

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday, August 19, 1971

The PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir Lyell McEwin) took the Chair at 2.15 p.m. and read prayers.

### QUESTIONS

#### WOOD BLOCK FARMING

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: I seek leave to make a brief statement prior to asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: One of the first speeches I made in this Chamber concerned the need for an examination of a scheme to encourage what was then called wood block farming in the higher rainfall areas in South Australia. During that speech, I drew attention to the factors preventing farmers from engaging in this type of rural activity and I put forward some suggestions for overcoming the difficulties. Taking into account the decline in rural income. I believe there is a greater need today than there was previously to adopt a comprehensive scheme. In considering this matter, we must bear in mind that about \$200,000,000 worth of softwoods is imported into Australia each year. Can the Minister therefore say whether the Government is still investigating any scheme to encourage wood block planting or forestry on privately-owned farms in South Australia?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I do not think any Government has examined this matter. However, if one has, a scheme has not been implemented. Although a scheme exists in this State to encourage people to grow softwoods on their properties, we in South Australia have not got a scheme similar to the Victorian one, for example. However, the Government provides an incentive for people to engage in this type of forestry planting. At present, the Government is not contemplating going any further than it has already gone in this regard.

#### WHEAT

The Hon. L. R. HART: I seek leave to make a short statement prior to asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture.

Leave granted.

The Hon. L. R. HART: Since the introduction of wheat quotas, the black marketing of wheat has been a threat to the guaranteed home price scheme. Some of the main culprits in this regard have been the large milling firms, particularly those engaged in the pro-

cessing of stock feeds. Will the Minister say whether any moves have been made to persuade these firms not to accept black market wheat in preference to that which they can obtain from the board?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I am delighted to hear the honourable member say, in so many words, that he favours orderly marketing, which is of prime importance today to rural industries in this country. I do not know whether the honourable member is aware that the Wheat Board is examining the problem of the black marketing of wheat. This problem exists not just in South Australia but in all States in the Commonwealth, mainly because of section 92 of the Commonwealth Constitution.

The Hon. R. C. DeGaris: It's a good thing.

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I agree. Nevertheless, this allows black marketing of all sorts of things to occur, which is detrimental to orderly marketing in the industries involved. The Barley Board is most concerned about this situation in another way: many of the firms that are manufacturing poultry feed are buying standing crops, and this could snowball not only into the wheat industry but also into many other industries. I realize that the Barley Board is most concerned about this matter at present, and I hope that something will be done about it. However, that is a different situation from that of the Wheat Board, which is a Commonwealth body and which is under the direct control of the Australian Wheat Federation. I am willing to bring this matter to the notice of those concerned and, if I receive a reply advantageous to the honourable member, I will certainly let him have it.

#### MURRAY RIVER STORAGES

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Acting Chief Secretary as Acting Leader of the Government in this Chamber.

Leave granted.

The Hon. M. B. DAWKINS: I believe that the Government has received replies from the New South Wales, Victorian and Commonwealth Governments about the River Murray Waters Agreement, particularly in regard to the Dartmouth and Chowilla dams and the variation in that agreement approved by this Parliament last session. The Acting Chief Secretary can inform me if I am mistaken, but I believe that the replies are not entirely satisfactory and may not permit construction

to proceed, in which case we would have no dam at all. I do not say that provocatively but as a statement of fact. Can the Acting Chief Secretary say what the Government's intentions would be in those circumstances?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: True, this Government has received replies from the other Governments. The matter is being dealt with at present, and the Premier will make a statement on it very soon. Since this is a matter of policy I cannot add anything further, but the honourable member will be informed about the matter as soon as possible.

### ROAD TANKERS

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Minister representing the Minister of Labour and Industry.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: My question relates to the control and inspection of the large mobile tankers that we see on our roads at present. Concern has been expressed at the number of accidents involving such tankers that have occurred throughout Australia; some of those accidents have been fatal. Some of the tankers carry inflammable fuels and others carry dangerous acids. Can the Minister say who is responsible for designing and inspecting the tankers and at what intervals they are inspected to check for broken baffle plates and other defects that contribute to the accident rate?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: Because the legislation controlling the storage of inflammable liquids and so forth is under the control of the Minister of Labour and Industry, I will refer the honourable member's question to him and bring back a reply as soon as possible.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Minister of Lands, as Acting Leader of the Government in this Council.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: The question asked by the Hon. Mr. Whyte was a very good one. Because the question goes beyond the design of the actual vehicle, will the Minister refer the question to the Minister of Roads and Transport as well as the Minister of Labour and Industry?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I shall be pleased to refer this question to the Minister of Roads and Transport as well.

