

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Thursday, July 27, 1972

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

### PETITION: SEX SHOPS

Mrs. STEELE presented a petition signed by 43 persons who expressed concern at the probable harmful impact of sex shops on the community at large, and prayed that the law be so amended, if necessary, as to put these shops out of business. The petitioners also prayed that there be a restriction on the availability of sex aids until such time as it might be shown that fears regarding these undesirable consequences were unfounded.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION: POLITICAL PAMPHLET

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN (Alexandra): I ask leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

The Hon. D. N. BROOKMAN: Yesterday I was indisposed and did not attend the sitting of the House. I read in the newspaper this morning a report of a speech made by the member for Gouger in which he mentioned a pamphlet which had, he said, "attempted to divide by using material from Mr. Brookman (L.C.P., Alexandra)". This is the second consecutive speech made by the member for Gouger in which I have been given somewhat unfavourable mention, and I should like to state that I am in no way associated with the pamphlet to which the honourable member obviously was referring. I do not pass any judgment on whether what the pamphlet stated was good or bad: I am simply saying that I was in no way associated with it. Furthermore, because I understand that the honourable member will not be able to be present in the House on Tuesday next and that that will be the last day of the Address in Reply debate, I mention that I intend to speak in that debate on that day and that I shall deal with this and associated matters in greater detail then.

### QUESTIONS

#### OIL DISPUTE

Mr. WRIGHT: Will the Premier convey to Mr. Bob Hawke, the President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions, the gratitude of the South Australian people for his part in breaking the monopolistic situation existing in the oil industry and negotiating an agreement, which

has now averted a major national emergency, ensuring that essential services will function in Australia? It is evident from this morning's *Australian* editorial that Mr. Hawke has been given full credit for the situation that now exists in the oil industry, whereas the Prime Minister has been completely disregarded in the article and, in fact, has been accused of forcing a confrontation between the trade union movement and employers.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will certainly convey to Mr. Hawke the thanks and congratulations of the people of South Australia for the part he has played in trying to break a deadlock between unions and the oil companies. Mr. Hawke has tried to ensure the means by which discussions could proceed, without disrupting essential services in the States. In this regard, his attitude has been in marked contrast to that so far adopted by the Commonwealth Government—

Mr. Millhouse: What nonsense!

Mr. Jennings: It sent three Ministers to see him.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN:—and by all members of the Liberal Party, whose only answer to industrial disputes involved a determined confrontation with the unions they hate.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: I should like to ask a question of the Premier which is supplementary to that asked of him by the member for Adelaide.

*Members interjecting:*

Mr. Hopgood: Are you working together?

The SPEAKER: Order! Interjections are out of order.

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The member for Mawson says we are working together—

*Members interjecting:*

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE: The question that I am trying to ask the Premier is whether he will, in his communications with Mr. Hawke, point out to him the importance of all persons in Australia observing the law, including the provisions of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, and ask him to urge all unionists to abide by the law and the decisions of tribunals made thereunder. I understand the purport of the earlier question was that the South Australian Government or the Premier should write to Mr. Hawke to congratulate him on the steps he has taken to end or ameliorate the dispute in the oil industry. Without passing judgment on whether he has in fact done that, I suggest to the Premier that the most important aspect of this whole matter is a regard for

the law. The fact is that this dispute has arisen—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. MILLHOUSE:—because the law has been wilfully and flagrantly—

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. Millhouse: Why do you sit me down? It is perfectly true, and you know it.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Mitcham must learn to contain himself in a manner befitting a member of this Chamber.

Mr. Millhouse: I am doing my best.

The SPEAKER: The member for Mitcham knows well that the Standing Orders provide that he must seek my leave and the concurrence of the House to make an explanation. The honourable member was commenting and I took exception to that. I am calling on the honourable Premier to reply.

Mr. Millhouse: It was a flagrant disregard for the law.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The provisions of the industrial law in South Australia include not only arbitration and awards thereon but effective conciliation of disputes.

Mr. Millhouse: What do you think happened?

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The fact is that an effective conciliation process needs to be undertaken at all levels at all times, and that is what this Government has done. In fact, in South Australia, because we have done it and because we have refused the kind of confrontation that the honourable member urges on us, we have the best record in the whole of Australia regarding the lack of industrial time lost.

Mr. Millhouse: You are avoiding my question.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am not avoiding the question.

Mr. Millhouse: Then answer it!

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Not only is the honourable member out of order but, if there were ever a member in this House who makes a passion of flagrantly disregarding the law of this House and the Standing Orders of this House, it is the honourable member for Mitcham. He does not believe in obeying the law himself. The fact is that the process of conciliation is a necessary process in the industrial activity of this country. Apparently

the honourable member has forgotten all about that word.

Mr. Millhouse: Will you include that—

The SPEAKER: Order!

### **BUILDERS LICENSING**

Dr. EASTICK: Can the Premier say how many builders who were granted licences under the builders licensing regulations last year have been refused renewals this year? I have received reports that builders who were registered in the first year of the new regulations have been refused licences for a second year. These knock-backs have occurred, even though the renewal application forms were submitted in precisely the same way as were the original forms in respect of the first year. In one instance last year the builder applicant concerned indicated on his application form that he had financial backing amounting to between \$10,000 and \$20,000. This information, which was apparently acceptable, was the means whereby he obtained his original licence, but he and other people objected to this obnoxious method of prying into their affairs. However, this year the builder to whom I refer has had his application for a renewal refused, or it has not yet been granted by the board, which is demanding further detailed information concerning these finances. It seems that the information, which was previously acceptable in regard to obtaining the first licence, is not now acceptable in regard to obtaining a renewal. The feeling among some builders is that the degree of information about their financial situation and other confidential information required to be revealed to the board last year was only the thin end of the wedge, and that builders will be further cross-examined and their businesses pried into before they will be given a renewal of their licences. My question to the Premier, therefore, concerns how many builders have been refused renewal applications under the builders licensing regulations and the reasons why they were denied renewal.

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

### **WHYALLA POLICE STATION**

Mr. BROWN: Has the Minister of Works a reply to my recent question concerning the Whyalla police station?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: Recommendations for alterations to the Whyalla police building, including alterations to facilities for industrial hearings, have been referred by the Public Buildings Department to the Department of Labour and Industry. The matter has also

been referred to the Local and District Criminal Courts Department and the Police Department for comment. It is expected that tenders will be called in, I think, October of this year for the commencement of work and that the alterations will be completed by mid-1973.

#### **NORTH GAMBIER SCHOOL**

Mr. BURDON: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question about additional land for the North Gambier Primary School?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Agreement having been reached on price, the Crown Solicitor has been requested to effect settlement. However, the vendors have requested that settlement be effected concurrently with the settlement of a transaction involving the balance of the land owned by them, which they are selling to another purchaser. It is expected that settlement will take place shortly, and arrangements will be made with the Public Buildings Department to carry out a survey and alter the existing fencing to have the land included in the school grounds.

#### **PRESS RELEASES**

Mr. ALLEN: Can the Premier say whether the Government will consider placing advertisements in the provincial press to compensate those newspapers for the press releases that they publish free of charge from time to time? Yesterday, when I asked the Minister of Education what steps had been taken to notify people in outback areas that a scholarship was available for rural secondary students, he said:

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.

I point out to the Premier that, for some time, certain members of the provincial press have been complaining that they provide, free of charge, space for press releases, but that they do not receive any advertising revenue to compensate them for the free publicity given.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I find it an extraordinary suggestion that every news release to the country press in South Australia should require a compensatory advertising payment for the insertion of what is ordinary news.

Mr. Gunn: You've completely misinterpreted the question.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: That is exactly what the member for Frome suggests—that the country press has to be compensated by advertising revenue for publishing what are news releases. In this House yesterday, a member

of the honourable member's Party (and I realize that members opposite are not always at one), the member for Gouger, who was formerly Leader of the Opposition, said it was necessary for us to increase the amount of information available from the Government to members of the public in matters concerning them so that people would be able to participate in the political life of this State.

Mr. Mathwin: He was talking about secret reports kept by your Government.

The SPEAKER: Order!

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I do not know what all this secret report business is about. All I can say is that this Government has given the public far more information about the processes and decisions of Government that affect the people of South Australia than has any previous Government in this State.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: That's right.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Far more. Only this week I have received the personal thanks of publishers of country newspapers in the honourable member's district for the press releases we have been able to give them, the press secretary to the Minister of Education being specifically mentioned to me in that regard.

#### **STRATHALBYN WATER SUPPLY**

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Works obtain a report on progress being made in investigations into the water supply for the Callington, Hartley, and Strathalbyn area? Many years ago Sir Thomas Playford suggested that ultimately the Strathalbyn scheme would have to be linked up with a main pipeline to Adelaide. As I was assured about 18 months ago that the matter would be investigated, I should be pleased to know what progress has been made.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I shall be happy to do that for the honourable member.

#### **MUSIC TEACHERS**

Mr. CARNIE: Has the Minister of Education a reply to my recent question concerning the availability of services of music teachers in country schools?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Music teachers appointed by the Education Department fall into two categories: namely, teachers of classroom music and teachers of instrumental music. Teachers of classroom music are generally not appointed to primary schools as it is expected that class teachers will deal with this subject. However, itinerant teachers under the direction of the Supervisor of Music visit schools in both the metropolitan and

country areas and assist in the promotion of classroom music by (1) giving lessons; (2) conducting inservice training of teachers; (3) assisting with choir training; and (4) conducting choirs for music festivals and on other special occasions. There are 12 such itinerant teachers of classroom music. Music teachers are appointed to secondary schools in metropolitan and country areas to teach classroom music leading to Leaving and Matriculation Music.

Teachers of instrumental music are not normally appointed to schools. Occasionally, one of the class teachers is shown to have special musical talent and in this case can give valuable help to the school. Because it is not possible for a teacher to cover the wide variety of instruments that are in use, it is more practicable to make use of the specialist teachers from the Music Branch in the teaching of instrumental music. There are 30 itinerant instrumental music teachers who visit schools mainly in the metropolitan area. However, in order to assist further the teaching of instrumental music in country areas, specialist teachers have been appointed on a regional basis at Mount Gambier, Whyalla and Berri. Schools, whether in the country or in the city, which are prepared to purchase musical instruments may apply to the Supervisor of Music for the services of an itinerant instrumental music teacher. Difficulty has been experienced in recruiting these teachers for work in country areas, but more such teachers will be appointed as they become available.

#### **NARACOORTE HIGH SCHOOL**

Mr. RODDA: Can the Minister of Education say what progress is being made on the upgrading of the Naracoorte High School? Last year I raised a similar problem about the staff room at the Penola High School. The staff room at the Naracoorte High School is a timber frame building, 24ft. by 24ft., which last year had to accommodate 37 people. This year, however, 43 people are using this limited, antiquated accommodation. I know that new staff-room accommodation is included in the plans for the upgrading of the school, but this lack of off-duty space for staff members is causing a problem.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will look into the matter and bring down a reply as soon as possible.

#### **HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT RUBBISH**

Mr. MATHWIN: In the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, will the

Premier ascertain where the earth and rubbish at present being deposited on the land owned by the Highways Department in Rosedale Avenue, Warradale, is being brought from, and for what purpose, if any, it will be used?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get a report.

