

Queensland



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[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

TUESDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 1962

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Mr. SPEAKER (Hon. D. E. Nicholson, Murrumba) took the chair at 11 a.m.

QUESTIONS

**PUBLICITY FOR QUEENSLAND AT
AUSTRALIA HOUSE**

Mr. DEAN (Sandgate) asked the Minister for Labour and Industry—

“In view of the press statement in the ‘Telegraph’ of Friday, August 24, which was attributed to a retired businessman named Mr. Harold Hopper, to the effect that he is planning an around-the-world one-man tourist crusade next year mainly because Queensland is the most neglected State, publicity-wise, in Australia and also that Queensland is neglected at Australia House, which is known to tourists as ‘The Morgue’, will he take the necessary action to ascertain whether such claims of lack of knowledge and lack of information exist at Australia House?”

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier), for Hon. K. J. MORRIS (Mt. Coot-tha), replied—

“It seems to me that Mr. Hopper has in mind the undoubted neglect in this regard up to August, 1957, and of the absence of any Governmental efforts up to that time. I am happy to say that all reasonable people would agree that the situation is now entirely reversed.”

THEATRETTE AT QUEENSLAND MUSEUM

Mr. SHERRINGTON (Salisbury) asked the Premier—

“In view of the excellent work being carried out by the Director and staff of the Queensland Museum in screening suitable educational films for school children, trainee teachers and the general public, will he give consideration to constructing a suitable theatrette for this purpose to obviate the necessity of their having to be screened in a dilapidated corridor as at present?”

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough), replied—

“The Government is most appreciative of the work being carried out by the Director and staff of the Queensland Museum and is desirous of supporting its activities. I should like to emphasise that, owing to the negligence of the Labour Party in the field of education, the present Government has found it essential to set aside each financial year since it came into office a great proportion of its funds for the provision of accommodation, equipment and amenities in primary and secondary schools. The Honourable Member can rest assured that improvements to the Queensland Museum and similar institutions will be carried out as and when funds become available.”

EMPLOYMENT OF JUNIORS AND APPRENTICES;
"LABOUR ONLY" SUB-CONTRACTS

Mr. AIKENS (Townsville South) asked the Minister for Labour and Industry—

"In view of the many public and press appeals made in recent months by him and other responsible members of the Government for private employers to employ more juniors and apprentices, what steps have been taken, or are contemplated, to prevent the now common practice of building speculators and other people of that type from advertising in the press for, and giving all their building work to, 'labour only' sub-contract carpenters, who cannot, because of the terms of the sub-contract and the nature of their work, employ juniors or indenture apprentices?"

Hon. G. F. R. NICKLIN (Landsborough—Premier), for **Hon. K. J. MORRIS** (Mt. Coot-tha), replied—

"I have already advised the Honourable Member in correspondence that an examination of 174 of some 580 State Awards in force has revealed that the question of 'piecework' is dealt with in at least thirty-four State Awards of those examined. Consequently, it is apparent that this matter is regarded by the Industrial Commission as an industrial matter coming within its purview. The Honourable Member specifically refers to carpenters who are covered by the Building Trades Award, which prescribes that 'piecework' is prohibited and 'labour only' contracts are considered to be 'piecework' within the meaning of that Award. The matter therefore is one for the Industrial Commission. This was apparently the view held during the many years of office of Labour Governments, as the position obtaining under this Government in this particular matter is exactly the same as it was under the successive Labour Governments."

SUBSIDY TO ALCOHOLICS COUNSELLING
CENTRE, AYR

Mr. COBURN (Burdekin) asked the Minister for Health and Home Affairs—

"As the Alcoholics Counselling Centre in Ayr, the only one of its kind in Queensland, is rendering excellent service to alcoholics and their wives and families in the Lower Burdekin, will he have enquiries made into the work being done by this Centre with a view to subsidising it, as those responsible for the conduct of the Centre are experiencing considerable difficulty in continuing their humanitarian work because of the shortage of funds?"

Hon. H. W. NOBLE (Yeronga) replied—

"I understand the Alcoholics Counselling Centre at Ayr is conducted by a voluntary organisation consisting of prominent citizens at Ayr. They undertake education of the public and relatives

of alcoholics by films and lectures that alcoholism is a disease; provide a centre where the alcoholic can get a cup of tea and a clean-up; and endeavour to obtain a job for him. Medical treatment is given at the Ayr Hospital and this is free under the Government's hospital scheme. It cannot be expected that the Government subsidise every object, however worthy, and I regret I cannot accede to the request."

HOSPITAL AT GIRU

Mr. COBURN (Burdekin) asked the Minister for Health and Home Affairs—

"Will he give consideration to establishing at Giru, which is the centre of a thriving sugar-producing district with a population of 1,200, a hospital suitable to meet all requirements of the area?"

Hon. H. W. NOBLE (Yeronga) replied—

"Establishment of new hospitals in country centres has to be considered in relation to the availability of loan finance and the relative urgency of the claims of these centres, having regard to proximity of existing hospital services and the satisfactory nature or otherwise of access roads and transport facilities available. The claims of Giru will be considered in conjunction with those of a considerable number of other applicant country centres on the basis outlined."

BALLOTS FOR TOBACCO BLOCKS, MAREEBA

Mr. ADAIR (Cook) asked the Minister for Public Lands and Irrigation—

"Has he given consideration to a recent request from tobacco farmers and interested persons that future ballots be held in Mareeba for all tobacco blocks thrown open for ballot in that area? If so, has the request been granted?"

Hon. A. R. FLETCHER (Cunningham) replied—

"These ballots also attract applicants from other than the Mareeba area, and ballots held in Brisbane to date, which are advertised in the Press several days before the actual date of ballot, have been attended by a number of people, including representatives of applicants from the Mareeba area. However, in view of the high proportion of applicants in the Mareeba area, the requests referred to and following personal discussions with interested persons, I have in mind to hold future ballots at Mareeba. This will be done provided the proportion of applicants from the Mareeba area justifies this action."

**RAILWAY FARES AND FREIGHTS,
CAIRNS-ATHERTON TABLELAND**

Mr. ADAIR (Cook) asked the Minister for Transport—

“With reference to my recent request for him to investigate the possibility of a reduction in freight rates and passenger fares on rail charges from Cairns to Mareeba and the Atherton Tableland, has he had the matter investigated and, if so, what is the result of the investigation?”

Hon. G. W. W. CHALK (Lockyer) replied—

“As advised in the reply of March 6, 1962, to the question asked by the Honourable Member concerning reduction of rail freights from Cairns to the Atherton Tableland, although substantial reductions in the rates for beer, wines and spirits were made previously, they did not result in this traffic being regained. It also was stated in that reply that further new rates were about to be quoted in an endeavour to regain this business, but subsequent investigations revealed that there was little prospect of the business being obtained at an economic quotation, and, therefore, no further action was taken.”

**DAMAGE TO NORTHERN BRIDGES BY VEHICLES
TRANSPORTING OIL RIGS**

Mr. DAVIES (Maryborough), for **Mr. TUCKER** (Townsville North), asked the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity—

“What was the cost of repairing the Northern bridges damaged by heavy vehicles transporting oil rigs to the Far North earlier this year?”

Hon. E. EVANS (Mirani) replied—

“Approximate cost of repairs is, Sardine Creek Bridge, £1,100; Yarraman Creek Bridge, £970; Seven-Mile Creek Bridge, £1,300.”

CONSTRUCTION OF BOWEN FORESHORES ROAD

Mr. DAVIES (Maryborough), for **Mr. TUCKER** (Townsville North), asked the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity—

“Does his Department, either of its own accord or in conjunction with the Bowen City Council, intend to construct, within the next year, a road known as the Bowen Foreshores Road from Dalrymple Street, Bowen, across the mouths of Gordon and Doherty Creeks to Mount Gordon?”

Hon. E. EVANS (Mirani) replied—

“The Honourable Member for Bowen has taken this matter up with me on numerous occasions. A new proposed road plan for Queensland has been designed by the Commissioner of Main Roads. This road plan was unanimously approved in principle by the Local Government Association

at its recent conference. The plan will lay on the table of the Commissioner for some months, during which time objections will be accepted and will be discussed by the Department with the Local Authorities concerned. The Honourable Member for Bowen has informed me that he has asked, through the Bowen Shire Council, that consideration be given to having this road included in the plan. On two previous occasions the matter has been raised with me by the Honourable Member for Bowen, who is a very active and capable member. The Honourable Member for Townsville North must be well aware that the road referred to is located in the Bowen Electorate.”

REFLECTORS ON RAILWAY WAGONS

Mr. DAVIES (Maryborough), for **Mr. TUCKER** (Townsville North), asked the Minister for Transport—

“Would it be possible to have some reflecting material, such as is used effectively by the Main Roads Department, placed in slots along the sides of wagons to make their presence on level crossings more easily discernible at night?”

Hon. G. W. W. CHALK (Lockyer) replied—

“Consideration has been given to the use of reflectors or other luminous markings on the sides of rail wagons, but has not been adopted because such markings would, in many instances, be ineffective due to wagons being covered by tarpaulins. It is considered that a train made up of some wagons bearing marking and others not so, would increase the possible hazard at a level crossing. It also had been found on one railway system that reflectorisation had caused confusion in the railway shunting yards.”

**BOAT HARBOUR AT CALOUNDRA; SURVEY OF
NORTH-WEST CHANNEL**

Mr. BROMLEY (Norman) asked the Treasurer and Minister for Housing—

“(1) What preliminary survey has been carried out on the proposed boat harbour at Moffatt Head, Caloundra?”

“(2) What is the name of the dredging company the Government has engaged for the work of surveying the north-west channel for the purpose of finding a rocky bottom?”

“(3) Is this an Australian firm or an overseas company?”

“(4) Does the vessel ‘Matthew Flinders’ pilot the survey dredge each day and what is the itemised and total cost so far incurred in all phases of this project?”

Hon. T. A. HILEY (Chatsworth) replied—

“(1) Surveys have been made of hydrographic, engineering, navigational and economic factors associated with a proposed small boat harbour and shore based

pilot station at Moffatt Beach, Caloundra. These have so far shown favourable results, particularly in the economic aspect. Further examination of the proposal will be undertaken in an endeavour to establish wave heights and surge effect before proceeding with construction."

"(2 to 4) The Honourable Member is sadly astray in his assumptions. The Government has not engaged a dredging Company to undertake such work. Preliminary survey of the North-west Channel has been undertaken by Departmental staff and plant at a cost of £5,585 made up of probings (£3,637), soundings (£1,525), sand testing (£392), and sundries (£31)."

CARE OF MENTALLY ILL

Mr. BROMLEY (Norman) asked the Minister for Health and Home Affairs—

"(1) In view of his answer to my question on Wednesday, August 29, when he said inter alia, that there should be no differentiation between the mentally ill and the physically ill—(a) how can he reconcile this statement with the fact that during a trial in Brisbane on Tuesday, August 14, 1962, the Public Defender was reported as claiming that his client had spent two and a-half years in Ipswich Mental Hospital without treatment, and (b) is he aware that on the same day the Public Defender stated he had private information that in Brisbane gaol hardly anything was done in the way of psychiatric treatment?"

"(2) What attention is given to convicted criminals with a mental twist?"

Hon. H. W. NOBLE (Yeronga) replied—

"(1 and 2) The prisoner referred to did receive all necessary treatment at the Ipswich Mental Hospital, and, as a result, he recovered sufficiently to be discharged, was discharged upon receipt of reports from specialist psychiatrists, and subsequently stood trial. A visiting psychiatrist was appointed to H.M. Prison some considerable time ago. Furthermore, the psychiatric and psychological services of both the Psychiatric Clinic and the North Brisbane General Hospital are available to, and are used by, the Prison Services in respect of prisoners who are considered to be in need of treatment."

BONA FIDES, QUEENSLAND OIL CONSOLIDATED LTD.

Mr. BROMLEY (Norman) asked the Minister for Justice—

"As the Minister for Mines informed me in answer to a question on August 23 that the whole of Queensland is already held under title as regards oil exploration—

(1) Will he explain to the people of Queensland how Queensland Oil Consolidated Ltd. can raise money from the public in accordance with its title and prospectus?

(2) Is a former director of this Incorporated Company, C. Jensen, of View Street, Woolloowin, the same person who had a default judgment for £4,455 5s. 8d. filed in the Supreme Court Registry on August 29, 1962, following a writ against him by the Deputy Taxation Commissioner?"

Hon. A. W. MUNRO (Toowong) replied—

"(1) Queensland Oil Consolidated Ltd. can raise money only for the purposes of carrying out its objects which are set out in its Memorandum of Association. Its name does not determine the matter. Before it can raise money from the public for oil exploration it must register a prospectus in the Office of the Registrar of Companies. Such prospectus must be approved by the Minister administering the Petroleum Acts, 1923 to 1958. No such prospectus has been registered."

"(2) I am not in a position to give any precise information as to this person's dealings with the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation. However, on the basis of the question as stated, an inference may be drawn from the identity of name and address."

MINISTERIAL EXPENSES

RETURN TO ORDER

The following paper was laid on the table:—

Return to an Order made by the House on August 23 last, on the motion of Mr. Hodges, of expenses of Ministers for the year 1961-1962.

PAPERS

The following paper was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed:—

Report of the Public Service Commissioner for the year 1961-1962.

The following papers were laid on the table:—

Orders in Council under the Racing and Betting Acts, 1954 to 1961.

Orders in Council under the Co-operative Housing Societies Acts, 1958 to 1961.

Orders in Council under the Stamp Acts, 1894 to 1961.

Rule under the Mines Regulation Acts, 1910 to 1958.

Proposal by the Governor in Council to revoke the setting apart and declaration as a State Forest of the land of area about 1,133 acres, being Reserve for State Forest R. 727, as illustrated on the map marked "C" annexed to such proposal and situated in the County of Ward, Parish of Nerang, described in the Proclamation dated the 16th day of January, 1947, made under the provisions of the State Forests and

National Parks Acts, 1906 to 1941 and published in the Government Gazette on the 18th day of January, 1947, at page 226.

Proposal by the Governor in Council to revoke the setting apart and declaration as a National Park of so much of Reserve for National Park R. 227, Parishes of Conway and Molle as is comprised in all that piece or part thereof described herein commencing at a point on high-water mark on Shute Bay, Parish of Conway, County of Herbert, about 1 chain 50 links south of the 32,100 foot centre line peg on the Airlie-Shute Harbour Road, thence by a line bearing north about 5 chains, by lines bearing generally easterly and about 5 chains distant from high-water mark, about 57, chains, thence by lines bearing north about 75 chains, 320 degrees about 20 chains, 270 degrees about 5 chains, 194 degrees about 20 chains, 265 degrees about 20 chains, 290 degrees about 20 chains, 330 degrees about 20 chains and 57 degrees about 17 chains to high-water mark on Swamp Bay, thence by high-water mark easterly, southerly and westerly to the point of commencement, and containing an area of about 580 acres.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

HENDRIKUS PLOMP CASE INQUIRY

Hon. A. W. MUNRO (Toowong—Minister for Justice) (11.17 a.m.), by leave: In conformity with the statement which I made in Rockhampton on 9 August last, at the time of the initiation of the inquiry into certain questions raised by the Court of Criminal Appeal in connection with the trial of Hendrikus Plomp on a charge of rape, I now table the report of Mr. Arnold Bennett, Q.C.

I will also make available a copy of the report this morning to the Leader of the Opposition and to the Press.

The report, which is dated 30 August, 1962, covers nineteen pages of typewritten matter and four pages of annexures.

For the convenience of members, I summarise the report as follows:—

The questions submitted to Mr. Bennett are set out on page 1 of the report. The relevant passage reads as follows:—

“I was directed to examine and advise the Hon. the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General whether, in my opinion, there was a designed suppression on the part of any person of any evidence or whether any evidence was not adduced because of the negligence of any person or whether the circumstances (as referred to in the Reasons for Judgment of the Court of Criminal Appeal quashing the conviction on the said charge) have an innocent explanation.”

At page 15 of the report the following passage occurs:—

“In all the circumstances, I have found that there was nothing sinister or deliberate in the omission to call the two men. Further to the considerations already set out it is clear that an unusual combination of events supervened. Mr. Platz for good reasons did not call Dr. Asinari in the Police Court. The only person concerned against whom Plomp made suggestions of bad faith, namely Dale, could not possibly be said deliberately to have suppressed Dr. Asinari's statement. He took a usual course of retyping a statement and placing it on the Police Court brief duly indexed. There is no reason to suggest that if he had not resigned he would not have discussed available evidence with the Chief Crown Prosecutor before the trial.”

“There was a breakdown in understanding between Platz and Dale as to showing the Police Court brief to Mr. Martin. However, there was nothing ‘hole in the corner’ in regard to the taking of and dealing with the statement, and in the ordinary course it would have been adverted to again in several probable ways. That it was not was the result of circumstances. Hallahan had played but a small part in the inquiry on account of other duties and sickness. Though not fully familiar with the matter he was required to assist Counsel (sooner than expected) at the trial. He wrongly assumed that all due inquiries had been completed and available evidence placed before the Police Court.

“In this assumption Detective Senior Constable Hallahan was at fault. While I believe him that he did not know of Dr. Asinari's statement until after Mr. Nolan initiated inquiries for the appeal there are other considerations. One may accept that he placed some qualification on his statement to Mr. Martin at or near the trial which might suggest that the men had not been located, to his knowledge. The assumption was wrong, whether qualified or not, and in my view the matter was not one which should have been left to assumption. From his knowledge of the long statement of the complainant he knew of the incident near St. Leo's College and he knew in the early stages that an attempt was being made to locate the two men concerned. He knew that sometimes a prosecuting officer does not call all evidence in the Police Court. I base these findings on his own admissions which were made quite frankly. Although in most cases all material would be available to the Crown Prosecutor concerned in the Police Court depositions and exhibits, Mr. Hallahan should not have assumed this to be so, especially when asked by the Chief Crown Prosecutor a

question on the point. Whether asked or not, in the circumstances he should have taken steps to gain definite knowledge in relation to the St. Leo's College incident.

"These considerations lead inevitably and, I believe, regrettably to a finding of lack of care on his part in this particular. The word 'negligence' used in the terms of my appointment I take to mean a failure to exercise that care in the circumstances that one would expect of a prudent detective concerned in the matter. In this way there was such negligence by Detective Senior Constable Hallahan.

"In fairness this finding should be tempered by a consideration of the unusual circumstances without which Mr. Hallahan would not have been placed in this position; in particular, Mr. Dale's obtaining the statement without his knowledge, Mr. Platz's decision unknown to him not to call an available witness, Dr. Asinari, in the Police Court, his absence during a significant period of the investigations, Mr. Dale's sudden retirement, his missing the original statement of Dr. Asinari when he lifted the exhibits in the case from ex-Detective Sergeant Dale's locker, and the coming on of the trial under conditions of pressure. Other persons could have been more definite in seeking or sending on the information about the two men at St. Leo's. In this statement I am not reflecting on others because it is hard to pinpoint the degrees of definiteness and to a large extent one looks for perfection in retrospect, but my statement illustrates another circumstance which could have eliminated the situation in which Mr. Hallahan is found."

The findings of Mr. Bennett are summarised in the last paragraph on page nineteen of the report, which reads as follows:—

"In the result I answer the questions put to me under the terms of my inquiry by reporting that, in my opinion, there was no designed suppression on the part of any person of any evidence in the circumstances as referred to in the Reasons for Judgment of the Court of Criminal Appeal quashing the conviction of Plomp on the charge of Rape, and that the fact that evidence was not adduced as referred to in those Reasons has an innocent explanation involving no negligence save that Detective Senior Constable Hallahan should have exercised more care in checking the evidence for the trial and in obtaining accurate information when questioned by the Chief Crown Prosecutor as to the availability of the two men who had been witnesses at the incident near St. Leo's College. I add that in the unusual combination of circumstances which I have described others might have 'fallen into the trap,' that his default cannot be considered as gross and there was certainly nothing deliberate in it."

Hon. members on both sides of the House and the representatives of the Press will be aware that a further matter in relation to Hendrikus Plomp is listed to come before the High Court which commences its sittings in Brisbane during the present week. Accordingly, I trust that hon. members and the Press will exercise discretion as regards any undue publicity in relation to any parts of the report of this administrative inquiry which could possibly be regarded as having any prejudicial effect on the administration of justice in relation to the further proceedings now pending before the High Court of Australia or other proceedings which could arise therefrom.

Whereupon the hon. gentleman laid the report on the table.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE

Debate resumed from 30 August (see p. 200) on Mr. Lonergan's motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, on which Mr. Duggan had moved the following amendment—

"Add to the question the following words—

'However, it is the opinion of this Legislature that—

(a) due in great measure to your present advisers having failed to take practical and efficacious steps to remedy the disproportionately high percentage rate of unemployment in this State;

(b) the tragedy of thousands of young Queenslanders whose future has been jeopardised by the denial of the right to work, to the detriment of their moral and physical well-being;

(c) the adverse effects to the well-being of the State if the Ford, Bacon and Davis Report is implemented;

(d) the increasing tendency to abrogate the functions of Government to private and semi-private bodies;

(e) the failure of the Government to promote large-scale secondary industries, as promised in their election policy speeches;

(f) the inability of the Government to effectively deal with the increased cost of living;

and, accordingly, we desire to inform Your Excellency that for these, and other reasons, this Government does not possess the confidence of the House."

Mr. HERBERT (Sherwood) (11.37 a.m.): I support the sentiments expressed by the mover and seconder of the Address in Reply, and oppose the amendment. This morning I should like to develop a number of propositions that are completely divorced from party politics. This is possibly a little unusual in the dying stages of a Parliament.

However, I have some suggestions to put forward that I think should receive the support of hon. members on both sides of the House.

The first proposition may be summarised as the formation of a council of State Governments in Australia. All major political parties and the majority of the people in Australia support our present system of Government, that is, the Federal system. However, I believe there is a trend, possibly encouraged by certain senior public servants, to concentrate more and more power in Federal Parliament and consequently in the southern States. That is particularly noticeable when one realises that two-thirds of the members of the Federal House come from Victoria and New South Wales. The abolition of the States, of course, would mean a concentration of more and more spending in those areas.

One of the many difficulties in arresting this trend is that there is no organisation operating throughout Australia that is devoted entirely to State interests. Technically the Senate is a States' House, but in actual fact it has become a party-political machine and I can see no way that that can be corrected. A council of State Governments operates very successfully in the United States of America and I will refer to this body as a possible basis for discussion in Australia. The United States Council of State Governments is a joint governmental agency of all the States which is created by the States and entirely supported and directed by the States. It serves as a medium to assist in approving State legislature, administrative, and judicial practices; an agency for co-operation among the States in solving interstate problems, both regional and national, and a means of facilitating and improving Federal-State relations. That sort of organisation is badly needed in this Country. In brief, the Council exists to serve governmental progress within the individual States, including their State local-authority relations, among the States working together, and by the States, in their relations with the Federal Government.

An Opposition member interjected.

Mr. HERBERT: This has nothing to do with the political flavour of any of the State Governments or the Federal Government.

Opponents of the formation of such a Council might say that we have many conferences at various levels to discuss problems that affect one or more States. That is quite true, but none of those conferences are aimed specifically at protecting State rights or at protecting the federalist system.

The Premier's Conference, for instance, has developed to a stage where the various States are competing with one another for favourable treatment from the Federal Treasury. This does not lead to careful consideration of the effects of any of those concessions upon our governmental system.

Our Health Ministers, our Agriculture Ministers and Commonwealth Ministers and other Ministers meet to make decisions or suggestions for legislation in the various States. There is no authority looking at any of these decisions or recommendations to decide whether or not they are in the best interests of the State system as a whole, though they may be very good for the relative State authority. The Health Ministers might decide to hand over a whole section of the State Department of Health activities to the Commonwealth Government to save the States money while, on a Federal basis, it might be a very wrong decision because of the weakening of the State's authority. That could happen in any meeting of Ministers with one particular departmental interest.

The United States Council came into existence in 1933 to fill the need for joint fact-finding and co-operation which had developed as the States had grown in responsibilities and public services. It has grown as the States have grown. Of course, America is still adding an odd State now and then as certain of its territories reach State status. The Council has a central office in Chicago and it has offices in New York, Atlanta, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., but its staff is small. Active work in the Council by officials and legislators of all the States is the primary basis for its effectiveness.

I suggest that in Australia a Council of State Governments could be set up in Victoria as the State most centrally situated for such a purpose. I would not suggest Canberra, as a small organisation of that nature in that city might find it difficult to resist pressures that could be brought to bear in a national capital. I think it is obvious that it would be much better away from Canberra, and in fact the organisation in America finds it is much better to operate in Chicago than in Washington.

I shall now outline some of the functions of the Council in America. The primary functions fall into several broad categories. The Council conducts research for the States on major problems from education to mental hospitals, and from legislative structure to administrative and judicial practices. It publishes reports of these studies and distributes them widely among the States. In those publications the Council reports on a broad range of State affairs and it operates as a clearing-house for a large and growing exchange of information prepared by individual States. On a day-to-day basis, the Council maintains an information service that supplies to State officials and legislatures at their request data they need quickly in their planning and operations. In response to State needs, the Council organises and conducts national and regional meetings, some on individual subjects of immediate concern and others more general, on continuing problems of Government. At these meetings representative of the States share their experiences and even initiate joint policies and

action. That is more successful in a country like America with a large number of States than it would be here.

The Council also serves as a channel through which the Governments of the States consult and work with the Federal Government on projects that call for such liaison. We have no organisation in Australia for that sort of activity.

All these primary functions fit in with the Australian pattern and could be adapted quite easily in this country. It cannot be demonstrated too clearly, however, that this would not be a political machine; it would be purely and simply a body expressing the wishes of the State Governments in relation to the Federal Government and their responsibilities as individual units.

The Council in America brings out a publication called "The Book of the States." In the foreword to the 1961 issue the Executive Director of the Council of State Governments says—

"The Book of the States' is designed to provide an authoritative source of information on the structures, working methods, financing and functional activities of the State Governments. It deals with their executive, legislative and judicial branches, with their inter-governmental relations, and with the major areas of public service performed by them. Two supplements will present comprehensive listing of State officials and members of the legislatures. The Book, of which this is volume 13, is published biennially and emphasis is given to developments of the two (2) years preceding publication. It is issued at the beginning of even-numbered years, which permits presentation of significant data resulting from the legislative sessions of the immediately preceding odd-numbered years in which most of the legislatures hold regular sessions."

This book contains a tremendous wealth of detail concerning activities in the various States. Similar provisions would be very valuable in this country. Many publications also are produced by the Council and distributed to the member States. In America, with the large number of States, lots of problems have to be faced that do not exist in Australia, whereas we have many that do not exist in America. However, a system with such a Council would work extremely well and be particularly valuable in protecting State rights, which is something in which every State House should be vitally interested.

Available in the Parliamentary Library is a series of books published by this Council. Included are "To Improve Co-operation Amongst the States", which is a report of the Committee on Strengthening Interstate Co-operation Commissions; "The Law and the Use of Compacts"; "American State Legislatures in Mid Twentieth Century"; and "State Government, Winter 1962", which includes articles on mental health, police

training, highway safety, and many matters within the jurisdiction of State Governments. There are also many other books of extreme interest to anyone interested in the promotion of a Federal system of Government.

That gives some idea of the scope of the organisation. A tremendous amount can be said about it, but I think that the idea should be first to put forward the suggestion and then to see what comes forward. Most of our Federal members agree with the Federal system of Government, and I do not think that any of them want to see the complete abolition of State Governments. An organisation such as I suggest, if it could be initiated by all the State Governments together, would help to protect State rights.

The next matter on which I wish to comment is the National Trust Association. This is another matter with no political implications and one which I feel will be supported by every hon. member in this House. I spoke on it last year and received one of the greatest volumes of mail that it has ever been my experience to receive on any one subject. It is quite obvious that there is a tremendous amount of public interest in this subject.

We have now formed in Queensland a National Trust Association. A national trust has to be set up by legislation, and the aim of this body is to foster Government interest in the introduction of an actual national trust. The Association has been set up by a group of prominent Brisbane citizens who are acting as sponsors. This has been in the wind for some considerable time, and it has now been brought to fruition. The officers of the Association are Sir Albert Axon, Sir Raphael Cilento, Mr. Roy Cooper, Mr. Owen Fletcher, Mr. B. Greening, Mr. J. D. Herbert, Sir Raymond Huish, Sir Alan Mansfield, Mr. W. R. Moon, and Mr. E. J. A. Weller. Those men have formed themselves into a group with the idea of sponsoring the Association. From within their ranks they have selected Mr. Moon, who is well known as a former Vice-Mayor of Brisbane, as their chairman, and Mr. Roy Cooper as their secretary. They have in fact formed the National Trust Association, which has as its purposes promoting—

(a) The preservation and maintenance for the benefit of the people of Queensland of lands and buildings of beauty or historic, scientific, artistic, or architectural interest;

(b) The protection and augmentation of the amenities of such lands and buildings and their surroundings;

(c) The preservation of furniture and pictures and chattels of national, historic, artistic, or scientific interest;

(d) The access to and enjoyment of such lands, buildings, and chattels by the public;

(e) The creation by law of a body corporate to implement the foregoing objects.

The National Trust Association is formed for the purpose of carrying out the above-mentioned objects until a National Trust of Queensland shall have been incorporated by Act of Parliament. On the incorporation of the Trust, it is the intention of this Association, subject to the provisions of the relevant Act, to transfer its membership and assets to the Trust, and afterwards the Association shall be wound up and dissolved. So this is, in a way, a temporary organisation. Its members have already presented to the Premier, through the honorary solicitor, Mr. Owen Fletcher, a proposed draft Bill. It is based almost entirely on the South Australian legislation, which has worked very effectively in that State.