### SALISBURY TEACHERS COLLEGE

The Hon. E. K. RUSSACK: Will the Minister of Agriculture ask the Minister of Education, first, how many students attend the Salisbury Teachers College, and, secondly, whether any students from other States attend the college and, if they do, from what States do they come and how many such students are there?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I will obtain the information for the honourable member and let him have it as soon as possible.

### MORGAN SHIPYARD

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: Has the Minister of Lands obtained from the Minister of Roads and Transport a reply to my question about the future of the Morgan shipyard?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: My colleague has assured me that the matters raised by the honourable member will be given every consideration in reaching a decision regarding the Morgan shipyard.

### DRIED FRUITS

The Hon. C. R. STORY: Has the Minister of Agriculture a reply to the question I asked some days ago concerning a dried fruits stabilization scheme?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I have been told that the referendum of certain growers of dried vine fruits is to be held to ascertain whether the proposed stabilization plan is acceptable to a majority of growers. Eligibility to vote in the referendum is dependent on growers meeting certain production and property criteria. The Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industry has announced that ballot-papers will be posted to all eligible growers by the Commonwealth Electoral Office on August 26, 1971, and are returnable not later than 12 noon on September 14, 1971.

I understand that the scheme is similar to the previously rejected scheme, although it is claimed it will incorporate certain improvements agreed upon between the Commonwealth Government and the Australian Dried Fruits Association. Subject to the poll, the new scheme will operate for the seasons 1971-1975. Improvements claimed for this new proposal include the following provisions:

- (1) The upper limit for bounty payment is to be \$23 a ton as against \$20 previously.
- (2) There will be speedier payment of bounty (90 per cent of estimated bounty is to be paid by the February following the season of production).

- (3) The minimum tonnage limitation for sultanas has been raised from 50,000 to 60,000, and no grower contributions would be required when production is less than 60,000 tons.
- (4) The maximum tonnage beyond which bounty is to be paid on the sultana crop is 75,000.

I saw recently an explanatory brochure on the revised plan issued by the Australian Dried Fruits Association, and I assume that the honourable member has also received a copy of this publication.

### LOCUSTS

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: I seek leave to make a brief statement before asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture.

Leave granted.

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: On August 5 representatives of the district councils of Wilmington, Port Germein, Carrieton, Peterborough, Hawker, Kanyaka-Quorn, Jamestown and Orroroo met and discussed problems arising from a possible major locust plague that may occur during the coming season. I think they communicated with the Minister and requested that, should such a plague eventuate, Government assistance would be available to help eradicate the locusts. I have had no report from any of these councils recently, but I have received a request from landholders in the Copley area, in which locusts are now hatching in large numbers. Can the Minister say whether Government finance has been allocated to assist in eradicating locusts at this stage, when they can be easily eradicated, rather than allowing the locusts to get on the wing?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I assure the honourable member that the Government has provided a large sum, so that it will be available under the same terms as I had arranged last year, namely, there will be a 50 per cent subsidy on the purchase of insecticides from district councils.

The Hon. A. M. Whyte: Are they still using old stock?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I do not think they are: I think it is all new stock now. I am aware of the situation in the North and what damage grasshoppers can do, because my property has been eaten out by grasshoppers five times in the last 20 years. I do not have to be told how extensive such an infestation can become. Last year was the first time, apart from 1956, that help was given to anyone in the areas affected by grasshoppers to

the extent to which they were affected last year. I agree with the honourable member that there is the possibility of a major outbreak of locusts this year, but this will depend largely on seasonal conditions. None of us has a crystal ball, and we just cannot gauge whether we will get rain at the right time, and this is what it really depends on. I assure the honourable member that I, at least, am very much aware of the situation, and I hope that the subsidy available to landholders will be used to the utmost.

The Hon. A. M. Whyte: The locusts apparently have a crystal ball, because they have hatched in the Copley area and have now reached the stage at which they should be eradicated.

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I will take this up with my entomologist, Mr. Birks, to ascertain whether they are locusts or ordinary grasshoppers. I find it difficult to decide what is a locust and what is a grasshopper, and if the honourable member can advise me I shall be very happy to listen to him. This is the criterion. There is a great deal of difference between locusts and ordinary grasshoppers.

### DYSLEXIA

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: I seek leave to make a short statement before directing a question to the Minister of Agriculture, representing the Minister of Education.