#### **HILLS RAILWAY**

Mr. EVANS: In the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, can the Premier say whether tunnelling methods have been improved to a stage where a feasibility study is warranted into the practicability of constructing a new railroad through the Adelaide Hills to the Murray Plains? If they have been, will the Government authorize such a study? The present line requires about 49 miles of railroad to reach the Murray Plains. I think that by using a more direct route it would be possible to reduce the distance to about 35 miles. Callington is about 330ft. above sea level, while Adelaide proper is about 150ft. above sea level, so there is not a great difference in grade, although we realize that we might not be able to put a tunnel straight through. The railway line from Adelaide to Bordertown was completed in about seven years at a time when all the work had to be done by hand labour, no machines being available, and there must be a greater possibility today of tunnelling and achieving what one may consider the desirable object in respect of speed of travel. With the advent of a new town on the Murray Plains, many people will want to commute to the city, even though there may be industries at the new town, and it would be of great benefit if these people could travel that distance of railroad in about 45 minutes instead of about an hour and a half.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The last time there was a public discussion of it was, I think, at the time of the State election in 1962, when the then Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of this Party, suggested that this was feasible, after having consulted a firm of leading engineers in this State who had great scorn heaped upon them by the honourable member's Party for even suggesting such a thing. We will investigate whether there has been any recent reassessment of the possibility of lower costs for the project.

#### **HOSPITAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Premier say whether he has submitted the recommendations of the committee of inquiry into hospital communications for the comment of the medical and

nursing professions, as he undertook during last session to do? If he has done that, will he say what the result has been? I remind members that at one stage, when part of a report from this committee was released, comprising only the recommendations, the Government intended to proceed with those recommendations without consulting members of the medical and nursing professions. The Premier later undertook to pass those recommendations to these professions for comment, and I should be most interested to hear what has been the result.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I am not exactly certain of the current position in the matter of consultation, because the matter does not come within my portfolio. The report was made available to the general committee of inquiry into health services in South Australia and that committee has considered the matter and consulted witnesses concerning various aspects, but I will get a report for the honourable member.

Dr. TONKIN: In the absence of the Attorney-General, who represents the Chief Secretary in this House, can the Premier say whether the Government has any plans to change the constitution of the boards of management of the Royal Adelaide Hospital and the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and, if it has any such plans, who will be the new representatives on those boards? This question is rather supplementary to the question I have asked regarding the committee of inquiry into hospital communications. I understand that there is a possibility that the boards will be reconstituted and that not only will representatives of the medical profession and the senior nursing staff be involved but also that representatives from the nurses and trainees could be involved. I shall be interested to know whether this is so.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I understand that matters of that kind have been deferred until the report of the committee of inquiry into health services in South Australia has been received, but I will inquire.

### **HARD WATER**

Mr. COUMBE: In the absence of the Attorney-General, will the Premier refer to the Minister of Health the report in today's press regarding a finding and recommendation by a British medical authority that hard water allegedly has beneficial effects in the case of some diseases? As Adelaide water is notoriously hard (and little can be done about this),

can a report be obtained from the Chief Secretary on this aspect?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I have been told that Adelaide water is really very healthy, but I have not yet got to the stage of recommending that we start a new industry of bottling the water for export. However, I will get a report for the honourable member.

### **PROMOTIONS SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Mrs. STEELE: Will the Premier say whether the Government will have investigated a company that I understand operates under the name Promotions South Australia or South Australian Promotions? I have received from one of my constituents a letter asking me whether I will put this question to the Government, and some details of the operation of this company are given in the letter. The matter starts with an advertisement that is inserted, as a rule, about twice a week on consecutive days. One rather interesting advertisement states:

Liberated women, 18 to 25, interested in breaking into a man's world. Equal pay and equal opportunities. In promotion advertising field, \$80 p.w. and a Co. training provided. Promotional aspects good. Phone 23 4980 (9 to 1.30 today).

The other advertisements I have are of much the same composition but, dealing with matters that are relevant to this company, I should like to read extracts from the letter. Part of the letter states:

The name of the organization has not, to my knowledge, been mentioned in any of its press advertisements—a few samples of which are enclosed. The telephone number only 23 4980 is the point of contact. Respondents to the telephone number are asked to present themselves for interview at 312 Angas Street, Adelaide. The advertisements appear as a rule twice weekly on days on which the employment advertisements are fewest in number. As a rule, from each advertisement some 10 or 12 girls are engaged. These girls are required to sign contracts or undertakings that they will receive no payment during the period of their training. When their training begins they are told that the name of the organization is S.A. Promotions. When the training begins, the young women are "trained" in batches. Initially they are told that they will be interviewing people in their homes by door-knocking and their function will be to select suitable families to be given a set of encyclopaedias in consideration for advertising the books by word of mouth and supplying written testimonials which may be published if required. At a later stage of the training the young women are told that they will be selling encyclopaedia sets between the hours of 4 p.m. and 10 p.m. After some two, three, or four days training they are taken by car to selected streets in the metropolitan

area about 4 to 4.30 p.m. and told to door-knock the street, and that they will be picked up at 10 p.m. and driven to their homes. At times these pick-ups are as late as 11.30 p.m., necessitating hour or hour and a half waits on street corners by the young women concerned. The necessity for one vehicle to take four or five young women to homes in various suburban localities means that the last girl is not delivered to her home until something like 2 a.m. During the first few days, the girls are told that on a forthcoming weekend they will have to make a country trip—to get country experience. They must bear the expenses of the country trip themselves. I do not know how on earth some of them get pulled into this sort of thing. The letter also states:

The organization seems to be run in this State by one man and the staff indoctrination and the delivery of the staff to their selling sites and their homes is done by another.

This looks like a really good take. If I refer the correspondence to the Premier (and my constituent wishes, of course, not to have her association with this company divulged), will he have inquiries made into the operation of this company?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes, I will do that.

#### **PARK LANDS**

Mr. CARNIE: Will the Premier give a firm assurance that the road extensions through the park lands which I listed in the question I asked yesterday will not be proceeded with? Yesterday I asked the Premier whether, in view of the Government's decision not to allow parking in the park lands, the Government would ensure that Government departments would not be allowed to encroach on the park lands, and I cited as examples the roads in question. The Premier replied that the plans to which I referred represented part of the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study plan and, as such, did not represent the policy of his Government. Can we take this as a firm assurance that areas of park land will not be taken for the purpose of providing any of these roads?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will have to get details of the precise plans at present for providing connecting roads into the city itself once the corridor to Tea Tree Gully, the north-south corridor, and the corridor to Port Adelaide are constructed. So far as I am aware, park lands are not to be taken, but I will get for the honourable member full details of the present stage of planning.

#### **KIMBA MAIN**

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister of Works say whether the Government has made a further

submission to the Commonwealth Government for assistance under the national water resources development programme in order to construct the Poldo-Kimba main?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: A submission, based on updated information, was made early last May. Only yesterday, when I met with the Minister for National Development (Sir Reginald Swartz) and the Secretary of the Department of National Development (Mr. Bott), I asked what progress had been made by the department in regard to considering allocating money to the State in order to speed up the work in question. They indicated to me that this matter was currently being considered but that a delay had occurred, because the person concerned in the department (a Mr. McCutchan), who examines these proposals in detail, had been overseas for the past six weeks. That gentleman is due back next Monday and, immediately he returns, the Commonwealth Minister has undertaken to have him consider the submission, so that I hope the State Government will soon know whether the Commonwealth Government will allocate funds, as I believe it should, for this project.

Mr. GUNN: Can the Minister say what modifications and what branch mains are intended to be constructed on the new Kimba-Poldo main? On June 20, the Minister was good enough to inform me that he was having the Public Works Committee investigate certain modifications to this scheme and also the construction of certain branch mains.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: No, Sir, but I will obtain the details for the honourable member.

#### **WATER FILTRATION**

Mr. COUNBE: Can the Minister of Works say what stage investigations have reached on the filtering of the Adelaide water supply? This matter, which was raised by the previous Government and has since been taken up by the present Government, is one of great interest.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The investigations are completed. I received a complete report, I think last July (it may have been a little later), on the plan to filter the metropolitan water supply and, following the receipt of this report, which was circulated to Cabinet members, the Government decided that it would proceed with filtration of the Adelaide water supply. The Government undertook before the last election to examine every possible way

in which we could improve the water supply, and filtration was considered at that time. Although we considered whether some other more effective means could not be found, involving less cost (I think the honourable member will realize that \$35,000,000 was the estimated cost of filtration and that, as a result of an escalation in wages, etc., it could well rise to \$40,000,000), the Government is satisfied that filtration is, in fact, the most economical and effective means of improving the Adelaide water supply. Plans for the design work are continuing and the first station will be constructed on the Hope Valley storage, as I think this reservoir serves the largest number of people.

The seven stations to be constructed will be completed over a period of about 10 years, and it is hoped that the first station, which, as I have said, will be constructed on the Hope Valley storage and will, I think, serve north-western suburbs, will be completed in late 1974. We are proceeding with the scheme. I have said it will be a matter of policy at the next election, and, on the basis that, prior to the last election, the Liberal Party said it would filter the water supply, I point out that the design work is proceeding as though the decision had already been taken. Therefore, irrespective of whether there is a change of Government, I expect that this work will continue and the first station, which I think will serve about 60,000 or 70,000 people, will be completed towards the end of 1974. However, just to be certain of what I am saying, I will get a detailed report for the honourable member and let him know exactly what progress is being made. I will also provide him with a time table showing when and which stations will be constructed. I have, in fact, referred to this matter previously, but I do not recall offhand the order in which these stations will be constructed.

#### **MITCHELL PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Mr. PAYNE: Will the Minister of Education arrange to have improved the condition of a small drainage project recently carried out at the Mitchell Park Primary School just south of the southern row of classrooms? Although this drain functions well, it is an open drain close to the classrooms, and it is a quagmire in which the children tend to play.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will have the matter examined.

#### **TRAVEL AGENTS**

Mr. MILLHOUSE: Will the Premier say whether the Government still intends to introduce legislation this session to control the activities of travel agents? Recently, following the news of the failure of a company known, I think, as Travel House of Australia, it was announced by this Government and other Australian Governments that they intended to introduce legislation to control the activities of travel agents. I see in this morning's paper that the Australian Federation of Travel Agents has commented on this proposal (I understand that the Premier himself opened the federation's conference a couple of days ago), and a couple of sentences in the report state:

Great difficulties would arise because of lack of uniformity—that is, if each State goes ahead with its own proposals.

This is elucidated by the President (Mr. Quartermaine), who says:

It would be impossible to have several lots of bonds, one for each State, when passengers were travelling across State boundaries.

I realize, as the Premier was quick to point out in his comment, that the Commonwealth Government does not have the power to legislate in this matter to achieve uniformity in that way; but the Premier begged the question, because he omitted to comment on the other possibility, evidence of which we see in great measure in the uniform Companies Acts throughout Australia (a degree, at least, of uniformity between the States on any matter by agreement). Hire-purchase is another field in which a degree of uniformity has been achieved. Of course, it is obviously desirable, as the federation has pointed out in its resolution, even though it has suggested that it is an impossible method of achieving it, that there should be uniformity. I therefore wonder whether the Government intends, in view of the resolution passed, the aim of which has obvious merit, to think again about this matter and to seek to obtain uniformity with the other States before it goes ahead in this regard.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There was no begging of the question. The position is that at the conference of Ministers of Tourism a draft measure as a basis for uniform legislation was discussed. Those States which chose to indicate that they were prepared to go ahead immediately will use that as a basis for their legislation. I have pointed out to the federation that I see no difficulty in that and that the legislation will be substantially uniform.

Mr. Millhouse: How much variation do you expect?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: There will be some variation regarding the licensing process, as some States already have tribunals for licensing agents in other fields and they intend to use the same system for the licensing of travel agents. The procedure involved differs from State to State. Some States have a specific tribunal while others (and this includes South Australia) use the local and district criminal court for the licensing process. Indeed, there should be no difficulty on that score, because the substance of the control will be uniform. It will, of course, be necessary for the States, especially the smaller States, to integrate the travel agents' bonding system with the bonding system applying to general agents such as land and business agents, because otherwise the number of travel agents involved would be too small to support a bonding fund system. If, however, we included this fund with the general agents' licensing fund system it should work perfectly well.

