

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tuesday, September 21, 1971

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

PAY-ROLL TAX BILL

His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, by message, intimated that the Governor had assented to the Bill.

QUESTIONS**PENAL REFORM**

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

Leave granted.

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: The previous Government, in which I had the role of Chief Secretary, framed certain policies for changes in the penal system of South Australia based on modern thinking about corrective institutions. Some of the changes were agreed to by Cabinet and other changes were approved by Parliament in the form of legislation. The Chief Secretary has just returned from New Zealand, where he undertook a study tour of corrective institutions. What further changes and developments does he foresee in South Australia as a result of his investigations?

The Hon. A. J. SHARD: So far, I have not completed a report to submit to the Government but I thought I spent my time valuably in New Zealand. I have seen some corrective institutions which it would, in my opinion, be worth while introducing in this State. I understand that some of the decisions taken by the previous Government could possibly coincide with those at the back of my mind. Without going into detail, I can say that there are three possible changes that could advantageously be applied to corrective systems in this State. I refer first to detention facilities for juveniles (in New Zealand, persons between the ages of 15 and 21 years). I make it plain, however, that I do not tie myself to those ages. I refer, secondly, to adult periodic detention centres; and, thirdly, to pre-release detention centres, with which I was most impressed. I hope soon to make a report, and I should think that the three aspects to which I have referred will constitute the main theme of what I hope will be done in this State.

While in New Zealand I also saw a post-release centre at Christchurch operated by the Prisoners Aid Society of New Zealand. The

Prisoners Aid Society in this State is trying to have established a similar centre here. The one I saw was indeed a good one and does much to assist in the post-release period of prisoners, who have nowhere to go after their release. Indeed, some prisoners are given as long as six months to settle down. I am told that the results are good, and I hope that the Prisoners Aid Society will be successful in its efforts in having established such a centre in this State.

CITRUS

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

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: Will the Minister of Agriculture say whether the Government intends to introduce legislation to amend the Citrus Industry Organization Act this session?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: Yes.

The Hon. C. R. STORY: When is the Minister likely to introduce that legislation?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I hope it will be introduced this week.

THEBARTON DUMP

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD: Will the Minister of Lands take up with the Minister of Environment and Conservation the matter of burning operations carried on at the South Road dump opposite Bennett Street, Thebarton, to see whether there can be better control thereof? Many residents have complained to the Thebarton council, without result, about the continuing burning operations carried on at this dump.

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I will refer the question to my colleague and see what can be done about this problem.

TURTLES

The Hon. JESSIE COOPER: I seek leave to make a short statement prior to asking a question of the Minister of Lands, representing the Minister of Environment and Conservation.

Leave granted.

The Hon. JESSIE COOPER: I wish to know whether the Minister's attention has yet been drawn to complaints being made public about the trade in and destruction of native turtles. Papers that have been sent to members of this Council by at least one interested society refer to this matter. It appears that baby turtles are fairly easily taken from their first hibernating area and are sold

in pet shops throughout Australia. I understand that, because of their immaturity and their special food and protection requirements, they almost invariably die shortly after distribution. In view of the futility of this practice, will the Minister ask his colleague to examine the desirability of introducing protective legislation?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I shall be happy to ask my colleague to do as the honourable member suggests.

CLEVE-KIMBA ROAD

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: Has the Minister of Lands, representing the Minister of Roads and Transport, a reply to a question I asked on September 1 regarding priority for the sealing of the Cleve-Kimba Road?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: The Minister of Roads and Transport has supplied the following information:

The road between Cleve and Kimba carries relatively low traffic volumes. Although the approaches to both towns carry moderate traffic volumes, the road as a whole has an average annual daily traffic of about 80 vehicles with a growth rate of 4 per cent per annum. In assessing priorities for roadworks, average annual daily traffic in excess of 100 vehicles is normally required to justify sealing. The Highways Department plans to undertake the reconstruction and sealing of the short length (2½ miles) between Cleve and the Mangalo turn-off during 1973-74, but there are no firm proposals at this stage to undertake the sealing of the balance of the length. The position will be kept under continuous review in the forward planning of Highways Department works to determine the stage at which firm proposals can be developed.