In addition to the individual sponsors, a number of organisations are involved. The following have indicated their willingness to support the Trust as an organisation—

The Royal Historical Society of Queensland;

The University of Queensland;

The Australian Institute of Architects (Queensland Chapter);

The Library Board of Queensland;

The Director of the Queensland Museum;

The Local Government Association of Queensland;

The Queensland Country Women's Association;

The Trustees of the Queensland Art Gallery;

The Returned Sailors, Soldiers, and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia.

Of course, there would be a representative from the Premier and Chief Secretary's Department, because the State Government owns and controls a great number of the historic buildings that we have in Queensland. You can see from that list, Mr. Speaker, that the Association has the support of not only the influential and leading citizens in the State but also most of the major organisations.

Since the original publication of details about the Association, there have been many applications from other organisations, and interested individuals who wanted to become original sponsors. It is not possible to have every organisation and every individual who might so desire as initial sponsors, but the membership has been made very broad and this will enable most of them to come in.

The members of the Association are being divided into three classes—ordinary members, life members, and corporate members. An ordinary member shall be a person who, having made written application for membership in any year, subscribes to the funds of the Association two guineas or more, or such other sum as the council may, from time to time, specify to be the annual subscription. Therefore, at the moment, anyone who is interested in the National Trust can become a member of the Association

on the payment of two guineas. The second class—life members—are people who give a sum of money being not less than 100 guineas or give to the Association any real estate or leasehold property which, in the opinion of the council, should be preserved for the benefit of the nation or who make any other substantial gift to the Association. I think that the present president, Mr. Moon, will come within that category because he has established a private trust at Brookfield, in memory of his parents, of one of the last remaining pieces of virgin scrub in the metropolitan area. He has intimated that when the National Trust is backed by Act of Parliament he will transfer the private trust.

A corporate member shall be an incorporation which pays to the funds of the Association a sum of 100 guineas, or such other sum as the council may, from time to time, specify. A corporate member shall be entitled to such membership for a period of 20 years and thereafter may again apply for membership and, during the continuance of its membership, shall be entitled to nominate three persons, individuals employed, for the privilege of being ordinary members without further subscription.

That covers most of the organisations who would be interested in supporting this association. In the other States, the National Trusts receive considerable support from major organisations, banks, and similar institutions.

The affairs of the Association shall be conducted by a council and the council shall consist of the sponsors and the representatives of the organisations that have already been named as supporting the idea of this National Trust Association. We have already drawn up a constitution and rules, and we are now actively canvassing for members. I feel sure that the association will very shortly be able to present to the Government a very large membership, as an indication for Government support for the proposition of a National Trust. It has to be brought about by legislation—there is no other way of doing it—and I hope that it may be done in this session. It is something that every other State already has in one form or another. There is a National Trust in each State except Queensland. It is something we should have done years ago, but unfortunately we have neglected it.

Every year more and more old buildings are disappearing from the scene, very often without anyone realising their historic background. An organisation of this nature could advise the Government on the historic value of buildings in its possession and, if it received proper legislative backing it could take action to preserve buildings and other historic points that are outside the control of the Government and in private hands.

Another important factor is that the Federal Government will not allow donors to National Trusts income-tax concessions until the trust is national in character. Therefore,

until Queensland falls into line with the other States, some people are not quite so likely to make donations because they will not rank as deductions for income-tax purposes.

This formation of this body is the furthest step forward we have ever taken in Queensland. In Centenary Year the idea was mooted but the scheme fell through. It has been due mainly to the enthusiasm of Mr. Moon, who initiated the proposition in Queensland and who has followed it up by personal interviews with most of these individual sponsors, and to the work being done by Mr. Roy Cooper, its present secretary, that the association has progressed thus far.

I commend the idea of this Government introducing legislation and setting up a National Trust within the present session of Parliament. There is not likely to be a March session next year so that it would be some time before the new Government would be in a position to bring down National Trust legislation. There is no political significance whatever in this and, whatever the Government of the day, they should take steps to make sure that our history is protected.

Mr. NEWTON (Belmont) (11.59 a.m.): I rise to support the amendment moved by my Leader and supported by other hon. members on this side of the House. In doing so, I should like to reaffirm my allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. and, at the same time, to congratulate His Excellency the Governor and Lady May upon their extended term as Her Majesty's representatives in this State.

The amendment to the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply has been necessary because of the Government's lack of foresight, including their failure in the Opening Speech to outline sufficient developmental plans and works to assist new secondary industries and to overcome the unemployment crisis that has confronted this State in the past 21 months. On this side we realise that developmental plans and works must be carried out to assist the State's primary industries as outlined in the Opening Speech, but we are protesting on the ground that it is overloaded in comparison with what is needed to maintain a satisfactory standard of employment in Queensland. Apart from its being the shortest Opening Speech on record it overlaps inasmuch as it covers a number of projects already in operation which have previously been before the Chamber.

The amendment moved by my Leader was necessary because, during the Government's term of office, workers in this State have received a very raw deal. I refer now, particularly to the family man. The other night the hon. member for Nundah used percentage figures to try to hide the true position. I intend to use figures today to put the picture squarely before the people of Queensland, to show them what has happened since this Government assumed office. In July last year there were 16,212 unemployed persons in Queensland. In that

month the credit squeeze was at its peak. No big loans or grants had been received from the Commonwealth Government to overcome the serious situation. In July this year there were 14,195 unemployed people in Queensland. Those figures are taken up to the end of July. That is the time of the year when the sugar and meat seasons are in full swing. Since July last year the Government have received from the Commonwealth Government £8,500,000 for works programmes to overcome the serious position. It means that since July last year, when the credit squeeze was at its greatest, even though this Government have received a grant from the Commonwealth Government, the number of unemployed over the 12-month period has dropped by only 2,017. That is why we have been forced to move the amendment from this side of the House. It is a shocking state of affairs. It shows that there has been mismanagement on the part of the Government.

Let us go further and see what the drop was from when the figures were released in June, 1962 until the end of July, 1962. The unemployment figures have dropped only by 2,089. Again this has caused us great concern, particularly in view of what I have already said about the sugar and meat industries. Of the total of 2,017, only 1,176 had been receiving unemployment benefits. At the end of July 1962, 6,605 people were permanent dole-collectors. It is a matter of great concern to us that Queensland is entering the slack season with 14,000 registered unemployed, of whom 6,605 are collecting unemployment benefits.

To further my argument I will refer to some of the provincial cities where the sugar and meat industries are in full swing, and compare the position in July last year with that in July of this year. In Rockhampton, which is known as a meat town, we find that at the end of July, 1961, 192 people were unemployed, and at the end of July this year, 374 people were unemployed. Some hon. member may say that conditions are changing for the meatworks, and I am inclined to agree to a certain extent, but here again the responsibility may be placed on the Government. Time and time again we have raised the effect of automation on industry. While Parliament has been in recess I have travelled all over the State and have seen what has been going on, and I say to hon. members opposite, "Why don't you go and look around and see what is happening as a result of automation?"

I come now to two sugar towns, Mackay and Bundaberg. In Mackay, in July, 1961, 218 people were unemployed and the same number were unemployed in July, 1962. In Bundaberg, in July, 1961, 314 people were unemployed, and in July this year 321 people were unemployed. There has been no improvement. I could give comparisons for the other provincial cities where seasonal work is carried on, but the effect would be the same.

One of the most important matters that I wish to bring to the attention of the House concerns the "Christmas present" that the Government gave to the workers throughout the State in December, 1961. From a State survey we find the following:—

Town	No. of Unemployed
Brisbane	5,653
Rockhampton	1,351
Townsville	1,124
Mackay	1,358
Bundaberg	1,298
Cairns	861
Maryborough	437
Toowoomba	632
Ayr	474
Ingham	302
Innisfail	347
Ipswich	302
Warwick	194

Mr. Houghton: What was the number in Redcliffe?

Mr. NEWTON: For the information of the hon. member, the Redcliffe figures would be included in the Brisbane area.

Those figures indicate the seriousness of the problem. What happened as a result? Many city members were defeated in the last Federal elections because the people were sick and tired of the serious unemployment, yet the Liberal Party in this State has the hide and audacity to nominate one of those defeated members for the Clayfield seat. We can be sure, from his previous record, that he will not do much to improve the position.

I take the comparison a little further and examine the figures since the Government took office. The number of unemployed has continued to increase during that period. We have all seen the shocking state of affairs this year. I will give the figures in detail—

Date	No. of Unemployed
2 February, 1962	30,426
2 March, 1962	26,312
30 March, 1962	24,290
27 April, 1962	22,761
1 June, 1962	19,363

So the amendments moved from this side of the Chamber relating to the actions and omissions of Cabinet are very definitely necessary.

Let us go further and study a break-up of those figures to see just where the people are unemployed.

In rural industry, 772 males and 34 females are unemployed, while in the professional, semi-professional, commercial, and clerical callings the figures are 1,045 males and 2,549 females. Those last figures are very important because they embrace most of the students who left school last year after completing a commercial course at a high school.

Skilled and building construction, 274 males unemployed. No females are engaged in that industry.

Skilled metal and electrical, 399 unemployed.

Other skilled and semi-skilled manual, 3,218 males, 1,011 females.

Unskilled manual, 2,512 males, 24 females.

That brings to mind the question we put to the House time and time again about automation. Because of automation and the highly-skilled techniques in industry there is no work for the unskilled and semi-skilled. But have the Government done anything about it? No. The nearest we got was the answer from the Premier the other day. We urge the Government to take immediate steps to meet this very serious problem.

In all other occupations there are 678 males and 1,579 females unemployed.

In case someone should suggest that I have not got my figures right, I point out that the totals for the occupational groups analysed are 8,998 males and 5,197 females unemployed in the State.

Mr. Gilmore: Do you indicate by those remarks that you are against automation?

Mr. NEWTON: No, I do not. I have made my attitude very clear. That is just another trap question from a Country Party member who would not know the first thing about it. Time and time again I have drawn the attention of the Government to the very serious situation. While automation, with its highly-mechanised techniques, is being introduced into industry and displacing people from employment, whatever Government are in office have some responsibility to see that those people are placed elsewhere.

Time and time again we have been challenged to say what we would do. It is very interesting to note that other States can get loans from the Commonwealth Government to carry out certain types of work. That procedure would help to solve some of the problems confronting Queensland. Other States have no trouble getting loans from the Commonwealth for the development of electricity, yet this Government have made no such approach.

Mr. Houghton: Do you favour the S.E.A.'s taking over the Brisbane City Council electricity undertaking?

Mr. NEWTON: I will indicate my view on that when the subject comes before us. At the moment I do not intend to be sidetracked from this issue.

I have mentioned previously in the House another subject that has been raised in this debate, namely, the serious post-war educational problem facing Queensland. The Government should have tackled it long ago by approaching the Commonwealth for a special grant. I feel that the Government have some responsibility in this field.

Another matter on which I attack the Government is unemployment. When this Government allow local authorities to raise special loans, they make it quite clear that the work to be carried out with the money must be done by contract and not by day-labour. In other words, instead of making that loan money go as far as it possibly can, they still believe—

Mr. Richter: You know that that is not right.

Mr. NEWTON: I am not talking about public works, but about work carried out by local authorities. I still believe that local authorities are being forced to have their work done by contract, so that the profits can go back into the pockets of the employers instead of making extra work available.

Let us now look at the mismanagement of this Government, which has involved most of the Cabinet and reflected on Government members.

Mr. Walsh: Why don't you say "all the Cabinet"?

Mr. NEWTON: I shall put that in, too, if the hon. member wants it.

I have already spoken about the unemployment position. Let us not forget, either, the new Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, which took away from the workers the right to have quarterly cost-of-living adjustments made automatically. That is another, and very serious, thing that this Government have done. Over the years under Labour Governments in this State, whenever the workers have been entitled to rises each quarter they have been paid automatically; they did not, as they have to today because this Government took that right away, have to go to the Court and fight for something to which they were justly entitled.

Then there are the penal provisions which are loaded against the workers. These are the severest in the Commonwealth and are used only against the workers, not the employers. States of emergency have been declared against the workers on several occasions. When the workers act to gain their rights, all that hon. members opposite are concerned about is the loss of production. Are they concerned about the figures that I produced to this House this morning? Of course not! They are concerned only with protecting the employers. More states of emergency have been declared since this Government have been in power than by any previous Government of this State.

Then there were the shocking things that took place at Westbrook and Hopevale Mission. We shall never forget them. These were things that took us back to the convict days. There was the bungling of the State Transport Act, which brought protests from all over the State. There was the lifting of price- and rent-control and the effect that

that had on the general public, and the outside direction by many of the master organisations that we have seen in this Chamber ever since the Government were returned in 1960.

One could go on and on pointing out the shocking mistakes that have been made by the Government. Protests by the general public, except on one or two occasions, have been completely ignored. How difficult it is going to be for this Government to answer for the mistakes they have made when they face the people. On this occasion, as in the 1957 and 1960 elections, when hon. members on the other side of the House get up on the stump, they will complain about the smell that Labour has about it. With the many things that can be charged against them by the Australian Labour Party, this time not only will the smell be back with them but the taint will be, too, and we shall see how they answer that.

Dealing with youth unemployment in Queensland, I point out that in 1957 the Premier, his Cabinet, and members of the Government parties, knew what they would have to face up to, and it was even clearer to them in 1960. What have they done about it? Not a thing! Statistics show that the birth-rate soared immediately after the war, and figures that have been released recently show how serious the problem is. They show that 26,650 children sat for the Scholarship at the end of last year, and that 26,500 are expected to sit for the Scholarship this year. Just taking those figures, possibly 14,000 children will be leaving school this year, having passed the Junior Public Examination, and expecting to find employment. The position is frightening. Already church and social workers see an acute danger that thousands of teenagers, who do not deserve the treatment that is being meted out to them, may become delinquents in idleness and drift into crime, or, worse still, lose the will to work. These are things about which hon. members on this side of the House are concerned. Is it not shameful that these children may have to leave school and, through no fault of their own, sit or stand round because there is no work offering for them? We have said before that it is a shocking state of affairs that a child with a Junior standard of education should have no alternative to collecting the dole.

I wish to turn now to matters affecting my electorate that have been raised either in the Chamber or by letters to the particular Minister concerned. The seconder of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply said much about education. Although I appreciate what has been done by the Government, there is still a great deal of room for improvement. I want to make that quite clear. Government members may be thinking of saying, "We would do more if we had more money." I draw their attention to the statement of the Deputy Leader of the Australian Labour

Party in the Federal Parliament, as reported in "The Courier-Mail" of 15 August, 1962, in which he said that Labour would also make an emergency grant to the States for education. That is the answer. When the Budget is brought down each year, we see that the biggest slice of the cake goes to education. Nobody has any complaint to make about that; but if there is an opportunity to get more financial assistance for education, we should take advantage of it.

Recently approval was given for the building of an administration block at Cavendish Road High School to cost £30,000. I am sorry that the Minister for Education and Migration is ill, but I believe that it is my duty, on behalf of my constituents, to raise this matter. When the workmen came out with the plans to start the particular building, it was obvious that the pruning knife had been put through the plans. The amenities that were to be provided for a staff of over 60 teachers had been deleted. I hope that the Government will attend to this problem and carry out this work. Just on 1,700 students attend this school. Admittedly the teaching staff have seen a non-stop building programme carried out, but they are getting sick and tired of waiting for reasonable accommodation and amenities for themselves. The part of the plan that was deleted contained the facilities necessary for teachers to interview students, to prepare work, to assist in the training of teachers, and to have their meals in comfort. Nos. 1 and 2 common rooms were deleted; the toilet facilities for both males and females were deleted; a store-room was deleted; and a cleaners' room was also deleted.

I appeal to the Government to give consideration to doing something for the teaching staff at this school. I admit the Government have done a good job in providing school-room accommodation, but I feel the accommodation requested here is warranted. The teachers have been waiting for it for some time.

I again wish to raise—as I have done previously in this House—the matter of a primary school for the Broadwater Road housing estate at Mt. Gravatt. I raised the matter previously in 1960, stating then that I considered a primary school should have been in operation at that time. We still have not obtained that school although a committee has been functioning in the area and has taken a canvass for the Government as to what would be the likely number of children attending such a school. So far there are 126 children aged 5 or more and 42 will be aged 5 in time to commence school in 1963. Other figures in the committee's possession prove that in the other age groups, from 5 to 13, there are some hundreds of children.

As I said, I appeal to the Government to give consideration to providing a school in this area. At the present time parents

living in the area are incurring considerable expense sending children $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 miles to school by bus. They must do that because this area is bounded by two of the most dangerous highways outside the metropolitan area—the Pacific Highway and Broadwater Road.

The seconder of the Address in Reply mentioned free hospitalisation in this State. The Government's policy in this regard is decentralisation. That policy was enunciated during the last election campaign when the Government said, "We will continue free hospitalisation but will carry out decentralisation." That policy was implemented in the metropolitan area at least in so far as Corinda was concerned. The Corinda hospital was mentioned by the seconder to the Address in Reply but my information, which is on good authority, is that for many months the hospital built at Corinda was a white elephant.

Whilst that project was being undertaken representations were being made by the hon. member for Wynnum and myself—the Belmont and Wynnum electorates border on one another—for the establishment of a hospital at Wynnum to service that centre and surrounding districts. Those representations have been completely ignored by the Government.

As a result, citizens living in the area have met and elected a committee known as the Wynnum and Surrounding District Hospital Building Committee. The purpose of that committee is to put a case for a hospital in this area before Parliamentary representatives and the Minister for Health and Home Affairs. This committee has been functioning for 18 months and is backed by almost every organisation in the area. Petitions have been presented in this House by the hon. member for Wynnum. The Minister met a deputation in the early stages of the committee, but of late he has refused to meet a further deputation or to reply to any correspondence addressed to him on the matter by the committee.

The Minister's refusal to meet this committee, which represents over 50,000 people, has resulted in the matter being raised with my Leader, the hon. member for Wynnum and myself, by a deputation representing all sections of the community. If the Government are sincere in their decentralisation policy surely some consideration can be given to the case for Wynnum and surrounding districts. Train and bus services to the area have been curtailed. The Wynnum ambulance is being used every day of the week to return patients for treatment who have been discharged from hospital although still requiring treatment. It creates a problem for expectant mothers and mothers who have to take their children to the Princess Alexandra Hospital or the Brisbane General Hospital for X-ray, medical treatment, and so on. On behalf of the people of Wynnum and surrounding districts, I appeal to the Government to give favourable consideration to the decentralisation plan that they talked about before the last elections, with a view to building a hospital in Wynnum.

I wish to touch briefly on the job that has been done by the "Telegraph" in connection with school road-crossings and dangerous intersections in the metropolitan area. I congratulate them on what they have done. As most hon. members are aware, in my electorate I have the Pacific Highway, which is the main highway out of Brisbane to the South Coast, Old Cleveland Road, which is the main highway out of Brisbane to Cleveland and other places in that direction, and many by-passes that act as short-cuts from one main road to another. Since I have represented Belmont I have made numerous requests for the marking of pedestrian crossings and the white-lining of intersections and roads throughout my electorate, for the protection of motorists and pedestrians.

One of the most shocking things that could have been done was the action of the Commonwealth Government in removing the post office at the Upper Mt. Gravatt shopping centre from one side of the Pacific Highway to the other. It now stands out on its own like a pillar box. After making representations for nearly 20 months to have a pedestrian-crossing marked across the Pacific Highway so that pensioners and children could cross to the post office in safety, I finally got a reply from the Minister saying that it was felt that a pedestrian-crossing was not warranted at this juncture and that the position would be reviewed in 12 months' time. A similar position exists in front of the Upper Mt. Gravatt State School and the convent school. My own personal observations have shown that it is too much to ask school-children to guide traffic through those pedestrian crossings. When I asked that police patrolmen be made available in the mornings and afternoons for the protection of the children and the motorists, I was told, "We have not enough policemen to carry out the task. We are sorry but we cannot grant your request." I hope that an accident never occurs at any of those crossings. I have made representations, so that if an accident occurs it will at least not be because of my failure to try to have something done to protect the children.

Because of the lack of visibility in Creek Road I have asked that white wriggly lines be painted on the road at the crossing in the vicinity of the Mt. Gravatt East State School. Already a child has been knocked down at that crossing. I have been battling for 18 months to get something done but as yet I have heard nothing about the granting of that request.

The "Telegraph" took up the matter of the intersection of Creek Road and Old Cleveland Road, Carina. In my first representations I suggested that a "Stop" sign should be placed on the Wynnum side of Creek Road, that a pedestrian zebra-crossing should be marked on the road for the children, and that the intersection should be marked clearly to indicate to motorists how they should enter Creek Road from Old

Cleveland Road when travelling to Wynnum or Logan Road. Here again I was advised that my request could not be granted but that the intersection would be given the necessary treatment by the provision of white lines and that a two-line crossing would be provided for the children. I could continue and refer to other matters that I have raised, but in each instance the reply has been that investigations have been carried out. I have been at these intersections and pedestrian crossings and seen the children going to and coming from school, and I have seen the danger confronting them. That is my reason for speaking about them. It seems to me that the problem is beyond control; it is handled by too many authorities. One has first to write to the Minister for Labour and Industry, who refers it to the Traffic Engineer. If the Traffic Engineer cannot work the problem out he refers it to the Main Roads Department and then, if necessary, it is referred to the Police Department. The Government have bungled completely the handling of problems associated with the highways.

Who is best fitted to decide where "Stop" signs are needed, where pedestrian crossings are needed, or where roads need marking for traffic control? In my opinion no-one is better fitted than the Police Department, which handled it for a number of years. The sooner this task is handed back to the Minister in charge of police so that they can investigate requests, the better it will be. The police can say whether they agree or disagree, and then the Main Roads Department can get on with the job. I repeat that I have asked for several things to be carried out that have not been carried out. I hope, in the interests of the safety of the children and pedestrians generally, that this work will be undertaken in the near future. I protest because I believe it is high time that the Government looked into the overlapping of these three departments in respect of the problem I have raised.

In the short time left to me I shall refer to the Housing Commission homes in my area. I am not complaining about the building of the houses because, after all, the Government have built homes and carried on just as Labour did when in office. The only difference now is that more homes are being built for sale than for rental. State rental homes are getting out of hand. The other day the Treasurer said that he could not raise the rents and that he had to stick closely to the Act. Yet we found that, when people vacated State rental homes, if the rent was £3 7s. 6d. a week it was increased by 12s. 6d. a week when the new tenant came in. It was a shocking state of affairs last year when nearly every member on this side of the House found it necessary to ask questions about the increased rentals of State houses. Even in the last 12 months rentals have been increased by from 3s. to 9s. a week. When we complained about the extra increase being applied also, we were told that it was

a mistake but if the people had not come to us they would have had to pay the increases. Where the rental was £4 a week, within 12 months the tenants would have been paying from £4 3s. to £4 9s. a week. It is utterly ridiculous for the Treasurer to tell us that he cannot do it because he has to stick to the Act. It is being done, and he should do something about it.

Evictions from Housing Commission homes are causing me great concern, especially in cases where a husband or wife passes on.

(Time expired.)

Mr. HUGHES (Kurilpa) (12.40 p.m.): I want to associate myself with previous speakers in congratulating His Excellency the Governor and in avowing to him our loyalty and appreciation for his noticeably keen and sincere interest in the people and their activities in the State.

I think it pertinent also to commend the mover and seconder of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply for their very able addresses, which were of great interest both to hon. members and to the people of the State in general. Particularly do I commend the hon. member for Wavell for giving to readers of "Hansard" an insight into the State's progress and development under this Government.

Since those hon. members made their contributions, a motion of no-confidence has been moved. Its timing is most inopportune and it is an ill-founded motion. This is no time for political expediency and wrangling within the Chamber simply to gain kudos or to score from political tricks. The members of the Opposition should be more serious and sincere and look at matters as they affect the State. The public will not be fooled by any smoke-screen of oratory or by any bleatings or wailings from the Opposition about what they allege to be shortcomings in the State. No-one is perfect; it will be many a day before any of us achieves anything like the success or perfection to which we all aspire; there is no Utopia; but let us realistically face the fact that this Government have been able to do things for Queensland that merit the confidence of the people. I believe the people will register that confidence at the next election when they will say, "Here is a Government we know have proved themselves. Here is a Government we know we can trust. We distrust the fighting factions that still exist within the Labour Party." Apart altogether from any of the talk of "isms" or unity tickets or the like, we know of at least three factions—the Trades Hall, the A.W.U. and the hierarchy in the Q.C.E.—and how can the public repose any confidence in a party whose members are so much divided among themselves? I have confidence in the public's ability to make a fair and just analysis of the position, to recognise, on the one hand, the progress

that has been made, and, on the other, the unity and honesty of purpose of a Government whose members have proved themselves. The public will not appreciate the political show put on in the House by members of the Opposition. The public are fair and just and they will give credit where it is due.

I could speak at length on the subject of Queensland's progress and development but, even from the very briefest look, the public will note the development in main roads and tourist roads to the North, the general improvement in the State's roads through widening and channelling, and the roads the Government are building in the south-west corner and the north-west corner of the State for overall development. Those roads will all contribute to the economy of this State.

The public will know the part the Government's help has played in the discovery of oil and in mineral development. The mineral wealth of the State, by no means fully tapped yet, will bring untold riches to the people. That development is being more than nurtured by this Government; it is being fostered by them in every way possible. The public know that and it is partly why they will record further their confidence in this Government.

In education we have a wonderful picture which is true in its entirety and which continues to justify the confidence of the people. They know that there will continue to be every opportunity for every boy and girl in the State to receive an education. No child is being turned away from school. I am not being disparaging and saying that that was the case in Labour's day. I believe that to some extent they also carried out a programme of education that was worthwhile, but they did not have to face a population explosion. They did not have to face the tidal wave of students that has been peculiar to the eastern States of Australia in the last few years. They did not have to find the accommodation, teachers, and money to educate those children. If one takes the trouble to look at the budgets over recent years, it will be found that expenditure on education has more than doubled in the last few years. There has been an increase of £9,000,000 in that time, which is no small sum. I think that it is a matter of great achievement for this Government to have provided the fullest possible benefits of education, even to tertiary level. There is no quota at the University of Queensland, as there is at other Universities.

This Government have been able to maintain free hospitalisation, and every facility is available. The conduct of our hospitals has received the highest praise from world authorities. Let us be fair about this. On many occasions it was said on many street corners by Labour candidates that the free hospital system would go if we became the Government. That lie has been nailed, just

as the old bogey of Moore has been killed and laid to rest. That will never appear again. You can fool some people some of the time, but the people have seen through Labour election propaganda.

The record of the Government in child welfare and the humane treatment of the aged could be spoken of for a considerable time. In native welfare, opportunity, housing, assimilation, and independence are being given to these people, and every facility to help themselves is being made available. Opal, with the financial assistance of this Government, are doing much to help coloured people in the community. I personally have seen the invigorated outlook of the natives throughout Queensland on settlements such as Palm Island and Yarrabah. I have seen them, now with some hope in their eyes, profiting from the progress that they are making, under the guiding hand, and with the financial aid and direction of, a sympathetic and sincere Government.

Mr. Bennett interjected.

Mr. HUGHES: I advise the hon. member for South Brisbane not to raise that matter because I could raise something that would send him into outer space. It would be most embarrassing for him. I shall be charitable, however, because I am making my speech now on behalf of the most worth-while people in this State—those residing in Kurilpa. I am sure that they want to read of these matters, particularly those things illustrating progress and development.

There is now no political patronage in this State, nor is there any rule by fear. Whereas previously members of the Public Service were cowed, there is now harmony in that service and co-operation with, and consideration for the welfare of, its officers by this Government.

There has been industrial development, too. There is in Queensland now not only a larger population but more opportunities and more jobs. I know that there is still unemployment, and I am as much concerned with that as are other hon. members.

Mr. Aikens: Look at "‘Orrible ‘Orace"—he will probably be unemployed next year, too.

Mr. HUGHES: If the hon. member cares to apply, no doubt there will be a vacancy in the enlarged teaching service which the Government have provided to cope with the tidal wave of students. I am sure we will be able to give sympathetic consideration to his application for employment next year.

Much could be said about the progress and development that have taken place in Queensland. The Government can face the electors with confidence, safe in the knowledge that they will be returned.

Among those things in which the people would want us to take an interest is a matter with which I intend dealing at some length. It involves the great majority of the people of Brisbane, yet it also involves to some extent every person in the State and has an effect upon the prestige of the city of Brisbane, the State, and the nation. In Brisbane, among other problems, we face a back-lag associated with the proper development of roads, drainage, water, and sewerage. The small amount of finance received by the Brisbane City Council in the past has, of course, been one of the factors preventing it from proceeding with a spectacular programme of development. However, I believe that the Government are also involved and that the lack of development in Brisbane should be ventilated. Although the hon. member for Townsville South may think that only one part of the State is important—the part in which he is particularly interested—I believe that we should not think along such parochial and restricted lines.

Mr. Aikens: You have bled the North white for 50 years.

Mr. HUGHES: On the hon. member's own admission in "Hansard"—this can easily be checked—the Government have done more for the North in the provision of educational facilities and other developmental works than any other Government in the history of Queensland.

Mr. Aikens: That does not mean that they have done enough. It was purely comparative.

Mr. HUGHES: There can never be enough done. It is probably worth while to adopt the principle that there is always something more to be done, because better results are achieved while we are striving. It will be a sorry day for Queensland when people sit down and fold their hands and say, "What a good job we have done. It is finished now."

Mr. Aikens: You would not have to do much to do better than the A.L.P.

Mr. HUGHES: I agree, and I know that the people of this State will record a view at the next election expressing confidence and satisfaction in the achievements of the Country Party—Liberal Government.

I believe that the prestige of Queensland is really affected by the lack of sewerage, roads, and adequate water reticulation in Brisbane. It is tragic that, more than half-way through the twentieth century, when we read of men in outer space, medical science achieving miracles, England using atomic power, oil being found in Queensland, and atomic submarines going under the North Pole, we are so backward in Brisbane and are just struggling along, failing to do the things that the citizens are loudly demanding that we should do.

