

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

WEDNESDAY, 28 JULY 1971

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ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF MERTHYR

RESIGNATION OF MEMBER

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received the following letter from Mr. S. R. Ramsden, member for the electoral district of Merthyr—

“Parliament House,
Brisbane, 4000
31st March, 1971.

“The Hon. D. E. Nicholson, M.L.A.,

“The Speaker,

“Parliament House,

“Brisbane.

“Dear Mr. Speaker,

“This is to formally advise you that I am resigning from the Seat of Merthyr, with effect from the close of business on the 30th June, 1971, in accordance with the public statement I have already made.

“May I thank you for your personal co-operation which I have received as the Member for Merthyr from you, as Speaker, during the term of your office.

“Yours faithfully,

“Samuel R. Ramsden,

“Member for Merthyr.”

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS OF MARYBOROUGH AND MERTHYR

ISSUE OF WRITS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that His Excellency the Governor, on 1 July 1971, issued writs for the election of members to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the electoral districts of Maryborough and Merthyr respectively.

PANEL OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN

NOMINATION OF MR. W. D. LICKISS

Mr. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the requirements of Standing Order No. 13, I nominate William Daniel Lickiss, Esquire, member for the electoral district of Mt. Coot-tha, to fill the vacancy in the panel of Temporary Chairmen caused by the resignation of Mr. S. R. Ramsden.

WEDNESDAY, 28 JULY 1971

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

DEATH OF MR. H. J. DAVIES, M.L.A.

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to inform the House that I have received from the Registrar-General a certified copy of the registration of the death, on 4 June 1971, of Horace Jason Davies, Esquire, lately serving in the Legislative Assembly as member for the electoral district of Maryborough.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:—

“Government Gazette Extraordinary”; Her Majesty’s Assent to a Bill to Amend the Governor’s Salary Act 1872–1971, in a certain particular.

Proclamations under—

The State Transport Acts, 1938 to 1943.

Marketable Securities Act 1970.

Marketable Securities Act Amendment Act 1971.

Securities Industry Act 1971.

Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Act 1966–1970.

- The Diseases in Plants Acts, 1929 to 1948.
 Meat Industry Act 1965–1969.
 Meat Industry Act Amendment Act 1969.
 The Sugar Acquisition Act of 1915.
 Forestry Act 1959–1971.
 The Queensland Marine Acts, 1958 to 1967.
- Orders in Council under—
- State Planning and Development, Public Works Organisation, and Environmental Control Act 1938–1970.
 Central Queensland Coal Associates Agreement Act 1968.
 Racing and Betting Act 1954–1971.
 The Collections Act of 1966.
 District Courts Act 1967–1969.
 Liquor Act 1912–1970.
 The Magistrates Courts Acts, 1921 to 1964.
 The Maintenance Act of 1965.
 The Public Curator Acts, 1915 to 1957.
 The Supreme Court Act of 1921.
 The Grammar Schools Acts, 1860 to 1962.
 The Agricultural Bank (Loans) Act of 1959.
 The Dairy Produce Acts, 1920 to 1963.
 The Fauna Conservation Act of 1952.
 The Fisheries Acts, 1957 to 1962.
 The Fish Supply Management Act of 1965.
 The Local Bodies' Loans Guarantee Acts, 1923 to 1957.
 Meat Industry Act 1965–1969.
 The Milk Supply Acts, 1952 to 1961.
 The Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, 1926 to 1966.
 The Regulation of Sugar Cane Prices Act, 1962 to 1966.
 The Soil Conservation Act of 1965.
 The Stock Acts, 1915 to 1965.
 Sugar Experiment Stations Act 1900–1971.
 The Wheat Pool Acts, 1920 to 1957.
 Medical Act 1939–1969.
 Health Act 1937–1971.
 The Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act of 1963.
 The Explosives Acts, 1952 to 1963.
 Ambulance Services Act 1967–1970.
 Factories and Shops Act 1960–1970.
 Industrial Development Act 1963–1970.
 Forestry Act 1959–1971.
 The State Housing Acts, 1945 to 1966.
 The State Transport Acts, 1938 to 1943.
 Water Act 1926–1968.
 River Improvement Trust Act 1940–1968.
 The Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1968.
 The Queensland Marine Acts, 1958 to 1967.
 Beach Protection Act 1968–1970.
- Regulations under—
- Public Service Act 1922–1968.
 Racing and Betting Act 1954–1971.
 Liquor Act 1912–1970.
 Marketable Securities Act 1970–1971.
 Securities Industry Act 1971.
 Education Act 1964–1970.
 The Farm Produce Agents Act of 1964.
 The Fauna Conservation Act of 1952.
 The Fish Supply Management Act of 1965.
 Meat Industry Act 1965–1969.
 The Poultry Industry Acts, 1946 to 1965.
 The Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, 1926 to 1966.
 The Stock Acts, 1915 to 1965.
 Wheat Delivery Quotas Act 1970.
 The Wheat Pool Acts, 1920 to 1957.
 The Nurses Act of 1964.
 Health Act 1937–1971.
 Children's Services Act 1965–1970.
 The Apprenticeship Act of 1964.
 The Fire Brigades Acts, 1964 to 1966.
 The Workers' Accommodation Act of 1952.
 The Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1968.
 The Queensland Marine Acts, 1958 to 1967.
- By-laws under—
- Education Act 1964–1970.
 Queensland Museum Act 1970.
 The Optometrists Acts, 1917 to 1965.
 The Dental Acts, 1902 to 1961.
 The Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1968.
- Statutes under—
- The University of Queensland Act of 1965.
 James Cook University of North Queensland Act 1970.
- Rules under—
- Coal Mining Act 1925–1969.
 The Coroners Acts, 1958 to 1967.
 Medical Act 1939–1969.
 Health Act 1937–1971.
- Rules for the Junior Examination, 1971.
 Notice under The Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, 1926 to 1966.
 Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account as at 28 February 1971, of The Union-Fidelity Trustee Company of Australia Limited.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