Last evening, in discussions with officers of the federation I pointed this matter out to them and asked them specifically what difficulties they saw in the programme I had outlined to them in some detail. They could not at that stage cite any difficulties, although they believed that some States might have weak legislation and others might have strong legislation. I said that, as far as I was aware, all the States were going to use the Victorian draft as the basis for the legislation that they would introduce, and that South Australia would be in no different position from that which applied, for instance, with the uniform companies legislation.

Mr. Millhouse: What about the matter of bonding?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The matter of bonding they have raised concerns how large the bonding fund should be, given that in some States there is not a large group of travel agents. I also explained to them last evening that this problem should be solved by putting travel agents in with the bonding systems applying to other types of agent. They then appreciated that this was a feasible means of proceeding.

Mr. Millhouse: How can you do that?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: The honourable member will find that it can be done. Indeed, this matter was discussed at the Ministers' conference. The travel agents also seemed to be under the impression that we were worried about the situation of travel agents who were handling only intrastate travel, but I had to point out that they were under a misapprehen-

sion. They said there were only a few people doing agency work relating to intrastate travel, but I pointed out that the difficulty was that, if we had a licensing system for interstate and overseas travel and something went wrong with what such agents did regarding intrastate travel, there was no means of dealing with them under the licensing system, because the licensing system could not apply to such a transaction.

The Commonwealth Minister suggested that he would be willing to recommend to his Cabinet that a Commonwealth Act be introduced so long as it was requested by all the States and so long as the States referred the power to do so to the Commonwealth. However, it was pointed out that that was an unlikely proposition because it was not practicable. The only practicable way to proceed was by the States introducing legislation on a substantially uniform basis, and that is what is proposed.

#### TEA TREE GULLY SCHOOL

Mrs. BYRNE: Will the Minister of Education have his departmental officers examine the possibility of immediately acquiring additional land to be added to the Tea Tree Gully Primary School site? The Minister knows of this school site, because he has visited it. The school currently occupies an area of two acres, one rood and nine perches, to which a new section of land, two acres, was added in about 1970. An agreement dated May 15, 1952, between the Minister and the Corporation of the City of Tea Tree Gully permitted the recreation ground situated opposite the school to be used by pupils from the school for sports and physical exercise on school days. Because of the size of this restricted school site, the department would wish to see this valuable agreement continued. I point out that the new replacement school currently under construction is being built on the land (the two acres to which I have referred) which has been acquired recently. The reason for this is outlined in the Public Works Committee's report to allow the demolition of all the existing buildings on the original site, which is to be developed for sporting facilities. Because of the large number of children who will be attending the school next year, I understand that several of the better timber classrooms are to be retained and it will not be possible to redevelop the old site as planned. Having inspected the new building under construction, I find that it covers much of the recently acquired site. As there are vacant blocks for sale adjoining the



property, if the department agrees to purchase them to enlarge the school site, immediate action should be taken before the blocks are built on, as one block has recently been sold.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: We will look into the matter for the honourable member.

#### **PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYMENT**

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier say how many positions called by the Public Service Board are still pending three months after the closure of applications? In December last year the Public Service Board called for applications for the appointment of an Assistant Director, Administration and Finance, at the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, for which applications closed on January 5, 1972. As yet the position has not been filled. One applicant for this position received a letter on December 22, 1971, acknowledging receipt of his application and stating that he would be contacted again, but he has heard nothing since. What is the reason for the delay and how many other Public Service appointments are still pending?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will ask the Chairman of the Public Service Board for a report.

#### **M.V. TROUBRIDGE**

Mr. KENEALLY: Will the Premier, representing the Minister of Roads and Transport, arrange for the State emblem and the State colours to be painted on the funnel of the *m.v. Troubridge* to replace the insignia and colours that are currently displayed?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will inquire about that. As the *m.v. Troubridge* is the one major item of the State shipping line, I think we will have to do something about it.

#### **JAMESTOWN HOSTEL**

Mr. VENNING: Can the Minister of Education say what progress has been made regarding the construction of a hostel for single teachers at Jamestown? I asked a similar question in this House about 18 months ago. In the meantime, I have tried to check through the various departments to find out what has happened with regard to this activity, but I have not had much success. I understand that land is available on which this work can proceed. Therefore, I ask the Minister whether the department intends to build these units at Jamestown and, if it does, when it intends to proceed with the work.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I will look into the matter.

#### **LONSDALE ROAD**

Mr. HOPGOOD: In the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, will the Premier obtain a report about work on Lonsdale Road?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

#### **SWIMMING POOLS**

Mr. McANANEY: Towards the end of last session, when I asked the Minister of Education whether or not Swinburn swimming pools were acceptable to the Education Department, he told me that he would get a report. Could I have that report now?

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: No. As investigations are still proceeding, I am unable to answer the question fully at this stage.

#### **SALINITY READINGS**

Mr. CURREN: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Lands whether salinity readings have in the past been taken and recorded of drainage effluent water from district drainage schemes in irrigation areas that are administered by the Lands Department? If records have been kept, will the Minister obtain a copy of them for me?

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

#### **EXTENSION SPEAKERS**

Mr. RODDA: Mr. Speaker, last year I asked you about the advisability of members having in their rooms extension speakers so that they could listen to debates in the House, such facilities presently being available to Ministers and officers of the Parliament. Can you now say whether consideration has been or will be given to extending this facility this session to the rooms of members?

The SPEAKER: Currently I have been discussing the matter with the Minister of Works. Although this is being looked at by the Public Buildings Department, no final decision has been made.

#### **HOUSE INSURANCE**

Mr. EVANS: Will the Premier negotiate with officers of the State Bank with the object of convincing them that that bank should allow people who own houses on which the bank has a mortgage to obtain insurance on their houses from any accredited source, especially credit unions established by employee organizations, or similar bodies? A constituent who has approached me has had a mortgage with the State Bank for about 14 years. At present he pays for his insurance \$3.10 a month,

and this covers only the bare home. As he works for the Australian Broadcasting Commission, through the credit union of that organization for \$40 a year he can obtain full insurance coverage of \$10,000 for his house (the State Bank cover is only \$7,200), and a cover of \$4,000 for general household insurance, which is not covered by the State Bank agreement. Under the credit union policy, the fences and outbuildings on his property would be covered, irrespective of the size of the block, whereas the State Bank policy restricts the cover to blocks of normal size only. To me, there are distinct advantages to this man in taking the cover offered by the credit union at his place of employment. Moreover, the State Bank cover is much more expensive in the long term. He has asked me to raise this matter, as many other people are similarly affected. Although I know that in the past the State Bank has preferred to look after the insurance cover itself, I think that in certain cases it could allow insurance to be provided by credit organizations, without any fear of loss of equity by the bank. Will the Premier investigate the situation and bring down a report?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes.

#### **GLADSTONE POLICE STATION**

Mr. VENNING: I understood that some time ago work was to be undertaken on a new police station and courthouse building at Gladstone. To my amazement, when I was in Gladstone a few days ago I looked across from the St. John Ambulance hall and, lo and behold, the old police station was still standing. I wondered where the new building was that we had been supposed to get at Gladstone some months ago. In the absence of the Attorney-General, will the Premier find out what is the present position with regard to the new police station and courthouse building at Gladstone?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will inquire for the honourable member.

#### **ANDAMOOKA COURTHOUSE**

Mr. GUNN: My question is similar to the previous question. In the absence of the Attorney-General, will the Premier have inquiries made to see whether the department has any plans to upgrade the courthouse facilities at Andamooka? The present use of the police station at Andamooka for the hearing of court cases is totally unsatisfactory. As the police accommodation there is far too small for all these activities, when court cases have

to be heard in this station it is impossible for the police officers to carry out their normal duties.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will see what are the priorities. The honourable member must appreciate that the provision of courthouses in every town in South Australia would be an extremely expensive process. If we were to build courthouses in every town and if they were in fact used only occasionally, this would be an expensive use of public money.

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: And extravagant.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: Yes. I will investigate the incidence of court usage at Andamooka and see what are the priorities.

#### **INDUSTRIAL LAND**

Mr. PAYNE: Will the Premier have the Housing Trust consider reducing the minimum area of one acre of industrial land that is normally made available to persons wishing to start an industry? My question is prompted by a letter from a constituent, who points out that the cost of a site, which is larger than needed to commence operations, causes difficulty with regard to capital outlay, while it is also difficult for a person to meet the trust's requirements in respect of landscaping and general gardening at the front of the area.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will investigate the matter. The trust certainly requires that the site for an industry be adequate for demands of any possible extension but at the same time there should be sufficient open space and garden area to a factory to make industrial areas pleasant and to safeguard the total environment of the area.

#### **A.N.Z. BUILDING**

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier say when the former Australia and New Zealand Bank building purchased by the State this year will be available for use by the public? On March 1, the member for Davenport asked the Premier a question in relation to the use to which the building would be put, and the Premier promised that he would make an announcement during the Festival of Arts. I now ask the Premier what is being done to the building and what progress has been made in restoring it?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is expected that the building will be opened during the first two months of next year. Extensive renovations are being carried out on the building at present. In order to provide security for the files of the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, much work is being done in the basement vaults. Extensive restoration work

is being done in the main banking chamber, air-conditioning is being installed in the building, and this will allow the upgrading of the offices in the building for general Public Service use. The work is being undertaken on a report prepared for the Government by Mr. Dean Berry, the architect contracted to the Government for restoration work on the building. Restoration work has already commenced.

Mr. BECKER: Can the Premier say what is the estimated cost of the alterations to this building?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: It is over \$200,000 but, as I cannot remember the exact figure, I will get it for the honourable member.

### HILLS SEWERAGE

Mr. EVANS: Can the Minister of Works say what progress has been made on the proposed sewerage of the Stirling, Aldgate and Bridgewater areas?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will obtain a report for the honourable member.

### ROAD MAINTENANCE TAX

Mr. CARNIE: In the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, can the Premier say whether the Government will consider granting an exemption from road maintenance tax for farmers carrying their own goods between farms? As I understand it, farmers may, without paying tax, transport stock between their farms but they must pay tax on anything else. Many farmers own blocks several miles apart. Indeed, one of my constituents owns blocks 50 miles apart. Before members say that farmers should not own so much land and start referring to the wealthy farmer, I remind them that at present it is economically necessary to own more land and many farmers are trying to do this to make their properties viable.

Mr. Keneally: What's that to do with the question?

Mr. CARNIE: I knew members opposite would bring it up, so I was merely anticipating their interjections.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member was given leave to explain his question and he must not anticipate anyone entering into a debate across the Chamber.

Mr. CARNIE: It is not economic for farmers to duplicate their sheds and equipment and it is better for them to transport implements, fertilizers, seed, etc., but to do this they have to pay road maintenance tax. This request, which has come to me from

several farmers, relates only to cartage between farms and not to cartage to or from any other place.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will have the matter examined.

### FOSTER CHILDREN

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Premier, in the absence of the Minister of Community Welfare, ascertain how many children are currently being fostered at foster homes under the control of the Department of Community Welfare?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will get a report.

Dr. TONKIN: Will the Premier ask his colleague to consider establishing, under the provisions of the new Community Welfare Act, a committee to inquire further into various aspects of the fostering of children? I draw the attention of honourable members to the need for children to remain within a family atmosphere. I think all members would have read the report in a weekend newspaper that one of the causes of early death of babies and of failure to thrive was a lack of love and that failure to grow could be attributed to a lack of love within a family atmosphere. I think the Social Welfare Advisory Council submitted a report on the fostering of children when I was a member of the council. I consider that that is a valid report, but there have been further developments. Much more interest is being shown in the matter by members of the Foster Parents Association, which has become much more active since that report was submitted. I think a committee of the kind I have mentioned would be worthy, and perhaps it should be one of the first to be established under the Community Welfare Act.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will refer the matter to my colleague.