Mr. Bennett: The C.M.O. have been in office for many of the last 20 years.

Mr. HUGHES: Of course the C.M.O. have been in office for a good deal of that time, but they did not promise to sewer Brisbane in eight years, as Labour did in 1952. They did not use such a snide political trick, such sophistry, as telling the people in 1952, "We will sewer Brisbane in eight years."

Mr. Bennett: We would have, too.

Mr. HUGHES: Let us remind the hon. member of something that he said. On 3 November, 1958, Mr. C. J. Bennett—the hon. member for South Brisbane—said that an inquiry into City Council finances was long overdue and predicted that any such investigation would discover "some very revealing details". He knew where Labour had failed; he knew the true position; yet he was associated with this sophistry that was used on an unsuspecting public.

Let us see what the present Lord Mayor had to say in this regard. I refer hon. members to an article in "The Courier-Mail" of 2 May, 1962, wherein Lord Mayor Jones said—

"The figures show that in June, 1957, Greater Brisbane contained approximately 152,000 premises, of which 57,000 had been sewered—a proportion of 37.4 per cent.

"Last June, the city contained 168,900 premises, of which 64,700 had been sewered—a proportion of 38.3 per cent.

"Thus in the last four years Brisbane has 'advanced' in its sewerage connections at the snail's pace rate of less than one-quarter of one per cent. per annum.

"At this rate, the task of sewerage Brisbane would take several centuries."

That is what the present Lord Mayor had to say about it. At least he has to be admired for being open and honest with the public in this regard. I believe that the public at all times respect authorities who take them into their confidence, and public authorities and officials should always be honest with them. I believe that everyone ought to know just what can be done in any situation. It is not so much who is right as what is right, and what can be done about it. That is what really counts.

As I see the situation, if the community cannot get sewerage under the present system, we must review the system. At present we have a gigantic octopus. That term aptly describes the present form of administration of the Brisbane City Council and its undertakings. The existing system is failing, must fail, and will continue to fail. The people of this city are crying out for sewerage, water, better roads, and many other civic necessities that the Council, embarrassed by lack of finance, cannot provide. Something big, positive, and productive must be done, and to that end I suggest, as a start, a completely thorough and impartial investigation into the workings and responsibilities of the Brisbane City Council

with a view to ascertaining the desirability of the Council's divesting itself of its undertakings—electricity generation, water supply and sewerage, and even buses.

I know that the suggestion will bring cries of indignation from Council aldermen and some officials because of their attitude of "What we have we hold, regardless."

I have seen two terms as an alderman in the Brisbane City Council and I understand that attitude. It exists because of the bureaucracy that prevails in the City Hall and because of the narrow and selfish attitude, and thinking, "Rather save our political hides than do what is in the best interests of the city." Until we get a realistic and sincere outlook from aldermen and officials in the Brisbane City Council we will not see any noticeable form of progress or development in roads, water supply, and sewerage in this city.

Mr. Aikens: Do you know what happened in Townsville when they took the electricity undertaking away from the city council?

Mr. HUGHES: The idea of divesting the Brisbane City Council of its undertakings will be received with as much horror as if one were to suggest the loss of a leg or an arm, but, as I said before, I believe this question must be treated in an impartial and sincere manner, from the point of view of what good will come to the city, rather than from the restricted view of "What we have we hold"—mainly in justification for the existence of the jobs and salaries of those concerned.

Mr. Houston: Why did you leave the Council?

Mr. HUGHES: The hon. member asks me why I left the Council. The people of Brisbane, probably recognising the value of the services rendered, decided that they should put me in a place where my voice might do some good for the State as well as for the city. Modest as I am, I claim I have done something in associating myself with the development that has taken place under this Government. I think I can best sum up my reply to the hon. member's interjection by saying that on an occasion when the hon. member for Bulimba was carried away by his own eloquence while electioneering he said, "Let me tax your memory." Among his listeners one fellow said, "My Gosh, now the Labour Party have got the lot."

That just about sums up the attitude of the Labour Party. We all realise the hypocrisy of their electioneering statements. A huge political trick was perpetrated by them when the then A.L.P. Lord-Mayoral candidate, Mr. Roberts, promised that he would sewer Brisbane in eight years. Despite the promises made at that time we still have unsavoury conditions. Let us examine these pertinent facts and a few of the Council's shortcomings. They have had an effect on the whole

of the State. In fact, I think that the Labour administration of the Brisbane City Council will affect Labour's chances at the polls next year. Hon. members opposite talk about unemployment. Admittedly there is a certain amount of unemployment, brought about by varying climatic and other conditions, but Mr. Monk and other Labour supporters in Canberra have said that a degree of unemployment is not a bad thing. Even the degree has been mentioned. But they have never come out with any constructive suggestion on how to overcome the problem of unemployment. It was during the Labour administration of the Brisbane City Council that 2,000 men were put off. I counsel the electors to bear that well in mind in future. The record is there to show that not only did they go on a rampage of sackings, but in addition the best brains of the Council were blown out in a very inhumane way. Today the city is suffering for their actions. The City Council was set back years in its planning. Let us not have any more of this hypocrisy from hon. members opposite, who prefer to think that unemployment should be the basis of their election campaign. The people will not be fooled. It might be appropriate to refer to the disgusted diner who complainingly said, "Do you expect me to eat this stuff? Call the manager." The waiter replied, "It's no use, he won't eat it either." The public will not swallow the tripe that the Labour Party are prepared to dish out. It is an insult to their intelligence.

Something must be done today by those in authority, whether they be aldermen, members of Parliament or public officials. They must be prepared to subjugate either their political or their strict public-servant way of thinking. They must be prepared to be completely impartial. They must be prepared to work out the problems analytically and do something about them. At the present time 62 per cent. of the populated area of Brisbane is unsewered. In addition many people are without water, while the remainder suffer restrictions in its use.

Hon. members opposite are interjecting about subsidies. More subsidies are being paid today than ever before. The figures are here. Last year alone nearly £1,000,000 was paid in subsidies to the Brisbane City Council. This Government have provided more in subsidies than any other Government.

Many of Brisbanes water mains have passed their useful life. Miles of mains are of insufficient size to meet industrial and domestic demands, and fire-fighting needs. The hon. member for Wavell knows the tragic situation that can arise because of the small size and poor condition of many of the mains. Even Queen Street, could be a fire hazard because of the age of the mains. There are dozens of instances where the water supply is totally inadequate to meet the demand for fire-fighting. The life and property-saving services in the city are severely hampered.

Victoria Bridge is old and inadequate; we need another bridge across the Brisbane River from West End to St. Lucia. Brisbane's roads, too, are shocking and inadequate. The drainage is noticeable, because it is lacking.

Let us examine Brisbane's shame. There is almost a complete lack of sewerage. It is the "City of Humpty Doo"; a city disparagingly referred to as dingy, backward, a hick town, hill-billy, humpty-dumpty, and a sentry-box city. 38.3 per cent. of Brisbane is seweraged compared with Adelaide's 95 per cent., Sydney's 69 per cent., Perth's 63 per cent. and Melbourne's 78 per cent.

We have an annual increase in population of 20,000 people a year and it will cost an extra £1,000,000 to provide sewerage for every additional 20,000 people. With the cost of sewerage today, who can say what it will cost to sewer the city? It will certainly not be less than £40,000,000 and the figure of £80,000,000 has been used by an authoritative source. As years go by the cost becomes greater.

I am not speaking politically now. I am simply saying that this is something that exists and that we cannot continue to allow to exist. Something must be done. In the past, Lord Mayors have said that capital money had to be spread too thinly over development needs for water, electricity, and sewerage, and that just about crystallises the problem. An overall plan for sewerage should be put into effect as soon as possible. That would provide employment and help overcome the backlog. Unless we have some realistic thinking, and unless we have men of vision and courage with a burning desire to get things done, irrespective of political or party thinking, I believe the city will suffer for it and we will be cursed by generations to come. Let us not leave a legacy of despair and hopelessness to those who follow us. Let us tackle the problem realistically. State and Federal Governments, I believe, should make special provision of funds for this purpose. It cannot be done without money. I believe the Federal Government should give special permission for the investment of overseas capital in the project to enable it to proceed immediately. I feel sure that money is available from overseas sources such as the United States of America, England, West Germany and Switzerland. I believe that an adequate supply of money is available from overseas sources possibly at a lower rate of interest than is presently paid in Brisbane, and an infusion of this money would do untold good. We had better results in sewerage reticulation during the last depression than we have had since then.

An Opposition Member: You were getting it for nothing.

Mr. HUGHES: It was carried out under a Labour Council and a Labour Government. The hon. member is knocking his own

administration. I ask the hon. member to look at the record of Alderman Jones. Unsavoury though it may have been to them, their own Government had to put people into the Council to investigate it. There was patronage and many other things under Labour. However, history shows that at least they had the courage to do something constructive in the way of sewerage and water reticulation.

Let us examine the problem further. We must face facts and get on with the job, irrespective of politics. To get results, an investigation commission and, if necessary, a royal commission, should be set up. We must engage the services of the best technical, engineering, educational, and business brains in the city. All these people should examine the problem impartially so that we may get some results because at the moment the city is bogged down. Not only are we not winning the race; we are getting farther and farther behind, as records show.

There should be an investigation with a view to setting up separate bodies to administer the council's electricity, water supply, and sewerage undertakings. The idea is not new. I think Brisbane is the only city in Australia with all those facilities under one administration, and it is because this administrative octopus has become so big that it has become so impersonal.

Councils of all political colours have done a good job with electricity. They have had to in order to keep pace with the needs of industry and of the public, but they have not been able to spread their money over their other civic responsibilities. Probably that is why the council seems to be unable to win the confidence of the people enough to get their money. In very few years has it been able to raise its full loan allocation. Indeed, its record of loan failures is an unenviable one. In the early '30's, in the '40's and from 1952 to 1958—and that takes in two forms of administration—the people have indicated their feeling that their money does not get the result they demand, so they invest it elsewhere. In contrast, S.E.A. loans have always been over-subscribed. Is it that the people have no confidence in the council's ability to cope with its problems? Roads have not been improved, but have deteriorated. The people are not getting the same value from the pavement area because, despite increased traffic, the streets have not been widened. White lines marking traffic lanes are only temporary palliatives. The public realise that the city is not getting in water, sewerage, drainage, roads, footpaths, and general development anything like its needs, so their confidence has been greatly shaken. A review of the situation is called for. For its own salvation the Council should say, "Let us do what a civic authority should do." Let it look after the parks, gardens, sporting fields, and general health needs and services of the city, as well as buildings and town planning and other vital aspects of civic administration. But for construction on a

larger scale, for water and sewerage, and for the generation and distribution of electricity, let separate authorities be set up. Only then will the public get the best results for the money spent. Such services should not be debt-producing; they should be able to pay their way. Buy water as you would buy milk and food. Sewerage is a service for which there is a charge. Money will not be wasted but will be used and it will be repaid by the users.

I am not alone in submitting these views. Many others have done so. The Brisbane Development Association is one, a body whose intelligence and opinions most hon. members would accept. That association favours the setting up of separate bodies to control water supply, sewerage, and electricity. A president of the Brisbane Development Association said—

"The citizen is without his proper water supply. The city is prejudiced in its development and the fire risk in some areas during the summer becomes more and more serious."

The population of Brisbane is growing at the rate of a Toowoomba every two years. It was growing at much the same rate in Labour's time. We have heard about the drift to the city. The 1954 census figures showed an increase in Brisbane's population from 299,748 in 1933 to 502,320 in 1954, an increase of 68 per cent. That compares with an overall State population increase of 38 or 39 per cent.

Many people have said these things. The Treasurer said that the Government's proposal to the Brisbane City Council would mean the sewerage of 85 per cent. of the city in 20 years. The Premier and the Treasurer mentioned the desirability of altering the present situation. Most men of good will and those who think ahead realise that there is a problem, and they are putting up something as a firm suggestion. Now is the time to provide employment and do something about these amenities that are needed. Let us grasp this nettle and bell this civic cat and the city will thank us for our courage in doing something about an invidious situation.

These undertakings should be given up by the city. In other cities they are controlled by boards and other State authorities. A population of 750,000 is expected in Brisbane in 1975, and nearly 1,000,000 soon after that. It is not sufficient merely to hope for better things. We must face things as they exist and realise that there is a lag in development. Population has increased and outstripped the capacity of the city to provide adequate sewerage, water, electricity, roads, and development.

I shall not trace the history of the provision of water and sewerage facilities, and other necessities, as time does not permit. I shall simply say that even in the supply of water there is a tremendous backlog. Mains are inadequate and they

present fire hazards in various places. The level of Somerset Dam needs to be raised, and urgently-required work on the suction tunnel has to be carried out.

The demands for electricity have been extraordinary. All credit is due to the city for what it has done to meet these demands, but that has been achieved at the expense of roads, bridges, water supply, sewerage, drainage, and other civic necessities. Time does not permit me to go into greater details and make unfavourable comparisons. Most of the Council's loan money has been put into the provision of electricity. In fact, it has had to put more than half of almost every issue into electricity. In one year the Council put £2.9 million out of its £3.5 million loan allocation into electricity, and in 1956-1957 it put £1.5 million out of £2.5 million into it. No-one denies that that was necessary, but it was due to the constant persuasion of this Government and others in authority that the City Council was told, "You just have not the capital required to provide the capacity to generate the electricity needed by this city, which is 10 per cent. cumulative per annum. You have not the money, so let someone who can do the job do it and you can do more with your loan money in other ways as civic necessity demands."

After many talks and, I still think, some amount of squabbling, which was unnecessary, the Q.C.E. came into the matter. This civic Council, the chamber of the people, had to seek outside instructions and advice. This was in the Press for all to read. The elected aldermen had to rush off and receive outside advice from their unelected masters. I believe that some common sense is now prevailing following the insistence of this Government that the Council make some move on electricity. Till now, the city has been bogged down without the capital required for other development. Following those representations, I am hopeful that something good will come about in at least one respect, and that realism and common sense will prevail. I feel that the same applies to water, sewerage, and drainage.

Mr. Sherrington: You said that.

Mr. HUGHES: I cannot repeat it too often if I am to impress some hon. members opposite. Engineers asserted that 140 miles of road would have to be constructed each year to overcome the back-lag.

(Time expired.)

Mr. DEWAR (Wavell) (2.36 p.m.): In speaking to the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition and noting some of the things contained in it, one cannot help wondering what would happen to Queensland if ever again a Labour Government occupied the Treasury benches. If ever an organisation was responsible for whatever neglect may exist in the State today it is the Australian Labour Party, through former Labour Governments.

Hon. members opposite have been calamity-howling throughout this debate. I say quite definitely that the Labour Party have a vested interest in misery. They have been calamity-howling to such an extent over the past 12 months that they have virtually beaten down unthinking persons in the community to the point where spending capacity has been destroyed. Let us compare the savings bank figures in Queensland today with those in 1957 when we became the Government. The total savings bank deposits at this time of the year in 1957, when Labour were kicked out of office, were £144,608,000. To use their own terms, we have so badly managed the affairs of Queensland that today savings bank deposits total £205,000,000. I say again that those who are affected by the type of calamity-howling indulged in by hon. members opposite have certainly had their spending capacity destroyed. People now fear the re-election of a Labour Government. They are saving every penny they can while there is a sane Government in office to make sure that they have something to cushion them against the return of a Labour Government. If ever Governments were guilty of neglect, former Labour Governments of Queensland were. Their record of pre-war taxation was such that secondary industry was driven away. Company taxation was three times as high as it was in any other Australian State. Hon. members opposite have claimed during the debate that Labour started Weipa, Labour started this, and Labour started that.

Mr. Evans: They started nothing.

Mr. DEWAR: As the Minister says, they started nothing. When we became the Government in 1957, there lay on the table in the Department of Mines negotiations from Comalco, who had a prospecting lease. They had been there for nine months, but the Labour Government of the day did not approach Comalco, which was anxious to commence operations.

Mr. Graham: Do you say that they withheld it deliberately?

Mr. DEWAR: Yes, exactly.

Mr. Bromley: What about Mt. Isa?

Mr. DEWAR: I am not discussing Mt. Isa. The hon. member will be back to the horse and buggy soon. I am talking about what happened when we were returned to government in 1957. When we came to power, the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity took steps to begin negotiations on the lease that had been lying on the table for nine months. He immediately met representatives of Comalco on the field, and within 12 weeks we had a franchise before the House. From then on the bauxite deposits at Weipa were developed in the interests of the State. That is typical of Labour in government and its failure to develop the secondary-industry potential of this great State of Queensland.

Turning to unemployment, I took the trouble to get figures from the Government Statistician. They show that on 31 July, 14,000 people were registered as unemployed, as against 8,000 in the last month of office of the previous Government, an increase of 6,000.

Mr. Graham: That does not matter.

Mr. DEWAR: Of course it matters! We have no vested interest in misery. Hon. members opposite would be glad to see 50,000 unemployed today; it would support their vicious argument. They do not care how much unemployment there is. They have always been the same, as Scullin was in the depression years when 32 per cent. of the male population were unemployed.

During the period we have been the Government the number of persons employed as wage- and salary-earners in civilian employment in this State has been 12,000 more than in the last year of office of the Labour Government. So much for this talk of widespread unemployment created by this Government! Hon. members opposite are only sorry that unemployment is not 10 times as bad as it is. That is the interest they have in the working man!

As further evidence of the stability of this State under the present Government—and surely the savings bank deposits of the little people and the natural comforts of life enjoyed by the average person must reflect in no uncertain manner the stability of the State—in the last month of the Labour Government there were 326,815 registered motor vehicles in this State. Last month, under this Government, the number was 422,636. In other words, in six years of government the number of vehicles registered in this State has increased by 95,821. Need we go on the defensive? We have a record to be proud of and hon. members opposite will hear much about it.

Mr. Graham: You have a record, all right.

Mr. DEWAR: The hon. member talks about records. They used to hang men in olden days with better records than Labour had as a Government. They would string them up to the nearest telephone post.

Having dealt with the most insignificant factor, the Australian Labour Party and its propaganda, I want to get onto some constructive matters. I should like to make a plea, as I have done on a number of occasions over the years, for those people who do their utmost to develop, in tangible form, healthy pursuits for our young people. In particular, I am interested in having money set aside—in this current Budget, I hope—for the assistance of—

Mr. Bromley: People who want to shave their legs.

Mr. DEWAR: I think I had better tell the story of the shaving of the legs, so that it will not be misconstrued. Since I was in the Air Force I have known, in Canada and in England, the value of being given a lift, and it has been my practice since I returned from overseas service never to pass anyone on the street, whether he be old or young. I know the value of getting a ride because on many occasions I thumbed one in Canada and England. After 12½ years in Parliament I think that most of the school-children in my electorate know something about me so it is often my practice to pick them up on the road and give them a lift. About two or three months ago I stopped to pick up a little girl from the high school. When I said, "Hop in and save your legs," it was obvious that she did not know me. Although I said, "Don't you know me?" and she replied, "Yes, but I am only going next door," apparently she did not know me because she made certain comments to the head-teacher, as a result of which some police inquiries were made in the district. I thought it would be better to tell the story in order to stop some of the inane suggestions from the sub-standard mentalities that we have on the Opposition benches.

Mr. Bromley interjected.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The hon. member for Norman has been persistently interjecting. I warn him that if he continues in that way, in accordance with the provisions of Section 123A, I shall ask him to leave the Chamber.

Mr. DEWAR: Over the last four or five years there has been a move by the Victorian Government to do something effective for the benefit of youth work. The first vote made available by the Victorian Government for this activity was in the region of £20,000 or £25,000. In the main the money was voted by the committee that controlled all the avenues of youth work for leadership training. This annual grant has grown over the years until it has now reached the handsome figure of something like £60,000 a year. It means a great thing for youth activities in Victoria. Hon. members on both sides will realise the great work that is being done in the fields of healthy pursuits among our youth by all branches of political thought and people of all religious beliefs. We are forced to spend a great deal of money to deal with that element in the community that has no regard for our laws or transgresses in some anti-social way. We are forced to spend hundreds of thousands of pounds in keeping such people in places where they will do no harm to society. While I believe the basic Christian edict that Christ was more interested in the one sheep that strayed from the fold than in the 99 who were safe inside, it is high time that the 99 who do not break the laws were also given some consideration. In the interests of the young people who we are anxious

should partake in healthy pursuits in youth clubs and other activities where they will learn and get a training in better citizenship, and in the interests of those who give so many hours of their time both in working with them and raising money to help them, I earnestly appeal to the Government to consider setting aside a sum of money this financial year, at this stage initially for leadership training, for the various organisations working for our youth.

I should like to devote the rest of my time to a matter that has caused me a great deal of concern for a long while. One is bound to give thought to this matter because anyone who drives a car will see it on every road every day of every week. I refer to the problem that has been created by young drivers.

Mr. Bromley: Are you speaking to the amendment, or is this another Address-in-Reply speech?

Mr. DEWAR: I am speaking to the amendment because it has a direct bearing on the future of the State. I understand that the amendment alleges to deal with that. On every hand, no matter where you look, in America, in every State of Australia, the toll of the road is so accentuated in the 17 to 24-year-old group—particularly with the 17 to 21-year-olds—that it is long past time for us to direct our efforts towards doing something about it.

I propose to make a suggestion on what I consider must be done not only in our own interests but also in the interests of every other person who uses the roads, either as a law-abiding motorist or as a pedestrian. I turn to America. I have here a publication named "Accident Facts," dated 1960, compiled on a 10-year basis for the decade from 1950 to 1960. The various ages of drivers, related to the general community, were as set out. There were 6,000,000 drivers under 20 in America; they constituted 7.2 per cent. of all drivers, and they are grouped with the 20 to 24-year-old drivers, who constituted 9,400,000 of the drivers in America, or 11.2 per cent. In other words, the 17 to 24-year-old drivers in America represented 18.4 per cent. of all the drivers and were involved in 28 per cent. of all the accidents in America. There was a ratio of 1 per cent. of drivers to 1.81 per cent. of accidents in the 17 to 20-year-old group, and 1 per cent. of drivers to 1.34 per cent. of accidents in the 20 to 24-year-old group. As people get older they obviously acquire more wisdom. In the age group from 25 to 34, for every 1 per cent. of drivers there was 1 per cent. of accidents. In the age group from 35 to 44, 1 per cent. of drivers had .88 per cent. of accidents; from ages 45 to 54, 1 per cent. of drivers had .84 per cent. of accidents, and from ages 55 to 64 the statistics prove that as people get older they have fewer accidents.

It so happens that the figures for New South Wales, on an age analysis of 1,326,269 licences on issue as at 31 March, 1961, reflect

approximately the same vehicle-licensing position as in America. In other words, in America, the 17 to 20-year-old drivers represent 7.2 per cent. of the total, and in New South Wales they represent 7.4 per cent. In the United States, drivers between 21 and 24 years of age represent 11.2 per cent. of the total, and in New South Wales they represent 9.4 per cent.; for drivers between the ages of 25 and 29, the United States figure is 12.7 per cent. and the New South Wales figure is 11.79 per cent. The picture is approximately the same in both instances and it is reasonable to suppose that conditions that exist in America exist also in Australia. To make sure that I was not over-stating the position with those two comparisons, by coincidence I was able to check with "Report No. 5," which I received from the Australian Road Safety Council, dated August, 1962. Again, by coincidence, the heading was "Young driver is worst in road accidents."

The article says—

"Last year 23,818 men and women between the ages of 17 and 30 were killed or injured on Australian roads—a total more than the combined enrolment of the Melbourne and Sydney universities!

"They were killed and injured principally in motor vehicle accidents, and only to a very small extent as pedestrians.

"The Commonwealth Statistician reports that this age group was primarily responsible for 36 per cent. of all road casualties (883 deaths, 21,968 injuries).

"These are the raw results of carelessness, misdirected exuberance, lack of experience, failure to obey the road rules and misadventure for a sector of the community which is, in most cases just commencing to make its contribution to the life of the Commonwealth."

On page 3, under the heading "Inexperience is main factor in the young driver accident", appear the words, "Young adults are the most skilled." That is the beginning of a slogan that has been used for some time, and they say in this publication that the Council hoped that the praise conveyed by that first part of the slogan would encourage the young driver to demonstrate more thoroughly his skill in driving safely, so making the second part of the slogan, which is, ". . . and the most killed" incorrect. What is the position? As I see it, saying that the young driver is the most skilled has done nothing more than build up his ego to the stage where he feels he can do no wrong. It is quite ridiculous to say that young drivers are the most skilled. To me it is the same as saying that a fourth-year apprentice fitter and turner, simply because he is 18 or 19 years of age, is a much more efficient lathe operator than a journeyman 30 years of age who has had 15 years' experience. It is the same as saying that an 18-year-old R.A.F. fighter pilot in a Spitfire or Hurricane during the war was a much more skilful pilot than a man of 25 or 26 who had 8 or

9 years' flying experience. It is farcical to say that an 18-year-old is the more skilled in anything simply because he is 18 years of age. Admittedly his mental reflexes are probably better. At the height of his manhood, physically and mentally, because of his youth he is more capable of taking quick action if the need arises; but the cold fact of the matter is that skill in driving a car comes with long years of experience and not from enhanced mental reflexes. Of course with age a man declines; but it is ridiculous to suggest that a callow youth of 18, simply because he is 18, though he may have been driving only a few months, is a better and more skilful driver than a man of 28 to 30 with 10 years' driving experience.

I was far too old to be a fighter pilot but it was well known in the Air Force that, when the time came for categorisation, those who had mathematical ability and good co-ordination and who were 18 years of age had a far greater chance of being selected for pilot training than those over 25 years of age. One of the main reasons, well known to the rank and file but possibly not admitted by the hierarchy, for preferring an 18-year-old for pilot training was that he was more reckless and would take risks that an older man might not take; in other words, he would give it a go. How ridiculous it is to tie up that attitude of recklessness, and the idea of having nothing to lose, with a suggestion of skill and to prefer to put a youth with that attitude in charge of a lethal weapon on the roads! Certainly they are the most killed, but I dispute that they are the most skilled. To my mind skill comes not merely from mental reflexes but from the hard school of experience.

Mr. Coburn: And judgment.

Mr. DEWAR: As my friend the hon. member for Burdekin says, "And judgment." That is quite true. Judgment comes with years of experience. The figures are there to support what I am saying. No matter where one looks, in every country the people being killed in the greatest numbers, and who are doing most of the killing of other people, are in the 17 to 20-years-old group. They are the ones who have been labelled as being the most skilled.

I shall give further evidence to support what I am saying. To do that, I am going to take five cases from recent files. Case No. 1 is that of a male born in 1943. His first offence was in February, 1960, when he was 17 years and 17 days old. By April, 1962, he had been fined eight times. In April, 1962, he had an accident. Whilst travelling at excessive speed under the influence of alcohol, he failed to yield right of way, ran off the road, and killed himself when his vehicle collided with a post. He was dead at 19 years of age.

Case No. 2 was born in 1942. His first offence was in June, 1960, when he was 17 years and 8 months. By 24 December, 1961,

he had been fined four times. On 9 June, 1962, he had an accident. Whilst riding a motor cycle at excessive speed he collided with a pedestrian crossing a roadway in broad daylight. The pedestrian was killed. The loss of some other person's life was on his conscience at 19 years and 8 months.

Case No. 3 was born in 1945, and his first offence was in February, 1962. He had two offences of driving without a license at 17 years and 2 months. He had another offence of riding without a licensed driver, and on the following day, an offence of driving an unregistered motor vehicle. On 22 July, 1962, at 17 years and 4 months, he had an accident. Whilst driving at high speed and racing with another vehicle, he failed to negotiate a curve and ran off the road. He was dead at 17 years and 4 months.

Case No. 4 was born in 1940. From 7 May, 1958, at 17½ years, he had 38 breaches of the traffic code. His license was suspended five times for periods of up to four months. The breaches included six for excessive speed, two for disobeying "Stop" signs, crossing centre lines, passing a tram on the wrong side, driving whilst under disqualification, and driving a defective vehicle. He had been involved in five accidents and was responsible for all of them.

Case No. 5 was born in 1942. From 7 July, 1960, when 17 years and 8 months old, he committed 28 breaches of the traffic code and was involved in four accidents, being responsible for three of them.

Those are five cases that I have taken from thousands and thousands in current files. It may not be realised, but 6.4 per cent. of the population of Queensland are between the ages of 17 and 24. In Brisbane in 1960 that 6.4 per cent. was responsible for 41.9 per cent. of all moving violations of the traffic code. This group committed 46 per cent. of illegal speed violations, and 45 per cent. of illegal overtakings.

The Accident Appreciation Section of the Traffic Branch in Brisbane is doing a tremendous job. I was in Sydney earlier this year doing a special course for two weeks at the University of New South Wales, and one of the subjects discussed was alcohol and driving. Dr. Birrell is the leading police surgeon of the Victorian Police Department and a man who really knows something about accidents. He has carried out autopsies on accident victims for many years and probably knows as much as any man in his field in Australia about this subject. When he learnt that I was from Queensland and was a member of this Assembly, he went out of his way to praise highly the work being done by the Accident Appreciation Section of the Traffic Branch, Brisbane. He spoke very highly of the work it was doing and how really up to date it was in its methods of endeavouring to control the terrible toll of the road.

In Brisbane, warning letters are sent out to drivers who have a continuing record of offences. Of the total number of such letters sent out, 64 per cent. go to the 17 to 24-year-old group. A further link in the chain of action is the show-cause letter. Under Regulation 142 of the Traffic Code, there is provision for the Commissioner of Police to call on a person to show cause why his license should not be suspended, and it is detailed fairly fully there. Drivers with bad records receive notices to show cause why their licenses should not be suspended, and the 17 to 24-year-old group constitutes 84 per cent. of those receiving show-cause letters from the Traffic Branch, Brisbane. It is interesting to note that the incidence of recidivism in those who do not receive letters is much higher than it is in those who do. I am told that there is an immediate drop of 60 per cent. in recidivism in the case of those who receive warning letters. In other words, they are sufficient to call a halt to the antics of at least 60 per cent. of those who receive them.