SESSIONAL ORDER

Hon. J. BJELKE-PETERSEN (Barambah—Premier), by leave, without notice: I move—

“That, during this session, unless otherwise ordered, and notwithstanding the provision of Standing Order No. 68, questions

may be asked by members without notice being given. The period allotted each day for the asking of questions upon notice and without notice and for the answering of questions shall not exceed one hour."

Motion agreed to.

OPPOSITION WHIP

Mr. HOUSTON (Bulimba—Leader of the Opposition) (11.18 a.m.): I have to report that Mr. D. J. Sherrington, honourable member for Salisbury, has been appointed Opposition Whip in place of the late Mr. H. J. Davies.

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

STUDENT BODY PUBLICATION, QUEENSLAND INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Mr. MILLER: I ask the Minister for Justice: Has his attention been drawn to a recent publication by the student body of the Queensland Institute of Technology? Is he aware that, in the eyes of religious bodies and citizens, as well as students who now have some knowledge of this publication, it is considered to be disgusting, indecent, and obscene, and an apparent blatant breach of the Vagrants, Gaming, and Other Offences Act, 1931 to 1964? As this is the second occasion on which an indecent publication has been produced by this body, will the Minister please inform the House what action has been, or will be, taken to ensure that vile material of this type will not be published again?

Dr. DELAMOTHE: Various actions have followed the printing of this obscene publication. First of all, by order of the court, between 400 and 500 copies of the publication were confiscated; secondly, the printer was prosecuted and fined for failing to affix his name to the publication. A magisterial inquiry has been set up under the relevant Act to explore all the circumstances surrounding the composition, publishing and distribution of this obscene material.

POWER OF DISMISSAL, QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY STAFF

Mr. HINZE: I direct a question to the Minister for Education. Has this Parliament or the university senate the power to dismiss from the Queensland University persons of disrepute, such as Daniel O'Neill, Wertheim and others who, by their actions, are heaping ordure on the university and preventing that institution from functioning in the interests of decent academics and students, as is desired and required by all reputable citizens of the State?

Mr. FLETCHER: By its very nature and because of the controversial issues surrounding one of the persons mentioned, such a question should be put on notice.

Mr. Aikens: You'll be on the university side; you'll be on the scum side for sure.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Townsville South will be on the outside if he is not very careful.

INQUIRY, COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

Mr. CASEY: I direct a question to the Minister for Works and Housing. Is he aware that the Commissioner of Police was recently reported as having insulted country policemen who are presently in Brisbane, following complaints by them about the accommodation and meals provided for them? In view of the number of investigations currently proceeding in the Police Department against other ranks in the force, has he instituted an investigation or inquiry into this incident?

Mr. HODGES: I am not aware of any such incident, and I am quite sure that the Commissioner of Police would never insult any of his men.

NEW HIGH SCHOOLS

Mr. JENSEN: I ask the Minister for Education: With regard to the Opening Speech of His Excellency the Governor yesterday in which he referred to the provision of four new high schools, will the Minister inform the House where those high schools will be situated?

Mr. FLETCHER: This information will become available in due course.

PRIVILEGE

PROTECTION OF DUTY POLICE, PARLIAMENT HOUSE

Mr. AIKENS (Townsville South) (11.46 a.m.): I rise on a matter of privilege. As I have been informed that certain A.L.P. members of this Parliament make noises "oink, oink" when passing policemen on duty in the corridors, is there any way in which these policemen can be protected from such exhibitions of juvenile loutism?

Mr. HOUSTON: I rise to a point of order. I strongly object to the privilege of this House being used by the honourable member for Townsville South to make such a scurrilous, filthy and lying statement. I point out that he has often got away with this sort of behaviour.

Mr. Aikens: I know that the Leader of the Opposition is wounded, but—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The Leader of the Opposition has raised a point that I intended to make myself. It is—or should be—beneath the dignity of any member of this Parliament to use the privilege of this House to score political points, particularly, as the Leader of the Opposition has described them, untrue political points, off any other member of the House. I will not tolerate such behaviour.

DEATHS OF Mr. H. J. DAVIES AND
Mr. J. W. HADLEY

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE

Hon. J. BJELKE-PETERSEN (Barambah—Premier) (11.48 a.m.), by leave, without notice: I move—

"1. That this House desires to place on record its sense of the loss this State has sustained by the death of Horace Jason Davies, Esquire, lately serving as member for the electoral district of Maryborough; and expresses its appreciation of the services rendered to this State by the late James William Hadley, Esquire, former member of the Parliament of Queensland.

"2. That Mr. Speaker be requested to convey to the widows and relatives of the deceased gentlemen the above resolution, together with an expression of the sympathy and sorrow of the members of the Parliament of Queensland in the loss they have sustained."

