees will be removed. An enormous area of park lands would be lost by the implementation of this scheme; indeed, it would be lost permanently and not occasionally, as would be the case with car parking. The Premier said, on November 30, that the park lands are for trees and people, not cars, and I ask the question in the hope that he meant what he said on that occasion.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I did, and I assure the honourable member that the details of the plans he has outlined are not the plans of this Government at present. The honourable member will know that the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study was not accepted by this Government.

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: It was promoted by the Party of which the honourable member is a member.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Exactly. Members opposite condemned the Government for not accepting the M.A.T.S. plan and we have said that the plan should be subject to very marked amendments.

HIGHBURY SEWERAGE

Mrs. BYRNE: Can the Minister of Works say whether a scheme has been approved for the sewerage of Honeysuckle Drive, Highbury,

between Waratah Avenue and the pumping station at the bottom of the hill? The Minister will be aware that I have raised this matter previously, the last occasion being on August 19, 1971, and I received a reply to that question on August 26, 1971. Honeysuckle Drive is one of the access roads to the Highbury Primary School, which was opened in February, 1972. Road reconstruction and foot-path construction are necessary in this street, mainly to provide for the safety of the children. As I understand that the policy of the Tea Tree Gully council is not to undertake road reconstruction until sewer mains are laid, it is essential, for the reasons I have given, that this short section of sewer main be laid.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will examine the honourable member's question and see what can be done to fix up Honeysuckle Drive, for I think it should be fixed.

PUMP CLOCKS

Mr. McANANEY: If the Government introduces daylight saving this year (and, if it introduces it this year, I imagine it will then become permanent), will the Minister of Works ask the Electricity Trust to adjust the clocks on the meters of irrigation pumps so that the hours that the pumps operate will coincide with existing daylight hours? Last year, when daylight saving operated, property owners, after a hard day's work, had to go out to the pumps and then return to their homes (sometimes a distance of a mile each way) at 10 p.m., instead of 9 p.m. This also works against the Electricity Trust because the pumps are in operation when the load is necessary before 8 a.m. I think it would be to the advantage of everyone if the clocks on these meters were adjusted in this way.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member presupposes that the Government intends to make daylight saving a permanent feature, but we have made no announcement at all on that matter. I think that the question raised by the honourable member was also raised during the trial period of daylight saving last year. At that time the trust indicated that it did not intend to take the action suggested, because of the trouble involved. However, I will take up the matter with the trust again. As a couple of points raised by the honourable member bear investigation, I will see whether the trust is willing to accede to the honourable member's request.

FLAMMABLE CLOTHING

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister of Labour and Industry say whether the Government will take any action at all to restrict the sale of flammable clothing? Apparently the matter of flammable clothing was discussed at a conference attended by the Minister at the end of last week. I have a cutting from a newspaper in 1971 stating that this matter was to be discussed at a similar conference at that time, but nothing was done. Was it decided at the recent conference to take action to prevent this deadly hazard from endangering the welfare of young children?

The Hon. D. H. McKEE: I am afraid that my reply will not be greatly favoured by the honourable member. The Standards Association seems to be experiencing great difficulty in arriving at a decision on the matter, which was discussed at the Ministers' conference in Melbourne last week. At an early stage of considering legislation concerning children's flammable nightwear, the Ministers of Labour of all States agreed that the prerequisite to any legislation was a reliable Australian standard. This has proved to be a far more complex and difficult task than was first imagined. Both the Standards Association and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization have devoted considerable attention to the formulation of a practicable standard that would be appropriate to Australian conditions. A committee of the Standards Association has prepared a draft standard, parts of which are quite technical. In accordance with normal practice the standard has been circulated for comment, and this committee is to meet this week to consider the comments received.

Even when a satisfactory standard is evolved it can be applied only in respect of materials used in the manufacture of children's clothing. It is clear that the design of clothing is just as important as the materials used. For example, a track suit type of garment which is close fitting at the wrist and the ankles is not as hazardous as a loose fitting garment made of the same material. There is no way in which home dressmakers who make clothing for their own children can be required to use a certain design or pattern in preference to another. With all of this in mind the Ministers at their conference last Thursday decided to step up the educational campaign to continue to publicize the dangers of using materials which have a high degree of flammability, as it is still not possible to consider legislating on this matter. At the same time they are

drawing to the attention of the Standards Association the need for the finalization of the standard.

One way in which woolgrowers can help the sale of their product is by publicizing the fire-resisting qualities of wool. Wool is slow to ignite, but if it does burn it can be readily extinguished. Because of its low flammability it is recommended as the most suitable material for children's night clothing, a factor which the Wool Board could well bear in mind in its sales promotional campaign.

DAIRYING INDUSTRY

Mr. WARDLE: Has the Minister of Works obtained from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to my recent question about the dairying industry in the Adelaide Hills?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states that on the occasion of the opening of a new dairy at Parawa on June 2, 1972, the Director of Agriculture (Mr. Marshall Irving) forecast for a number of sound reasons an increase in the dairying industry in southern districts and in the South-East. His reference to a decline in dairying in the Adelaide Hills has obviously been misconstrued by certain Hills dairy farmers as the result of their reading of an article in the *Chronicle* of June 2, 1972. Mr. Irving spoke of an overall decline in the number of dairy farms and dairy farmers, but qualified this by reference to increases in herd size and production per cow. In fact, figures compiled for the county of Adelaide, which comprises most of the Adelaide Hills dairying areas, show that, although production has been well maintained, there has been a slight decrease in cow numbers, and the number of persons recorded as having cows has fallen by 34 per cent in the past five years:

ABATTOIRS REPORT

Mr. VENNING: Has the Minister of Works obtained from the Minister of Agriculture a reply to the question I asked on July 19 about the abattoirs report that Mr. Ian Gray was preparing?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: My colleague states that Mr. Ian Gray, the consultant appointed to advise him on the meat industry, has maintained close collaboration with him at all stages of the consultant's inquiries, and has made reports to him in person from time to time as the investigation progressed. As a result of the inquiry, legislation has been drafted which is designed to restore the metropolitan and export abattoirs

establishment at Gepps Cross to a satisfactory operating basis, and it is expected that a Bill will be presented to Parliament shortly. Improvements in the processing and marketing of meat outside the metropolitan abattoirs area are also under active consideration. My colleague has emphasized that the terms of reference of the consultant do not contemplate a written report on the investigations, as the honourable member appears to have assumed.

SCHOOL COMMITTEES

Mr. NANKIVELL: Will the Minister of Education consider permitting the co-opting or appointing of additional people to school committees, particularly area school committees? Recently the Minister decided that the formation of school councils would be changed and that there would be a change in representation from a totally-appointed committee of parents of children at the school to a committee that included members of the staff as well, and at the same time the size of the committees was reduced. In many instances, one of the aspects of representation on the school committees was that a person from each bus route in the area should be on the committee because of transport problems. At present at many of these schools there are insufficient appointees from the parents to enable each school bus route to be represented by a parent on that school committee. Therefore, I ask the Minister whether he will consider allowing these school committees to be enlarged and whether, if such people are co-opted, he will give them the proper powers they would have had as members of such a school committee.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am aware of the problem to which the honourable member refers. The reduction in parental representation on these area school committees has arisen consequent on the provision of more teacher representation and also because the Education Act specifies a maximum number of members that can be on an area school committee. Although the Act is silent with respect to high school councils and technical high school councils, it is specific in relation to area schools and primary schools. Consequently, changes regarding voting on the latter two committees can be made only if the Act is amended. We have told one or two area schools that have contacted me about this problem that we should be happy for additional non-voting members to be co-opted on the committee, but formally, as far as we are

concerned, they must be regarded as non-voting members, because the Education Act is specific as to the number of members that can be on an area school committee. The honourable member certainly may tell any area school committees in his district that they are free to co-opt additional parents to the committee should they desire to do so.

Mr. Venning: Any number?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Well, within reason. We shall be able to get a more flexible arrangement when the Education Act is amended. In those circumstances, I intend to remove the specific provisions from the Education Act and to constitute councils and committees by means of regulation. That will give us much more flexibility to cope with the kind of problem that has arisen in present circumstances.

POLICE PISTOLS

Mr. PAYNE: In the absence of the Attorney-General, will the Minister of Works ask the Chief Secretary whether South Australian policemen are at present carrying pistols in concealed side pockets? Two of my constituents drew my attention to a small report in the *Age* of July 11. I shall not take up the time of the House by reading the whole report, but part of it states:

The move to conceal firearms follows criticism from the public about police openly wearing pistols while on duty. If police adopt the idea of concealed side pockets, they will be following a similar move some time ago by the South Australian Police Force.

I ask the Minister whether he will find out whether this is the case.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will check with my colleague and let the honourable member know.

BOLIVAR EFFLUENT

Dr. EASTICK: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my question regarding the suitability of Bolivar effluent for use in agricultural activities?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: In April, 1971, the Agriculture Department commenced a three-year study of Bolivar effluent to determine its suitability for various agricultural activities in the Virginia district. This study is proceeding to schedule and a preliminary report is expected in October, 1972. With regard to the beef measles trials, while the first trial suggested that beef measles cysts might be carried over in the final effluent, this has not been confirmed in subsequent tests which have proved to be negative. Further

similar trials will be necessary to confirm this. In the meantime, it is required under the Stock Disease Regulations, 1962, that prior written consent of the Minister of Agriculture be given for the grazing of any stock on pasture irrigated with treated sewage effluent. Such consent has recently been given to a pastoral company, with certain restrictions on the disposal and slaughtering of stock. Except for early commitments and other minor extractions, the policy regarding the use of Bolivar effluent is not to commit large volumes of effluent for private development until the results of the present studies are available. This will permit a decision regarding the feasibility of reticulating effluent for irrigation use in the Virginia district.

PROPRIETARY COMPANIES

Mr. SIMMONS: In the absence of the Attorney-General, will the Minister of Education obtain a report showing, in each case, the amount of paid-up capital and the excess of liabilities over assets in respect of proprietary companies that have gone into liquidation in the last year for which figures are available?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will arrange for that to be done.

NAILSWORTH TECHNICAL SCHOOL

Mr. COUMBE: Can the Minister of Education say what is the latest development regarding progress at the Nailsworth Boys Technical High School? I ask this question in view of negotiations that have been going on for several years, more particularly following a deputation to the Minister last session. Can he now indicate the latest moves regarding planning for this school, including work on the proposed assembly hall?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I think that, in the circumstances, it would be appropriate if I got a detailed report on the position. We made certain suggestions to the school council concerning modifications that might be made so far as the hall was concerned to give a somewhat different type of facility from that which the council had suggested originally. Certain meetings took place between the architect and the school council and I am not familiar with all the subsequent developments that have occurred.

LIAISON OFFICERS

Mr. KENEALLY: With the efficiency that the Minister of Education always displays, he has told me that he has a reply to the question I asked very recently regarding liaison officers. Will the Minister now give that reply?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The member for Stuart and other members are well aware that the treatment they get is handed out impartially and is completely independent of the degree of flattery or otherwise that their questions may contain. While it is true that there is a student liaison officer at the Port Augusta High School with senior master status, and also at several other secondary schools, the problems to be dealt with are somewhat different in primary schools, not only because of the younger age of the children but also because the classroom teacher who takes children for all of their subjects is responsible for their pastoral care. Where guidance is needed in dealing with students' problems, it is given by the Headmaster or Deputy Headmaster. If it is beyond their competence, the services of guidance officers attached to the Psychology Branch are used and it is believed that an increase in the number of these guidance officers will best meet the needs of primary schools. In some areas more behaviour problems occur than in others. In these instances also, the answer for the primary school lies in an adequate number of guidance officers and an adequate number of social agencies in the town to help parents as well as children. During the last two years we have been concerned to build up the Psychology Branch in all of its various activities to the maximum extent possible, and we will continue that policy during the coming year.

WHEAT QUOTAS

Mr. McANANEY: Can the Minister of Works, representing the Minister of Agriculture, say why the Government has continued the Wheat Delivery Quotas Committee and on what grounds it is now possible to obtain an increase in wheat quotas? It was my belief that this House passed a Bill setting out the terms and conditions on which wheat quotas would be based. However, people are finding it difficult to understand how to obtain a variation in their quota, because a rigid formula was set out in the legislation.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will take up the matter with my colleague and let the honourable member know.

AFRICAN DAISY

Mr. HOPGOOD: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation have investigated the position regarding African daisy infestations on Government land in the Sturt Gorge on the boundary between my district

and that of the member for Fisher? Will the Minister at the same time help the Flinders University and other landholders in the area to control this noxious weed? This time of the year is especially important for such control because, while the ground is soft, it is easy to remove the weed which, if allowed to grow, will spread further next year.

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: Perhaps the honourable member will be good enough to give me greater detail regarding the land adjoining the Sturt Gorge to which he has referred, and I shall then be happy to raise the matter with the Minister of Agriculture.

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Works ascertain what plans the Minister of Agriculture has to see that the Burnside and Mitcham councils, as well as the Minister of Environment and Conservation, discharge their obligations under the Weeds Act, especially in regard to eradicating African daisy?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will take up that matter with my colleague.

SCHOOL BOOKS

Mr. HALL: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question concerning the calling of tenders for the supply of school textbooks?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: There has been no change in the method used for purchase of school textbooks. Public tenders are called for the supply of books nominated by the Education Department as being educationally suitable for primary school grades. Orders recently issued for 1973 primary school textbook requirements were all in favour of formal tenderers, at tendered prices, and no inquiries were made regarding alternative sources of supply or cheaper prices. Book-sellers operating in Adelaide received orders valued at approximately \$300,000 from a total of \$400,000. The remainder, although offered by local booksellers, were purchased from another State at lower tendered prices. That would be after taking into account the normal advantage given to a local tenderer over a tenderer from another State. The Supply and Tender Board is aware of the need to sustain a competitive market and to supply books or other commodities meeting departmental standards and specifications. However, the board is also required to obtain goods, commensurate with departmental needs, at the best price and therefore tenders submitted by manufacturers, or publishers, are considered with tenders received from wholesale merchants.

FALL-OUT

Mr. EVANS: I recently directed a question to the Minister of Environment and Conservation regarding fall-out, and he advised me, correctly, to direct it to the Minister of Works. As the Minister of Works has been kind enough to inform me that he has a reply to that question, I ask him whether he will now give it.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: In normal circumstances, reservoir water and water from selected rainwater tanks in the city and country are examined on a routine six-monthly basis. Samples of rainwater at Bolivar are also tested regularly at intervals. Results from all such testing show the normal low level to be expected with these waters. With the French proposals to again detonate nuclear devices in the South Pacific, the Bolivar laboratories examined a complete series of samples from the metropolitan reservoirs, rainwater tanks, Blue Lake, Mount Gambier, and rainwater itself prior to the tests in June, in order to determine pre-explosion levels. Since the reported explosion, samples of rainwater have been collected daily from three stations, Bolivar, Aldgate and Mount Bold, and regularly tested for total Beta activity. Each test takes up to 24 hours to complete. When tests showed that the level in rainwater had risen slightly, this information was released publicly with the comment that there was no need for concern. Subsequent results have shown a rapid die-away of radioactivity in rainwater and the level is returning to normal. These results have also been made public.

I think that the highest count recorded was from a rainwater tank at Aldgate with a reading of about 137 *picocuries* a litre when the safe standard laid down by the World Health Organization is 1,000 *picocuries* a litre. Rainwater samples will continue to be tested at close intervals while there is any risk of increased radioactivity and any results showing significantly increased levels will be immediately brought to my notice.

GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS

Mr. BECKER: Will the Minister of Works say when Parliament can expect to receive the report prepared by an independent consultant in Melbourne on the Government Printing Office currently under construction at Netley? I understand that it was disclosed last evening on the television programme *Newsbeat* that six 60ft-high 6ft-wide pylons erected in the course of construction of the new printing office had been demolished. The reason given on the

programme was either that faulty concrete had been used or that there had been a change of design. Will the destruction of the pylons increase the final cost of the building? Can the Minister say why it was necessary to employ a consultant from another State?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I should be surprised if the honourable member watched that programme last evening, because that information was not given by me on that programme.

Mr. Becker: I didn't say—

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Of course not, and the reason was not stated on the programme, much to my disappointment, so the honourable member has obviously inquired of another source. Indeed, it was not stated on that programme by me that the pylons had been demolished because of faulty concrete or for any other reason.

Mr. Becker: What was it?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member said that six pylons had been demolished, and that is true. When the Government submitted plans for a new Government Printing Office to the Public Works Committee, the committee reported in November, 1968, and expressed doubts about the design of a suspended roof, which the Public Buildings Department considered to be the most feasible method of construction. This type of roof was considered to be the most economical and suitable for providing a large column-free space for the type of work in question. Some doubt having been expressed by the Public Works Committee about the suitability of this design, the matter was referred to the University of Adelaide so that the design could be checked. Although the university said it thought it was all right, it was not willing to give an absolute guarantee in the matter.

The Government decided to proceed with the building, which I think was commenced late in 1970, at an expected cost of \$4,500,000 or \$4,800,000, to be completed about next June. Since construction began, several queries have again been raised about the absolute guarantee of safety of this suspended roof, which I might add represents a new concept in South Australia, although it is certainly not new overseas or in other States. As a result, the Public Buildings Department recommended to me that independent consultants be employed to check the whole design and to report on it to the department. We selected Melbourne consultants to do this work, because they would be

absolutely independent and their deliberations would not be influenced at all.

In fact, we decided to pay for the services of consultants, rather than go to the university, so that they would have to answer and be responsible for any decisions or for any recommendations made to the department. The consultants' report was received by the Public Buildings Department on Monday, and the department had not had time to evaluate it when the approach was made by the television station; nor had the department informed me at that stage that it had received the report. The department now intends to evaluate the consultants' report and, when it has done this, to make recommendations, if it sees fit, and certainly to report on the matter to me. In turn, I will report to the Government. No-one can be certain until the report has been studied, but redesign may be involved, and in that case there will have to be negotiations with the contractor concerned. If and when those negotiations take place, I shall be willing to make available to this House any information that I can concerning the suitability or otherwise of the roof. I point out that the Government is concerned that there must be an absolute guarantee that it is safe.

Mr. Coumbe: Were any sections pulled down?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I believe six of them were, because of structural failure. However, I have not yet had a detailed report on exactly why they were taken down; it could have been necessitated by some redesign during construction. Until I receive that information, naturally I cannot give it to the honourable member. The programme last evening simply indicated that I had not received any report at all, and I was rather disappointed about this, because I explained that the report was in the hands of the department, which had not had time to evaluate it or to report on it to me. Until I receive the report I cannot give the honourable member any further information.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Was your interview cut down?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes; in fact, only about one-third of it was shown, and it suggested that neither I nor the department knew the report had been received.

Mr. Millhouse: Are you complaining?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: No; that happens to all of us. However, I am pointing out to the honourable member that he did

not hear me say last evening the things that he said this afternoon.

Mr. BECKER: In view of the extensive use of the type of design for this building and for other buildings with huge, clear spans, such as stadiums, why has this system proved a failure in South Australia? Is it a structural fault of design and, if it is, who is responsible and who will bear the cost? If the design is to be changed, will the matter be referred back to the Public Works Committee?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I cannot recall having said that the design was a failure.

JUVENILE COURTS ACT

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I wish to ask another question of the Premier, although it is a question I would normally address to the Attorney-General, but I understand he is sojourning in Darwin at present. Will the Government review the working so far of section 76 of the Juvenile Courts Act, 1970-71, with a view to introducing amendments to it? Members may recollect that this is the section which restricts reports of proceedings in juvenile courts. I am informed that on February 23 last a boy of 13 cycled up to a woman at a bus stop in one of the suburbs and stabbed her in the chest with a pocket knife. On March 2, he was charged in the Adelaide Juvenile Court with attempted murder and committed to Brookway Park until he is 18. A few weeks later, he was released from Brookway Park, and on June 18 (a few weeks later again) in another suburb not far from the site of the first attack he cycled up to three girls and stabbed one of them, aged 14, in the chest with a sharpened knife, and he was subsequently charged with malicious wounding. I understand that Judge Marshall (the Judge of the Adelaide Juvenile Court) indicated that these facts should not be published, and they have not been published, because of section 76 of the Act. As I understand the section, Parliament intended to prohibit the identification through reports of the persons involved, not the actual facts. This, of course, is a serious matter, and it calls for an explanation. There was no reason that I could see why such a matter should not be made public.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will refer the matter to my colleague and get a report for the honourable member.

CANNING FRUIT

Mr. NANKIVELL: Will the Premier obtain for me a report on the situation with respect to payments by Jon Products for canning

fruit? I understand the Government has been concerned about the situation of the canning industry and has agreed at various times to assist this company financially regarding payments to growers. I believe that recently an advance was made to Jon Products, covering the balance of payments outstanding in respect of the last harvest, but at present, if I am correctly informed, there has been no payment to growers in respect of any fruit delivered during the current season. Will the Premier ascertain whether or not this information is correct and also indicate when it may be expected that growers who have delivered canning fruit to Jon Products in this canning season will receive part or whole of the payment due to them?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get a report for the honourable member. I was aware of difficulties in this area and, as I am sure the honourable member is aware, the Government has given great support indeed, not only to this company but to the other companies involved in the canning industry in South Australia. There are, however, limits to the payments we can make in the area, although assistance has been very marked.

RURAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Mr. ALLEN: Can the Minister of Education say how many applications for rural secondary scholarships were approved for the present school year, how many applications were rejected on a means test basis, and what method was used to notify outback parents that these scholarships were available? When the Minister was at Port Augusta before Christmas last year, he addressed a meeting of the Isolated Children's Parents Association and I think it was at that meeting that he announced that 200 scholarships would be available this year for rural secondary scholarships. Some parents have complained to me that they were unaware of the availability of these scholarships.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: The announcement in relation to these scholarships was made a few months before the meeting in Port Augusta, which was not a meeting of the Isolated Children's Parents Association but a meeting of the parents of children of the School of the Air at Port Augusta when they go annually to Port Augusta with their children for a picnic and a general get-together with the teachers of the School of the Air. The general method that we adopted in providing information about the availability of these scholarships was to issue a news release to all country newspapers as well as to the daily

press and radio stations. The School of the Air and the Correspondence School were asked to notify all outback parents of the availability of these scholarships. During January it was clear that there were few applications from outback parents and I asked for a further call for scholarship applications to be made from outback parents. Even at that very late stage, we were willing to accept late applications. I think six out of seven applications received from outback parents were granted. I may have already given the figures in the House but perhaps not in the form the honourable member wants them, so I will obtain the information for him. To the best of our ability we will try to ensure that outback parents are fully aware of these scholarships, which will be available again next year.

ADOPTIONS

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Premier ask the Minister of Community Welfare whether there is any undue delay in adoption procedures at present and, if there is, whether it is related to a shortage of staff? Having been associated with a number of adoption proceedings recently, I received a specific query today regarding the lengthy period that usually occurs between the application for adoption and the actual adoption. The main concern appears to be about the period between the first interview and the second interview, and the thought has been expressed whether or not this might be due to a shortage of staff and, in particular, the absence through retirement of one member of the department's staff. I realize that members of the staff are under much pressure and strain and my constituent realizes this, too, but she would like some reassurance that this situation will, if possible, be remedied.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get a report for the honourable member.

GAUGE STANDARDIZATION

Mr. VENNING: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport say whether the Government has decided the future of the northern railway lines regarding gauge standardization? I know that the Government and the Railways Department have been very busy determining the route for the railway line connecting Adelaide with the existing standard gauge railway line and, as a consequence, may not have done much in connection with the northern lines. In asking the question of the Minister, I am not asking him once again to preach me another

sermon about the fanners losing the lines if they do not use them.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I do not intend to deliver a sermon to the honourable member; I think it would be rather wasted. I am assuming that the honourable member is referring to the Gladstone-Wilmington and the Orroroo lines. These matters are tied up with the general question of standardization and cannot be determined until that matter has been resolved. I hope it will not be very long before the whole question is resolved and I shall then be delighted to tell the honourable member what service the Railways Department is giving the farmers he represents.

EDUCATION COST

Mr. GOLDSWORTHY: Can the Minister of Education say what is the cost a year of educating a child in a Government primary school, high school and technical school? I will put this question on notice if the Minister would prefer it.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: It is not necessary to put it on notice. This is a matter of some investigation between the various State Education Departments and the Commonwealth Department of Education and Science. When the Prime Minister announced the basis of the grants that were to be made to independent schools by the Commonwealth Government, namely, 20 per cent of the cost of running a Government primary school and 20 per cent of the cost of running a Government secondary school, an estimate was given by the Prime Minister of a Government cost—

Mr. Coumbe: These figures are usually in the annual report.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Yes, but there are problems in relation to them, and those were not the figures which the Prime Minister used. I think the estimate was \$312 or \$320 for a Government primary school, and \$520 for a Government secondary school. Since then a committee has been established that has been working on this problem, and all sorts of adjustment have to be taken into account to get a proper comparison. For example, it would not be legitimate for this purpose to add any allowance for country bus transport for children attending a Government school; in the main that would not be involved in relation to a metropolitan independent school. There are numerous other adjustments of that type. Again, adjustments in relation to teacher education have to be made. The position at present is that it appears that the actual costs estimated for the

previous financial year (1971-72) are considerably below the figures contained in the Prime Minister's letter. What the final estimated figures for 1972-73 will be is not yet known, but I do know that the calculations that have been taking place have been causing some embarrassment to the Commonwealth Government in relation to its previously announced proposals. In view of these investigations, I think that the best thing that I can do for the honourable member at this stage is perhaps to wait until the investigations are completed and give him the answer then, or provide a tabulated answer which specifies items that would need to be excluded if a comparison were to be made in relation to independent schools. If the honourable member tells me privately later what he wants, I will bring down the information for him.

POLICEMAN'S SHELTER

Mr. MATHWIN: Has the Minister of Works any plans to have a shelter erected for the police officer who works outside Parliament House? I well know the sympathy that the Minister has shown in this regard in the past. Since I have been a member, he has worried about this matter. I believe that last year some plans were drawn up for an elaborate building. Although I do not think that such an elaborate building is needed, I ask the Minister whether some shelter, meagre though it may be, can be provided for this policeman.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member will know that, in plans for upgrading Parliament House, I had intended to provide an office or shelter for the constable who looks after our needs at the front of the building.

