

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

TUESDAY, 4 AUGUST 1959

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THIRD SESSION OF THE THIRTY-FIFTH PARLIAMENT

Appointed to meet

AT BRISBANE ON THE FOURTH DAY OF AUGUST, IN THE EIGHTH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH II., IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1959.

TUESDAY, 4 AUGUST, 1959

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT

Pursuant to the Proclamation by His Excellency the Governor, dated 2 July, 1959, appointing Parliament to meet this day for the dispatch of business, the House met at 12 o'clock noon in the Legislative Assembly Chamber.

The Clerk read the proclamation.

GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH

At noon, His Excellency the Governor came in state to Parliament House, was announced by the Sergeant-at-Arms, received by Mr. Speaker (Hon. A. R. Fletcher) at the bar, and accompanied to the dais.

Honourable members being seated, His Excellency read the following Opening Speech:—

"GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—

"You have been called together in this the Third Session of the 35th Parliament of Queensland, to give attention to, and to make decisions upon, matters pertaining to the welfare of our people.

"We give thanks to Almighty God for the blessings which have been bestowed on this State of Queensland and its people throughout the years.

"We are looking forward with eager anticipation to welcoming Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra of Kent.

"We are very conscious of the great honour which has been conferred on this State and its people by Her Majesty in graciously consenting to Her Royal Highness visiting Queensland during this our Centenary Year.

"We deeply appreciate Her Majesty's gracious gesture, and we are indeed grateful to Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra for undertaking such a long journey on our behalf.

"During the last 100 years Queensland has developed from a primitive frontier land of wilderness and scrub into a rich pastoral, agricultural, mining, and industrial State, intersected by roads and railways.

"Today we take this miracle for granted, and familiarity has dulled our perception of the marvels of the achievement.

"The early pioneers laid strong foundations which have been cemented by the initiative and toil of those who followed them.

"Today a most exciting vista of development stretches to a wide horizon.

"It may well be that Queensland will become the strategic vantage point in the economy of Australia.

"We possess a State whose riches have been scarcely tapped, fine cities and a strong and self-confident people. I am certain that granted the blessing of peace we have entered an era of great expansion and prosperity.

"Evidence of this may be seen, for example, in the fact that during the past two years, 27 major and 33 small organisations, all new to Queensland, have commenced, or have announced firm plans for establishment in this State, while existing organisations have announced total expansion programmes of £5½ million.

"The receipts of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the year ended on June 30 were £99,007,198, whilst expenditure totalled £100,198,054. The resultant deficit was £1,190,856, or less by £637,000 than the deficit anticipated in the budget.

"Reserves held in Trust and Special Funds were drawn upon during the year to the extent of £5,211,595 to finance the accumulated debit balance at July 1, 1958, in the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

"The revenue collected by the Railway Department was £970,000 below estimate, but this shortage was partially offset by the buoyancy of other revenue sources, which were more than £562,000 in excess of expectations.

"Savings effected by some Departments brought expenditure to £1,045,650 less than was expected.

"Trust and Special Funds expenditure, including more than £5 million paid to Consolidated Revenue Fund to extinguish accumulated balances in that fund, was nearly £11½ million more than was expended in the previous year.

"Receipts of Trust and Special Funds increased by more than £5 million as compared with the previous year.

"Mainly by effecting reductions in the value of stores held in Departmental Suspense Accounts, the amount appropriated for expenditure on loan works £27,734,600 was exceeded by only £440,000.

"Greater allocations were made to allow for increased expenditure on school construction and for advances to local bodies.

"During the year under review advances totalling more than £3 million were made to Primary Producers under the Agricultural Bank Acts, and nearly £256,000 under the War Service Land Settlement Act.

"The wisdom of previous planning by the Railway Department to offset recent costs by the haulage of greater loads was evidenced during the last financial year when cash receipts rose by £1,194,325 to £35,129,329 for a rise in costs of only £583,043 in expenditure, which was £36,589,303.

"These figures take into account basic wage and salary increases totalling £1,585,003, which were absorbed without any increase in freights or fares.

"A contract has been let for 91 stainless steel carriages for the Brisbane suburban traffic at a cost of £2 million, as a replacement for old stock and to meet the increasing demands of the suburban traffic. The design of the carriages is such that they will be capable of conversion to electrically-driven units should it be necessary in future.

"Ten rail motor trains have been ordered at a cost of £500,870 as a replacement for old units. This will provide a more efficient service.

"Five new diesel electric locomotives have also been ordered for the State's rail system.

"Expenditure on electrical development in the State last year was £11½ million and in the current year it is estimated that a similar amount will be spent on capital works by electric authorities.

"Large sums of money are required to maintain the rate of development of the power supply industry to meet future demands of the growing Queensland industries.

"Generating facilities have been increased throughout the State and distribution systems have been extended to cater for load growth.

"Work has begun on the new hydro-electric project on the Barron River in North Queensland.

"The four generating sets of the Kareeya Power House, of the Tully Falls Hydro-Electric project are now in commission, supplying power over the interconnected system from Mossman to Bowen and west to the Atherton Tablelands and Charters Towers.

"The total expenditure on road construction and maintenance in the past year was more than £13 million.

"My Advisers are implementing a vigorous policy on the State's road network so that all sections of industry may derive the greatest practicable degree of benefit.

"During the last financial year, 1,775 new houses were completed by the Queensland Housing Commission, and, at the close of the year 375 more homes were in various stages of construction.

"This was an increase of approximately 10 per cent. on the previous year. Of the completed homes 1,487 were acquired by home owners and the number of rental houses was increased by 288.

"More attention was given to the problem of housing density and my Advisers have acquired three sites in the Brisbane City area on which it is proposed to build medium sized blocks of flats. Sewerage is available immediately and all necessary services are already in being.

"At the end of the financial year there were 49 families living in temporary housing establishments in the Metropolitan area and these will be cleared before November.

"In accordance with the policy of my Advisers to develop and improve employer-employee relations, a committee known as the State Minister of Labour Advisory Committee, was formed during the year.

"This committee, which has as its counterpart the National Joint Advisory Council in Great Britain, will keep the Government advised in relation to employment, industrial relations, employee welfare, and related industrial and economic matters, and will advise the Department of Labour and Industry on matters within its activities.

"My Advisers have also continued to actively implement a policy of occupational safety and the State Industrial Safety Advisory Service has started to extend its activities outside the Brisbane area. Inaugural meetings have been held at Toowoomba and Maryborough and it is proposed to extend activities throughout the State as early as possible.

"The Mining industry is steadily increasing in importance as one of the key factors in the State's overall industrial development and decentralisation.

"The great uranium mine at Mary Kathleen has been in production for almost 12 months and has provided homes and employment for more than 1,000 people, in the modern town which has grown out of a boulder-strewn wilderness.

"The Mount Isa Mine still goes from strength to strength. Further progress has also been made with the development of the huge bauxite deposits on Cape York Peninsula.

"My Advisers are encouraged by the fact that more and more large American Independent Oil Companies have joined in the search for oil in this State, and are anxious to invest funds in actively testing our more promising sedimentary basins. As a result the whole outlook in the search for oil has changed, and we shall watch future operations with great interest.

"Following an exhaustive investigation by a Commission of Inquiry, constituted by the President of the Land Court, Mr. W. L. Payne, my Advisers intend early in the present session to introduce important and far-reaching land legislation.

"The legislation is intended to ensure the continuous development of the lands of the State and their use to the best purpose, with a steadily increasing production.

"During the year ended June 30, 71 blocks of good quality grazing and mixed farming lands, totalling 1,323,121 acres, were made available for new settlement. More than 5½ million acres, including sheep, cattle, and mixed farming blocks are to be subdivided and opened for selection during the present year.

"My Advisers are actively pursuing the policy of Water Conservation, mindful of the fact that drought conditions will recur in the future.

"During the past year my Advisers have approved of the construction by the Irrigation and Water Supply Commission, of the Moogerah Dam on Reynolds Creek to store 73,000 acre feet of water for further development under irrigation of the rich Warrill Creek Valley.

"During the past 12 months considerable progress has been made with the Mareeba-Dimbulah project, and the Tinaroo Falls Dam, the main storage for irrigation water for the area, has been completed and is at present holding half the storage capacity of 330,000 acre feet.

"The Irrigation and Water Supply Commission is increasing the capacity of the St. George Weir by the erection of Crest Gates which will double the storage to 8,220 acre feet. Further farms will be opened in this area during the present financial year.

"In the pastoral field, my Advisers have expanded research into pasture improvement and trial plots are now established in almost every major area.

"In Agriculture, three new Queensland-bred, rust-resistant varieties of wheat are approaching the stage of commercial distribution.

"Two more bulk sugar terminals—at Bundaberg and Lucinda—were opened during the year under review. A new terminal

will be opened at Townsville during the coming season and the present overall bulk-handling programme will be completed when the Mourilyan Harbour terminal comes into use in 1960.

"During the Financial Year under review my Advisers have continued their progressive policy on education.

"There are now approximately 207,000 children attending primary schools in the State and during the last year 31 primary schools were closed and 22 were opened or re-opened.

"It is anticipated that a new Teachers' College will come into operation at Kedron, in Brisbane, at the beginning of the academic year in 1960.

"Enrolments at secondary schools continue to increase and 21,000 students were enrolled this year. It is estimated that in 1961, 31,000 students will be attending secondary schools.