### FIRE-FIGHTING VICTIMS

Mr. McANANEY: Will the Minister of Works ask the Minister of Agriculture whether arrangements can be made for early payment to volunteer fire fighters injured when fighting fires? I understand that it is very difficult to get the appropriate committee together with the result that two or three people who were injured in the Norton Summit fire are having difficulty in meeting their obligation through this committee not getting together and making a decision. The Chairman of the Norton Summit Emergency Fire Service has suggested that it will be very difficult to get volunteers next season if some arrangements

are not made to make early payments to those who are injured.

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

#### **VICTORIA SQUARE REDEVELOPMENT**

Mr. COUMBE: Can the Premier say what is the present position regarding the announcement he made some time ago about a project for a hotel to be built on the land previously purchased for Government administration buildings in Victoria Square which is now used for car parking? As some time has elapsed since the feasibility study was made, I should appreciate a reply.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: After several submissions had been received, the Government working committee on this project recommended that negotiations be commenced with one of the consortia that made the submission, that being the best submission and prospect. Members of the board of that company, who came and discussed the matter with me in South Australia, inspected the site. They brought their architect here and they are now preparing detailed sketch plans of their proposal for the development. At the same time they are preparing proposals for the financing of the operation because we require to be satisfied on that before the operation is undertaken. We expect to receive submissions from them soon.

Subsequently, we have had inquiries from many people. We have told the further inquirers that they may make submissions if they choose but that we are currently negotiating. If the negotiations are successful, we intend to execute an indenture which we will then put before the House for ratification by legislation. Until an indenture is executed, it is still open to other people to make submissions if they choose in the event of the indenture being not completed. However, I expect that it will be completed, and the directors of Charles Moore have told me (and this has been passed on to the consortium with which the company is negotiating) that they are interested in a joint development of the total site, which would be of advantage and would fit in entirely, of course, with Professor Winston's proposals for the square.

#### **RAILWAY REFRESHMENTS**

Mr. WARDLE: In the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, will the Premier ask his colleague what has been the total annual cost of conducting the club and cafeteria cars on the Overland; what has been the profit or loss on the experiment,

including depreciation; what is the monthly cost of conducting the refreshment area of each carriage on the South-East train; whether the Railways Department expects to extend refreshment facilities to any other trains passing through Murray Bridge; whether the department expects any change in the number of times the Murray Bridge refreshment rooms will be open to serve trains; and what is the programme for the foreseeable future likely to be if the department does expect that there will be a reduction in the number of times the Murray Bridge refreshment rooms are open?

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will ask my colleague to get a report on the matter.

#### **RAPE SEED**

Mr. HALL: In view of the growing importance of rape seed as a commercial crop grown by South Australian farmers as an alternative to existing cereal crops, will the Minister of Works obtain for me from the Minister of Agriculture an up-to-date report on whether there is available to producers a fixed price of which they are aware for the next harvest? If there is such a price, will the Minister ask his colleague what it is?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I will do that.

#### **COUNTRY HOUSING ACT**

Dr. EASTICK: Will the Premier say whether the Government has considered altering the provision regarding the arbitrary one-sixth of the income of the tenant used in determining the rental of houses built under the Country Housing Act? I have been told that a person who enters a country house that has been built under that Act is required to pay one-sixth of his income in rental and that only on rare occasions has this arrangement been altered. A person who undertakes part-time work, a person who receives investment income or, for that matter, a person who receives any pension increase automatically has an increase in the rental applied as a result of the information that he or she must give to the Housing Trust. I suspect that the one-sixth of total income is an arbitrary figure that was determined when the Act first came into operation, and to the best of my knowledge it has not been altered since. It does not seem to be realistic, and this applies particularly to pensioners, who automatically lose one-sixth of their increased pension entitlement.

The Hon. D. A. DUNSTAN: I will discuss the matter with the Chairman of the Housing Trust.

**KANGAROO ISLAND DISPUTE**

Mr. WRIGHT: Can the Leader of the Opposition say how many members of the Opposition donated towards the costs of Mr. Woolley, the farmer involved in the Kangaroo Island dispute, and who those members were? Now that Mr. Woolley's costs have been paid, have these Liberal and Country League members received refunds? If they have not, when will they receive their refunds?

The SPEAKER: Does the honourable Leader desire to reply?

Dr. EASTICK: Yes, Mr. Speaker. I am not aware of any of the detail requested by the honourable member in his question. To my knowledge, no member on this side has been so involved, but if it is going to be of any value to the honourable member—

The Hon. J. D. Corcoran: There was a public statement about this by the member for Heysen.

Dr. EASTICK: The member for Heysen did not make such a statement in my presence but, if the information will be of any value to the member for Adelaide, I shall be pleased to inquire of my colleagues and bring down a considered reply.

Mr. McANANEY: I ask leave to make a personal explanation.

Leave granted.

Mr. McANANEY: I should like to make a statement, as a result of the question asked by the member for Adelaide, about whether I was one of the members who made a contribution towards fighting the case in relation to Mr. Woolley and whether I will receive my money back from these honest people in due course. When I do I will frame it and put it in my office as a memorial to the fact that we have laws that protect decent, honest people from victimization and stand-over tactics such as took place on this occasion and I shall be very proud to have that on my wall.

**PORT PIRIE HARBOUR**

Mr. VENNING: Will the Minister of Marine say when he expects the project regarding the deepening of the Port Pirie harbour to be referred to the Public Works Committee? There was a delay in submitting this project to the committee because of investigations that had to be undertaken by the Marine and Harbours Department. As that was some time ago, I should like to know whether the Minister can tell the House when this project will be referred to the committee and also the amount by which the depth of water in the

harbour is expected to increase if the project is undertaken and completed.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: I have been interested in some remarks that the honourable member has been making to newspaper editors in the Mid-North about certain projects in which he seems to be interesting himself as a member of a committee, or something like that, of the Liberal and Country League; I do not know really which Party is involved, whether it is the L.C.L. or the Liberal Movement. I thought I noticed a statement by the honourable member at Port Lincoln that there would be a delay in the work of improving the harbour there. I do not know what the honourable member bases the statement on, where he gets the information, or what knowledge he has of the subject. I am pleased to know that the honourable member is thinking a bit: it might help him to make more accurate statements to the papers when he visits various towns.

Mr. Venning: I have been right on the ball.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The honourable member has not.

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is out of order in interjecting. He has asked his question.

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: As the honourable member said, certain data had to be obtained before evidence could be given to the Public Works Committee. However, there has been no delay. The original intention of the Government was that the deepening of the channel at Port Pirie would begin in the 1973-74 financial year. That intention has not changed. I stated that it would be desirable to bring that date forward and that if possible we would do so. I will obtain the information the honourable member has requested, and let him know. It is proposed that the channel will be deepened to 31ft., and the cost is estimated at about \$10,000,000. However, I will get the information the honourable member has requested.

**WATER LICENCES**

Mr. WARDLE: Will the Minister of Works reconsider the basic principles by which a person who has a water licence in an irrigated area cannot pass that licence to the new owner if no further development has taken place? If a landowner has a licence for, say, 50 acres of an area adjacent to the river but has been unable to afford to develop any irrigation on it, and he then sells that area, the new owner is able to obtain a licence only equivalent to the amount of development that

has taken place on the property. Irrespective of whether the licence covers 30 acres or 50 acres, the new owner can expect to receive a licence only according to the development that has taken place, be it 5 acres, 15 acres, or no development at all. However, in making assessments for land tax purposes the Valuation Department increases the value for which the area is assessed because of the existence of the water licence. Will the Minister consider these two aspects?

The Hon. J. D. CORCORAN: The answer is "No". Nothing is paid by the new owner for the water licence. It is an annual licence, not a water right, as the honourable member knows. Is he suggesting that the person who has not developed the area for which the licence is granted should be paid because a licence is in existence? That has been happening. It is being done without people approaching the department to ascertain first whether, if a transfer is effected, the annual water licence will still obtain. There has been some shonky practice carried on, I might add, where people have lost money. I could cite several cases for the honourable member, and I am not at all happy about the situation. The answer definitely is "No": I will not reconsider the basic principles upon which this policy is based. I think they are right. Every case must be examined on its merits. If a reasonable effort has been made, and it can be shown that the intention was there and that, for some reason outside the control of the person selling the property, he had to dispose of it, certainly consideration is given in such a case. The honourable member knows that. However, as a blanket policy I certainly will not say that wherever a transfer takes place the annual water licence will automatically be transferred. I cannot do that, but I undertake for the honourable member that all cases will be treated on their merits and, I hope, treated fairly. As to the points raised by the honourable member, if there is a genuine case consideration can and should be given.

#### OAKLANDS RAILWAY CROSSING

Mr. MATHWIN: In the absence of the Minister of Roads and Transport, can the Premier say whether the final plans for the proposed new bridge over the Oaklands railway crossing have been prepared, and, if they have, whether they can be made available to me, as member for the district?

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

#### CAMDEN SCHOOL

Mr. BECKER: Has the Minister of Education a reply to the question I asked last week concerning the resource centre at the Camden Primary School?

Mr. Venning: But—

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: I am concerned for the member for Rocky River, who is such a poor farmer!

Mr. Venning: You—

The SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Rocky River must conduct himself in accordance with the Standing Orders of this House. He must not continue to interject. The honourable Minister of Education.

The Hon. HUGH HUDSON: Funds have been approved for the modification of a single unit classroom to provide a central library resource centre at the Camden Primary School. Private tenders have been called and are to close on Friday, August 11. It is expected that a tender will be let soon after this date.

#### ADDRESS IN REPLY

Adjourned debate on motion for adoption. (Continued from July 26. Page 305.)

Mr. SLATER (Gilles): I support the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, and I join with previous speakers in expressing my sympathy and condolences to the relatives of the former members of this House and the Legislative Council who have passed away since the commencement of the previous session of Parliament. The Governor's Speech also refers to the untimely death of the former Governor, Sir James Harrison, and I convey to Lady Harrison and her family my sincere condolences on their sad loss. To those members who have announced their intention to retire from Parliament at the end of this session (the member for Elizabeth, the member for Goyder, the member for Davenport, and the member for Alexandra) I convey my best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

The Governor's Speech covers a wide field of proposed legislation on various matters in the forthcoming session. Like other members, I was particularly pleased to listen to the address given by such an eminent South Australian as our present Governor, Sir Mark Oliphant. He is the first South Australian-born person to attain the high office of Governor of this State. His Speech covers a wide range of proposed legislation, from environmental protection and industrial matters to massage parlours. Members may recall that in the last

session I raised, in questions addressed to the Attorney-General, the matter of massage parlours—not that I believe they are bad in themselves, but certain elements within our society are capable of using these establishments for what I may call nefarious activities. Legislation to license and control these places is in the best interests of the general community. We cannot presume that this type of legislation is controversial, nor can we presume that it would rub a good many people up the wrong way.

Members opposite are no doubt expert at rubbing people up the wrong way. We had an example of this only yesterday and today, when the member for Gouger and the member for Alexandra rubbed each other up the wrong way in respect of the pamphlet that has been issued, presumably by members of the Liberal and Country League, which is affiliated to that infamous organization, the League of Rights. I do not want to speak at length on this matter but it is worthy of mention, because the newspaper article dealing with the incident described it as a “James Bond episode”; I am sure further episodes and instalments will follow soon, probably reaching culmination at the annual general meeting of the Liberal and Country League in September.

Mr. Mathwin: How do you feel about your Fabian Society; are you happy about that?

Mr. SLATER: I am not speaking about the Fabian Society; I am speaking about the Liberal Movement and the pamphlet issued by L.C.L. members and the League of Rights. No doubt, further episodes will occur and the member for Glenelg will be involved in them. As I say, they will probably reach culmination, dramatically and finally, at the annual general meeting of the Liberal and Country League. In his speech last week, the member for Heyssen said that some people might wonder why he did not have anything to do with the Liberal Movement. I recall that he described himself as a cosmopolitan rather than a parochial. From those remarks, it would appear that the honourable member is too much of a progressive to be associated with the Liberal Movement, but perhaps that is not so. Perhaps it is just reaction to the reactionaries.