Mr. Mathwin: That was good enough for a superintendent.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I consider that the policeman out the front is as good as a superintendent; I do not see that he is any different. He is a human being who, I presume, suffers from extreme cold and heat in the same way as everyone else suffers from it. I do not think there would be any difference in his feelings. That just goes to show that we do have some respect and feeling for our fellow man, whether he be a policeman on the beat or a superintendent. We believe that the same good accommodation should be provided, whatever job the man does. As the honourable member knows, the Public Works Committee rejected the plan for upgrading Parliament House; that plan is now gathering dust. However, I think we can still

provide some shelter for the constable. I think I did ask the architect to make some arrangements about this, but I will check that. Although I am not sure, I thought I had said I would provide accommodation for the constable.

Mr. Mathwin: There was talk about a sentry box.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I would not agree to a sentry box being placed there, because not only would that destroy the appearance of Parliament House aesthetically but it would not provide good enough shelter anyway. I will examine the matter and see what it is intended to do. I hope this will meet the honourable member's satisfaction.

PRODUCE DEPARTMENT

Mr. CARNIE: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question about the functioning of the Produce Department?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The Minister of Agriculture has informed me that the whole question of the future functioning of the Government Produce Department, with special reference to its Port Lincoln works, is now being considered by Cabinet, which is examining the financial implications. The report of the committee of inquiry has not been presented formally to Cabinet. No decision has been made whether or not the document will be tabled.

SUPREME COURT BUILDING

Mr. RODDA: Can the Minister of Works say what plans are in hand for, or what progress is being made on, construction of the new Supreme Court building? As I understand that a new building is to be constructed in the area of the present Supreme Court, I shall be interested to hear what plans are in hand for carrying out this work.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As we have certainly received a report on this, I will check on the latest situation, as I cannot say offhand what progress has been made. The matter has certainly been considered, because I know I discussed it with the Attorney-General a short time ago. However, as I am not certain of the exact position at present, I will let the honourable member know.

PATERSON HOUSE

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Minister of Works ask the Chief Secretary to obtain a report about the financial situation of patients in Paterson House at the Glenside Hospital? I have received a letter which is written on behalf

of 26 patients in Paterson House and part of which states:

What the patients request as a body is that fees encumbered during a confinement in Glenside be covered as soon as possible by medical or hospital benefits, or that the fees be lowered. At present, the minimum allowance (that is, for a patient having no other financial report other than Government benefits) turns out to be a maximum of \$7.50 weekly. The general feeling is that this is definitely not enough for maintenance of the person even in a limited sense, not allowing for some luxury items. We feel it is virtually impossible to present oneself to a prospective employer or other important interviews and live decently without borrowing from a relative or friend.

I think that all members would agree that the people in Paterson House must be helped back into the community as rapidly as possible, and of course this is being done. Anything that can be done to hasten their return to the community in this way would be well worth while.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will take up the matter with my colleague and let the honourable member know.

ABORTION

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Can the Premier say whether the Government yet has statistics on abortions for the last six months and, if it has, whether it intends to make them public? If the Government intends to make the figures public, when will it do so? My recollection is that the committee that the previous Government established to oversee the working of the legislation on this matter now reports six-monthly and that the six-monthly period now runs from January to June. This means that the report should have been prepared and, certainly, the figures should be ready. They have been made public in the past, with some prompting on occasions. Particularly in view of the notice of motion that the member for Playford has given today, I am sure the Premier will agree that it is desirable that all members be aware of the latest figures and also, if I may add, of the report itself.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have not seen the report, but I will inquire.

WATER LICENCES

Mr. NANKIVELL: Will the Minister of Works say whether water licences are issued for only certain sections of land and the water allocated cannot be used on any other land belonging to the landholder? I understood that it was intended that, when meters were installed, an allocation of water would be made to a grower and, provided the grower

did not exceed to any great extent the amount of water allocated to him on an acreage basis, he could use that water for whatever purpose he chose and on whatever part of his land he elected. I understand now that probably this is not so and that the water usage is restricted to certain areas of land set out, such as sections or parts of a section, and cannot be used on any other part of the property. In some cases, I suggest that this may be causing hardship and, if I am correct, I should like the Minister to inquire whether the allocation of water and its use should not be left to the discretion of the landholder.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Recently the Government announced that it would not convert to the measurement of water rather than issue annual water licences on an acreage basis until all meters were installed, and this would probably be some time in 1974. Previously, we had intended on July 1 this year to convert, I think, about 200 irrigators to the measurement of water basis from the previous system that obtained. The reason why we changed our plans was that there was a claim that what we intended to do would be discrimination. In other words, those who were unlucky enough to go on to meters first would be paying a much higher rate than their present rate, whereas those who went on last would gain some benefit. There was a point there, and the Government acceded to this request. The present situation is that an annual licence is given to people on a certain acreage, such as 20 acres, 19 acres, or 15 acres. I do not know (and I do not believe) that the department demands that, on a section comprising say, 200 acres, the water be used on, say, a particular 15-acre lot in that area. However, the water must remain in that section. It cannot be transferred from that section to some other section farther away.

Mr. Nankivell: Even though it belongs to the same person?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Yes. The honourable member will be aware that water licences have been issued to people on country that is not really suitable for irrigation. They have applied for licences and have got them, and I do not intend to change that, because, as the honourable member knows, we are over-committed, anyway, to a large extent and, if I can save water, I am anxious to do so. That is the present policy but, when the water meters come into force, they will receive a certain amount. If they are engaged in horticulture, we will set down so many acre-inches, if they have pastures we will set down so many acre-

inches, and if they are on citrus blocks, there may be some other allowance. This has not yet been finally decided, but they will be granted an amount of water having regard to the type of planting they have engaged in. A person previously may have had a 15-acre annual water licence and may have engaged in proper use of water or good water management. After careful consideration spread over a period of time (because we must consider seasons and things of this kind) he may find that he can save sufficient water to plant additional acres, and he can do that. I will not prevent people from doing that, as long as they do not exceed the quantity of water allotted to them in the first instance. I have deliberately made the cost of excess water prohibitive. In other words, it would not pay them to use it. The reason for that is obvious. The replies to the specific questions are that, under the present system, they cannot transfer a licence from one area of land to another, and they will not be able to do that under the new system, either. That water will be allocated to that particular section, but they will be able to extend it by good water management if they can save sufficient water, so they will be able to create additional plantings in that area. I hope that that covers the points raised by the honourable member.

Mr. NANKIVELL: As I understand that no water licences have been issued since October, 1968, I ask the Minister of Irrigation whether it is correct that, where licences in respect of planted acreages were issued prior to that date, a termination date has been determined regarding those licences, to come into effect some time next year unless the areas concerned have already been planted. Secondly, will the Minister say how water licences at present in existence applying to land that is clear-felled of canning fruit varieties may be affected by the proposed Commonwealth tree-pulling scheme, to which this Government has given its tentative approval? Will the Minister say what will be the position in respect of licences applying to land in those circumstances?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I think that people who have been issued with water licences but who have made no effort to develop areas and to use the water in question are warned first, and then the licence is taken away from them if they do not use it. Although I cannot recall many instances of this, I have seen recommendations made from time to time and this has, in fact, happened. The matter concerning the State Government's agreeing to

participate in the Commonwealth Government scheme is an interesting one and has been discussed by the Minister of Lands, the Director of Lands, and me. It is not yet known what exactly is intended by the Commonwealth Government. The Director of Lands went to Canberra last week, or the week before that, to discuss further details of this scheme, but I do not know whether the Commonwealth Government will say, in effect, "We will pay you so much to get rid of those trees,"—

Mr. Nankivell: They can be replaced by vines.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: —or whether it will allow some form of vine planting. On that basis, a water licence would not be taken away, because it would be required in order to irrigate the vines. I am afraid that I have not yet heard about this matter from the Director of Lands. Whatever happens in respect of Government-irrigated areas will apply to privately-irrigated areas, although it applies differently in respect of the Government-irrigated areas, because it is on a system of rating. Under the Commonwealth scheme, if it meant that trees were to come out and nothing was replanted, the quantity of water available would be reduced. If the trees are taken out and vines are replanted in their place, I believe the water licence will remain to the extent of the quantity required for irrigating the vines.

DARTMOUTH DAM

Mr. COUMBE: Will the Minister of Works obtain for me a report on the progress of the planning of the Dartmouth dam? I ask this question because some months has elapsed since the matter was raised during the last session of Parliament.

The SPEAKER: Order! A similar question to that has already been asked.

GARDEN STATIONS

Mr. EVANS: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport consider having the Belair railway station yards or the Mount Lofty railway station yards developed as a garden station, with a three-fold effect in mind? The first reason why I consider that one of the stations could be so developed is that that would be beneficial to the tourist industry of the State, particularly at Belair, as one of the main gates to the Belair National Park is adjacent to the station. Secondly, the station yards, in the main, that have been used for rolling stock and as goods yards in the past are not used for that today and a large area is wasted. This area tends to be unsightly

for the neighbouring residents. If it was developed, it would be more beautiful for them and for railway employees. The third point is that development as a garden would tend to encourage more patronage on our railways. I have chosen Belair and Mount Lofty because they are both outside the catchment area. We would not be encouraging people into the water catchment areas, and both Belair and Mount Lofty (particularly Belair) are reasonably close to our national park. Will the Minister investigate such a proposal, with the idea of encouraging tourism and, particularly, railway patronage?

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

CLARE ROAD

Mr. VENNING: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport consider upgrading the Adelaide-Clare road where it enters Clare, from the 35-mile post to the Electricity Trust corner in Clare? The Highways Department is currently working on the Clare-Auburn road and it appears that, when work reaches the point to which I refer, it is not intended to proceed with the work through the residential part of Clare. I have received a letter from the people of Clare asking that, while employees of the Highways Department are working in the district, they continue their work and upgrade the road as far as the Electricity Trust corner to the same standard as the rest of the road. The Minister would agree that while the Highways Department is undertaking work in the district there would be a saving financially by adopting this course of action with the result that the township of Clare could obtain a road that it has required for some time.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I am not sure whether the honourable member's request has the blessing of the Clare corporation or not, and I should like to know whether he is asking this question with the knowledge and authority of the corporation. If he can tell me that that is so, I shall be pleased to discuss the matter with the Highways Department.

LAND ACQUISITION

Mr. McANANEY: Can the Minister of Roads and Transport say how much has been spent by the Highways Department on the acquisition of land required in connection with the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study plan and the widening of arterial roads in Adelaide, and for other road purposes?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: If the honourable member can wait until the Highways Commissioner's report is presented to Parliament

(and I assure him that he will receive a copy), he will find that it contains that information.

FLINDERS UNIVERSITY BUS SERVICES

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Minister of Roads and Transport consider the provision of additional bus services to Flinders University during the current petrol shortage? Students at Flinders University are not well served by public transport, the cause and effect of this being that most students depend on private transport and that, because of this, past efforts to provide additional public transport have not been supported. However, in the present circumstances such additional services would be appreciated.

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: I regret that it would not be possible for me to require additional bus services to be run to Flinders University, because all the public transport services feeding that area are run by private enterprise and, regrettably, it is not within my province to tell private enterprise to run a good or a better service. If the Municipal Tramways Trust were involved it would be a different matter, but I have no authority to require private operators to increase their services although, if they choose to do so, I am sure that the M.T.T. would be delighted to meet their wishes.

COWELL SCHOOL

Mr. CARNIE: Can the Minister of Education say whether tenders have been let for the work on the Cowell Area School oval, a project which, I understand, has been approved? Can the Minister also say what progress has been made on the conversion of one of the buildings to an open-space unit?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will inquire for the honourable member and let him know.

FURTHER EDUCATION

Mr. MATHWIN: Can the Minister of Education say whether employees of the new Department of Further Education will still maintain the staff conditions and contracts of employment under which they were employed by the Education Department originally?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: There has certainly been no change at this stage. Further education legislation will be introduced in Parliament later this year to constitute the Department of Further Education formally, but I imagine that that legislation will have no impact on the salary or terms of employment of any of the employees. If there were to be such a possible impact, the matter

would be discussed most fully with the employees or their representatives before any change was made. This is the procedure we are currently adopting regarding the establishment of autonomy in teachers colleges, because that change does alter the basis of employment under which many people associated with teachers colleges are employed. The daily-paid people in teachers colleges and the academic staff are appointed by the Minister of Education, whereas members of the clerical staff are appointed by the Public Service Board and, at this time, the problems associated with the creation of autonomy in those colleges are being considered and the various college staff associations, the Public Service Association, and the Australian Government Workers Association are being consulted. If such a problem is involved in the establishment of the Department of Further Education, I assure the honourable member that the employees will be consulted.

HOUSING GRANTS

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier say whether the Government will consider assisting young married couples in this State by matching grants made under the Commonwealth home savings grant scheme, which gives young married couples the chance to receive a \$500 grant provided that they can save \$1,500 over a three-year period? Would the Government be willing to offer a grant of the same sum to young South Australian couples?

The SPEAKER: Order! I do not want to interrupt the honourable member, but do I recall correctly that this question was asked yesterday, or did the honourable member raise it in the Address in Reply debate?

Mr. BECKER: In the Address in Reply debate.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member for Hanson.

Mr. BECKER: For the year ended June 30, 1971, 3,671 grants were approved by the Commonwealth Government at a cost of \$1,587,579, with an average grant of \$432. In view of the statement made by the Premier this afternoon of the Government's intention to increase the maximum size of the first mortgage available from the State Bank, will the Government consider my suggestion?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I cannot promise that we can do that in addition to what we are already doing in the housing area. As I pointed out earlier this afternoon, South Australia is spending on housing assistance more than twice the average of the other

States. We are spending more than twice the amount in real terms that Queensland is spending; we are spending far more than any Liberal Government in this country is spending. Given the present pressures on the Budget in other service areas where it is necessary for us to increase assistance, it would be most doubtful that we could make an additional housing provision of this kind beyond the amount we are already providing.

NORTH ADELAIDE ROADS

Mr. CUMBE: Has the Minister of Roads and Transport or the Commissioner of Highways had discussions with the Adelaide City Council concerning certain major roads in North Adelaide leading into the city? When I asked a question on this subject last session, the Minister indicated that some discussions had taken place and, since that time, as the Minister is probably aware, the City Council, as a result of certain pressures and representations from the Walkerville council, has abandoned, at least for the time being, the proposal to widen Margaret Street and to provide a different road whereby traffic enters from Robe Terrace. Has the Minister had further discussions with the City Council following the Walkerville council's decision in this matter?

The Hon. G. T. VIRGO: Discussions have been held, but at this stage no finality has been reached. However, perhaps it will be worth while if I check the present position and bring down further information for the honourable member.

MOTOR CYCLE TRIALS

Mr. EVANS: Will the Minister of Environment and Conservation ask his department to try to find suitable land in the Hills area that can be used for motor cycle scrambles and trials? Those associated with this sport have been hunted from pillar to post and have been trying to find an area where they do not interfere with neighbouring property owners and where perhaps they do not have any great effect on the local environment. From statements that have been made on this subject, there is no doubt that this sport helps young people to learn how to handle a motor cycle, and this can be of benefit to road users and result in greater safety for the motoring public.

The Minister will know that there is some concern about the Silver Lake property at Mylor being used as Basham Park, which hardly seems an appropriate name, and petitions have been lodged and complaints made

to the Minister concerning this matter. Last Sunday a new site was used for a scramble and, as it was near my home, I went to look at what went on. As I was rather impressed with the ability of the riders, it occurred to me that we should find for these people a site where they can take part in this sport without affecting other people and, at the same time, develop their skills, possibly for the benefit of society as a whole. Will the Minister say whether his department is willing to help find a site for this group of enthusiasts, who are not really out to do any harm at all?

The Hon. G. R. BROOMHILL: True, this sport has created several problems in recent months, because it creates a noise problem, and it can be conducted only away from developed areas. Another problem is that wherever this sport is conducted there is some likelihood that the area being used will be damaged. I am not certain that any examination I make will help find an area for these people, who themselves are no doubt looking at every possible site available. However, I should like to see this problem solved, and I agree with the honourable member that the activities of these people are quite proper, provided that the area being used does not create a problem. I will see what I can do and have a discussion with officers of the State Planning Office to see whether they have any suggestions to make to the club in question.

TRAVEL AGENTS

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier, in the absence of the Attorney-General, say what kind of evidence is needed to bring a prosecution against travel agents who cannot meet their obligations on behalf of their clients? I refer to a question asked by the member for Unley of the Attorney-General on March 30, 1971, in relation to the collapse of the Olympic Travel Agency. In reply, the Attorney-General said:

Where fraud or dishonesty can be proved, there exist appropriate laws, and action is taken accordingly. I have received a report concerning the recent failure of Olympic Travel Service Proprietary Limited in which a number of persons have suffered financial loss, and I have directed that certain action be taken.

In a letter to a friend of mine the Acting Premier on July 5, 1972, said that the whole matter had been investigated and that the Crown Solicitor had advised that the evidence would not support a successful prosecution.

The SPEAKER: Order! I think the honourable member raised this matter in the

Address in Reply, and Standing Orders require that matters be not repeated. If he intends to go through his Address in Reply speech again, I will have to rule him out of order but, if he makes a brief explanation, I will accept it.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Criminal actions for the offences of conspiracy and fraud are well known but, where there is a plain failure of a company without there being any proof of fraud or of a company offence, it is impossible to bring a prosecution. It is because there is a danger in the travel business (that people who have paid moneys towards fares have had those moneys involved in the general trading losses of the companies) that it is necessary to establish a licensing system with a series of trust funds to be properly audited so that those moneys are kept separate from the normal moneys of the company. A proper trust account should be kept separately, but under the existing law there is no means of compelling a company to keep a trust account separate in the case of travel agents. That is why the Government is currently preparing legislation to tackle that problem.

SMOKING

Dr. TONKIN: Can the Minister representing the Chief Secretary in the absence of the Attorney-General ask his colleague whether there are any plans to establish outpatient centres in public hospitals for the treatment and support of people wishing to stop smoking? I believe there is a real need for this facility. Members well know my views on smoking, and you, Mr. Speaker, are aware of them.

Mr. Jennings: How about the member for Florey?

Dr. TONKIN: I am sorry that the member for Florey is not here. There are withdrawal symptoms associated with the stopping of smoking, and medical centres for treatment could render a great service. I believe that such centres would be a tremendous factor in improving the health of the community generally.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I speak from firsthand experience: I have not had a cigarette since December 1, 1971. I did have withdrawal problems, but I did not have to go to a centre. I will take up the matter with the Chief Secretary.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption. (Continued from July 25. Page 224.)

Mr. CRIMES (Spence): I support the motion so ably and effectively moved by my friend the member for Elizabeth, and seconded equally ably and effectively by my younger friend the member for Stuart. I have a very warm and grateful feeling towards the mover of the motion because many years ago, when I was publishing for the Australian Labor Party its official weekly journal, I found it necessary to seek someone then in the House on the A.L.P. side who would be willing to prepare a column of Parliamentary comments every week during the sittings of Parliament. There was one person who was very willing to undertake this chore: the current member for Elizabeth, at that time member for Gawler. I want to thank him personally in the presence of all members of the House for the great work he did in those days. He did it for many years and I hasten to emphasize that he did this work, without any payment whatsoever, for the Party of which he was then and still is a member.

Mr. Clark: Just as well.

Mr. CRIMES: Just as well, as the member for Elizabeth said. That is because the A.L.P., contrary to some of the ideas of members opposite, has never been a wealthy Party, a rich man's Party.

I extend my sincere sympathy to the relatives of members of this House who have passed away since the last session. I refer particularly to the late Lin Riches, who I knew for many years. I well remember him when he was a young man attending Labor Party conferences on behalf of a union which he served very well indeed, the Printing Industry Employees Union as it was then called. I refer also to the late Sam Lawn. I have very vivid memories of Sam Lawn because I first got to know him when he was an organizer for the Vehicle Builders Union. He was a fiery personality and an effective speaker who was always able to sway meetings with his logic. He rendered such good service to that union as a rank and file member, then as an organizer, that he became the Secretary of the South Australian branch of that very fine union.

I must also mention another member for whom I had a very great admiration because of the way in which he stuck to his guns on theories he held. It hurt me very much indeed when this member chose to leave the

A.L.P. and became a member of the Liberal and Country League. I think this member was very ill-fitted to be a member of the L.C.L., because I am sure that the theories on money and credit which he held right through his membership of the L.C.L. and which he published in the press after he retired from the House would not have been welcomed by his colleagues in the L.C.L. I am referring, of course, to the late Bill Quirke. I often wonder, when I look around at the monetary situation in the Western world and see the financial problems we are faced with in this country from time to time, when there is a necessity to gain funds for the carrying out of important public works, when we have a situation in which we have inflation, speculation on a large scale, particularly in Western Europe, and unstable international currency, whether Bill Quirke's ideas on money which people then called "funny money" were really so funny. It seems to me that the money situation today is certainly funny in a most tragic way. As I think we all realize, this situation gives rise to much of the industrial upset and uproar that we face at present.

Mr. Hopgood: It gives rise to profits for the gnomes of Zurich.

Mr. CRIMES: I am sure there is much relevance in that interjection, which I welcome. We well remember the monetary requirements of the first Harold Wilson Government. We remember how that Government was told that it could not be provided with funds unless it played the game with the financial masters of Europe. The term "gnomes of Zurich" was coined at that time to refer to those people who, strangely enough under a democratic system, seemed to be able to dominate Governments, preventing them from being able to carry out the requirements of the people who elected them.

It was with tremendous pleasure that I welcomed the announcement that Sir Mark Oliphant had accepted an invitation to become Governor of South Australia. I think that this has been one of the greatest steps forward ever made in this Commonwealth in the appointment of a person to such a position. This man has great scientific knowledge and, most importantly, he matches that knowledge with a great moral character, and I believe that that is the only situation in which science will be guided along lines that will make it a true benefit to mankind. I vividly remember that, shortly after the Second World War, a group of people with whom I was associated in a committee (and I will shock the member

for Rocky River when I say that the name of that organization was the Socialist League) discussed whom we could get to address a public meeting on the subject of what uses would be made of the newly discovered atomic power. Someone suggested that an approach be made to Mark Oliphant, as he was then. The rest of us responded by saying, "Don't be silly! A man of his standing and great scientific reputation would never agree to an invitation from the Socialist League to address a meeting in Adelaide on this subject."

However, the person who had made the suggestion persisted, and we agreed to ask Sir Mark. We received a shock when we had a telegram back saying that he would be delighted to address the meeting on the subject of the use or mis-use of atomic power. Mark Oliphant then addressed a packed meeting in the Adelaide Town Hall. I think that all members will agree that he could not have failed to be impressive in what he had to say, because of his knowledge of that new kind of power, which became known as nuclear power. It was a crying shame that his suggestions about the use of atomic power and the development of the atomic bomb were not heeded. He could see that there was a terrible menace to mankind in the possible proliferation of the bomb. Unfortunately, we have seen happen just what Mark Oliphant said should not be permitted to happen.

Flowing from the good moral advice that he gave in those days we can see a link with his recent condemnation of the French tests in the Pacific. Here is an indication that our Governor is a man of such calibre that, when he attained that high position, he was not prepared to relinquish his right to speak as a great scientist and as a citizen.

Mr. Keneally: And a humanitarian.

Mr. CRIMES: Yes, I agree. I think that the greatest justification of what Sir Mark recently said about the French tests in the Pacific was the gratuitous criticism offered him by Premier Bolte, that erudite, well spoken, extremely cultured person, who is Premier of Victoria.

Mr. Hopgood: For a while.

Mr. CRIMES: Yes. Sir Mark has not only been willing to oppose the continuation of French or other atomic tests in the Pacific but he has also made clear that he is a sturdy and forcible ally of all those people in the community (and the number grows continually) who oppose the wanton and irresponsible destruction of the environment, and also the irresponsible use of water and power resources.

We can expect to hear regularly from our Governor statements in favour of the causes that he has made it so obvious that he champions from the bottom of his heart.

I commend the Government on its programme for the third session of this Parliament. Perhaps the best way we can describe this programme is to say that it is exhaustive (no doubt many members will also say that it will be exhausting, and I agree). However, we should be gratified that this work is being given us to carry out on behalf of the citizens of this State. When I say this, I realize the contribution that can also be made by Opposition members in debating the legislation. Many constructive suggestions emanate from the other side; on the other hand, we also hear the opposite type of suggestion and interjection. I am particularly gratified that it is intended to introduce a Bill to implement the recommendations of the Select Committee on Occupational Safety and Welfare in Industry. If this House and the other place are prepared to accept these recommendations, progressive and scientific attention will be able to be given to industrial safety. This Bill is important to people in industry and ancillary occupations in this State.

As a member of that Select Committee, I take the opportunity to congratulate the member for Torrens and the member for Glenelg, because when those members took their places during the discussions and the hearing of the evidence of many witnesses from various sections of industry, it was evident that they were determined to settle down and do a good job. No Party feelings whatsoever were exhibited during the deliberations of this committee. I think we were particularly fortunate to have the member for Torrens with us, because in that member we had a man with a tremendous amount of experience in industry. Time and again he was able to give us advice based on that vast experience.

I also extend my personal congratulations to the member for Glenelg, because he did not try to hinder the proceedings in any way. Whilst the member for Glenelg has not such a vast experience as the member for Torrens, I understand that he has a good knowledge of the trade union side. I consider that he gave his full attention to all matters brought before the committee and, with all the other members, did a mighty fine job.

I am anxiously awaiting the introduction at a later stage in this session of the Bill for an Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, because I am aware from my close relationship

with the trade union movement of that movement's interest in the provisions that ultimately will become part of the Bill. The measure will be of tremendous benefit to trade unionists in this State, provided it is not watered down or weakened in any major way.

I also consider that it will provide much benefit to the other side of industry (and I am referring here to the employing section), because I consider that it puts forward several new and enlightened ideas on industrial relations. We are all concerned about this important matter, particularly at present. I must say that the trade union movement would react most unfavourably to any attempt in the other place to emasculate the Bill in any major way. There may be those who would ask whether I was making a threat. I am not making a threat: I am stating a fact. The debates on this Bill will be followed very closely indeed. Just as they will be followed on the trade union side, they will be followed closely on the employer's side, and rightly so.