The death of Horrie Davies on 4 June last, which removed from this Parliament one of its longest-serving members, came as a shock to all members of the House.

The late gentleman became the representative of the electoral district of Maryborough following a by-election on 28 November 1953, and he had served continuously from that date.

Horrie Davies held the confidence of his party colleagues, who appointed him Opposition Whip in 1960. In that role he co-operated with his counterparts on this side of the House to facilitate the smooth running of parliamentary business.

Aside from parliamentary duties, Mr. Davies was prominent in many community activities for which he earned the respect of numerous people, including many who did not share his political views.

Before his election to Parliament he had been a State school teacher for many years and had taught in Brisbane, and also in Kingaroy, where I first came to know him. In those days he represented the Australian Labor Party on all occasions and was their scrutineer or the person in charge of this work on election day, as I was on behalf of the Country Party. It was during that time, and in that way, that I first came to know the late Mr. Davies. He also taught, of course, at Maryborough.

Mr. Davies took an active interest in many Maryborough organisations. He was zone president of the Wide Bay National Fitness Club and patron of the Maryborough and Hervey Bay Blue Nursing Service, which he helped to form. He was also its representative on the State council.

As a youth he was a versatile athlete and during his adult years he gave the benefit of his administrative ability to sporting bodies, notably to golf and foot-running.

Like all people of Welsh descent, Mr. Davies believed that music gave health to the soul. He was a musician of wide accomplishment. His influence in the promotion of music as a medium of culture and entertainment has left its mark in the schools where he taught, and particularly in Maryborough, where he formed that city's choral society in 1953 and became its first conductor.

I also wish to pay tribute to the memory of another esteemed member of this House, namely, James William Hadley, who died on 16 July at the age of 78 years. The late James Hadley represented the electorate of Nundah from 19 May 1956 to 2 August 1957, succeeding Frank Edward Roberts, Esquire.

Veterans who remember Jim Hadley during his 14 months in our midst will be saddened at the loss of a sincere Queenslander who devoted himself unsparingly to the welfare of his electors. Before entering politics, Jim Hadley was a construction foreman who was admired both for his sense of fair play and for his regard for those under his care. During World War II he served his country in a civilian capacity on essential employment with the American armed forces temporarily domiciled on these shores. Later, at an age when many men would look forward to the comforts of retirement, Jim Hadley embarked on a political career that was to earn him the respect of his fellows, irrespective of their party persuasions. Before entering the Queensland Parliament, he served two terms in the House of Representatives (from 1943 to 1949), as member for Lilley.

Modesty was one of the late gentleman's admirable attributes. He made few speeches in this House, characteristically preferring to let others assume command. "Actions speak louder than words" might well have been his philosophy, for he tackled many formidable tasks without complaint. His persistent advocacy on behalf of his electorate endeared him to a strong following in the northern suburbs community.

Mr. Hadley's colleagues will remember him as a tireless worker associated with numerous worthwhile causes, unquestionably loyal to his party, and ever ready to help a lame dog over a stile. He was keenly interested in sport and youth welfare, and was a generous benefactor of organisations that promoted these activities. To his bereaved widow and relatives, the members of this House convey their profound sympathy.

I commend to the House this tribute to departed colleagues who served the Parliament and the people of Queensland with credit.

Mr. HOUSTON (Bulimba—Leader of the Opposition) (11.54 a.m.): I wish to second this motion of condolence. Although I had met Mr. Hadley, I cannot say that I actually knew him as his term in this Parliament preceded my election in 1957. In fact, it was

at that election that he ceased to be a member of this House. However, what the Premier has said we know to be true, and I join the Opposition with the extending of sympathy to those whom Mr. Hadley has left behind.

Mr. Hadley was one of the exceptions in the field of parliamentary representation, as he served in both the State and the Federal Parliaments. Not many people enjoy such a privilege. It is considered by some people that once one has served in the Federal Parliament, one has no place in the State Parliament. However, I believe that there is a place in the State Parliament for someone who has had experience in the Federal sphere, and I believe also that men with experience in the State Parliament are badly needed in the Federal Parliament.

Mr. Hadley had the good fortune to survive many of his colleagues and live to the age of 78 years. That indicates that he had a long period in retirement, and I believe that he was able to enjoy it fully.

As the Premier has said, our former colleague Horrie Davies was well known to all of us. I spoke to Horrie in hospital a few days before his passing, and I realise now that, in keeping with his nature, he made every effort possible to put on a very brave and happy front. Unfortunately, I left him with the impression that everything would be all right and performed the duties that he and I had arranged previously. I assure the House that it came as a great shock to me to hear of his death and to realise that I had seen him when, perhaps, he rallied temporarily before finally passing away.

To my knowledge, Horrie Davies had no enemies. There were those who liked him tremendously; there were those who liked his company; there were those, as the Premier said, who disagreed with his politics. That is the way of a democracy, and I do not think anyone can truthfully say that he did not like Horrie as a person. As a husband, he will certainly be missed by his wife; as a father and grandfather, he will be missed by those near and dear to him.