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: Will the Minister of Lands convey to his colleague, the Minister of Roads and Transport, my belief that one of the factors contributing to the low volume of traffic on the Cleve-Kimba Road is the state of that road?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I shall be happy to convey to my colleague in another place the information the honourable member has given me.

RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

The Hon. M. B. CAMERON: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to the question I asked recently regarding rural reconstruction?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: The reply is credited to the Hon. Mr. Hill. I think it may be helpful to honourable members if I outline for them the relevant circumstances. At the time of allotment every war service settler was interviewed by a senior officer of the Lands

Department and the position regarding advances available was explained to them. Whilst some settlers availed themselves of the facility provided through the department and executed stock mortgages in favour of the Minister of Lands, others preferred to obtain advances through stock firms. Some of those who took out stock mortgages with the department later transferred to private lending sources for various reasons. Thus there are two groups of war service settlers operating under private as distinct from departmental finance:

- (a) those who at one time operated under departmental stock mortgage but transferred to private lending authorities; and
- (b) those who have never operated under departmental stock mortgage although at allotment they were given the opportunity to do so.

Whilst I use the term "departmental finance" I must make it clear that the funds for advances under the War Service Land Settlement scheme are provided by the Commonwealth and are made available through the department in accordance with the War Service Land Settlement Agreement Act and on conditions laid down by the Commonwealth. From time to time, requests have been received from settlers in both groups that the department take over stock mortgages held by stock firms and provide carry-on finance for their farming operations. Until recently these have been declined in accordance with policy.

In view of the deteriorating economic conditions in the rural industry, further consideration has been given to this matter over the past few weeks. It is realized that when settlers transferred away from departmental finance the difference in interest rates was not so great, whereas it is now quite significant. No action to effect a change in policy can be taken without the approval of the Commonwealth Government, however, because, as I have said, it provides the finance involved. Accordingly, I have recently written to the Minister for Primary Industry requesting that the Commonwealth make finance available to enable these stock mortgages to be taken over by the department subject to the soldier settler concerned being credit-worthy, and I am now awaiting a reply.

The Hon. M. B. CAMERON: The question answered by the Minister of Lands was a question standing in the name of the Hon. Mr. Hill. Has the Minister a reply to my recent question about rural assistance?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: I do not have a reply to that question today but I will try to expedite a reply.

TERINGIE HEIGHTS

The Hon. C. M. HILL: Recently I asked a question of the Minister of Lands, representing the Minister of Environment and Conservation, about problems that had been brought to my notice at Teringie Heights concerning damage to the environment in that area supposedly caused by the nearness of quarry operations. Has the Minister a reply?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: My colleague reports:

The operations of White Rock Quarries Limited are under constant review by the Mines Department, and the management is co-operating in designing an operating plan that will minimize damage to the general amenity of the area. The operations will not be permitted at present to break through the ridge which creates a visual and noise barrier to the workings. Some clearing beyond the ridge was undertaken more than a year ago, but this is already showing signs of plant regeneration. The management is currently preparing a development plan for consideration by the department.

STUDENT TEACHERS

The Hon. C. M. HILL: I seek leave to make a short statement before asking a question of the Minister of Agriculture, representing the Minister of Education.

Leave granted.

The Hon. C. M. HILL: On July 22 the Minister of Education announced in the press that Cabinet had approved increases of 9 per cent in student teachers' allowances. The press statement said:

The increases, recommended by the Barnes committee, will apply from July 1. The increases range from \$80 to \$200 a year.

Last week a student teacher informed me that student teachers had not yet received the increases referred to in that announcement and were somewhat concerned about the delay that had occurred. Can the Minister say what the reason is for the delay and when payment at the increased rates will be commenced?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I will refer the honourable member's question to my colleague and bring back a reply as soon as it is available.

ABATTOIRS

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: In the absence of the Hon. Mr. Hart, who is ill, I ask the Minister of Agriculture whether he

has a reply to the question asked by the honourable member about conditions at the abattoir.