I hope that there will be much agreement between those sections of industry when the provisions of the Bill are known and that that agreement will permeate through this House and, more importantly, through the other place. I refer particularly to the expected provision in the Bill that will, I understand, follow the example of Queensland in preventing the kind of civil action in an industrial dispute that led to a heavy penalty on one Mr. Jim Dunford. If this kind of action is permitted to continue, one can easily imagine the harm that it will do to unions.

Apart from the fact that individual unions would be faced with impossible penalties, it could bring about a situation in which members of unions who were aspiring to become union officials would say to themselves, before nominating for leading positions, "I am not going to have a go at that, because I may be treated in the way Jim Dunford and possibly others have been treated." In those circumstances, possibly types of people who would be willing to occupy such positions would not be the kind who would give aid to achieving industrial peace.

I hope that not only this House but also the Commonwealth Government will pay attention to what is happening at present in Great Britain. Whilst there was a time there when actions similar to that taken against Jim Dunford were legal and were permitted, this was set aside by a Labor Government but the Heath Government introduced what it called an Industrial Relations Bill, which provided for

penalties similar to the earlier provisions in that country and the provisions that are still permissible in South Australia.

In Great Britain the Government believes it can solve industrial disputes by penalizing and even gaoling union members and officials. If that is the case, why is there almost complete industrial uproar in Britain at present, following the gaoling of five dockers? There was a situation in Britain where other dockers, as well as members of the printing trade unions and the metal trade unions, were leaving their jobs without having any regard to what their leaders thought about the position. The members have been walking out spontaneously.

I do not think I am exaggerating when I say that, if the South Australian Government had not taken the action it did take in respect of the penalties on Jim Dunford, we would have seen a similar situation in this State. There is a strong lesson in all this. In the present situation, where we have a stalemate in the oil industry dispute, it is obvious that much sympathy is coming to the trade union side, particularly to the Australian Council of Trade Unions, from quarters from which one would not normally expect it. The editorial in the *News* yesterday evening contains a strong comment on the situation. Referring to the Commonwealth Government, it states:

Is it beyond its power for the Government to order the A.C.T.U., the unions, and the oil company leaders to the conference table to thrash the issue out? Arbitration seems to have failed so far.

One may say that the A.C.T.U. would not like the idea of being ordered, and normally it would not, but I think it would be delighted to be ordered to a conference of the kind suggested in that editorial. The editorial continues:

The dispute will not be solved by the oil companies initiating penal proceedings against the four unions involved.

The person who wrote that editorial has learned the lesson. Compare that with what I have said and compare the comments along those lines, not only in the *News* but also in an *Advertiser* editorial, with the letting out of the Liberal and Country League bag by the member for Rocky River of a snarling, spitting cat.

Mr. Clark: He is always doing that.

Mr. CRIMES: He did this by way of interjection and I am sure—

Mr. Jennings: He is a Kilkenny cat.

Mr. CRIMES: He said the sooner we get confrontation with some of these things the better.

Mr. Jennings: Shame!

Mr. CRIMES: I think a remark of that kind from a member of the L.C.L. Opposition in this House should warrant a question to the Leader of the Opposition as to whether that is specific L.C.L. industrial policy. The member for Rocky River validated what we on this side have been saying continually about the Opposition and about the McMahon Government in Canberra, and what our friend (and I am talking now of members on this side) Bob Hawke has been reiterating, that the Commonwealth Government, the L.C.L., and the Liberal Movement want a confrontation.

Mr. Venning: Rubbish.

Mr. CRIMES: They want a confrontation, and they can thank the member for Rocky River for letting out of the L.C.L. bag the cat that I described as snarling and spitting. From what he said, that member obviously would be willing to see a walkout from industry in Australia similar to that going on in Britain today. He would probably like to see the Army at work, and I daresay he would be willing to join the Army in uniform and jackboots to assist in shooting down the workers and officials who remain recalcitrant. He has done us a great deal of service in that very unwise interjection. I can only say that, if the member's Party does not deal with him for revealing what is supposed to be a secret, then I do not think it has much discipline in its ranks. However, I think that is shown by its fragmentation.

I have been pleased to see that the Government will attempt again to strike a blow for democracy by introducing adult franchise for Legislative Council voting. The Opposition has been willing to agree to adult franchise for the Legislative Council, but then hedges that around with qualifications to make sure that it will not work that way. The fact that the Opposition has been willing to go as far as that indicates without doubt to my mind that it knows the writing is on the wall, or at least on the wall of the Legislative Council. The word "democracy" is a word before which members of another place cower in fear; they know it will catch up with them.

On compulsory unionism, I agree with the member for Heysen. That is shocking, but how much more shocking to hear the member for Glenelg insist that members on this side support compulsory unionism. I am most surprised to hear that from a person of the honourable member's intelligence and intellectual calibre. We on this side are bound by our Party platform. We know the great joy with which the member for Glenelg used to wave that little book (not the *Little Red Book*,

but the rules and constitution of the South Australian Branch of the A.L.P.). He had it in his possession (he probably still has it), but he will not look into it to see for himself that Labor policy is not compulsory unionism but preference to unionists.

Now I pass on (but not literally, I hope) to the question of who causes industrial unrest. Time and again we have been told by members of the Opposition that industrial unrest is caused by union officials, union secretaries. That can be given the lie by those people on this side who have been union officials and who retain great interest in the welfare of the unions to which, as members, they are still attached.

From my experience as a union official and from my observation of the experiences and the behaviour of other union officials, I can say that only the tiniest minority of union officials in South Australia (and I am sure this applies equally in other States) would consciously and deliberately go into industries where their members work in order to stir up industrial strife. It just does not happen. One of the reasons is that practically every union lacks personnel in direction because many unions are without the finance necessary to engage staff to carry out duties on behalf of members. This is true. Most of the union officials are worried, harried, tired people who do not welcome the additional work which falls on their shoulders and into their minds when they must deal with disputes arising in an industry where their members are at work.

After the members have decided the issue of whether or not there should be direct action, the major duty of the union officials is to enter into negotiation, to conciliate on the issues, having in mind that their members are losing money while they are not at work, and trying to get the members back to work. Admittedly, in getting the members back to work they v/ant them to go back with some gains, and it is true that in most cases the officials would not get the men back unless they were able to get those gains.

When I was associated with the South Australian Branch of the Australian Workers Union, the then Secretary (Mr. Eric O'Connor), addressing a meeting of members in the field or at the A.W.U. hall, would say frequently, "You've got a 40-hour week, but we're on call at any time of the day and at any hour of the night". He was speaking, of course, of union officials. This is true, and to

suggest that most union officials would welcome the strain and pressure thrown upon them in this way is absolutely fantastic. These conditions also have a deleterious effect on the domestic lives of trade union officials. Contrary to this talk of officials encouraging unrest in industry, the opposite is usually the case. In any case, it is the duty of these officials to carry out the requests of their rank and file members. It is obvious that the action of workers in industry (and I am not referring to Australia only) indicates that the old blandishments of the Establishment are rapidly wearing out as a means of keeping the workers quiescent. A warning of this appears in a publication which by no stretch of the imagination could be called pro-Labor or pro-trade-union. I am referring to the *Institute of Public Affairs Review*, which in its April-June, 1972, issue states:

The western economies seem to be approaching a decisive historical turning point. The paramount goals of these societies may be about to undergo far-reaching changes, changes which will almost certainly involve equally far-reaching revisions to the policies, attitudes and structures of their economies. The future of private enterprise may be determined by how clearly its leaders comprehend the impending historical climacteric and how well they adjust to the new demands industry will be called upon to meet. . . . We have barely stopped to ask ourselves whether some modification of goals accomplished, or of policies pursued, may now be necessary. The famous American economist, John Kenneth Galbraith, recently noted, "The reluctance to accommodate to underlying social change is not new. Its consequence is that, in time of social and institutional change, the advice on practical matters which reflects the accepted economic view will often and perhaps usually be in error. The advice will relate to previous and not present institutions: the needed action, unfortunately, must relate to the reality. If it does not, it will be at best inadequate or useless and, at worst, damaging."

I suggest that of the two, or perhaps the two and a half, Parties represented in this House it is Opposition Parties that should best listen to that advice of John Kenneth Galbraith. I share his belief but I cannot see that conservative Governments are going to heed what he has said, because, looking back in history, I see no precedent for now believing that conservative Parties will be able to adjust themselves to the changes that are so necessary. I quote again from the same publication, and I remind members that this is not a pro-Labor or pro-trade-union publication:

We are re-learning, through bitter experience, the ancient truth that the dignity of the individual, which is at the heart of the liberal philosophy, can not only be destroyed by poverty

but can also be subtly corrupted by an unthinking affluence. . . . The youth of the world, so wrong perhaps in many things, are undeniably right in discerning that only through an ever-widening and deepening sense of brotherhood can the human species find salvation.

I believe that statement to be correct. I find it strange that I can agree with sentiments in such a publication, but agree I do. In speaking about youth, to which the publication referred, I want to refer to the recent inspiring visit to Australia of the consumer crusader Ralph Nader. He gave advice to Australian youth, particularly to students, which could well be taken up by them and utilized in a constructive way, because we often see students (a minority, of course) acting in a way that is neither helpful nor constructive to the community. If the students are prepared to accept Ralph Nader's advice and set up consumer committees to carry out research on advertising and the quality or otherwise of advertised goods, they will be rendering a great and practical service to the Australian community.

I wondered how the media would react to the visit of this energetic man from the United States who has captured the imagination of the people both in the United States and in other parts of the Western world. I knew he would be talking about many products and telling us how they were misrepresented and adulterated and how the correct weight was usually not adhered to. What the media did, unfortunately for the consumers of Australia, was to listen to and record what Ralph Nader had to say, but the tactic used was to concentrate on what he said about motor vehicles and their safety or otherwise and about secrecy in Government and the failings of Governments and bureaucracy. He was quite right in dealing with those two things: they are important and serious matters that demand all the possible attention we can give them, but what about the multitude of products that Ralph Nader referred to in between those two subjects? Not one word appeared, because the press had determined that Australian business (much of which is not Australian but is American-dominated) should not suffer from attack from a man who always makes sure of his facts before he makes them known.

So, on the one hand, I condemn the mass media because of the way in which they dealt with what Nader had to say when he was our visitor; but, on the other hand, I have to congratulate the mass media on their shrewd-

ness in avoiding publicizing the many things, with which he dealt. I hope there will be this practical result from Ralph Nader's visit, that consumer groups will be encouraged and that they will spring up throughout the nation in order to protect people against short weight and adulteration, and misrepresentation in advertising. Certainly, I would say that this consumer-oriented Government would welcome with much pleasure this move in the Australian community.

Like all Australians, I am concerned about statements that appear from time to time in the press about that melodramatic, secret organization, the Mafia. Where there is smoke about this organization existing in Australia there must eventually prove to be fire and, if that organization does get solidly established in the Eastern States, it will inevitably turn its evil eyes to South Australia. I hope that our police authorities are right on the ball even now watching to see that the South Australian public is not to be interfered with in its normal way of life by such an evil organization. I have been intrigued to read some views about this organization by that fine American actor, Marlon Brando, who is at present appearing in the title role in the film *The Godfather*. (I am not receiving emolument for advertising the film, despite what has been said by the member for Stuart!) Let me quote this man who plays the major part in this film. He says:

I think it is about the corporate mind. In a way, the Mafia is the best example of capitalists we have. Don Corleone (the godfather) is just any ordinary American business magnate who is trying to do the best he can for the group he represents and for his family.

He continues:

I think the tactics the Don used aren't much different from those General Motors used against Ralph Nader. Unlike some corporate heads, Corleone has an unwavering loyalty for the people that have given support to him and his causes and he takes care of his own. He is a man of deep principle and the natural question arises as to how such a man can countenance the killing of people. But the American Government does the same thing for reasons that are not much different from those of the Mafia. And big business kills us all the time—with cars and cigarettes and pollution—and they do it knowingly.

Perhaps we could add a reference to the murder campaign from the air being carried on in Vietnam by the American Government. So, when we look at the Mafia and such organizations, we see they are not so different from organizations for which we are supposed to have

a great deal of respect. I quote once more from Brando:

Success . . . hasn't given me a sense of joining that great American experiment called democracy. I somehow always feel violated. Everybody in America and most of the world is a hooker of one type or another. I guess it behaves an expensive hooker not to cast aspersions on the cut-rate hookers, but this notion of exploitation is in our culture itself. We learn too quickly the way of hookerism. Personality is merchandized. Charm is merchandized. And you wake up every day to face the mercantile society.

Members may ask why I quote this about American society. I do it because it is obvious that the pattern that we are, regrettably, following is that of the American society. This illustrates how necessary it is that we have Governments in the Commonwealth and the States that are prepared to look at the problems of the nation in a different way from the materialistic mercantile way mentioned here. It is a difficult problem with which we must deal. In other words, we have reached a stage where we must question the motivating power of an industry or business that is built upon the idea that there must be continuing growth.

We realize now that we must change our attitudes to and ideas about growth (and perhaps this would apply to the more populated and more highly industrialized countries): we must bring it to a stop or slow it down to that level where it is safe for people to dwell without being poisoned by pollution and without the environment being destroyed. My personal opinion is that, unless we get rid of the old concept of success which is still being taught to our young people and which means the accumulation of wealth and property (the capitalistic motivation), to the disregard of the community at large, there is little hope left for the future of mankind. This is increasingly realized by the members of the Party of which I am so proud to be a member. I think it is also being realized by many people on the employers' side. We appreciate their difficulties. We look to the future, particularly to the time when we shall have a Commonwealth Labor Government and its co-operation and the co-operation of the captains of industry in Australia in doing those things that will enable Australia to avoid the fate that has befallen the United States. We have a strong Labor movement in politics and in industry which has the higher aim of ordering the usages of national resources and technological achievements for just, equitable and humane purposes. I support the motion.

Mr. HALL (Gouger): In his first address to the South Australian Parliament His Excellency capably delivered one of the emptiest speeches I have heard as a prelude to the opening of a pre-election Parliamentary session. That was not, of course, his fault. His Ministry simply prepared a paper that concealed rather than revealed its intentions. His Speech was more of a historical nature, looking over the past performance of this Government rather than a presentation of the legislation planned for this session. I suppose it is fair to say that it was a nicely wrapped up election present which the Government believes will be attractive to its electors next year. It was dramatic to find about seven paragraphs leading off the Speech in which agriculture was baited this year for a change. We know from previous speeches how agriculture was hardly worth a sentence. So, the trap has been set and the bait is there.

Since that Speech about eight days ago we have quietly fallen into the Parliamentary routine of political existence. Already the scene is becoming tedious. Yesterday about 22 Questions on Notice were asked, and we can fully expect that the best part of two hours each day will be devoted to Questions without Notice. This activity follows procedures set down for this House which are perhaps as free and helpful to individual members of this Parliament as are procedures in any other Parliament in the British Commonwealth. However, the facts are that the machinery of this Parliament is continually clogged with a flow of information which any citizen in the community should be able to obtain by a direct approach to the Government department or authority concerned. The issues we discuss here might be the right ones for us as Parliamentarians to discuss, but they are often the wrong topics as far as the public is concerned. This has resulted in a lack of appreciation and respect by the public for the Parliamentary system and for politicians as individuals. This type of dissatisfaction was expressed recently in an article in the *Bulletin* on May 20 entitled "What has gone wrong with politics?" I quote that article, as follows:

Something has gone very wrong with Australian politics, or perhaps the whole Australian system of government. The feeling of pointlessness increases. Politicians grimace at the people across a gap of nothingness. Yet politicians are supposed to be able to make sense out of the chaos of events. The potential of the Australian people is not being drawn on. We get something less than the Governments we deserve. This malaise affects Australian's general view of themselves. Perhaps it retards in many directions other than politics.

Unfortunately for far too many people the description of this malaise represents their view of our democracy. Clearly our Parliamentary structures and our Government Administration have not changed with the times and are not geared to make use of or respond to the modern communications revolution.

The oversea telecommunication centre located 20 miles from Ceduna can send and receive 100 signals simultaneously between the northern hemisphere and Australia on a mini-scale 6 W transmission through a satellite poised 22,000 miles above the Indian Ocean. Yet the marvels of modem communication do not just lie in these electronic advancements: they translate into great social effects which mould people's minds and change their actions. Our community is better informed as each year goes by. Indeed, individuals no longer consider themselves as being just a town, city or State resident, but rather as being part of an international scene.

That 6 W beam from the Indian Ocean with the information it carries symbolizes a future that is already with us. The comparison of speed and efficiency conveyed does not always reflect well on our Parliamentary activities here. Instantaneous news of events from every quarter of the globe highlights the cumbersome procedures of this Parliamentary system. The vast amount of information available to the ordinary citizen in the course of his normal daily routine about ordinary everyday events contrasts sharply with the lack of information available to the ordinary citizen who approaches a Government department or agency on his own initiative.

For example, Mr. Deputy Speaker, if you as Mr. Paddy Ryan were to approach the Minister of Roads and Transport's office and ask his department whether the Government was still proceeding with the M.A.T.S. plan, you would most certainly receive an unsatisfactory and negative reply. Again, I suggest that, if you approached that office as the Deputy Speaker, you would still get the same reply. There is no doubt that the South Australian Government leads the Australian field in suppressing information that it has within its control. Last year the Government refused to release the report on juvenile courts in South Australia, the report on the proposed ferry to Kangaroo Island and an important report on water rating in South Australia, and it refuses to clarify its position regarding the M.A.T.S. plan, to which I have just referred; the Government substituted for real information the Breuning report, which

everyone in this House realizes is a hoax designed to mislead the South Australian community seriously on the largest and most important expenditure programme ever placed before this Parliament. By going back prior to the 1968 State election we find the outright deception that the Government then practised regarding the Dartmouth dam and we know of the effect that that Dartmouth dam deception had in later years.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: It rolled you.

Mr. HALL: The Minister says "It rolled you". That is another example of the front bench's attitude: any means justifies the end, whether it is just or not. All the Minister cares about is whether it rolled us. The Minister has revealed clearly not only to the House but also to anyone else who listens to him what his motives were. The Government has failed to supply information and it continues to tailor and shape its releases according to its political objectives. One can only look on with wonder at the announcement after announcement by this Government on assuming office concerning water filtration, remembering that during the last State election it rejected it, but then it began to announce it. What a cynical bunch they are then to accept a plan so soon after they previously rejected it. What has astounded members on this side is the continued reannouncement (and I am sure it has been announced as a major Government work three times since the Government adopted it) of this undertaking. Certainly, the Government tailors and shapes its releases according to its political advantage and not to the public good. The Government does not respond democratically to the democratic challenge before it.

Why is the Government able to misuse the people it is elected to represent? The answer lies in the inadequacy of the rules and Statutes under which it operates. We should not accept this unsatisfactory situation. Let us consider the scene in the United States. There, policy making is often a flamboyant and arduous experience for the average citizen, and it is more involved, because far more information is available from Government agencies in the United States than is available in South Australia. The release of Government information in the United States is controlled by the Public Information Act of 1970, section 552 of which provides:

Section 552, public information: agency rules, opinions, orders, records and proceedings.

(a) Each agency shall make available to the public information as follows:

- (1) Each agency shall separately state and currently publish in the federal register for the guidance of the public:
 - A. descriptions of its central and field organization and the established places at which, the employees (and in the case of a uniformed service, the members) from whom, and the methods whereby, the public may obtain information, make submittals or requests, or obtain decisions;
 - B. statements of the general course and method by which its functions are channelled and determined, including the nature and requirements of all formal and informal procedures available;
 - C. rules of procedures, descriptions of forms available or the places at which forms may be obtained, and instructions as to the scope and contents of all papers, reports, or examinations;
 - D. substantive rules of general applicability adopted as authorized by law, and statements of general policy or interpretations of general applicability formulated and adopted by the agency; . . .
- (2) Each agency, in accordance with the published rules, shall make available for public inspection and copying—
 - A. final opinions, including concurring and dissenting opinions, as well as orders, made in the adjudication of cases;
 - B. those statements of policy and interpretations which have been adopted by the agency and are not published in the federal register; and
 - C. administrative staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect a member of the public;

unless the materials are promptly published and copies offered for sale.

Each agency also shall maintain and make available for public inspection and copying a current index providing identifying information for the public as to any matter issued, adopted, or promulgated after July 4, 1967, and required by this paragraph to be made available or published.

- (3) Except with respect to the records made available under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, each agency, on request for identifiable records made in accordance with published rules stating the time, place, fees to the extent authorized by Statute, and procedure to be followed, shall make the records promptly available to any person. On complaint, the district court of the United States in the district in which the complainant resides, or has his principal place of business, or in which the agency records are situated, has jurisdiction to enjoin the agency from withholding agency records and to order the production of any agency records

improperly withheld from the complainant.

Except as to causes the court considers of greater importance, proceedings before the district court, as authorized by this paragraph, take precedence on the docket over all other causes and shall be assigned for hearing and trial at the earliest practicable date and expedited in every way.

- (4) Each agency having more than one member shall maintain and make available for public inspection a record of the final votes of each member in every agency proceeding.

There are nine specific exemptions covered by section (c), which is as follows:

This section does not authorize withholding of information or limit the availability of records to the public, except as specifically stated in this section. This section is not authority to withhold information from Congress.

In South Australia the Act controlling the release of Government information is the Public Service Act, section 58 of which provides:

If any officer—

- (i) otherwise than in the discharge of his duties, directly or indirectly discloses to any person information acquired in the course of his duties except by the direction or with the permission of the Minister; or
- (j) without the permission of the Minister directly or indirectly

and whether anonymously or otherwise, makes any communication or contribution or supplies information to any newspaper or publication of a similar nature on any matter affecting the Public Service or any department thereof or the business or the officers of the Public Service or any department thereof or on his own office or his own acts or duties as an officer, he shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable to such punishment as may be determined under section 59 or section 64 of this Act.

The essential difference between the practices in the United States and those in South Australia was highlighted by the recent visit of Mr. Ralph Nader. It is a potential crime for a Government agency in the United States not to give information, whereas in Australia the opposite applies: it is a crime for a Government agency to release information to the public or the press without Ministerial authority. I recently read the following statement:

Total and complete disclosure, particularly in dangerous times, represents an impossible dream, but excessive secrecy is a contagious disease that could be fatal to the practice of modern democracy itself.

Another statement I recently read is as follows:

Each measure of secrecy measurably diminishes our freedoms.

The American experience of open policy making may be, as I have said, a painful experience, but it produces a more mature outlook on political management. Incidentally, the American people have the privilege of voluntary voting; their votes are not valued at \$10 a time, which is the fine that will theoretically be imposed here if people do not vote.

The system of voluntary voting applies in most other parts of the world. So, we have a long way to go. At least let us go some of the way toward open policy making. To enable that to be done we should take the steps that I shall now enumerate. First, we should amend the Public Service Act to allow public servants to speak out, under well defined lines of communication with the public. Secondly, we should set up efficiently staffed information offices in every Government department to inform members of the public and the news media at their request of departmental activities.

Members interjecting:

Mr. HALL: It is interesting to hear resistance from Government members to the idea of spreading information about Government activities. The third step that we should take is to set up powerful committees of investigation with at least a Parliamentary chairman, with power to initiate fundamental inquiries into departmental and Ministerial activities. Fourthly, we should open this Parliament to television, radio and the press without restriction. I shall refer to those four steps in some detail. We cannot continue to jam up the Parliamentary Assembly with details of unnecessary inquiries, simply because Ministers desire to perpetuate an old-fashioned Ministerial responsibility in a modern age. Ministers must divest themselves of tedious detail and, by amending the Public Service Act, order the continuing automatic release to the public of the details of their administration. The setting up of the information offices within departments is, of course, self-explanatory, and it is a move necessary in regard to any effective dissemination of information. Indeed, the Government will have to be as efficient in respect of its public contacts as is free enterprise in its approach to its customers and clients. I well recall complaining in this House previously about the action of the Railways Department in placing outside its ticket office the sign "Present the right change", forgetting to put "please" in front of the direction, and I recall

asking questions to have this rectified. In some Government departments we have to instil the lesson that the public are the clients and the proprietors.

The third point relates to the setting up of committees of investigation, and it is the most important of all. Independent bodies, chaired at least by a Parliamentarian, would remove the secrecy that surrounds Government action. There is no justification for a Minister to use the names of his public servants in support of his policies and then to suppress the views of those who do not support his policies. The public should know what their top public servants think of a situation (for instance, the situation concerning juvenile courts and juvenile detention institutions). Members of the public should know whether or not the Government is secretly proceeding with the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Plan. They should know what the experts have said about providing a ferry service to Kangaroo Island. No Minister of the Crown should be able to shelter cowardly behind Parliamentary privilege on these issues, as the Ministers opposite are now doing. I quote, again from the *Bulletin* article of May 20 in reference to the committee systems, as follows:

This should come from an expansion of the committee system from the Senate (now, unexpectedly, the real action Chamber in Canberra) to the House of Representatives and to the State Parliaments. Apart from being electoral colleges which decide who should be the Government, Parliaments should be the place where committees provide some of the nation's most important sounding boards, by calling witnesses and getting evidence about what is going on in the Administration and what kinds of new policy might be possible. Instead of being largely given over to phoneyess of "debate" on matters that have already been decided in the Party rooms, Parliaments could be the watchdogs of the people by prying into administration, and they could be instruments of change by canvassing new policies up to the point of political practicability.

The fourth point concerns the opening of this House to the media, and this is a simple point. Why should the public have to attend personally to see what their representatives are doing? We do not charge people as they come in the door; the public are welcome in the galleries and there is no reason to exclude the modern communications media from the people's House, that is, no reason except for the adherence to old-fashioned precedent. I understand that we might have to introduce legislation to extend matters of privilege, as they apply in the House, to the media if they were able to come here at their own convenience, but that should be no bar to this move,

which would truly encourage open policy discussion in the community. The Governor's Speech foreshadows the appointment of an ombudsman, a move that I have opposed previously.

Mr. Payne: Oh!