"The policy of extending facilities for secondary education by establishing High Schools and secondary departments in primary schools will be accelerated, and transport services to country schools are providing the necessary opportunity for secondary education.

"Technical education continues to attract more students and new courses leading to certificate, diploma and associate membership in Mechanical, Electrical, and Civil Engineering will be introduced in 1960.

"The Department of Public Works spent £5½ million during the last financial year and of that amount more than 62 per cent. was spent on Educational buildings. A total of 320 classrooms was provided and in all 16 new primary schools were built.

"First sections of new High Schools were built at Wavell, Sandgate, Bremer, Rockhampton, Pimlico, and Atherton, new secondary departments were established at Miles, Jandowae, Crow's Nest, Emerald, Clermont, and Hughenden, and 134 classrooms were provided at existing High Schools.

"Extensive additions are being made to the State Public Library as the Government's Centenary Year project.

"A new maternity ward is being provided at Mount Isa in conjunction with the erection of a new hospital building at that centre.

"A new maternity ward was provided at Jandowae, and additions made to the Maternity Ward at Ingham. A tender has been accepted for building a maternity ward at Nambour and an early start there is anticipated.

"Good progress has been made in the development of the State Health and Hospital Services.

"The growth of the activities of the Brisbane and South Coast Hospitals Board has made it necessary to replace the one unit

with two Boards—the North Brisbane Hospitals Board and the South Brisbane Hospitals Board.

“A constructive step has been taken in meeting the problem of alcoholism by the establishment of a special unit at the Brisbane Hospital.

“Plans for the provision of special annexes at country hospitals to accommodate old people, whose mental faculties have degenerated, have been pressed forward, and another annexe to accommodate 150 patients has been opened at Westwood. Other annexes are being planned.

“My Advisers are continuing their policy of encouraging migrants to the State, and the number of families nominated has been increased to the limit of accommodation available.

“In addition, assistance has been given to migrants arriving in Queensland under Federal nomination.

“My Advisers have accelerated work on the Queensland University at St. Lucia, under the Commonwealth Aid Programme.

“Further action has been taken by my Advisers to assist both primary and secondary industry by easing restrictions on road transport, and concessions have been made on the use of their own vehicles to primary producers.

“The operations of certain carriers, claimed to be interstate in character, are still a very serious problem, but my Advisers are checking every avenue to safeguard the State's revenue.

“During the last financial year £580,000 was collected under “The Roads (Contribution to Maintenance) Acts, 1957 to 1958,” and applied to the maintenance of country and public highways.

“Legislation in the last session of Parliament provided for the administration of taxis and hired vehicles to be vested in the Ministry of Transport.

“Action was taken by my Advisers during the year to re-introduce District Courts to the State. Already there has been a considerable reduction in the lag of cases to come before the Supreme Court.

“New administration enacted during the last session of Parliament provided for temporary accommodation of 100 prisoners at Wacol and plans for the establishment of a permanent medium-security prison there are well under way.

“The Offenders Probation and Parole Act passed during the year under review will bring Queensland into line with other States and the new Act will be of considerable value in the rehabilitation of prisoners.

“There are at present under investigation 51 water supply proposals and 22 sewerage proposals estimated to cost more than £6 million and £3½ million respectively.

“Working drawings are being prepared for 110 water supply proposals, to cost nearly £7½ million, and 59 sewerage proposals estimated to cost more than £9 million.

“Plans have been completed for 87 water and 19 sewerage projects estimated to cost approximately £2 million and £1 million respectively.

“There are at present under construction 104 water supply projects and 35 sewerage projects, the total cost of which will be more than £15 million.

“Forestry operations were vigorously conducted during the year under review and the Crown log cut was approximately 230 million superficial feet and of this amount approximately 20 million superficial feet were harvested from the plantations established by the Forestry Department.

“Total expenditure on reforestation was £1,450,000 and direct employment was provided for 1,350 men.

“On the tourist front, steps have been taken by my Advisers to give more publicity to Queensland's attractions and a campaign of press, periodical, and radio advertising has been launched in Southern States.

“Officers of the Public Service have continued to render loyal and efficient service. My Advisers were pleased to negotiate agreements with public service unions for increased classifications and salary scales.

“A new Public Service Superannuation Scheme, with appreciable benefit increases, came into effect in April.

“During the Session you will be invited to give consideration to the following, among other measures:

“An amendment of the Land Acts so as to give more equitable tenures to the Crown's tenants with a view to fostering and accelerating the development and best use of the State's lands.

“A measure will be laid before you having for its object the regulation on a proper and just basis of the interests of those who buy and sell by hire-purchase.

“A Bill will be introduced to establish a representative Trust charged with the function of establishing and conducting an adequate and modern public market for fruit and vegetables within the metropolitan area.

“My Ministers will proceed with a Bill to prevent the improper use of the State's badge, arms and floral emblem.

“For the purpose of ensuring to our people a reasonable supply in perpetuity of timbers for building and other industrial purposes a Bill will be introduced to provide for the setting apart of sufficient lands for forestry purposes and for securing the proper use for that purpose of these lands.

"My Government has been reviewing the laws relating to factories and shops, and in particular those laws so far as they provide for the health, welfare and industrial safety of workers. They consider that these laws can be improved and you will be asked to deal with legislation for this purpose.

"A Bill will be brought down to give statutory recognition to the Traffic Commission constituted of the Co-ordinator-General of Public Works as Chairman, the Commissioner of Police, the Commissioner of Main Roads, and the Brisbane Town Clerk, which has been set up to advise in an expert capacity on traffic problems both in the metropolitan area and elsewhere throughout the State. The Bill will make provision for representation on this Commission of any particular Local Authority outside the metropolis when traffic problems affecting its Area are under consideration.

"You will be invited to pass a Loan Bill authorising the raising of certain monies by the State by way of loans pursuant to the Commonwealth and States Financial Agreement.

"I invite your earnest consideration of all matters that may be brought before you and I pray that the blessings of Divine Providence attend your labours."

His Excellency then left the Chamber.

Mr. Speaker left the chair at 12.28 p.m., and resumed it at 2.30 p.m.

BY-ELECTION DURING RECESS; MULGRAVE

RETURN OF WRIT

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to report that during the recess I received from the Registrar-General a certified copy of the registration of the death, on 26 March, 1959, of Robert Hodgson Watson, Esquire, lately serving in the Legislative Assembly as Member for the Electoral District of Mulgrave.

In accordance with the direction of the tenth section of the Legislative Assembly Act of 1867, I issued a writ on 7 May, 1959 for the election of a member to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the electoral district of Mulgrave in the room of Robert Hodgson Watson, Esquire, deceased, and the said writ was duly returned to me with a certificate endorsed thereon by the returning officer of the election on 6 June, 1959, of Carlisle Favell Wordsworth, Esquire, to serve as such member.

NEW MEMBER

Mr. C. F. Wordsworth was introduced, took the oath of allegiance and subscribed the roll.

DEATH OF Mr. R. H. WATSON

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier) (2.33 p.m.), by leave, without notice: I move—

"1. That this House desires to place on record its sense of the loss this State has sustained by the death of Robert Hodgson Watson, Esquire, who was Member for the Electoral District of Mulgrave in the Queensland Parliament.

"2. That Mr. Speaker be requested to convey to the widow and family of the deceased gentleman the above resolution, together with an expression of the sympathy and sorrow of the Members of the Parliament of Queensland, in the loss they have sustained."

I am sure, Mr. Speaker, that hon. members fully sense the great loss in the passing of the late Mr. Watson. I am certain that all of us will miss his pleasant personality and cheery nature, and his presence about the House. The late Mr. Watson was indeed a true son of North Queensland. He was a great advocate for that part of the State for very many years, and he carried that advocacy into this Parliament during the two periods when he represented the Mulgrave electorate. He will be particularly remembered for his years of service to the sugar industry in which he spent most of his life both as a sugar grower and a leader of the industry.

He took a very prominent part in the organisational side of the industry as a member and executive officer of the A.S.P.A., as Chairman and Director of the Babinda mill, and Chairman of the District Cane Growers' Executive at Cairns.

During the time he occupied these executive positions, his was the guiding hand in the big expansion programme carried out by the Babinda mill.

Politically, he served the Country Party with distinction, and during the period he spent in this House his courtesy and sincerity left an impression on all hon. members who came in contact with him.

In addition to his interest in the sugar industry, he took a keen interest in all local matters. For a number of years he was a councillor of the Mulgrave Shire. In respect of anything worthwhile in public life, the late Bob Watson would be associated with it.

He was not a native of Australia. He was born in Yorkshire and came to Australia at a very early age and settled with his parents in Cairns. He spent the remainder of his life in that area serving it and its people.

His death is undoubtedly a great loss to the northern part of this State and the State as a whole. He set an example of how an area should be represented by the way in which he worked for the people.

I am sure that all hon. members will join with me in extending to his widow and family our very deep regret at his passing.

Mr. DUGGAN (North Toowoomba—Leader of the Opposition) (2.37 p.m.): I very much regret the need for a motion of this nature. On behalf of the Opposition I join most readily with the Premier in expressing very sincere sympathy in the sad loss sustained by the relatives of the late Mr. Watson. Unlike the Premier I am not able to give in chronological sequence the story of his arrival in Australia, his participation in the activities of so many public bodies and later his association in the political affairs of the Queensland Country Party, but, in common with many other hon. members I had the pleasure of knowing him very well, and the news of his sudden death came as an unpleasant shock to us all. It perhaps reminded us once again of the uncertainty of life generally. Undoubtedly he was a man in the prime of his life. He was in full possession of his faculties, and to all appearances appeared to be in good health when he was suddenly stricken down.