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: The Metropolitan and Export Abattoirs Board has informed me that it is aware of the condition of the receiving yards; despite frequent cleaning, the fact that the bitumen base is breaking up makes the yards unsatisfactory in wet weather. Last year the board approved the repaving of two yards in concrete which have proved satisfactory but lack of finance curtailed further work being carried out. At a meeting held on August 30, 1971, the board accepted a quotation for the repaving in concrete of the receiving pens for stock transported by road and the adjoining race, and this work will be progressively carried out as market operations permit. The board is also concerned that the bitumen paving of holding pens in the extension of the lamb markets built in 1964 is also breaking up and believes that work in replacing the section must be carried out in the near future to meet acceptable standards. The board estimates the total cost of all this work at about \$40,000.

DINGO BAITING

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to my recent question about the experimental baiting of dingoes with 1080 poison?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: The three pastoral properties on which the dingo baiting trial is being carried out are Clifton Hills, Cordillo Downs and Innamincka Stations, situated in the far north-eastern corner of the State. These properties adjoin each other.

AUBURN-CLARE ROAD

The Hon. R. A. GEDDES: I seek leave to make a short statement before directing a question to the Minister representing the Minister of Roads and Transport.

Leave granted.

The Hon. R. A. GEDDES: I notice that work has started on improving the road from Clare to Auburn by the clearing of a large number of red gums and other trees from the side of the road. I realize that there is a need for upgrading this road, but will the Minister ensure the maximum practical preservation of the native flora as the road is widened and upgraded?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: Although I am sure my colleague will take notice of the honourable member's concern in this matter I will convey the question to him and bring back a reply as soon as possible.

ROSEWORTHY COLLEGE

The Hon. G. J. GILFILLAN: Has the Minister of Agriculture a reply to a question regarding the Roseworthy Agricultural College, also asked by the Hon. L. R. Hart who, as I have explained, is absent through sickness?

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I have conferred with my colleague, the Minister of Education, and it is proposed that the Agricultural College at Roseworthy should come under the overall supervision of the proposed Board of Advanced Education in the same way as the South Australian Institute of Technology and the Teachers Colleges. The board's responsibilities will be largely concerned with, first, accreditation of awards, and secondly, co-ordination and processing of developmental proposals with the consequential budgetary approvals. The board, in turn, will be the main adviser to the Minister of Education and the Government in this area. Once a development programme and the consequential annual budgets are approved, the college council will have autonomy within the broad limits so imposed.

GLENELG ACCIDENTS

The Hon. C. M. HILL: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to the question I asked recently concerning a traffic hazard in the Glenelg area at the Sturt Creek where, I understand, a serious accident occurred?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: My colleague states:

Dunbar Terrace, East Glenelg, running along the northern side of the Glenelg tramline, is a road under the care and control of the Corporation of Glenelg. At the time of the accident referred to by the honourable member, portable barricades were erected at this site pending the erection of solid permanent barricades. This road has now been closed and appropriate signs and hazard boards have been erected to warn motorists of the inherent danger.

LOYALTY PLEDGE

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD: My question is directed to the Leader of the Opposition in this place. In view of the great public interest that has been aroused regarding the loyalty or otherwise of certain members of the Opposition to the Leader of the Opposition in another place, can the Leader inform this Council of the likely number of members in this place who will sign the petition which, it has been suggested, will be circulated amongst members in this place, pledging loyalty to the Leader, who is about to show his disloyalty to his own constituents by deserting them for another electorate; secondly, does the Leader

in this Council think the petition will be presented to Parliament in this place or in another place?

The Hon. R. C. DeGARIS: I am unable to give the honourable member any information.

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD: In view of the enlightening answer given by the Leader of the Opposition, can the Hon. Mr. Cameron, who is alleged to be the one who is organizing this petition, say whether he thinks he will get a good response from honourable members of this Council and whether he intends to present the petition to this place?

The Hon. M. B. CAMERON: I am unable to give the honourable member any information.

The Hon. D. H. L. BANFIELD: In view of the co-operation I am receiving from honourable members opposite, can the Hon. Mr. Cameron say whether the report is true that he intends to circulate a petition amongst the members of the Opposition to test their loyalty to their Leader in another place and, if it is true, would he care to hand the petition to some honourable members on this side of the Chamber for them to sign?

The Hon. M. B. CAMERON: I can tell the Council that no petition will be circulated. If one was circulated, I should be only too happy to provide honourable members on the other side with an opportunity to sign it, but there will be no petition to sign.