Mr. HALL: Although I opposed that move, I now approve of it on the basis that it should free politicians from some of the time they devote to an administrative role and enable them to spend more time on the policy and legislative processes. But the ombudsman is but a small step toward involving the public. He can assist only in relation to complaints and dissatisfaction concerning Government administration. He will not be able to oil the machinery of information and dissemination, as will the measures I have outlined. The case for these reforms is probably best summed up in the Fulton Report, which criticized secrecy in the Home Civil Service practised under the Westminster Parliamentary system. I quote the relevant section entitled "Consultation and Secrecy", as follows:

We think that the administrative process is surrounded by too much secrecy. The public interest would be better served if there were a great amount of openness. The increasingly wide range of problems handled by Government, and their far-reaching effects upon the community as a whole, demand the widest possible consultation with its different parts and interests. We believe that such consultations are not only necessary but will also improve the quality of the ultimate decisions and increase the general understanding of their purpose. The fuller the information, the closer the links between Government (both Ministers and civil servants) and the community; and the smaller the gap of frustration and misunderstanding between "them" and "us". One of the recommendations of the Fulton Report states:

The Government should set up an inquiry to make recommendations for getting rid of unnecessary secrecy; the Official Secrets Act should be included in such a review.

I believe the House should take note of that report, which relates to the practices of a Parliament, on which this Parliament is modelled. I will leave the matter of Government secrecy for a moment. Last weekend, an article was published in the *Sunday Mail*, entitled "Smear Campaign". It contained a mixture of fact, near fact and assumptions. The subject matter was the printing and distribution of an anonymous pamphlet entitled *As We See It*. The authors called themselves "a group of concerned members of the Liberal and Country League". It therefore seems fitting, after talking about less secrecy in Government, to mention this item of secret endea-

vour within our political Party. This pamphlet is a crude and cheap attempt to split and divide the Parliamentary wing of our Party.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Gouger has the call.

Mr. HALL: Let me also say that the *Mail* article was quite wrong in stating that this pamphlet was discussed at a secret meeting held at L.C.L. headquarters on the morning of Thursday, July 6. That meeting dealt only with the subject of the election of President of the L.C.L., this election to be held on September 1. The pamphlet attacks the Young Liberal Movement; Mr. Dean Jaensch, who is not a member of our Party; Martin Cameron, M.L.C., who is not a member of the Liberal Movement; Mr. Robin Millhouse, M.P., Deputy Leader of the Opposition; Mr. Ian Wilson, Liberal and Country League candidate for Sturt; and me. It attempts to divide, by using material from the member for Alexandra, by praising Mr. De Garis, M.L.C., Mr. McLachlan, the President of the L.C.L., and Dr. Eastick, our Parliamentary Leader.

It invites further contact by directing inquiries to Post Office box 78, Kingswood, and advises contact with the State General Secretary of the L.C.L. The first line on the first page uses a quote by Luther: "Unity at the expense of truth is treason." It is a worthless publication, but intriguing, because of the circumstances concerning its production and distribution. I now deal with some of the facts. The pamphlet was printed by Quikprint, of 54 Rundle Street, Kent Town, where it is said 2,500 copies were produced. Copies were hand delivered to Parliament House on Tuesday, July 4, by a middle-aged woman who is a branch official of the L.C.L. Some days after this delivery she interviewed a Parliamentary member of the L.C.L. in Parliament House. This branch official has her telephone number listed on two League of Rights pamphlets, as the inquiry and contact number, concerning the visit by Mr. Eric Butler, the National Director of the League of Rights, to South Australia last year. The use of a post office box as a distributing link by the persons concerned in this production provides the comic relief in this little cloak-and-dagger story. It is a tactic used by those persons who would be highly embarrassed if their names were publicly known.

On July 6, at about 2 p.m., the owner-manager of a prosperous small industry in Unley placed a parcel in the box and left. On

Friday, July 7, there was a great deal of activity at the scene of the box! A lady, who is a well-known supporter of the League of Rights, a member of the L.C.L. and who on a previous occasion had let me know in very definite terms by letter that she did not like my political style, obtained a package from the box, then drove home accompanied by her husband. Later in the morning the first-mentioned lady, who had delivered the pamphlets to this place on July 4, placed a package in the box, then proceeded to an Unley address.

Before this issue becomes too confused, let us leave the box and turn to distribution. Besides the hand delivery in Parliament House, there has been a postage distribution. Sections of the Districts of Bragg and Davenport have been the subject of a letter-box drop, and a number of interesting individuals have distributed them in "bundles". A man well known in L.C.L. district committee circles, a known supporter of the League of Rights, distributed them from his city office. Two financial L.C.L. members in near country districts have also helped spread this literary effort.

I am sorry to find that some of these pamphlets have been distributed in the Federal seat of Sturt, where Mr. Ian Wilson has developed a clear lead over his Labor opponent, Mr. Foster, with an election only several months away. The member for Davenport has denied any implication in this distribution. The president of the Burnside-Davenport Young Liberals stated to a meeting of between 30 and 40 Young Liberals that he had a supply given him by the member for Davenport. Whatever the facts may be in that direction, I hope that members of our Party will not proceed further with this matter, now that its origin is known. Someone who is not a member of our Party, the former Speaker of this House (Mr. T. C. Stott), became inspired by this pamphlet and is using its contents to further Country Party interests.

In a letter to the *Murray Pioneer* of July 20, Mr. Stott uses The Hon. Mr. Brookman's article from "*As We See It*" to further his argument. He finished his letter by repeating Luther's statement "unity at the expense of truth is treason". One cannot say that Mr. Stott is not trying! I mention in passing these few facts to illustrate how ineffective such moves will be in dividing our Party, especially if they are made by anonymous persons. The real facts of this case are that the L.C.L.

is experiencing a tremendous reawakening and its rank and file membership is turning out in thousands to hear and consider the case for change and reform of our Party. Since March 15, I have addressed over 9,000 people who have attended Party and public meetings arranged by residents in their area. The overwhelming response has been a call for unity and reform. Those members of the L.C.L. who speak of division within our Party reflect only the views of some members of Parliament: they do not represent most of the Party membership. Some members opposite seem to be enjoying the current activity within the L.C.L. It is not my duty to warn them of the dangers that lie ahead for the Labor Party, but the more politically experienced among them understand that the reorganized organization of the L.C.L. will provide a challenge that can overwhelm the Labor Party.

I return to the main theme of my remarks this afternoon, which have been directed toward achieving a great public participation in Government and its functions. Ralph Nader made this statement on his recent visit: Information is the currency of democracy. We have to make certain such currency is available on a practical basis, free of Ministerial self-protection. Clearly the public is beginning to demand its rights in this matter. At the recent Liberal Movement convention, one of the items of policy discussed in depth was that of censorship. I quote the reference to political censorship approved at that convention:

Political. Here Mill's call for complete freedom of discussion should—with only two exceptions—be put into practice. The two exceptions: No person or organization should be allowed to brainwash children. In case of emergency affecting the very survival of the State, the Government of the day should be allowed to keep information secret, if this is in the people's interest. But on no other ground should the people be "protected" from the truth, and this exception is not a justification to keep information permanently secret: it must be released as soon as possible.

It should be an offence for Parliamentarians and public servants to mislead the public by censoring information. All relevant information should be included in their various pamphlets, etc., and not just that information which they regard as being in their own interests best for the public to know. Refusal to answer questions, providing misleading, vague and evasive answers, and the routing of questions and complaints through long, expensive and tortuous bureaucratic procedures, are also unacceptable forms of censorship. Amongst the measures to enforce the above there should be an ombudsman to investigate each of our country's Public Services and local councils.

With that reference to the Liberal Movement's approved policy, I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

Mr. JENNINGS (Ross Smith): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, and it is a great honour to follow the former Leader of the Opposition, the present Leader of the Liberal Movement and, as far as I can see, a candidate for Congress. For at least a fortnight he was a man of principle, but I think that television has worn his image down somewhat, so that lately he has been a rather silent back-bencher, doing much organizing in the country, we are told, but not necessarily in L.C.L.-held seats.

I do not intend to begin by answering the honourable member. I must go through the usual procedure of congratulating the mover and seconder of the motion. The mover (the member for Elizabeth) is an old friend of mine, who has sat close to me in this Parliament for a long time; I will certainly miss him when he retires at the end of this session. I think I will probably miss him more than most members will miss him because I will look at my tobacco packet at the end of each week and see that the depredations have not been nearly so great as they are now. Nevertheless, apart from that, I will miss him in many other ways. I also congratulate the seconder of the motion (the member for Stuart) with whom I hope to spend many more years in this House sitting on the same side on the right of the Speaker.

I now intend to deal with the Governor's Speech. Few Opposition members have referred to the Governor, and this is most unusual. I noticed that the great patriotic gentleman, the Hon. Double Deputy (the member for Mitcham), did not refer to the Governor at all. I must say that His Excellency's Speech was the best-read Opening Speech I have heard since I have been listening to Opening Speeches. It was a great privilege to sit in the same Chamber as the Governor who, as the member for Spence has said, has so much to commend him as a man. I remember that when the former Governor (Sir James Harrison) came here, I congratulated him, but added that I was sorry that in this State we always seemed to appoint as Governor a man whose background had been martial, a man who had been trained to kill or had been in service of some kind. I wondered why we could not have a man who had served humanity in a different way. Through the very regrettable death of Sir James Harrison, we have got Sir Mark Oliphant, whom I regard as probably one of the greatest attributes this State has ever known.

I must also refer to former members of this House who have died since our last Address in Reply debate. Lin Riches was a great friend of all of us. In many ways he was an ideal man. He came from a very poor background; he was a member of this Parliament for 37 years; he was Speaker of the House; and he was Mayor of Port Augusta for almost as long as he was a member of Parliament. He always kept the common touch. He was at the beck and call of everyone, and I do not think the people of Port Augusta will easily forget him. Obviously he would be of much use to us today with his great understanding of and sympathy for Aborigines.

Bill Quirke and I could never get on well politically for long (perhaps for a day at a time, depending on which side he supported on that day), but I could never help liking him, and I regret his death. As I do in all these cases, I express my sympathy to his relatives and friends. Our old friend George Bockelberg, from the other side, has also died. I think he was a good member for Eyre; the decline in the representatives of Eyre began from the time he retired.

Mr. Clark: I thought the man who followed him was all right.

Mr. JENNINGS: I regarded him as the champion of wombats. He was not nearly as good as Mr. Bockelberg. We now have a young gentleman representing Eyre who does not have much to commend him, except his zeal and his attitude towards one or two things to which I may refer in this speech. The Hon. W. W. Robinson, who was a member of another place, has also died. Although I did not know him very well, I often saw him wandering around the corridors, and I also wish to express my sympathy to his relatives. I think that is no more than I can do and no less than I should do. It is certainly different from the cavalier treatment meted out by the member for Mitcham who, at the end of his speech, said, "Condolences and congratulations to those to whom they apply," or something of that nature.

Apart from my friend the member for Elizabeth, other members will retire. The member for Goyder will retire voluntarily. Although the members for Alexandra and Davenport will retire, I do not believe they will retire voluntarily, because they believe that the turmoil in which the Liberal and Country League and its incubus, the Liberal Movement, are now involved is forcing them into this position. I very much regret the retirement of the member for

Alexandra. I think that in any Parliament there is a place for a man such as the member for Alexandra. I would say that there is a place for a maximum of one such member, but there is a place for that one member. The member for Alexandra has been here a long time. He is a thoroughly honest gentleman, and I regret that he is retiring in these circumstances. If he had been beaten by a Labor man, I should have thrown my hat in the air, if I had had a hat, which I have not. There is no chance of Labor winning that seat.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: You never know. What about Chapman?

Mr. JENNINGS: The way things are going we will have a chance on this occasion. We may beat Chapman. I do not believe that Davenport is really a strong Labor seat, so there is a chance that Mrs. Steele, if she is renominated, will hold that seat.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: Do you think she threw in the towel a bit early?

Mr. JENNINGS: I think she has thrown in the towel.

Mr. McAnaney: What did you do when you campaigned against me that time?

Mr. JENNINGS: We did not throw in the towel. I regret that Mrs. Steele is in a similar position to the member for Alexandra. That is all I want to say regarding those honourable members.

Mr. Coumbe: You are a very retiring person yourself.

Mr. JENNINGS: There are a couple of other members opposite who I think will be retiring, but not for any of the reasons I have so far given: they will be beaten by A.L.P. candidates, and that is what we want.

Mr. Simmons: What about the other group?

Mr. JENNINGS: I was told last weekend, by a Country Party official who saw me—

Mr. Mathwin: Leave Tom Stott out of it!

Mr. JENNINGS: It was not Mr. Stott. If I saw him coming, I would run the other way. Someone else told me that, because of the trouble the Conservative element is in at present, the Country Party had a chance of obtaining several seats in the Parliament, and he said he was worried only that Mr. Millhouse would become Deputy Leader of that Party. In this regard the Leader of the Opposition ought to be very careful and arrange the seating on that side of the Chamber a little better; otherwise he might be the first man in modern times to be stabbed in the back from the side. Perhaps he should choose the member for Heysen, or whatever he calls

himself, as his deputy, because it would not matter then what statements he made; we could always say, "Well, we didn't quite understand him". As it is now if his deputy speaks we can understand him but we do not know whether he is speaking for the L.C.L. or the L.M.

Mr. Payne: Or both!

Mr. JENNINGS: Sometimes I think he would be capable of doing that.

Mr. Clark: There is a League of Rights tie-up, too.

Mr. JENNINGS: We have heard about that today.

Mr. Clark: There always has been.

Mr. JENNINGS: The member for Gouger today spoke about questions cluttering up the Notice Paper. If he examined last week's Notice Papers, he would see that they were cluttered up all right—by questions practically all of which were asked by members of his own group. Therefore, he is not doing much to discipline them. I have before me (which I will read to the House soon) answers which he gave to a series of questions recently and which appear in the *West Coast Sentinel*. This will give a different side of the story to the answer he gave today to an interjection by the member for Rocky River about primary producers. He virtually said, "Put it to the Commonwealth Government." Opposition members always complain when we do things like that. The honourable member then spoke about the *Bulletin*; I wondered whether it was the current *Bulletin* or whether it was the old *Bulletin*, which used to be a humorous paper. Indeed, I thought he might have got mixed up with *Smith's Weekly*. He did recant later on when he was talking about certain things that were relevant at that part of his speech (about giving information to everyone on all sorts of subjects without their asking for it), but only recently he said he would never be a party to the appointment of an ombudsman in this State because he did not want anyone prying into the work of public servants.

Mr. Hopgood: He did not want an inquisitor.

Mr. JENNINGS: That is so.

Mr. Mathwin: What about the M.A.T.S. plan?

Mr. JENNINGS: The M.A.T.S. plan is, apparently, something that we are trying to keep secret. I do not know how it could be kept secret if work was being done on it. I refer

now to the following article from Ceduna in the *West Coast Sentinel* of July 19, 1972:

Mr. Steele Hall, head of the Liberal Movement and former leader of the L.C.L. was severely critical of the Opposition Party when he spoke at a meeting here last week.

They are a happy family!

Mr. Hopgood: Did the honourable member walk directly to the West Coast?

Mr. JENNINGS: I do not know how he got there. The report continues:

Introduced by Mr. Ken Wright, Chairman of the local L.C.L. branch, who described the present situation within the league as being similar to a broken home in which the parents quarrel and the children don't know whose side to take, Mr. Hall addressed an audience of about 40.

That number is not too bad.

Mr. Clark: That is part of the 9,000 people he has addressed.

Mr. JENNINGS: That is so. The report continues:

He said there had been a vast upsurge of interest in right-of-centre politics since the events of March 15.

Mr. Hopgood: Naturally there has been an upsurge of interest, but not support for them.

Mr. JENNINGS: He did not say that. The report continues:

The L.C.L. in South Australia had not attracted a majority of voters in the State, and had been a governing party with a minority vote.

Well, we know that already. There was no need for him to say that. The report continues:

While the Liberals had succeeded in industrializing the State, they had failed to gain the seats created by an increase in population due to the industrialization. Since the redistribution, the Party only holds seven out of 26 city seats. It was now essential for the L.C.L. to gain city seats.

While he is not opposed to the principles of the L.C.L. he believes that the organization leadership at present "is totally unsatisfactory". Working people cannot identify with the leadership of the league, composed of persons said to represent wealth and privilege. We lose votes and government because of this.

Mr. Payne: He is very accurate.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, and the honourable member should remember that this situation will continue for a long time.

Mr. Hopgood: And that is why they are setting up Liberal Movement branches in the country.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, in districts like Eyre, for example, where all the industrial workers are! The report continues:

Mr. Hall said L.C.L. members have long been told what a great Party it is, when in

actual fact it has been declining rapidly, having little attraction for the vast middle-of-the-road, white-collar workers. The first duty was to work within the L.C.L. to change it dramatically, Mr. Hall stated. In this context the former Opposition Leader said it was imperative to elect Mr. A. R. Perryman to the position of President of the league.

Canvassing is not allowed in our Party. Many people in the L.C.L. these days are looking with jealous eyes at some of our rules, about which they have been complaining for a long time.

Mr. Clark: Where was this meeting held?

Mr. JENNINGS: At Ceduna.

Mr. Clark: Was anything said there about the League of Rights?

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes. The report continues:

... while Mr. Gunn, M.P.—

he gets into the act here—

who spoke later, claimed that Mr. McLachlan was the more suitable man, because he had given the league more support, particularly financial. Commenting on the Legislative Council, Mr. Hall said the Liberals were likely to lose Northern, Midland and Southern seats with the rapid development of Whyalla and Port Augusta. It must be made a popular House of Review, but at present it is seen as being country-dominated and with sectional interests.

I thoroughly agree with the member for Gouger in that.

Mr. Payne: Where did he go after that?

Mr. JENNINGS: He then went into conference with the correspondent from the *Sentinel*.

Mr. Clark: Is that the newspaper that used to have a go at us?

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, it is a fairly conservative newspaper. This report appears in that paper:

The *Sentinel* conducted the following interview with Mr. Hall during his brief visit to Ceduna last week:

Sentinel: Mr. Hall, do you intend to establish a local branch of the Liberal Movement on the West Coast? Do you think there is a call for such a branch, and if so, why?

Mr. Hall: The Liberal Movement does not initiate the setting up of branches in any electorates. In all cases they have been self-generating moves by local residents. There would obviously be some difficulty in setting up a branch in a widely dispersed area such as this although Kangaroo Island has its own official branch.

Sentinel: Soon after forming the Liberal Movement you said that regional development would be one of your aims. Could you explain in detail what you would like to see developed in this area of the State. Will Ceduna keep growing?

Mr. Hall: Regional development is a complex subject. I am the author of a fairly

extensive paper on it. In short, it is generally seen as a large scale project of Whyalla size or larger, and I feel must involve Commonwealth policies in the future, e.g., taxation. I have no doubt that Ceduna will continue to grow, especially after the sealing of the Eyre Highway to Western Australia.

The report also states:

Sentinel: Please make a comment on the League of Rights.

Mr. Hall: In this free society I defend the right of the League of Rights to exist as an organization. On the other hand I dislike the organization and reject its methods. It is an extremist body that gains support by methods which I do not approve. Its secrecy of operation and attitudes to some important political figures indicate its lack of political logic and acumen.

The next question and answer are interesting.

The report states:

Sentinel: What is the future of the farmer? What should be done by the State and Federal Governments to ensure economic security in the rural industry?

Mr. Hall: The farmer will depend more and more on Federal Government policies. He will need more expert marketing of his products and continued financial support of marketing boards.

We see that, when we are claiming that we want more help from the Commonwealth Government, the head of the Liberal Movement, as he is described here, agrees with us, and that makes me wonder whether we are right. We are told that united at the expense of truth is treason. That is an awful smear, we are told. Surely the member for Gouger has cut off his friendship with John McLeay if he thinks that is a smear!

Mr. Clark: It would be to his credit if he did.

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes. Another publication states:

Everybody is asking what the Liberal Movement stands for! Up to this moment of time we have not received any clear answer. We are wondering what the reputed thousands of Liberal Movement supporters are supporting? We see conflict—with the Liberal Movement's canvassing L.C.L. members to join the Liberal Movement and campaigning to take over branch and district committees.

That is a statement on the front page of *As We See It*. A report in that publication, headed "As Seen by David Brookman", states:

A study of the origins of the Liberal Movement shows that it has the craziest beginnings in the history of political Parties. One day a Leader refused to accept the considered view of a majority of his Party. He resigned as Leader. To that point there is nothing remarkable. Even the following recriminations, though exaggerated, followed a familiar pattern. "I had to guard my back." "I did not tell the party generally but I told Mr. Brook-

man." "Wooden horses in the Party room." Statements like this thrown into an already heated controversy tend to make it appear that an idealistic and progressive Liberal was out-plotted by the "old guard". There was no plot. Every member of the Party wanted to avoid a blow-up.

That is what Mr. Brookman said, and he is an honest man. Another report in that publication, headed "What about the Young Liberals?", states:

Not since the resurgence after the War have YLs been so aware, dedicated, interested and enthusiastic. They are united, purposeful. Fired with the hope of progress they have no time for the normal frictions of any organization. For the first time in the life of any YL he sees the possibility of the adoption of the changes he has been advocating, liberal change. The small "I" is crucial. Hall commands their support because he is the genesis of their hope.

Another report in that publication, headed "Is the tail wagging the dog?", states:

Great publicity has been consistently given to the opinions of the Young Liberals President, Dean Brown, who has now decided to nominate for the seat of Davenport. On the retirement of President Alan Perryman, the Young Liberal movement was in sad disarray. At the present time the Young Liberal membership is at its lowest ebb. Check if a branch exists in your electorate; and check its current membership! In spite of the bold statements of its current President supporting the Liberal Movement, he leads a "paper tiger", and will find it hard to justify the seven Council votes allocated to the Co-ordinating Council of the Young Liberals.

Mr. Peter Adamson, whoever he is, states that not since the end of the Second World War has there been such a resurgence, and later someone else tells us that it is a paper tiger. Whom do we believe? I also have a statement from, the *Sunday Mail* about Mr. Martin Cameron, M.L.C., the man who is not an L.M. It states:

Mr. Martin Cameron, M.L.C., is perhaps the most dedicated disciple of the progressive Steele Hall Liberal doctrine. Which has made his non-membership of Mr. Hall's Liberal Movement a minor political mystery. So the number one disciple was apparently left out in the cold. But the wisdom of his apparent rejection has emerged in recent weeks. Without the restrictive tag of being an LM member, Mr. Cameron can move through House of Assembly electorates addressing meetings with immunity from public criticism. In the past fortnight he has attended public and branch meetings in several vital electorates, including Alexandra, held by veteran David Brookman, who is at present facing a pre-selection fight. Mr. Cameron has been preaching the Hall doctrine of progressive thinking at these meetings.

Mr. Payne: Was that a sample of it that we had today?

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, that was progressive thinking.

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

Mr. JENNINGS: When the bell intervened so kindly, it saved me from exhaustion and from the effects of speaking with the deep cold I have on me. However, I can continue for a few more moments. I had not intended to speak for very long, but I have a few more quotations from the booklet described by the Leader of the Liberal Movement as a black-mail sheet, a smear campaign, or however else he described it. This quotation is from an article by Stewart Cockburn, who I do not think is a very progressive person. He says:

Key figure behind the scenes in the desperate and finally successful battle to avert a complete split in the Liberal and Country League during the past few days is 39-year-old solicitor Mr. Ian Wilson.

Here he was quoting Mr. Wilson:

I knew Steele Hall was right in wanting to reform the Party, but we had to find a way to do it constructively.

I was certain that a split would break our links with the Liberal Party of Australia. That had to be averted at all costs. It would have meant the end of any meaningful involvement by progressive South Australian Liberals in national politics at the Parliamentary level.

Steele Hall's vision had excited everyone in this State who believes in liberalism with a small T.

Why are members opposite not excited? The quotation continues:

So any formula had to capture the essence of this vision and put it into constructive and practical shape.

That is a quotation from that great progressive, Mr. Ian Bonython Cameron Wilson.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Is he a progressive?

Mr. JENNINGS: He is a progressive now.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: I am glad you told me.

Mr. JENNINGS: There are some very peculiar progressives around. The split in the L.C.L., we were told, was because a member merely moved that Cabinet should be elected instead of being appointed by the Leader. This was the reason, or the ostensible reason, for the formation of the breakaway group.

Mr. Clark: The progressives.

Mr. JENNINGS: Think of the people we might not have seen in the Cabinet if this had been going on for years. We might have had a better Cabinet, and it might have been worse. We do not know.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: At least we would not have had the Fuhrer.

Mr. JENNINGS: Who does not agree that the member for Gouger believes fundamentally in the Fuhrer principle? He is the Fuhrer, of course, and this is one of the things that cost him the last election. The Fuhrer image was coming out through the television box, and many people could see the resemblance. If members could draw on their television screens the hair hanging down over the right eye, I am sure they would think the image was that of the Fuhrer reincarnated.

The *Flinders News* had something to say about this recently. This is editorial. It is not written by the League of Rights people. The article states:

Time is a healer and it seems that to former South Australian Premier Mr. Steele Hall this is very true..... In his short term on the Opposition benches he has been very vocal in his criticism of the Government from time to time, and then his action earlier this year of breaking away from the well established Liberal and Country League and forming a minority group—the Liberal Movement—was the crowning glory of his restless days in the Liberal and Country League.

Mr. Clark: And at the moment he is repeating the whole business on television.

Mr. JENNINGS: Then I am glad I am in this House and not watching television. The article continues:

Mr. Hall's supporters who can, in fairness be credited with not having short memories, must have been aghast on Saturday night when he said that Governments were too secretive.

So he did apparently make somewhere else the speech that we heard today. As this article is in the *Flinders News*, perhaps it was made at Crystal Brook. The article continues:

Come now Mr. Hall, a section of the news media of South Australia could have been gagged during the dying days of your regime if you had your way. This was evident by your attempt to gag the Australian Broadcasting Commission because probing by interviewers—the right which you now apparently uphold and indeed foster.

I think it is only necessary to ask Clive Hale about this. He could not even raise his eyebrows without having the whole A.B.C. debarred from seeing or interviewing Mr. Hall.

Mr. Clark: Do you think it was just a nervous twitch?

Mr. JENNINGS: No. Mr. Hale has done it both before and after, and it is one of those things he likes to do to attract his audience.

The article continues:

He was handed leadership of a Party and after six years under his leadership the Party is out of office.

Yet Steele Hall is described as the author of a vision! I should now like to refer to the member for Davenport who was recently in Mount Gambier, which may have been the reason for her asking recently a most interesting question about the Mount Gambier train.