As the Premier has said, he was a very cheerful, friendly and affable man, and a vigorous debater. The political thrusts he made from time to time were always free from any malevolence and, although some of his political barbs may have occasionally gone home, there was no resentment later, because of the method in which he employed his argument.

He was unquestionably a very good Queenslander, and more particularly a very good North Queenslander. On every occasion when matters affecting the development of North Queensland were raised, it was customary to find Mr. Watson rising in his place and adding his contribution to the debate. In this he acquitted himself well.

Because of his ability in debate and his knowledge generally of important matters pertaining to the development of North Queensland, he was able to advance very rapidly in the internal councils of the sugar industry. We all know of the very constructive and efficient way in which he participated in that industry, and I understand that he had more than a passing knowledge of the timber industry as well.

It is to be regretted that a man of his calibre should pass from our midst. He was unique inasmuch as he lost his seat in Parliament and was later successfully able to woo the electors and obtain their confidence, a feat not achieved by very many people. Such is an expression of deep appreciation and confidence of the people who, after having withdrawn their support, re-conferred it. I am sure that it was a source of great satisfaction to him to know that he had re-won the confidence of his electors, and it is to be regretted that he did not have the opportunity to discharge it fully. Therefore, the Opposition in common with members of the Government deplore the passing of a man who made a real contribution in the times in which we live particularly to the sugar industry in which he engaged successfully for a time.

I express the thought, as some consolation to his relatives and those with whom he was closely associated that he left his monument in the valuable contributions he made to the economics of the sugar industry generally. I deplore the passing from our midst of a man, as the Premier remarked, who was a good Queenslander, a good Northerner and citizen. I join most sincerely in this expression of condolence to his sorrowing relatives.

Hon. V. C. GAIR (South Brisbane) (2.40 p.m.): The members of the Queensland Labour Party desire to be associated with this motion of condolence to the widow and relatives of the late Bob Watson. It is true, as the Premier said, that the late gentleman was a very good citizen of the State. He identified himself with the organisations associated with the industries in which he was interested. He associated himself with local government work and he represented the people of a northern electorate assiduously and well. He was a genial and friendly hon. member of this Parliament and he was friendly disposed towards all hon. members irrespective of their political views. I think that attitude was reciprocated by all hon. members generally. His sudden death was a shock to all of us; he was not an old man. Reports received whilst he was sick were encouraging. He was discharged from hospital and it was believed that he was on the way to a good recovery. However, Parliaments have no jurisdiction over death, there is nothing we can do about it except express our gratitude for a man like the late Bob Watson who was privileged to serve the people of the State in this Parliament. He aimed at serving them conscientiously and well. He had confidence in the State, believed in its future and he personally did everything he could to bring about the culmination of the work that lies ahead of each and every one of us, namely, the building of Queensland, and the making of a bigger and more prosperous State for all who are privileged to live within her boundaries. We are the poorer for the passing of the late Bob Watson. We can always remember him as a man who served the State and the people well.

Mr. AIKENS (Mundingburra) (2.44 p.m.): I join the Premier, the Leader of the Opposition, and the hon. member for South Brisbane, in expressing my deep regret at the passing of the late Bob Watson. I was in Cairns when the news came through that he had passed away and like the hon. member for South Brisbane I found it hard to believe that such was the case. In the years that the late gentleman was an hon. member of this House, in common with most other hon. members of the Chamber I learned to like him exceedingly. He set a high standard of courtesy and conduct in his dealings with everybody with whom he was associated both in and out of the Chamber. I liked him very much indeed, because he was one of the northern sugarmen who, from the humblest of beginnings, by sheer ability and tenacity

fought his way to the top. He was a good North Queenslander. I sometimes think that many sugar-men are good North Queenslanders because the sugar industry, from its early days, had to fight hard for survival and expansion. The lessons that the sugar-men learned in fighting for their own industry stood them in very good stead in their battles for a fair deal for North Queensland.

The accolade of being a good North Queenslander that Bob Watson bore so well was very well deserved. He was one of the many North Queenslanders who learned the lesson that in the fight for the development of the land that we all love so well it is necessary at times to brush party politics aside.

North Queensland is the better for Bob Watson's having lived, and the poorer for his passing.

Mr. RAMSDEN (Merthyr) (2.46 p.m.): I rise to support this motion of condolence because of my desire to be associated personally with the expression of sympathy that is to be conveyed to Mrs. Watson and her family. In saying these few words, I am speaking on behalf of a large cross-section of the people of Merthyr who had the privilege of knowing the late Bob Watson because of his acceptance of invitations to functions in that electorate.

On hearing of the death of our friend—and I refer to the late Bob Watson in that way advisedly—a cross-section of over 70 people, not confined to any one political party, passed a motion of condolence and sympathy which they asked me to convey to Mrs. Watson and her family.

I take this opportunity of adding the sorrow of the people of Merthyr to that of this House in the motion of condolence. We all recall the words of Sam Walter Foss—

“Let me live in a house by the side of the road,

And be a friend of man.”

That, indeed, was the simple philosophy of the late Bob Watson. By his death this Chamber lost a good-natured gentleman of high principle, friendly even in the most vigorous debate; the Government parties lost a member who was forthright in asserting his convictions, but always courteous, and a large number in my electorate, and I, lost a sincere friend whom we had learned to appreciate.

His honesty was unquestioned; his humility a true humility, which makes a better man of most of us. More than once he told me, as the Leader of the Opposition has said, that having been once elected to the House, then defeated and later re-elected, he felt a better man for having been defeated and was keen to give the people of Mulgrave better representation because he had had his spell “on the outer,” to use his own expression.

I conclude by saying that all of us who knew Bob Watson will miss his friendship and be the poorer for having lost it. But each of us who really knew him is the richer for having enjoyed, even for a short period, his mateship.

Mr. WORDSWORTH (Mulgrave) (2.50 p.m.): I should like to join with previous speakers in expressing sympathy to the family of the late Bob Watson. He and I had a good deal in common, as we worked together in quite a number of different spheres. We first really met when we were both elected to the House in 1950, he for Mulgrave and I for Cook. We had something more in common in 1953 when we were both defeated. Some six or eight months after my defeat I again became associated with him in the administration of the Cairns cane-growers' organisation and in that sphere I came to know him even better than I had known him during his term in Parliament.

All I can add is that Bob Watson left a footprint on the sands of time in North Queensland. The people of Mulgrave will never forget him. He was a good friend, an honest man and a man who could keep his temper at all times.

Mr. WINDSOR (Fortitude Valley) (2.51 p.m.): I desire to join the Premier and other hon. gentlemen in extending to the widow and family of the late Bob Watson my deep and heartfelt sympathy. I did not know him until I entered the House two years ago and I was immediately impressed by his friendliness. He had a wonderful sense of humour. He was very helpful to all hon. members and he treated with dignity and respect everyone in the House even the humblest worker.

He had a deep love for his family. One afternoon, I remember well, I was sitting here with him when he looked up into the gallery and saw his dear wife and he said to me, “Isn't she lovely?” That, Mr. Speaker, was Robert Watson.

Motion (Mr. Nicklin) agreed to, hon. members standing in silence.

DEATH OF Mr. C. H. JAMIESON

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier) (2.53 p.m.), by leave, without notice: I move—

“(1) That this House desires to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered to this State by the late Charles Henry Jamieson, Esquire, a former member of the Parliament of Queensland.

“(2) That Mr. Speaker be requested to convey to the widow and family of the deceased gentleman the above resolution, together with an expression of the sympathy and sorrow of the members of the Parliament of Queensland, in the loss they have sustained.”

The passing of the late Charles Jamieson removed from the scene of the State's rural history a very colourful figure, a gentleman who devoted a very large part of his long life to helping the rural industries and those engaged in them. He was a Country Party Member of the 25th Parliament of Queensland from his election in May, 1929, until the seat of Lockyer, which he represented, was abolished in the redistribution of electorates in 1932.

During his time in Parliament he was a very vigorous advocate for the primary producers and the primary industries, particularly for the dairying industry. He was the foundation president of the Queensland Dairymen's Organisation, having been elected in 1946, and he held the position of president of that very important and widespread organisation in the State until 1954. He also held very many other important positions in the dairying industry, not merely in Queensland but in the Commonwealth. He was president of the Australian Dairy Farmers Federation, a member of the Australian Dairy Produce Board, District Council Chairman of the West Moreton Dairymen's Organisation and member of the Board of Directors of the Queensland Farmers Co-operative Dairy Association—a record of service that is not very often equalled by any other man. In those positions he gave of his best to the industry in which he took such a keen interest. He also was active in other public affairs, being a member and subsequently chairman of the Gatton Shire Council for a number of years. During his long life he gave great service to the people of the State. Queensland is indeed the poorer for his passing. Nevertheless we can say that during the time that he was here he made a notable contribution towards the advancement of Queensland, particularly the dairying industry that he was so keenly interested in. I am sure all hon. members will join in conveying to his relatives their sense of sorrow at his passing.