ALFORD WATER SUPPLY

The Hon. E. K. RUSSACK: I seek leave to make a short statement prior to directing a question to the Minister of Agriculture representing the Minister of Works.

Leave granted.

The Hon. E. K. RUSSACK: The area to which I refer is approximately five miles north-west of the township of Alford in the hundred of Tickera. Property owners there are very concerned, because of past experience, about water supplies during the hours of daylight in the summer months. It is impossible for these ratepayers to receive adequate supplies of domestic water from the Engineering and Water Supply Department mains; in fact during the hours of daylight there has been no water at all. Will the Minister tell me what action is intended to be taken to rectify the situation for this coming summer? Should the Minister require the names of the property owners, I would be pleased to supply them.

The Hon. T. M. CASEY: I shall be pleased to refer the honourable member's question to my colleague and bring back a reply when it is available.

ROADS

The Hon. C. M. HILL: Has the Minister of Lands a reply to a question I asked on August 26 about whether he could tell me the amount of money spent on urban roads approved within the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study area and whether that sum could include the amount of Commonwealth money that was spent on M.A.T.S. projects and also estimates for the year 1971-72?

The Hon. A. F. KNEEBONE: My colleague in another place has supplied me with the following reply:

During the financial year 1970-71 the Highways Department expended an amount of \$11,962,395 upon declared urban arterial roads which are part of roads and routes shown on the Metropolitan Adelaide Transportation Study Report. It is estimated that the expenditure for those purposes during the current financial year will be \$12,500,000. The allocation to South Australia under the Commonwealth Aid Roads Act, 1969, for expenditure upon declared urban arterial roads during 1971-72 is \$11,500,000.

DAYLIGHT SAVING BILL

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

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

That this Bill be now read a second time. Its purpose is to introduce daylight saving in South Australia for a trial period during the coming summer season on lines similar to those proposed in the Eastern States. In consequence of the proposal by the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria to adopt one hour of daylight saving between October 31, 1971, and February 27, 1972, the Government caused an investigation to be made on the implications of that proposal regarding South Australia and its citizens.

At present, standard time in the Eastern States is half an hour in advance of standard time in this State which, in turn, is 1½ hours in advance of standard time in Western Australia. In this connection, it would be of interest to honourable members if I gave them a short history of the adoption of standard times in Australia. In the early 1890's an inter-colonial conference of surveyors held in Melbourne considered, among other things, the advantages of introducing the system of standard time in Australia. Following this conference and a postal and telegraph conference held in Brisbane in 1893, and yet another conference held the following year, it was decided to make the initial meridian

that of Greenwich and to change the local standard time by whole hours according to the longitude east or west of that of Greenwich. Thus, for every difference of 15 degrees in longitude a change of one hour would be required.

To give effect to this decision, it was also decided that Australia should be divided into three zones, the standard time for each being, respectively, the mean solar times of the meridians of 120 degrees, 135 degrees and 150 degrees east longitude, thus making standard times for the zones eight, nine and 10 hours respectively ahead of Greenwich time. The 120-degree zone was to comprise Western Australia, the 135-degree zone was to comprise South Australia and the Northern Territory, and the 150-degree zone was to comprise Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. These decisions were given effect by legislation in the respective colonies and provinces in 1894 and 1895, the South Australian Act being known as the Standard Time Act, 1894.

However, in 1898 the South Australian Parliament repealed the 1894 Act and replaced it with the Standard Time Act, 1898, which adopted the mean time of the meridian of longitude 142½ degrees east of Greenwich as standard time for South Australia, thus reducing the difference between the standard time of Adelaide and that of the capitals of the Eastern colonies from one hour to half an hour. For many years, and especially since the end of the Second World War, industrial and commercial interests in South Australia have regularly and frequently made representations that South Australia should adopt Eastern Standard Time.