Leave granted.

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: Recently, as a member of the Public Works Standing Committee, I have had an opportunity of seeing the work done by the Education Department in the education of handicapped children, and I find the efforts commendable. A great deal of good work is being done, but in recent years it has become recognized that there are many learning disabilities, including one named dyslexia, and it is now realized that an unknown number of children could be affected by one disability or another. Is there, in the teachers college curriculum, a course that will help teachers to recognize any suspected case of disability, such as dyslexia or any of the other disabilities that could affect a child's studies? If there is not, will the Education Department consider setting up, within the teachers college complex, such a course?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I will refer the honourable member's question to my colleague in another place, and when an answer is forthcoming I will certainly provide it for the honourable member.

### CONSERVATION

The Hon. C. R. STORY: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Minister of Lands.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: My question concerns a matter that also overlaps into the portfolio of the Minister of Agriculture. What is the position at the moment regarding the various Acts dealing with conservation, such as those that concern fauna and flora, national parks, and Flinders Chase on Kangaroo Island, which at the moment are in the province of either the Minister of Lands or the Minister of Agriculture? Some also come under the Minister of Forests. I know that the portfolio of Environment and Conservation has been created (the portfolio of the Hon. Mr. Broomhill); I also know that probably it will take some time for the various matters to be transferred. However, there is a particular confusion, I believe, in the minds of people, especially on the Murray River, as to which of the three Ministers they should direct their questions to, in this three tier situation. Can the Minister indicate when this whole matter will be consolidated under one Minister?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: To answer one part of the honourable member's question, the national parks have been brought under the control of the Minister of Environment and Conservation, and we are progressing towards bringing other matters under the control of that Minister as his department proceeds to be established. I suggest that those people who have queries about conservation or environment should get in touch with the Minister of Environment and Conservation. If the matter raised comes under his jurisdiction, he will take appropriate action; if it does not, he will get his appropriate colleague to deal with it. There should be no confusion as a result of this. I assure the honourable member that as soon as possible appropriate action will be taken to bring all these matters under the control of one Minister.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: Following that reply, can the Minister say whether the position of Director of Conservation has been created and, if it has, whether applications have been invited for that position of Director of Conservation or some other name that the head of that department can assume?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I am not sure how far the matter of applications for that position have progressed but I will refer

the honourable member's question to my colleague, the Minister of Environment and Conservation, who will be able to provide him with the latest details.

### DENTISTS ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Read a third time and passed.

### PUBLIC PURPOSES LOAN BILL

Second reading.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE (Minister of Lands): I move:

*That this Bill be now read a second time.*

At the meeting of the Australian Loan Council in June last, the Commonwealth agreed to support a total programme of \$860,000,000 for all State works and housing purposes, an increase of just under 5 per cent. South Australia's share of the total determined is \$117,900,000, which is \$5,480,000 above the allocation of \$112,420,000 for 1970-71. Under the new arrangements agreed between the States and the Commonwealth in June, 1970, \$28,760,000 of our allocation is by way of grant, free of interest and repayment, and \$89,140,000 by way of loan, subject as in the past to payment of interest and sinking fund.

In previous years it has been customary at this stage of the explanation for the Government to specify the allocation of new capital funds between the amount to be borrowed under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement and the amount to be devoted to general works and purposes to be financed by borrowings and capital grants and included in the Public Purposes Loan Bill. The most recent Housing Agreement expired on June 30 last, and the Commonwealth has announced that its support of housing this year and in future will be in a different manner. This will mean the inclusion of housing appropriations in the Bill as part of the general programme. Accordingly, the details of this year's proposals for housing and the comparison with last year are given later in this explanation as part of the departmental review. In addition to the new funds amounting to \$117,900,000 available to finance the programme, the Government expects to have repayments and recoveries of about \$23,500,000, so that works and advances of \$141,400,000 could be financed without calling on the balance held at June 30 last.