Mr. DUGGAN (North Toowoomba—Leader of the Opposition) (2.56 p.m.): Once again I join with the Premier in associating the Opposition with a motion of condolence to the relatives of a man who, although he was only a short time in this House, nevertheless played a very notable part in various parts of Queensland for a number of years. I knew Mr. Jamieson before my entry into parliamentary life. When I first became interested in public affairs I had the good fortune to meet Mr. Jamieson. Over a number of years I travelled with him by train to Gatton on very many occasions. I regarded him as a personal friend. I sought his advice and counsel on many occasions on matters appertaining to the agricultural and dairying industries. I found his advice to be extremely valuable on every occasion. It could be said with truth that few men in Australia possessed the detailed knowledge of agriculture, particularly the dairying industry, that Mr. Jamieson had. He was a veritable mine of information on all matters. As a man who has

played some part in the Queensland Dairymen's Organisation, the Minister for Agriculture and Stock will agree that there are few duties more onerous than those associated with the task of being an executive official of a dairymen's organisation. I have seen their agenda on very many occasions. It embraces everything from tariff matters to the eradication of noxious weeds. The chairman of the various conferences is expected to give a lead on a very wide range of subjects. Very few men whom I have known could do that with such skill and with such advantage as the late Mr. Jamieson did.

He was not a flamboyant type. He was a person who had a very quiet, calm demeanour which I think lent authority and dignity to any statement or contribution he made. For that reason his views were always widely respected. It is true that he was able to gain the confidence of dairymen generally. As a result he was promoted to very high positions in the dairying industry, not only in Queensland but on an Australia-wide basis. Because of these appointments he was in a position to advance materially the well-being of dairy farmers. He was in the Queensland Parliament at the time of a catastrophic drop in prices of rural commodities. No doubt that was one of the contributing causes of his failure to find a suitable seat following the elimination of his electorate on a redistribution. With the decline in rural prices it was possibly difficult to convince the farmers of the desirability of continuing him as their representative. But that was not his fault. There was a world-wide recession, and the difficulty was accentuated no doubt by local circumstances. But he did a very great job of work in organising farmers at a time when organisation was very difficult indeed. Those who now believe in farmers' organisations have much to thank Mr. Jamieson for, his foresight, his organising ability, and the way in which he was able to rally support around the Queensland Dairymen's Organisation which has been responsible for making it such a strong force in rural matters today.

We deplore the loss of yet another hon. member of this Parliament. I do not think we meet at the beginning of any session when we do not participate in a motion of this kind. There must be a heavy mortality amongst members of Parliament. Every session that I have been here motions of condolence have been moved. We have a gap in our ranks. Those who come along to succeed cannot throw their minds back quite so far as the Premier who has had a very long association with this House. One or two other hon. members of the Government have been here for many years. I do not think that the Premier was a member of Parliament when the late Mr. Jamieson was here, but he would know better than perhaps many other hon. members of the number who played a worthwhile part in political affairs and who have been removed from Parliament with the effluxion of time and who have been claimed by death. I have

pleasure in paying a tribute to the late Mr. Jamieson for his great contribution in organising the dairying industry, and for his profound knowledge displayed in executive positions. He was not narrow in his political views. He could associate himself with a motion emanating from the Government or the Opposition. He was not a man who acted on narrow, rigid Party lines. He had appreciation of people who believed that Party sometimes imposed unnecessarily rigid discipline. I do not share that view. I think that Party Governments are the best way of carrying out the work of Government. The late Mr. Jamieson was a great democrat and I deplore his passing. I join with the Premier in expressing our sincere regret.

Hon. V. C. GAIR (South Brisbane) (3.1 p.m.): I wish to associate my Party and myself with this resolution. Although I knew Mr. Jamieson as a personality associated with the dairying industry I did not know him as a member of Parliament. His period as a Parliamentarian terminated in 1932, the year in which I was elected, and the same year as the Premier was elected; but I knew of his work in regard to dairying. The little I knew of him indicated that he worked zealously for the dairying industry of this State. He was a man who was keen on doing his very best for it. He worked assiduously and well and achieved many advantages for it.

I am not able to speak of his work as a Parliamentarian, but I am sure that if he showed the same industry in his work here as he did for the dairying organisation the people he represented were well served.

Hon. A. G. MULLER (Fassifern—Minister for Public Lands and Irrigation) (3.4 p.m.): Perhaps no man living knew more of the public life of Charlie Jamieson than myself. In 1925 when I joined the Board of the Queensland farmers Mr. Jamieson was then chairman and for approximately 27 years I worked with him on the Board. As the Premier has said, in the course of his work with the dairying industry he was successful in obtaining office on every board in the industry, intrastate and interstate. Those of us who knew him realise he was a forceful character. He would continue to fight for anything he thought to be right until he had attained his objective. He denied himself much leisure and much of his home life, to the disadvantage of his wife and family. They never saw a great deal of him, but he was a great worker for the industry. In those days the conditions were hard and organisation was lacking very sadly. I am safe in saying that he made a very sound contribution in establishing the industry on its present sound footing.

I join with other hon. members in expressing my deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

Hon. G. W. W. CHALK (Lockyer—Minister for Transport) (3.6 p.m.): As the parliamentary representative of the portion of

the State previously represented by the late Mr. C. H. Jamieson, I should be failing in my duty if I did not, on behalf of the people who knew him and whom he represented so well, associate myself personally with this expression of sympathy to Mrs. Jamieson and his family.

No greater tribute could be paid to the late Mr. Jamieson than the fact that because of his association with the dairying industry his name remains a household word in many homes in my electorate.

As a Minister of the Crown I visited Bundaberg to attend a public function and Mr. Jamieson was present, illustrating clearly that even in his retirement he still retained a keen interest in the dairying industry and the party to which he belonged in this Chamber. I associate myself personally with the motion.

Motion (Mr. Nicklin) agreed to, hon. members standing in silence.

PANEL OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN

Mr. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the requirements of Standing Order No. 13, I nominate the following members to form the panel of Temporary Chairmen for the present session—

William Edward Baxter, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Norman;

Alexander Tattenhall Dewar, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Chermside;

Paul Jerome Remigius Hilton, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Carnarvon;

David Alan Low, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Coorooora;

David Eric Nicholson, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Murrumba.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table—

Regulations under the Public Service Acts, 1922 to 1958.

Regulations under the Audit Act of 1874.

Regulations under the Public Service Superannuation Act of 1958.

Order in Council under the Public Service Acts, 1922 to 1958.

Order in Council under the Bureau of Industry Acts, 1932 to 1943, the Local Bodies' Loans Guarantee Acts, 1923 to 1936, the Labour and Industry Acts, 1946 to 1952, and the State Development and Public Works Organisation Acts, 1938 to 1958.

Order in Council under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Acts, 1938 to 1958, and the Tully Falls Hydro-Electric Project Act of 1950.

Proclamations under the Public Works Land Resumption Acts, 1906 to 1955, the State Development and Public Works Organisation Acts, 1938 to 1958, and the Barron River Hydro-Electric Extension Project Act of 1958.

Regulations under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts, 1932 to 1958.

Regulations under the Hide, Skin, and Wool Dealers Act of 1958.

Regulations under the Weights and Measures Acts, 1951 to 1958.

Regulations under the Traffic Acts, 1949 to 1958.

Regulations under the Inspection of Scaffolding Acts, 1915 to 1959.

Order in Council under the Factories and Shops Acts, 1900 to 1958.

Order in Council under the Labour and Industry Acts, 1946 to 1952.

Order in Council under the Liquor Acts, 1912 to 1958.

Proclamation under the Hide, Skin, and Wool Dealers Act of 1958.

Rules of Court under the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act of 1932.

Regulations under the Apprentices and Minors Acts, 1929 to 1959.

Statute under the University of Queensland Acts, 1909 to 1957.

Proclamation under the Queensland Art Gallery Act of 1959.

Order in Council under the District Courts Act of 1958.

Order in Council under the Supreme Court Act of 1921.

Order in Council under the Queensland Law Society Act of 1952.

Order in Council under the Magistrates Courts Acts, 1921 to 1954.

Order in Council under the Public Curator Acts, 1915 to 1957.

Order in Council under the Liquor Acts, 1912 to 1959.

Order in Council under the Criminal Code.

Regulations under the Art Union Regulation Acts, 1930 to 1956.

Regulations under the Registration of Firms Act of 1953.

Regulations under the Auctioneers and Commission Agents Acts, 1922 to 1953.

Regulations under the Trust Accounts Acts, 1923 to 1959.

Proclamation under the District Courts Act of 1958.

Proclamation under the Reciprocal Enforcement of Judgments Act of 1927.

Order in Council under the Co-operative Housing Societies Act of 1958.

Order in Council under the Fisheries Act of 1957.

Order in Council under the Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1959.

Order in Council under the Queensland Marine Act of 1958.

Order in Council under the Racing and Betting Acts, 1954 to 1957.

Regulations under the Co-operative Housing Societies Act of 1958.

Regulations under the Fisheries Act of 1957.

Regulations under the Queensland Marine Act of 1958.

Regulations under the Racing and Betting Acts, 1954 to 1957.

Proclamation under the Farmers' Assistance (Debts Adjustment) Acts, 1935 to 1945.

By-law under the Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1959.

Ordinances under the City of Brisbane Acts, 1924 to 1958.

By-laws Nos. 789 to 810 inclusive under the Railways Acts, 1914 to 1958.

GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to report that His Excellency the Governor this day delivered to Parliament an Opening Speech of which, for greater accuracy, I have obtained a copy. I presume hon. members will take the Speech as read?