Mr. Clark: Judging by the results the other night, she did a very good job.

Mr. JENNINGS: She did. The honourable member for Davenport said:

The avowed intention of the Liberal Movement in its first public statement by its leader was to win support of uncommitted voters in electorates in the metropolitan area needed to regain Government. Instead it has become crystal clear that Mr. Hall is engaged in a personal witch hunt which aims to undermine those endorsed members of Parliament in the country whom he wrongly and cynically accuses of disloyalty to him.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: The member for Davenport certainly fixed the situation in Mount Gambier.

Mr. JENNINGS: I agree with everything the honourable member said.

Mr. Venning: Is she a friend of yours?

Mr. JENNINGS: Yes, and she has been a friend of mine much longer than she has been a friend of the honourable member. I do not like to see a lady who was once (and I hope she will pardon this phrase) a bosom friend of the member for Gouger referred to in this way. She did not deserve what was said about her today. The member for Gouger talked about the League of Rights and the lady who brought things into Parliament House. No-one suggested that it was the member for Davenport but the member for Davenport denied having anything to do with it and a little later something further occurred involving the member for Davenport. I do not know whether the member for Gouger has been reading Julius Caesar: Brutus was an honourable man. True, Brutus stabbed Caesar, but Brutus could not have stabbed him because Brutus was an honourable man! There was no suggestion from anyone that the member for Gouger did this, but the fact that the honourable member went out of his way to deny it three or four times immediately drew attention to the member for Davenport. I do not think we need go into these matters much further.

The Governor's Speech, which the member for Gouger described as one of the poorest in content that he had ever listened to, has items

in it that will complete absolutely the three-year programme of the Labor Party; that is what the Party was elected to carry out, and it will do it. The only measures the Party could not implement were measures delayed by the Legislative Council—for example, the legislation relating to the Legislative Council franchise. I was very glad that the Speech referred to credit unions. I must admit that I have not taken very much interest in this subject, but I recently learnt that some industries in my district have credit unions, which they run through their head offices in other States. Of course, it will be better if such credit unions can be based legally here in South Australia.

I am also very glad that at long last we have clean air legislation; regulations under that legislation will soon be prepared that will mean that I will not have to complain again about the pollution in my district that I have complained about over the years. However, I must refer to the rather dangerous stench that comes from a knackery on Grand Junction Road near Mansfield Park. The effluvium from that place is shocking; it wafts right over Kilburn and Mansfield Park and even into the more salubrious parts of the metropolitan area. The stench is absolutely horrible and it puts people off their meals; it has done that for me several times.

Of course, I know that the Labor Government will be returned at the next election by an increased majority and that it will be able to work in co-operation with a Commonwealth Labor Government. I believe that the Liberal and Country League will remain in official Opposition for a very long time; of course, we know that it is suffering from the gang on the other side that is leaching it to some extent. The official Leader up to the present has not shown very much evidence of genuine leadership. However, I believe that he will probably improve and develop into a constructive Leader if he remains in that position for a long time, and I hope he will. I believe that, for as long as we have a two-Party system here with the Labor Party on the right-hand side of the Chair and the official Opposition necessarily on the other side of the Chair, Labor Governments will be able to look after the interests of South Australia very well, without the intrusion of people who seem to be more interested in their own personal aggrandisement than they are in the interests of South Australia.

Mr. ALLEN (Frome) : I support the motion moved by the member for Elizabeth and seconded by the member for Stuart. Since

the opening of the second session of this Fortieth Parliament, four former members have passed away and, at the time of their death I imagine that every member who served in Parliament with those former members extended his sympathy to their families. However, I should like to place on record in this House the fact that I have expressed my sympathy to those families. The late Mr. L. G. Riches, the former member for Stuart and a member of this House for 35 years, had a wonderful record both in this House and in local government at Port Augusta. Although I had the pleasure of knowing him for only the last two years that he was a member of this House, I have happy memories of that short association with him. The late Hon. W. W. Robinson, M.L.C., who was a member for Northern in the Legislative Council for 18 years, was well known to me, because I lived in his district and, having had many contacts with him, I have many happy recollections of his company.

I knew the late Mr. G. J. Bockelberg, the member for Eyre in this House for 12 years, only slightly, having met him on several occasions. The late Mr. P. H. Quirke, who was a member for the former District of Stanley and then member for the District of Burra until he retired, was a member of this House for 27 years. I knew Mr. Quirke for about 45 years and during that time he was always respected in his district. I first heard of the late Mr. Quirke before I actually met him. I understand he was a Sergeant-Major in the First World War, and those of us who knew him would understand that he had command of the vocabulary necessary for such a person. Indeed, I think the member for Florey would agree with me in this case.

I heard of the late Mr. Quirke from a late brother-in-law of mine who was in the same unit as Mr. Quirke in the First World War, and who spoke highly of him indeed. After the war, Mr. Quirke took up a fruit block in Clare and, in fact, during the depression in about 1930, I picked grapes for him for the large sum of 1s. an hour which, as I worked a 10-hour day, amounted to 10s. a day, and that was recognized as a high wage in those days. Subsequently, Mr. Quirke entered this House, and little did I realize that I would take his place as member for the District of Burra.

During my term as Chairman of a district council, I had many associations with Mr. Quirke and greatly respected him. On his retirement in 1968, I became his successor here

but continued to see him on many occasions for advice, which I assure members was greatly appreciated. After his retirement, Mr. Quirke helped many people in his district, claiming it was easier to do this than to contact me and ask me to do the job, so he helped me in this respect, too. After his retirement, Mr. Quirke was appointed to the Wheat Quota Review Committee, and I had many associations with him in that capacity because, as members will realize, one encounters many wheat quota problems in a district the size of mine. I was able to approach Mr. Quirke in a friendly way and to discuss these problems with him, and that also was a great help to me.

At the end of this session, four members will retire voluntarily, and before Parliament meets again others may have retired involuntarily. The member for Alexandra, who has been a member for about 25 years, has been well respected in this House. I am sure that everyone will wish him a pleasant time during his retirement. All members will wish the member for Davenport well after her many years in this House. She has the distinction that no-one can take away from her of having been the first woman member of the House and also the first woman to be a Minister in this place. All of us are proud of this, as I am sure she is proud of it. The member for Goyder, who will also retire, will be missed in more ways than one. As members know, he is a keen gardener. I understand that, over the years, he has been responsible for many of the floral exhibits that we see around the building, so I am sure that the staff as well as members will miss the member for Goyder when he retires. I wish the member for Elizabeth a happy time in his retirement, after having been a member for about 20 years. In his Speech, His Excellency referred to tourism as follows:

Action was taken to abolish the former Premier's Department and the Immigration, Publicity and Tourist Bureau Department and to establish a new Department of the Premier and of Development with effect from January 1, 1972. This action has ensured that development in the various areas of secondary industry, tourism and housing is planned and executed in a manner which will use the resources of my Government efficiently and in the best interests of the State.

When speaking of tourism, one naturally turns one's thoughts to the Flinders Range and the outback areas of South Australia. At present people who live in the metropolitan area are becoming conscious of pollution. Moreover, traffic conditions are congested and the population is increasing. For these reasons, people from the metropolitan area

like to get out into the wide-open spaces. Motor cars and better roads have made this possible, with people being able to travel long distances in a short time to take advantage of the outback. The first place to which people like to travel is the Flinders Range, where they can get away from it all.

On a recent trip to South Africa, my wife and I saw some beautiful mountain scenery, but I do not think it compared with the Flinders Range. One thing about the Flinders Range scenery that is different from mountain range scenery in other parts of the world is that colours in the Flinders Range area change each hour of the day. Most people will agree that one can look at a scene from a certain direction in the morning and then see it in a different colour altogether in the afternoon. This is one point that helps sell the Flinders Range to people as a tourist attraction. On a holiday weekend, the caravan parks are full, and at night there are camp fires all along the roads of the area. People are now travelling beyond the Flinders Range, heading into the pastoral areas and wide-open spaces. This is of considerable interest to people who have not previously travelled in this part of the State. It gives me, as the member for the district, much satisfaction to know that the Government is concentrating its efforts on tourism, which is and will continue to be a big industry for the State.

I was recently asked by the Businessmen's Association of Peterborough and the Corporation of Peterborough to request the Minister of Roads and Transport and the Railways Commissioner to visit Peterborough to discuss the town's future after work on the standard gauge line from Adelaide to Port Pirie is completed. The Minister having acceded to my request, we had a conference at Peterborough, at which the local people suggested to the Railways Commissioner (who I understand is Chairman of the Regional Tourist Development Association) that the passengers travelling westward on the Indian-Pacific railway be permitted to break their journey at Peterborough and tour the Flinders Range, rejoining the Indian-Pacific at Port Augusta and continuing their journey westward. It was suggested that passengers travelling east should be able to break their journey at Port Augusta, tour the Flinders Range, and rejoin the Indian-Pacific at Peterborough for the remainder of their eastward journey.

This would be an excellent way for tourists travelling across the continent to see this area. They would travel by passenger coach

from Peterborough via Curnamona Station and Martins Well to Wirrealpa. From there the road would need upgrading through Werta-loona Station to the wellknown Arkaroola Station, which has plenty of motel accommodation. The tourist could spend one day there, enjoy the fine scenery in the area, and then travel through Nepabunna Mission to Leigh Creek, where they could view the open-cut coalfields. Then they could journey on to Wilpena Pound, spend another day in the Flinders Range, and continue on to Port Augusta. This would be an excellent trip, and the Railways Commissioner was keen on the idea. We hope this suggestion can be implemented.

The network of roads in South Australia's Far North have improved considerably over the last few years. Until a few years ago, the Engineering and Water Supply Department had charge of all roads in this area outside of local government boundaries. Now, the Far Northern Division of the Highways Department, which has done excellent work in the area, is based at Port Augusta. This Government and the previous Government have realized the benefits of tourism to the district, and the roads in the area have been considerably upgraded over the last few years.

I am indeed pleased with this year's allocation for roads in this area. For instance, work has commenced on the Hawker-Orroroo road, which is one of the links leading to the Flinders Range. It is being upgraded prior to sealing, and about \$500,000 will be spent on it this financial year. Also, work on the sealing of the road from Wilpena Pound to Hawker is half completed, and another \$500,000 has been allocated to it this financial year. Work is also continuing on the upgrading of the Birdsville track. As members will recall, this work was made possible by the receipt from the Commonwealth Government of a beef road grant. Work is progressing favourably, and about \$400,000 will be spent on the track this year. Unfortunately, however, they did have excessive rains in this area last January, and some of the work that had been completed was badly washed away. This was unfortunate, because the local people had expressed concern when this road was being upgraded, claiming that these washaways would occur when there was a big rain.

I recall going to the Marree races in June last year, when the local people pleaded with me to approach the department, asking it to heed the warnings that had been given. They

claimed that a road of this kind over a watercourse in that area must be kept as low as possible so that the floods could flow over the road and people could still use it even though it was flooded. Unfortunately, the road level was raised at some watercourses and concrete pipes were put in and, in the period of heavy rain, the pipes were scoured out and the road became impassable. This was most unfortunate, but these things happen in that country. I think Government departments generally should heed advice that they can obtain from residents who have lived in the area for many years.

On completion of the Birdsville track, I should like to see the Strzelecki track upgraded. It runs from Lyndhurst to the Gidgealpa gas field, and there is heavy transport traffic on this road. For example, all fuel must be taken on this road, and I understand that a considerable quantity of fuel is needed when a gas well is completed, as it must then be fired. All the casings for the bores are also carted by road, and there is constant transport traffic on this road. I was given the opportunity to travel on one of these transports recently up the Strzelecki track, but was unable to do so because Parliament was about to sit. I look forward to the day when I can travel on this road and see what is needed.

Mr. Venning: Have you heard that recently some of these areas have been infested with rats?

Mr. ALLEN: I was in Marree recently and I saw no sign of that. I do not know whether it is correct. Also, the road from Wilmington to Quorn, which is another link to the Flinders Range, is being upgraded by the two councils concerned, and in time this road also could well be attractive to tourists. I am disappointed about the priority that is being given to the road from Morgan to Burra. This is the only direct east-west link in the North of the State for traffic from Victoria and the lower parts of New South Wales. At present traffic is coming to Morgan and travelling west via Eudunda and Saddleworth to Port Pirie and Port Augusta, whereas the more direct route is from Morgan to Burra. I have approached the department and we have had two deputations. At the last deputation, the Minister promised to consider the matter again, but to date we have had no reply to that deputation.

This is unfortunate. Burra is the second oldest mining town in South Australia. It has a nice museum containing material from the old copper-mining days. It has a modem plant for the new mine that is in operation at pre-

sent. The town could well be attractive to tourists in that area, but they are by-passing the town because the road from Morgan to Burra is in poor condition. For instance, if I travel from Morgan to Spalding, my home town, it is 25 miles farther to follow the bitumen through Eudunda and Saddleworth, but I can travel that extra 25 miles and arrive home 15 minutes earlier, without any of my car tyres being fractured. That is what the general public is doing, and this has resulted in the traffic count on the road being very low. As the traffic count is used by the department in arriving at priorities, I should like to see it take into consideration the by-passing of this road when next setting its priority. In his Speech His Excellency also said that the lack of opening rain this season has caused much concern. He said:

Although some parts of the State have recently had encouraging falls, the outlook still gives cause for apprehension and more rain is needed if an average cereal harvest and satisfactory lamb season are to eventuate. His Excellency is quite correct; more rain is needed for a good season. Since the opening day we have had more rain, but we should not fool ourselves: we are not yet out of the wood. We will need more rain over the next two months before we can expect even an average season.

It is interesting to note that the rainfall pattern this year is following very closely Goyder's Line. Goyder drew this imaginary line on the map on the basis of rainfall, the line being to connect places with equal rainfall, and this year the line is standing out very clearly. Outside of it there has been sufficient rain to sow the cereal crops, but more will be needed before the season can be regarded even as average.

The Government must also consider that it may be faced with very high costs this summer for pumping water. Only eight weeks remains before the end of September, and we cannot expect any run-off into the reservoirs after that time, so unless we have heavy rain in the next eight weeks the Government must expect high pumping charges during the coming season.

I am pleased to see that primary industry has been placed high on the Government programme for this season. I am glad the Government realizes its importance to South Australia. If primary industry is slack, other industries feel the repercussions. The Governor also mentioned a subsidy to be paid on the transport of livestock to drought areas. This

announcement was made before the season broke, although when it was made I think most people who were in a position to know realized that the offer would not be of much help to stockowners generally, because every State in the Commonwealth was suffering from drought and there were few places in the State at which there were reserves of feed and to which anyone could transport stock for feeding.

I know of only three people who have transported stock and who will take advantage of the subsidy. Two flocks of sheep were transported to the North-East of the State, and I understand that one line of cattle is to go to Alice Springs. The Government will realize that, although this was a generous gesture, it will not be of much help, because most stockowners must keep their stock on their own properties and hand feed until the spring season, when more feed will become available. However, if we do not have spring rains and the season cuts out, then we will have an influx of stock into our metropolitan abattoirs and we will have more trouble. Before the rain the numbers coming in were much greater than usual and difficulty was experienced in getting stock slaughtered. I was told that one-third of the cattle numbers had to be sent to the Eastern States for slaughter, and in one week 6,000 sheep were sent east. If we have a dry season and such numbers come in, the Government will have to look seriously and quickly at conditions at the abattoirs.

I do not intend to speak at length on the abattoirs, because I understand the member for Rocky River is very "browned off" with happenings there, so I shall leave that for him to discuss. His Excellency also said that beef cattle numbers had increased in most agricultural areas, which is correct. Producers were most fortunate in having sufficient numbers of beef breeding stock and on being able to take advantage of this stock to build up beef cattle herds. This came about because the price of wool had fallen and farmers had to diversify. As beef cattle brought such a good price, stockowners were able to transfer from sheep to cattle, and cereal growers were able to switch from growing wheat to growing barley. All this change had the effect of considerably helping primary industry in this State. Cattle numbers have increased since the 1950's, and these cattle provided the nucleus of breeding stock when landowners had to diversify.

The Governor also said that tuberculosis and brucellosis were threats to some markets,

and this, too, is correct. The problem of tuberculosis and brucellosis in the Far North of South Australia on large cattle properties is difficult to solve. In smaller areas, where there is close access to the cattle, the cattle can be mustered efficiently and it is possible to rid herds of these diseases. However, in the Far North, cattle stations are so large that the mustering problem is great. Although a station owner may think he has mustered his cattle very well, many cattle are missed.

A problem is created when those cattle not mustered rejoin the herd and infect the others. It is difficult to rid cattle country of this disease for this reason. The honourable member for Stuart, in supporting the motion, referred to the primary industry. The honourable member also referred to this industry in, I think, his maiden speech in this House, and expanded his knowledge on the agricultural industry.

Mr. Goldsworthy. Diversification is his speciality.

Mr. ALLEN: Yes, he suggested that farmers should diversify. He mentioned several ways in which they should do this. He suggested that maize should be grown. However, we took him up on his suggestions, and, in seconding the motion last week, he said:

However, it is pleasing to see that certain people engaged in primary industry—

and I emphasize "engaged"—

took note of the advice I gave them when I first came into this place (although they may be growing different crops from those I suggested)—

and I guess they would be—

regarding diversification and rationalization, and I believe the industry is on the up and up. That is something: our industry is on the "up and up"! The honourable member continued:

Despite the criticism of members such as the members for Rocky River, Frame and Kavel and the unlikelihood or their taking my advice generally, I appreciate that they have heeded what I said in this respect.

I wish to tell the member for Stuart that I am not engaged in primary industry, although he said I was. Although I was engaged in the industry for many years, I have not been engaged in it for about five years, and the only land I now own is the block on which my house stands. However, as I represent a district that is engaged in primary production, the worries of those people are my worries. He said that the industry was on the up and up, and I suppose he is taking the credit for the farmers having diversified as he suggested.

I remind the member for Stuart that diversification in primary industry has taken place in South Australia since 1836, when primary industry first started here. Diversification has been accepted through the ages; farmers diversify when they are faced with a surplus of grain. In 1929, when I first started farming, wheat was 4s. 6d. a bushel, and I sold the first wheat I harvested for 1s. 3d. a bushel. I had to diversify, and I did. The more I hear the member for Stuart expound his knowledge of agriculture the more I realize what a good public servant he must have been! In his Speech, His Excellency said:

South Australian Railways officers, together with a group of consulting engineers, are preparing a master plan for the new standard gauge railway to link Adelaide and its major industries with the existing Australia-wide standard gauge network. Estimates for the project are expected to be completed by August this year.

When the standard gauge line from Adelaide to Port Pirie is completed it will have a great effect on Peterborough, a railway town that relies very much on the bogie exchange. The businessmen's association at Peterborough and the local corporation requested the Minister and the Railways Commissioner to visit Peterborough to discuss the matter. They did that, and it is now realized that when the line is completed the bogie exchange at Peterborough, which at present is working three shifts a day and employing 55 men, will not entirely disappear. However, it will possibly be reduced to no more than one shift a day or perhaps less than that. It will be necessary to retain the bogie exchange, because it will always be necessary to trans-ship stock from the Broken Hill line to the Burra line.

It is known that there are small copper deposits in the North-East. Now that the mining operations at Burra are under way and the plant there is in stage 2 of its programme, the plant will be able to process additional copper ore. I hope that pockets of copper ore will be discovered in the North-East and that the ore will be railed to Burra for processing. If the bogie exchange is retained at Peterborough, I hope the day will come when it can be specifically used for that purpose. I hope that when the line is completed the Minister will not turn a deaf ear to the requests of the Peterborough people that maintenance work be carried out in order to help the town.

For many years the Peterborough corporation has provided the power supply for the town; that operation has provided employ-

ment for about 13 people. Recently, the corporation decided to transfer the power supply to gas operation. It approached the natural gas authority and signed a contract to obtain gas from that authority for 20 years. The necessary generators to work on natural gas were ordered but the corporation had to seek permission from the Minister of Local Government to borrow the money to pay for the plant. It duly applied to the Minister, who initiated an investigation into the whole set-up and who, I believe, referred the matter to the Minister of Works. The Minister of Works, in turn, referred it to the Electricity Trust, which finally investigated the matter. I introduced to the Minister of Local Government a deputation, which also approached the Electricity Trust, and it took almost 12 months to obtain the Minister's permission to borrow the necessary sum.

In the meantime, the price of the plant in question rose by \$20,000, so that the delay in obtaining the necessary permission has cost the Peterborough people more than \$1,000 in interest just on the additional cost of the plant. However, the people concerned persisted and worked hard, with the result that the plant is now installed and, I believe, working. I congratulate members of the Peterborough corporation on their determination and insistence that this industry be retained for their township. These people are mindful of decentralization. The Businessmen's Association is working along these lines, and it is willing to do all it can for the town. Indeed, I believe this is a glaring example of what country towns will have to do if they want to survive.

I am pleased to note that the Government has recognized the difficulties associated with education in outback areas. In his Opening Speech, His Excellency said:

The rural scholarship scheme will be extended this year so that students from outback areas will receive allowances as a matter of right. In addition, provision will be made for outback children to qualify for allowances in the later years of their primary education.

People travelling through the outback areas of the State realize that education is one of the biggest problems encountered in those areas. It is not uncommon to find some people who are members of the third and fourth generation to live on the one property, members of each generation having had to board away at private schools at a high cost to the parents. In previous years, the people concerned have accepted this, but in recent years

they have realized the difficulty it involves. The proceeds of primary production having dropped considerably, they find that they cannot pay the increased costs of education. The people concerned have become organized and have been vocal on this subject. When I asked a question in the House today, I referred to the fact that the Minister of Education visited Port Augusta last Christmas at the invitation of the Outback Parents Association, which is a body similar to the Isolated Children's Parents Association, and he spoke at the meeting held on that occasion.

As the Minister said today, prior to that meeting he had promised some scholarships in connection with secondary education. The Isolated Children's Parents Association, which has now been formed and which is an Australia-wide association, is making submissions not only to the respective State Governments but also to the Commonwealth Government for extra assistance for the education of outback children. Unfortunately, the 200 scholarships awarded by the State Government last Christmas were tied to a strict means test. I asked the Minister today how many scholarships were issued, and he promised to obtain that information for me. However, I am informed that the means test has had the effect of preventing many children from taking advantage of these scholarships. I understand that under the means test, if parents have a joint income of \$6,500 a year, their child does not qualify for a scholarship. If they have an income of \$3,000, they receive a scholarship on a restricted scale. The Isolated Children's Parents Association is asking for scholarships to be granted without any means test, and I think this would be fair.

In closely settled areas and in the metropolitan area no means test is applied before children qualify for scholarships at any school, so I do not see why parents of children in the outback should have to qualify under a means test. In June a conference of the association was held at Bourke, New South Wales. The association has some submissions that it intends to put before the various Governments. In the submissions, the association states:

Incomes of many men who make their living from the land have gone down and so have attendances of outback children at city boarding schools. So where and how are the absentees now being educated? The answers are not entirely satisfactory to their concerned parents, which is why the Isolated Children's Parents' Association was formed on an Australia-wide basis.

The association defines an isolated child as "a child who through geographical reasons has not daily access to an appropriate school." Most children in this category are being taught on pastoral properties, in fettlers' cottages and mining camps by correspondence. This is effective so far as it goes, and it will be more so when more sophisticated teaching technology, including tape-recorded lessons and answers, can be employed.

But it varies in quality according to the supervisor, who is usually a mother. If she herself is a suitable teacher with time and inclination to teach and to supervise her children and perhaps other children's work, then they will benefit. But if the supervisor in an isolated situation is herself poorly educated, badly equipped to supplement the written work, and perhaps even not so keen on educating her children to a higher level than herself, the children suffer.

Their educational opportunities are certainly not equal to those of a city child, anyway, so that the child is penalized simply because its parents are employed in a job which is important to the development of inland Australia. The parents feel that this is unfair to their children. An important part of education is to teach children how to get along with other people.

At school they learn to play football and to talk and meet and compete with others. This is an element missing from correspondence education. They just do not learn to live in a community. But for outback parents to send all their children to city boarding schools is becoming more and more financially difficult. It is, even for city people who have not suffered the same setbacks economically. Even sending children to the nearest country school involves difficulties and expenses that city families do not suffer.

All they ask is equality of educational opportunity for all children who, through no fault of their own, are deprived of the ordinary advantages of education in cities. These children are the people who are the logical ones to develop the future potential of Australia's vast spaces.

I hope that those submissions, which will be submitted to the various Governments, will bring results. I trust that the State Government will be generous in allocating money for out-back education. I sincerely hope that the Commonwealth Government, in its Budget, will also remember the submissions made.

In conclusion, I wish to refer to the matter of travelling expenses for children in outback areas. Last session I asked a question of the Minister about the allowance paid to parents who take their children to school in these outback areas. When I went to school about 50 years ago, the mileage allowance was 4d. a day, and I had to travel five miles to my school. Today, the allowance is 8c a day, or only double what it was 50 years ago, when we drove a horse and cart to school. Children

are now taken to school in motor cars, and the allowance of 8c a day is ridiculous when one considers the roads on which they travel and the money that is saved by the Education Department. I hope the Minister, when examining the allowances for children in outback areas, will also consider the allowance paid to parents who must take their children to school by motor vehicles. I support the motion.

Mr. BURDON (Mount Gambier): Like other honourable members, I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply to the Speech made by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Mark Oliphant, at the opening of the third session of the fortieth Parliament last Tuesday. This was indeed a historic occasion in South Australia because for the first time a man born in this State opened a session of the South Australian Parliament. This occurrence marked a historic step forward in Government and politics in this country. As all honourable members would know, Sir Mark is a nuclear physicist who has won world-wide renown. As the member for Mount Gambier, I congratulate Sir Mark on his appointment and trust that his period of office as Governor will be an enjoyable and successful one, albeit exacting.

I join with other honourable members and offer my sympathy to the families of former members of Parliament who have recently passed away, included amongst whom are the late Hon. W. W. Robinson and the late Hon. R. R. Wilson, formerly members of the Legislative Council, and the former member for Burra in this Chamber, Mr. Bill Quirke. My political beliefs were poles apart from those of the honourable member who, although he entered the Parliament as a Labor member, deserted the cause and became an Independent member, and then probably committed the greatest of all crimes by joining the Liberal and Country League. However, I shared with the late member for Burra some of the sentiments he expressed in relation to economic reform which he considered to be essential, on which he did much research, and to which he devoted much debating time espousing the cause in which he believed.