In this Chamber, Horrie Davies was the Labor Party's shadow Minister for Education for some time. Those who heard him speak in the House will realise that the whole of his life in Parliament was centred round people in the field of music, the arts and education. He dedicated himself to that field, and I believe that his dedication to his work contributed in some way to his early passing. If he had taken things easily, particularly during the recent session of Parliament, the final attack might have been postponed. Perhaps it is not for us to judge that, but I know that at times when I thought that he was too ill to be present or to stay in the Chamber. I received a flat refusal when I broached the subject of his leaving. He said that as long as he could walk or be carried, he would be in the

House when he was required. I do not believe that any member of Parliament could devote more of his life or his time than did Horrie Davies to the occupation that he followed.

Much more could be said—I know that other members will wish to say a few words—but at this stage I merely say on behalf of the Opposition that we will miss Horrie Davies tremendously. We extend our very deep sympathy to his widow, Ruby, and the other members of the Davies family. His loss will be felt greatly, but we will always cherish our memories of him.

Hon. SIR GORDON CHALK (Lockyer—Treasurer) (12 noon): As leader of the Liberal Party in this House, I should like to associate myself with this motion of condolence. Although I have said it frequently in this Chamber, I again say that when the House resumes after either a short or a long period of recess it is unfortunate that usually we have a motion of condolence to the relatives of one or more deceased members. This is an indication, I believe, of the fact that those who serve in this Parliament rarely enjoy a long period outside the Parliament after they have retired. When the motion concerns serving members it is an indication of the amount of effort that is expended and the toll that is taken of the lives of those persons.

Too many people regard life in State Parliament as something that is not active; they entirely overlook the fact that serving members have many calls on their time and that they are under a certain amount of tension, both inside and outside the House, because of the needs of their constituents.

I served in this Chamber with the two gentlemen who have now passed on. I echo the sincerity of the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition in regard to Horace Davies. In cross-firing across the Chamber there are many occasions when we all say things that perhaps we would not say in other places. Irrespective of what had been said inside the Chamber, outside the Chamber there was no-one who could be more friendly, and there was no-one who more desired to maintain good harmony amongst members, than Horace Davies.

On behalf of his electorate of Maryborough, he would advance many proposals. If he believed it was something that should be done he always indicated that he wanted it done. On the other hand, if it was something that was probably an impossibility, he did not weaken in his argument but asked for an examination of the proposal and an answer that would enable him to explain the position to his constituents.

I remember James Hadley, although he was only here for a brief period. As has been said, he, too, was a man of sincerity.

My purpose in rising was to associate the members of my party with this motion of condolence to the widows and families of those who have departed.

Mr. TUCKER (Townsville North) (12.4 p.m.): I, too, wish to associate myself with this motion of condolence, particularly with respect to the passing of the late Horrie Davies. The Australian Labor Party is much the poorer for the passing of such a dedicated member. The House itself has lost an outstanding member, as has been said by the leader of the Liberal Party, and the electorate of Maryborough has lost an able and very dedicated advocate.

As I speak today I feel a deep personal sense of loss because I, too, have lost a very good friend.

I will always remember how Horrie Davies came north in 1959 to lend a hand in the electorates we were contesting at that time, particularly Townsville North, where I had begun my first campaign. I was immediately impressed by his quiet dignity and ready, warm smile—we will all remember that—together with his clarity of thought. Those were my first impressions of the man.

Horrie Davies had a knack, which is not given to every man, of being able to get to the kernel of any argument. He could be disconcertingly frank when he believed it was necessary to be. Although he had a quiet manner, he also possessed the tenacity of a bulldog when he believed his cause was just. On many occasions in this House I have listened to him with admiration when he has fought clause after clause of a Bill on behalf of the citizens of Maryborough, continuously displaying his habitual tenacity of purpose. I firmly believe that this tenacity of purpose and his dedication led him to work far beyond the norm and that his life was shortened as a result of this and the pressures and tensions that arose generally in his work for the citizens of Maryborough.

To his wife, Ruby, his daughter, Gwen, and her husband and family, and to all his other relatives, I personally offer my deepest sympathy.

Mr. SHERRINGTON (Salisbury) (12.7 p.m.): I join in the expressions of those who have already spoken on this motion of condolence. While the late Mr. Hadley was not known to me personally, he was known to me in a political sense. I well recall that prior to his election to the Commonwealth Parliament it was felt that his chance of winning the seat was rather remote, but he confounded the experts and in fact served two terms in that parliament before being elected to this House.

As other speakers have mentioned, his contributions in this Chamber were made in a quiet and sincere manner. It was possibly because of his quiet sincerity in making representations on behalf of his electors that his name went somewhat unnoticed. This often occurs when a member does not play a prominent part in the broad political arena.

The late Horace Jason Davies was better known to me, particularly since I entered this House in 1960, and I feel very honoured at having been selected by my party to fill the vacancy caused by his passing. I am quite sure that the manner in which he filled the position of Whip will be an inspiration to me in the time ahead.

Horrie Davies was a man of great sincerity and dedication and I think the simple message in his bereavement notice typifies the ideals of the man. I remind honourable members that the request was that there be no flowers but that instead, a donation be made to the Maryborough and Hervey Bay Blue Nursing Service. That was the typical sort of action that demonstrated the type of person Horrie Davies was.

On several occasions I had the opportunity, while in Maryborough, of visiting his home and spending some time there. Anyone who was fortunate enough to do this could not help but observe the number of people from all walks of life who came to his home for advice on a great variety of matters ranging from sport to others of a more serious nature and who departed reassured by his advice. This again exemplifies the honour in which he was held and the dignity he displayed as the representative of the Maryborough electorate.