Honourable Members: Hear, hear!

ADDRESS IN REPLY

OPENING DAY

Mr. WORDSWORTH (Mulgrave) (3.38 p.m.), who was received with Government "Hear, hears!", said: I move—

"That the following Address be presented to the Governor in reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency in opening this, the third session of the Thirty-fifth Parliament of Queensland—

'May it please Your Excellency—

'We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislature of Queensland, in Parliament assembled, desire to assure Your Excellency of our continued loyalty and affection towards the Throne and Person of Our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to tender our thanks to Your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present Session.

'The various measures to which Your Excellency has referred, and all other matters that may be brought before us, will receive our most careful consideration, and it shall be our earnest endeavour so to deal with them that our labours may tend to the advancement and prosperity of the State.'

All hon. members will agree that Queensland is indeed fortunate in having as the representative of Our Sovereign a man of the

calibre of Sir Henry Abel Smith. The sterling service to Queensland being rendered by His Excellency and Lady May Abel Smith is greatly appreciated by the citizens of Queensland who, in this our Centenary Year, are united in looking forward with favourable anticipation to the forthcoming visit of Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra of Kent. I know all hon. members sincerely trust that the visit of Her Royal Highness will prove to be informative, interesting and beneficial.

Being a new member of this Parliament I should like to remind my friends in the Opposition that I do not desire the privileges given to an hon. member making his maiden speech as I made mine in 1950. If by accident I should say something provocative, and they desire to reply, they may do so.

As exemplified by the speech of His Excellency the Governor today the Government have got results and have done many splendid things in the last two years. The Ministers have been kept very busy—the Government Party did a good job in the selection of Cabinet. Its members have made a success of their own lives, they have had previous experience in administration.

The Mulgrave electorate has its problems. Some hon. members opposite have not even visited it, but most members know that the Mulgrave electorate produces a great deal of primary products. It has four sugar mills, which could, if allowed to do so by world markets, harvest up to 1,500,000 tons of cane a year. A large dairying industry is centred on the Tableland portion of the electorate with important centres at Malanda and Millaa Millaa. It also has the longest whole-milk run in the world; milk is taken from the Tablelands as far as Mt. Isa. Ten sawmills operate on native timbers from the rain forests. The Mulgrave electorate offers many attractions to tourists, in fact is one of the most famous tourist areas in the State. A tour including Lakes Eacham and Barrine is regarded by the Queensland Tourist Bureau as offering one of the best 8-day tours in the State.

The sugar industry has its problems, but the sugar organisations of Australia and the Governments, have been successful in making an overseas agreement assuring Australia an irreducible export market each year. Australia is a party to the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement and the International Sugar Agreement and the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments can be complimented on this. Under the Commonwealth agreement, approximately 300,000 tons of sugar are sold to the United Kingdom market each year at a negotiated price that is decided upon in October of every preceding year. The balance of the quota, something over 300,000 tons of sugar, has to be sold at the world market price. A year ago that price was about £40-odd a ton, whereas today it is about £27. That is one of the sugar industry's problems, and it is one

about which no-one in Australia can do anything. The only solution lies in an increased demand for sugar on the world market, which would bring prices back to normal.

The sugar industry of Queensland is very well organised; it is possibly the best organised rural industry in Australia. That is as it should be, because it is the largest primary industry in Queensland. Over the past two years, the production of sugar in Queensland has been worth more to this State than that of wool. The sugar industry may not hold pride of place next year but, as I say, for two years or more the value of its production has exceeded that of any other industry in the State.

Over the years the sugar industry has enjoyed the benefit of legislation that has been passed from time to time by Governments, both State and Commonwealth. As a general rule, that legislation has been sought by the industry organisations and has been of great benefit to those engaged in it. One of the Acts governing the operations of the industry in Queensland is the Regulation of Sugar Cane Prices Act, the provisions of which have always been regarded by both growers and millers as quite satisfactory.

Within the last month, however, some cause for dissatisfaction with the Act has arisen. The Central Sugar Cane Prices Board, which is set up by the Act, consists of five members: the Chairman, who is a judge of the Supreme Court, a growers' representative, a millers' representative, a chemist member, and an accountant member. Recently the Board cited for contempt Mr. Lawton Taylor who, as editor of "The Producers' Review," which is the official organ of the Queensland Cane-growers' Association, published an article criticising it. He was found guilty of contempt by the Chairman of the Board, and although he was not otherwise punished I have no doubt that his costs were very extensive.

As there is no appeal against any of the Board's decisions, many people in the industry, both growers and millers, fear that fair criticism of it will now be stifled. In the past, they regarded it as their privilege to criticise in a reasonable way any decision of the Board with which they disagreed. I respectfully suggest to the Minister for Agriculture and Stock, through you, Mr. Speaker, that he study the Regulation of Sugar Cane Prices Act to see whether it requires amendment to make this "board of no appeal" something that is democratic. If the Board should frequently exercise the power that it has recently exercised, it would not be long before it became a sort of dictatorship.

The cane-growers of Queensland number over 8,000 and, alone among the primary producers of Australia, on the advice of their organisations and for very good reason, they have submitted to a form of price control over the sale of their farms. They have

done that because of their interstate agreements on prices. They have submitted to that control willingly for many years; but, many growers are becoming discontented. Some growers cleared virgin country to make a farm and worked it up all their working lives, 30 or 40 years or more. If they sell without the permission of the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board the farm will lose its cane assignment and the purchaser will not have the right to grow cane for manufacture into sugar. If the cane-grower wants to sell, he has to submit details of the sale arrangements, the assets, &c., to the Board in Brisbane and get its approval. The system has worked very well for the most part but often the Board has at first refused permission and then, after further inquiry, has allowed the price offered or ordered a reduction in the sale price as a condition of approval. Admittedly, requiring approval has prevented inflation of the sale price of cane farms but all round the Commonwealth today hotels that cost £3,000 or £4,000 to build 50 years ago are being sold for as much as £50,000. Storekeepers and merchants come up from the South to Brisbane and offer £2,700,000 for a departmental store—an offer that everyone thinks is fabulous. Then next day someone else raises it to £4,000,000-odd.

Mr. Power: Do you think that is a good thing for Queensland?

Mr. WORDSWORTH: I am not thinking of that at the moment, but what is good for the goose is good for the gander. If a man wants to sell his asset, surely he has the right to sell it on the open market for whatever he can get for it. As it is the business practice throughout the country for assets to appreciate and for the vendors to reap the advantage of that appreciation, it is wrong to restrict the producer of one of the most valuable commodities in the State in the sale of his farm. It may be that the value of cane farms will fall because of the overseas price, but if high values are maintained, some consideration should be given to the farmer who has built up the assets by his own efforts. Although it might be desirable for an element of control over the sale of farms to continue I think the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board should discharge that part of its job with kid gloves rather than with an iron hand.

The four sugar mills in the Mulgrave electorate employ about 1,000 mill workers and 1,600 cane-cutters in the crushing season. Unfortunately, one of the greatest problems is that the industry cannot provide employment for more than a small number of these men in the off season. Therefore we have seasonal unemployment in the district. The problem of seasonal unemployment in North Queensland could be overcome easily but for wet weather. The dairying industry carries on all the year round. The timber industry would be able to carry on all the year round but for the long wet season. The sawmills

run out of logs and they have to retrench. Road works are not the solution. The Minister for Development, Mines, and Main Roads made ample allocation of funds for road works in the Far North but unfortunately, as everyone knows, road works cannot be carried out in flood weather. In the Far North this year we had the longest wet season I have ever known, and I was born there.

A Government Member: Ninety consecutive days.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: More than that. Some of the large mills did not have a log left.

We do not make propaganda speeches like those made by the hon. member for Norman over the air about unemployment in Queensland. It is all very well to talk about it but the hon. member and others who talk like him do not offer any suggestions.

Mr. Lloyd: You aren't either.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: I intend to. The propaganda with which the Australian Labour Party members are very active at the present time fits in very nicely with the propaganda indulged in by the leaders of the Communist Party in Queensland. Gerry Dawson of the Trades and Labour Council and the A.L.P. are working on a unity ticket as far as propaganda is concerned, just as surely as the Victorian Labour Party is working on another unity ticket. They are not making any reasonable suggestions at all. All they are doing is capitalising on misery. They are doing nothing about making practical suggestions to overcome seasonal unemployment. At the present time, although we have seasonal unemployment problems in Queensland, there are more people in employment in Queensland than ever before in the State's history. In "The Courier-Mail" last week 353 jobs were advertised in and near Brisbane. The problem of seasonal unemployment must eventually be tackled by some Government. We had a succession of Labour Governments for 39 or 40 years and they made no attempt to tackle the seasonal unemployment problem. The problem did not arise during the few years after the Second World War because every sugar mill in Queensland started an expansion programme to increase capacity. The mills did most of their own foundry work. They employed their own engineers and fitters and turners, and all the local men were employed for some years. There were as many employed in some mills during the slack season as there were during the crushing season.

Mr. Wallace: No.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: The hon. member for Cairns may know all about the butchering business but he knows nothing about sugar mills. I am speaking of slack-season employment in the sugar industry, which the Government should look into.

Mr. Davies interjected.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: It is important to remind the hon. member who interjected that when his Government were in power they did nothing.