I want to take up a statement made by the member for Gouger yesterday, when he said that the Liberal candidate for Sturt (Mr. Ian Bonython Cameron Wilson), was well ahead of his Labor opponent, Mr. Norman Foster. I do not know the basis of that assumption. He is noted for his wild, irrational statements at times, and I consider this is

obviously one of them. The statement made by the member for Gouger yesterday was a rather wild assumption of the situation in the Commonwealth electorate of Sturt; he did not tell us on what he based his assumption. Perhaps he thinks that money power can buy the electors of Sturt, because at present one of the most expensive publicity campaigns in the history of Commonwealth elections is deluging the electors of Sturt—Much innocuous material has been distributed to them; it is not the scurrilous type of literature that the member for Boothby is distributing in his electoral district; it is rather innocuous, and we believe that this type of material does not influence electors. I do not know on what the member for Gouger can base his assumption that Wilson is miles ahead of Foster in Sturt, because I believe that the electors of Sturt realize the capacity and the hard work that Norman Foster has done on their behalf in his term at Canberra and, contrary to the assumption of the member for Gouger, I predict that Foster will be returned with an increased majority.

Mr. Jennings: They will be voting on policy more than anything else.

Mr. SLATER: That is right. If the attendance at a meeting he'd at a factory in his area recently is any guide, he would be fortunate to get any votes in that section of his district, because not one person who was involved in the factory turned up at the meeting. The only people there were a few of his officials and supporters, but not one person from the factory turned up to address the meeting. I do not see Wilson coming very close to beating Foster in Sturt. I spoke about the number of pamphlets issued; the latest effort in this campaign is that the L.C.L. or the L.M. candidate (he may be associated with both bodies) is drawing up a petition to abolish the means test. That is an unusual situation when we consider that in the previous Parliament, of which Mr. Wilson was a member, on two occasions he voted against the abolition of the means test. That is a fair indication of his sincerity in this matter.

Mr. Jennings: And his father did, too.

Mr. SLATER: Yes, his father did this for about 20 years. The people of South Australia only last week were treated (if that is the right word) to a visit by the Prime Minister, Mr. McMahon. I am indebted to the member for Ross Smith for some information he gave me. I am sure members opposite will be interested in this, because they may wish to make a contribution. I understand that the

Liberal Party in Canberra is contributing to a statue to Billy McMahon, but they have a problem, because they do not know where to put it. Someone suggested they put it next to George Washington, but he never told a lie; others suggested they put it next to Menzies, but he never told the truth. The final suggestion was that they put it next to Christopher Columbus, because Columbus did not know where he was going, did not know where he was when he got there, and did not know where he had been when he got home; so they thought that would be an appropriate place for the statue to Billy McMahon.

Mr. Jennings: And he did it all at public expense.

Mr. SLATER: Yes. The visit of the Prime Minister to South Australia this week was a quiet affair. We did not hear much about the Commonwealth election campaign in South Australia until yesterday morning when we saw a photograph on the front page of the *Advertiser* of the Prime Minister and a young Aboriginal girl. The caption states, "You are my people, says Mr. McMahon". Honestly, that is hypocritical nonsense, especially when we bear in mind the incident concerning the Aboriginal "embassy" in Canberra only last week. The Prime Minister and the Commonwealth Government have shown little or no concern for the plight of Aborigines. The picture to which I have referred is sickening and represents nothing more than sheer hypocrisy and political gimmickry.

Constituents have approached me regarding the dangers that still exist in connection with the sale of fireworks, even though certain restrictions now apply: fireworks cannot be sold until five days prior to the day in question, which now occurs in June of each year. I understand that this year large explosive fireworks, including the banger type, could not be sold. However, I believe that this encourages youths to experiment and to make their own explosives, occasionally with disastrous results. In one case this year some lads were making their own explosives and three of them were injured. In addition, each year many injuries occur to eyes and limbs because of the stupid actions of perhaps only a few individuals. Damage to property also occurs, and I have received complaints from constituents about explosives or bangers being placed into and exploding in their letterboxes. In addition to this, household pets are frightened and distressed by fireworks, and one must also consider the pollution aspect.

I believe that the significance of Guy Fawkes Day or Empire Day no longer exists and that the community would be far better off if the sale of fireworks was banned completely. Indeed, I suggest that the Minister consider introducing such a ban.

On numerous occasions I have asked questions about most essential work to be undertaken in my district in relation to the construction of the Darley Road bridge, and this is a matter of prime importance to the people in the area.

Mr. Jennings: To get to the other side.

Mr. SLATER: True. It is often difficult to negotiate the ford in order to get to the other side, and the present ford is certainly inadequate and represents a traffic hazard. Although a 15 miles-an-hour restriction has been introduced in relation to the ford and its approaches, guide posts are knocked down regularly. When the river is flowing strongly and the ford is closed, traffic must use a one-way bridge, and consequently delays of up to 15 minutes or 20 minutes are not uncommon in peak periods. I am sure that the Minister of Roads and Transport and his department are aware of this problem, and I know that preliminary work and planning has been undertaken. However, I ask that the project be treated with the utmost urgency.

Reference has been made to excessive brutality and violence in sport, especially Australian rules football. The member for Peake asked a question about this matter recently, and sporting writers and others have advanced various theories on this problem.

Even the member for Bragg advanced a proposal the other evening relating to the standard of umpiring and advocated that perhaps additional money might be made available by the State Government to help improve the standard of umpiring. Although I agree to some extent with this proposal, I point out that umpires in any game have a difficult job.

Dr. Tonkin: They deserve all the help they can get.

Mr. SLATER: Yes. Although we may not always agree with an umpire's decision, we must realize that his specific job is to enforce the rules of the game and to see that it is played reasonably. However, I think additional problems are involved when an umpire has the prerogative and authority to make reports on players regarding undue violence. I think this would be far better handled by observers who, I would hope, without bias would adjudicate and decide whether a person should



be reported in connection with unnecessarily rough play or offending against the rules. We all love what we consider to be our national game (that is, Australian rules football, although people in other States may disagree that it is the national game), and we deplore unnecessary violence among players who participate in the game.

Nevertheless, we must realize that unnecessary violence is confined not only to sport: excessive violence is often portrayed on television and in films, and this can have a pronounced effect on young people's behaviour and, indeed, have some bearing on those who play sport. I believe that, fortunately, incidents of this kind are not as common as they seem, bearing in mind the number of participants in various sports. Even though most of the lads who play football, for instance, play vigorously at times (after all, it is a game involving bodily contact), they play fairly. Of course, there are a few exceptions, and I believe that the people responsible should be severely dealt with by the appropriate tribunals. Because boys and girls who participate in sport are able to vent their feelings and frustrations in that way, they are less likely to come into conflict with law-enforcement authorities. The Address in Reply debate gives members an opportunity to cover a wide range of subjects.

Mr. Clark: And they certainly use the opportunity.

Mr. SLATER: I agree. I believe that the purpose of introducing time limits on speeches was to restrict the length of debates. However, when a member knows that he has a time limit of one hour he tends to assume that he must speak for the full hour. I do not intend to do that, and I hope that my example will be followed by other speakers.

Mr. FERGUSON (Goyder): I, too, support the motion, and I assure the member for Gilles that I shall follow his example by restricting the length of my speech. My participation in this debate gives me an opportunity to make some remarks that you, Mr. Speaker, would not allow me to make in any other debate during this session. I think I was one of the first members of the present Parliament to announce that he would be retiring at the end of this session. I have had the privilege of representing the Yorke Peninsula District and, later, the Goyder District.

Dr. Tonkin: And they have been very well represented.

Mr. FERGUSON: I appreciate very much the confidence that my constituents have placed in me in electing me over a period of 10 years, and I hope that that confidence has not been misplaced. While I have been a member, there have been changes far greater than the changes that occurred in any other period in the history of the State. To find evidence of that, I need only to look around my district and note all the physical changes that have occurred there. Of course, similar changes have been taking place in the whole of South Australia. When I first became a member of Parliament 10 years ago, if a person travelled through my district during harvest time he would see small agencies receiving grain on behalf of producers, but today a person would see producers delivering grain to terminal ports. I believe that primary producers on Yorke Peninsula are especially well situated in respect of delivering grain, because they are within 30 or 40 miles of terminal silos. That is a very great advantage, because today many South Australian primary producers, being distant from terminal ports, are paying large differentials at country centres.

On the other hand, I believe that South Australia is extremely well placed in respect of the number of terminal ports that have been provided for cereal growers, in comparison with the provision in other States. If we consider the coastline from Port Adelaide right around to Ceduna we find that terminal ports are within easy reach of many primary producers, compared with the situation in other States; that is one of the great advantages of those primary producers. In addition, great improvements have been made in the facilities and services provided by the Education Department, the Highways Department and many other departments. Further, there have been great changes in the social life of this State, but only time will tell whether those changes will benefit the people.

I must add that since I became a member, there has also been a change in the atmosphere and the attitudes in this Parliament. I do not think I would be alone in expressing that thought, because older members of this Parliament have told me (and I am sure they have expressed to others) that there have been changes in the life and work of this Parliament during their time here. I had been in Parliament for only a month when the Opposition Leader (Mr. Frank Walsh) introduced amendments to the Industrial Code, about 12 clauses in all. To my dismay (as I was a new member) all these clauses were accepted

with the exception of two to which slight variations were made by the Government of the day. I believe that that was possible only because of a close association and resultant negotiation between the Premier of the day, representing the Government, and the Leader of the Opposition, representing the Opposition. I am sure that, over the past few years, we have not seen such co-operation between the Leaders and I believe that the Parliament and the Government of this State have suffered as a result of this lack of co-operation.

I hope that in the future there will be a return to a better understanding of what Government can do and what Opposition can do. I hope that some of the things that are regarded as good by the Government may be accepted as good by the Opposition and that some of the things that are recognized as good by the Opposition are accepted as good by the Government. I believe that, if those conditions exist in any Parliament, there will be good Government within the State and within the Commonwealth.

Recently, the land rights of the Point Pearce reserve were transferred to the Aboriginal Lands Trust. I believe that this has been a good thing. I know there are others who will not agree with me, including some people within the vicinity of the reserve. When the Aboriginal Lands Trust Bill was introduced, I do not remember giving it much support: I believed at that time that the legislation would not be of great advantage to Aborigines of South Australia. That measure was passed and soon after, when my Party was in Government, it was announced that it was hoped the Point Pearce reserve should be eventually taken over by the Aboriginal Lands Trust. I hope that this move is successful. I believe that this is the first time in Australia that Aboriginal land rights have been entrusted to the Aborigines in that sense. Some people believe that the Aborigines do not have the right to the entitlement of land. This is wrong. Indeed, any Aboriginal can take unto himself, if he so desires, citizenship rights and, once he undertakes those citizenship rights, he can do the same things as any ordinary citizen. I have seen recently a pamphlet stating that people of Aboriginal blood cannot have land rights, which is not correct. If an Aboriginal or a person of Aboriginal blood is capable of taking for himself the right to land or the entitlement to land, he is at liberty to do so if he has the necessary wherewithal or means.

Some Aborigines and people of Aboriginal blood already have tenure in land, because

they own their own land and their own house. Indeed, people should not go around exhibiting pamphlets and saying that Aborigines have no right to land tenure, because they have. I hope that this experiment at Point Pearce is successful. The Aboriginal Lands Trust has undertaken this pilot project, but of course no pilot project can be successfully carried out if the trust is not given a Government grant. According to the report of the Auditor-General, the Point Pearce mission has cost the Government about \$100,000 annually. I believe that the pilot project provides for this amount to be spent over a trial period of five years, and I understand also that the Commonwealth Government has made a grant to the Flinders University. This grant will be used for research to determine ways and means by which the Aborigines will be more able to succeed in the circumstances in which they are placed at Point Pearce in taking over the responsibilities of that reserve.