In determining the total of the 1971-72 Loan programme and in considering the extent to which we might properly draw upon the balance of \$14,811,000 held at June 30 last

to supplement new funds coming forward this year, the Government has been influenced to a very great extent by the present situation and future prospects of Revenue Account. In conferences and discussions between February and June, 1971, all State Governments were seriously concerned about the 1970-71 trends, but they were even more concerned about 1971-72 and the longer term future. The immediate problem of 1970-71 was largely met by increased Commonwealth grants, and the Commonwealth has also offered some assistance towards the 1971-72 problems, both by way of a supplementary grant and by way of an improvement in financial assistance grants as part of the overall arrangements to transfer payroll tax to the States. Nevertheless, it is clear from the detailed submissions put forward that all States are certain to be faced with the prospect of large deficits on Revenue Account in 1971-72, despite the improvement in grants and the opportunity to increase payroll tax. The continuing pressures to provide more extensive and higher standards of services in education, health and social welfare are such that there will be great difficulties in all States finding in areas under their own control the additional revenue resources to meet them. As honourable members are aware, South Australia is also being assisted by special grants recommended by the Commonwealth Grants Commission, but we cannot expect special grants of an order to put us in a better overall situation than the larger States. We, therefore, cannot possibly escape the common problem.

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

In all the circumstances, the Government considers that it should hold in reserve as much as practicable of the balance of Loan funds held at the end of 1970-71. We have come to the decision that it would not be reasonable or prudent to draw on those funds this year to the extent of more than about \$1,500,000

towards financing capital works. The total appropriation of \$142,940,000 included in the Bill is based on that decision. It envisages the use, if necessary, of \$1,540,000 of funds in hand to supplement new borrowings, capital grants and repayments which, as I have indicated, are expected to aggregate about \$141,400,000.

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

**LOANS TO PRODUCERS, \$1,800,000**—It is intended that \$2,302,000 will be available to this year to finance capital extensions by primary producers' co-operatives. A sum of \$1,800,000 is to be provided from Loan Account, \$300,000 will be raised as new semi-government loans, and \$202,000 will come from funds in hand from earlier borrowings.

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

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

**OTHER URBAN DRAINAGE, \$1,400,000**—The sum of \$1,250,000 is provided in 1971-72 to continue work on many floodwater drainage schemes already approved and for such new schemes in the metropolitan area and in country towns as may be approved during the year. This year's provision also includes \$150,000 for subsidies for effluent drainage schemes as may be required.

**LANDS DEPARTMENT—BUILDINGS, PLANT, ETC., \$300,000**—The amount proposed this year includes \$143,000 for the purchase of special machinery for the Mapping Branch and \$157,000 for other items of plant and equipment and for minor works.

**IRRIGATION AND RECLAMATION OF SWAMP LANDS, \$1,100,000**—A total sum of \$1,100,000 is proposed in 1971-72 to continue the channel rehabilitation programme and for work on a number of other projects including stock and domestic water supplies, extension of mains to new areas at Waikerie, and certain investigation and design work.

**RENMARK IRRIGATION TRUST, \$800,000**—The Renmark Irrigation Trust Act provides for the Government to finance the cost of constructing a new pumping station at Renmark together with rising mains and ancillary works up to a total of \$1,120,000. Two-sevenths of the amount provided is to be by way of grant and the remainder by way of loan repayable by instalments by the trust. The Act also provides for Government grants not exceeding \$1,000,000 in total to be paid to the trust

towards the cost of rehabilitation of the irrigation works and the provision of additional drainage.

The special committee that supervises the work has reviewed the estimates of costs to complete the pumping station and associated works, and it now considers that the cost to complete the programme is \$1,675,000. The Government has agreed to finance this work up to a total of \$1,675,000, and amending legislation will be introduced shortly. The sum of \$700,000 is provided this year to continue work on the pumping station and rising mains, and \$100,000 is provided towards the cost of channel rehabilitation and drainage.

**NATIONAL RESERVES, \$470,000**—Last year the Government spent \$333,000 on the acquisition of land for reserves, \$23,000 of which was covered by a special contribution from the Australian Conservation Foundation. This year it is intended to spend on acquisitions the \$167,000 remaining out of the foundation's gift of \$190,000 and also to provide about \$300,000 of State funds for further acquisitions, structures and other improvements.

**AFFORESTATION AND TIMBER MILLING, \$3,000,000**—For 1971-72 a total sum of \$3,300,000 is proposed, \$3,000,000 to be provided from Loan Account and \$300,000 from Commonwealth advances under the Softwood Forestry Agreement. The major provisions include \$500,000 for forest establishment and development, \$775,000 for preparation of land and planting, and \$375,000 for the purchase of suitable land as it becomes available. At Mount Gambier, \$30,000 is required to complete the construction of a new regional office, \$150,000 for log debarking and chipping equipment, and \$100,000 to reorganize the wood preservation plant.

**RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION, \$7,900,000**—For the Way and Works Branch, \$3,300,000 is provided this year. The major provision is \$1,950,000 for works such as track relaying, bridges and culverts, signalling and safety devices, minor buildings, and improvements to yards. Included is \$200,000 for houses for employees and \$275,000 for plant and sundries. In addition, \$875,000 is proposed toward the special programme of upgrading main lines. This special programme is estimated to cost about \$5,050,000, of which \$1,136,000 had been spent to the end of June last.

The Rolling Stock Branch requires \$4,600,000 in 1971-72, and of this \$1,101,000 is proposed for progress payments for eight diesel-electric locomotives. The completion of joint stock

sleeping cars will cost \$262,000, and \$70,000 is required for the provision of refreshment facilities on diesel rail cars. In addition, \$1,775,000 is provided for the construction of new freight vehicles, and \$559,000 for modifications and improvements to freight vehicles.

**HARBOURS ACCOMMODATION, \$3,700,000**—This year's provisions include the following: the sum of \$500,000 is required for further work on widening and deepening the navigation channel between the Outer and Inner Harbours. To continue construction of the new passenger terminal at Outer Harbour, \$450,000 is provided; expenditure of \$500,000 is proposed to commence work on a roll-on-roll-off berth at Port Adelaide to improve facilities for the interstate steel traffic; \$450,000 is provided to commence construction of a high capacity bulk grain loading facility at Port Lincoln at an estimated total cost of \$7,050,000; and \$690,000 is required for further work on dredging and other port improvements at Thevenard to enable larger vessels to engage in the export of gypsum, grain and salt.

**FISHING HAVENS AND FORESHORE IMPROVEMENTS, \$225,000**—This year \$225,000 is proposed for work on improved facilities, the more important being \$50,000 at Wallaroo, \$25,000 at Port Lincoln and \$25,000 at Beachport.

**WATERWORKS AND SEWERS, \$32,850,000**—Metropolitan Waterworks, \$11,969,000—The sum of \$113,000 is required for final contract payments and miscellaneous charges for additional pumping plant for the Mannum-Adelaide main. This scheme will enable the maximum annual capacity of the main to be increased from 21,500,000,000 gallons to 26,000,000,000 gallons. The sum of \$6,590,000 is provided to continue work on the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main, which will augment the metropolitan water supply by pumping water from the Murray River for discharge into the Onkaparinga River. The sum of \$512,000 is proposed for work on approach trunk mains and alterations to existing mains in connection with the West Lakes housing development scheme.

**Country Waterworks, \$8,313,000**—The sum of \$859,000 is provided to continue the construction of a main to connect the Tod trunk main near Lock with Kimba. A submission has been made to the Commonwealth Government for financial assistance towards the scheme under the national water resources development programme. The sum of \$788,000 is required for work on a scheme to provide the township of Murray Bridge and adjacent farm lands with an adequate water supply by a

branch main and booster station from the Murray Bridge to Onkaparinga main. The sum of \$280,000 is provided for further payments on the construction of the main from Swan Reach to Stockwell.

An amount of \$2,100,000 is proposed for further work on construction of a main from Tailm Bend to Keith. Including about 500 miles of branch mains, the scheme is estimated to cost \$14,256,000. A special grant of \$6,000,000 is being provided by the Commonwealth under the national water resources development programme to assist with the scheme. An amount of \$1,203,000 is provided to continue the enlargement and replacement of the old Tod trunk main, the estimated total cost of which is \$15,919,000. Funds are also provided for water supply schemes at many other country areas.

**Metropolitan Sewerage, \$6,374,000**—The sum of \$180,000 is required for final payments for the Bolivar Sewage Treatment Works, which are estimated to cost a total of \$25,333,000. The sum of \$223,000 is provided to complete work on the Christies Beach Sewage Treatment Works. The works will serve the extensive housing development at Port Noarlunga, Christies Beach and surrounding areas. The sum of \$982,000 is proposed to continue work on major extensions at the Glenelg Sewage Treatment Works. The proposed extensions will increase the capacity of the plant by about 40 per cent.

An amount of \$450,000 is provided to continue reconstruction within the south-western suburbs drainage area to cope with increasing outflows and to provide for the sewerage of the Blackwood and Belair area. Funds are also provided for sewerage of many new housing areas, including Blackwood-Belair, Christies Beach and Noarlunga, and West Lakes.