Recent investigations in Queensland show that the 17 to 24-year-old group were regarded as Unit 1, which means that they were mainly responsible, in 30.9 per cent. of all fatal accidents and 35.6 per cent. of all accidents resulting in serious injury. As I have said before, a car is a lethal weapon when it is placed in the hands of people who are not prepared to abide by the traffic laws, and many people in this age group are of that type. It was interesting to find that of the 84 per cent. in that age group involved in show-cause actions, 38 per cent. had other criminal records, which shows that we are dealing with a particular type of mind in this instance. We must take cognisance of these things.

I draw the attention of hon. members to an article in "The Sunday Mail" of 5 November, 1961, which shows what was done in New South Wales. It says—

"Tough Policy Saves Lives

"Sydney:—A policy of getting tough with careless drivers, adopted by the New South Wales Department of Motor Transport, appears to have halted the State's ever steadily increasing accident rate.

"In 1960-61, following adoption of a gloves-off policy, the Department suspended 2,198 drivers' licenses, issued 50,632 warnings and 8,800 final warnings.

"If, after two warnings, a careless driver further offends the Department automatically takes his license from him.

"In 1960-61, there were 49,435 accidents on New South Wales roads as against 52,151 in the previous year.

"At June 30, this year, there were 1,142,230 registered vehicles in the State and 1,358,822 drivers."

As a result of that policy, there was an immediate drop of 2,700 in the number of accidents in New South Wales in one year, despite the fact that the number of drivers' licences and the number of registrations increased. We should see whether we can do something similar here. Last week I mentioned this matter to someone, giving him an indication that I was going to speak on this subject and telling him what I proposed to suggest. His reply was, "Is that done anywhere else in the world?" I said, "No, not to my knowledge; it is just an idea that came to me two weeks ago, after having made a study of this subject for some time."

I put forward that suggestion now. I do not know of this being done anywhere else but the general line runs along that followed in New South Wales, and that increasingly followed for the last 12 to 18 months in Queensland. But, to me, that is not enough and does not go far enough.

I shall make a suggestion which I hope is acceptable to the Government—and I dearly hope it will be because something must be done to stop this colossal wastage of human life. I suppose a callous person might say, "It does not matter if they kill themselves; it is the poor innocent victims who matter." But it does matter if they kill themselves. We are all our brothers' keepers and we have a right, if possible, to influence the actions of our brothers. As legislators we are sent here to protect society against itself, if need be.

The suggestion I intend to make may not be in vogue anywhere else in the world, but that does not matter a great deal. All things have to start somewhere. An introduction must be made somewhere for the first time. The suggestion I make is that the age-group between 17 and 21 be issued with a provisional licence only, which licence will be confirmed only when they have reached 21 years of age. If they have become involved in any accident for which they are responsible, their licence should be automatically suspended for six months during which period of six months they will attend lectures. Their licence may then be given back to them if they are unknown to the Police Department in any other way at that time. Should they transgress again, either by being involved in an accident for which they are responsible or by committing a major breach of the traffic code, their licence should then be suspended until they are 21.

Many people might say, "Don't give them a licence at all," but one cannot take away from a man his right to work. Many young people drive utility vehicles and, as they grow older, heavier vehicles; many young people are required to drive a vehicle to get to their place of employment. Schoolteachers, perhaps, have to drive to work, and there are many commercial travellers who need vehicles to earn their livelihood. Therefore, one cannot legislate to deprive a person of his means of livelihood. The only way it can be done is in the manner I have suggested.

Young people should have issued to them a provisional licence. From then on it is in their own hands as to whether they retain it. I believe if we did this within a matter of weeks we would halve the death-rate among young people and those whom they have been killing. If they know for a certainty that the law is going to be applied it will have a very salutary effect. It is only the knowledge that the law will most certainly be applied that keeps most people in the category of first-class citizens. All too many of us would be breaking more laws if we knew we had a fair chance of getting away with it.

I put this suggestion in all sincerity. A case has been made out for it. This age-group are wiping themselves out and killing all too many other innocent people—far out of proportion to their numbers in the community—and it is up to us as legislators, if necessary, to give a lead in stopping this terrific carnage on our roads. It is happening to the flower of our youth—to young people whom we cannot afford to lose, to the future leaders in this State.

Not a day passes without at least one accident occurring and it is almost certain that two out of three accidents involve persons under 24 years of age. The figures are there for anyone who needs to be convinced to see.

As I say, I put this suggestion to the Government in all sincerity, that is, that we consider issuing young people with a provisional licence which would not be confirmed until they are 21. Whether they keep that provisional licence during the period between 17 and 21 years will rest squarely on their own shoulders.

Mr. HOOPER (Greenslopes) (3.15 p.m.): I desire to associate myself with the expressions of loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth. I congratulate the hon. member for Flinders, who moved the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, and the hon. member for Wavell, who seconded it. I congratulate, too, subsequent Government speakers for their contributions to the debate.

Along with the people of my electorate, I am delighted to know that His Excellency, Sir Henry Abel Smith, has accepted a further term of office as Governor of this State. Of course, Sir Henry and Lady May are looked upon as real Queenslanders. Indeed, when the day comes that we have to say goodbye to them it will be a very sad one for all of us.

I know I speak with the voice of all loyal Australians when I place on record the overwhelming joy and delight that I felt upon hearing the great news of the forthcoming visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, Prince Philip.

However, there is a very sad note that must be sounded by me. I refer to the unfortunate prolonged illness of the Hon. K. J. Morris, Minister for Labour and Industry, which brought about his resignation as Leader of my party. Mr. Morris carried out his duties in that position with a great deal of ability, energy, and integrity. Each and every Liberal member of Parliament is indeed sorry that his health is such that it necessitated this action. We are all grateful for his leadership and guidance over the years.

My sincere congratulations are extended to our new Leader, Hon. A. W. Munro, Minister for Justice, and to his deputy, Hon. T. A. Hiley. Both of those hon. gentlemen have served my party and this Parliament faithfully and well for a number of years. I am sure that the Liberal Party's activities will be guided wisely and well under their leadership.

I wish my colleague Mr. H. B. Taylor, Chairman of Committees, a healthy and happy retirement. He has served his electorate and the State well for a number of years. The dignity that he has brought to the Chamber has made proud history for our Queensland Parliament.

The amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition and seconded by the hon. member for Barooka is rejected by all Government members because of its lack of sincerity and indeed because of the political eyewashing that is attempted by men who talk with their tongues in their cheeks about employment, and all other matters. The speech of the Leader of the Opposition would be a repetition of all his Address-in-Reply speeches since he has been Leader of the A.L.P. Opposition following his re-entry into Parliament. Why he bothered to deliver it at all I will never know, as I am sure no other hon. member will ever know. He could have saved much time by referring hon. members to his speeches in the Address-in-Reply debates in "Hansard" of previous years.

As to the hon. member's statements on unemployment, we have only to refer to the speech of the hon. member for Logan and the subsequent Press report about the 40 jobs being vacant in Beaudesert. Even though good money was offering, there were no applicants. I might also refer him to a friend of mine who is the manager of a large engineering factory in Brisbane. A month ago he advertised and sought labour from the Government Employment Bureau. He wanted unskilled female process-workers with an age range of from 15 to 35 years. Although he offered good wages, once again there were no takers. He just cannot get these women. Only last week the same firm had difficulty in obtaining the services of a skilled tradesman and an unskilled male process-worker. Employment is available for those who are prepared to work, and it is available at good rates of pay. This firm employs in excess of 60 personnel.

I make these references to factories where employment is available to draw the attention of hon. members opposite to the fact that their remarks about unemployment are unwarranted and greatly exaggerated. The hon. member for Baroona, with his continued political cracks at the Premier, as a hoodwinker and one whose interests can be viewed with a great deal of suspicion, may be reminded that the people of this State have in the Hon. Frank Nicklin a man beyond reproach, honest and decent, and worthy of being Premier of this State for many years to come. And mark me, he will be. Can the same be said of the hon. member's own Socialist A.L.P. Party? Let us go no further than the plebiscite conducted by Labour in my electorate of Greenslopes, where certain irregularities existed. By their own admissions they were downright dishonest. Hon. members opposite are not talking now.

I quote from "The Courier-Mail" of 21 July, 1962—

"Q.C.E. to Decide on Plebiscites

"Decision to re-run several A.L.P. plebiscites is expected to be made at next Monday's meeting of the Full Queensland Central Executive.

"The meeting is expected to last all day.

"It will be asked to endorse candidates who won plebiscites on June 30 to select A.L.P. candidates for next year's State election and delegates to the February Labour Convention at Bundaberg.

"It is understood a number of protests alleging irregularities at the plebiscites have been sent to the Q.C.E.

"Notable among the protests is one concerning Greenslopes in which one of three candidates for the State seat is alleged to have misused union certificates entitling persons to vote."

Even my own supporters were approached to give a vote; my people who had never been in a union in their life. They were told by the candidate, "Don't worry about it. We have plenty of certificates. Go along and vote for me." That information comes from my supporters, members of my party. The certificates are issued to people who allege they have mislaid their union tickets.

I continue with the quotation—

"The certificates must be signed by the official of the union issuing them and counter-signed by the person claiming the right to vote.

"They are granted to members of A.L.P. affiliated unions on application and then only to those members claiming to have lost or mislaid their union membership cards or receipts."

It is laughable.

The Press article continues—

"In the Greenslopes incident at least one certificate was incorrectly counter-signed as the person who presented it was reported to have been unable to state his address."

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He could not state his address because he did not know who he was.

The quotation continues—

"Although books of certificates containing duplicates of signatures were required to be returned to the Q.C.E. the candidate in the Greenslopes plebiscite is reported to have burnt several books when the irregularity described was discovered."

Even the great, strong Mr. Egerton, President of the Queensland Trades and Labour Council, was mixed up in this political scandal.

Mr. Graham: Say that outside!

Mr. HOOPER: I will.

I shall now quote from an article in the Brisbane "Telegraph" of the week following the publication of the "Courier-Mail" article that I have just read. The following appeared in Frank Freudenberg's column:—

"The most startling thing that emerged from Monday's meeting of Labour's Queensland Central Executive was a decision that the party's stormy petrel, John Egerton, President of the Trades and Labor Council and a member of the A.L.P.'s ultra-exclusive Inner Executive, "front" the Inner Executive himself in his capacity as a private member and explain certain matters arising from the recent Mt. Gravatt and Greenslopes party plebiscites."

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. HOOPER: It is amazing to note the hon. members who are interjecting and those who are not when I make these accusations because they are true. They are printed here in the paper and they have never been denied.

Mr. Sherrington: Tell us about the time you wanted a private ward in the Greenslopes Hospital, or a private room.

Mr. HOOPER: Mr. Deputy Speaker, that remark by the hon. member for Salisbury is completely untrue; it is offensive to me and dishonest, and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Gaven): Order! I ask the hon. member for Salisbury to accept the denial of the hon. member for Greenslopes.

Mr. Sherrington: I accept his denial.

Mr. HOOPER: With all deference to your ruling, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I ask that the hon. member withdraw the remark and apologise to me. It is completely untrue.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The hon. member for Salisbury has accepted the denial. I ask the hon. member for Greenslopes to continue with his speech.

Mr. HOOPER: I do not wish to be side-tracked: I have never sought, nor have I obtained, a private room in any repatriation hospital.

Mr. Dewar: If you did you would have deserved it, and that is more than could be said of him. He is entitled to a private room in a mental hospital; that is about the only one he could claim.

Mr. HOOPER: He is entitled to a private room in a mental hospital all right.

What is honest about what these people try to imply? I suggest that the Socialist A.L.P. party put their own house in order if it is possible to do so. What a shocking mess it is in and has been in for a number of years, with no possibility of an early solution to all this wangling! Do hon. members opposite class as honest the peddling of union certificates and union tickets? I sincerely hope that the fires have gone out as far as these dishonest practices are concerned and that no more plebiscite union tickets are burnt by prospective A.L.P. candidates.

Let us go a step farther and look at the Socialist A.L.P. in another field. I refer hon. members of this House and the people of Queensland to a report published in "The Courier-Mail" of Wednesday, 29 August, 1962. The report on the Brisbane City Council's meeting held on the preceding day refers to a demand by the leader of the C.M.O. for the resignation of the Lord Mayor, Alderman Clem Jones, from his chairmanship of the Greater Brisbane Town Planning Committee in view of certain activities by that committee beyond the powers granted under the Act, and in particular at a meeting of the committee held on 20 August. There it is. It cannot be denied. A person who was not a member of the committee or of the Brisbane City Council, or associated with its activities, was admitted to the meeting. He is in fact a partner of the Lord Mayor and others in a firm of real-estate subdividers.

Mr. Graham: You know that that was denied.

Mr. HOOPER: I have here the evidence of it. The hon. member for Mackay should hide his head in shame.

The firm of real-estate subdividers with which the Lord Mayor and this gentleman are associated is known as R. M. J. Lands. A search in the office of the Registrar of Firms disclosed that the business is that of real-estate subdivision. The place of business is 758 Old Cleveland Road, Camp Hill, Brisbane. Do hon. members know what address that is? That is the private address of the Lord Mayor of Brisbane. The date of commencement is 21 October, 1960, and the original registration is 9 November, 1960. The names of the members are—

John Laurence Molloy, 5 Kirford Road, Glen Iris, Victoria.

Donald Thomas Robertson (Retired 22 October, 1961), of Stones Corner.

Clem Jones, 758 Old Cleveland Road, Camp Hill.

Sylvia Ada Jones, 758 Old Cleveland Road, Camp Hill, housewife.

Brian Thomas Halligan (admitted 1 July, 1962), Yabba Street, Ascot.

Margaret Milne (admitted 1 July, 1962), 91 Cabramatta Road, Mosman, Sydney.

From the Titles Office this morning we find that Margaret Milne is now residing at 64 Adelaide Street, Carina.

It is interesting to note that these facts are indeed true. John Laurence Molloy is the manager-elect of Mobil Oil Aust. Pty. Ltd. in Queensland, and he will replace the present manager, Mr. J. Fisher, who will be retiring shortly. This Mr. Molloy was the person admitted to the meeting of the Town Planning Committee on 20 August, 1962. Clem Jones and Sylvia Ada Jones are the Lord Mayor and his wife. Brian Thomas Halligan is a solicitor who acts for the oil company with which Mr. Molloy is concerned. The address and place of business of that firm is the private address of the Lord Mayor.

It will be noted that the Lord Mayor stated in an article in "The Courier-Mail" of 29 August, 1962, that this firm had no interests in Queensland, and therefore no problem was likely to arise by reason of his public position. What I have just quoted are facts registered in the Titles Office and the office of the Registrar of Firms. This is what the Lord Mayor said in reply to a statement in the Brisbane City Council by Alderman Crawford last week—

"The firm which I gather Alderman Crawford referred to has no property or interests in Brisbane, and certainly will have no dealings whatsoever with the City Council while I am in office."

This man is the manager-elect of Mobil Oil Pty. Ltd. Searches disclose that lands in the city of Brisbane registered in the names of the various members of the firm are as follows:—

John Laurence Molloy: County of Stanley, Parish of Tingalpa, area 5 acres, being subdivision 5 of portion 143. Wynnum Road is the location.

Clem Jones and Sylvia Ada Jones: County of Stanley, Parish of Tingalpa, area 23 acres $28\frac{7}{10}$ perches, being resubdivisions 1 and 2 of subdivisions 2 and 3 and resubdivision 1 of subdivisions 4, 5, and 6 of resubdivisions 1 and 2 of subdivision 1 and of resubdivision 2 of subdivision 6A and of subdivision 1 of resubdivision 2 of subdivision 6A of portion 144.

Brian Thomas Halligan: County of Stanley, Parish of Tingalpa, containing 6 acres 3 roods $32\frac{7}{10}$ perches, being subdivision 1 of resubdivision 2 and resubdivision 1 of subdivision 1 of resubdivision 1 of subdivision 1 of portion 83. Again Wynnum Road is the location.

Margaret Milne, widow: County of Stanley, Parish of Bulimba, area 23 $\frac{9}{10}$ perches, subdivision 172 and resubdivision 2 of subdivision 171. The location is Adelaide and Binda Streets, Carina.

It would appear to be beyond reasonable doubt that the various lands form part of a general partnership asset, the proceeds of any sale being available for distribution among all partners. Therefore, the statement by the Lord Mayor in which he said that Mr. Molloy had no property interests in this city would be quite incorrect. I have already quoted from the Press cutting. The Lord Mayor said it; he has not denied it. The attendance of Mr. Molloy at the meeting of the Greater Brisbane Town Planning Committee would furnish him with the opportunity of hearing reports on applications for zoning of lands and for site approvals for service stations submitted by competitor companies.

Mr. Bennett interjected.

Mr. HOOPER: I am pleased to hear the hon. member say it is true. This constitutes an unfair knowledge because it is not available to other oil company representatives.

The Lord Mayor's conduct, if not culpable, is at least foolish in creating a situation that could cause embarrassment to himself, his administration, and the staff of the council.

Mr. Graham: Who said that?

Mr. HOOPER: I say it. The hon. member said it was not true. This is proof that it is. The hon. member will find the same proof that I have here if he makes a search.

I join with the leader of the C.M.O., Alderman Crawford, in calling for the Lord Mayor's resignation from the chairmanship of the Greater Brisbane Town Planning Committee.

Mr. Davies: What for?

Mr. HOOPER: Because of his recent announcement of a sewerage scheme in the Wynnum area. This state of affairs calls for a thorough investigation of the areas that I have mentioned.

As a matter of interest, I have here a copy of the "Nundah Express," in which the people of Nundah complain bitterly that they have been pushed aside in the provision of sewerage because of the scheme in the Wynnum area. As I said, this should be investigated thoroughly to ascertain whether there is any connection between what I have put before the House today and the sewerage scheme. Even if there is not, what I have told the House is true in every detail, and I not only join with the leader of the C.M.O. in the Brisbane City Council in calling for the resignation of Alderman Jones as chairman of the Greater Brisbane Town Planning Committee but also call for his resignation as Lord Mayor of Brisbane.

He is downright dishonest when he makes Press statements such as he made. I have proved it with the facts I have put before the House and I await with interest what the Lord Mayor will have to say, to see how he can run for cover from the facts.

To pass to another matter, because I have silenced hon. members opposite—what I have said is factual, true, and on record and they cannot deny it—in recent weeks the socialist Labour leaders have toured the State basking in the reflected glory of the progress that has been initiated by the present Government, claiming whatever small crumbs of credit they can for work that, in their time they could have initiated, but did not, and trying to sow the seeds of discord wherever possible.

Mr. Davies: How about getting onto unemployment and what you are going to do about it?

Mr. HOOPER: It is very nice for the hon. member for Maryborough to come in on that after we have dealt with that aspect of the debate. In the North, the A.L.P. travellers told their story with the expertness of confidence men and peddled their wares in the form of stories of how they could have developed Weipa but did not. Their stories ran along the lines of the A.L.P. fantasy of what they might have done if they could have organised finance for the Mt. Isa railway reconstruction. They made no mention, however, of the oil discoveries in the south-east of the State. They made no claim to Central Queensland coal development or to plans for the development of the Fitzroy basin. There they followed the Labour policy of denying and decrying, and screaming disillusion and disaster wherever they went.

Nowhere, not even in the south-east of the State, was any reference made to Senator Dittmer's statement last year that the oil-fields should be nationalised. No, they did not mention that! Further, nowhere was it denied that this is part of the Labour Party's Socialism. The advent of any Labour administration to the Government benches would mean a withdrawal of the enormous sums of overseas capital that have been brought into the State in the past five years. It would certainly mean the cutting-off of money that has brought the State such industries as Weipa, the search for oil, and the introduction of United States capital into the development of Central Queensland coal resources.

Foreign capital must have confidence in the Government. How could anyone have confidence in a Labour administration that is only a front for the ruling body of any Labour political party, whether in local government or in this Parliament—the Queensland Central Executive? The masters of this organisation are also the masters of the Communist-controlled Trades and Labour Council.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. HOOPER: Do not let us fool ourselves into thinking that any Labour Party could govern in the near future, any more than they could govern five years ago. Their return to power could be the greatest disaster this State could face within the foreseeable future.

Mr. Wallace interjected.

Mr. HOOPER: The hon. member for Cairns does not like the truth about his Socialist friends; it hurts him deeply.

Mr. Wallace: That is the type of lie you are telling all the time.

Mr. HOOPER: The facts I put before the House today are true, and they can be checked by the hon. member. They are factual and they are recorded. As I say, the return of the A.L.P. to power would be the greatest disaster this State could face. It will be, if it ever happens.

In recent weeks the Sydney "Maritime Worker" has been quoted in the Brisbane Press as listing the names of leading Labour figures in this House as donors to the World Peace Congress Fund to assist the expenses of Queensland delegates. Surely the World Peace Congress is a Communist-front movement with a history very closely allied to Moscow. A.L.P. members of this House contributed to it. They have not denied it.

Mr. DEAN: I rise to a point of order. That remark is offensive to me as a member of the House and a member of the Australian Labour Party. I made no contribution to Soviet funds or the Peace Movement. I ask that the remark be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I ask the hon. member for Greenslopes to accept the denial of the hon. member for Sandgate.

Mr. HOOPER: Yes. But I will name two A.L.P. members of the House who have not yet denied it. Their names appeared in the "Maritime Worker" and were quoted in the Brisbane Press: Mr. Duggan, Leader of the Opposition, and Mr. Lloyd, Deputy Leader of the Opposition; also, outside the House, their big man, Mr. Keefe, and, finally, the man I have mentioned here as being dishonest to the core in local government, from what I have shown the House today, Clem Jones.

Mr. Gilmore: He contributed?

Mr. HOOPER: He contributed, according to the Press reports. It is somewhat disturbing to know that there have been no public denials that those donations were made. What influence can be brought to bear by the backroom boys of the Labour Party in the Trades and Labour Council to make responsible party members give their support to such organisations?

I have wandered a good deal in the last few minutes but there are some things that must be said, if only to show the futility of claims by hon. members opposite of

what they would do if they were in power. If it ever happens that they do become the Government they will do exactly what they have always done: take their orders from the Q.C.E.

The progress of the State can be carried on only by the retention of responsible Government. The progress it has made in the past five years is ample evidence of that.

In recent weeks there has been a change in the status quo of the areas not far from our northern coastline. Although there is no reason for believing that our new neighbours are anything but well-disposed towards us, it is important that we move quickly in the development of our northern areas. I make that point because although I believe that we are moving quickly, let us move even quicker if at all possible. Make no mistake about it, oil has been found in Queensland because of the encouragement given to overseas companies by the policy of the present Government. The oilfield at Moonie is possibly the forerunner of others, but in itself it foreshadows industrial development on a scale that could never have been possible under a Labour administration. In the wake of oil comes all the ancillary benefits of petro-chemicals and allied industries.

Hon. members opposite are very quiet. They do not like to hear these things. Oil is a factor that can change our whole economy and make the money available that is so necessary for our more rapid progress and overall development.

Mr. Graham: You must have some A.O.G. shares.

Mr. HOOPER: I have no shares in any oil company. It was oil that changed the whole face of the Mid-west of the United States. There is no reason at all why it cannot be done here in Queensland.

(Time expired.)

Mr. BENNETT (South Brisbane) (3.50 p.m.): I was rather amazed at the speech of the hon. member for Greenslopes, who normally sits in silence in this Chamber when the debate is far above his head. On this occasion he has seen fit to deliver one of the most scurrilous, gutter-snipe speeches ever heard in the history of this House. I cannot fail to be convinced that my information is correct, that is, that the speech he obviously read and fingered as he went along so that he would not lose the place, was prepared for him by none other than the Industries Liaison Officer, Mr. V. C. Gair. I am informed that that is his main duty.

Mr. HOOPER: I rise to point of order. I have had no association in any way whatever with Mr. Gair and I ask the hon. member to withdraw his statement. It is entirely untrue and it is offensive to me.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The hon. member for South Brisbane will accept the denial of the hon. member for Greenslopes.

Mr. BENNETT: I accept the hon. member's denial that he has any association with Mr. V. C. Gair, but such printed speeches, of course, are sent down by messenger from time to time, and I have no doubt that he would not even confer with the gentleman on this particular matter.

Mr. HOOPER: I rise to a point of order. The hon. member's implication that I had this speech written for me is offensive to me, and I ask him to withdraw it.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The hon. member for South Brisbane has made an assertion that is offensive to the hon. member for Greenslopes, and I ask him to withdraw it.

Mr. BENNETT: I withdraw it—at your direction, Mr. Speaker, of course—but I have a conviction.

I am rather amazed to find, as we normally do, that those who level the sharpest barbs are most sensitive when the barbs are returned. No doubt the sinister innuendo conveyed to hon. members in the speech of the hon. member who has just resumed his seat will be dealt with by the man concerned, the Lord Mayor of Brisbane. No doubt he is unacquainted with the accusations that have been made in a rigmarole fashion by the hon. member, who did not see fit to allow his colleague in the Brisbane City Council to handle the situation, when the Lord Mayor could have participated in the debate and accepted the challenge.

Mr. Hooper: They tried to do it and he said it was not true.

Mr. BENNETT: It is passing strange that the leader of the junior Liberal Party in the City Council, Alderman Crawford, did not see fit to follow up those accusations. He did not press his claim for the Lord Mayor's resignation.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The hon. member for Merthyr is not playing the organ now.

Mr. BENNETT: I am not singing what the hon. member is playing.

These strong allegations could have been properly conducted in the forum provided in local-government circles. The allegations could have been made by the man appointed by the electors of Brisbane to make such allegations, that is, the Leader of the Opposition in the Brisbane City Council. However, apparently in his decency he did not believe the untruthful allegations that have been made here by the hon. member who is now scuttling out of the Chamber and now running back again like a neurotic young woman.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. BENNETT: The hon. member saw fit, however, to make those charges.

I challenge the hon. member for Greenslopes to tell the House for how long he has had that information and whether he has conveyed it, as would be his duty, to the Minister for Public Works and Local

Government, whose responsibility it would be to inquire into the allegation. I challenge him to indicate to the House whether he has conveyed it to the Minister for Justice and the Minister in charge of police, Mr. Pizzey, and whether they have made investigations to satisfy themselves whether the foul allegations have any foundation. I am certain that the hon. member preferred to fly those foul allegations for the first time in what was almost his maiden speech in the House in an endeavour to catch Press headlines, knowing full well that if the allegations had been fully and properly investigated he would not have been able to give such a spectacular speech.

I am not suggesting that this is my standard or my claim but, if the allegations are to be given serious consideration and if the claim of the hon. member for Greenslopes is to be accepted by the House, then there are others in Government circles whose business transactions and whose share-dealing must come under review. Not the least of them, of course, is the hon. gentleman who has just walked in, the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity. I am sure he does not share the sentiments expressed by his Government's back-bencher. If the Lord Mayor of Brisbane has done anything wrongfully, as alleged by the hon. member for Greenslopes, then the Minister is in exactly the same category. If he is going to call for the resignation of anybody, perhaps a few resignations will be called for. Mind you, I am not the one who is calling for resignations. I am submitting that the call must be made if the hon. member is to be consistent in his allegations and accusations.

I do not wish to devote too much of my time in the debate to matters raised by the hon. member for Greenslopes. No doubt they will be dealt with adequately and appropriately and efficiently in other circles. The Leader of the Opposition in the Council either was not prepared to believe the allegations made here, or, if he was, like the previous speaker, he was not game to make them outside the privilege of Parliament.

I wish to join my electors and electorate in the expressions of loyalty to the Throne and to His Excellency. I do not wish to dwell unduly long on those expressions because I think His Excellency knows that their sincerity is not measured by the brevity of the remarks.

While dealing with Royal activities and Royal occasions I must say that I was somewhat disappointed and to a large extent disgusted last week with the Government arrangements for the Royal visitors from Thailand. Admittedly we were receiving a gracious and charming Queen; but the fundamental purpose of the visit of a Sovereign from another country is to cement our diplomatic and public relations, to leave with the Royal party binding thoughts of our deep sense of responsibility in this country,

and to show them what we are working for and to convince them of our fellow feeling and of our desire to assist them and of course of our hope to have their assistance should it become necessary from time to time. I was somewhat amazed and disappointed that the visit, instead of being one to show the world, Australia, and our visitors that we were entertaining them from a deep sense of responsibility in this country, developed into what might be thought by our visitors to be merely a glamour crusade of artificiality. I say that with sincerity and a great deal of feeling, because, from what I observed of the King and from the photographs I saw of him from time to time, I could not help but wonder whether his solemn expression during the whole of his visit to Queensland was because he gained the impression that Queenslanders misunderstood the purpose and nature of his visit. That might have been the reason why he seemed so solemn and serious and did not appear to enjoy himself particularly.

I think that the high-water mark of misconception of the true value of the visit was voiced in the Sunday newspaper "Truth" when mention was made of "Two very nice Thais in Brisbane." I think that that called for a ministerial apology. I think that that was cheap and indecent and that the Press, if they call themselves responsible, should produce something of a higher standard than comments of that nature. That is typical of the Aikens humour.

I, too, wish to support the Leader of the Opposition in the amendment that he has moved because of the unfortunate conditions prevailing in this State at present. He has very effectively mentioned the major issues that motivated his moving the amendment. He mentioned particularly unemployment, failure to attract substantial industrial undertakings to the State, and the fact that young people who have received a better education than was received in the past are unable to find employment.

I do not wish to add to his effective argument and the arguments of others who have quoted figures to show that his claim is correct. I have not heard from the Government ranks any defence of their activities over the years. The previous speaker, in an endeavour to take away some of the fire in the accusations directed against the Government's activities, introduced into the debate something that is essentially a matter for the Brisbane City Council. He was trying to take public attention from the fact that this Government have failed in their election promises to the people and have not lived up to the expectations of their own supporters. This Government are weighed down with their responsibilities and are without the financial means to perform public works that are urgently required in Queensland.