Some of the undertakings proposed in this pilot project have been suggested and tried in the past, and they have failed. However, that is not to say that they are going to fail again. Indeed, it is understandable that people who have lived on the reserve and in the vicinity of the reserve should look at this scheme with some scepticism. However, perhaps in these enlightened days there are other ways and means to establish these undertakings. For instance, the project proposes to give the people of Point Pearce the opportunity of establishing piggeries and poultry farms as well as workshops of various kinds. If these projects are to be more successful than they have been in the past, the people concerned must learn to accept responsibilities. These projects, which have been tried in years gone by, have failed only because that responsibility was not accepted. Indeed, all who know anything about the running of a poultry farm or a piggery know that there are jobs that must be done. If they are neglected the project becomes a failure. I hope that this venture in handing over the tenure and land rights to this land to the Aborigines will be successful, not only for the sake of Australia but also for the people concerned in the project, because the eyes of Australia will be on what happens there. I believe that, if the project fails, many people who wish to give other people responsibility will have doubts about doing so. Therefore, for the sake of the people at Point Pearce and for the sake of the Aboriginal people of Australia, I hope that this venture is successful.

I wish now to refer to the effluent water that goes out to sea from the Bolivar works. This is a matter I have mentioned on many previous occasions and about which I have asked many questions. This situation is a blatant waste. The Government must pay for the pumping of water from the Murray River over the Adelaide Hills to reservoirs from where it is distributed to South Australian homes for sewerage purposes. This water is then treated at the Bolivar effluent works which, at the time of construction, were said to be works which should produce water that could be used for any purposes whatsoever.

Dr. Tonkin: Cleaner than the water in our own water supply.

Mr. FERGUSON: It was stated by the Public Works Committee, when that committee completed its investigations into the establishment of the Bolivar works, that the water that came from those works would be pure enough to drink. I believe that people are drinking reclaimed water from the Glenelg treatment works, and they do not notice the difference. It is a blatant waste that this water, after going through the Bolivar treatment works, is discharged into the sea, where there is already plenty of water, while market gardeners who have established themselves in the Virginia area are crying out for water because they cannot get sufficient from underground basins for their vegetable production. We cannot take out 5,000,000gall. of underground water in a year and put back only 2,000,000gall. without the supply running out. That is exactly what is happening in the Virginia basin, where we have encouraged people to establish market gardens. At one time those people were located at Payneham but were driven out because their land was taken over for housing purposes. Where could they go? They went to Virginia.

Mr. Harrison: They didn't get a bad price for their land.

Mr. FERGUSON: They got a good price for it, but they thought that they would be provided with water from the underground basin in the Virginia area. As time has gone by, we have learnt that there is insufficient water, but 25,000,000gall. is going out to sea every day. Why is that water not being used in some way to help market gardeners? Surely ways and means could be devised so that this water could be used. Often when we have asked questions on this matter in the House we have been told that nothing can be done now because the Agriculture Department is carrying out experiments to see whether it is possible to use this water. Yesterday, the

Leader of the Opposition, asked a question about Bolivar effluent. The answer states, in part:

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.

It was unnecessary for these experiments to be carried out, because the Munno Para District Council, which established an experimental station opposite the effluent drain for some years, has been carrying out experiments there in conjunction with the Agriculture Department.

Mr. Evans: And the growers.

Mr. FERGUSON: Yes, and they have proved conclusively that the production of vegetables can be successfully carried out with the use of that effluent water. They have established this fact not by putting in a few plants at a time but by building a glasshouse. I was present when a man interested in the concern was cultivating cucumbers that he had just planted. I said to him, "How will those cucumbers be marketed?" He said, "They will be marketed through normal channels." Who got those cucumbers and who ate them? Some members of Parliament might have eaten them for all I know.

Mr. Coumbe: They're still pretty healthy, aren't they?

Mr. FERGUSON: Yes. I have seen not just a patch of potatoes and onions growing but acres of them growing as a result of the use of this effluent water. What do they do with these potatoes and onions? Do they dump them into the sea? Of course not! They are sold on the market somewhere, so someone somewhere is getting produce that has been grown by the use of effluent water.

Mr. Coumbe: Didn't the local council co-operate in this scheme?

Mr. FERGUSON: Yes, the Munno Para District Council, and it has proved that the water can be used effectively. I hope it will not be long before we will stop running this water out to sea and wasting it.

Mr. Evans: It's one of our national assets.

Mr. FERGUSON: Yes. South Australia, which is one of the driest States in the continent, is crying out for water all the time, but day after day we see 25,000,000gall. of water running out to sea.

Mr. Coumbe: We can't afford that.

Mr. FERGUSON: No, nor can we afford to pump water over the ranges for domestic use. I hope that the people who have charge of this matter will ensure that something is

done to use this reclaimed water effectively because it will make all the difference between success and failure to vegetable growers in the Virginia area, many of whom, if they cannot get more water, will be forced out of business.

Mr. Evans: It will mean that vegetables will cost more.

Mr. FERGUSON: Not only that, but we will lose some of our vegetable trade with the other States. As the first half of this year was exceptionally dry, we looked toward the horizon for many months for rains to come and, when they came, they came in fury. One severe storm resulted in serious damage to our metropolitan beaches, and this was given considerable publicity; but storm damage occurred in other places around the sea coast. I suppose that the district I represent contains more miles of sea coast than does any other electoral district in Australia.

Mr. Coumbe: The whole of your district faces the sea.

Mr. FERGUSON: Storms that cause damage happen every so often and, normally, every time the metropolitan beaches are affected, so too are areas along the coast. I have lived near the sea all my life and, in times of storm, I go to the beach because it is an experience to be near the sea when a storm is raging. In addition, we see what damage has been done to the foreshore. Invariably we find that what was a nice sandy beach a month or two before has become nothing but a bed of rocks. At other times we find that the sand has been washed back over the rocks again. This is nature taking its course, with the beaches being regenerated. However, on parts of the coast of Yorke Peninsula scouring occurs, as it occurs in other areas. This happens especially on the eastern side of Yorke Peninsula where there are sea-side resorts that cannot afford to have their seashore scoured, because in the summer many tourists go there. To attract these tourists, the shore in these areas must be safeguarded.

Last year the Yorketown council asked the Minister of Environment and Conservation to do something about the scouring that had taken place at Stansbury. The Minister said that he was responsible only when the matter was related to the Foreshore and Beaches Committee, which more or less dealt with the metropolitan seashore only. Because this shore was some distance from the metropolitan area, the matter had to be referred to the Marine and Harbors Department, which sent a representative to Stansbury to see what could be done. The council carried out the suggestions made

by the officer. However, although some of the action taken has been effective, further damage has been caused in the recent storms. Last session we passed the Coast Protection Act. I do not know whether people outside the metropolitan area know much about that Act. Referring to that Act, the journal *Local Government in South Australia May-June, 1972* states:

The Coast Protection Act of 1972 provides for the conservation and protection of South Australia's beaches. It is in accordance with the Government's expressed intention to give special assistance to seaside councils. The Act establishes a board of five, three of whom need to be State Public Servants with the Director of Planning as Chairman. One other member needs to be knowledgeable in local government; another a specialist in coast protection. Duties of the board embrace the protection and restoration of the State's coast and the care of putting the coast to its most appropriate use. Coast protection districts are to be established for any part of the coast and a consultative committee will be formed for each district comprising mainly representatives of the local government authorities concerned. The board may also appoint specialist advisory committees to advise on any particular aspect of its work. It is hoped in this way that the board will receive the best possible advice on any issue before it. There are so many diverse matters likely to come before the board that it would be impracticable to extend the membership of the board to embrace all the specialist fields involved.

Once a coast protection district is established, the Act provides that a management plan has to be prepared setting forth in general terms the measures necessary to protect the coast and secure its most appropriate use. The management plan is to be subject to public scrutiny and finally approved by the Governor. The Coast Protection Board is to have power to carry out works to implement the management plan and any emergency works arising from storm or pollution. The board will also have power to withhold approval to works which are contrary to the approved management plan or which would prejudice the protection restoration or development of the coast. A right of appeal to the Planning Appeal Board is provided.

The next paragraph deals with the interesting part of the Act. It states:

The financial provisions enable councils to benefit by up to 80 per cent of the cost of any engineering works, up to 50 per cent of the cost of any coast facilities for use by the public, and up to 100 per cent of the cost of any storm repairs to engineering works. If the board carries out the work then the liability of the council or councils concerned is similar but the board is given power to recoup the local government contribution.

All councils in the State should know about the provisions of this Act because they may well be able to take advantage of them. As I

have said, just as damage occurs to metropolitan shores, so it occurs to all the seashores along our coastline. I am sure many councils are concerned at the damage caused to coastal areas by the storms that occur from time to time.

In conclusion, may I say that during my time in this Parliament I have represented a district that is recognized as being one of the blue ribbon Liberal and Country League districts in this State; I think that has been acknowledged by nearly all members of this Parliament. I want to thank members for the way in which they have treated me. As members know, I will retire at the end of this session, and I will spend my retirement at the address at which I now reside. As there is no better part of the State to tour than Yorke Peninsula, I am sure all members of this Parliament at some time or other will travel between Moonta and Maitland and, if they pass my place without calling in, there will be trouble. I thank members for their friendship. I believe it has been an exceedingly great privilege to be a member of this Parliament. I will retire, feeling that at least I have tried to do my best for the district I represent.

Mr. SIMMONS (Peake): I support the motion. His Excellency's Speech gave me great satisfaction, both in its presentation and in its content. I am sure that most South Australians share the Government's satisfaction in the choice of this distinguished South Australian to fill the highest office of the State, as he has done with such dignity and charm. At the same time he has not been afraid to make forthright statements on matters of great importance to the future of mankind. We are proud of the lead he is giving us in this way.

It is customary at this time to pay a tribute to deceased members, and I wish to add my tribute to those that have already been expressed concerning Lin Riches. He had a long and distinguished career in both local and State Government, and filled your high office, Mr. Speaker, with distinction. I am sorry that Mr. Riches did not live long to enjoy his well-earned retirement. I did not personally know the other honourable members who died during the year, but I express my sympathy to their families and friends. It is also appropriate to pay a tribute to those among us who will not be present in the House at the time of the next Address in Reply debate.

There are four certain members in this category who have announced their retirement.

First, I refer to the long and distinguished service of my colleague, the member for Elizabeth, who has adorned this House for 20 years, much of which was spent in the dispiriting days when his Party was kept from office by a crooked electoral system. As befits a former schoolteacher, his contribution to debate, not only in relation to his own speeches but also in relation to those of other honourable members, has been witty and erudite. Those Opposition members who have also announced their retirement are the member for Goyder, who has just resumed his seat, the member for Davenport and the member for Alexandra. All would tend to be from the conservative wing of the Liberal Party, which machine has been flying right-wing down for many years and has, I think, eventually crashed as a result. I agree with the honourable member for Stuart that there is a place for conservative members in this Chamber—as long as they are on the other side of the Chamber. Other members of the Opposition who will not be here next year cannot be named for certain at this moment, but I shall be glad to pay a tribute to them in next year's Address in Reply debate.

I turn now to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor, which indicates that the Government has a real concern for conservation and protection of the environment. For example, paragraph 9 of the Speech states that the report of the Environment Committee has been presented to the Government. It continues:

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.

Paragraph 17 states:

Acquisition of land at Chain of Ponds and other areas for the protection of metropolitan reservoirs, including land for the proposed Clarendon and Little Para Reservoirs, is proceeding. Work on installations for a survey relating to the occurrence of certain kinds of pollution on the Mount Bold watershed is nearing completion.

This State is now setting the pace in conservation in Australia which, I suppose, is appropriate. It is governed by the first of the new wave of Labor Governments that will soon cover the whole continent.