Mr. Walsh: There was no unemployment then.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: Not much! Most mills employ 380 to 420 cane cutters in the season.

Mr. Mann: How many local ones?

Mr. WORDSWORTH: Not many local ones. There is only one reason for that—they cannot get them. During the last years part of my task as industrial officer for the cane-growers' organisation was to engage sufficient cutters. That is a very big problem. With the exception of one year during the past five years we never had enough cutters. At the start of the season there was probably a surplus and halfway through just about enough but at the end of the season there was not enough. The explanation is simple. Unlike members of the Opposition, who still live in the days of the pick and shovel, the young fellows in the sugar districts can see the writing on the wall and they are going in for secure jobs. It is logical for them to do that. We cannot get sufficient local labour. Each year the sugar organisations have been happy to get migrants—sometimes selected migrants—to come to these districts to cut a good share of the cane.

Mr. Evans: They had to send overseas for them.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: They had to send overseas to get them. Not one local cane cutter who wanted to cut cane was refused a job in the Cairns district while I was secretary. Most cane-cutters earn between £800 and £900 in a season, and £33 or £34 a week is fair average wage for a cane-cutter in the Cairns district. Some of the best cutters earn a great deal more than that, others earn less, but that is the average. Many migrant cutters after the sugar season has finished go to Victoria, where at Shepparton they do contract fruit-picking. In that work they earn just as much as they do when cane-cutting. Not more than 20 per cent. of migrant cane-cutters return to the North for a second year of cane-cutting. They take jobs in other places, but those who do return arrive in the North about March and register for unemployment benefits. That in itself swells the unemployment figure. Until the Chifley Government were defeated a single man received only 30s. a week, but it is now £3 10s. a week for a single man and over £6 a week for a married man and his wife. Many who register as unemployed have in fact earned more than £1,000 in the year, and are merely waiting for a couple of months in order to get employment. A solution for seasonal unemployment may be found in several directions. The Minister for Labour and Industry has organised an approach to the problem, and

his action is very good. It should achieve favourable results, but the work to be done must be of a reproductive nature. The hon. member for Norman in a broadcast speech commented on this problem.

Mr. Hanlon: You listened to it.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: I read it in the "Courier-Mail." It would appear that the hon. member for Norman expected the Government in this long wet season to employ a division of men in shifting water from the Mulgrave River to Babinda Creek in buckets. There was nothing else they could do, such as road or bridge work. The first step has been taken. As the second step, the Department of Labour and Industry, through its industrial inspectors, should try to co-ordinate the demand for labour by various employers in the district, that is, sugar-millers, sawmillers, farmers, local authorities, the Main Roads Commission, and so on. They should prepare a record of events likely to happen. A mill may be finishing its crushing on a certain date. Men will be paid off at that time. The local council may have certain jobs to be done. They should not be started a fortnight before the mill finishes, but should be commenced a week later. In that way the men from the mill could obtain employment with the council. That is my idea of co-ordination of work. It can be done, but a few problems would be encountered. Councils do not want to undertake work in wet weather, because the work has to be done with loan money and if men cannot work because of wet weather each mile of road costs much more than it would if it was constructed in dry weather.

Another avenue of employment that should be given serious consideration, and previous Labour Governments had a great opportunity to do something on these lines, is the work of reforestation. A really big scheme could be carried out in the rain forest country of the Far North and the work would be of great value, particularly in future years. Thousands of acres of suitable country are available. Reforestation could be carried out in wet weather. With my limited knowledge of gardening I have always found that plants grow or strike better if they are planted in rainy weather. Queensland has lagged very badly behind other States in this work, although that is not the fault of the Government. They cannot work miracles in two years, although they have done a great deal in that time. Reforestation has to be started sooner or later. We have some very good plots between Brisbane and Caloundra, and there is a further area on the Atherton Tableland where reforestation has been carried out, but I do not remember having seen any other blocks, and I have travelled by car through most areas of Queensland. In New South Wales wherever land is available reforestation work is undertaken. In South Australia, a dry, arid State, with a sparse rainfall and one short of natural timber, there is a £2,000,000 timber industry with a couple of large sawmills based on timber planted in

the areas. The Government might give consideration to those suggestions with a view to taking the edge off the seasonal unemployment problem in the Far North.

With their road policy the Government have set an example for other Governments to follow. I drove from Cairns to Brisbane last week along the coast road. I have driven over it many times in the last 15 years and I have not seen it in a better condition than now, with the exception of two or three fairly bad spots. One can observe the financial drive by the Minister for Development, Mines, and Main Roads with assistance of the Government, but one cannot but be concerned at the damage to many of our recently-made roads. There is a bitumen section on the Brisbane side of Rockhampton, a comparatively new road, but in places it is beginning to wear. The section between Sarina and Marlborough, also a comparatively new road, is wearing and in driving over it one would think one was riding on a wave, all brought about by the heavy transports that use it.

Mr. Aikens: Which travel at high speeds.

Mr. WORDSWORTH: I agree with the hon. member for Mundingburra. These transports should be restricted in speed, restricted to a correct loading, and be made to use adequate tyres for their loads. They should be thoroughly checked to prevent overloading. I heard a young driver of a vehicle which had stopped where operators get petrol, oil, and food, boast that he had brought a 69-ton load on a 40-ton lorry from New South Wales only a couple of weeks before. There is need for co-operation between the Department of Main Roads and the Police Department to mitigate the great damage that is being done to our road system. It is not right that road operators, who compete with the railways for high freight goods and let the railways carry unprofitable freights like fertilisers should tear our bitumen roads to pieces.

I do not desire an extension of time, and so I shall speak on the dairying industry for the remainder of my time. Hon. members know full well that over 100,000 Australian families depend upon the dairying industry for a livelihood. It is the only industry in Australia that must work seven days a week, but because of neglect by previous Governments in Queensland it has had to contend with unfair competition from margarine. Remember that margarine is produced largely from imported black-labour material. Furthermore, all margarine is not made from vegetable products; quite a lot of it is made out of waste fat from the Brisbane abattoirs. Hon. members opposite say that butter is too dear, but in 1929 when the basic wage was about £3 14s. 2d. a week the price of butter was about 2s. a lb. What is the price today? It is about 4s. 6d. a lb. in most places and without the subsidy it would be about 5s 6d. The price of butter has not kept pace with the increases in the basic wage.

Finally, I am very happy to be back with the Government. With only one exception, every item of the Australia Labour Party's policy can be either equalled or bettered by that of the Government. The exception to which I refer is socialisation, which every real Australian realises can be implemented only through bloodshed. For that reason, the people of Queensland have no alternative but to support the policy of the Government. Although the official Opposition may have the support of a few union leaders—it certainly does not enjoy the support of the Australian Workers' Union—it has not the backing of the people of Queensland as a whole, who believe in free enterprise. As long as the Government continue to govern in the interests of every section of the community—as they have till now—they can expect many more terms of office.

Mr. KNOX (Nundah) (4.17 p.m.): I desire to second the motion that has been so ably moved by the hon. member for Mulgrave, and to congratulate him on the magnificent way in which he has opened this very important debate. I became acquainted with him when I took part in his campaign earlier in the year, and during that time I could not help but be more than impressed with the wonderful work that the Government have done in North Queensland since assuming office.

Mr. Aikens: You contributed in no small measure to his success.

Mr. KNOX: Hon. members from North Queensland have been congratulated on their voices, and I did not think it would be very long before we heard the moose call of the hon. member for Mundingburra.

I should like also to say how much the people of Queensland appreciate the wonderful work that His Excellency Sir Henry Abel Smith and Lady May have done for Queensland. Since their arrival they have travelled extensively throughout the State. His Excellency has been to Weipa and Cape York, to Thargomindah in the Far South-west, to the Central-west, and to Mt. Isa and Mary Kathleen in the Far North-west. He has travelled by road, rail, and air, and has made himself thoroughly familiar with both the interests and the problems of the State. His sincerity of purpose is an example to all those who hold office in public life.

It is of course well known that Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra of Kent will be visiting this State very shortly. We are privileged to have a visit from such a popular personage. She is well liked in the Home Country, and I am sure that we shall find her a delightful person. She is not a monarch, it is true, nevertheless we are very fortunate that she is able to be with us on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of responsible government in this State.

On this occasion I think we can dispense with a great deal of the formality that has been associated with previous Royal visits.

Parliamentarians, aldermen and councillors have their proper places in the functions associated with the visit, and naturally as they are the elected representatives of the people, they should be in their places on such an occasion. However, as Princess Alexandra is a young lady of wide interests, she should be given the opportunity of meeting as many people as possible during her short stay here. I was very distressed, therefore, to learn that some local authorities who clamoured for a visit by Her Royal Highness have decided to charge for admission to the balls that they are holding in her honour. While it is their right to make the decision, it is also the right of people who disagree with it to say so. After all, there are many people in the community who would be delighted to have Her Royal Highness visit their areas and they would go to any expense for her, yet some areas see fit to charge an admission fee to the Royal Ball. How can young people between the ages of 18 and 25, working people, afford high admission charges to functions?

Mr. Graham: There would not be very many working people there.

Mr. KNOX: I can assure the hon. member that would be quite right: It is well known that hospitality in Queensland can be warm and spontaneous and it should be on this occasion. It is a pity that some areas who would be prepared to go to great lengths to have the Princess visit them—and I am thinking particularly of the Gold Coast—will not have the honour while other areas that have been granted the privilege will charge admission fees.