I conclude by saying again that I wish to associate myself with the expressions of sympathy to the two widows and families concerned, and I hope that the passing of time will lessen the grief that they are no doubt suffering at this moment.

Mr. AIKENS (Townsville South) (12.10 p.m.): I have previously referred to the matter that was touched on by the Treasurer, and I do not wish to labour the point. However, as he has said, one of the most pleasant features in our lives as members of this Assembly is that the two facets of our endeavours—namely, what we do as politicians and what we do as individuals—are sharply divided; and so they should be. Another pleasant aspect of being a member of this Assembly is that if a certain member has some special knowledge that is not held by other members, any one of us can go to him and obtain the benefit of his special knowledge. I have gone to members on both sides of the House on matters about which they know more than I do.

The late Horrie Davies was a very talented musician, and, like all people who love music, he was quite eager to share his knowledge with anyone who desired the benefit of it. I am going to tell a story about Horrie Davies because it is a humorous one that only he and I knew about.

For some years I had done some singing in the eisteddfod movement, but with only very moderate success. When I entered public life I gave away the singing of solos. However, some years ago—I think it was towards the end of the 1950's or in the

early 1960's—buoyed up with delayed exuberance, I decided to have another go at solo singing in the bass solo at the Mackay Eisteddfod. I remember very well that the solo was "Mighty Mammon". However, I could not buy the sheet music for that song in Townsville, so on one of my trips to Brisbane to attend Parliament I bought it in this city. I happened to show it to Horrie—as a matter of fact, I deliberately showed it to him—and we sat down and studied it. I suppose that anyone who walked past and did not know it was a sheet of music would have thought there was some fifth-column work going on between Horrie and me in studying a Bill. However, anyone who knows anything about eisteddfod music knows that the interpretation of a song is the most vital aspect of it.

I notice that the Minister for Local Government and Electricity is listening intently. He, too, is a very talented musician. Anyone who has not heard him play the Piano Concerto in A Minor by Grieg has not heard good music—but that is by the way.

After Horrie had looked at the music he gave me some tips as to the particular interpretation I should adopt. But, because I had developed a mind of my own over the years, I thought about it and said to myself, "No, Horrie is all wrong, I am not going to interpret the song his way, but my way"—and I did. Of course, I did not win the eisteddfod. From my point of view the adjudicator's remarks were satisfactory—but this is the point, and this was the quiet joke that Horrie Davies and I had between ourselves: by some amazing coincidence, or possibly because both Horrie Davies and the adjudicator were better musicians than I am—one does not have to be a good musician to be better than I am—the remarks that the adjudicator wrote about me as his reason for not awarding me higher marks than I received were exactly in line with the advice that Horrie Davies had given me. In fact, if I had taken Horrie's advice and applied his interpretation to the solo I would have been the winner instead of the loser. Since then Horrie would pass me in the corridor and, in his very quiet and unostentatious way, say, "It's about time you started to take my advice. You have already had one good lesson, you know." That was the little joke we had between us. I regret his passing. He was an excellent fellow with very many fine personal characteristics.

I knew Mr. Hadley for the short time that he was in the Chamber. He always impressed me as a very dignified Labor man of the old school—a very nice old chap—and we all got on very well with him.

I wish to add my condolences to those already expressed to the widows and children, and all the relatives, of the late Mr. Davies and the late Mr. Hadley.

Mr. BLAKE (Isis) (12.16 p.m.): Very briefly, but most sincerely, I wish to join with previous speakers in paying tribute to Mr. Davies. I did not know Mr. Hadley, but I knew Mr. Davies as a colleague, a neighbour and a friend. He was unstinting in his assistance to me as, indeed, he was to everybody. The most outstanding characteristic of this unassuming man has been referred to by previous speakers, namely, his great tenacity. I remember the occasion that was responsible for the rapid deterioration in his health, and I refer to a very charitable exercise in which he took part, namely, a walkathon for the Blue Nursing Service, over a distance of 16 miles. He was then suffering from Hong Kong flu, and it became quite obvious to me after the first couple of miles that he should have been home in bed. My entreaties and those of others did not deter him from fulfilling his objective to walk the full distance, which he eventually did. However, from that point there was a continuing, noticeable deterioration in his health.

He brought the same determination and tenacity to his service to the community. He was a leader in civic affairs and in cultural, charitable and sporting organisations in the City of Maryborough. Although his health was obviously failing, he would leave here in the middle of the week and journey to Maryborough so that he could carry on his beloved work with the choral society. The entreaties of his family and others concerned about his health fell on deaf ears.

Tenacity is often found in people, but seldom in a person with such a lovable personality as Horrie had. It gives me a feeling of privilege to be able to subscribe to the tributes paid by previous speakers and to extend to his loved ones condolences in their great loss.

Motion (Mr. Bjelke-Petersen) agreed to, honourable members standing in silence.

GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to report that His Excellency the Governor, on Tuesday, 27 July, delivered to Parliament an Opening Speech of which, for greater accuracy, I have obtained a copy. I presume honourable members will take the Speech as read?

Honourable Members: Hear, hear!

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Mr. MULLER (Fassifern) (12.20 p.m.), who was received with Government "Hear, hears!", said: I move—

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

'May it please Your Excellency:—

'We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislature

of Queensland, in Parliament assembled, desire to assure Your Excellency of our continued loyalty and affection towards the Throne and Person of our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to tender our thanks to Your Excellency for the Speech with which you have been pleased to open the present session.