Bill Quirke missed no opportunity in this Chamber to advocate monetary reform. Possibly, the situation in which we find ourselves today in many fields calls for monetary reform. However, I have some reservations whether the theory expounded by the late Mr. Quirke will relieve not only vast sections of this continent but also other countries. I also think that

possibly some theories that he expounded in his monetary reform programme may have some application today; not only that, but possibly more attention will be turned to the reforms that the late member expounded during the later period of his lifetime, and at every opportunity that he had in this Chamber.

I have a friend on this side of the Chamber who is retiring from politics. Contrary to what may be the situation on the other side of the Chamber, I have another 26 colleagues who are also friends, but they have not decided to retire. I am referring to the member for Elizabeth, Mr. Jack Clark, whose company I have enjoyed during the years that it has been my pleasure to be associated with him, including the short time that I have served under him as a member of the Public Works Standing Committee. I wish Jack and Mrs. Clark a long and happy retirement. Two members on the other side also intend to retire. I am referring to the member for Alexandra and the member for Davenport. Like many other members on this side, I cannot understand why they have decided to stand down at this time.

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: They haven't the numbers to win preselection.

Mr. BURDON: We know that there are problems on the other side of the Chamber and, although the member for Ross Smith has dealt with some of these problems, there are some that he did not mention and I hope to have the pleasure of dealing with them during my speech. I remind the member for Hansen, that, if he likes to turn up *Hansard*, he will find that the member for Alexandra has referred to me as holding one of the records for speaking for the longest time in this Chamber. I think that on one occasion I spoke for more than two and a half hours. However, we are not dealing with how long I have spoken in the past or how long I will speak in the future, but I will use the 52 minutes that are left to me now to the best of my ability.

I want to speak about some matters that affect my district before I deal with the problems on the other side of the House. In listening to the Speech of His Excellency, I noted with satisfaction the mention of major additions to the Mount Gambier Technical College. I was elected as member for Mount Gambier in 1962, and early in 1963 I had my first contact with the then Minister of Education in the Playford Government (Sir Baden Pattinson) and the Director of Education (Mr. Mander Jones). At that time we were having serious problems regarding a

primary school situated in the grounds of the existing adult education centre, and the inadequacy of facilities provided in Mount Gambier for adult education.

Since then we have come a long way. We have a new primary school and a new infants school, as well as major additions to the adult education centre. We have also seen established in the district represented by the member for Victoria (Mr. Rodda) a branch of the adult education centre, which I understand is functioning very successfully. However, at that time it detracted from the enrolment at the Mount Gambier adult education classes to the extent of over 1,000 enrolments. Mount Gambier had had about 3,000 enrolments, but 1,000 went to Naracoorte. We are happy that the people in the area represented by the member for Victoria have the facilities of the adult education technical college. Today, I am pleased that once again we have more than 3,000 enrolments in Mount Gambier. That in itself indicates the popularity of continuing education, and stresses that it is a continuing process right through life because of technological changes in the fields of education, industry, electronics, and so on, all calling for further education.

As indicated in the Speech, by 1974 Mount Gambier will have probably the finest technical college in South Australia. The Government is committed to the spending in the next year of \$1,500,000 to \$2,000,000 in that area to provide the most up-to-date education facilities possible. During the past 12 months the Government has provided a Director of Further Education, we have a technical college, to which I understand a new title will be given in the near future, and we are moving towards the provision of facilities for further education. I trust Mount Gambier will become the centre of an expanding field of education for the country regions.

I believe that the State has to be divided into regions. The Education Department has provided regional offices at Whyalla and Mount Gambier and is proceeding to provide, in the Lower South-East, one of the finest colleges of advanced education in this State. I have advocated and will continue to advocate the provision of higher education facilities in country areas. This is something which country people have come to expect as a right. If the Commonwealth Government plays its proper part in the field of education the country people of this State will eventually enjoy some of the

facilities now provided in the metropolitan areas of Adelaide.

About four years ago a survey was carried out by the Australian States at the behest of the Commonwealth Government, and it was indicated that, over and above what the States could provide for education, \$1,400,000,000 would be needed for education.

Mr. McAnaney: What could the States provide?

Mr. BURDON: What the States can provide they will provide, and what they cannot provide the Commonwealth should provide. I remember attending a debate at the Adelaide University where the States were completely let down by the then Commonwealth Minister of Education and Science.

Mr. Wright: He was a Liberal Minister?

Mr. BURDON: Of course he was, which was unfortunate, because we have had a Commonwealth Liberal Government for 23 years. However, I believe that this situation will be changed in November this year, if not before then. This Government in recent years and in its earlier term of office between 1965 and 1968 has set in train a large programme of hospital expansion, including the expansion of the Mount Gambier Hospital, the base hospital for the South-East of South Australia. The Government has committed itself to an expenditure of between \$1,500,000 and \$2,000,000 in the next three years. The Government has already called tenders for the enlargement or duplication of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science facilities in Mount Gambier. Residents not only in Mount Gambier but also in other country centres of the State can now look forward to the provision of resident medical officers in country hospitals.

In my district there are many doctors who provide a first-class service for the people of the South-East. They are skilled in all fields of medicine but, to relieve the burden on some of them, I believe it is necessary that resident medical officers be appointed. It has been said that Asian doctors have been used to overcome the shortage of doctors in Australia, but why should that be done? Personally, I am thankful we have them, but Asian doctors are trained primarily to look after their own people. The shortage of doctors can be traced back to the failure of Liberal Governments to provide adequate training facilities for doctors. Over the years the increase in population has outstripped the supply of doctors. However, I am pleased to say that, as a result of action by the Labor Government, the trouble will eventually be overcome.

This afternoon we were subjected to a speech read by the ex-Leader of the Opposition, the present Leader of the Liberal Movement. I do not know what office he will hold after the coming annual general meeting of the Liberal and Country League. If he ever became Premier of South Australia again, South Australia would suffer from a very dangerous form of dictatorship.

For several years, the eastern and south-western sections of Mount Gambier have been subjected to dust and other substances emanating from industrial plants. This Government, following the passing of the clean air legislation, recently promulgated regulations which seek the co-operation of industry with a view to reducing pollution. In fact, certain industries in my district have for some time gone out of their way to ensure that pollution in the area is reduced, and I believe that the measures they have implemented will eventually solve most of the problems being experienced by the residents living near those industries.

We know that the development of industry introduces certain problems in the area concerned but, bearing in mind the introduction of the relevant legislation and the regulations now in force, as well as the co-operation of industry in this regard, I believe that within the next year or two people will start to benefit from the Government's action. I sincerely hope that the steps that have already been taken will be successful. Many people in my district are looking forward to the day when some of these problems are solved and, although I do not say that they will be completely solved, the problems that exist must be reduced considerably. The member for Davenport recently paid a visit to the Districts of Mount Gambier and Millicent.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: Was she campaigning?

Mr. BURDON: She was apparently campaigning on behalf of the Liberal and Country League, and I point out that a disturbance had been caused in the area by a group calling itself the Liberal Movement. Had I been in the area when she was there, we might have been able to get together and have a chat about certain problems. However, last week in the House the honourable member referred to a matter that I have raised in this House many times, namely, the South-East rail service. I wish the honourable member had used that service about 10 years ago, for I point out that the members for Millicent, Mount Gambier and Victoria have been requesting successive Gov-

ernments to improve this service. I think the member for Victoria, even though he is out of his seat at present, will nod in approval. In some respects, I agree with what the member for Davenport said about this rail service. However, I do not enjoy being in air-conditioned rooms or in air-conditioned railway carriages.

Mrs. Steele: I didn't say anything about air-conditioning.

Mr. BURDON: I know that the honourable member referred to square wheels, square corners, and square pegs in round holes, but I can sleep much better on the train to the South-East than I can on the Melbourne Express.

Mr. Clark: You're used to it.

Mr. BURDON: Having in the last 10 years travelled about 250,000 miles in that train, I should think I would be used to it. However, I agree with some of the sentiments expressed by the member for Davenport. Yesterday, in reply to a question, the Minister held out a little hope that possibly we might be able to get some assistance from the Victorian Railways Department. I have been on the Minister's back for 21 years about sleeping cars, and I have given him other thumpings on the same question. I wish we had had the support of the member for Davenport about 10 years ago. The member for Davenport received a good coverage in the *Border Watch* and the *Millicent Times*. Last Sunday's *Review* contains the following article:

Bad feeling engendered in the recent stormy clashes within Liberal organizations in the South-East of the State, painstakingly reported on page after page of the bemused *Border Watch* and *Millicent Times*, is now clearly reflected inside the House of Assembly.

The member for Davenport made some very stringent comments about certain matters. The member for Ross Smith said a great deal this afternoon about what was reported in the *West Coast Sentinel*. When the member for Davenport recently visited Mount Gambier, I understand that she was guest speaker at a meeting of the Liberal and Country League in that area. A newspaper report states:

After a unanimous decision to support the Leader of the Opposition (Dr. T. C. Eastick), the Leader of the Liberal Movement (Mr. Hall) had cynically taken every opportunity to undermine his position, the retiring member for Burnside and former Minister of Education (Mrs. Joyce Steele) said at Mount Gambier yesterday.

She refuted any suggestion that Mr. Hall had been forced out of the leadership, saying that he acted of his own free will and handed in

his resignation as Leader of the Party when he did not accept the majority decision of Party members. My understanding, having been a member of committees and organizations for about the last 30 years, is that a person either accepts a majority decision or resigns. In taking the stand he has taken, the former Leader of the L.C.L. has certainly not done that. I agree with the member for Davenport and her colleagues that he has toured the countryside and tried to undermine the authority of the L.C.L. The report continues:

Although the Liberal Movement party members claimed loyalty to the L.C.L., they had their own office, own management, own Leader and own President and were, in fact, completely autonomous. "I believe recent utterances by the Leader of the Liberal Movement indicate that the L.C.L. has a cuckoo in the nest," Mrs. Steele went on.

The question of a cuckoo in the nest received headlines in the *Millicent Times*, in which the following appears:

Liberal Movement members were making no secret that they aimed to take control of the L.C.L. conference in September.

I understand that a move was made last night, possibly by Liberal Movement members, to do that at an L.C.L. meeting. However, that did not eventuate.

Mr. Jennings: It wouldn't matter down there, would it?

Mr. BURDON: We are not concerned whether they took over or lost. The report continues:

Efforts to do this were being made in two ways. Liberal Movement branches were being formed in electorates held by endorsed L.C.L. candidates and which had been held for various periods of time.

In fact, meetings were the order of the day. The report continues:

Stacked meetings were being arranged to gain control of the branches and then appoint delegates.

It later continues:

The avowed intention of the Liberal Movement in its first public statement by its Leader was to win support of uncommitted voters in electorates in the metropolitan area needed to regain Government. "Instead, it has become crystal clear that Mr. Hall is engaged in a personal witch hunt which aims to undermine those endorsed members of the Parliament in the country whom he wrongly and cynically accuses of disloyalty to him." Mrs. Steele said.

Enough has been said in this debate regarding the problems of the Opposition, and it will be interesting to see the developments that take place soon. I will now deal with a matter that has given the corporation and people of Mount

Gambier considerable pleasure. I refer to the Government's extremely generous allocation of \$165,000 for the duplication of North Terrace, Mount Gambier, including lighting facilities thereon. This work has not cost the rate-payers of Mount Gambier a cent. The only cost that will be incurred will be for grassing the median strip and planting certain shrubs during the next few months. I would be remiss if I did not thank the Government for the magnificent gift it has given to Mount Gambier and to the people whom it is my pleasure to represent. The development in the South-East in the last few years has been extensive and, doubtless, it will continue. In the industrial field, we have the announcement by Softwood Products Proprietary Limited that it will spend \$8,000,000 on developing and expanding the company's activities. We must be grateful that, in afforestation in this State, we have operating a system of co-operation between the State Government and private enterprise that can be beneficial to the people of this State. I have reason to believe that Softwood Products Proprietary Limited appreciates greatly the assistance that it has received from the department, and the Government in return appreciates what the company is doing in this State. I wish Softwood Products all the success that its venture deserves in the future.

In the last few months Fletcher Jones and Staff (S.A.) Proprietary Limited has established a factory, and it will be my pleasure, along with the Premier, on Friday week to attend the official opening of this factory. I consider that the Fletcher Jones company has a bright future in South Australia, and I look forward with keen anticipation to what the Premier says at that opening ceremony in Mount Gambier.

The setting aside by the South Australian Housing Trust of about 22 acres for the development of light industry in my district is a further indication of the keen interest that this Government is taking in the further development of the South-East. It is the policy of this Government and of the Labor Party in the Commonwealth Parliament that regional areas throughout Australia must be established and developed as areas of decentralization. Probably, we have spoken about decentralization since the days of Adam, but we must receive the co-operation not only of councils and the State Government but also of the Commonwealth Government if this country is to make any significant progress in decentralization.

I am proud to say that in Mount Gambier about three years ago, at a public meeting, the present leader of the Australian Labor Party in the Commonwealth Parliament, who is the present Leader of the Opposition and the future Prime Minister of this country, stated that the South-East area would be a region for regional development. We look forward to the day when this starts to develop.

An office of the Motor Vehicles Department was opened recently in Mount Gambier. It has been in operation only a week, but the revenue received in that week was about \$80,000. The office employs four people, two of whom were trained in Adelaide and two of whom were local girls. The member for Whyalla will be interested to know that the officer who is to be in charge of the Whyalla branch, which will be opened in the next couple of months, is at present being trained in Mount Gambier in procedures necessary for the operation of a country branch of the department. I take some pride in this. Nine years ago, on entering this House, I advocated the establishment of regional offices of the department in country areas. It gives me pleasure to know that this has taken place, providing another service for the country people, who very much appreciate it.

The Community Welfare Department, under the administration of the Minister of Community Welfare, has established an office in Mount Gambier to provide increasing services for people in need. Unfortunately, many people in South Australia have real problems, and it is some consolation to me that we have a centre to which these people can go for assistance. I have been assured recently by the Chief Secretary and also by the Director of Medical Services that a chiropodist will be appointed at the Mount Gambier Hospital and that the almoner will have part-time assistance. I can see a day not far distant when the present position of almoner will be extended to include two officers, as a result of the rapid development of the area.

The Highways Department has its headquarters at Naracoorte, in the electorate of Victoria, but most other Government departments have headquarters at Mount Gambier. Our hospital is being developed to become the best in the South-East, and all necessary services will radiate from it. The present Chief Secretary, who was also Chief Secretary in the Walsh-Dunstan Government of 1965-68, initiated the training of dental aides. We have two dental centres at schools in Mount Gambier, and they are providing a real service

to the children of that area. I thank the Chief Secretary for his initiative in this matter.

Much discussion has emanated from the other side concerning the first few paragraphs of His Excellency's Speech, which related to rural matters in South Australia and the part which this Government has played. Labor Governments have a history, not only in this State but also in the Commonwealth, on which they can look back with pride. The Australian Labor Party first became a force in the Commonwealth in 1918 and, since that time, despite what we hear from the Opposition benches, it has made many innovations and has been responsible for many suggestions and measures that have been introduced regarding the man on the land. Despite this, it is constantly been accused of being a Party that does not recognize the man on the land.

This is completely false. Any survey of the past history of the Australian Labor Party will clearly set out what it has accomplished, what it has proposed, and what has been put into operation by Liberal and Country Party Governments. Most matters legislated by the Commonwealth Government in past years have been suggestions made by the Australian Labor Party. As I do not hear a denial from members opposite, they must know that to be true. The vast majority of people on the land, not only in South Australia but throughout Australia, know that they have been let down by the Commonwealth Government.

Next week one of the most colourful figures in the Commonwealth Government, the man who won the long-held Liberal and Country Party seat of Riverina in the last Commonwealth election (Mr. Al Grassby), will be coming to South Australia. I have great confidence that what was accomplished in Riverina is going to be accomplished in the south-western districts of Victoria and the South-East of South Australia in the next few months, because there has been an awakening by the man on the land to the failures of the Liberal and Country Party during the last 20 years. Copies of the Labor Party's policies are to be mailed to 4,000 farmers in the South-East. Further, the farmers will receive invitations to attend meetings in the South-East, at which the Labor Party's policies will be clearly set out. By way of contrast, we have never seen a written statement of the policies of the Liberal Party, and we are not likely to see it in the future. Not only are the Labor Party's policies set out clearly for every citizen to see but also every citizen who wishes to do so may attend conferences of the Labor

Party. This afternoon we heard a great deal from the present Leader of the Liberal Movement about secrecy.

Dr. Tonkin: What do you mean by that?

Mr. BURDON: You sounded confused last night.

Dr. TONKIN: I rise on a point of order, Mr. Speaker. Is the honourable member referring to you in saying, "You sounded confused"?

The SPEAKER: The member for Mount Gambier must confine his remarks to the Address in Reply, and he must describe members by their district.

Mr. BURDON: The present Leader of the Liberal Movement referred to the question of secrecy this afternoon, but there is no secrecy in the Australian Labor Party. I wish to inform the member for Bragg that in the last two years this Government has provided more information than has any other Government in Australia. On the other hand, when the present Leader of the Liberal Movement was Premier he had the record of being the Minister who gave the least information of all Ministers of the Crown in Australia. On not one occasion did he give a clear and concise answer to a question. So, he was being hypocritical this afternoon when he criticized the present Government in relation to secrecy. I support the motion.

Mr. RODDA (Victoria): I have pleasure in supporting the motion. This has been an unusual debate, because there has been some criticism of certain things which certain members like to talk about but which other members do not like to talk about.

Mr. Hopgood: The South-East has had a mention.

Mr. RODDA: I am pleased that the South-East is getting the commendation that is due to it, and it is perhaps only fitting that two distinguished people representing the South-East should be speaking to this debate, one after the other.

Dr. Tonkin: Aren't you a little worried that Mr. Grassby may be coming down to your district?

Mr. RODDA: I am used to people coming into my district, and I am terribly nice to them; some of my wise friends call it soft-shoeing. The Address in Reply debate affords members, irrespective of their philosophies, an opportunity to refer to their favourite subjects and to ride their hobby horse, and this debate has been no exception. We can all be proud of the fact that one of our own citizens, who has

risen to the highest office that this State can bestow on a person, delivered the Opening Speech this year. I do not think other members have mentioned this fact concerning Sir Mark Oliphant. Sir Mark paid a tribute to a person whom we had all come to respect, namely, Sir James Harrison, and who, only a few weeks before his death, visited Bordertown and endeared himself to the local people, just as he had endeared himself to people throughout South Australia. His Excellency said that all of the people expressed their deepest sympathy to Lady Harrison and her family, and we echo those sentiments.

Tributes have been paid to former members of this House, and I refer first to the late Mr. Riches, who was appointed Speaker of the House at the same time as I entered Parliament. Although Mr. Riches was of a different political persuasion from mine, no-one could have been kinder to me in those early days of my Parliamentary career. Entering Parliament on one's own, as the result of a bye-election, is a rather lonely existence, and I think you had a similar experience, Mr. Speaker. I was the only new member who entered Parliament in 1965 when Sir Thomas Playford's Government had been defeated, and I found it somewhat awe-inspiring to be a member of this House, and also to be told by the historians that I had been sworn in as the member for Victoria just on 100 years to the day, I think, after Adam Lindsay Gordon, the poet, had been sworn in as the member for that district. I think Mr. Riches pointed out that fact to me. I came to know him and respect him. He held dearly to his political philosophy, for which we all respected him. A very kindly man, he was worthy of all the tributes paid to him both as a Parliamentarian and leader of local government in his area. It was evident last week when we visited his home town of Port Augusta to see a bridge opened that he was respected and revered there.

I shared a room with Bill Quirke for the last six months he was a member. He was such a colourful figure that I found it difficult to get my homework done. He had a fund of anecdotes, and he never missed a moment to relate the experiences he had had in this place. The Hon. Mr. Robinson finished his term during the year I came into Parliament. I saw him frequently. He was intensely interested in South Australia, giving distinguished service in this place. Our old friend George Baron Bockelberg represented Eyre Peninsula. We had much in common. I even admit that we played billiards at the wrong time. It

is more by luck than by good judgment that we got by with some of our exploits with George Bockelberg. He represented his district well. In addition, he loved a game of bowls and making jokes, and he did not like making long speeches.

Mr. Clark: He didn't have many enemies.

Mr. RODDA: I agree. The Governor's Speech is a lengthy document. It is interesting to see what the Speech contains about the season. The 1971 season was difficult for the rural sector of the State. In many areas, the drought is still continuing. As we saw on our trip to Port Augusta last week, farmers in areas in the North of the State are still carrying out seeding. The chances are that this will be an extremely light season, and I am sure the member for Rocky River will not be embarrassed by a lack of silo storage capacity. The Speech states:

Spectacular increases in beef cattle numbers have occurred in most agricultural areas as producers seek to take advantage of the increasing world demands for beef. The research and advisory programme of the Department of Agriculture has been intensified to meet the increasing demands from producers for information and advice to assist them in playing their part in this rapidly expanding industry. The presence of the diseases tuberculosis and brucellosis in cattle in this State constitutes a threat to the acceptability of its beef in some markets. The recent announcements of changes of policy by the United States of America relating to the disposition of tubercular cattle will require even more intensive efforts to ensure the eradication of this disease as quickly as possible.

I will refer to that aspect later. That paragraph of His Excellency's Speech draws attention to an important factor in this State's rural production. There have been large increases in beef cattle numbers, and members will hear much more about this industry, in which there cannot be too much expertise. When travelling to Port Augusta last week, we saw increasing numbers of cattle in the wheat belt.

Mr. Ferguson: Too many.

Mr. RODDA: That is a most practical observation. Beef cattle must have food and water and, of course, the animals must be in prime condition. The average animal requires about 70 lb. of grass daily, and one has only to pull that much up with one's hands to see how much it amounts to. It can be seen, therefore, that much food is needed for these cattle. Paragraph 7 of His Excellency's Speech is as follows:

In early April of this year my Government joined with the Governments of the Commonwealth and the other States to review the work-

ings of the scheme of assistance given effect to by the Rural Industry Assistance (Special Provisions) Act of this State. A number of important modifications of the scheme were proposed and accepted by the Governments concerned.

Many contributions have been made to rural areas in the State, particularly to towns, under the rural industries assistance scheme, as a result of which many people have been employed on worthwhile projects being carried out under the administration of councils. I wonder, however, whether the ratios (that is, one-third for the capital contribution and two-thirds for the labour contribution) could not be more flexible. I draw the Minister's attention to this aspect, as sometimes a larger capital apportionment and a smaller labour apportionment are needed. If this scheme was more flexible, it could work better than it has worked in the past. I hope this was borne in mind in relation to the modifications to which His Excellency referred. At paragraph 9 of the Speech, His Excellency said:

Continued attention has been given by my Government to the many aspects of environmental protection and even greater importance will be placed on this matter now that the report of the Committee on Environment has been presented to it. This report contains a significant number of recommendations on all aspects of potential pollution problems in the State and steps to implement the committee's recommendations will be taken as a matter of urgency. It is expected that in this session an Environmental Protection Bill to establish an Environmental Protection Authority will be placed before you.

No member would quarrel with the setting up of this sort of body. Regarding the environment, I, a poor simple farmer, draw attention to some of the effects of weedicides and the side effects of some materials that are necessary for pasture use or preservation. This is something that the Environmental Protection Authority could consider closely. This body could put its all into this area, which has caused much concern to some people who have taken an extremely active interest in the matter in my district. I mention that for the record and for the benefit of those people. The Governor's Speech seemed to forbode that we will have a long and active session, and I do not suppose that the Minister of Education, who is in charge of the House at present, can assure me that we can expect to be coming back next year for a short session.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: I think that is possible.

Mr. RODDA: That is a revelation. Personally, I think we should come back, because I should like to see the Minister retain the title "honourable" and we should sit until well into the year to ensure that. I am sure that the Minister's statement that it is possible that we may sit after Christmas and before the election will set people thinking.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Do you think we should have the members for Alexandra and Davenport back?

Mr. RODDA: I think we should have them for as long as possible, and I agree with the Minister. The member for Mount Gambier has spoken about the progress in the South-East and I concur in most of the things he said. He has referred to afforestation, Fletcher Jones and Staff (South Australia) Proprietary Limited, the meatworks at Naracoorte, and the important advent of vegetable growing in our district to supplement some of the incomes. One thing which has happened and which highlights the development on the rural scene has been the large loading of superphosphate that has gone through the bulk facilities at Naracoorte and Penola this season. One matter that I viewed with alarm was the statement by the member for Mount Gambier about Al Grassby's moving into our district and about letters being sent to 4,000 farmers. I do not agree that he will make inroads into the L.C.L. representation in the South-East. I know the colourful person that Al is and probably he will have interested audiences in the centres that he visits, which I understand will be Mount Gambier, Naracoorte and Penola.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: They don't call him the great Grassby for nothing.

Mr. RODDA: I have had something to do with important people who come to my district and say the nicest things. We have had some distinguished visitors there.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: How did the member for Gouger get on there?

Mr. RODDA: He had a warm welcome at Naracoorte.

Mr. Langley: He said this afternoon that he had thousands at his meeting.

Mr. RODDA: He got a welcome several times. We always extend the hand of welcome, and we are waiting to extend that welcome to the Minister of Education. In the South-East we have one of the best golf courses, and I will organize a game for the Minister.

Mr. Jennings: Will there be a hand of welcome from "Call me Jim"?

Mr. RODDA: A recent issue of the *Stock Journal* maintains that the rural economy is in the best shape it has been in for several years. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics has estimated that the gross value of rural output in 1971-72 will be \$356,000,000, 9 per cent higher than that for the last financial year, and an increase of \$29,000,000 on the December estimate. Wheat production and cattle slaughtering have shown strong growth compared with last year. The B.A.E. estimate for wool was up by \$117,000,000 to \$660,000,000, reflecting the higher prices since the more depressing forecast by the B.A.E. last year.

This trend is reflected generally in the rural scene, particularly in the Lower South-East. The arguments regarding wheat quotas have settled down, and it is now a closed industry. I believe there should be protection for the traditional grower, but it has become a stable industry. Last year we had the oat marketing legislation. Section 92 of the Commonwealth Constitution is concerning some of the people I represent, relating as it does to trade across the border.