We have had as another visitor to the State a very charming lady, Dame Florence Hancock, a former President of the Trade Union Congress. A very delightful person she was, too. I was very sorry to see her leave.

Today another guest of the State arrives, Mr. Vaughan-Morgan, Minister of State of the Board of Trade, London.

Having these guests in the Centenary Year makes us realise more fully our very close association with the Home country. Every organisation in Queensland is having important people visit the State this year. Churches, business associations, and sporting associations are all having visitors and it is wonderful the way the people throughout the State are supporting the Centenary celebrations. The best of them are yet to come.

Let me now recall a little history so that we can see events in true perspective and perhaps gauge something of what we shall see in the future. On Tuesday, 22 May, 1860, the first Parliament of Queensland met. It is true that the centenary of that event will not be until next year; nevertheless we are celebrating the State's Centenary this year. The meeting of the first Parliament was surrounded with pageantry and ceremony, which was noted throughout Australia. It was said

at the time that Queensland had earned her majority. I stress that word "earned." When we hear of new parliaments coming into being in many parts of the world, particularly Africa and Asia, many of them surrounded by bloodshed, murder, and discord, and possibly further discord, we are very proud to think that our Parliament was earned. It is a great privilege to have parliamentary government without having bloodshed and discord associated with its founding.

Mr. Graham: It is just unfortunate that you represent a minority in the Centenary Year.

Mr. KNOX: People today are not as interested in Parliament as the people in Queensland were in 1860. I think there should be more opportunities for them to see Parliament in action. They might be able to see the hon. member for Mackay with his feet on the benches and they might be able to see some hon. members asleep, but that is not what I am referring to. I am referring particularly to the interest of the people in Parliament as an institution. I know that many hon. members bring children to the House but that is the privilege of those who live in the metropolitan area or nearby. Many children in country areas are not able to see Parliament in action. Queenslanders in the outback should have the opportunity. No doubt their Parliamentary representatives will arrange for that. I am speaking particularly of the opening of Parliament. It might be wise to experiment with the opening of Parliament at a time other than in working hours so that people could come along to see the pomp, circumstance, and ceremony that goes with the opening of Parliament. I am sure that if people saw these things they would realise how important they are. Parliament could well advertise itself as an institution. The duties of sitting members are realised by very few people. If we could bring people closer to Parliament—to the building, to the House itself—I am sure there would be a greater appreciation of the work done here.

The subjects of Governor Bowen's opening speech in 1860 are very interesting. Parliament had such matters to discuss as the laying of an overland telegraph line to enable contact to be made with Java. It is remarkable to realise that we can now speak to places all over the world. In a hundred years that has been done.

The problems of immigration were mentioned in Governor Bowen's Speech. In those days migrants came to this country without jobs or houses waiting for them. Our forefathers made the best of what they found when they arrived here. Looking back now, we realise what a great gesture they made by coming to this country.

The immigration policy we are pursuing is very wise, but it is in competition with other countries that also want migrants. In the news yesterday I heard that in Belgium 25,000 coal-miners would be put out of work in the next three years because of the decline in

the coal industry in that country. Associated with coal miners are many technicians, men who drive engines, electricians, engineers, and others with technical qualifications. This is one time when Australia should be on the spot. These people should be given a chance to come to Australia. Let us say, "We have a country that needs development. We have a country that needs people to increase development." I am not suggesting that they come out here to be coal miners. I am suggesting that their abilities and skills should be used by this country. Let us tell them that they need not go without bread and butter if they make the journey. We could do that in a very highly competitive world that is seeking markets. We must do it now. We cannot afford to sit back and wait for them to come. We have to go and get them.

The Governor's Speech in 1860 referred to the around-the-Cape route and the encouraging of commerce between Queensland and the Home countries. It is surprising how long that route has taken to develop. One of the interesting ventures that has developed recently, one that we should encourage particularly in Queensland, is trade with the Far East, the Philippines, Hong Kong, and Japan, so that we may have the roads of commerce passing our own front door. If we can do that we certainly will be able to encourage many more industries than we have in the past. If we can develop the trade routes that pass our own front door I think that Brisbane will become one of the main trade and commerce centres of the world. At the moment Brisbane is becoming one of the international airports. A tremendous amount of air traffic has developed with the Far East and the Middle East, and now with London. This has been a big achievement for Queensland. I think that the future of the trade with the Far East can be coupled with the development of Queensland ports.

In Governor Bowen's Speech reference was made to the use of Crown lands which has been a perennial problem in Queensland. Already our Government have taken strong action to ensure security of tenure and a better use of the lands lying idle. Reference was also made to the development of coastal ports. It is amazing how long that has taken. Since we took office a tremendous development has taken place as a result of the policy of the Government. One of the interesting matters in that Speech was the reference to the salary and conditions of public servants. Recently it was necessary that something be done to improve wages and conditions of public servants because of the neglect over the past 40 years. Most of the problems that concerned the people 100 years ago still concern us because we are a developing State. We have only started, and although the hon. members of the Assembly in 1860 thought in broad terms and had much vision they had no idea of the magnitude of the task that confronted them. They would be surprised to know that the State is still being developed. This Government are playing a major part in

that development. One of the first Bills introduced in the first Queensland Parliament was one relating to public houses and one of the first matters was that the windows on the opposite side should be open or shut according to which way the breeze was blowing. Hon. members were apparently just as concerned with their health in those days as they are now. One of the interesting things I discovered during my research was that the hon. member who seconded the Address in Reply—Mr. Broughton—attempted to outline what Queensland would be like in 100 years' time. I am not going to attempt to prophesy what will happen in 100 years' time from now. When I look at my 14-month-old son who is growing up in an age when satellites, atomic power, jet planes going round the world non-stop, interplanetary travel, and things of that nature are taken for granted, I hesitate to suggest what will be happening in 100 years time from now.

Mr. Aikens: There is one consolation, you will not be here.

Mr. KNOX: There are two consolations. Neither of us will be here. Who knows what will be the future of Queensland? No-one can tell. We believe there are no limits to development. We might even see little green men with bug eyes sitting round the gallery looking down at hon. members. Never in the history of any country have we seen such an oil rush as that seen in Queensland during the last year. It happened as a direct result of legislation introduced by the Government to encourage oil companies to undertake prospecting work. It will be difficult to find oil, but through the initiative of the Government oil companies have been encouraged to search for it in Queensland. We have witnessed the development at Mt. Isa, development which in itself will colour the next 100 years of Queensland's history.

I want to record my feelings as a junior hon. member of this Chamber.

An A.L.P. Member: Very junior.

Mr. KNOX: I agree, and I do not claim to be more than very junior. In the two years that I have been in this Chamber I have noted a few things which those who have been here for a long time may take for granted or may have forgotten. The strain on hon. members of Parliament and their family lives is well known to most hon. members, but it can be realised only by those who have served in this Chamber. The respect that each hon. member holds for the other, in spite of differences of opinion, is something that free institutions such as we have in this country should uphold and keep secure. That, too, is discovered only when a person is elected to Parliament. The satisfaction to be obtained by helping people in trouble or by passing sound legislation is difficult to find in any other walk of life. Each hon. member also receives countless messages of gratitude from constituents he has been able to help or has

tried to help, whether successfully or not. Those are the things I have discovered in the very short time I have been in this Chamber. I do not suggest that they are necessarily forgotten by other hon. members, some of whom have served in Parliament for nearly a quarter of a century and have played a part in a quarter of the history of the State. The institution of Parliament should be kept secure by the younger hon. members; it is their responsibility. We can be certain that in 100 years' time, even if we cannot forecast the material future, our children's children will maintain the security of Parliament and its freedom.

I turn now to recent developments. A big drive has been made to encourage secondary industries to come to this State to give our economy balance and to give greater opportunities for employment of those who wish to make their homes in Queensland. The Minister for Labour and Industry particularly has given a great deal of attention and personal time to this work. In the past two years 27 major industries and 33 smaller ones have been established.

Mr. Aikens: All in Brisbane.

Mr. KNOX: Not all of them in Brisbane. I am glad we have not got to rely on the hon. member for Mundingburra to attract industries here, whether to North or South Queensland. He would play the part of King Kong at the Taronga Park Zoo and would scare away those who were interested in establishing industries here.

The expansion of existing industries in the last two years has been of the order of £5,500,000.

Mr. Jesson: A mere bagatelle.

Mr. KNOX: It is not very great; nevertheless we are on the right road. The hon. member would like to see the opposite result.

Mr. Jesson: That has been going on for years.

Mr. KNOX: He would like to see the opposite result, in order to make political capital out of it. I am speaking of what the Government are doing and what has been done.