Unemployment in this State is worse than in any other State of the Commonwealth. A successful Government will attract population to the State, as those who come know that living conditions are congenial, that there is plenty of work, and that they will enjoy living in it. I think that the population figures of a State are always a fair indication of the success or failure of its Government. Comparing Queensland with the other States, we find that, with the exception of Tasmania and the Northern Territory, the population drift has been worse in Queensland than it has in any other State.

Let me turn now to the number of factories established in Queensland and the industries that have been attracted here. Incidentally, the figures that have been quoted relating to industrial undertakings in Queensland include service stations, which, although they do employ a certain number of people, produce very little for this State. The latest figures that I was able to obtain from the Parliamentary Library show that for the 12 months ended 30 June, 1961, there was a reduction in the number of factories operating in the State and that the number of people employed in factories was 104,462, which was 231 fewer than were employed in 1959-1960. Although there were 497 fewer male workers, the number of female employees rose slightly.

Mr. Davies: Did any capital flow in to the country?

Mr. BENNETT: As the hon. member for Maryborough implies by interjection, capital should flow in to the country to create employment. As I said, those figures indicate that there are fewer factories and fewer employees under the present Government. As a matter of fact, in the year ended 30 June, 1961, the number of male employees decreased by .6 per cent.

The only suggestions for increasing employment have come from two hon. members opposite. The hon. member for Greenslopes said that a factory that he did not choose to name—I suggest that he cannot name it—would employ a certain number of people. The other suggestion related to an undertaking at Beaudesert that would employ people to cut cork leaves if they were prepared to take a tent with them, go 30 to 40 miles into the jungle, and carry their own food and water for three or four weeks to earn a small sum of money. Several hundred people went down there, but the conditions were so unsatisfactory that they could not take the employment.

My Leader also mentioned the fact that the Ford, Bacon and Davis Report is being acted upon by the Government to the detriment of Queensland. They are closing branch lines, workshops, and various other undertakings, thus decreasing railway employment in this State.

A claim has been made that industry has been attracted here, but the figures do not substantiate it. If any hon. member cares to take a walk with me, I can point out to him 12 buildings within 200 yards of Parliament House that are for sale, and in the city proper there are at least 25 large buildings for sale. This indicates clearly that the heart of Brisbane has been eaten out. It has been killed by the Government, and people are anxious to sell out and scurry away to other States because they cannot make their businesses pay under the present Government.

Sitting here and listening, we have heard no substantial arguments put forward against the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition. We have heard claims of dissension within the Labour Party. Let the Liberal and Country Parties look within their own house. The hon. member for Windsor is smarting with chagrin at having missed endorsement for the Clayfield electorate. He did not know that John Murray would be imported from Townsville to contest that seat. I believe that when the present distinguished member for Clayfield announced his intention of retiring, the Liberal Party had a "For sale" notice over the Clayfield electorate for some time. When John Murray got the endorsement, of course, the word for the Clayfield area appeared to be "Sold". The hon. member for Windsor, who was trying to scurry away from Windsor because he knows his chips are down there, who was trying to run for what he considered to be a safe seat strengthened by the representations of the previous member, who was endeavouring to cash in on the efforts of the previous member, who made mention rather unfairly of my absence although I have not seen him here this week, is very annoyed. I do not know where he is but I do know that when I am absent I am conspicuous by my absence and that when he is present he is inconspicuous by his presence.

Such is his annoyance that, because of his antipathy to the present Liberal Party group on whose executive he serves, he is charging round the Inns of Court daily, trying vainly to get every barrister he can contact to run as an independent in Clayfield, to down John Murray. He is doing his level best to down John Murray. Hon. members opposite speak of dissension. I can name several barristers whom the hon. member for Windsor has approached in the Inns of Court alone, endeavouring to persuade them to stand as independent Liberal candidates in Clayfield to down John Murray.

Mr. Hughes: You know those statements are untrue.

Mr. BENNETT: He is never in the House. I think that is probably where he is now.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I do not think the hon. member for South Brisbane is adding anything to the lustre of the debate

by his character assassination. I ask him to continue with the matter before the House, which is the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. BENNETT: You did not say anything, Mr. Speaker, when the Lord Mayor's character was being assassinated.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! If the hon. member is criticising the Chair I ask him to be very careful in future. I order the hon. member to discontinue his attacks on a member of this House. The Lord Mayor is not a member of this House.

Mr. BENNETT: If I understand your ruling correctly, Mr. Speaker, the only characters you are protecting from assassination are those of members of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I am here to protect the interests and honour of members of this House, irrespective of party. If the hon. member does not continue with the matter before the House I shall ask him to resume his seat.

Mr. BENNETT: With all due respect to you, Mr. Speaker, I am not attacking anyone's character; I was talking of a person's activities. I am entitled to do that.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The hon. member will continue with his speech.

Mr. BENNETT: Very well. I sincerely hope that when my activities in the community are commented upon I receive the same treatment.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The hon. member certainly will.

Mr. BENNETT: Dealing with comments that have been made, if we are to conduct the debate in that way, Mr. Speaker, mention has been made of land dealings and of those who have an interest in land in this city. In the initial stages of the debate, perhaps, properly so more than now, one speaker dealt with share-sharks and others. I should like to draw the attention of the House to the fact that not less than four years ago one of our city's leading detectives drew the attention of the administration of this State to the activities of these share-sharks and to their presence in this State. but it is sad to relate that the Government did nothing about it and did not act on the information that was conveyed to them.

I did intend to deal with that in rather more detail than it has been dealt with to date and I intended to say that these share-sharks could not possibly have operated as they have and could not have achieved the success they have in their activities in fleecing the public of hundreds of thousands of pounds if they had not received top-level protection. By "top-level" protection, I mean from one particular department of State.

As the ministerial head of the department unfortunately is absent at the present time and in view of your ruling, Mr. Speaker, I shall defer my remarks on that subject until the hon. gentleman is here to listen to my suggestions about what should be done to curtail and eliminate all these nefarious practices that have been adopted by share-sharks and others who, I believe, are getting top-level protection. Also, in view of what has been said today let me say that I believe that newspapers are entitled to print information about these matters. We have seen one in particular complaining, and to some extent squealing, because certain writs are issued from time to time. I know that it has obtained sound legal advice. No newspaper that prints an article containing the truth, and that is for the public benefit, will ever be mulcted for damages for having printed an article along these or any other lines, as long as the article is true and is published for the public benefit. After all, is not that a sane and wise law to prevent scurrilous articles being written which cannot be substantiated in fact?

My Leader has mentioned the Ford, Bacon and Davis Report. He used that report as one of the reasons for moving his vote of censure, or his want-of-confidence motion. I share with him amazement at the Government's complacency about that report. When the hon. member for Toowoomba West was Minister for Transport he initiated what seemed to be, and what I still believe to be, an ideal scheme for the quadruplication and electrification of Brisbane's suburban railway system. All engineering brains, planning brains and economic brains at all times acclaimed that scheme as worth while and desirable for the benefit of the city and Ipswich, as well as Sandgate and all the other suburbs that would prosper by such development. Now we have a report from these people, whom I strongly suspect as agents for American oil companies, in which it is suggested that such a scheme is of no use or purpose whatever. Instead we are urged to use the diesel type of power. It is noisy, of course, and it requires the importation from America of dieselene, which is more expensive than coal. One would think that with the huge coal resources readily available to us in Queensland the railway administration would be anxious to develop the coal deposits. They represent a force or an energy that is readily available to us. Coal is cheaper than fuel oil and its use would provide large-scale employment for those who work in the coalfields and those required to transport it to the various power-houses. Furthermore, electrification would mean clean, fast transport in sharp contrast to the noisy diesels. Quite frankly I have been amazed that the Minister for Transport and the Government themselves have not given an official pronouncement of policy on this matter, setting out their detailed reasons for abandoning the proposed electrification and quadruplication of the suburban passenger railways in preference to dieselisation.

If the Minister for Transport was conscious of his obligations to this State and to the men employed in the Railway Department he would press ahead with the building of a new bridge from South Brisbane to the north side of the river so that there would be an immediate connecting link for maintenance purposes, transport, freight and passenger services. It would eliminate much costly delay and expense.

I believe, too, that the Minister for Transport has adopted the wrong policy towards road transport as it affects the railway system. It may be admitted that in certain instances freight consigned by the railways could, at times, be carried with greater facility by road transport. Surely there is nothing to prevent the Minister, or the Government, from instituting a co-ordinated road service controlled and owned by the Railway Department—serviced and manned by railwaymen.

Again, when diesel locomotives are required, they should be ordered and manufactured in Queensland. We have proved our ability to manufacture trains and engines equally as efficiently as elsewhere. There is no reason why we should not manufacture diesel engines in Queensland.

In the brief time at my disposal I wish to refer to hospital accommodation. There is a great deal of overcrowding at the Princess Alexandra Hospital. Hospital wards are carrying more than twice the number originally stipulated, and more than twice the number regarded in medical circles and by hospital administration to be prudent, safe, and hygienic. Moreover, at that hospital several wards are still unopened because the Government, while pretending to preserve free hospitals, are not prepared to staff the wards; they are overcrowding wards rather than meet the expense of opening others and providing the extra man-power and facilities that would be needed.

I have never referred to this subject before, but a strong protest should be lodged against public servants breaching the Public Service Regulations. Regulation 36 says that an officer shall not publicly comment upon the administration of any department, and Regulation 37 says that an officer shall not take part in political affairs whilst on duty otherwise than by the exercise of the franchise. My Leader has already touched on this aspect of the Government's activities, and I endorse his remarks. The position is becoming very dangerous. There have been instances in the past when public servants have made public comment on the administration of departments and have expressed themselves politically and have been dealt with.

Mr. O'Donnell: There were Baker and Copley; one was transferred to the border.

Mr. BENNETT: Yes, and the man who used to deal with them most viciously and determinedly was V. C. Gair, one-time Minister and later Premier of Queensland.

He insisted savagely that public servants keep out of politics and refrain from making public comments on matters of administration. Yet we find him making comments with rare abandon, challenging and threatening the Government, and telling them to wake up; saying that he will do this and that if they do not toe the line so far as he is concerned. What have this weak-kneed, phlegmatic, inimical Government done? They have said, "Yes, Mr. Gair, we will increase your allowance." While he is preparing this political chicanery against the Government and gerrymandering these political moves, he is being paid a big expense account and is travelling interstate during working hours, staying at the best hotels throughout the land. He gets a liberal expense account.

Mr. Tooth: "Generous" is the word you want. Don't confuse the issue.

Mr. BENNETT: Generous, perhaps. And this Government never query him. When one man can intimidate a Minister, it is dangerous enough; but when one man can intimidate a whole Government it is a very serious matter, and it constitutes a dangerous problem for the State. That is what is happening. This very man, who moved the sacking of a public servant, during the course of the debate moved the suspension of the present Minister, who is now supposedly his boss, but it is obvious that that Minister is still frightened of him and is still prepared to use him. Clearly Mr. Gair still wields a mighty stick in Liberal Party circles. It is all very well for the hon. member for Ashgrove to smile. Do not tell me that Mr. Gair does not attend Liberal Party meetings, because I would not believe it. And he does not go there to get instructions from the Liberal Party; he goes there to tell the members of the Liberal Party what to do to manoeuvre themselves into a stronger position in relation to the Country Party.

Mr. Tooth interjected.

Mr. BENNETT: Do not tell me that he does not do it. The hon. member for Ashgrove knows that he does. Little wonder that this man, who can flout the Public Service Regulations with disdain and with rare abandon, is not dealt with by the Liberal Party section of the Government, for whom he works, because he has now become their boss and anything he does is all right by them. As a matter of fact, I am told, and I believe, that the influence of Charles Porter over the party has now paled into insignificance compared with the power and strength that V. C. Gair has over the Liberals at their meetings and in their doings. Fancy a public servant telling his Minister and his Government to wake up! "Wake up!" he says "Your policy is wrong." He tells them that they have been hypocrites over the years, that they have argued for a particular type of legislation, and in effect he tells them through the columns of "The Courier-Mail" and "The Sunday Mail" that they have not the guts to put into

practice what they have been advocating over the years. And this public servant, who tells his own Government that they have not got the guts, is not even reprimanded by the Government, who are paying him a handsome salary, for telling them that they have not got the guts. That is the type of Government we have in Queensland! A man is being nurtured and fed by the members of the Liberal Party, not merely in an endeavour to preserve their own existence but also to out manoeuvre the Country Party so that at some time in the future, they hope, at a joint meeting, the Liberal Party, by weight of numbers, by skulduggery and manoeuvring, will be able to out-class the Country Party on the policy of the coalition Government.

Mr. Windsor: Duggan saved you.

Mr. BENNETT: And I thank him for it. At least he knows a good man when he sees one. But if Gair is ever in the Government again he will not save the hon. member for Fortitude Valley. He would not even look twice at him, so the hon. member need not try to crawl to him too much.

I know it hurts them. They have their new boss now and he has already made changes in the Cabinet. He has reorganised Cabinet. He has his reason for doing it, too. He is working fast and doing a lot.

Now I will show the weakness of the Government, if I have the time.

(Time expired.)

Mr. RAE (Gregory) (4.30 p.m.): I should like to congratulate the mover and seconder of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. It amazes me that the Leader of the Opposition saw fit to move his amendment. There is no denying the fact that if ever a Government of Queensland has done a good job, it is this one.

Mr. Bromley: Are you referring to Quilpie?

Mr. RAE: I am not referring to anything. The hon. member for Belmont spoke this morning on unemployment. I have heard nothing all day from the Opposition but references to unemployment. Here is this ridiculous cry coming from these so-called leaders of the State of Queensland. God preserve the State from their ever becoming the Government. All that we have heard from them are these fantastic cries of misery, poverty, unemployment, desperation, and everything else that has a most unhappy sound. Surely hon. members opposite can see some good that this Government have done? They have a record to be proud of. These people would be, without doubt, the patron saints of calamity. They think that that is good. I am satisfied that they are directed by the Q.C.E. to do this; they themselves, poor fellows, have no say whatever. They are controlled and directed and instructed, "If we preach this unemployment long enough, a few people are bound to

think, "There must be something happening if this goes on so long." It is not a bad method, but there is no basis for it in this State.

When the Leader of the Opposition was in Longreach he quoted unemployment there, but he well knows that there is no more unemployment in the West than there is in many other places.

Mr. Duggan: The non-Labour Council gave you a bit of a hiding at the civic reception.

Mr. RAE: They would not do that. The Leader of the Opposition was a pretty hardy sort of fellow to go out there. I know that my people are far too courteous to do the wrong thing; they would certainly treat him in the manner in which he should be treated.

I should like to pay a compliment to His Excellency the Governor and to his wife, Lady May. Theirs has been an outstanding achievement. I think that we are very fortunate in having people of their calibre and with their interests in Queensland. I earnestly hope that they are with us for a long time. In their everyday acts, they are an example to the youth and the older people of Queensland of the right way in which to play a part in life.

I find this constant cry of unemployment very hard to take, because I move round a lot in my area—

Mr. Bromley: You are not interested in it.

Mr. RAE: I am far more interested in it than is the hon. member for Norman. Like most members of the A.L.P., he is unemployed from the neck up. He has no knowledge of what actually goes on; one can see that from his expression. The point is that we have this great catch-cry of unemployment. That is not so in my area. The Government have a record of which they can well be proud, and each Minister has played a very important part in the development of the area that I have the honour to represent.

It is extraordinary that a man such as the Leader of the Opposition should say, "Why go to Quilpie?" If anything has done me a lot of good, I can assure him that that remark has. He is a marked man in the minds of those people who had the opportunity of reading it. This Government have cared for the welfare of the people in Western Queensland and have investigated their needs and requirements.

Let me deal first with roads and what the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity and his departmental officers have done for us. The set-up is pretty good now. It is something of which I am very proud, and I know that the people out there realise that a tremendous amount has been done for them. They now have roads from Quilpie to Windorah and Currawilla, from Boulia to Winton, from Mt. Isa

to Dajarra and from Normanton to Mt. Isa. This enables the people living in those areas to see for themselves just how they were penalised in past years, with absolutely nothing being done by way of a Government undertaking to assist them.

Mr. Evans: They were a forgotten legion.

Mr. RAE: Completely. Today a tremendous sum of money is being spent there. I might add that a tremendous sum of money was spent before, but it was spent in a ridiculous way that could be devised only by a Labour organisation or people with a Labour background. The policy of Labour Governments was to repair things and let the people enjoy a privilege for a few months. We saw roads that blew away, roads that never really existed. This Government, under the direction of the Minister and his departmental officers, have seen fit to put in permanent roads with a bitumen surface. This is a great boon for the people out there in the transport of cattle, sheep, goods, and everything else, and has given them a new conception of what a good Government can do, particularly in the saving of many thousands of head of stock in times of drought. They recognise the value of that development and will record their appreciation when the time comes for them to cast their votes.

Mr. Bromley: My word they will!

Mr. RAE: That is right.

I will give hon. members some figures on the amount of money made available to the Gregory electorate for very sensible and down-to-earth road works. From 1 July, 1952, to 30 June, 1957, £2,000,000 was spent there, and those were fairly good years from the point of view of revenue, taxation, and so on, coming from the people living there. From 1957 to 1962, the Government have spent £4,310,000. It cannot be denied that the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity and his Cabinet colleagues have regarded these things as essential for the development of the State, something that had to be done by responsible Ministers.

The Minister and his departmental officers have done them. And we are going on and the results will be good. It will be found that not only these people, but also the people of the Quilpie, Boulia, Birdsville, Winton and Longreach areas, will really enjoy something for the first time. They did not have anything before. It was never granted to them in any way, but today it is granted.

There was a sum of money amounting to £339,000 by way of Commonwealth aid, with which the previous Government did precisely nothing. Where that went to, heaven only knows. A very poor state of affairs is disclosed when one really goes into what the A.L.P. did when they had the reins for something like 40 years.

Mr. Evans: How much did we do?

Mr. RAE: There is an amount here of £4,310,000.

Mr. Evans: And with beef roads?

Mr. RAE: £805,000.

Mr. Duggan interjected.

Mr. RAE: The Leader of the Opposition need not tell me that he does not get figures. I say without equivocation that if ever a Cabinet Minister and a department have done a good job for Queensland in land development, this Minister and his department have. I hope this timely move will be continued for a long time because it is only in this way that we can achieve the proper advancement of this State, and it is only by such ways and means that contact can be made with these outposts in far-flung corners of the State and with the men who produce the goods. I compliment the Minister on the excellent job he has done with the beef-roads scheme.

I should like also to comment on the rather sad occurrence in this House whilst the hon. member for Greenslopes was speaking.

Mr. Wallace: A shocking speech.

Mr. RAE: He made a wonderful speech. Any man who has done for his country what the hon. member for Greenslopes has done and has gone through what he has gone through should have been granted more courtesy than to be heckled by a bunch of rabble, and I name particularly the hon. member for Salisbury and the hon. member for South Brisbane. It pains me to think that a man like the hon. member for Salisbury, representing in this House a section of the people of Queensland, whom I take to be a responsible man, should say to the hon. member for Greenslopes, "Tell us about the time you wanted a special ward set aside for you in the Greenslopes Hospital." That is one of the most damnable statements I have ever heard in my life.

Mr. Sherrington: You are very religious.

Mr. RAE: I am not religious at all, but I am a straight shooter. I say that I am not going to have lampooned anyone who went away and did for his country what the hon. member for Greenslopes did, particularly by people who never saw the deck of a ship, or action of any sort in defence of their country. I wish to have recorded and noted that I think very poorly of men who can speak as they spoke in this House today. It does not do any good. On the contrary, it does a lot of harm.

Another Government achievement with which I am very proud to be associated is that associated with public buildings. The Minister for Public Works and Local Government has, without a doubt, taken his task very seriously. He is a junior

Minister, a young man, although rather old politically. He has tackled his job in a very positive and constructive way, particularly in receiving representations, not only from Gregory but also from Barcoo, Flinders, Tablelands, Warrego—from anywhere at all in the West. Here is the direct opposite to the position that previously existed for years. We realise that this is a very big State. It takes big people to run a big State. We have big people in Cabinet today—men who know the score.

Mr. Richter and his department have done the West a tremendous amount of good. Many fine public buildings have been erected. Departmental officers have been provided with adequate housing. All in all, the Government's outlook has been very heartening to the people of the outback and those who serve in it. For that alone they will never forget this Government. Let alone what has been done in Barcoo, Warrego and the other electorates of the West, in the last four years in the Gregory electorate the Government have spent £320,000 on public buildings. In the previous years—in the so-called good years under the A.L.P. who always claim to have done so much—a miserly £80,000 was the sum total. Today we have public buildings and adequate homes for the staffs. I congratulate my Government on the good job they have done.

The man who should get more than a fair share of my bouquets is the Minister for Education and Migration. I am proud to give them to him. I believe in giving praise where it is due, just as I will give kicks where they are due. Education in the State has never had a better man to run it. Never has there been more able administration in the education field than by Mr. Pizzey and such men as Dr. Watkin. A magnificent job has been done. Yet hon. members opposite tear it all to pieces without any backing for their statements. They talk a lot of idle nonsense—absolute piffle.

Mr. Windsor: They say we spend too much money on education.

Mr. RAE: They do not know what they are talking about. An excellent job has been done.

There are two schools of thought on what I am about to refer to, but I am certain that the hon. member for Warrego will agree with what I have to suggest. The Government should build hostels for the children of the outback. That is the one way to retain the children of the pioneers in the western areas. After all, we are all pioneers, whether it is today or 100 years ago. I bring to the notice of the Minister the need to build first-class hostels for the children of the outback.

Mr. Dufficy: Is it not true that only the local authority accepts that responsibility now?

Mr. RAE: It is to a point, but not completely. The children of station hands, railway fettlers, overseers, and managers who work in areas away from the city receive some education through correspondence courses, but that is not the complete answer. After consultation with people who have moved round and studied the problem, I honestly believe that the answer is to be found in the provision of hostels. If hostels were made available in the main settlements they could be controlled and staffed by people with training. This would be another expense for the Government, but it is one of the best schemes I have ever had an opportunity to talk about. It would do a great deal for children in the outback areas of the State. Many hon. members opposite would not know where the outback is. In the past they used to send out there all the difficult misfits from every walk of life, including public servants, school teachers, and policemen. If they were useless down here they pushed them out there.

Mr. O'Donnell: That is unfair.

Mr. RAE: It is not unfair. The West has never been better off than it is today. I have no doubt that for 30 to 40 years they gave us all the cast-offs. We had them for years.

Mr. O'Donnell: That is a downright lie.

Mr. RAE: It is not a lie. It is a fact that the hon. member would well know.

I expressly ask if it is at all possible to have something done in the provision of hostels along the lines I have suggested. There is an excellent high school at Charleville.

Mr. Dufficy: They have a very good representative.

Mr. RAE: I have heard that before. I am talking about Barcardine. I hope that the hon. member for Barcoo does not think that I am having a crack at him. I honestly believe that in our mutual interests we should have in Barcardine a high-school top.

Mr. O'Donnell: We cannot get it because Longreach cannot make the grade.

Mr. RAE: After all, it is the centre.

Mr. O'Donnell: Of course it is.

Mr. RAE: Let me finish. Let me get on with the job and put the hon. member wise. If we had Barcardine as the Senior top, children from Longreach, Jericho, Alpha, Muttaborra, Aramac, Blackall and Tambo would be attending there. It is the logical place for the Senior top. The Senior top, together with a hostel, would provide the answer in the education of the children in the central-western areas.

Another very interesting point I wish to bring to the attention of the House concerning railways, railway freights, and the

overall need for entering into a scheme that will permit people in certain towns to enjoy something that towns 50 or 60 miles away can enjoy. I propose now to deal with the generosity of the Government to the people of the Far West. Their latest action has been to reduce rail freights on most essential goods to areas west of Rockhampton, including Longreach. This has had the effect of stabilising the business community of Longreach as well as those of other smaller townships. Further, it provides work for railway employees and so keeps alive the railway villages. Of recent weeks I have been making representations to the Minister for the extension of those concessions to Winton and I am sure that, although there are some peculiarities about Winton, they will be extended. What the Railway Department has to overcome is the fact that Townsville has always been regarded as the base port for Winton. The proposal to channel the business through Rockhampton will pose some difficulties, but the local residents believe that Rockhampton offers the best opportunities for cheap freights to waterfront facilities and so I am doing all in my power to bring about the change and to have the railways regard Rockhampton as the port for Winton. I honestly believe that it is essential. Geographically, Rockhampton and Townsville pose a conundrum for the department. Winton terminates the Townsville control and Longreach terminates the Rockhampton control. At the moment the two are more or less at loggerheads. Certain concerns and stores will not welcome the change, but I have the Minister's assurance that the matter is being thoroughly investigated and I have no doubt that he will find a solution acceptable to the people of Winton and people farther west.

I want to deal now with the way the Police Force is being run. In my opinion this very large force is being severely handicapped through devious ways and means that could and should be bypassed.

Mr. Davies: Don't you think you should wait till the Minister recovers from his illness?

Mr. RAE: I am not going to wait for the hon. member for Maryborough to say anything because it would not even be sensible. I am addressing the Chair and I hope the House will consider what I have to say.

First and foremost, I think that for the effective administration of the Police Force of Queensland it should be entirely under one Minister. At the moment Commissioner Bischof is responsible to Mr. Pizzey, to Mr. Chalk, and to Mr. Evans, and possibly there is uncertainty in the relationships of various departments. The force is completely overburdened with administration.

Mr. Bennett: He does not take much notice of you.

Mr. RAE: I am not taking any notice of the hon. member, either.

Mr. Bennett: It would pay you to; you would learn something.

Mr. RAE: I am trying to put to the House something that I honestly believe to be sensible and constructive.

Mr. Bennett: Who do you suggest the Minister should be?

Mr. RAE: It would not be the hon. member for South Brisbane. My thought on the matter of enabling the police to concentrate on their primary functions is that basically they should be relieved of much of the work that is now being thrust on them under the Traffic Act and Regulations—the licensing of cabs and transport vehicles, the issuing of driving licences, and a hundred and one other duties that really go hand in glove in most instances with various other departments. They could all come under the one Minister, and that should be the Minister for Transport. He is the man who should be in complete control of the Police Force if we are to have a really effective organisation. The enforcement of these laws always has been, and always will be, the duty of the police. My argument is that effective control is hindered by the excessive burdens placed upon them in the field of administration. There is no denying that. The Minister for Labour and Industry is in charge of this particular matter, the Minister for Transport is in charge of that, the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity is in charge of something else, and the Minister for Education and Migration has control of something else again. I say that the administration is completely out of hand and unnecessarily burdened with paper work. Let these men get on with the job under the one Minister. That is very important.

Mr. Bromley: You are running Ministers down now.

Mr. RAE: I am not running anybody down. I know that Mr. Chalk is a busy man, but I urge that this House give full consideration to my views on this matter, because another aspect is that the Minister for Transport in each State coming under the Australian Motor Vehicles Standards Committee is responsible for the modification and implementation of laws affecting owners and drivers Commonwealth-wide. They form the rules of the road and various other laws and ideas to enable sensible travel interstate. Does it not appear logical that the man to take full control, and relieve other Ministers of their obligations, is the Minister for Transport? He is on the panel, and I feel that a man who has that responsibility should be the head. It is quite wrong and foolish to have it allocated to three or four Ministers. There should be one Minister in charge of police, and the police should be in charge of everything within their field. Let a few more public servants be employed, but do not have men with stripes on their arms going about

all these little humdrum tasks with pads and pencils and becoming merely administrative officers. I think that that gets them out of touch with the realities of their jobs. I believe that the sooner we realise that we need one Minister in charge of police, and the police in charge of everything pertaining to their field, the better it will be. The Minister in charge should be the real boss, not three or four Ministers.

Mr. Bromley: A stand-over man.

Mr. RAE: No standing over at all. It is the sensible and logical way to look at it. I think it wrong that three or four Ministers should each have a finger in the pie.

Mr. Bennett: We would like to have you in charge of the mounted police.

Mr. RAE: That is not a bad suggestion from a "Smart Alec."

I am running out of time, but I have another thought to bring to the notice of the House. I know that many hon. members get round a fair bit and see things for themselves. The Royal National Association is a wonderful organisation and this year's Exhibition was a first-class show. However, the drinking facilities were the most deplorable that I have ever seen or been called upon to use in my life. The public were treated like a mob of animals. One had to line up at a particular window where a grizzly-faced character peered through a little piece of wire-netting and said, "What do you want?" You say, "One" or "Two" or "Three" or "Four" glasses," and then you go round to get your drinks. If you get to the bar, you are a pretty strong-armed character. Then you drink down this jolly swill. When it is all over, you jostle your way back to the character in the cage to get your deposit back. In practice you never get it back, because there is always a cove who shoots through with it or an over-eager attendant behind the bar who whizzes away all the glasses. I do not care about the money, but I think that it very wrong in a State such as Queensland to ask men to drink under such conditions. I think that a letter of censure should be sent to the President and Committee of the R.N.A. bringing to their attention what I think is one of the most disgraceful sights that I have seen in my life. Increase the charge if necessary, but spare us from this glass-buying nonsense.

We are eager at all times to sponsor and help secondary industries in Queensland. However, it was brought to my notice last night that Massey Ferguson, which I have every reason to believe is quite a sizeable company—if my informant advised me correctly, they took over Massey Harris—are stocktaking and it is taking them 14 days to complete it. During this period they are denying every person in Queensland who requires a spare part for a Ferguson tractor the right to buy it. They have to wait till the twentieth of the month, or

whatever the date is, before they can get a part. If ever I saw an example of secondary industry giving primary industry a good kick in the pants, this is it. I think it should be brought to the attention of the House, and I am sure the Treasurer will take particular note of what I have said. It is only a small point, but it is very important to primary producers who wish to carry on with summer plantings, and so on. Surely this is unnecessary. After all, the primary producer is the backbone of the State.