Mr. Gunn: What nonsense.

Mr. SIMMONS: Except where there is a gerrymander. This means that it is the first of the Governments now in power with a

philosophy that places the quality of life before the quantity of profits, and which is concerned with protecting our resources and not plundering them. The past year has seen significant moves to protect wildlife and natural attractions, to preserve beaches, to increase the number of parks and reserves, to protect the geologically significant area at Hallett Cove, to preserve one of Adelaide's architectural gems (the A.N.Z. Bank), to develop one of its historic buildings (Ayers House) and to control air pollution. This is surely a remarkable list of achievements in the conservation sphere and is an indication of the Government's readiness to accept the fact that remedying the mistakes of the past and preventing the follies of the present cost money. However, it is money well spent. I look forward to the setting up of the Environmental Protection Authority, which I believe will be a means of ensuring that our natural heritage is more adequately protected in the future at less cost than this Government has had to accept. Great though the achievements of this Government have been during the last year in the field of conservation, they represent essentially defensive operations.

I should like to spend some time on the whole problem of man's existence at reasonable living standards. It is commonplace nowadays to say that this is a time of great change—even revolutionary change because of its speed. I think it was Marx who said that a quantitative change, if big enough, can become a qualitative change. I believe this is true. Certainly, there has been an enormous and a revolutionary change in many areas of the world, even in the last 25 years; for example, there has been a revolution in world politics, in social, cultural and religious ideas and in technology and industrial development since the end of the Second World War.

Just after the Second World War, Communist China was represented by a small, embattled group living in caves in the hills near Sian, in North-West China. Japan and Western Germany were in ruin following the greatest devastation the world has known except that unleashed by the United States of America in Vietnam. The map of the world seemed to be half coloured red. By some strange quirk, that was the colour usually used by British cartographers to indicate the areas controlled by Great Britain. There was only one electronic computer in the world in 1947, and transistors were unknown. I need not complete a comparison with the present situation,

except to point out that Great Britain has now lost practically all its overseas colonies, some of its overseas dominions and, in fact, is in the process of losing much of its national identity by entering the European Common Market.

I remember in 1949 taking a university subject which was then known as Ethics, and I read that Athens fell from the height of its power in about 430 B.C. to absolute ruin by 404 B.C. I remember wondering at that stage whether a similar decline could take place again in such a short time. In fact, it has done so, even though in 1949 I would not have believed it possible. Certainly, it has been a time of tremendous change, and ideas and expectations have not been exempted from this change. During the nineteenth century the misery caused by increasing industrial revolution, coupled with obvious increases in productivity and scientific discovery, brought about a new faith. Instead of the pie in the sky offered by the old-time religion as a solace for Hell on earth, technology and science became accepted as a way to a bright and prosperous future for all. At that time the capitalists knew that they were doing very well. The workers hoped that they would be able to share in that prosperity. Apart from one or two aberrations inherent in the capitalist system, such as Imperialist wars and depression, that hope was maintained until after the Second World War. The First World War was a war to make England a home fit for heroes to live in and a war to end all wars.

The depression killed the first of those ideas and the Second World War killed the second. However, mankind is eternally optimistic and still looked forward to a bright and prosperous future, although admittedly darkened somewhat by a mushroom-shape cloud just dropped over Hiroshima. Mankind looked forward nevertheless, based on the hope that science and technology would bring about a new order, and on the hope that the Second World War had been a war to save democracy. However, for some years now there has been a growing doubt about whether democracy has been saved and, in some parts of the world, there is a belief that it is not worth saving.

There has also been a doubt whether science and technology are not the scourge of mankind instead of its salvation. Because of this growing awareness that things were not all they might be, an interesting development took place in April, 1968. I shall read from a book just issued called *The Limits to Growth*. Part of that book states:

In April, 1968, a group of 30 individuals from ten countries—scientists, educators, economists, humanists, industrialists, and national and international civil servants—gathered in the Accademia dei Lincei in Rome. They met at the instigation of Dr. Aurelio Peccei, an Italian industrial manager, economist, and man of vision, to discuss a subject of staggering scope—the present and future predicament of man.

Out of this meeting grew the Club of Rome, an informal organization that has been aptly described as an “invisible college”. Its purposes are to foster understanding of the varied but inter-dependent components—economic, political, natural, and social—that make up the global system in which we all live; to bring that new understanding to the attention of policy-makers and the public worldwide; and in this way to promote new policy initiatives and action.

One of the first projects that the Club of Rome sponsored was one carried out by Professor Forrester of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. I think he started his operations in 1956, with a grant from the Ford Foundation. The initial programme was an analysis of the reasons for corporation failure; for company failure, in other words. Professor Forrester soon discovered that most people in a foundering enterprise would give honest responses to what they thought the consequences of their particular actions were, but the thing that was apparent was that, although a person could understand and appreciate that a certain action would have a certain result, he was not able to follow that through and see what consequential reactions came from that particular result.

I can give an example in regard to traffic. When traffic on a particular road builds up, a fairly obvious way to deal with it is to build a bigger and wider highway, and this is admirable. For a time, the traffic flows more smoothly. Unfortunately, this success generates further growth of traffic and drivers of vehicles that would have gone on another road suddenly decide to go on the better road, with the result that soon the latter is as clogged up as it was before. What is more important is that at the same time it brings about an increased demand for parking.

After all, if the road is going to a city, there is no point in putting more roads into it if there is nowhere to park when people get there. The result is that we get an increasing proportion of the city turned over to parking allotments and the result of that is that the centre of the city dies. That is apart from the pollution caused by the increased volume of traffic.

These are the sorts of consequential results that are hard for the ordinary person and, indeed, for a very intelligent person to comprehend, much less to quantify. Professor Forrester devised a method of constructing a model that could be run on a computer in order to take account of all the feed-back from these various operations. I would be the last to claim that, merely because we get a result from a computer, it is bound to be accurate. However, I claim that if the computer is properly programmed and if the model that is constructed to represent the real world is adequate, the result we get from the computer is much more likely to be accurate than is any result that the human brain can work out.

Professor Forrester refined this work, starting with companies and turning to cities and regions. Eventually, he turned to the whole world two or three years ago. He has applied this process of systems analysis to the world model. I repeat that a computer model is only a simplified representation of the real world and, in the case of the world economy and world society, the reality is much more complicated than the model is likely to be.

At the same time, Professor Forrester has carried out successive refinements to his model and now he has what may be regarded as a reasonable approximation to real life, and he has found that the preliminary results from the computer are in no way invalidated by the refinements to the model. Professor Forrester's work has been continued. He caused quite a stir when he published papers in connection with urban renewal. Another project sponsored by the Club of Rome was the work of a research team in America. I am referring to M.I.T. again, and this team is headed by Professor Dennis L. Meadows.

That international research team, which started in July, 1970, has now produced its first non-technical report on its findings. I recommend that all honourable members consider this book seriously because, if it is correct (and there is no reason to believe that at least a large part of it is not correct), we must re-think many of the ideas that are currently accepted and approved by our society. First among these is probably the idea of growth. Ever since the Industrial Revolution the idea of growth has been gladly accepted by most of mankind, the idea that something is better because it is bigger. This is certainly the case with profits. No capitalist likes to think that he is not going to make more profits. For this reason there is a very common view in our society amongst

our industrial leaders that a growth rate of something of the order of 8 per cent to 10 per cent is essential, otherwise the company will stagnate and with it, of course, the economy of the State will stagnate.

The whole point of the work being carried out by M.I.T., and elsewhere now, because the repercussions of this work are being felt throughout the world, is that there must be limits to growth. Where you are operating within a finite system you cannot keep on growing indefinitely. There are several parameters which have finite limits which we are approaching. The assumption underlying the whole of our society is that there are no limits in these respects, and that is clearly incorrect.

Perhaps it would be as well to make clear the implications of exponential growth. Those members who have amused themselves at any time by trying to devise a betting system based on doubling up if they lose will very soon realize that they can get into a great deal of trouble in a surprisingly short time. If they start with \$1 and keep doubling up, and if they are unlucky enough to lose 10 times straight, then at that time they would be required to invest \$1,024. If they continue for another 10 times the result is just over 1,000,000 times the original \$1 investment.

We need not think of doubling 10 times or 20 times, but let us consider what is likely to happen in the next 100 years. World population is growing exponentially and the population of 3,600,000,000, which is about the present figure, will double in about 30 years. The rate of growth is slightly more than 2 per cent per annum and this means a doubling within 30 years. By the year 2000 we can look forward (with a certain degree of horror, I suggest) to a world population of the order of 7,000,000,000 people.

The point behind this work is that we must accept that this cannot go on indefinitely. If a 2 per cent growth continues for yet another 30 years, the figure is 14,000,000,000 and not 7,000,000,000, and in many parts of the world the population is growing much faster than that, not due so much to an increase in births, but almost entirely due to an enormous decrease in deaths. This is the nature of the short-term problem facing mankind.

It is obvious, of course, that the earth is not capable of sustaining indefinitely a population growing at this rate. It may well be that the approximate maximum level for the earth to sustain is 8,000,000,000. Whether or not we consider that as an appropriate figure,

by the year 2000 it will not matter much, possibly, because we will be up to only 7,000,000,000, and, as throughout the whole history of mankind, the earth's population will still be below the limit which we have tentatively assessed at 8,000,000,000. We need not get much satisfaction from the fact that 8,000,000,000 is not correct and that it should be 13,000,000,000, because in the next 30 years, if things continue as they are at the moment, the figure may be 14,000,000,000. It will, within a period of 60 years, if not 30 years, reach and attempt to pass the maximum level which the world can sustain.

I hope members will be convinced that this is true. If any member does not believe it I invite him to work on another two or three periods of 30 years, and he will reach the stage where the share of the earth which each person will have will be so small that it will convince even the most sceptical. It is nonsense, of course, to expect that we will reach that position. We cannot, by exponential growth, keep on growing in a natural system indefinitely.

There is no doubt that, unless something is done by man to keep us below whatever is this finite limit of the earth to sustain population, nature itself will have to do just that. It is my impression that such things as Bangladesh are just the beginning of what is likely to become more and more common in those parts of the world where population is pressing up against the limit of the resources. It is not only underdeveloped countries such as Bangladesh, which happened to be in a jam because it was subject to a war and before that to a very serious tidal wave. Even developed countries, perhaps particularly developed countries such as the United States and Japan, also are going to be affected by the depletion of natural resources which they need in order to sustain their enormously high standards of living, and also by the pollution which is wrecking their environment.

The work done by Meadows and his team has looked at five limiting factors: first, the capacity of the earth to sustain population; secondly, the industrial output per capita, the increase in which at present is running at the rate of 7 per cent a year, which means a doubling time of about 10 to 12 years; thirdly, the non-renewable resources, both of fuel and of minerals, and indeed of such elementary things as water and air; fourthly, the increase in pollution, because pollution, like population, is increasing exponentially; finally, food per capita.



Now I have dealt with the population problem. I did not mention just how quickly the situation goes from tolerable to intolerable. Meadows quotes a very illustrative example in a French riddle for children, as follows:

Suppose you own a pond on which a water lily is growing. The lily plant doubles in size each day. If the lily were allowed to grow unchecked, it would completely cover the pond in 30 days, choking off the other forms of life in the water. For a long time the lily plant seems small, and so you decide not to worry about cutting it back until it covers half the pond. On what day will that be? On the twenty-ninth day, of course. You have one day to save your pond.

I suggest that, in terms of world history and in terms of that analogy, we are well into the 30th day at this stage. The situation is so serious that I believe action should be taken immediately (in fact, it is overdue) to do what we can, as intelligent men, to stave off the action that Nature will take to remedy this problem. One of the problems associated with all this, of course, is that there are many lags in the system.

Mr. Coumbe: Do you believe in zero population growth?