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

I am deeply conscious of the privilege afforded me in formally moving the adoption of the Address in Reply.

In my opinion, all Queenslanders have a perfect right to demand from their representatives in this Parliament their sincere and honest attempts to maintain our way of life, to provide the environment for some improvement in the future, and, above all, to make a contribution, by example, to the maintenance of law and order within this State and this Commonwealth.

I have always claimed to be a modest person who has not been regarded as one of either note or notoriety. I say simply, as a member of the political organisation I represent and having discussed this aspect with many people in that organisation, that I am disturbed at the rebellious attitude adopted by certain people in our community. These people are asking me what has happened to the citizens of Australia.

From my observations during the past three weeks, we must be deeply concerned at the attitudes that have been adopted, and any person who considers himself a decent Australian must record the incidents of recent weeks with a considerable amount of shame. In many cases the public has lost sight of some of the facts surrounding the Springbok tour. These people were selected on their sporting ability to visit this country as footballers and ambassadors from their own country. I cannot imagine in my wildest dreams why a campaign of hatred should have been whipped up against them.

First of all, there was the participation of a character known as Mr. Hawke, who is president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions. He triggered off almost a riotous situation throughout Australia prior to the arrival of the Springboks. In a country such as Australia, which has been peaceful for so many years, it is deplorable to find in our community people who will whip up a campaign of hatred. This is not acceptable to any decent citizen.

Incidentally, after creating the elementary aspects of his mischief, Mr. Hawke saw fit to get on a plane and, in a cowardly way, leave this country. However, despite his actions, the police were able to maintain complete control of the situation in the

southern States. When a Queensland visit by the South Africans was planned, certain elements here, at the instigation of Mr. Hawke and with some support from their colleagues in the southern States, decided to direct their attention to Queensland.

As I see it, the facts appear to have eluded many people. When it was planned that the South Africans should fly to Queensland, the unions decided to restrict transport operations. The Commonwealth Government decreed that the tour would continue despite the actions of these rebellious minority groups, even if it became necessary to use the Air Force to ensure that the South Africans arrived in Queensland.

Subsequently, the Springboks arrived. A statement was then made at the Trades Hall by Mr. Egerton, who deliberately went out of his way to threaten the owner of the Tower Mill Motel, where the gentlemen from South Africa were to be accommodated. However, the motel-owner was not inclined to become concerned about this issue. He said, "All right. We will accept the challenge. We will carry on," and I am certain that at that time he was offered police protection. At a later stage, on security grounds, certain playing fields were made unavailable. This situation was brought about by the attitude and actions of irresponsible trade unions, acting in the interests of a minority group. Never has such a situation been acceptable to the people of Australia, and I feel certain that it never will be. At that point of time, the Premier saw fit to protect the people of Queensland, and the players themselves, by declaring a state of emergency.

Mr. Marginson: Was that the only way he could have done it?

Mr. MULLER: Under the circumstances, that was the only sensible way it could have been done, without considerable difficulty and risk.

As a result of emerging facts, such action was absolutely essential for the maintenance of law and order in this State, Mr. Whitrod, the Commissioner of Police, was obliged to mobilise the Police Force almost within the city of Brisbane. The Transport Workers' Union, together with the Trades Hall group, then saw fit to prevent the movement of police officers by rail from northern areas to Brisbane. This is without doubt an intolerable situation, and one that will not under any circumstances be accepted by the people of Queensland, or of any other part of Australia.

The actions of the police in the handling of situations that have arisen have been bitterly criticised and attacked by members of the Australian Labor Party. People who have fairly observed recent happenings have told me they salute the members of the Queensland Police Force for their handling of the

difficult situation in which they became involved. After all, the police were not to know where the demonstrators would strike next. That was part of the campaign of the demonstrators, and the police had to be completely mobile.

We, as representatives of the public, asked the police to accept the responsibility of being on duty, maintaining law and order, and protecting the public. They were expected also to receive graciously the abuse hurled at them by irresponsible demonstrators. Such abuse was not a realistic approach to the problem. After a number of the rebellious people had been arrested, a newspaper report stated that, of 43 arrested, 30 had been charged with the use of obscene language. If honourable gentlemen opposite—if I may refer to them as “gentlemen”—believe that such an attitude is acceptable to the people of Queensland, I am ashamed to be associated with them. From the information available to me, and also from statements made by the Leader of the Opposition in the House in the initial stages of this session, it appears that the Opposition supports completely the attitude being adopted by the demonstrators. If that is the policy of the Australian Labor Party, I say to honourable members opposite and those who ally themselves with them, “You are responsible for creating in this community the equivalent of a reeking cancerous affliction.”

In my opinion, and in the opinion of other thinking people, the demonstrations have never been a direct attack on apartheid. They have been a direct attack by the unions in this country in an attempt to destroy constitutional government. They have failed miserably, and no doubt honourable members opposite will fail similarly in the future. I commend the Premier for his action, and the people of Queensland say two words—“Thank you”—to him in the circumstances and are deeply appreciative of the action that has been taken. Many challenges have been made to the legality of the declaration of a state of emergency, but yesterday the court indicated that it supported the action of the Queensland Government in this direction.

I firmly believe that members of the Australian work-force—I am not pandering to them when saying this—are equal to or better than the best in any part of the world.