Mr. CAREY (Albert) (5.7 p.m.): First, I congratulate the hon. member for Gregory on his fiery speech, which has certainly shown the Government up in a very good light.

I join with previous speakers in congratulating my colleague the hon. member for Flinders, Mr. Lonergan, on so ably moving the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply, and the hon. member for Wavell, Mr. Alex Dewar, on his speech seconding the motion.

It is also my pleasure to congratulate the Hon. Alan Munro on his elevation to the position of Deputy Premier. I extend my sympathies to the Hon. Ken Morris on his forced retirement from that high office because of ill health. I wish him a speedy return to good health and express the hope that he will soon be back to his old form in the House.

The people of the electorate of Albert, whom I am proud to represent, would desire me to associate them with the message of loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. and to assure her, through His Excellency the Governor, of our continued support in personal service to this State for the advancement of Queensland and the prosperity of Australia as a whole and by prayers for Her Majesty and her family for continued good health and Divine guidance in her work.

My constituents have also asked me to express their gratitude to Her Most Gracious Majesty for granting a further term of office to our Governor, Sir Henry Abel Smith. Queenslanders generally, and the people of the electorate of Albert particularly, welcome this good news, for His Excellency and his charming wife, Lady May, have endeared themselves to all. We of the electorate of Albert trust that their visits to our area will be frequent.

In my opening remarks I spoke of the personal services to the State of Queensland by the people of the electorate of Albert and I submit that the community service rendered by these people, although it may be equalled by that in other parts of the State, is certainly never surpassed. In Albert we have a branch of almost every service club known in the State, from the Red Cross to wolf cubs and girl guides.

The unselfish services rendered by the personnel of these organisations has to be witnessed to be believed. The charitable giving of the people of my area is well known throughout the State because, as well as supporting their coast organisations they are frequently called upon to support, financially and by personal effort, virtually every worthwhile charitable and humanitarian appeal launched on a State-wide basis. Their response to these demands is well known and appeals have always been conducted successfully.

These services are not restricted to the chosen few but cover all walks of life—children, farm hands, employees and employers—all realising their duty to the State and giving and working according to their ability. There are few drones in the electorate of Albert.

The same can be said of their contribution to their work. The services rendered to the sick by the personnel of the hospital, the doctors, and the ambulance is frequently applauded by those who have had the misfortune to require their services. There is less crime per head of population in our area than in most other parts of the State. This speaks volumes for the untiring efforts of our limited Police Force. I shall deal further with our requirement for increased strength in this department a little later on.

The quality of goods manufactured by the workmen in our area is of the highest standard. The courteous service rendered by shop assistants and public servants is frequently acclaimed by residents and visitors alike as an experience that could well be emulated by others in these fields of operation throughout the State.

We are at all times aware of the necessity of treating our visitors, the tourists, as guests so that they will return to our coast and act as ambassadors for our area when they return to their home-towns.

I could speak at length, giving similar examples to support my claim, but time will not permit so let it suffice for me to say that the people of my electorate are aware of their responsibilities to this State, and play their part well and truly in helping to build a prosperous Queensland.

As my people are playing their part so admirably in the promotion of the State it is necessary for the Government to assist them to the full. Only the best is good enough for those who will help themselves, and I know that my Government are always ready and willing to do all they can for people who are ready to help themselves.

A handful of citizens on Tamborine Mountain are working and striving, holding street stalls, making collections from all and sundry, to build a road for tourists to use in an endeavour to assist themselves by bringing their beautiful tropical scenery to within 22 miles of the Gold Coast.

Mr. Gaven: Both they and you are doing a very good job there, too.

Mr. CAREY: I thank the hon. member. In the past it was 52 miles from the coast and tourists were forced to travel to Beenleigh and then up the mountain. This road, known as the "do it yourself" road, which was opened by Tamborine residents, has brought their delightful area to within a mere 22 miles of Southport. Efforts such as that should be rewarded, and I know they will be. I have asked the Minister in charge of main roads to consider making a grant of not less than £10,000 to the Beaudesert and Albert Shire Councils so that this road can eventually be sealed from the top of the mountain to the bottom. I was pleased to see the Co-ordinator-General of Public Works include in this year's loan allocations a grant of £15,000 to the Gold Coast City Council, with a subsidy of £5,000, for the building of an olympic swimming pool. This also will be a reward for personal effort on the part of the people, as a mere handful of men and women, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ted Sinclair, have worked on this project for seven years. When I say "worked" I mean worked. They have raised approximately £11,000 towards the cost of building this pool by turning themselves virtually into bottle-o's, working at week-ends and at nights collecting bottles, sorting, stacking and packing them, and then selling them so that Southport could get this much-needed amenity. There are many other similar instances that I could speak of—the work of the Coinda Sub-normal Children's School Committee, the committee in charge of Greenhaven old people's home, and many other illustrations far too numerous to mention.

Let us now have a look at just a few of the things that the Government have done in my electorate. On behalf of the people of the Albert electorate, let me say how grateful we are to the Government for the assistance we have received from them since they came to the Treasury benches in 1957. Our schools at last are something of which we can be proud, and now are worthy of the importance of my area. The hospital, as I said before, is acclaimed by one and all as the greatest acquisition the South Coast has ever received. The Pacific Highway from Brisbane to Southport is doing much to assist in the further development of our area. The commuter rail service is at last a reality. Our public buildings are gradually being brought up to a standard equal to the importance of the Albert electorate.

Those are just a few examples of the excellent work that the Government are doing, not only in my electorate but throughout the State as well. I know they will continue this work because of their progressive policy and their awareness of the importance of the State they govern. As I said a little earlier, nothing but the best is good enough for the people of the electorate of Albert.

Let me inform the House of the few improvements and additions required by the people of my area, for which I shall be working untiringly on their behalf to get the support of the Ministers concerned. Firstly, as I mentioned when speaking of the police force, with the assistance of my colleague, the hon. member for South Coast, I shall be pressing to have the number of the police personnel increased considerably. We believe that the Albert and South Coast electorates, being so close to the border, act as a buffer to prevent the undesirables of the underworld finding their way into Queensland.

Mr. Bromley: Do you think they should have more police motor-cyclists on the road?

Mr. CAREY: They would be very helpful.

I am sure that what has been achieved in the way of preventing undesirables coming into Queensland has only been possible because of the diligent attention to duty and superb service of the present sub-inspector and his men, who keep the area as clean as it is. We both believe that considerable expansion of the staff is essential. Eventually we expect the Government to declare our area a police district. We will both be working towards that end.

Whilst dealing with law in the State, let me say that another important improvement which must come about at an early date is the building of a new court house. I have no doubt whatever that justice is meted out in the present obsolete, outmoded wooden structure that has served the area for over 50 years, but I am sure that the comfort of the officers of the law, the accused, and the public in general cannot be considered to be adequate for this important work whilst they are housed in the present old, dilapidated building. The Minister for Justice and the Minister for Public Works and Local Government can be assured that I will be soliciting their support in getting a modern structure in keeping with the importance of our growing city.

The free-hospital system in Queensland is something of which we all can be justly proud. The extension of services in this department is naturally of paramount importance to any area.

Since my entry into this House I have pressed to have a dental clinic attached to our general hospital, and it is with a feeling of personal satisfaction that I inform the House that the Minister for Health and Home Affairs has promised to establish a dental clinic at Southport as soon as funds are available, which, I am confident, will be within the next few months. The opening of this clinic will fill a much-needed want and will give great assistance to those persons who are at present forced to travel to the city for this service.

While dealing with the Minister's department, I must inform him that the building presently housing the maternal and child welfare clinic is fast becoming inadequate

and unsuitable, and I will be seeking his assistance in either erecting new premises or obtaining by rental or lease a suitable building for the use of mothers in the area. At the present time the rooms are in a two-storey building with a winding staircase and mothers are forced either to carry their prams and children up the stairs, or to leave the prams unattended on the foot-path for a considerable time until they have completed their visits. I am sure the Minister will recognise the urgency of this case and give me his support in overcoming the problem with the least delay.

I wish to compliment the Minister in charge of main roads and his departmental officers on their continued efforts to make the Pacific Highway, from Brisbane to the border, a four-lane highway, and to ask him to continue with his non-stop programme of work on this important highway. If it had not been for his understanding of the tremendous growth and popularity of our area as a tourist resort, and his undertaking to continue with this important work, in peak periods it would be taking longer to drive from Brisbane to Southport than it would to drive to some of the isolated areas of the State where the traffic flow is light. I am confident that before long we will have achieved our objective and the city people will continue to enjoy to the full the natural beauty and sporting facilities available on the fabulous Gold Coast. Further road development in this area is urgently required to keep up with the tremendous growth of the Gold Coast and hinterland and to satisfy the requirements of the road-user.

I wish to draw the Minister's attention particularly to at least two of the more urgent road-construction jobs required in my electorate. Firstly, I refer him to the building of the road from Warwick to the Gold Coast—known as the Gorge Road—through the Coomera Valley. Secondly, as I mentioned previously, I refer to the completion as an all-weather bitumen road of the "do it yourself" road from Tamborine to Southport. These roads would not only give the western dweller the opportunity of quick access to the playground of Australia and relieve the pressure on the Pacific highway, but would also be the means of further developing some of the most fertile soils in the State.

Tamborine Mountain, Canungra, and Coomera Valley are most suitable for the growing of small crops. At the present time considerable quantities of vegetables and flowers are grown on Tamborine Mountain and marketed in Brisbane. With the completion of these roads the primary producer could get his goods to a potential market on the Gold Coast in the shortest possible time and the public would benefit by being able to purchase farm produce in fresh, prime condition. The Gold Coast, being a

mere 22 miles away, with an estimated average off-season population of 50,000 and a peak holiday period population of 100,000, offers the primary producer an excellent outlet for the sale of his produce.

I am informed that very shortly private enterprise will be opening a produce market in Southport, with cold-storage facilities, costing in all in the vicinity of £100,000. I believe it is proposed to hold regular auctions of all classes of produce. This is a facility that has long been sought by the people of the Gold Coast. It must be of distinct advantage to the primary producer and we as a Government must see that access roads are available to tap the resources of our fertile land in such close proximity to this growing consumer market.

Now I should like to deal briefly with the Department of Education. I know that the Minister for Education will be acclaimed by Opposition members, as well as by his Government colleagues, as a Minister who has really played to the full his part in improving the teaching and educational facilities in the State.

Recently, suffering from a bad bout of flu, I was confined to my home and T.V. set and I witnessed a programme called "Four Corners". One of the corners explored was Birdsville, in the dead heart of Australia. The announcer could not refrain from drawing special attention to the very modern £14,708 school building erected by the Queensland Government at this remote outpost. As I have mentioned previously in my address, the Albert electorate has been well served by the Minister for Education. The Southport State High School, set up in its 26½ acres of land with a playing oval equal to the best in the State, is something we can all take pride in being associated with. The new Canungra State School, just completed, the new Musgrave Hill State School at present under construction and estimated to cost £48,843, and the new wing of the Southport State Primary School are further evidence of what this Government have done and are doing for the education of the State's most important asset, our children.

This programme of improvement and development in the field of education must be acclaimed by all fair-minded citizens as the most progressive era in education in the history of this State, and, what is more, it is continuing at the colossal rate of an expenditure of nearly £28,000,000 a year.

Let us take a quick look at the activities of the Department of Harbours and Marine. For years and years the townspeople of Southport, and myself as the then President of the Chamber of Commerce, asked, begged, and even tried to force the Department of Harbours and Marine to do some repair work on the Nerang River and Broadwater, the most delightful natural calm-waterway in Australia, but without avail. To my knowledge, the last money spent on this

magnificent expanse of water was £3,000 some ten years ago. This did little or nothing of a permanent nature to improve boating facilities. But, since entering this House, I have continued to press with the Minister Southport's case for the deepening of the Broadwater by dredging to enable not only pleasure boats but also the very important prawning-industry boats to ply up and down the Broadwater on any tide, and I am pleased to be able to inform the House that tenders have been called for the dredging of a channel 100 ft. wide and 7 ft. deep from the Jubilee Bridge to Land's End. This operation will necessitate the removal of approximately 50,000 yards of sand and silt opposite the old pier and approximately 32,000 yards in an area near the Grand Hotel. It is estimated that the removal of this silt and the dredging of these channels will cost about £15,000. This long-awaited improvement, I am sure, is only the beginning of further work of this nature that we can expect to be undertaken from time to time.

Time will not permit me to elaborate fully on all the good work that has been done, or is to be undertaken, by this Government in my area. I should like to deal briefly with several matters that I will persistently pursue for the advancement of my electorate and the State as a whole. I am sure that there is not one hon. member in this House who would disagree with me when I say that one of the most important things needed for the development of Queensland—and, for that matter, Australia—is water conservation. This is of particular importance in my area. As I have said before, some of the most fertile soil in the State is in the electorate of Albert. I shall be making efforts—and I know that I shall have in this the support of my colleague, Mr. Harrison, the hon. member for Logan, the neighbouring electorate—to have the Irrigation and Water Supply Commission build suitable dams on the Albert and Logan Rivers. Both rivers have a very great run-off in flood times, but during periods of drought, which unfortunately are far too frequent, only a restricted number of farmers can be given the right to utilise the meagre amount of water contained in the heads of these two important rivers. I am confident that the Government will appreciate the importance of these schemes and give the hon. member for Logan and me every consideration on our case.

The importance of giving encouragement and assistance to private enterprise for the development of secondary industry in Queensland is fully recognised by this Government. Southport and Nerang are areas very suitable for this type of development. The South Coast's water supply should be adequate for some years to come. Electricity is available, and transport by both rail and road presents no problem. Because of our close proximity to the coast, drainage would be a simple matter for authorised engineers.

Climatic conditions and congenial surroundings should assist considerably in making available sufficient numbers of contented staff, which is a very important factor in the success of any business or undertaking.

My thanks are extended to both the Minister for Agriculture and Forestry and the Minister for Public Lands and Irrigation for their co-operation and acceptance of my recommendations and representations on the establishment of an industrial suburb on the 1,100 acres of land at present known as Forestry Reserve No. 727. This land is ideally suited for this type of development. At its closest point it is situated approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the Southport post office, which should be a special factor in encouraging manufacturers to set up factories on this fine tract of country, where there is also ample room for the building of parks, playing fields, schools, bowling clubs, housing, and virtually every facility required by the people. We now have to get the co-operation of the council, the chamber of commerce, the Secondary Industry Advisory Board, and the people, to make it known that this area of land is available for this type of development.

Making sure that sufficient housing accommodation is available for the people of one's area is another important item. Whilst the Treasurer and Minister for Housing has assisted my area considerably with his Housing Commission's building programme in Southport, there is, and always will be, room for expansion in this field. I am looking forward to the building at an early date of another batch of at least 12 homes on the Commission's land on the Hamilton Heights Estate in Southport. I must thank the Treasurer for the excellent work that he is doing in this field, not only in my area but throughout the State.

A project in the electorate of Albert that must command the interest of the Government and private enterprise alike in the very near future is the development of South Stradbroke Island. Whilst still perhaps a little visionary, it will happen soon. This tract of land could really become another fabulous Surfers Paradise-Broadbeach area. A bridge to the mainland somewhere in the vicinity of Hollywell could, and would, open up another land-development scheme equal to the best in the State. I know that the Minister for Public Lands and Irrigation is aware of the potential of the scheme, and he probably has a plan prepared ready to be put into operation when the time is considered opportune. I shall be doing my best to sell this idea to a reputable land-developing company.

Let me sum up by saying that I am sure the people of my electorate are fully aware of the excellent job of work that the Government are doing for their area and for Queensland as a whole. The progress, development, and expansion that have taken place in the last five years in roads, education, housing, hospitals, and for that matter

in every other field of Government operation, are unequalled, and this expansion programme is assured under the leadership of the Premier, the Hon. Frank Nicklin, and while this Government are in charge of the Treasury benches.

Mr. CAMPBELL (Aspley) (5.36 p.m.): In rising to participate in this debate, I should like first to reaffirm my loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen and to assure her that her loyal subjects in Aspley are looking forward with pleasurable anticipation to her visit next year. I also join with other hon. members in extending my congratulations to His Excellency the Governor and Lady May on the extension of their term of office, and to express appreciation of the wonderful service that Sir Henry has rendered, and is rendering, to this State as its Governor. We know that he will continue in his extended term to give the same sterling service as he has given in the past.

I was interested in the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition on the appointment of Governors, in which he reiterated his belief and his party's belief that a Governor of Queensland, or for that matter of any other Australian State, should be a native-born subject. Nobody denies that there are very many citizens in the community who would be well fitted to fill the office of Governor if it were only a question of capability. But it is my belief that there is more to it than that. Intrinsic to the question is the fact that the Queen is the symbol of authority whom we hold in intense sentimental affection because of her position, just as we love her as a person. In consequence, the whole basis of our loyalty is somewhat mystical in character. The Governor, as Her Majesty's representative, is the symbol of our regal system, and I think it is fit and proper that the representative in Queensland of Her Majesty the Queen should be one of her countrymen who has grown up in the British environment, an environment that has made such a great contribution to the world. I know that some people regard this as a somewhat snobbish attitude; but for my part, I wish to see the continuation of the British way of life in this part of the Commonwealth, particularly in view of the stresses that will be placed on the Commonwealth as a consequence of the political aspects of the European Economic Community.

I join with other hon. members in extending my congratulations to our new Leader, the Hon. Alan Munro. Mr. Munro's integrity is so well-known that it is almost a byword.

Mr. Duggan: Is that why he checks his carbon-copy to see if it is the same as the original?

Mr. CAMPBELL: He is undoubtedly a cautious man but it is his capacity for tremendous accomplishment that hon. members opposite will come to recognise. Perhaps what they do not recognise is that behind that

mild-mannered exterior is a man of tremendous drive, courage and purpose. I know he will make a very fitting Leader of our party.

I also extend my congratulations to his deputy, Mr. Hiley, whose vast political experience will be of great benefit in his new position.

I should also like to pay tribute to the Minister for Labour and Industry, Mr. Morris. Having been President of the Liberal Party for three years I was very closely associated with Mr. Morris at that time and I know only too well the tremendous effort he put into his position. Indeed, if there was anything with which he was over-generous it was his time and energy. It is because of that that he is at present suffering a period of ill-health. I am sure that all hon. members wish him a speedy recovery to very good health.

I was rather concerned at some of the references that the hon. member for South Brisbane felt moved to make. I should expect from a man in his profession a certain high standard, and I was amazed to hear the insulting reference he made to a visiting monarch when he implied that, because this person has a naturally serious demeanour, it was the atmosphere with which he was surrounded here that was responsible.

Mr. Bennett: You would not understand; you have not the ability.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I certainly understand the organisation of the Liberal Party and I have never heard such a stupid fabrication as that with which the hon. member tried to mislead the House concerning its organisation.

Mr. Bennett: You know it is true. What happened to Murray?

Mr. CAMPBELL: The hon. member says I know it is true. I know that his remarks in that connection were a complete fabrication and complete fiction on the typical lines we have come to expect in his utterances.

The Leader of the Opposition recently made a trip around Queensland beating the drum. Among other things he was proclaiming the newly-found unity in the Labour Party. He endeavoured to create the illusion of unity because there never has been any unity in the Labour Party. Indeed, it has thrived on disunity. The Leader of the Opposition well knows that because it is composed of such diverse elements, ranging from the Right Wing on the one hand to Communist members on the other, it is impossible for it to be a unified party. Indeed, the whole history of the Labour Movement has been one of disunity. As I said before, it thrives on the conflict that is ever present in its ranks. I repeat that it is not possible to achieve unity in the Labour Movement in as much as it is composed of such diverse elements. It is quite obvious that the Labour organisation regards the Parliamentary section of its party as a mere

appendage or adjunct. It is equally obvious that the Parliamentary Labour Party is completely under the domination of the organisation, that it has to take its orders from the organisation. Indeed, it has been quite evident in the last few months that the Lord Mayor of Brisbane has to seek the permission of the Q.C.E. to blow his nose.

The amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition refers to unemployment. Indeed, we have heard about little else from hon. members opposite. We are far from complacent about the present situation. We can justly claim that we have faced the problem in a realistic manner and we will continue to apply ourselves to the resolution of this great social problem.

To apply a test of merit to the claim of Opposition members, who say that the position would have been so much better had they been in charge, I shall refer to the situation in New South Wales. One would normally expect hon. members opposite to think that their colleagues in New South Wales would do as well as they would have done had they been in office in Queensland. Consequently I propose to quote comparative figures for the last six years of persons registered for employment and persons receiving unemployment benefits in both States. At the outset I acknowledge that New South Wales has two and a-half times the population of Queensland.

Mr. Newton: Be factual, as the Treasurer said the other day.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I have been asked to be factual. The following figures are taken from the Monthly Bulletin of Economics and Statistics for June, 1962, showing the numbers of persons registered for employment in New South Wales and Queensland—

	New South Wales	Queensland
June 1957 ..	19,189	8,957
June 1958 ..	25,690	12,227
June 1959 ..	26,957	12,026
June 1960 ..	15,848	8,587
June 1961 ..	42,793	19,263
June 1962 ..	34,869	16,284

An hon. member opposite says it still follows the population trend. I do not deny that. I am not misleading the House. The Federal president of the A.L.P. on "Meet the Press" on Sunday night endeavoured to criticise the Government for what he called the dreadful unemployment position in this State.

An Opposition Member: It is disturbing.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The hon. member says it is disturbing, but in the eyes of Mr. Keefe, the President of the A.L.P., who would have some control over the officials of his party in New South Wales, whilst it is dreadful to have 16,000 registered unemployed in Queensland, there is nothing wrong with having 35,000 registered as unemployed in New South Wales.

We get much the same comparison when we look at the number of persons receiving unemployment benefits. The following is a comparison between New South Wales and Queensland of the number receiving unemployment benefits from 1957 to 1962 inclusive:—

Year	New South Wales	Queensland
June 1957 ..	6,230	2,851
June 1958 ..	11,669	4,908
June 1959 ..	12,062	4,477
June 1960 ..	5,605	3,064
June 1961 ..	19,574	9,632
June 1962 ..	16,967	7,432

Apparently it is all right to have a great number of people unemployed under Labour in New South Wales, but because there is a slightly higher percentage of unemployed in Queensland, it is a dreadful situation. That proves the hypocrisy of hon. members opposite.

An Opposition Member: The Menzies Government are to blame.

Mr. CAMPBELL: Now they are blaming Bob Menzies because this situation exists under a Labour Government in New South Wales. Hon. members opposite ask me to be fair, and run right across the page. I will quote the unemployment figures from the Commonwealth Statistician's Department as at 27 July, 1962. Victoria was mentioned before; I will now give the complete figures. They are as follows:—

	Percentage of unemployed
New South Wales (Labour Government)	2.1
Victoria (Liberal-Country Party)	2.0
Queensland (Country Party-Liberal)	2.4
South Australia (Liberal-Country Party)	1.7
Western Australia (Liberal-Country Party)	1.9
Tasmania (Labour)	2.8

When Mr. Keefe, the Federal President of the A.L.P., was asked on "Meet the Press" what would be the main point of attack on the Government by the Labour Party in the forthcoming election, he said it would be unemployment. I repeat that we are not complacent or happy about the position and we are doing what we have done in the last six months. It is all very well for a Labour Government in New South Wales to have many thousands of people unemployed but it is a horse of another colour when Queensland is under consideration.

Another matter to which I wish to refer in reply to the amendment is price-control. Indeed, that was one of the main aspects that the Leader of the Opposition stressed in his "meet the people" tour. He said one of the first things Labour would do would be to reintroduce price-control.

The Leader of the Opposition knows that it is impossible to control prices by means of price-control. He is well aware of Queensland's experience since 1950. Though I do not like wearying the House with figures, which at times become tedious, it appears to be necessary to cite them to demonstrate the fallacy of the argument advanced by the Opposition. I use as my reference the Queensland Pocket Year Book, page 104. In 1950 the consumer price index rose by 5.4 points over the previous year.

Mr. Melloy: What goods were they?

Mr. CAMPBELL: All groups. I did not take food only.

Mr. Melloy: Get down to food and see how you go.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I have the figures for food here. I can give them, too. They make the claims of hon. members opposite even worse. The following are the subsequent increases over the preceding year for all groups—

1951	13.3
1952	14.5
1953	3.4
1954	1.1
1955	1.9
1956	5.8
1957	2.8
1958	3.7
1959	3.4
1960	3.4
1961	3.5

Mr. Bennett: That's nothing to crow about.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The hon. member says it is nothing to crow about. Let us look at the averages. The total rise in the five years from 1957 was 16.8 points, or an average of 3.4, whereas for the preceding five years the total rise under price-control was 26.7, or an average of 5.3.

Mr. Newton: That was over all controlled goods. Yours was only over partly-controlled goods. There's your answer.

Mr. CAMPBELL: That makes the hon. member's case even worse.

Mr. Newton: It does not. It makes it all the higher.

Mr. CAMPBELL: From 1950 to 1957 the rise was 45.4 points, or a yearly average of 6.5.

Mr. Melloy: What about eggs?

Mr. CAMPBELL: I will deal with eggs at some other time. I have some observations to make on that subject.

It is quite obvious that a statistician cannot control prices. Hon. members opposite know that a famine in China makes tremendous demands on supplies of Australian wheat. Foot-and-mouth disease in South America creates a demand for beef elsewhere, and the same would apply to the

European market. The same goes for butter, and I will deal with poultry at some time, too. It is clear that it is impossible for a statistician to control prices. Of course, the inference that can be drawn from the remarks of the Leader of the Opposition on price-control—and I studied his Press comments fairly closely—is that he and the Labour Party are saying in effect that every person who deals with a commodity—every person who buys and sells—is a rogue and a thief and not to be trusted.

I have shown in the figures that I have presented why the amendment should be defeated, and I shall now summarise my remarks. I have demonstrated to the House that the so-called unity that the Leader of the Opposition proclaims exists within his party is an illusion. I am sorry that he is not here at present. If he were, I would challenge him to state that there is complete harmony among the Parliamentary members of his party, and also that those members enjoy the complete confidence of the State Executive of the Labour Party. In the absence of the Leader, I challenge any member of the Opposition to make that statement.

I also demonstrated that the employment situation in the Labour-controlled State of New South Wales is only very little better than it is in Queensland. Claims of hon. members of the Opposition that the position here would be so much better if they were in control cannot therefore be justified. I have also shown that the position in Queensland is improving at a faster rate than it is in New South Wales.

Mr. Houston: Read out that challenge again.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I am asked to repeat a challenge that I made when the Leader of the Opposition was not here. Now that he is in the Chamber, I inform him that I challenged anybody on the Opposition benches to state that there is complete harmony among all the members of the Parliamentary Labour Party. I also challenge the Leader of the Opposition to state that the members of that party enjoy the complete confidence of all the members of the State Executive of the party. I issue that challenge to show how fallacious are those claims.

Mr. Duggan: You do not know what you are talking about.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I think that I am better informed on the organisation of the Labour Party than is the hon. member for South Brisbane on the organisation of the Liberal Party.

Finally, I have shown that the claim of the Labour Party that the cost of living can be kept in check by price-control is a complete myth. I showed also that, by maintaining that claim, they suggest that

everybody who renders a service to the community—the butcher, the baker, the little storekeeper on the corner—is a rogue and a thief and not to be trusted.

Mr. Newton: What rubbish! That is not true.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The hon. member for Belmont says, "What rubbish!" If it is rubbish, why is it necessary for the Leader of the Opposition and the Labour Party to announce that if ever they recover control of the Treasury benches, which is a rather vain hope, one of their first actions will be to reimpose price-control? As members of the Opposition know, there is no such thing as price-control. It is profit-control of which they speak, and the inference from their suggestion is that the persons who render a service—I suppose that includes the majority of people in the community—are not to be trusted, that they have to be controlled.

Mr. Houston: Are you happy with the rise in prices?

Mr. CAMPBELL: I say to the hon. member who has interjected that I have demonstrated quite clearly that in the period when price-control was relaxed the increase in the price index shown by the Commonwealth Statistician's figures was much smaller in proportion than the increases that took place when price-control was in full flight. Indeed, in 1951 and 1952 we saw an increase in prices of 13 per cent. and 14 per cent., respectively, and that was at a time when probably the most savage price-control ever implemented was in force. That shows how fallacious is the argument used by hon. members opposite. It shows that the Labour Party, being a Socialist party, is bent on introducing Socialism, come what may.

Mr. Newton interjected.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I am very surprised at the hon. member's constant interjections about poultry-farmers, because the hon. member asked a question—

Mr. Newton: Be careful what you say about the question. You might trap yourself.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I was surprised that he asked such a question, because the electorate that he represents includes quite a number of poultry-farmers.

Mr. Newton: I asked it because they asked me to ask it. Get over that one!

Mr. CAMPBELL: In conclusion, I say quite definitely that this amendment should be thrown out.

Mr. Houston: This is your last speech.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The hon. member need not worry about that. This will not be my last speech.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! It will be the hon. member's last interjection, if he is not careful.

Mr. TUCKER (Townsville North) (7.23 p.m.): On behalf of the A.L.P., I wish to dissociate ourselves from any impression that may have been created by the hon. member for Aspley that the A.L.P. regards all small business men as rogues and thieves.

I wish to associate myself very definitely with the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition to the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, and I reaffirm the loyalty of the people of Townsville to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We also are in accord with the Government's decision to extend the term of office of His Excellency the Governor.

Mr. Campbell: But you do not believe in Governors from overseas.

Mr. TUCKER: I heard the previous speaker in silence. I hope he will give me the same courtesy.

Mr. Campbell: You were not like a lot of your mates.

Mr. TUCKER: It sounds as if we have really hit the hon. member hard, Mr. Speaker.