**Country Sewerage, \$2,470,000**—The sum of \$400,000 is provided to continue work on the extension of sewerage facilities to Gawler. Reticulation works within the town are in progress. The sum of \$280,000 is proposed for further work on the sewerage scheme at Murray Bridge which will provide sewerage facilities in the town and prevent pollution of the Murray River. An amount of \$750,000 is required for work on the sewerage scheme at Port Pirie, and satisfactory progress is being made in the installation of sewers. An amount of \$330,000 is provided to commence work on a sewerage scheme at Victor Harbour.

**Other works**—Included in the appropriation for waterworks and sewers is a provision of \$300,000 towards the development costs of

that portion of the old Islington sewage farm area which is to be developed and sold for industrial use. The development involves the provision of heavy duty roads, stormwater drainage, water supply and sewerage facilities.

MURRAY RIVER WEIRS, DAMS, LOCKS, ETC., \$500,000—Provision has been made for a State contribution of \$500,000 towards the cost of capital works being undertaken in terms of the River Murray Waters Agreement.

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

Hospital buildings, \$11,950,000—The main proposals for 1971-72 are:

Royal Adelaide Hospital—The sum of \$220,000 is provided for further work on the rebuilding scheme for the hospital, which is now virtually complete.

The Queen Elizabeth Hospital—The sum of \$2,300,000 is proposed to continue work on major additions at the hospital involving a new north wing, an additional floor over the existing ward block, a new pharmacy, additional theatres, and an enlarged outpatients department and X-ray facilities.

Modbury Hospital—An amount of \$4,500,000 is provided to continue work on the first stage of the new hospital at Modbury, comprising the main hospital building, a new nurses home, accommodation for resident medical staff and workshops.

Port Augusta Hospital—An amount of \$1,110,000 is provided to continue work on the redevelopment of the Port Augusta Hospital to provide modern accommodation for patients, a new kitchen and dining room, nurses home and training school, and a boiler house and laundry.

Port Pirie Hospital—An amount of \$400,000 is proposed to commence work on the redevelopment of the Port Pirie Hospital, which is to be carried out as two separate projects; the first comprising a children's and maternity ward complex, nurses training centre, administration accommodation, resident medical staff quarters, bulk store and mortuary, and the second comprising a geriatric ward, physiotherapy unit, and a new nurses home.

School Buildings, \$19,300,000—For 1971-72, the proposals for school buildings and associated works total \$19,300,000, an 8 per cent increase above 1970-71, and it is intended that these funds will be applied as follows:

\$

Work under 46 projects with a total value of \$15,664,000 for new schools or major additions

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

Included in the proposed expenditures are science laboratories, technical colleges, teachers colleges and libraries projects, towards which the Commonwealth will continue to contribute unmatched grants in accordance with its legislation. The extent of Commonwealth support in 1971-72 for these purposes is estimated at about \$3,200,000.

Other Government Buildings, \$5,700,000—The more important provisions for 1971-72 are:

Agricultural College Department—The sum of \$590,000 is provided to continue work on the first stage of a scheme for major extensions at the college for which the estimated total cost is \$700,000. The cost is being shared equally with the Commonwealth in terms of special Commonwealth legislation providing financial support for colleges of advanced education.

Department of Public Health—The sum of \$100,000 is proposed for work on a further five dental clinics, three of which will be at country schools and two at metropolitan schools.

Government Printing Department—The sum of \$400,000 is required to commence construction of a new printing office and mapping branch at Netley. The project is estimated to cost \$5,140,000.



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

Minister of Roads and Transport Department—Provision is made this year for the construction of a road safety instruction centre at Marion. The centre has been designed as the permanent base for all road safety activities carried out by the Road Safety Council of South Australia, and it includes administrative headquarters, lecture rooms, workshops and instruction areas, as well as a comprehensive road system. The project is to be carried out in two stages and is estimated to cost \$467,000. Stage 1 is estimated to cost \$292,000 and comprises the road system, drainage, fencing and the administration building. The second stage will include the instruction and maintenance building, classroom, field observation and toilet blocks, and general lighting. An amount of \$292,000 is provided to enable the first stage to be completed during 1971-72.

Provision was made in amending legislation last year for a portion of the additional revenue from increased driving licence fees to be used for purposes associated with road safety. The cost of the centre will be recouped from those special funds held within the Highways Fund, but it is not expected that sufficient funds will have accumulated by June 30 next to cover the full cost incurred in 1971-72, and accordingly Loan Account will need to carry a part of the cost temporarily.

Police Department—An amount of \$50,000 is provided to commence the fourth and final stage of the development scheme for the Police Training Academy at Fort Largs, \$395,000 for work on a number of new police stations, and \$140,000 for work on divisional headquarters at Berri and Whyalla.