We have, too, the problem of the Rundle Street farmer getting the benefit of taxation. This is a cause of some concern to the traditional primary producer. It is fair to acknowledge that large benefits have accrued from the capital investments of the Rundle Street farmer, but the situation has brought some production problems.

Mr. Wright: Would you agree that they have raped the country?

Mr. RODDA: Not generally.

Mr. Wright: Have you been to Victor Harbour lately?

Mr. RODDA: I have not. In mentioning Rundle Street farmers I recall some of the areas that have had the benefit of big investment and quick production, with heavy dressings of superphosphate, bringing bigger areas more quickly into production, whereas the individual takes a long time to do the same thing. Although this is very good, there is a surfeit tending to over-production which causes problems. It is not a question that is solved easily.

Sheep numbers are down, as is wool production. Last year saw a record sale of cross-bred rams for fat lamb production, and some found their way north of Broken Hill. This is a sign of the times, but it has a latent effect on wool production. The recent improvement in the economy pointed out by the B.A.E.

means that certain developments present something of a paradox. Perhaps the biggest problem for the farmer-producer is that he needs access to long-term finance. There is a case for the establishment of a mortgage bank to take over the financing of primary production and its requirement for long-term lending. Farmers in South Australia, who can be compared with the most efficient in the Commonwealth, have accepted financing from stock firms and trading banks, and these arrangements have generally been most harmonious. Indeed, the local stock firm in a country town was generally the place, on Saturday morning, where yarns were swapped but, because of inflation, higher costs and the sudden downturn in the rural economy, we have seen the scene change in recent years.

I do not suggest that hospitality is now lacking or that stock firms have not been doing their job, but we have seen the introduction of wholesale budgeting and we have seen farmers work to a prearranged plan. This is a good thing. We have seen the introduction of gross returns, which have been a feature of stock firm budgeting, with only 60 per cent or 70 per cent of gross returns being made available for the future running of properties. Although it is pleasing to see the upswing to which the Bureau of Agricultural Economics refers, in some cases it is difficult to maintain productivity. In some areas, as a result of the lack of investment and maintenance brought on by present financial arrangements, there has been a depreciation of improvements and a difficulty in maintaining properties, which will have the result of a down-turn in production. I have seen many cases of hardship which result from difficulties in financing.

The Rural Industries Assistance Branch has done an excellent job and I pay a tribute to Mr. Joy and his staff. Theirs is not an easy job, because they have to make themselves familiar with the farmers' balance sheets. Because farmers have had their credit cut off, alternative arrangements must often be made perhaps by bringing down a Development Bank loan or by extending a bank overdraft. This situation has become a feature of the rural scene and it is something with which we will have to live for a long time. Although the branch has a specific charter, it is limited. Stock firms are also limited in the assistance they can provide as a result of interest rates set beyond their control on short-term loans. These factors are something with which rural producers cannot keep pace. In this regard

a rural bank providing long-term finance would fill an evident gap in the rural economy.

Much concern has been expressed in rural areas about young people leaving the land. These are people who have grown up in a rural atmosphere and who, when they leave their farm or their agricultural properties, take up teaching, some other profession, or a trade, and it is certain that once they leave the land they will never return to it. We cannot produce farmers overnight, and it is plain that foodstuffs will soon become more expensive. This matter is far more serious than some people would like to think it is.

Serious consideration should be given to the question of capital taxation. Families feel the burden of succession duties at the very time when they are least able to bear it. Whilst land tax is generally not a large impost, we find an exception in the case of Coonawarra and Glen Roy in the Padthaway area, where land for vineyards has been sold at high prices. The flow-on of high land valuations has imposed severe costs on landholders who are carrying out normal farming in the area. Whereas the rate is generally about 37c, it is about 80c or 90c in the areas I referred to. Such rates are far too high for the average farmer to bear.

Families find gift duty a severe impost when they are planning their future financial affairs, and the Government should consider this matter. There is much merit in the value added system, which was mentioned by Mr. Thompson of the Adelaide University. Mr. E. A. Gaffney, an able member of grower organizations, advanced this proposition about six years ago. I remember relating some of his theories in an earlier Address in Reply debate in this House. He gave clear warnings about the matter.

It is important to get a young man on to the land and to give him some stake in land of his own. Whilst banks and other lending institutions require that an applicant for a loan should have an area sufficient to give him a living, we must remember that it may be wise to give a young man the opportunity of buying 200 or 300 acres, an area that he can pay for, and tying this in with the family unit.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: Where can he get the land?

Mr. RODDA: Sometimes parcels of land of that size turn up in other areas—not necessarily adjoining areas. Lending institutions will generally not approve a loan unless the area involved is a living area but, if a young

man is committed to a large sum and he goes into a living area and is faced with an economic recession, he will get into trouble. I am a great believer in not getting too far out from shore.

People in my district are at present concerned about the speed of road transport vehicles. I know that the Government has discussed this matter and experienced difficulties concerning it, and last year the Minister of Roads and Transport attended meetings on this subject in the South-East and in other parts of the State. Transport is vital to the country's development; indeed, if fuel supplies are cut off soon, the country will come to a standstill.

I believe that the rail system is important regarding long hauls, and road transport also plays its part, each form of transport having advantages over the other. Arguments can be advanced in favour of co-ordination, and I well remember, during my first session in this place, the Bill introduced by the Walsh Government to co-ordinate transport. Indeed, some harsh words were said about that measure at meetings throughout the State. At present, semi-trailers and other road transport vehicles (whether they are 20 tons all-up weight or of the six-ton to seven-ton variety) are involved in an anomaly regarding maximum speeds. The drivers concerned, if they exceed the maximum speed, become liable to prosecution and may receive three demerit points. I am sure that the Government and the Minister are aware of what is going on.

On the Dukes Highway (highway No. 8), police road patrols have been apprehending drivers travelling at more than 35 miles an hour. I am told that the police set up lights at given points and stand back on a by-track, and they are able to assess the speed of a vehicle passing those points. A driver who is apprehended travelling at more than the maximum speed permitted incurs three demerit points, and after he has committed four offences the owner of the vehicle may lose his licence. We know that many of the vehicles in question are capable of travelling safely at speeds greater than 35 miles an hour. I point out that the distance from Bordertown to the city is 180 miles; from Keith to the city, 150 miles; and from Naracoorte to the city, 220 miles. Travelling from Bordertown to the city at 35 miles an hour takes practically five hours, to which is added another hour for slowing down through towns, etc., and this makes it a six-hour trip. Travelling from Keith to the

city takes five hours, and, from Naracoorte to the city, eight hours.

There is a commercial advantage in moving stock from one point to another as quickly as possible, and the longer it takes to transport stock the greater the capital loss may be to the producer. One queries the benefits resulting from insisting on these speed limits. Indeed, much concern about this matter has been expressed by drivers, many of whom have incurred nine demerit points. Skilled drivers have had to give up driving these vehicles, as it is not in the interests of a transport operator to continue employing them, especially if they have incurred nine demerit points, and the result is that men who are not so skilled are driving large transport vehicles. That type of driver is a hazard to all road users. Owner-drivers must be very careful, for they have heavy commitments. There are many owner-drivers in Bordertown and Keith, the transport system in Keith being built on owner-drivers. I have spoken to two gentlemen there who have earned six demerit points each.

I point out that the modern truck is designed to travel at a speed of about 50 miles an hour. A braking test for these vehicles is now carried out at the Highways Department, all members having expressed their gratitude to the Minister for the effectiveness of this check. Such measures should be taken.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: To what speed do you think the speed limit should be lifted?

Mr. RODDA: I think it should be lifted to 50 m.p.h.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: For vehicles of what weight?

Mr. RODDA: For all weights of trucks in this field. As road transport makes a contribution to the economy of the State, it should not suffer in this way. As I travel each week over the Dukes Highway, I know that truck operators on that route are the most courteous drivers on the road. They always let me pass, waving me on up hills and so on. They extend every courtesy to other road users. I do not wish to criticize the police, who have a job to do; the law says that the speed limit is 35 m.p.h. This limit causes much concern to these people who earn their living in this way and who make a valuable contribution to the State's economy. I shall be pleased to see the Government look at this matter this session.

I think that all members appreciate the emphasis placed on education by the present Minister, the previous Minister (the member for Torrens) and by the member for Davenport when she was Minister. One must be impressed

when one looks at the money spent in this direction in the last financial year. We can agree with the actions of the Minister in spending this money. I notice that the Treasury papers of June, 1972, show that the Government's Budget estimate was to spend \$127,739,000 on education, science, the arts and research. Actually there was an over-expenditure of \$1,588,000, taking the total expenditure to \$129,327,000. The Government has been extremely critical of the Commonwealth Government with regard to its expenditure in many fields. In politics, one becomes accustomed to this sort of thing. However, when one looks at the expenditure on education, one can see the munificent generosity of the Commonwealth Government. I do not want to castigate the Government for this large vote in the important field of education.

I was interested to hear the member for Mount Gambier refer to a regional centre of education at Mount Gambier. When she was Minister, the member for Davenport set that project in motion. On the credit side, and to practice what I have been preaching and to show my gratitude where it is due, I point out that I and my electors are grateful for capital works, in the form of new school buildings, that have been carried out in my district. The Address in Reply affords one the opportunity to deal with some of these aspects.

We are eagerly awaiting the completion at Penola of a 21 O-type open unit primary school. Having visited this area only last week, I know that the contractors are making excellent headway with the building, although they are experiencing some difficulties with earthworks where the water table has risen. This is a new type of school that has created much interest throughout the district. At Padthaway there is another open-unit school, construction of which is well under way, and it is expected that it will be completed by the end of the year. The parents and scholars of Padthaway appreciate the setting up in their midst of this new building with its up-to-date grounds.

The new open unit at Bordertown High School will greatly enhance the teaching facilities in the area, and it will complete the education complex at South Terrace, Bordertown, which was spearheaded last year by the opening of the new primary school by the late Governor, His Excellency Sir James Harrison. At the Naracoorte High School a new shower and change complex, with the contractor of which we have had so much trouble, has been completed. I express to the Minister the

gratitude of the school council and the students for his valued assistance in having the contract cancelled and the building completed as expeditiously as it has been completed. Indeed, it was completed 12 weeks after the contract was cancelled, and it is now ready for use.

Arrangements are in hand for new primary schools at Naracoorte North and Lucindale, the latter of which the Minister assured us was on the referred list. The Lucindale people have been long suffering in relation to their school. This school has an excellent student body, and the parents take a real interest in their children. Being situated where it is, Lucindale suffers many difficulties with water under buildings. Lucindale is the Cinderella of the district in relation to school buildings and I hope that next year (when I hope I will still be in this place) I can pay a tribute to the Minister of Works for getting work under way there.

Lucindale and Keith both have outstanding contract works in the form of change rooms, canteen and implement sheds for agricultural courses. Our regional schools at Comaum, Frances and Wolseley have also had money spent on electric pumps, paving and so on. Most of these schools have been connected with electric light, which has added to the efficiency and comfort of the students. I list these works and express my thanks, as member for the district, to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Works for the respective parts they have played in improving the conditions at the education buildings in each of these centres. I know that the parents and students appreciate the new facilities. The Adult Education Centre at Naracoorte is doing responsible work. In view of the appointment of the new Director of Further Education, I draw the Government's attention to the need for the art centre. The people there are eagerly awaiting the construction of a theatre. About 1,000 people attend the Naracoorte Adult Education Centre, and much interest is being shown in this type of instruction. It has done much for culture and for the appreciation of art and trades by a wide section of our people. I draw the Government's attention to the need for some action on the art centre at the Adult Education Centre.

I was interested to read in the Ramsay report a recommendation that farm colleges be established in the State. It was suggested that those at Cleve, Loxton and Naracoorte would have a one-year course, Cleve and Roseworthy would deal with cereal and livestock

farming, Naracoorte would deal with cereal and livestock farming under dry and irrigated conditions, while Loxton would deal with horticulture. I think that subsequently the Minister announced that to implement this recommendation would be too costly but that certain things would be done to upgrade the agricultural courses at high schools.

The Ramsay report does point to the need for further education in agriculture and states what constructive things can be done in the Naracoorte district. At Struan there is the beef and cattle research centre, and Kybybolite deals with pasture research and agronomy. It was proposed that the staff of this college and the students would be accommodated in the town and would commute to the centres at Kybybolite and Struan. That proposal could have been a "goer", but during the session I will be interested to hear what the Minister intends regarding extending rural education in the agricultural courses at high schools.

It seems from my observations that there would be insufficient land at the Naracoorte High School to make big extensions in the agricultural course, but, against that, I do not think the Ramsay report intended to deal with students who had been through secondary education. I consider that our young farmers need instruction in modern agricultural science, and I do not think they will get it in the rural agricultural courses at high schools. I await with interest what the Minister will say about this.

One thing that interested me at Question Time last Wednesday was that the efficacy of the provincial press came before the notice of this House. A question was asked of the Attorney-General by my Leader regarding the voting rights of 18-year-olds, and why the Government had not used country newspapers to inform country people on this issue. I was not so interested in the subject matter of the Leader's question as in the reply. Unfortunately the Attorney-General is not here to hear what I have to say, but in reply to the question he said:

I suppose that the challenge was by way of explaining the question.

As reported in *Hansard*, the Attorney-General said, "I have been ignorant enough", but I thought he said that he had been "naive enough". The reply continues:

I have been ignorant enough to think that citizens of this State who reside in the country read the daily newspapers. I should think that the people on whose behalf the Leader claims to be speaking would be rather surprised

to learn from him that they do not read the daily newspapers. I should think that people in the country areas of South Australia, including those in the 18 years to 21 years age group, would have much more interest in public affairs than apparently is credited to them by the Leader.

He went on to say:

Therefore, I think that the whole point of the question is baseless, as it rests on a false foundation, namely, an assumption that country people do not read daily newspapers.

As a country man, I say that every country man regards the regional provincial newspaper as his Bible. Everyone in Mount Gambier, I am sure, would read the *Border Watch* at least half a dozen times on the weekend. Naracoorte people read the *Naracoorte Herald* from cover to cover, and this applies right across the State. Country people do read the daily city newspapers, but many take only the *Saturday Advertiser*, and do not take the *Advertiser* during the week. Country people are interested in their local newspaper.

The ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Burdon): The honourable member has less than two minutes left in which to address the House.

Mr. RODDA: Thank you, Sir. It will not take me two minutes to tell members the value of the provincial press to the country man. It is not only on the question of voting rights for 18-year-olds.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: I thought it was your Leader who said they were not informed.

Mr. RODDA: I think the Leader was making the point that I am making: the country press reaches country people and they just about read the print off it. The provincial press is the official organ that reaches the country dweller. I am here representing country people, and this is the medium that should be used. The Government should make full use of this medium to communicate with country people. They are interested in reading the city newspapers, but they are not—

The Hon. D. H. McKee: Are you having trouble getting your political propaganda over?

Mr. RODDA: I have no trouble getting my political propaganda over.

The ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER: I draw the honourable member's attention to the fact that his time has expired.

Mr. RODDA: Thank you, Sir, I look forward to getting it over, as I have done in the past.

Mrs. BYRNE (Tea Tree Gully): I support the motion. It was a privilege to be present to hear the first speech of His Excellency Sir Mark Oliphant who, as we all know, is the

first South Australian-born Governor of this State. I also join with other members and pay a tribute to those members who have passed away. I refer to Mr. Riches, Mr. Quirke, Mr. Robinson and Mr. Bockelberg. Although I did not know Mr. Robinson, I knew the other three members, especially Mr. Riches who, at the time of his death, resided in the Highbury subdivision of my district, where his wife continues to reside.

It is obvious from examining His Excellency's Speech that we are to have as busy a session as we had during the first and second sessions of this Fortieth Parliament. The second session commenced on July 13, 1971, and was prorogued on April 27, 1972. The House met on 74 sitting days, and 49 of these sittings continued after the dinner adjournment. The House sat on 16 occasions after midnight, and I hope that the House does not sit too many times past that hour in this session.

This House last session considered 143 Bills, of which 131 received Royal Assent, and, of those, 119 originated in this House. Conferences between the managers of both Houses were held over nine Bills and an acceptable agreement was reached on all but two Bills. Seven Select Committees deliberated and reported to this House. Members asked 3,041 questions and 21 substantive motions were debated. Indeed, it seems that this session will be as lively as was the last.

The Governor referred to the Planning and Development Act and I refer to paragraph 9 of his Speech, which states, in part, as follows:

During this session amendments will be proposed to the Planning and Development Act to provide for a scheme of interim control over the development of the area comprised in the City of Adelaide and its immediate environs.

My attention has been recently drawn to the avoidance of some subdividers to the intention of section 52 (1) (b) and section 52 (1) (c), which provide for the setting aside of reserves in subdivisions, which all members would agree is important. Developers recently subdividing broad-acre holdings have first divided the whole area into less than 20 allotments and have then resubdivided the smaller holdings into less than 20 allotments, thus availing themselves of the choice of providing either 12½ per cent of the total area for reserves or depositing in the public parks fund \$100 for each allotment created. Land values have increased considerably since that Statute was enacted and it is obviously cheaper to pay \$100 for each allotment than to provide land

for reserves. It is apparent that the contribution required of developers is unrealistic, in that it invites circumvention by means of machinery built into the Act itself—that is, the power to subdivide and resubdivide into progressively smaller allotments.

The result could be the creation of residential areas without reserves, because it is not always within the reach of local councils to provide funds to meet even a half share of the purchase cost of land for reserves at residential subdivisional valuations. However, I am informed that the larger, more reputable developers have not at this stage used the manoeuvre referred to. The problems have arisen chiefly from smaller developers who are keen to maximize capital gains. The solution to this problem seems to be a substantial increase in the contribution payable under section 52 (1) (c) (ii). Paragraph 9 of His Excellency's Speech does not elaborate on exactly what is proposed in connection with the amendments to the Planning and Development Act, but I trust it will include an amendment of the type I have described. Paragraph 15 of the Speech states:

My Government expects that the Modbury Hospital will open early next year. It will have an initial capacity of 220 beds together with outpatient and casualty services. It is expected that facilities will be opened gradually as staff is recruited.

The members for Mitcham, Bragg and Kavel have referred to this paragraph; some of their remarks were not accurate and, in fact, were pure speculation. The reason is that they would prefer that the Modbury Hospital be not opened at all. Of course, whenever members opposite have spoken in this House about this project they have spoken disparagingly. To put the record straight regarding the administration of the hospital, the Chief Secretary has informed me that it is planned that the hospital will open with 92 beds, followed by a further 20 beds in obstetrics, making a total of 112 beds. Included in that total will be 32 general medical beds and 32 general surgical and gynaecological beds.

The ACTING DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Burdon): Order! I draw honourable members' attention to the fact that there is too much audible conversation in the Chamber.

Mrs. BYRNE: Also included in the total of 112 beds will be 16 paediatric beds, 12 post-operative beds and 20 obstetric beds. Further, there will be consultative outpatient sessions and an emergency service for adults and children. The remaining 110 beds to be provided will be made available later; that

system has been followed whenever a Government hospital has been opened.

Mr. Wells: Perhaps the hospital should be called the Molly Byrne hospital.

Mrs. BYRNE: I do not think so. Patients of all ages will be attended to in the casualty department, which will be called an emergency service. Close liaison will be maintained with the Adelaide Children's Hospital in regard to paediatric treatment. For many reasons it may well be that many children attending the hospital's emergency service will receive emergency treatment and then be referred to the Adelaide Children's Hospital. I am sure that all residents of Modbury and adjoining districts will be pleased that children can receive emergency treatment at the hospital.

Certain members opposite have suggested that insufficient staff will be available to man this hospital but I point out that, although to date there has been no general public advertisement for nursing, domestic, administrative, and paramedical staff, numerous inquiries have been received. Indeed, I have received numerous inquiries from local residents, and I have passed on to the Hospitals Department the names of the people concerned or otherwise given those people the address to which they should apply for information. The Modbury Hospital, when in full operation, will be the principal and largest employer in the district, and naturally many local people will prefer to work there to going to other suburbs.

Mr. McRae: Will it open on Friday nights?

Mrs. BYRNE: A hospital is open every night. I have here certain figures which I have categorized as follows: first, the approximate total number of staff required for the opening of the hospital; and, secondly, the approximate number of applications and inquiries already received. The number of nursing staff, including student nurses, required for the opening is 165, and 135 applications and inquiries have been received (only 30 short of the required number). Regarding general services, including male and female domestic staff and catering staff, the required number is 125, although 275 applications and inquiries have been received (150 in excess of the required number). Regarding the administrative staff, which involves the clerical section, 30 people are required, and 180 inquiries have been received (150 in excess of the required number). Indeed, at 9.30 this evening I was called to the telephone by someone who desires a clerical position at the Modbury Hospital. In regard to the medical ancillary staff (physiotherapy, radiology, etc.), 23 people are required, and

29 applications and inquiries have been received (6 in excess of the required number). For the medical staff, 29 people are required, and 40 applications and inquiries have been received (11 in excess of the requirement). As many as 372 persons will be required to staff the hospital for the opening, and 659 applications and inquiries have been received to date.

Dr. Eastick: How many beds are there?

Mrs. BYRNE: I have already said that the hospital will have 112 beds, and that is more than members opposite have stated. The member for Kavel said that I was elected to this place because of the Labor Party's promising this hospital, and he added that I had been here now sufficiently long to be entitled to a pension and will finally witness the opening of the hospital. I wish I had been here sufficiently long to be entitled to my Parliamentary pension; I certainly expect to be. However, at this stage I have not qualified for that pension. But if I were to wait for the Opposition to open this hospital I would certainly have qualified for my Parliamentary pension.

Mr. Jennings: The age pension, too.

Members interjecting:

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mrs. BYRNE: It is interesting to note that in 1968-69, when the Hall Government was in power, only \$150,000 was allocated for work on the Modbury Hospital. Obviously little could be done with that small sum. In 1969-70, a mere \$400,000 was allocated, so it can be seen that this was one reason why progress on work at the Modbury Hospital was slowed down.

Mr. Wells: They wanted to slow it down.

Mrs. BYRNE: Yes, because they had some idea that, if the hospital was not finished, I might be defeated at the election. I assure members opposite that there are many other reasons why I should continue to represent the district, apart from the building of the Modbury Hospital. I will now explain why work on the hospital has progressed since the Labor Government was returned to power. This happened mainly because of the large sums allocated in the Loan Estimates in the last two years so that work could be accelerated. In the 1971-72 Loan Estimates, \$4,500,000 was allocated for continuation of work on this project, and \$2,497,000 was spent the previous year on the main hospital building, comprising the ward block, surgical and casualty suites, outpatients' department, and pharmacy. Work was also carried out on the

new nurses home that is designed to accommodate 225 nurses. The estimated total cost of the first stage is \$11,900,000, as members know. As the member for the district, I commend the Government on the large sums allocated for work on this hospital. Like all residents of the district and of adjoining districts, I am pleased that the hospital will be opened and in use early next year. It is definitely needed as a medical centre, as well as a source of employment for people in the area.

The member for Bragg referred to nursing staff. To put the record straight, I point out that the Modbury school of nursing will only provide training for the general register. The Modbury Hospital will employ enrolled nurses after their one year's training, but persons from the Modbury area wishing to train as enrolled nurses will have to go to another hospital where the school of nursing covers the appropriate curriculum, or another hospital that provides training with the Gleneden school of nursing. Modbury hospital students will be trained quite separately from Royal Adelaide Hospital student nurses. Although for the time being their study block will take place within the Royal Adelaide Hospital, their ward training will be at Modbury.

In his Speech, the Governor also stated:

Proposals for the enactment of a new Education Act are under consideration by my Government.

I am pleased that this is included. I hope that soon after this Act is implemented new regulations will be consolidated, because this is certainly necessary. All members of the Subordinate Legislation Committee know this, for we have to deal with repeated alterations to existing regulations and with new regulations under this Act. It must be most difficult for officers of the Education Department to be sure that they are accurately interpreting the regulations, just as it is difficult for members of the committee to be certain that they are looking at the correct existing regulations.

Mr. McRae: Let alone the teachers.

Mrs. BYRNE: Yes, as the honourable member says, it must be very difficult for the teachers as well. It is worth remembering that the secondary school book loan scheme was introduced this year in an effort to reduce the financial demands on parents. At paragraph 16 of his Speech, His Excellency said:

In most schools the scheme was confined to fourth and fifth year students. Next year it will be expanded to cover all years of secondary schooling.

I am sure other members are as pleased about this aspect as I am because, in spite of the

allowance, the cost of secondary school books is still high and, when parents have several children going to high school at once, the cost of books is indeed great.

At paragraph 21 of his Speech His Excellency said that the demand for Housing Trust rental accommodation is still at a very high level, with almost 10,000 rental applications being received by the trust in the past year, in which period the trust has been able to offer rental housing to more than 4,500 families. Although this is a good record, I know that all honourable members receive many inquiries from deserving families and it is unfortunate that it is not possible to provide homes for all these applicants. Paragraph 23 of the Speech refers to the appointment of an ombudsman.

The Hon. D. H. McKee: I think the Leader of the Liberal Movement would be suitable for the job.

Mrs. BYRNE: I do not know who the ombudsman will be, but whoever is appointed will have a difficult job. I am sure some members would qualify for appointment because in many ways members of Parliament are ombudsmen. Indeed, much of their time is spent attending to the problems of constituents. Although on most occasions I am satisfied with the results of my efforts on behalf of my constituents, I am at times (perhaps only once in every 200 cases) not satisfied, and it is this sort of case that should be referred to the ombudsman. Members should always feel that their constituents have had their cases examined fully, but it is impossible to see all the relevant documents relating to these cases. The ombudsman would have the power to examine all the files.

It is also intended that the Government will lay before members legislation relating to the licensing of land agents. I do not know what form this legislation will take; perhaps it will relate to the ethics of land agents. Although I do not intend to canvass that matter now, I can refer, when the time comes, to many cases which have over the years been brought to my attention and which convince me that this legislation is necessary. At times, all sorts of promises are made by land agents that they know at the time they will not be able to honour. Of course, there is much competition in this field and land agents are anxious to sell as many houses as they can to make a reasonable living.

Mr. McRae: Tell us about the house sold to the blind lady.