Mr. SIMMONS: I believe that zero population growth is most desirable. In fact, the work being done with these models by the Club of Rome team indicates that it is essential that action be taken as quickly as possible to get to the stage where our population is stabilized by people having just enough children to replace themselves. This, of course, will not be achieved straightaway. There are many social, religious and institutional forces that provide for more than two children to a family in a large part of the world. For example, in China, in about the year 500 B.C. Han Fei-Tzu said:

People at present think that five sons are not too many and each son has five sons also and, before the death of the grandfather, there are already 25 descendants. Therefore, people are more and wealth is less; they work hard and receive little.

It was about 2,500 years ago that that observation was made. Obviously, in a society where manpower is necessary to till the land and the death rate is high, this sort of birth rate is possible without bringing about any major increase in population.

That has been the happy situation, if we may call it that, of man throughout most of his history. In terms of the pond analogy, we are now in our 30th day, and action must be taken as soon as possible to limit population growth. This means using different techniques according to different people's beliefs. It is

important to get that message across. It may well be that we can say that we do not have to worry about it in Australia. I ask any member to consider seriously whether, if half the world is pressing hard up against its food resources, we shall be in the happy position of being able to maintain our present under-populated state. Indeed, it is very much in our interests, to maintain the present happy state, that we should encourage the rest of the world to recognize this truth as soon as possible.

The idea of limitation of population may be accepted within a reasonably short time. I hope it is because even after people accept this truth the world population will still keep on growing for another 50 years or more. While we have an expectation of life as great as it is now, and as long as it is rising, it is obvious that, when people start merely replacing themselves, the world population will continue to grow for some time. What is less apparent, I think, is that industrial output per capita, which we are all keen to see increase, must also at some stage or other be restricted, for two reasons. First, it brings about an insatiable demand for natural resources.

Some interesting work is being done on this. For example, taking copper, the known global reserves in 1970, according to the United States Bureau of Mines, were 308,000,000 tons; that is the world figure. At the current rate of consumption, that would last for some 36 years. These are deposits that we regard as economic to work at this stage. If, on the other hand, we allow for exponential growth in the consumption of copper (in other words, if the world consumption of copper keeps on growing at the current rate) and if we say that the global reserves are not that quantity but are five times that quantity, the copper reserves will last for 48 years, at the sort of grade that we now consider economic.

I am not suggesting that all the conclusions in this book are necessarily 100 per cent accurate: in fact, it would be obvious that the known reserves of copper, for example, are difficult to assess, and they are almost certainly much greater than that figure, for two reasons. The first is that mining companies are often loath to disclose the size of their reserves—although sometimes they do just the opposite and claim reserves that they do not have. I remember that two months ago, when I was in Mount Isa and went over the mine there, I was told by the guide that ore reserves recently were considered to be

90,000,000 tons (I think, from memory) and they are now reckoned to be 200,000,000 tons—and heavens knows how much else is still down there. It is likely that the figure taken into account in this exercise was the 90,000,000 tons level rather than the 200,000,000 tons level. If, as I have said before, the assumption has been made that the actual reserves are five times the known reserves, there is a very real danger in respect of some of these natural resources that we shall run out within a reasonably short time.

There are various objections to this that have all been dealt with. One is, of course, that aluminium is now largely replacing copper in high voltage transmission lines. When we allow for a substitution like that, we still come up against the problem that, because of the increasing rate of usage, the extra time the world has gained is very short indeed. What it means is not that we shall run out of copper in 48 years but that it will be much more expensive because the world will have to mine less valuable deposits. The price of mercury has increased by 500 per cent in the last 20 years and the price of lead has increased by 300 per cent in the last 30 years because of the need to mine less rich deposits. So there is a real limitation on the actual resources, and industrial activity if carried on at the present increasing rate is bound to exhaust the deposits.

This matter was discussed in Stockholm at a recent international conference on the environment, and the under-developed countries of the world objected violently to this form of argument, as I understand it, because they regard it as an attempt by the affluent and developed countries to persuade them to forgo the development and the rise in standards of living which the developed countries already enjoy. It is unlikely that these under-developed countries will readily agree to restrict their economic development in order to conserve world resources, and it would be unreasonable to expect them to do so.

On the other hand, the consequences of their not doing so are simply catastrophic. If we visualize the population of China (750,000,000 people) trying to reach the standard of living of the United States, for example, or even Japan, we can see that this idea of using natural resources is quite unrealistic. At present, the U.S. consumes 33 per cent of the world production of copper and, if a country with three times the population tried to achieve this sort of consumption, the world would soon run short of these natural resources. The other

reason why increased additional industrial output at this level is unrealistic is that it necessarily brings about an increase in pollution, and that is why I welcome the steps that have been taken in the last year to try to control pollution in this State. One of the criticisms made is that, if this proposal had been advanced and people had listened in 1880, they would have been informed that, given the form of transport then current, the streets of New York would be 10ft. deep in horse manure by 1940. Of course, that has not happened but at least a 10ft. thickness of horse manure would enable us to grow more food. But, by the 1970's, we are clever: we do not use horses nowadays; we use motor cars, and the result is that the air of New York is almost polluted.

The Hon. Hugh Hudson: You know what is wrong with New York: it is alongside the Hudson River, instead of in it.

Mr. SIMMONS: I understand that the Hudson River is now the sort of stream into which no-one would wish to put his feet. I think I have said enough to show that inherent in the increased population explosion and increased industrial development is a serious problem that is facing the world, and this is where I think we have to start wondering about our position. I make clear that I am not opposed to industrial development as such: I am certain that industrial development must be a selective process. We must be certain that the development serves a useful purpose and is engaged in not just for the sake of growth. This is a matter that will pose serious problems to this State, as well as to other States and other countries. It has been simple for people over the last 20 years to make profits in industry, bearing in mind the expanding population and increasing demand for products. It would hardly be possible not to, despite the poor managerial skill obvious in much of our industry (and often evident from the considerations of the Industries Development Committee). It has been simple to make profits and it is simple to continue to make profits.

As I say, the current fad seems to be to maintain a growth rate of 8 per cent a year, and this is added to, of course, as long as there is inflation, which itself gives an illusion of profit. But if through no will of ours, or if even by a conscious decision of ours, we switch from unlimited growth to equilibrium we will be faced with many serious problems. According to this analysis of Meadows and company we have to face up to that; it is essential that within this decade the world accepts the consequences of this problem. For example,

it is suggested that it is necessary that resource consumption per unit of industrial output be reduced to a quarter of the 1970 value (that is, by 1975). One of the virtues of the computer system is that we can have, as it were, a dry swim, provided that we have confidence in the model and validate it as much as possible. We can then feed various parameters into the computer and come out with results. It is better to do this on a piece of paper in a few minutes than to experience it in practice, because by the time we have proved this in practice it will be too late to take any remedial action.

The problems associated with switching from growth to equilibrium are obvious to anyone who thinks about them. Say the automotive industry, for example, tries to meet not a growing market but a stable market (a market that could conceivably be reduced in the interests of pollution, traffic or noise control or because of the depletion of petroleum). Such an industry, which has to reduce its growth and, in fact, stabilize at a lower level, will be faced with major problems soon, and this is the sort of problems we ought to be considering now. The position may not be as pessimistic as this latest work indicates, but it is certain that there is a real danger that the position is that serious, and I hope that the environmental protection authority at least considers the concepts that are being explored here. Equilibrium is not necessarily a disastrous condition. In 1857 (the year in which this Parliament started and in which responsible Government was established in South Australia), John Stuart Mill, the famous English philosopher, said:

It is scarcely necessary to remark that a stationary condition of capital and population implies no stationary state of human improvement. There would be as much scope as ever for all kinds of mental culture and moral and social progress; as much room for improving the art of living and much more likelihood of its being improved.

Population and capital are the only quantities that need to be constant in the equilibrium state. Any human activity that does not require a large flow of irreplaceable resources or produce severe environmental degradation might continue to grow indefinitely. In particular, those pursuits that many people would list as the most desirable and satisfying activities of man—education, art, music, religion, basic scientific research, athletics, and social interaction—could flourish. So, a state of equilibrium is not necessarily a state of stagnation and complete lack of change. Techno-

logical advance would be necessary and welcome in such a state.

The following are examples of the kinds of practical discovery that would enhance the workings of a steady state society: new methods of waste collection, to decrease pollution and make discarded material available for recycling; more efficient techniques of recycling, to reduce rates of resource depletion; better product design to increase product lifetime and promote easy repair, so that the capital depreciation rate would be minimized; harnessing of incident solar energy, the most pollution-free power source; methods of natural pest control, based on more complete understanding of ecological interrelationships; medical advances that would decrease the death rate; and contraceptive advances that would facilitate the equalization of the birth rate with the decreasing death rate.

These worthwhile technological innovations could still take place within a society that did not have a growing population, but the innovations would have to be sought. I hope that serious consideration will be given to this matter. It is easy to say that technological advances will solve problems. For example, nuclear power was to be the salvation of the world, but it has now been established that the nuclear power generating capacity in the United States could well be 100 times greater by the year 2000 than it is now. This means, of course, that there will be 100 times the amount of radio-active waste to dispose of, and at present scientists do not know what to do with the waste they now have. They have tried burying it in the ocean, but they are still faced with the problem of finding a satisfactory method of disposal. The only power source that does not cause pollution is solar energy, and I should like to see more research done into it.

In the meantime, we must do something about population control. It is no good saying that that is a matter for Latin America; we and the other advanced countries must set a lead in this respect. Further, we must do something about curbing our desire for material possessions. We must be willing to accept that public transport is a more efficient and socially desirable method of transportation than is the private motor car. We also have to take the necessary action to live within the existing system until changes can take place. The Murray New Town project is a deliberate attempt by the Government to halt the growth of population in the metropolitan area. It could well give us a breathing space

by dispersing some of our population—for a short time, at any rate. All such methods must be actively explored.

Yesterday, the former Leader of the Opposition quoted an article in the *Bulletin* which states:

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 chaos of events. The potential of the Australian people is not being drawn on. We get something less than Governments we deserve. This malaise affects Australians' general view of themselves. Perhaps it retards in many directions other than politics.

I think there is a certain amount of truth in that. I believe, in fact, that several things the ex-Leader said yesterday contain some truth, and he was on good ground indeed when he quoted Ralph Nader. The former Leader also referred to internal divisions of the Liberal Party, and probably much of what he said was also true. It was most interesting.

The same sort of thing appears in a booklet entitled *New Horizons in Education*, in which the Minister of Education may be interested. The specific article to which I now refer is by a lecturer in politics at Wagga Wagga Teachers College who states:

Few people would deny that the general level of political debate in Australia is low. Australians are usually ignorant of the way in which political decisions are made and contemptuous of those who make these decisions. Why is this so?

He says that at least part of the answer is that Australians are not politically educated. The article continues:

A 100-point test given to nearly two hundred ex-high school pupils revealed a frightening ignorance of the most elementary facts of Australian politics. This was a short answer test given to first year students at Wagga Wagga Teachers College in 1970, concentrating on recall on simple factual materials such as the names of the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Federal Opposition, the Premier of Victoria and the State Opposition Leader. The mean score was 32 per cent.

The SPEAKER: The honourable member has one minute to go.

Mr. SIMMONS: It is possible, therefore, that there are explanations other than those put forward by the former Leader and his Deputy for the poor opinion Australians have of their politicians. Perhaps we should be teaching more politics in our high schools, although any move to teach South Australian politics in an objective fashion in our high schools would probably give the Labor Party an unfair advantage. However, I support the member for Gouger in his comments about the need for changes in the Parliamentary structure, especially regarding the setting up of committees such as those that have been set up with such success in the Commonwealth Senate.

Mr. CARNIE secured the adjournment of the debate.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 5.39 p.m. the House adjourned until Tuesday, August 1, at 2 p.m.