Several of the companies assert that they will require at least 200 employees as new jobs become available. This will be in addition to employment given by expansion of industries. New major industries alone could improve the factory employment figure by 5 per cent., and when taken in conjunction with what I have already said readily explains why factory employment in Queensland is almost 3,000 in excess of what it was 12 months ago. Never in the history of the State have we had such a high level of employment. It is well that hon. members should know that. Apparently if they do not know it they do not read the newspapers. There are several difficulties or problems in the establishment of secondary industries in

this State. Previous Governments never bothered to solve these problems but the present Government have. Hon. members realise that if a motor-car assembly firm were to be established in this State it would naturally look for subsidiary industries to supply parts. With a well-established motor-car industry in the South, such industries would tend to develop there. We have seen the development that has taken place around Detroit in the United States of America where the motor car industry is established. So, one of the difficulties in establishing new industries in Queensland is to ensure that there are subsidiary industries able to supply the parts required. It is interesting to note that there are several factories in Queensland which at the present moment are supplying by contract, thousands of parts required by General Motors-Holdens in the South. Factories in Queensland are doing this work now and in the not too far distant future I think we will be able to provide the necessary subsidiary industries and so have large manufacturing plants of the order of General Motors-Holdens. Another of our difficulties is that we are not close to the consumer markets. The Minister for Labour and Industry has on his staff a research officer whose duty it is to inquire into what products are consumed in Queensland in quantity, to ascertain if they can be manufactured in Queensland and whether the raw materials are available here. This is an indication of the positive attempt by a hard-working Minister to find ways and means of encouraging industry to the State thereby increasing employment. Every time we suggest that anything be done hon. members opposite decry it. Apparently they do not want to see secondary industries in this State. To date the research officer employed by the Minister has done wonderful work. We can overcome, to a large extent, the problem of not being close to a consumer market.

Another of our difficulties is that we are not on a major trade route. With the development of the eastern markets Queensland ports will become the major ports on the trade route and secondary industries will be able to export direct from our ports to the Far East. One firm in my electorate has a market in the Philippines, South East Asia and the Pacific and is exporting direct from Brisbane. Because of its enterprise and initiative that firm has actually developed markets in the East despite its being told that they could never be developed. It was told that if it sold goods to that market it would not be paid. The firm has not only sold goods, increased its production and expanded its industry but has been paid for its goods.

Mr. Power: What do they manufacture?

Mr. KNOX: They manufacture louveres. That is another example of a Queensland enterprise that has been able to meet competition on world markets. If we have a main trade route going through our own port,

we shall be able to develop industries because they will be able to export their products direct instead of through southern ports.

One of the greatest difficulties facing people who wished to start an industry here has been the absence of a town plan. I do not know whether hon. members realise the difficulties that have to be overcome by anyone who wishes to establish an industry in Queensland, particularly in Brisbane.

Mr. Houston: Whom do you blame for that?

Mr. KNOX: I could make a separate speech on that subject. This Government took immediate steps to see that a town plan was brought into being; it set up a commission to zone the City of Brisbane, and set in train the necessary steps to bring the town plan to finality. Anyone who wishes to establish an industry in Brisbane, or any other centre, should be able to go to some authority and be told, "Here is the area where you can establish your industry, and here are the relevant local-authority ordinances." It should not be necessary to seek help from aldermen or members of Parliament. The Minister for Labour and Industry has taken the necessary steps to bring that about.

One of the greatest handicaps to the establishment of secondary industries in Queensland has been that the necessary raw materials have had to be brought long distances. That handicap should be removed following the establishment of the copper refinery at Townsville and the development of associated subsidiary industries. Many raw materials for certain types of industry will become available in this State if we can refine our concentrates here.

Another problem facing people desirous of establishing secondary industries here has been the lack of suitable sites. In my electorate is the Hamilton Lands area, a worthwhile project that was started by the previous Government. Unfortunately, however, they did not have much confidence in the development of secondary industry in Queensland. Although the area embraces a huge tract of land, three-quarters of it is swampy and, at the rate of progress being made by the previous Government, would have taken at least 20 years to reclaim. The land is needed now. Not one large factory could be built on the Hamilton Lands area.

Mr. Houston: What have you done in the last two years?

Mr. KNOX: The Minister for Labour and Industry has initiated steps to have industrial estates established.

Mr. Aikens: Where are these industrial estates to be established?

Mr. KNOX: The first is to be established at Wacol.

Mr. Aikens: Right in Brisbane! You let the cat out of the bag.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. KNOX: When hon. members opposite were in office, I do not think they realised the tremendous space that secondary industry needs. Modern semi-trailers and trucks require large turning areas, provision has to be made for large staffs and amenities for them, room is needed for park lands that are now becoming common around factories, the one-floor type of building that is now used to keep production costs low covers a very large area, and provision has to be made for future expansion. In my electorate I tried to find room for one factory. A small factory was already in existence in a shed and all the owner wanted was about 1½ acres but we could not find even a small area of suitable land there. He had to go to the other side of Brisbane, although there are hundreds of acres of land that one day will be available for industrial purposes when they are reclaimed.

We have suffered, too, from a lack of skilled labour. I believe the Government's education policy will encourage the training of more skilled labour in Queensland and that, when it is trained, it will stay in Queensland. So much of our skilled labour has drifted to the South that many manufacturers complain that they are not able to get the necessary maintenance and servicing of their equipment done. The skilled labour to do it is just not available in Queensland, although people with the necessary skills have graduated from our technical colleges.

Mr. Aikens: You will never get that until you give the apprentices a decent wage and decent conditions.

Mr. KNOX: The hon. member for Mundingburra can make his own speech about that, and it may be a very worth-while speech, too, but I ask him not to interrupt me just at the moment.

Mr. Aikens: Oh, I am sorry.

Mr. KNOX: My colleague, the hon. member for Sandgate, spoke of improvement of the status of the Diploma of Engineering. Steps were set in train immediately by the Minister for Education to see if that could be done because we are not getting in the State the standard of Engineering Diploma graduates demanded by industries. We are doing a very good job in increasing the standard so that industry will use Queensland-trained skilled workers. More of that will encourage more industries to Queensland.

In conjunction with the development of secondary industry I want to mention the moves that have been made to bring employers and employees closer together. The setting up of the State Ministry of Labour Advisory Committee was something one would have expected of a Labour Government. Unions affiliated with the A.L.P. were very enthusiastic about it and encouraged the Minister for Labour and Industry to set up the organisation, and it was set up with its charter.

Mr. JESSON: That was set up by the Commos in the Trades and Labour Council, and the Minister associated with them in Townsville.

Mr. KNOX: Exactly. Unions affiliated with the hon. member's party set it up. And what did the Communist Trades and Labour Council do when it was set up? They backed out. They left because they had to obey instructions from the higher-ups in the south to pull out of the advisory committee.

Mr. JESSON: No, they didn't.

Mr. KNOX: One of the interesting features is that the A.W.U., a very powerful and important union in the State, has remained with the State Ministry of Labour Advisory Committee because its members know the value of better employer-employee relations. The hon. member for Hinchinbrook mentioned the Communist Trades and Labour Council, which he admits is Communist, and those unions affiliated with his party.

Mr. JESSON: I rise to a point of order. I did not say that the whole Trades and Labour Council was Communist. I said that some of the personnel were Communists and that the Minister for Labour and Industry fraternised with them in Townsville.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. KNOX: It is interesting to know that the personnel are. I thought the hon. member would try to tell me that they were not, that they were actually front men for the Communist organisation. Does he mean to tell me that A.L.P. members put Communists in control of those unions?

Mr. JESSON: I did not say that at all.

Mr. KNOX: No, but that is what he is trying to tell me. This is the Trades and Labour Council, a combination of unions.

Mr. JESSON: Why don't you use your head? You've got brains. Use them.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. KNOX: The State Ministry of Labour Advisory Committee did have the Trades and Labour Council associated with it. They pulled out because they had to obey the instructions of the Communist bosses down South.

Mr. JESSON: Rot!

Mr. KNOX: Why did they pull out?

An Honourable Member: They saw the error of their ways.

Mr. KNOX: They saw the error of their ways! Many other unions have seen the error of their ways. They have committed more errors recently. The A.W.U., the State Service Union, the Clerks Union have all become associated with this Advisory Committee. I think that hon. members opposite must be ashamed of themselves because they did not set up such an organisation when they were the Government. They are not interested in having better relations between employer and employee.

Another feature was the recent National Industrial Safety Convention held in Brisbane, attended by 560 delegates. Representatives of employers' organisations, employees' organisations, trade unions and representatives from every State Government, public servants and Queensland Members of Parliament attended. Did we see one member of the Opposition there? Did we see one member of the Australian Labour Party from this House there? Not one single member. They could have listened to Mr. MacDonald of the Trades and Labour Council, one of the friends of the hon. member for Hinchinbrook.

Mr. JESSON: I rise to a point of order. Mr. MacDonald is no friend of mine. He is a Communist. I am anti-Communist and always have been. I ask the hon. member to withdraw that remark.

Mr. KNOX: I realise that the hon. member for Hinchinbrook has very few friends.

Mr. JESSON: The hon. member has not withdrawn his remark. I want it withdrawn. I ask him to accept my denial.

Mr. SPEAKER: The hon. member automatically accepted your denial.

Mr. KNOX: The mere fact that 560 delegates representing trade unions, employers' organisations and Governments, including members of this Government, attended the Convention which was extolled by trade union leaders and leaders of commerce shows that it is a very great pity that some hon. members opposite did not go along.

Mr. JESSON: I rise to a further point of order. The hon. member is talking a lot of nonsense. Nobody on this side was invited to go.

(Time expired.)

Debate, on motion of Mr. Duggan, adjourned.

Mr. POWER (Baroona): May I ask a question? When are we likely to get the Governor's Speech?

Mr. SPEAKER: The Printer has advised me that there has been some slight delay. I was also advised that it would be here about half an hour ago. I am surprised that it is not here now. From the general tenor of the information I have had I assume that it is on its way.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier): I move—

That the House, at its rising, do adjourn until 11 a.m. tomorrow.

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5 p.m.