Prisons Department—An amount of \$300,000 is provided to continue work on the new gaol at Port Augusta, the estimated total cost of which is \$745,000.

ADVANCES FOR HOUSING, \$26,500,000—Last year the Government originally nominated \$24,000,000 to be borrowed under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement but, because of very heavy pressures on available housing funds, Loan Council approval was secured for the diversion of a further \$1,000,000 from the general works programme, and new borrowings under the terms of the agreement were accordingly \$25,000,000. These new funds

were supplemented by \$1,900,000 of net recoveries of interest and repayments of previous advances within the Home Builders Account, so that a total of \$26,900,000 was available for distribution.

The major housing provisions will this year total about \$28,600,000, that is to say, an increase of about \$1,700,000. This total of about \$28,600,000 comprises the \$26,500,000 of new funds included in the Bill and the net recoveries expected to build up in the Home Builders Account. The \$26,500,000 of new funds comprises a proposed \$14,250,000 for State Bank lending and a proposed \$12,250,000 for the Housing Trust, each to be advanced directly from Loan Account. The Home Builders Account will continue to record transactions flowing from previous borrowings under the Housing Agreement and it will be convenient to make the current proposed advance of about \$2,000,000 to building societies from the net recoveries to that account.

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

South Australian Housing Trust, \$12,250,000—In 1970-71 the trust used new borrowings of \$11,750,000 under the Housing Agreement, semi-government borrowing of \$6,400,000, and cash balances and internal funds from house sales, depreciation provisions etc., to finance a total capital programme of \$27,400,000. This was made up of about \$24,100,000 for house construction including land and site development, about \$2,830,000 for industrial and commercial buildings, and about \$460,000 for plant, equipment and miscellaneous items. During the year the trust completed 2,213 housing units compared with 1,712 in 1969-70 and at June 30, 1971, there were 1,769 houses or flats under construction.

For 1971-72 the main source of funds will be the allocation of \$12,250,000 from Loan Account. It is proposed that it be supplemented by semi-government borrowing of about \$6,850,000 and internal funds of \$10,100,000 to finance a total capital programme of \$29,200,000. The trust expects to commence work on 2,224 houses or flats during 1971-72.

The total number of dwellings on which work will be carried out, that is the total of those under construction and those to be commenced, is thus 3,993. It is also proposed to carry out an expanded programme totalling \$3,900,000 for industrial and commercial buildings.

**ELECTRICITY TRUST OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA—LOAN TO, \$4,500,000**—During 1971-72 the trust proposes to spend \$25,400,000 on capital works of which \$4,500,000 is to be provided from State Loan funds. \$9,500,000 is to be raised by the trust from financial institutions and the public and the balance of \$11,400,000 is to be met from the trust's internal funds.

The main proposals relating to power generation are \$4,090,000 for further work on the Torrens Island Power Station and \$5,140,000 to continue the construction of the gas turbine power station at Dry Creek. Of the latter amount \$4,030,000 is proposed for progress payments on turbo-alternators and associated equipment, including gas supply and plant, and \$1,110,000 for civil works, including main building, roads, drainage, and electrical equipment.

The major part of the trust's works expenditure will be upon improving, reinforcing, and extending its transmission system, and this is expected to involve \$14,310,000 in all. Noteworthy in this is \$2,480,000 providing for continuing work upon the second South-Eastern transmission line.

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

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

**INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE CORPORATION—LOAN TO, \$50,000**—The main source of funds for

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

**FESTIVAL THEATRE AND ASSOCIATED CULTURAL FACILITIES, \$1,700,000**—The Government has arranged to contribute \$3,950,000 to the Adelaide City Council towards a festival theatre estimated to cost \$5,750,000. So that the impact on Loan Account might be spread evenly over a period, amounts totalling \$2,500,000 have been set aside in a special account during the last three years. The proposed appropriation for this purpose in 1971-72 is \$900,000, taking the total of such appropriation to \$3,400,000. Accordingly it may be expected that some \$550,000 will need to be appropriated next year.

Actual advances to the council to June 30 last to finance construction had amounted to \$800,000. It is likely that advances of about \$2,500,000 will be required as work proceeds in 1971-72 with the balance of about \$650,000 being advanced in 1972-73. In addition to the normal annual appropriation of \$900,000 towards the theatre, a contribution of \$800,000 is appropriated as a first instalment toward a cultural complex associated with the theatre. The complex will include a performing arts centre and an open-air amphitheatre.