In my opinion, the speech of His Excellency in opening this Parliament, which undoubtedly was prepared for him by his advisers, was a sorry attempt at window-dressing. It is very difficult to be buoyant when no buoyancy exists, and it is difficult to speak about development when there is in fact little development in the State and when thousands are unemployed at the peak of our seasonal industries in Queensland. The speech developed into a series of hollow claims that really lacked conviction, and every one of us who heard it was aware of that. The one camp-fire that the Government have endeavoured to keep alight throughout the long dark night of their vigil on the Treasury benches is education.

Mr. Windsor interjected.

Mr. TUCKER: I notice that the hon. member who interjected, in most cases, makes his speeches sitting down. When he gets to his feet he speaks for 10 minutes and then shuts up.

Mr. Windsor: I speak sense when I am going.

Mr. TUCKER: That is also a matter of opinion.

The camp fire that the Government are endeavouring to keep burning is that of education. I do not concede that they have done anything more than any other Government would have done in the field of education in this State. In the same circumstances, any Government occupying the Treasury benches would have done the same.

I am sorry that the Minister for Education and Migration is ill and is not here this evening. Personally, I wish him a speedy recovery. Apparently the internal wranglings that have been going on within the Country Party-Liberal Government have taken their toll. First the Minister for Labour and Industry became ill, and now the Minister for Education and Migration is in similar condition. I do not wish to make political capital out of that, nevertheless, it is passing strange that all this happens when an election is coming up and when we know that there are internal wranglings within the party.

Hon. members opposite seem to know much about internal wrangling. They probably know more about it than I do. They have stated that Labour could not govern as internal wrangling is more intense than it was even in a previous Labour Party. That statement is foolish, and is completely untrue. It is calculated to reflect upon the intelligence of the people of this State who, for a score of years and more, were perfectly satisfied with Labour administration. If they were not satisfied they certainly had a peculiar way of showing it. In fact, they did not do other than register approval until the Labour Government were brought down by certain individuals. The Government parties did not really win control of the Treasury benches of this State. Control was won on that occasion by the action of certain individuals and we find the same men today offering preferences for sale to the highest bidder.

As I say, it is a reflection on the people of Queensland to say that in the field of education we did not do what the people wanted us to do. If we had been so foolish as to neglect to do that, the people would have had their say at the polls. In fact, they most certainly did not register any disapproval. On the contrary, they returned the Labour Government for what they had done for the State, particularly in the field of education.

A Government Member interjected.

Mr. TUCKER: Government members themselves do not, in fact, represent a majority of the people of the State. On many occasions the Leader of the Opposition has pointed out that they are, in fact, a minority Government. So far as their effort in education is concerned they have done only what has been demanded by the people. All they are doing is giving to the people of the State what they demand. This is not some largesse they are handing out in a benevolent manner to the people; it is something that has been demanded by the people. This Government, in an endeavour to bolster up their tottering stocks with the people of Queensland, have had to give them what has been demanded.

With our changing times the accent is on higher education, and the Government have had to get cracking in this field as would any Government. So let us throw overboard the humbug that we have heard in this Chamber and let us understand that the Minister has had placed upon him demands to do what has been done.

Government Members interjected.

Mr. TUCKER: I can see that I am getting under the skins of Ministers and hon. members on the Government benches.

In Townsville we have an urgent need for a second new high school. The Townsville High School is jam-packed with students who are occupying temporary accommodation and are in rooms borrowed from the Technical College. In some rooms they sit shoulder to shoulder. In hot weather it is irritating to say the least. They are packed in like sardines. There is a floating class with no room of its own. There is less than one square yard of ground per student for sport, recreation, and parade purposes. The tennis court is used as a parade ground.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The hon. member for Barcoo is not assisting his colleague very much in making his speech by continually cross-firing across the Chamber, particularly when he is sitting right at the hon. member's elbow.

Mr. TUCKER: The tennis court, which is also the school parade-ground is marked for basket ball, volley ball and tennis. You can imagine the crazy pattern on the surface of the court. Students must be taken out of these cramped conditions and an immediate start made on the building of another high school. In reply to questions I have asked, the Minister has said that certain moneys will be spent. But that is merely scratching the surface. The real construction of the second high school should begin immediately. At the Pimlico High School a new wing is nearing completion, but that will simply take the classes presently occupying temporary classrooms underneath the school. The new wing will not really provide any additional accommodation at the high school.

On a number of occasions I have asked the Minister what will happen in 1964. I now ask him again. He has said that additions will be made to Pimlico and that the second new high school in Townsville will be ready. Judging by previous experience, I do not believe a word of it. The Government have gone off half-cocked with their new proposals on education in Queensland. In 1964 we can expect real chaos in the high schools. No doubt when we return to the Treasury benches after the next election this matter will be thrown into our laps. The Government's thinking is completely out of line with what is going on. In the education field, as in others, we will have to clean up the confusion that is left behind.

Mr. Ramsden: You were lucky to get a university there.

Mr. TUCKER: I shall deal with that in a moment. It has taken tremendous effort to get additions to schools in the North. How will we get all that will be required by 1964 when State-wide high-school accommodation is required? The Minister has said that the school-leaving age will not be raised. Would it not be a fact that here again the Minister has sidestepped and shied away from the main issue?

A great deal has been made of the establishment of the University College in Townsville. It is not that I am not proud of it—I am; I welcome it wholeheartedly and would be very stupid if I did not—but it was a logical event, provision having been made in the original Act for these university colleges. When the Minister states that £500,000 has been, or is to be, spent on the University College, he would do well to remember, with his colleagues who have been interjecting on my left, that it serves the whole of North Queensland. That £500,000 has not been spent only in Townsville; it has been spent for the whole of North Queensland because that is the area from which the students at the University College in Townsville are drawn.

Mr. Hughes: The hon. member for Townsville South says this is the best Government they have ever had to look after them.

Mr. TUCKER: The hon. member can say what he likes. I am speaking on behalf of the electors of Townsville North and on behalf of the A.L.P. I am giving our ideas and our impressions about these things, not the Government's ideas.

Under the expert guiding hand of its capable warden, Dr. Olsen, the University College has expanded tremendously. Too much praise cannot be given to this dedicated, kindly man for the part he has played in the establishment of the University College at Townsville. I pay tribute to him. Townsville will be the poorer when he departs from the University College later this year.

I believe that the Department of Education and the Government showed a short-sighted policy in not establishing Chemistry III. at the College for 1963. Twelve of our bright young students will have to proceed to Brisbane in 1963 to do Chemistry III. at the University there. There is accommodation at the college in Townsville and, I believe, approximately £30,000 would have allowed equipment to be bought and staff to be recruited so that Chemistry III. could be established there in 1963. It is too late for the course to be established in 1963, but I ask the Minister and the Government to examine the position closely with a view to establishing Chemistry III. in the college in 1964. To establish it in 1964 some definite assurance that the money will be available will have to be given by March or April, 1963. Although I mentioned the sum of £30,000, it may cost more, or it may possibly cost a little less. However, that is not a huge amount to spend in establishing a full

course in chemistry in the North. I ask the Government to make that money available as another step towards allowing our young people to complete their education in the North.

What of the future for young people who have been educated in the North? Here again the Nicklin-Munro Government have fallen down badly on the job handed to them by the electors of Queensland. Too many of these young people in northern areas search today in vain for the type of position commensurate with the education they have obtained. What is the good of educating the youth to Junior or Senior standard if the only job offering is out on the lengths, on a petrol pump, or something like that? How does a young fellow feel when he applies for an apprenticeship and finds 50 boys ahead of him? That is going on in Townsville and in other parts of the North all the time. How does he feel when he is told that the Railway Department has only six vacancies for apprentices this year, compared with 60 last year? How does he feel at 16 when he is even too young to draw unemployment relief? What have the Government to offer him? Empty promises! The Government promised more jobs than there were men to fill them. What a laugh that has been here and everywhere else in Queensland. We have heard Government members mouthing about the necessity to overcome delinquency. It is under these very conditions that delinquency is created. Young, vulnerable people go looking for jobs with hope in their hearts, but are frustrated at every turn. Swelling up in them is open rebellion against society as a whole. That is how delinquency starts.

The Government have not grappled with the problem of unemployment of youth at all. Rather, by initiating reports such as the £118,000 Ford, Bacon and Davis report they have sought to aggravate the position. The Government's policy is to close down those avenues that previously provided employment for youth. One of them is the Railway Department. It is a Micawber-like policy; do nothing and then hope that something will turn up. It is not good enough. It is this attitude towards the employment of youth and men that will bring about the Government's crushing defeat at the next election.

Again no real effort has been made, or is being made, for northern development. We who have been advocating the implementation of the Burdekin Dam scheme have met rock-hard refusal by the Government. We have asked the Premier and the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity to come to the North so that we can discuss it with them publicly. Here is the Premier's reply that I recently received—

"Dear Mr. Tucker,—I refer to the invitation extended by you on behalf of the New State for North Queensland Movement to the Minister for Development and me to attend a Public Meeting in Ayr to discuss the Burdekin Dam Scheme."

Mr. Armstrong: So you're a new-stater, eh?

Mr. TUCKER: No, I am not a new-stater but I was invited to speak with these people. I have also on occasions been invited to speak with the Chamber of Commerce. If I receive an invitation and I think I can do something, or add something, I go along and speak. The Premier's reply continues—

"The stated purpose of such a meeting is to allow people to ask questions about the scheme and to receive answers from the Minister and me. There would be some of us who might feel that different reasons prompt the suggestion for such a meeting. In any event it is not the intention of myself or the Minister for Development to accept the invitation as tendered."

Then there is a lot more in the letter and it goes on—

"I repeat that, as the ground has been so well and so often covered on this subject of the old Burdekin Scheme, the invitation of the New State for North Queensland Movement to attend the Public Meeting in Ayr is declined."

Although the invitation was tendered in all good faith, you can see just how nasty is his implication of politics because the suggestions had come from our side. Perhaps the Premier also has a twinge of conscience because the New State Movement, which also wrote, is the very movement to which the Premier made many promises in an endeavour to woo votes and then he and his Government failed to honour them.

We have asked that if the lack of knowledge of the Barratta soils was the problem, then research on these soils should be instituted. The necessary equipment could be installed at the University College in Townsville and qualified officers could work from there. They would be welcomed at the University College with open arms. But no, the Government will not move in this direction and they could not care less about northern development. I think that letter bears out my statement.

Let me quote another example. A company known as Bowen Maritime Services Pty. Ltd. has been struggling to establish an Australian-owned and Australian-operated marine transport for beef cattle. They got scant hearing from the Minister for Labour and Industry, even though they would have employed 30 Queenslanders and the company would have been owned by citizens of this State. Rather he chose to subsidise a foreign company by the name of Clausen. Apparently it is not the policy of this Government to give preference to Australians in Australian industry but to support some foreign group that will be taking the money out of Australia. No-one knows the exact terms and the amount of

the subsidy to be paid to Clausen. I hope the Government had enough nous to pay it on a head-delivery basis. Be that as it may, the subsidy killed this Australian company. The Development Bank refused to lend it money against a subsidised company, and from a purely business angle one can understand that. As the Clausen company was subsidised, when Bowen Maritime Services Pty. Ltd. went to the Development Bank they said, "We certainly will not advance you money against a company that is being subsidised by the Government, because we feel you will not be able to compete against it." Notwithstanding that the Bowen company stated that, through back loading and good practices, it could operate without a subsidy. It said it could and it proved with figures that it could carry cattle cheaper to the meat-works even without a subsidy.

Dr. Delamothe: Wait a while and I shall tell you the true story.

Mr. TUCKER: I should like to acknowledge the interjection by the hon. member for Bowen. I shall certainly be listening very eagerly to his true story, because I have the true story here. The Clausen Line immediately raised its freight charges by 33½ per cent. At a meeting of the Northern Cattle Committee on 10 April, 1962, a protest was lodged against the increased freight charges imposed for the cattle ship "Cora."

It was stated by Mr. Woodhouse of Ingham that the increase was 33½ per cent. up on previous figures, notwithstanding the substantial Government subsidy, and because of the cost factor under the proposed rates the service would not be fully utilised and would fail to provide the Government or the industry with a solution. That point is brought forth in the Commonwealth Survey's "Development of Water Transport for Beef Cattle," at page 29, Table 15. Here again we see mismanagement by the Government and, as this goes to prove, a foreign company is going to hold a gun at the head of the grazier.

To indicate what was going on and what was thought about the Clausen Line in the North, a meeting of the United Graziers' Association was held at Cairns in February, 1962. One of the members was from Coen and he said that it would be false economy for him to drive his cattle 125 miles north for shipment to come south again, when he could drive his cattle 150 miles south and have them road-hauled to Cairns. He said that that was the general feeling of the cattlemen in this area.

At that time the Clausen ship was going to call only at Portland Roads to pick up cattle. They are now investigating the use of Princess Charlotte Bay. We have been informed by one of the ship operators in this area that he was asked to give a price

to bring cattle from Marina Plains to the vessel "Cora," a distance of approximately four miles. The price quoted was £1 15s. a head, but if a northerly wind was blowing, or if there was a northerly swell, the "Cora" would anchor in the lee of Flinders Island, a distance of 20-odd miles, and the price then quoted was £2 10s. a head. These costs are additional to the normal freight charges.

I have asked on a number of occasions, and I ask again, why public tenders were not called for sea transport of cattle. After all, the subsidy being paid to these people comes from taxpayers' money.

The Minister for Labour and Industry and his department have shown a total disregard of certain known factors in the sea transport of cattle from the Gulf and Peninsula areas. From many sources of information, such as Notices to Mariners, Queensland Sailing Directions, the survey by the Commonwealth Government of water transport of beef cattle, and local inhabitants of these areas, the Minister must have known that the vessel "Cora" was unsuitable. It has a draught of 12 feet, whereas a draught no greater than 6 feet is required. Here we see the State Government paying a subsidy to a foreign shipping company whose vessel has a draught of 11 feet. I said "12 feet" before, but I correct that now to 11 feet.

The reason why the Clausen company would require a subsidy has become apparent in the last few weeks. As the vessel "Cora" will have to anchor at the mouth of most of the pick-up points, the cattle will have to be barged out to it and special landing ramps will have to be constructed to discharge the cattle at Cairns, Townsville, and Bowen. Is it any wonder that we cannot develop the North under conditions such as these? So much for the talk of developing that part of Queensland. There is a perfect example of what happens when Queenslanders are prepared to put themselves forward and try to do something.

The Government's sorry record is made evident by the number of matters that have been brought forward by my colleagues—the mess made of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act; the decontrol of prices and rent, with the resultant soaring of rents; the booze and betting Act; the Westbrook debacle; the mishandling of transport; the Ford, Bacon and Davis Report. Is it any wonder that the Government show a marked disinclination to face the electors at the next election?

Dr. DELAMOTHE (Bowen) (8.51 p.m.): I have sat here for several days and listened to what was supposed to be a debate on a censure motion. The amendment

moved by the Leader of the Opposition—I will read only Clause (a) because I propose devoting most of my speech to this subject—says:—

"Due in great measure to your present advisers having failed to take practical and efficacious steps to remedy the disproportionately high percentage rate of unemployment in this State."

I hoped to hear a first-class debate on that censure motion, but all I have heard have been speeches on the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. I suppose hon. members opposite made those speeches because they thought that they might miss out unless they got up and mouthed requests to the Ministers on this side of the House. Instead of supporting their Leader's censure motion, they have left him completely bereft of support.

About 400 years ago a gentleman named William Shakespeare wrote a play called "A Midsummer-Night's Dream", and I have no doubt that one or two hon. members on my right have either read it or seen it played. For their benefit, I recall to their minds a character named Bottom. You will recall, Mr. Speaker, that one of the important features of that play was a playlet to be put on in the forest, and I quote this passage because it is very apposite to the censure motion. Bottom, replying to a suggestion that he should play the Weaver, said, "Ah, I will play the lion." When he was reminded that his deep voice might frighten the ladies, he said, "I will aggravate my voice so that I will roar you as gently as any sucking dove." I venture to suggest that that describes the censure motion. We started with the Leader of the Opposition in the character of the lion. He was going to roar and snap and snarl and bite in company with all his loyal supporters. But what have we had? An empty debate that has produced nothing but the mouthings of the ignorant.

I refer particularly to the last speaker, and I shall deal with him first. I do not know why members of the Opposition do not go out and see things for themselves. If they could speak from their own knowledge we should have no quarrel with them. The hon. member for Townsville North lives only about 140 miles from me. He could have telephoned me and asked me this question, because he knows that I never tell lies. I will tell hon. members something of the story that he has told us, with tears in his eyes, about Bowen Maritime Services. Bowen Maritime Services has a capital of £3—three £1 formation shares. The maritime experience of the chief shareholder or, shall I say, one of the equal shareholders, was that of driver of one of the launches at Hayman Island, and his knowledge of the cattle industry is that he is at present a fitter at the Merinda meatworks at Bowen.

Mr. Evans: What was their paid-up capital?

Dr. DELAMOTHE: Three £1 shares.

I do not wish to criticise somebody at the start of his commercial life. He might make a wonderful success of it, but at least one has to make a start and has to have a better stepping-off point than that. He has received plenty of promises. I have seen the list of promises and I did not see the name of the hon. member for North Townsville on it. I did not see any Townsville names on the list.

Mr. Wharton: The Labour Party are all promises.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: I was just going to say that; they are a very promising team. I will admit that the hon. member for Townsville North is a very promising candidate and one would have thought that his name—at least as he stands as a great protagonist of this new company—would have been down for at least a quid, anyhow.

Getting back to my preliminary remarks on unemployment, day after day and week after week we hear certain members of the Opposition—I hand it to some of them who are cute enough and sensible enough to keep clear of it—harping on this subject. But, to hon. members opposite, unemployment is merely a batch of statistics. To me, the unemployed are human beings and the sooner hon. members opposite forget about quoting this figure and that figure, and think of the unemployed as people for whom they as their representatives should be doing something, the better it will be for everybody. They come along here and say, "What is the Government going to do for them?" "Why doesn't the Government do something for the unemployed?" Why don't they go out into their own electorates and do something for them? Why don't they go out and find out who they are, what they are, and what they need, instead of coming along here and thinking they have fulfilled their duty to the community by saying, "There are 3,000" or "6,000 unemployed."

Long ago they should have done something, at least for the unemployed members in their own towns. Free of cost I shall give them some ideas of what can be done, ideas that I have proved in my own electorate.

Every year, long before I came into Parliament, and since, round about July I have a meeting with the local Trades and Labour Council and from them I get some estimate of the number of people who are likely to be looking for work when the seasonal meatworks employment is over. Following that meeting I have a meeting with all the possible employers in my town. It is easy to do. It is within the capacity of all hon. members.

From those employers, and particularly the meatworks in the first place, I find out approximately when the seasonal work will finish. I then ascertain from the employers what money they propose spending on capital works. In a small town the amount

of money is not much, but spent in the right direction and at the right time it can have a tremendous effect. Hon. members who live in the richer and larger areas could do it so much easier, because, of 1,500,000 people in the whole of Queensland today, there are 6,000 on unemployment relief. Surely with 78 of us here we could look after 6,000 people and get them jobs? Once you find out what capital expenditure is available from the local people, the local authority, and the Government, the expenditure is planned, first of all, to absorb the maximum number of unemployed, and secondly, to absorb them for the longest possible time. All that is needed is a little planning. I will tell the House the result of it. At the end of November or the beginning of December when the meatworks finish, the men on seasonal work will take time off for a little break. Today, of course, as in all the northern towns, you could not find an unemployed person.

Mr. Graham: Rubbish!

Dr. DELAMOTHE: If the hon. member has any unemployed in his town I will find jobs for them in my town. We have jobs there and I know there are no takers for them.

Mr. Evans: Are there any unemployed in Collinsville?

Dr. DELAMOTHE: Not one; nor is there one in Bowen or Home Hill. If hon. members opposite have unemployed in their towns I will find work for them in my town. It is only a small town. I know what happens in my area.

Opposition Members interjected.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: The stock-in-trade of Opposition members is misery and wailing. I would suggest that we ask the Minister for Public Works and Local Government to build a wailing wall behind your chair, Mr. Speaker, so that hon. members opposite can wail in public. They certainly do wail daily.

The result of this planning is that the amount of unemployment in my area is miles less during the slack season than anywhere else in Queensland. If the hon. member for Townsville North, who is only 140 miles from me, wants proof of it I suggest that he come down and have a talk with the union secretaries in my town—the men with whom I talk and plan. They will tell him! £1 spent to a plan does the work of £2. The holding back of all possible expenditure in the area for the six months of the slack season is, as I say, equivalent to spending twice that amount spread over 12 months.

Mr. Bennett: They leave after the season finishes.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: They know when they are well off. If hon. members opposite come along to me after the House adjourns at 10 o'clock I will tell them the whole story in detail. I am sincere and honest in

what I am saying. I have proved it to be true. I venture to suggest that every hon. member, not only on my right but also on my left if the necessity arises, can work this plan with the same result. Let us get away from this thinking of the unemployed in terms of numbers and statistics. Let us think about them as men and women. It is the duty of all of us to get to know who they are, find out their difficulties and do something for them.

Mr. Burrows interjected.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: If the hon. member did the same for his meatworkers in Gladstone as I do with mine, he would be standing at the next elections.

Mr. Burrows: You will be sitting all right—outside.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: The hon. member will be reading about me in the paper as the member for Bowen until he dies. The hon. member will be proud to say, "I used to sit in Parliament with him."

The hon. member for Townsville North said that thousands upon thousands of young people are leaving school and that there is no work for them. Let us examine the figures, and these are the only statistics I will quote: On 27 July the Minister made an announcement in a Press release that in Queensland a total of 1,851 males under the age of 21 was registered for employment.

Mr. Tucker: What about the ones who cannot register?

Dr. DELAMOTHE: There are 1,851 under the age of 21. The hon. member should wipe his crocodile tears away and look at things in reality and not from the point of view of a midsummer night's dream. The hon. member does not need an electronic computer to help him with that. It is quite within the capacity of all hon. members opposite.

Mr. Armstrong: Don't over-rate them.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: Oh, no.

I was very interested in the speech of the hon. member for Ipswich East. I listened carefully and concentrated on his remarks. I congratulate him on a very fine effort; it was a very fine anti-Communist speech. It struck me that it was a very unusual speech and that he must have been away offside with other hon. members opposite because they have no compunction at all in accepting the help of members of the Communist Party. I repeat, and the hon. member for Ipswich East will not deny this, that on his visit to Collinsville he was in very close consultation with acknowledged members of the Communist Party. I do not say that does him any discredit. In the light of what he said in Parliament the other night it would be churlish of me to say anything else.

Mr. Bennett: You are trying to be dirty, nevertheless.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: No. I could say that the hon. member for Ipswich East spent all his time at the local Kremlin, but I am saying that when he made his speech the other night he must have been completely out of step with other hon. members over there.

Mr. Donald: I made my speech on behalf of all hon. members on this side.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: Since the famous visit of the hon. member for Ipswich East up there which, I believe, was on 11 April, 1961, I have looked in vain to see familiar faces from that side of the House either in Collinsville, or coming to see me in Bowen to ask me, "Doctor, will you take me up and show me Collinsville?" I believe this reflects a great deal of discredit on hon. members opposite. Long before this they should have taken some interest in these people who, after all, vote for them. They do not vote for me, and they never will. I have been up there 42 times since 11 April, 1961. I have looked in vain for hon. members opposite. I will take them up at any time.

Mr. Wallace: Who would want to go with you?

Dr. DELAMOTHE: Who would want to go? My deputy member from Townsville North; surely he would like to go up there.

Mr. Tucker: I will look after you when the time comes.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: You and who else?

Mr. Tucker: You don't even know when I am in Bowen. That is how much you know.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: The hon. member for Townsville North makes so little impression when he is in Bowen that even my enemies do not tell me he is there.

Let me tell the House that the story of Collinsville is a very, very good one and I think hon. members should go up there for a visit. I say particularly to the hon. member for Ipswich East, and those others who know coal-mining intimately, and who know modern developments and modern trends in coal-mining, that today in Collinsville we have functioning two modern coal-mines that are the equal of any in Australia. I refer to the mine bought by Davis Contractors, which was closed and a new mine developed, and the new mine developed by Mount Isa Mines Ltd. Yesterday I spent all day at Collinsville. I have seen those mines developed from nothing, and to see the highly technical machinery that is being used there today is really thrilling. I should like here and now to pay tribute to the men of Collinsville who are working those machines. After only three days' dual instruction they are not, of course, working them to 100 per cent. yet but they are certainly making a much better fist of it than we could. I spoke with them. They are exhilarated and enthusiastic about the new development.

Mr. Donald: That is characteristic of mine-workers everywhere.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: That is so. They are as pleased as Punch about it. They are just as determined to make a future for Collinsville as the owners of the mine are and, believe me, we will hear a lot more to the credit of Collinsville over the next few years.

I would ask any hon. members who would like to go up to let me know and go up with me, or go up on their own, and talk to those people and have a look round.

I should like now to answer some of the criticisms that have been levelled at the Government's education policy. That attack simply shows the poverty-stricken desperation tactics of the Opposition. If there is any one thing we have done in any department that redounds, and will redound, to our everlasting credit, it is what we have done for education. It goes through the whole of the State. Every primary school has had something done to it. In my own electorate I have 17 primary schools, and there would not be one of them that has not been painted and repaired and, where necessary, extended. Wherever I drive in Queensland the picture is the same. Secondary schools are springing up everywhere like mushrooms. Where a State high school was previously a rarity, today there is hardly a part of Queensland, even in the most remote areas, where a secondary school has not sprung up. We have reached the stage where we have not only very greatly extended the university—that Labour expanded; I give credit where credit is due—but have extended university facilities into North Queensland. There is no doubt that, within a shorter or longer period, other university centres will be established. The present University College is merely the precursor to others in other parts of the State. The Opposition's being so bereft of ammunition as to pick out our strongest point to attack us shows how poverty-stricken they are in ideas and how they have little conception of what a censure motion should be.

The vast expansion of schools to cope with the great numbers of children has entailed also a very great extension of the facilities for the training of teachers. Except for a short period when teachers had to teach classes a little larger than they could comfortably manage, I should say that now, even in the city, let alone in the country, the numbers of teachers in most schools have reached the desirable standard, or very close to it.

Mr. Houston: They are looking after Government members, but not Opposition members.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: I have been at schools in areas represented by Opposition members. I get round quite a deal. Hon. members opposite know very well that they have no real complaint today about the numbers of teachers in schools.

On the grounds that I have brought forward, the Opposition stand condemned as puerile and pusillanimous in their approach to the censure motion. On the subject of the proper action to be taken on unemployment, I repeat again my offer, when the House rises for the night, to give to hon. members sufficiently interested my whole plan on this matter.

Mr. Davies: Are you satisfied with the development of factories in the cities along the coast?

Dr. DELAMOTHE: The hon. member has nothing to complain about in Maryborough. His provincial city would have developed much earlier than most others in Queensland, and much earlier than some in other States. He should boast about, rather than decry, the development of his own city. He should be crying from the house-tops how well industrialised Maryborough is, instead of crying into his handkerchief and thinking how poorly done by he is. That is the criticism that I have to make of the Opposition all the time. They cry and whinge too much. That is why I say that if we could arrange for a wailing wall, we could put a few pot-plants along the bottom of it and make it quite attractive.

An Opposition Member: If you had been alive in the last century, you would have said the same about Wilberforce.

Dr. DELAMOTHE: Is it not the Bhuddists who say that we come back seven times? Looking at some hon. members opposite, I should say that they are here for the eighth time. At a later date, when the censure motion is suitably disposed of, I shall have something further to say.

Mr. WHARTON (Burnett) (8.20 p.m.): On behalf of the people of Burnett, I express my loyalty to our Sovereign, Queen Elizabeth II. I also congratulate the mover and seconder of the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Opening Speech.

The opening of Parliament is a very important function of government, and it is a pleasure for us to have the Governor come and perform the opening ceremony and convey to us first-hand the programme of legislation that is proposed for the coming session. While some people may not enjoy the opening ceremony, I know that many people do enjoy it and the outlining of a constructive programme of development by a good Government. We appreciate very much the keen interest taken by Sir Henry Abel Smith in the affairs of the State. He has visited all parts of Queensland, spoken to the people, inquired about their needs, and interested himself in their work, and he has also shown them the wide knowledge he has of the affairs of the State. This pattern of travel synchronises with the pattern laid down by the Government, under which Ministers and members travel round the country and become closely acquainted

with the problems of the people. It is important that the Government should know what the people want, and they can find this out if members of the Government visit as many parts of the State as possible.

The debate on the Address in Reply gives us an opportunity to deal with problems arising in our own electorates. I have been here only two years, and I have been interested to see that the Opposition can never wait till the debate on the Address in Reply is disposed of before putting forward a censure motion based on unemployment.

Mr. Houston: Aren't you worried about unemployment?

Mr. WHARTON: I am very concerned about it, and the Government are concerned about it. We appreciate the problems and we are tackling them in a constructive way.

Mr. Davies: We want action, not appreciation.

Mr. WHARTON: We are taking action. The hon. member for Maryborough is looking through the wrong glasses and cannot even see the light. I think it would be a good idea if we disposed of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply before dealing with the censure motion. We could then have a full debate on unemployment.

Having listened to the speeches of hon. members opposite and having read their destructive criticism expressed from time to time in their journeys round the State, I believe that they are not very much concerned about unemployment. They need a job in Parliament. It is a job to them, and it is the only thing that concerns them. They are not concerned about the people who are out of work; they are thinking only of jobs for themselves.

Mr. Sherrington: Don't let the hon. member for Condamine advise you. He has never been right yet.

Mr. WHARTON: The hon. member for Salisbury has never been right, either.

The Cabinet of this Government is composed of a group of Ministers who do not depend on Parliament for a job and virtually every member on the Government side has the welfare of the people of the State at heart rather than his own job in Parliament, as hon. members opposite have. This Government have taken a very keen interest in the alleviation of unemployment, not only by Government works but through private enterprise. We have encouraged employment through the private sector. This is a very important factor because if we get several businesses, farmers, graziers, and other undertakings each to employ somebody, the unemployment problem can be overcome.