Mrs. BYRNE: A house was not sold to the blind lady; she owned a house, and the persons who took her down came to the house to eradicate white ants. Although there were no white ants in the house, these people pretended to eradicate white ants and at the same time restore the house. It turned out that there were no white ants in the house, but the woman paid more than \$600 for the job.

Paragraph 23 of the Speech states that, in addition to the Bills listed, a large number of other matters will be placed before us. I do not know what the other matters referred to are, but I hope that one of them will be an amendment to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act. Like other honourable members, I received the Annual Report of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the President, in his address to the annual meeting, drew attention to the many problems facing the society in its struggle to improve conditions for animals. He commented on the legislation forbidding the setting of gin traps in municipal areas, which measure had been gained by the member for Ross Smith, one of my colleagues on this side.

Mr. Evans: With full support.

Mrs. BYRNE: Yes, the Bill had the full support of all members of this House, and rightly so. On behalf of the society, the President drew attention to the five amendments to the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act which had been sought, dealing with the caging of animals, the abandonment of animals, habitual chaining, the control of circuses, and the licensing of private zoos. These amendments had been sought by the society but had not at that time been debated in the House. The society had been told that it was unlikely that action would be taken by the Government on the proposed amendment for 18 months, owing to the backlog of legislation that existed. I do not know when the society was told that the waiting time would be 18 months. However, I hope that this is not the case and that the amendment can be made during this session, because the animals and birds cannot speak for themselves and it is up to us to see that everything is done to prevent cruelty to them. Some animals unfortunately get into the hands of sadists, but often cruelty is caused by thoughtlessness and people do not realize that they are being cruel.

Two constituents have asked me to raise the matter (and doubtless it has been raised with other members) of so many motor vehicles

being stolen in this State. A report in the *News* of March 8 stated that South Australian car owners lost more than \$4,000,000 worth of motor vehicles last year. This was the approximate value of 2,678 vehicles reported stolen in 1971, and certainly that was a large number of vehicles. The Criminal Investigation Branch motor squad recovered 97 per cent of the vehicles, and all members would agree that that is a high percentage. However, many of the vehicles were damaged by vandalism or bad driving, and the point in question is that, although these motor vehicles are stolen, the owners lose their no-claim bonus.

In one case that has come to my notice, the vehicle was stolen from the garage on the owner's property, and in another case the vehicle was stolen from a place of public entertainment. I am particularly concerned with the insurance aspect of vehicles that are stolen and I bring this matter to the Government's attention. I doubt that much can be done about it, but nevertheless I want the point recorded.

Mr. Evans: I think we should make the penalties much higher, don't you?

Mrs. BYRNE: I do not think that is the answer. Some of these people are not really stealing the vehicle. There is a difference between the person who intends to steal and the one who is interested only in joy-riding.

Dr. Eastick: Anyone who gets killed by them is just as dead.

Mrs. BYRNE: That is so.

Mr. Evans: Do you think they should be dealt with more severely?

Mrs. BYRNE: Of course not. This was canvassed in the House at the time. The member for Port Adelaide asked a question and the Attorney-General replied. I think he said then that he thought the penalties were adequate, so I do not think that that is the solution of the problem. Past experience has shown that the type of person who goes joy-riding in cars is one who usually does not respond to any type of treatment and punishment. I support the motion.

Mr. COUMBE (Torrens): I support the motion, certainly, and have great pleasure in doing so. I want to comment on the Speech presented last week by His Excellency and to draw to the attention of the House the rather unique situation we have had with recent Governors. The former Liberal Government broke with precedent in appointing the first Australian-born Governor to this State, and he gave distinguished service to South Australia until his untimely death, which we all mourn. The present Government has created a further

precedent in appointing the first South Australian-born Governor. We wish him well, too, in the discharge of his onerous duties. I express my loyalty to the Crown and also my sympathy to families of those members mentioned in the Governor's Speech who are no longer with us, all of whom I had the pleasure of calling friends. I am most sincere, without elaborating further in my reference to them.

I listened with much interest to some of the speeches made during this debate. Because of my long and close association with him, I paid special attention and made a point of being in this Chamber to hear the mover deliver his speech, and I congratulate him on his speech. It was a valedictory, and I am sorry that he is to leave this House. I was most interested in some of his comments. Having been closely associated with the member for Elizabeth on the Public Works Committee for many years, I know the work he has done, and I appreciate the comments he made about the work of that committee. Later, when I was Minister of Works, I was associated with the Public Works Committee in a slightly different capacity. I think that, in delivering his speech, the honourable member gave a very illuminating address, which I suggest any new member coming into this House could read with advantage as regards its historical significance and also its reference to the conduct of and the way in which business is carried on in this House. It was a contribution I was pleased to hear, and I congratulate him.

Many points have been made by various speakers. I wondered why some members opposite spoke at all, and I am sure their constituents, too, must be wondering.

Mr. Ryan: I thought the same applied to some members opposite.

Mr. CUMBE: But I said it first! I want to make one correction to the remarks of the member for Tea Tree Gully. I join with her in looking forward to the opening of the Modbury Hospital. She will recall, of course, what happened in 1968 and 1969, but, to put the record straight, I remind her, as I informed her on that occasion, that we reconstructed the whole programme of work. However, my instructions to the department were that in revamping the construction programme to give better effect and more efficient construction the ultimate completion date must be adhered to.

Mr. McRae: Do you think that you were—

Mr. CUMBE: I thought that she was more interested in her Parliamentary seat, but that is by the way. I am being fair in saying that her representations and comments on the hospital tonight are fair, and that any development of this size in any district would be regarded proudly by the member. The member for Tea Tree Gully is undoubtedly proud of this hospital. When I spoke in this debate last year I pointed out that there were several notable omissions from the Governor's Speech. I realize that not everything can be included, of course. I pointed out that several large development departments in this State had not been mentioned, for example, the Engineering and Water Supply Department, the Marine and Harbors Department and several others. However, I see that they are mentioned this year. We could say that the omissions and commissions have been perpetuated, because this year there is a glaring omission amongst the many items mentioned in the Speech. I refer especially to transport. Indeed, I read the Governor's Speech with great interest and went back a second time to see where transport was mentioned, because this matter has engaged the interest of this House, having been cogently and vigorously debated over a long period, yet the Governor's Speech contained no mention of this topic.

I was justifiably surprised, because I can recall when the present Minister of Roads and Transport was the then back-bench member for Edwardstown and was sitting on this side. He waxed furiously, eloquently and vituperatively on every occasion he could do so—regarding transport, yet on this occasion he is strangely quiet. The Minister on previous occasions in this Parliament, since he has been Minister, has referred constantly to all sorts of transportation matters, but yet not a word has been mentioned in the Governor's Speech on this occasion. We have heard that we are to have not freeways but high-speed corridors and that we might have dial-a-bus or some other new technological device to cater for some people, yet I should have liked to hear something about this in the Governor's Speech, but not a word is mentioned. If members do their own job properly in their district they know what roadworks are going on, and they can look at the schedule. I would have expected that, after all this time, we should have some guide in the Governor's Speech about what is to happen regarding transport. First, the Minister said that he would not have anything to do with M.A.T.S. He said that as a private member and as a Government Minister, and I

presume he was speaking on behalf of the Government. However, many things are going on which look suspiciously like M.A.T.S. We then have Dr. Breuning—

Mr. McRae: Dr. Breuning was perfectly clear on everything, I thought.

Mr. COUMBE: It would have been interesting to see some reference in the Governor's Speech to what effect the Minister is giving to Dr. Breuning's report but I have seen nothing about it. We now have Dr. Scrafton as the Director of Transport. I believe that he is a talented, sincere and dedicated officer. I wish him well in his very onerous job and in the major decisions he will have to make.

I repeat that there is no mention in His Excellency's Speech of what plans there are for metropolitan transportation, a subject that has been made a political football over the last three or four years. I should like the Minister of Roads and Transport to state clearly very soon what the Government's plans are on this very important subject, even if it is only to quieten the fears of many metropolitan residents concerning the future of their properties, which may be near a proposed freeway.

Mr. McAnaney: Isn't there anything in the Speech about the dial-a-bus system?

Mr. COUMBE: No; there is not a word about transportation. The Minister used to say that the dial-a-bus system was the answer to all our problems, but over the last few months he has gone strangely quiet on that subject. The member for Stuart will probably echo the comments I want to make about assistance to secondary industry. Under the Industries Development Act provision is made for the Government to assist certain industries. Of course, the Government has the opportunity to provide accountancy experience, and perhaps it can put directors on the boards of firms, but I believe that there is a fairly limited availability of technical assistance that can be given to industries wanting guidance to solve problems encountered in their operations.

I recall the work done some years ago by Mr. Deane and his branch, and I should like to see that type of service reintroduced. I am well aware that the Government has set up the Industries Research Institute of South Australia, which has its offices in North Adelaide. I wish the Director of that institute, Mr. Fry, every success in his work, but obviously the work of that body will be connected with research. That work could be a valuable contribution to industry, as could the financial advice that is readily available from account-

ants, but many industries want assistance in the form of technical expertise. So, I suggest that the Government should seriously consider this matter, because the provision of the assistance I have referred to will fill a gap. Primary producers are provided with agricultural advisers, but there are no corresponding advisers in the secondary field.

Each year the Governor's Speech at the opening of Parliament refers to finance. The trite saying is that government is finance and finance is government. I was very interested in the financial statement in the Speech this year. I commend the Leader for his comments on the financial results referred to in the Governor's Speech. It is interesting to see the way in which this aspect was handled. The wording rather intrigued me, because if we look at it closely we readily see that the massive financial contributions made to this State by the Commonwealth Government were directly, and perhaps deliberately, written down in order to minimize their effect.

Dr. Eastick: And there have been additional funds since.

Mr. COUMBE: Before we get on to that subject, let us look at the sums allocated by the Commonwealth Government to the States, and, of course, the Treasurer had to disclose these figures. Commonwealth assistance in the form of an increased grant due to the average wage factor in the formula, for current purposes, amounted to \$1,617,000; for works purposes, it amounted to \$4,390,000; for semi-governmental purposes, \$517,000; and for rural unemployment (I admit that is a special case), \$675,000. This gives a mere total of an additional \$6,099,000! In regard to the Premiers' Conference, it was revealed that the increase in supplementary grants to South Australia amounted to a mere \$17,500,000, and the increase in the works allocation amounted to \$12,338,000. That amounts to a total of almost \$37,000,000, and that is not chicken feed; it is a fairly massive sum.

Then the other day the Grants Commission allocated a further \$21,000,000. What did the Treasurer say about that? He tried to minimize and to write down the effect of this allocation, saying, "Perhaps we can avoid increasing some of the State charges." In my opinion, that was a churlish attitude, and I believe it was adopted deliberately to write down the amount of these grants. The present Premier and Treasurer of South Australia has obtained more out of the present McMahon Government than any other South Australian

Premier and Treasurer has obtained out of any other Commonwealth Government.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: The Grants Commission grants do not come from the Commonwealth Government. They come from the Grants Commission.

Mr. COUMBE: I was talking about the \$37,000,000. I know about the Commonwealth Grants Commission; I am perfectly aware of what the Minister says. I do not need the erudite views of the Minister to explain how the Grants Commission works. Nearly \$37,000,000 was received before we take into account the Grants Commission allocation, and I repeat that this Government has received from the present Commonwealth Government huge sums far in excess of those that any other South Australian Government has received from any other Commonwealth Government; there is no doubt about that. Yet Government members still grizzle and want more, and they take every opportunity to lambaste and criticize the Commonwealth Government in this regard.

The Commonwealth Government's contributions to South Australia will enable the State to have a better result at the end of the financial year and, although we have not yet seen the details, we have some indication of what the result will be. Good luck to the Government if it has been able to overspend in respect of its Loan Account. Undoubtedly weather plays a significant part in the allocation of funds to the Engineering and Water Supply Department. When I was Minister of Works, I experienced good and bad weather, and it is difficult to forecast in this respect. It is all right that the Government should be able to spend this additional money, but it should not write down the financial contributions the Commonwealth Government has made in this regard. This raises the question brought up by the Premier before he went to the Premiers' Conference. The Premier made dire threats that State taxation may have to be increased. Undoubtedly he came back to South Australia with far more money in his pocket than he thought he would get, but he still peddled the story about State taxation possibly needing to be increased.

There is no doubt that many South Australians today are questioning the incidence of State taxation imposed on them. In the first *Government Gazette* that came out in the new financial year notice was given of an increase in excess water rates by 5c a thousand gallons, bringing the cost of excess water into parity with rebate water at 40c a thousand gallons.

This is interesting, because I remember getting lambasted when, as Minister, I had the temerity to increase the excess water rate by 5c. I think that on that occasion almost every member of the then Labor Opposition criticized me. It is interesting to recall that at that time a motion was moved by the then member for Stuart (Mr. Riches) with regard to excess water rates. He spoke in exactly the same terms as those in which the member for Stuart spoke the other day. The former member for Stuart made a plea for the people in his area, and I sympathize with the present member for Stuart in the plea he made the other day. Now the rate for excess water is being increased again. What the Treasurer said last year when the rebate water rate was increased makes interesting reading. In his Budget speech on September 2, the Treasurer said:

The new assessment will increase rates and rebate water entitlements and would, in the absence of other factors, reduce revenue from excess water charges, but the rebate price increase will offset the latter effect. The overall effect is expected to be an increase in receipts of about \$2,797,000 above last year. He was talking there about increase in the charge for rebate water to offset the fact that excess water usage would be reduced. This year the Government has increased the price of excess water by 5c (from 35c to 40c) a thousand gallons. In addition, the minimum water and sewerage rate and service rent for additional water services has been increased from \$4 to \$16 a year. That is not a bad increase! That is an increase by \$4 to \$16 a year.

Mr. Langley: You have your figures wrong.

Mr. COUMBE: It is an increase by \$4 to \$16, and that is not a bad increase.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: You first said from \$4 to \$16, and then you said from \$12 to \$16. Which is it?

Mr. COUMBE: By \$4 to \$16, or from \$12 to \$16.

Mr. Langley: Saying "from \$4 to \$16" was a lie.

Mr. COUMBE: Is the honourable member calling me a liar?

Mr. Payne: I think he said you had made a mistake.

Mr. COUMBE: If I made a mistake, I apologize. It was increased by \$4 to \$16. The honourable member should not call me a liar. But that is not the only increase: the concessional rate applying to properties valued at more than \$40,000 has been increased from 5 per cent to 71 per cent on the portion of the

assessed annual value over \$20,000. These will operate from July 1.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: No, it is on the assessed annual value over \$2,000.

Mr. COUMBE: I am sorry, it should be over \$2,000.

Mr. Langley: Another mistake!

Mr. COUMBE: If I make a mistake in anything I say, I am the first to apologize and correct it. We have, therefore, these cumulative effects. We were told what the increased amount would be this afternoon by the Minister of Works, who said that in a full year the increases return to the department about \$1,400,000. This is, therefore, yet another impost on the taxpayers of this State.

Mr. Langley: Hear, hear!

Mr. COUMBE: I am interested to hear the honourable member say that, and I hope his constituents hear about what he has said. I am sure they will be the first to object to these increases, especially in relation to excess water. There are in the honourable member's district a number of smaller properties, many of which use excess water.

Mr. Payne: And they should pay more for excess water than they do for ordinary water. Don't you agree?

Mr. COUMBE: The Government, of which the honourable member is a member, did the reverse last year. Whereas previously the rates were in parity, the Government increased the charge for rebate water and left the charge for excess water below it. This year, it has brought them to parity.

Mr. Payne: We are not like you. If we make a mistake, we correct it.

Mr. COUMBE: So the Government has made a mistake. At last we are hearing the honourable member admit it.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: Will you answer one question?

Mr. COUMBE: I am trying to make a speech.

The SPEAKER: Order! Question Time finished at 4 p.m. today. The honourable member for Torrens.

Mr. COUMBE: I have only one regret—that the Ministers of the Crown cannot join in at Question Time.

Mr. Langley: "I will get a report"—that is all we used to get from you.

Mr. COUMBE: I think the honourable member got the fullest information possible from me, and I do not think he could complain. The present Minister of Education, who asked many questions on numerous subjects, cannot say that I denied him access to every

bit of information I could get for him, especially on the Dartmouth dam.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: My only regret is that I could not ask enough questions.

Mr. Langley: What about—

The SPEAKER: Order! The member for Unley has already made his speech. The honourable member for Torrens.

Mr. COUMBE: I refer now to the Government's hospital building programme. I was interested to see the amount allocated for hospitals and the projects that are at present being considered. However, I make a plea for a special section of the community in respect of which I believe there is a gap in Government planning. I hope that this matter will be the subject of a recommendation by the Bright committee when the report is brought down later this year. I refer to geriatric patients and particularly to provision for them in Government hospitals.

The Hon. G. T. Virgo: The Premier has already answered this in reply to a question the other day.

Mr. COUMBE: He may have, but I have the opportunity to make my comment now. In my opinion, humble though that may be, there is a pressing need for the Government to provide an opportunity to treat geriatric patients in Government hospitals. This problem is more and more prevalent in the community now. Because of medical advances, life expectancy is increasing and we have more and more geriatric patients. First, there is the problem of housing them in private or suitable places and, secondly, a terrific burden is placed on the family of the person concerned to support the patient.

I make the plea that, in future planning of Government hospitals, provision should be made for geriatric patients. I have had the privilege of serving on at least three hospital boards, two of which have dealt almost exclusively with geriatric patients, and I am aware of this problem. This is an avenue that Governments, irrespective of Party, should consider seriously, and I hope the Bright committee makes a recommendation on it.

In addition, I make the plea, on behalf of the nursing profession, that nurses be given special training in treating of geriatric patients. At present the training of the nurses is limited mainly to private hospitals. Perhaps this is unfortunate, and I consider that there is a real need for training geriatric nurses on a much wider basis than we have now. In this case I cite the practice in New South Wales,

where at least two of these Government hospitals exist for this purpose, and they train nurses in this field and give a certificate on completion of the course. My own elder daughter worked for some time as a geriatric nurse, and it is not an easy job. It is quite severe and heavy. I am pleased that the Minister of Works took action about restoring the North Adelaide police station. During last session and during the previous session I asked whether this work could be done. It is one of the older police stations in this State, with tremendously thick walls and doors. In fact, it was harder to get in than to get out. It has been restored and done tastefully by the Public Buildings Department. In about one month the Historical Society in North Adelaide will put a plaque on the building to commemorate its restoration.

Mr. Wardle: Did it cost much?

Mr. COUMBE: I have not seen the figure but I was given an estimate of the cost. Much comment has been made during this debate about industrial unrest, strikes and the position in Australia today on the industrial front. Everyone is entitled to express his views on the matter. I have studied and lived with this subject for most of my life. I have seen some regrettable incidents and I have seen some very successful ways in which industrial troubles have been avoided, but I make a plea for the arbitration system in general, as we understand it at the moment. There is a tendency in some sections of the community to decry the arbitration system. I refer now in the main to the Commonwealth arbitration and conciliation system, and to place emphasis on the word "conciliation".

Mr. Brown: There is no conciliation.

Mr. COUMBE: There are sections in the Act, as the honourable member would know, regarding conciliation.

Mr. Brown: But they are not used.

Mr. COUMBE: If I am allowed to expand my remarks a little, I think I might have the concurrence of the honourable member eventually, or partially, at least. Some people in our society would overthrow the arbitration system. I do not for one moment suggest that our present system is perfect in all regards. I believe that all such systems must move with the times and must be upgraded from time to time. However, there is a basic factor with arbitration systems, as we know them in Australia, which is very deep rooted and which, if it were overthrown, could lead, I believe, to further chaos and even perhaps to the law of the jungle.

We must remember that historically the arbitration system as we know it in the Commonwealth sphere has been supported in the past by both Labor and Liberal Governments. The arbitration system, as we know, has been in existence for roughly 70 years, and there have been some very famous cases. In my reading I know of the famous Harvester case, which was probably one of the main cases that came to the forefront early.

Mr. Brown: There have been some infamous ones, too.

Mr. COUMBE: I am aware of that: I said that there had been some deplorable incidents. Having posed the question of whether the system can continue, may I say that I believe it must continue. We call this the arbitration system, with provision for compulsory arbitration, because the law provides that both employer and employee must accept the decisions of the commission. The compulsory arbitration system may be invoked by either side. Each side has that right and both sides have their rights and entitlements to put their cases. This is based upon the principle that disagreements between employers and unions about wages and conditions of work in an industry should be settled by an independent arbitrator.

Mr. Wright: Do you think that minimum or maximum rates should be set?

Mr. COUMBE: I should like to think about that for a moment. When this type of legislation was initiated, it was evolved principally in the interests of the workers themselves to control the powers then of employers who imposed terms and conditions of employment in certain cases. In the very beginning this system provided a great safeguard for the workers of Australia. As the member for Whyalla pointed out in his contribution the other evening (and quite rightly) Mr. Justice Higgins, for instance, was one of the great judges of the arbitration system, and handed down many decisions. The basic wage, if I can use that term, was established to cover the needs of a man, his wife and two children. That was the first attempt to find a basic wage, which has now been superseded by the total wage. That was originally brought in to protect the worker.

Mr. Brown: It has deteriorated since then.

Mr. COUMBE: It was accepted in the past by employers and unionists alike. The compulsory arbitration system introduced the rule of law into this sphere where previously there was no law at all. With the introduction of law relating to strikes (and a parallel can

be drawn regarding restrictive trade practices and monopolies) there have been many changes and the old system has been modified. Indeed, the last amendment to the Commonwealth Act was in May this year.

Mr. Brown: It is worse now.

Mr. COUMBE: The basic philosophy of conciliation and arbitration can be described in four ways. First, industrial disputes are to be settled most equitably and reasonably by conciliation and, if that fails, independent adjudication based on the merits of the matter in dispute must occur. Secondly, neither side should be able to use its superior bargaining or economic strength to coerce the other. Thirdly, the protection of the system should be available to all impartially and equally. Fourthly, the community itself should not suffer through the inability of sectional groups to reconcile their differences.

Many advantages and protection have over the years been afforded the workers of this nation. Indeed, we know the position where over-full employment can change to unemployment and back to over-employment, and these situations create in themselves various problems. With over-employment we know that the bargaining power of industrial organizations is strong but, on the other hand, during periods of gross unemployment, and I hope that we never get to that deplorable situation—

Members interjecting:

Mr. COUMBE: —the arbitration system has laid down certain provisions and safeguards for workers in this nation.

Mr. Langley: Why don't they go and meet one another around the table?

Mr. COUMBE: In many cases they have done so.

Mr. Langley: Why don't they do that now?

Mr. COUMBE: If the honourable member is referring to the current oil strike—

Mr. Langley: Any situation.

Mr. COUMBE: When I was Minister of Labour and Industry I was successful in the State sphere in getting many parties to confer and settle their disputes amicably. Indeed, I do not recall too many that went beyond that and, if they did, they went to court and were settled there. This raises, of course, the matter of collective bargaining. I was interested last session to hear the member for Playford say he did not agree with collective bargaining, and I do not agree with it either. I have heard it said that collective bargaining should replace the arbitration system.

Mr. Brown: What about the oil industry dispute?

The SPEAKER: Interjections are out of order.

Mr. COUMBE: Collective bargaining is not an alternative to the arbitration system. Where collective bargaining is practised there are often very wide disparities in wages and conditions between workers doing comparable work in different industries and different workshops. So, the system tends to strengthen the centrally organized unions at the expense of weaker, smaller unions. Let me make it clear that I believe we should have strong unions. However, there will be much less industrial strife if the rank and file in unions has as much say as it can in the running of unions. When I said that last session in regard to ballots, I was almost howled down.

Unfortunately, trade union leaders who are democratically elected sometimes have the skids put under them by irresponsible shop stewards who do not work in the best interests of the union or the workers; that is another aspect that I am unhappy about. I believe that collective bargaining involves a bad principle that can lead to strike action; further, it could completely undermine the arbitration system. Not only is that my view but it is also the view of Lord Balogh, who was the economic adviser to the Wilson Labour Government in England. Lord Balogh said:

Free bargaining increased inequality; it resulted in a relative worsening of the position of the poorest paid and least aggressively organized class of society. . . . Trade union action was successful in certain instances in increasing the share of certain privileged or closely organized groups such as tally clerks, dock workers and so on. The lower paid, the defenceless and the handicapped, despite the declamations of the unions, have not been protected.

The direct social gain from "industrial action" was not merely negligible; it might well have been negative. . . . A free for all in the labour market is incompatible with the achievement either of full employment or of a satisfactory rate of expansion of material resources needed for better, fuller, more civilized and humane way of life.

I very firmly believe in the arbitration system. The continuance of that system does not in any way deny the right to strike in the initial stages, and members know that. This important institution in the Australian way of life must be preserved. For it to work effectively and correctly in the interests of all concerned (employers and employees, as well as the general public), collective bargaining has to be updated continually.

Mr. Brown: It was downgraded.

Mr. COUMBE: It was amended earlier this year, but the honourable member is entitled

to his opinion. The industrial disputes we are witnessing today are not doing anyone any good at all. Certainly, members of the general public are not benefiting from them, and I suggest that the average rank-and-file union member is getting a little fed up with all these strikes, just as members of the public are getting fed up with them. I believe that there are some responsible leaders and members of trade unions in this State, and I respect them (some of them are friends of mine); but I also believe that others may not be quite as responsible. I should like to see the general role of trade union leaders upgraded.

Mr. Ryan: Employers, too.

Mr. COUMBE: I agree with that. I believe that both sides have an equally important part to play. My comments on this matter are as unbiased as possible and are made in the general interests of this State and, indeed, the Commonwealth, because I firmly believe that the arbitration system is absolutely vital to the industrial future of this country.

According to the Governor's Speech, some important Bills are to be introduced this session, and I wonder why some of them have been left until now. Incidentally, I see that one measure will take much trade away from my district, although I had better not refer to the business concerned. The important industrial measures to be introduced merit the full attention of this House, and the Minister of Labour and Industry will be busy. I am pleased to see that the Minister of Education will introduce a measure to amend the Education Act and that will not be before time. Of course, he will be validating some things that are occurring at present and, although they may not be occurring constitutionally, they have my imprimatur.

Mr. SLATER secured the adjournment of the debate.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11.54 p.m. the House adjourned until Thursday, July 27, at 2 p.m.