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

**FORESHORE PROTECTION, \$250,000**—At present a committee is working upon methods of preserving from erosion and rehabilitating our foreshore along St. Vincent Gulf near Adelaide, and preliminary reports and recommendations have already been received by the Minister of Environment and Conservation. Provision is made tentatively for \$250,000 for this purpose, which will probably extend to

land acquisitions, stockpiling of sand, and other protective measures, and will extend over several years. It is anticipated that an authority will be set up in conjunction with the councils concerned and that this, too, will involve enabling legislation.

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

**UNIVERSITY AND ADVANCED EDUCATION BUILDINGS, \$6,600,000**—The 1970-72 capital programme recommended by the Australian Universities Commission and the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Advanced Education and accepted by the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments, is for a total expenditure of \$20,062,000 made up of:

	\$
University of Adelaide.....	6,352,000
Flinders University of South Australia.....	4,460,000
S.A. Institute of Technology . .	9,000,000
Residential colleges.....	250,000

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

**NON-GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL AND INSTITUTION BUILDINGS, \$5,000,000**—The major building projects at non-government hospitals and institutions for which grants are proposed this year are as follows:

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

**Home for Incurables**—The Government proposes to meet the full building cost of \$11,000,000 for the expansion programme spread over several years. Four hundred addi-

tional beds will double the present accommodation. The sum of \$800,000 is provided so that construction may commence this year.

**Karoonda Hospital**—Subsidies are to be provided towards the cost of erecting a new hospital which is expected to cost \$355,000. An amount of \$160,000 has been provided as subsidy for this year.

**Keith Hospital**—The Government is providing subsidies towards the cost, estimated at \$650,000 of increasing the bed capacity of the hospital. A subsidy of \$320,000 is proposed for this year.

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

**South Coast District Hospital (Victor Harbour)**—The Government is subsidizing the cost of extensions to the hospital block, and the nurses' home. An amount of \$250,000 is provided this year towards the total estimated cost of \$529,000.

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

**MINES DEPARTMENT, \$325,000**—The sum of \$325,000 is provided this year for capital items to be used in the programme of exploration and development of the State's mineral resources.

**EDUCATION DEPARTMENT—SCHOOL BUSES, \$395,000**—It is proposed that \$395,000 be available this year for the purchase of additional and replacement buses for the transport of schoolchildren in country areas.

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

And now, turning to the clauses of the Bill, clause 3 sets out the moneys which make up the Loan Fund. Clause 4 provides for borrowing by the Treasurer of \$89,140,000. This is the portion of South Australia's allocation for works and purposes arranged at the June, 1971, meeting of Loan Council which will come from Loan raisings.

Clause 5 provides for the expenditure of \$142,940,000 on the undertakings set out in the first schedule to the Bill. Clause 6 authorizes certain advances made during 1970-71 for the undertakings set out in the second schedule. This ratification is required to be included in the Public Purposes Loan Bill next brought before Parliament after warrants have been issued by the Governor pursuant to section 32b of the Public Finance Act.

Clause 7 makes provision for borrowing and payment of an amount to cover any discounts, charges and expenses incurred in connection with borrowing for the purposes of this Bill. Clause 8 makes provision for temporary finance if the moneys in the Loan Fund are insufficient for the purposes of this Bill. Clause 9 authorizes the borrowing and the issue of \$50,000,000 for the purpose of financing Loan undertakings in the early part of next financial year until the Public Purposes Loan Bill for 1972 becomes effective. In the previous Bill the corresponding amount was \$40,000,000. Because of the inclusion of major housing appropriations in the Bill and the general growth of the Loan programme it is desirable that the provision in this clause be increased to \$50,000,000.

Clause 10 gives the Treasurer power to borrow against the issue of Treasury bills or by bank overdraft. The Treasurer possesses and may exercise this authority under other legislation, but it is desirable to make the authority specific year by year in the Public Purposes Loan Bill, as is done with other borrowing authority. Clause 11 deals with the duration of certain clauses to the Bill. Clause 12 directs that all moneys received by the State under the Commonwealth Aid Roads Act shall be credited to a special account to be paid out as required for the purposes of that Act. Clause 13 provides for this Bill to operate as from July 1, 1971.

The Hon. C. R. STORY secured the adjournment of the debate.

**SUPPLY BILL (No. 2)**

Received from the House of Assembly and read a first time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 3.28 p.m. the Council adjourned until Tuesday, August 24, at 2.15 p.m.