Mr. Houston: Have you any unemployment in your electorate?

Mr. WHARTON: No, I have not, and I will show the hon. member later how we are helping some of the other electorates in this regard.

As I said, we have encouraged employment in the private sector as well as undertaking public works to create employment. We are implementing a policy that is calculated to provide regular and stable employment. Contrast this with the policy adopted under Labour, a policy of industrial conscription. Nationalisation of industry means industrial conscription and wage-pegging.

Mr. Houston: Who wrote that?

Mr. WHARTON: I ask the hon. member to listen.

One cannot have a planned economy in which everybody works under Government direction unless the Government have absolute power to determine the nature of an individual's employment, where he is to work, and the terms of his service. In other words, the individual must be forced to fit into the master Socialist blueprint.

Under a planned economy, individuals cannot have a free choice of working where they desire and of occupations of their own choosing. It is a case of one boss, one job.

At a Canberra meeting of the School of Political Science, Dr. Evatt is stated to have said, according to a "Hansard" report later—

"The taking away, in the future, of the right of the individual to choose his own vocation and employer is only one of the freedoms the Australian people must be prepared to forego in the interests of the State."

Mr. Sherrington: Who said that?

Mr. WHARTON: Dr. Evatt. About the middle of October of 1948, Mr. Chifley, at the Sydney Trades Hall said—

"No guarantee can be given to anybody that they can stay put in a particular industry. It is realised that there will have to be transfers of workers. It is quite certain that everybody will not be able to stay at home."

Mr. Chifley and Mr. Dedman let it out in Canberra that their full employment policy would not work unless based on industrial conscription. There is a contrasting policy to that of the present progressive Government!

It is a different attitude to that adopted by a trade-union official in England, Mr. George Woodcock, when opening the eighth mechanical-handling exhibition in 1962. Mr. Woodcock, general secretary of the Trade Union Congress, expressed a different attitude to the doleful expressions on unemployment used so freely by hon. members opposite.

The report of his opening speech states—
 “‘Mechanical Handling,’ he said, ‘has been with us for a long time and I feel that there is immense scope for it in this country.’ He thought there was no limit to which this industry could expand.

“‘I am glad’ he said, ‘to see such evidence that Britain is in the forefront of this field. I think that the Mechanical Handling Industry has very little to fear from the future.’

“‘I was glad when walking round the Exhibition to see that not only are you efficient, but that you have also had the good sense to form amongst yourselves organizations which can deal with the issues I have mentioned, and that these various associations work so well together. This is a good thing, and I hope you will not be too preoccupied with the solution of your technical difficulties to spare a thought for the general economic problems of the day. I am sure you will!’”

I mention that merely to indicate that at least we have some progressive thought on the other side of the world in the trade-union movement. The people will be the judges but I should say that the Government have done a magnificent job in arresting unemployment. The figures have dropped and they are still dropping. But no matter what anybody says, good seasons are a very important factor. With prosperity among the primary producers and business people we will have full employment. After all is said and done, we are all dependent on one another and full employment throughout the community is to the advantage of the primary producer, the business man, and the individual worker as well as to the State in general.

I pay tribute to the Premier for the part he has played in assessing and endeavouring to alleviate the State's problems. I compliment particularly the Minister for Education and Migration. I do not want to harp on what that hon. gentleman has done because other hon. members have already referred to his efforts, but I should say without any fear at all that because of their record in the field of education alone the Government should be returned, as indeed they will be returned. The only sad part of it is that many hon. members opposite will be returned on the same score because the Minister for Education has been good enough to look after their electorates.

Mr. Evans: No discrimination.

Mr. WHARTON: No discrimination at all.

In those remarks I want to join the Minister for Public Works and Local Government because he has provided the facilities that have made education possible. He has made a contribution towards the relief of unemployment in the Bundaberg and Maryborough electorates. The Burnett electorate has provided a great deal of employment for workers in those adjoining electorates.

We have had a great deal of building activity throughout the area, including the £81,000 new high school at Gayndah, the expenditure of £4,000 on a project at Gin Gin, £12,000 on a project at South Kolan, and a new school house at Alloway. A considerable number of small items are receiving attention and creating employment in the Burnett electorate. I thank the Minister for Education and Migration and the Minister for Public Works and Local Government. There is also a proposal to build further educational facilities at Miriam Vale and I hope to see a secondary school established between Rosedale and Avondale to cater for the children who live a long way out in the country and who have not the facilities that are available in the city. The children deserve these things so that they may enjoy a higher education. When I became a member of Parliament there was no secondary-school transport in my electorate but now there is a great deal of it for secondary-school students. Primary-school transport is not new, but it has developed greatly over the years. It is now possible for many children to attend central schools. They enjoy the benefits to be obtained from a centralised education, and they also enjoy the social benefits that accrue from attending a larger school.

Road works have progressed in my electorate. I am mentioning these things because according to the Opposition nothing has been done; everything is crook, and the place is falling down. Works that are creating employment are being undertaken. I thank the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity for the development in our area, and for the better roads that are available and are planned for the coming financial year. We now have sealed roads in many parts and many of those that are not sealed are under construction. I express my appreciation to the Minister for the sealing of the Binjour Range road now under construction and the proposal to have a bitumen road to Monto within two years. The people on the other side of Baffle Creek bridge will soon have a means of getting to Bundaberg or Miriam Vale. It will be a smaller bridge than was originally proposed, but it is a very difficult bridge to construct. From an engineering point of view it was almost impossible to get across, except by means of a ferry. My people are thankful to the Minister for his part in making it possible for all this to be done in the near future to allow them to visit a town. Hon. members should appreciate the part that the Minister for Development, Mines, Main Roads and Electricity has played. The introduction of American know-how has certainly made a great difference to the development of the State, but many hon. members opposite are sad because they will not be here to see the State develop further under the Minister.

Mr. Sherrington: You want to thank him, too.

Mr. WHARTON: I thank all the Ministers. I am happy to thank anyone who has done anything for me. I have not yet heard the hon. member express his thanks for anything.

Mr. Sherrington: They have not yet done anything.

Mr. WHARTON: That is just what the hon. member would say.

I thank the Minister for Transport for the reduction of rail freight on fertilizer and citrus fruit. It has helped my people considerably.

Mr. Davies: Were any lines closed in your area?

Mr. WHARTON: We have replaced them with good roads. The people in the area were never happy under a Labour Government and they never would be happy under it.

We have a problem in the Rosedale area in that the town has some 40 or 50 inhabitants who are without the benefit of electricity while many smaller areas have it. Rosedale is right on the boundary of two regional electricity board areas. I have discussed the matter with the Minister for Mines, Development, Main Roads and Electricity and I hope that eventually one of those boards, in particular the Wide Bay Regional Electricity Board, will accept Rosedale into its area. Already electricity comes to within 8 miles and it seems impossible to get it from any other source in the near future, so I hope the board will see fit to do as I suggest.

Mr. Evans: They have only to make application.

Mr. WHARTON: I thank the Minister for the suggestion.

I should like to pay tribute to the shire councils in the Burnett area. They have done a magnificent job not only in carrying out works but also in creating employment. Recently we had the privilege of a visit from the Minister for Public Works and Local Government and I know that they appreciated his coming and also that they appreciate what the Government are doing in the way of financial and general assistance to make it possible for local authorities to play their important role in the development of the area.

Mr. Davies: Have you had a visit from the Minister for Public Lands and Irrigation?

Mr. WHARTON: Yes, the Minister for Public Lands has been up and he, too, has done a good job. He has initiated considerable investigation into irrigation projects. Sixteen thousand pounds has been spent on irrigation surveys in the Burnett area and another £6,000 has been allocated for this year to complete some of those surveys. It is hoped

that, as a result, we will soon have more irrigation works on the Burnett that will provide a wider storage in the upper reaches so that we can at least keep the stream going. Several years ago work was developed to cater for 1,000 acres of irrigated land. Now the area has been increased to 13,000 acres and the demand greatly exceeds the supply of water available. It is vital that at some some time or other we have storages in the Burnett area, not necessarily in my electorate but further up, so that we can keep the stream going. The citrus industry depends entirely on water for its success and it is essential to maintain a supply as it is required. It is necessary to irrigate the trees every 10 days or fortnightly.

Mr. Mann: Are there any other suitable areas?

Mr. WHARTON: Yes. The surveys have shown that there are. The success of the scheme depends entirely on the cost. The scheme there cost £156 an acre-foot, which is fairly costly but not as costly as some of the others. It is not a matter of simply building a weir at a cost of, say, £500 an acre-foot and then trying to make an economic proposition of citrus-growing or any other type of farming. When all is said and done, it is a matter of economics and it is essential that irrigation costs be related to production. It is not much use producing it if it is not successful.

Mr. O'Donnell: The grower should not have to bear the whole cost.

Mr. WHARTON: They do not have to pay for the whole cost.

Mr. Evans: There is not a scheme in Queensland that is paying.

Mr. WHARTON: The return to the Government is only about 1½ per cent. on capital. The growers make a contribution but it is very small in proportion to the cost. In our area we have the soil and the type of land to suit varied production. We need only a weir or weirs for water storage on the various parts of the Burnett to make a greater contribution towards the success of the area and the wealth of the State.

Mr. Mann: Are they able to grow tea on the Burnett if they get the water?

Mr. WHARTON: How long has the hon. member for Brisbane been interested in tea?

Mr. Mann: I am asking a sensible question. I want to know if they can grow tea on the Burnett.

Mr. WHARTON: I am a little concerned about the welfare of the primary producers. They are the backbone of this country, and they make a reasonable contribution to full employment. In the last 10 years, farming costs have increased by 54 per cent.

Mr. Mann: To what do you attribute that?

Mr. WHARTON: I attribute a great deal of it to hon. members opposite. Higher wages have made a marked contribution to increasing those costs. Farm incomes, on the other hand, have fallen by 12 per cent. Whereas we were able previously to make farming an economic proposition, it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain decent returns, and many primary producers starting off and trying to develop the land are going to have great difficulty unless increases in costs can be arrested.

Mr. Davies: That is one of the soundest statements ever made by any Country Party member.

Mr. WHARTON: I thank the hon. member.

Whilst we will be able to dispose of our sugar crop for this year, we are faced with the uncertainty of the European Common Market and, with possible loss of contracts, this industry could be in dire straits. It is composed of many individuals and employs a number of men, and has made a great contribution to the progress of the State. We are vitally concerned with its protection, and in the negotiations now going on.

A considerable amount of tobacco is grown in my electorate. It is a new industry there, and it has wide ramifications. It was thought that it would play a very important role in the employment picture as, when the sugar season finished, workers might find employment in the tobacco industry. Whilst it has had some success in that direction, it has not had as much in my area as it should have had. Many growers found, in their inexperience, that there were problems to be faced, and many have been in trouble because of the fall in tobacco prices last year.

The great problem is obtaining finance. This is one of those industries in which a great deal of finance is needed, not only to start off and grow the crop but also to market it. The Government could make a great contribution to the industry by assisting wherever they can. We do not want excessive over-production.

Cotton is one of those commodities for which we have an assured market. We can grow cotton in Queensland. I am not going to say that it is an economic proposition in every area, but I know that with irrigation, particularly in the Burnett area, it is a good crop which provides a satisfactory financial return, and those who have grown it with irrigation in that area have done reasonably well. It seems to me to provide an opportunity for some producers to do something not only for themselves but to create employment in the field. Once a farmer begins to develop his land and grow more crops, employment increases not only on his farm but also in the factories and shops.

In the dairying industry, of course our concern is with protection from margarine. I was very pleased to see that at a meeting of the Council of Agriculture it was stated that there was a plan to give the industry

some protection. Many people in the State are engaged in dairying, and we do not want to see them go out of business. The industry needs protection. It will be to our advantage to protect it, because the wider the diversity of our primary industries, the better it is for us.

I also wish to refer to the export of maize to Japan. This year there has been a considerable increase in the production of maize and, with only one or two regular buyers, it is quite obvious that the return to growers will not be very favourable. It has been shown in the sugar industry and other industries that it is preferable to export a certain quantity and leave a reasonable quantity rather than an excessive quantity for the home market. There is a market in Japan for about 200,000 tons of maize, and I believe that Queensland should use every opportunity of exploiting this market.

Mr. Houston: What about Red China?

Mr. WHARTON: I am talking about Japan, where I know there is a market and negotiations are already in train. I appeal to the Government—I know that they are considering it—to give greater concessions to maize-growers to enable them to take advantage of the export market. It is very important that we should get a grip on this market because it will stabilise the home market. Whether you are a farmer or in a business, you must have stability. This could give us stability. We could get rid of the surplus and leave sufficient for the home market to ensure a fairly constant return to the producer.

Mr. Davies: Will the farmer be satisfied with the price he will get from Japan?

Mr. WHARTON: I suggest that he will be satisfied with the price he gets from Japan. He will receive less than he would on the local market, but he will ensure that he receives a reasonable return on the local market.

There is a good prospect, too, for the use of maize in the lot-feeding of cattle. There is a trend towards the production of younger grain-fed beef, and there appear to be reasonable prospects for breeders in lot-feeding.

Mr. Davies: What is the opinion of "Brian Pastures" on lot-feeding?

Mr. WHARTON: They are using lot-feeding quite extensively. They find that they are able to turn off young cattle, and young cattle do not seem to be so fat. This sets a pattern for a quicker turn-over of beef, which will be of benefit not only to the producer but also to the consumer, who will get a better regulated supply of good-quality beef.

Mr. Davies: Are the citrus-growers satisfied with the price they received this year?

Mr. WHARTON: The hon. member for Maryborough is asking a great many questions. I was about to say that the citrus-growers are disappointed with their returns this year, which are considerably lower than they have been previously. Wages and prices to consumers have been fairly constant. There is quite an amount of money to be invested. It is an early return but the grower has to meet all his expenses before he gets any return.

Mr. Davies: They cost just as much in the shops.

Mr. WHARTON: That is true.

I conclude by saying that I have endeavoured to show that this Government have played their part in developing the State, not only on the primary side but on the secondary side also. The Government have done a good job. They are still doing it well and in a way that will benefit the State as a whole in the long run.

Mr. BAXTER (Hawthorne) (8.56 p.m.): I wish to associate myself with the amendment so capably moved by the Leader of the Opposition, and I wish to deal firstly with the disproportionately high number of unemployed in this State. It is indeed a tragedy that the lives of thousands of young Queenslanders have been placed in jeopardy by their being denied the right to work. It has had a detrimental effect on their moral and physical well-being.

Mr. Nicklin: Who wrote that?

Mr. BAXTER: I think that was the Premier who interjected. I inform him that that is part of the amendment moved by the Leader of the Opposition. It deals with the adverse effects of unemployment on the wellbeing of the young people of this State, our citizens of tomorrow. We know full well in Queensland the trials and tribulations resulting from the mismanagement that has been predominant in the last five years. Particularly in the field of unemployment, the position has deteriorated disgracefully, and is an indictment of the present Government. Thousands of young people finishing school after passing the Junior examination are unable to obtain employment. Such a position never existed in this State under the administration of Labour Governments.

No matter what hon. members opposite say, either in their speeches or by way of interjection, no matter what arguments they put forward to nullify support of the amendment, they cannot deny that we have today in Queensland a greater percentage of unemployment, both in the adult and juvenile sectors of the community, than exists in any other State of the Commonwealth, and that that is a direct result of the maladministration of this Government, the members of which sit so complacently, obviously very pleased with their couldn't-care-less attitude towards the working-class people and their employment.

Mr. Windsor interjected.

Mr. BAXTER: The hon. member for Ithaca, who is interjecting now, is a successful business man only because he employs people who are capable of doing his business for him, not because of his own capacity as a business man. All he does is pay the wages of those who have built up his business for him. He is a member of the Country Party-Liberal Government, who are doing everything possible today to lower the standard of living that has been enjoyed by working people for decades. We know that they are doing everything possible to use a very serious employment situation to break down living standards.

When the Government took office they did so with the glorious statement that they would do away with unemployment; that they would create a situation in Queensland when there would be more jobs than people to fill them. The position today is quite the reverse; there are more unemployed than there are jobs.

We have had all this ballyhoo and tomfoolery in statements by the Morris-Nicklin Government. In every one of the many statements emanating from these people who have taken control of the Treasury benches they say they are the best Government we have ever had. That is why today men are humping the bluey, something that we have not seen since the dark old days of the 1929-1932 depression. That has been brought about only because there are men sitting over there who are not capable of understanding that to keep enterprise going the worker must have money, and that it is the worker who builds enterprise and enables it to fulfil its obligations. Today we have the worst State in Australia because we have the highest percentage of unemployment. It does not matter how the Government back-benchers might jump, they cannot deny that we have a higher percentage of unemployment than at any time since the black days of the depression.

The Government have excelled themselves. They have the greatest unemployment problem of the six States of the Commonwealth. Even their confreres in the White House at Canberra could not have done a better job in bringing about unemployment. It cannot be denied that the Government have done everything possible to attack the living standards built up progressively by Labour in Queensland through continuity of employment, progressive prosperity, and continuity of good-fellowship between the rank-and-file constituent and the Labour Government. But today we have a feeling of antagonism towards the Government. That in itself is very detrimental to any State.

The same feeling exists even among the people whom the Government purport to represent. The business men say they are disappointed and disgusted with the Government's standard of administration. They are

fearful of what will happen if the present coalition Government continue to occupy the Treasury benches.

I hear slight interjections coming from some of the little back-benchers, particularly from the hon. member for Ithaca. He is a business man who has lost the confidence of his business associates because of the actions of his Government. The hon. member for Condamine, of course, considers that nobody should be kept in employment in the Railway Department. Then we have the hon. member for Tablelands coming in with interjections. He was the man who bucked the Government outside. However, he is not prepared to buck them here, where he can prove his sincerity.

The hon. member for Buranda, too, was totally dissatisfied and disgruntled with the actions of the Government, while the hon. member for Balonne was also dissatisfied and argued against the Government's policy on the State Transport Act. However, they did not have the intestinal fortitude to make the statements in Parliament that they made outside. They sit over there and all they do is bring disgrace to the State of Queensland.

We have heard statements by hon. members in high places on the Government benches. With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I should like to put on record a statement which is a "little beauty." It was printed in "Truth" during June, 1957, and was made by the former Deputy Premier, Mr. Morris. He said—

"I say here and now—definitely and emphatically—that we will safeguard the existing rights and privileges of the workers in this State . . ."

What a joke that was! What a lot of tomfoolery and ballyhoo! The Minister continued—

" . . . and ensure employment for all." He made a glowing statement about the glorious wealth we would reap from the North.

I have here another statement by the same hon. gentleman. It appeared in "The Courier-Mail" of 24 July, 1957. He said—

"One need only look at our policy—there will be unprecedented demand for labour with full employment for every worker of the community."

An Opposition Member: Who said that?

Mr. BAXTER: The then Leader of the Liberal Party and Deputy Premier, Mr. Morris.

What has happened? Let us see how good these men have been at carrying out their promises. These gratuitous statements are very easy to make. It is one thing to say something, but an altogether different matter to put it into effect. When the present Government came to office there were 6,393 unemployed people in Queensland. That would be the highest number of unemployed in Queensland for very many years.

Mr. Gilmore: Your chickens were coming home to roost.

Mr. BAXTER: Fancy a man with the supposed intellectual ability of the hon. member for Tablelands making that interjection! How silly can he be! He wants an answer, and he will get one. He said that the chickens are coming home to roost, and so they are. They are coming home to roost with the Government of which he is a member. Those figures prove conclusively that the chickens have come home to roost. The Government have held the reins for the past five years. When they took over in 1957, I repeat that there were 6,393 unemployed in Queensland. After one year of magnificent administration, or mal-administration—call it what you like—by this Government, what happened? Unemployment figures rose to 13,161—they doubled. These were the people who said, "We will give you more jobs than there are people to fill them." They were the people who were to give the greatest era of employment for all time. There was an increase in unemployment of more than 100 per cent., which should speak volumes of the man who said, "The chickens are coming home to roost" and for the hon. member for Ithaca, who asked what we had done. We created employment to such an extent that we kept the number of unemployed down to a maximum of 6,000; but hon. members opposite allowed it to increase to 13,000 within 12 months. That just shows that a business men's Government have no possible way of working out the administration of a State, the management of which cannot be tied in with the administration of the 25 squares or so of a factory.

I have told the House what happened in the first year of office of this Government, the people who made such grandiose promises. Let us come to 1960. By February, 1960, after they had been in office two and a-half years, the unemployment figure had spiralled to 15,400. What an indictment on those who had promised, "We will provide employment for everybody. We will give you an era of prosperity that will mean there will be more jobs than there are people to fill them!" By 1962 the figure had risen to 16,284. What a disgrace for any Government! Even a group of kindergarten children could work out a better principle than that to ensure that their fathers had employment. Are these people so bereft of common sense that they do not understand that the wealth of a nation depends on the employment of its workers? If the workers are unemployed, how can business be kept going? On their own record the Government stand indicted for their lack of ability to administer the State. It is a terrific indictment!

Mr. Row: We heard that.

Mr. BAXTER: It is something I cannot repeat too often. It is a terrific indictment on a Government whose leaders made such promises.

Let me return to the situation that must arise when you have two warring parties with two distinct policies, two distinct philosophies, trying to combine and blend themselves into a Government to administer the State. It is an utter impossibility.

I have here a beautiful little statement made by the former Leader of the Liberal Party and Deputy Premier. As reported in "The Courier-Mail" of 25 July, 1957, he said—

"Six companies of world repute will invest in Queensland if a Country Party-Liberal Government is returned."

Mr. Hodges: We have doubled that.

Mr. BAXTER: What an idiotic statement! We have yet to find one company of world repute investing in Queensland, yet we have an interjection such as that from the back bench of the Government. Let me continue what the Deputy Premier said—

"These organisations would not speak in thousands, nor in hundreds of thousands, but in millions, and investing would not be confined to Brisbane, but money would be spent in Central, Northern, and North-western Queensland."

Let us look at what has happened. The Deputy Premier spoke of six companies of world repute. I defy any member sitting on the Government benches to prove to this House that there are six companies of world repute investing money to the extent of millions of pounds outside Brisbane in the central, northern, and north-western portions of Queensland. They have proved by their own statement that that is an absolute fallacy. They are, without any fear of contradiction, a Government of tomfoolery and ballyhoo. They speak with two voices. On the one hand they promise everything, and on the other they take it away. As I progress through my speech, I shall prove just how true that is.

To refer again to the statement made by my Leader, the hon. member for West Toowoomba, spiralling unemployment in Queensland is an absolute indictment of the Government. It is detrimental to the progress of the State and is the direct negative of what this Government have been promising throughout their period in office.

There are many people on the Government benches who speak of tourism. They speak of bringing people from all over the world to Queensland, of the great potential of Queensland, particularly the North, but what do they do? They have done more to kill the potential of Queensland and to nullify the extensive progress that had occurred under 25 years of Labour Party Government, than people really realise. If hon. members opposite are here in 25 years' time, we will be somewhere the other side of New Guinea if we follow the progress that they have promised, and that has been very noticeable

by its total lack of existence. They also had to bring Ford, Bacon and Davis to Queensland to tell them how to run the railways.

I support my Leader on that portion of his amendment referring to spiralling unemployment and the detrimental effect that that must have on industry in Queensland and the people who desire to invest in Queensland. Even above that is the devastating moral effect that it must have on the people who live in Queensland. What I want to stress particularly is that this is brought about only by the couldn't-care-less attitude adopted by the Government now holding the reins of office in this State.

Mr. Ramsden: Now tell us the truth.

Mr. BAXTER: I always tell the truth. If the hon. member for Merthyr wants to know more of the truth, I will tell him more. I will keep telling him and other hon. members the truth. While I have breath to speak in this House I will speak on behalf of the working-class people, the salt of the earth, and put the truth on record to make sure that they get everything to which they are entitled.

A very interesting situation arose when the Ford, Bacon and Davis Report was tabled in the House. When former Labour Governments were in office, a copy of a valuable document of this type was made available to each hon. member. The Premier and other hon. members who sat in Opposition while Labour Governments were in office will bear out my statement. We did that because it is the prerogative of every hon. member to peruse documents containing suggestions for the betterment of the State. But what happened on this occasion? Three copies of the Ford, Bacon and Davis Report were placed on the table for 78 members to read. We had a bun-rush and the first three to the table won the race.

I noticed that the report deals with locomotive power and repair facilities. We have a new Commissioner for Railways, Mr. Lee, who was interviewed one evening recently on 4QG by a Mr. Dunn, and in the interview he stated that the progress of the railways would rest on full dieselisation. Taken in conjunction with the report of Ford, Bacon and Davis, who should never have been brought here, that statement leads to only one conclusion—that dieselisation will be the new era of transport in the railways. Let us have a look at this matter. In 1953, acting on the recommendation of an American engineer, Mr. Baker, who was the representative of the General Electric Company, which supplied the first diesel-electric locomotives to the Queensland Government, an Australian Labour Party Government bought diesel engines. Railway coach No. 473 was converted into an instruction car and much valuable machinery was installed in it for the training of railway employees, particularly fitters and electricians, in the repair and maintenance of

diesel engines. That was a good idea. Anybody with any knowledge of railways will understand that a coach fitted with all the apparatus and equipment necessary for the instruction of persons wishing to become familiar with the repair and maintenance of diesel engines would be very useful. That coach was provided by a Labour Government in which the present Leader of the Opposition was Minister for Transport. It worked very efficiently and proved very successful. Later I will prove why it did. It must be admitted that in the initial stages, that car was a very great asset.

Later on, in 1955, the second issue of diesels entered the State from America. With them came a Mr. Wood, who was very taken with the idea of a diesel car for the instruction of fitters, electricians, and so on in the railways. He assisted the railways by bringing forward new equipment and placing it in that car for the use of employees who were desirous of learning how to operate and maintain a diesel-electric locomotive.

After those employees had been instructed, particularly at Mayne, this Government took office and, totally disregarding the benefit that could be derived from that car, shunted it onto a siding at Redbank four years ago, with all the valuable equipment that had been put into it by Mr. Baker, in the first instance, and then by Mr. Wood, in conjunction with the Labour Government. It has stood there idle for four years.

Mr. Low: The Minister is doing a good job.

Mr. BAXTER: The hon. member for Cooroora interjects that the Minister is doing a good job. Is he doing a good job in allowing a wagon to remain on a siding when it is the only means of instructing people in becoming fully conversant with the operation and maintenance of diesel engines? Only the other day there was a hold-up of traffic from the western line because these people were not conversant with the diesel locomotive, and the man the hon. member says is doing a good job is satisfied to allow that wagon to remain idle. That is why he is not doing a good job in this instance. The hon. member for Cooroora was a railway man at one time and he would fully appreciate the job that was done by the use of the Westinghouse instruction car in teaching employees the operation and repair of the Westinghouse brake system. He would fully appreciate that, yet he supports the actions of the Minister who has done everything possible to prevent employees from becoming proficient in, and conversant with, the latest means of transport in this State—diesel-electric locomotives.

This Government have spent £240,000 in seeking the advice of Ford, Bacon and Davis, who have recommended to the Government full dieselisation of the railways. The new Commissioner for Railways has told them that the railways must be fully dieselised yet hon. members have the audacity to say that the Minister for Transport is doing

a good job in allowing coach No. 473 to lie in a siding to deteriorate. I say he has not fulfilled his obligations.

I now appeal to the Premier personally to intercede on behalf of the thousands of railway men, including fitters and electricians, who are desirous of protecting their livelihood and of knowing how to operate, repair, and maintain diesel-electric engines. I ask the Premier to see that car No. 473 is rejuvenated and repaired and placed in service once again or that a similar one is fully equipped and placed on the road and sent to every central depot in Queensland so that employees may become conversant with these engines and truly play their part in reducing the losses incurred on the railways. It is imperative that every employee concerned should be given the opportunity of making himself conversant with the maintenance and supervision of diesel-electric engines. I ask the Premier to exercise his prerogative as Leader of the Government and ensure that these people are given the opportunity to become conversant with diesel engines, as it appears that we will be buying only diesels for future transportation requirements. A man in his 60's who has been a steam fitter all his life may not be able to continue. On the other hand, a man of 40, with 25 years' service ahead of him in the Railway Department, should be given the right to become conversant with the supervision and control of diesel-electric engines so that he will not be denied future promotion. Knowing the procedure followed recently in the railways, I should say that is very important. A man working a certain section in a workshop might be deprived of receiving his just due by way of promotion if he is denied the opportunity to learn following the stupid action of the Minister for Railways in not permitting that coach to go round the respective depots so that everybody can become conversant with the repairing of diesel-electric engines. The careers of many very good men could well be jeopardised in that way.

Again I ask the Premier to use his influence to ensure that such a car is sent throughout Queensland. Every part of Queensland should have it once every 12 months. It would take roughly 12 months to go throughout Queensland in the first instance. There are many reasons why it should travel throughout the State. Because of their location many apprentices would be unable to become conversant with diesel engines. There is no way in the world we are not going to change entirely from steam to diesel power. Not one person in the House would deny that, so let us give every railway fitter the opportunity to become conversant with the repairing of diesel engines.

I should like to stress one other point. I refer to the foolish action of the Government in closing down branch lines, many of which were profitable. The line from Southport to Coolangatta was closed down. Since

its closure much ballyhoo has been talked about the diesel train running from Southport to Brisbane. The hon. member for Albert had the privilege of having it named "Carey's Commuter." According to Press reports, and according to statements in the House, that train is not as fast as the one that came in for so much abuse in 1927, the "Southport Stinker." It travelled from Southport to Brisbane two minutes quicker than "Carey's Commuter" can do it today.

(Time expired.)

Debate, on motion of Mr. Gilmore, adjourned.

The House adjourned at 9.36 p.m.