After surveying the implications of daylight saving in South Australia, the Government has decided that it would be in the best interests of the State to adopt one hour of daylight saving to coincide with the times and dates set by New South Wales and Victoria, namely, from 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in October, 1971, until 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in February, 1972, thus maintaining the present margin of difference between South Australian time and time in the major Eastern States. It is not, however, intended that the State should adopt Eastern Standard Time at this stage until the implications of daylight saving can be assessed. I should now like to mention that the decision of the Governments of New South Wales and Victoria to adopt one hour of daylight saving was announced by them without any previous consultation with this

Government, and it was not until their decision was made that this Government knew of their intentions.

As a result of the decision by the Eastern States, this State was placed in a position of either lagging 1½ hours behind the Eastern States or adopting one hour of daylight saving in order to maintain the present margin of difference between South Australian time and time in the Eastern States. In making the decision to adopt daylight saving in this State for a trial period, the Government recognizes with considerable concern the difficulties this decision could cause in some industries and quarters. That decision, however, was made after much consideration of the advantages and disadvantages that daylight saving would bring to the community as a whole.

Clause 1 is formal. Clause 2 contains the definitions for the purposes of the Bill. Clause 3 is drawn in general terms and provides for South Australian summer time to be one hour in advance of South Australian standard time from 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in October until 2 a.m. on the last Sunday in the following February. Although the clause is drawn in general terms, clause 6 provides that the Bill will expire on October 15, 1972. This will enable the Government to have an assessment made between October, 1971, and February, 1972, of the benefits to the South Australian community of the trial period of daylight saving before deciding whether amending legislation should be introduced in Parliament for continuation or modification of the proposals contained in this Bill.

Clause 4 provides, in effect, that any reference to time in legislation and documents is (regarding any time between 2 a.m. on October 31, 1971, and 2 a.m. on February 27, 1972) to be a reference to South Australian summer time as prescribed in clause 3. Clause 5 contains certain essential savings provisions. Clause 6, as I have mentioned earlier, provides for the expiry of the legislation on October 15, 1972, that is, before it operates in respect of the period October, 1972, to February, 1973.

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

SWINE COMPENSATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Read a third time and passed.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE ERADI- CATION FUND ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Adjourned debate on second reading.

(Continued from September 15. Page 1448.)

The Hon. A. M. WHYTE (Northern): I have pleasure in supporting this Bill, which is of prime importance to this nation's primary industries, ensuring as it does that all possible precautions are taken to prevent the entry into Australia of exotic diseases. All members must bear in mind that the world transport of passengers and goods alike has increased to a great extent over the last few years, and with it has come the real risk of foot and mouth disease entering Australia. It is, therefore, proper that each State should be willing to contribute a portion of the money necessary to build up such a fund and to enable it to operate with a minimum of delay should an outbreak occur.

It would not matter in which State or on what type of animal or bird such a disease was detected, because an outbreak in, say, Queensland would involve South Australia and other States, in that all States would be barred from exporting animals or birds, and such a loss could put Australia in a position from which it would be difficult for us to recover. Even the export of wool would be stopped immediately because of the fear of transporting such a disease to other countries.

Since about 1950, primary producing organizations have taken a keen interest in trying to safeguard this country's livestock population, and they have continually stressed the necessity for a close watch to be kept on disease detection facilities at all ports. Indeed, they have done their utmost to ensure that quarantine regulations are adhered to, and so far we have been fortunate enough to avoid the introduction of any exotic diseases. There was a scare a couple of years ago when semen was introduced into Queensland, and large numbers of stock were slaughtered immediately. Necessary precautions such as this are compensable, which is the idea of this worthwhile fund. South Australia's contribution of 5 per cent of the cost of any eradication scheme is certainly a fair one.

I do not know how much longer we can prevent the introduction into this country of such diseases, but I sincerely hope that our precautions will continue to be successful. It has been suggested that certain diseases could be introduced into Australia through the importation of tinned meat. I am not sure why Australia should need to import tinned meat; nor am I sure that diseases could be introduced into this country in that manner. I merely make the point that it would be so easy for one of these diseases to reach our livestock population.

I am sure all members agree that this nation could not afford to lose, even at its present depressed stage, the export of wool. As the introduction of a disease such as foot and mouth disease could have this effect on our livestock exports, I have no hesitation in supporting the Bill.

Bill read a second time and taken through Committee without amendment. Committee's report adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.2 p.m. the Council adjourned until Wednesday, September 22, at 2.15 p.m.