Mr. Davis: You believe in a 70-hour week.

Mr. MULLER: A Country-Liberal Government introduced the 40-hour week, as the honourable member no doubt remembers. This gives the ambitious worker the opportunity to take two jobs if he is desirous of improving his position in the community.

I believe that the Australian workers are disturbed at being forced by the trade unions to strike on frivolous issues of all types. In my electorate during the past couple of weeks I have spoken to many people who

have been disturbed by the attitude of union representatives. I received a telephone call from a man who resides in my electorate and works in the Ipswich Railway Workshops. He said, “I am a carriage-builder. There are 12 men in my group, and all but one of them were completely and utterly opposed to the illegal strike that occurred last Wednesday.” I have spoken to many other people employed in the workshops and they have all indicated a similar attitude. For the sake of law enforcement, sooner or later it will be necessary to provide for compulsory secret strike ballots so that the rights of the decent, honest citizens, who are the workers of our State, can be protected.

The same agitators have incited a number of young people at the Queensland University to participate in this illegal action. Without making any attempt to protect persons who are breaking the law or committing wrongful acts against society, I say that these young people have very immature minds and are not completely aware of the problems that can arise by affiliating themselves with such people. They have been whipped up into a state of frenzy and have been clearly informed that what they are doing is morally good and of benefit to all the people of Australia, particularly to those coloured persons who reside in our midst.

Mr. Aikens: They lie down with dogs, and then they wonder why people think they have fleas.

Mr. MULLER: Perhaps that is true.

I know I may not have the complete support of every honourable member, but I have attempted to keep an open mind on this matter. Over the last couple of days I have noted through the medium of television the remarks of the Vice-Chancellor of the Queensland University, Professor Zelman Cowen. He is confronted with a particularly difficult situation at the moment, and we are appreciative of his efforts. I do not know the solution to his problems. He indicated recently that he did not know at this point of time what was in store for him. He was greatly disturbed at the attitude being adopted by certain people, and he wanted to contain it. However, he did not want to jeopardise other staff members and students at the university who were not adopting this undesirable attitude.

Mr. Aikens: He wanted to fight, but he did not want to shape up.

Mr. MULLER: Maybe he did, but perhaps he did not know how to. I say respectfully to the honourable member for Townsville South that there may be some people in the community who have not had the pugilistic training that he has had.

In fairness to Professor Zelman Cowen and the other students, let me say that any action this Government may take to strengthen the authority of Professor Cowen would be well and truly justified, and certainly appreciated

by the people of this State. We have to be realistic. My figures may not be quite up to date, but I understand that there is an enrolment of approximately 17,000 students at the Queensland University.

Mr. Aikens: With 5,000 of them taking Arts.

Mr. MULLER: I do not know who is doing what. The fact of the matter is that there are 3,500 people there who are revolting against constitutional authority. The remaining 13,000 to 14,000 are attempting to do the right thing in acquiring the knowledge which, in the future, will enable them to become good and useful citizens. I commend them for this.

One of the main difficulties associated with union disruption of industry, as I see it, is the fact that it interferes with the fight we in this country are constantly waging against inflationary trends. When people are called out on strike illegally, the losses comprise not only their wages but also production. I admit that this is not the only cause of the problem, but it certainly does not help those who are endeavouring to rectify the difficult economic situation in which the people and the Government of this State find themselves at the moment.

Mr. Aikens: Do you know that many workers do not know a strike has been called until they get to work?

Mr. MULLER: That is quite true. They then have to return home, losing not only their day's pay but their transport costs as well. In my opinion honourable members opposite cannot expect people within the union movement to remain loyal to them unless the current attitude is changed. I state unequivocally to members of the A.L.P. in this Parliament that unless the reign of these union officers is checked, it will be a case of God help us.

Mr. Casey: Now tell us something about the state of the rural economy.

Mr. MULLER: I thank the honourable member. I am turning to that immediately. The rural economy today is in a very depressed state. I have engaged in primary production all my life, with the exception of a few years when, like millions of other people, I was in the services. Since I have been a member of this Parliament, I have not participated quite as actively as I formerly did. However, I feel that this is one set of circumstances about which I know something. Unlike many members of the Opposition who are aware of the difficulties but know nothing of the answers, I appreciate the difficulties facing primary industry today and believe that people who have dedicated their lives to working the land are justly entitled to support and assistance from the people of this State and the Commonwealth. Our export markets have fallen to a level far below the cost of production. Tremendous assistance has been forthcoming by way of subsidies,

not only from the State Government but also from the Commonwealth Government. Many arguments are submitted in support of subsidies and many may be submitted in complete opposition to them, but I know that, as a result of the Commonwealth Government's desire to assist the dairy industry, subsidies amounting to \$46,000,000 annually have been paid. This, I think, is substantial assistance.

I have listened to many Opposition members contending that we have to get out and find other markets. In view of the efforts that have been made, this is one of the most nauseating suggestions that could be advanced by any member of a State or Commonwealth Parliament. The potential of our export markets is constantly being assessed by leaders within our primary industries. They have been doing nothing else for the past 20 years or more.

Getting back to dairying, I should like to support my argument with statistics. These can never be completely accurate, but the most up-to-date figures I have suggest that last year Australia produced 220,000 tons of butter. Local and export markets were found for approximately 200,000 tons. As indicated by members of the Opposition, the remaining 20,000 tons had to be sold to South-east Asia and Japan, for a net return to the dairy farmer of 7c a lb.

Honourable members opposite tell us, "Go out and find markets. Our future is in Asia." Perhaps it is, but, by heavens, if it is, those figures do not indicate a prosperous future. Anyone who suggests that there is an immediate future for our products in Asia is either mentally retarded or ignorant, or both.

Mr. Aikens: Did Gough Whitlam put it up to Chou En-lai or Mao Tse-tung?

Mr. MULLER: I am coming to that in a moment. Mr. Whitlam made his abortive attempt to sell Australian surplus wheat to Red China. Apart from a great number of Press reports about Mr. Whitlam's diplomatic negotiations, his accomplishments so far have been negative.

Mr. Aikens: He did not know they had an American in the next room ear-wiggling.

Mr. MULLER: No, perhaps he did not. The fact is that the Red Chinese will buy our wheat only when the price is right and they are in need of it. Until that time there is no possible hope of our selling further quantities of wheat to Red China.

Probably the most capable group of people in the field of marketing are those associated with the Australian Wheat Board. If, after 20 to 30 years' experience, they cannot negotiate sales of our primary products to Red China, Mr. Whitlam certainly cannot, and he has proved that he is only wasting his time.

If Mr. Whitlam's mission to Red China served any purpose at all, I suggest it was only to inform Red China why they did not receive all the rams purchased from Australia last year. For those Opposition members who are still not completely aware of the full facts, I point out that last year Australian wool producers negotiated the sale of pure-bred rams to Red China, but the Australian trade unions decided that such a sale would be bad for the Australian wool industry and that the rams would not be loaded. What a lot of tripe! And those unions are of the same political colour as the people who attempt to get on the band wagon by going to Red China and suggesting they have the capacity to sell Australian wheat to that nation. I remind honourable members that the ban was placed on the sale of rams last year; yet as recently as last week further ram sales were held in the southern part of New South Wales and, although international buyers attended, they were not prepared to make any purchases because they were informed that the ban imposed by the unions still applied. How can we possibly get round our difficulties when certain people adopt these irresponsible attitudes.

Last year Queensland's wool sales netted our wool producers only 28.40c a lb. There has been a great deal of speculation as to what is the present cost of production of wool and what is an economic price. Of course, that would be influenced by drought. Many people to whom I have spoken have claimed that it would be in the vicinity of 40c a lb. The Commonwealth Government, in its desire to assist and rehabilitate wool producers, decided to subsidise wool prices up to approximately 36c a lb. However, that is not the complete answer to the problem. If world prices do not improve, the cost of such a subsidy will be in excess of \$100,000,000.

As recently as last week a grazier who was in a very depressed state of mind because of the circumstances under which he had been obliged to live for the past 10 years—and there is certain justification for his depression—claimed that the subsidy was of no real advantage to primary producers, that it was merely an export subsidy.

We can take that statement whichever way we like, but I say that but for this subsidy the Australian wool-growers would be \$100,000,000 a year worse off. In the circumstances there is considerable merit in the plan and it will be of great advantage to those engaged in this primary industry.

Mr. Aikens: The main thing is to keep these people on the land and stop the drift to the city.

Mr. MULLER: That is true.

Many statements have been made relative to tariff protection for manufacturing industry as against subsidy for primary industry. Professor Masterman, lecturer in Agricultural Science and Economics at the New

England University, extracted interesting figures from the Commonwealth of Australia Year Book for 1970. They show that the amount paid in tariff protection, if transferred to employees in manufacturing industry, would represent \$1,214 per man annually, and that the subsidy paid to primary industries, if allotted to employees in those industries, would represent \$1,100 per man. There is not a great difference between the two amounts but I gravely doubt that manufacturing industries would accept a reversal of them.

As a result of his analysis, Professor Masterman pointed out that for every \$1,000 invested in the protection of manufacturing industries we gain export earnings of only \$228 and that for every \$1,000 invested in subsidising primary industries the gain in export earnings is \$3,466. Obviously there is still some merit in primary producer subsidies. I therefore recommend that the powers that be examine this matter fully.

A few moments ago the member for Townsville South indicated that if we could rehabilitate local primary industries we could, to a large degree, prevent the population drift to the cities. The Government's action in the field of regional planning has considerable merit, but many difficulties have to be ironed out before we reach a satisfactory solution to the problem. Although figures from the recent census have not yet been published, I have been advised that in the last 10 years my locality, which is virtually a suburb of the City of Brisbane, has experienced a rural population decline of about 20 per cent. That is having a tremendously adverse effect on the economy of the district, including that of our local authorities. The people engaged in rural production in an area provide the necessary revenue to cover local authority plans for the immediate future. With the loss of these people the local authorities are deprived of essential finance.

When we undertake regional planning we should assess the potential of such localities. The establishment of industry outside the metropolitan area would be advantageous, and the decentralisation of our heavier industries, which discharge all types of liquid, solid and gaseous wastes, would alleviate many of our pollution problems. It is essential that such action be taken immediately, and it should be taken after consultation with local authorities, which have a tremendous wealth of local knowledge and could advise government bodies, through the Department of Industrial Development, on many of the advantages in their areas.

During the past few years we have been tremendously worried about local authorities. Their revenue has declined but their responsibilities have increased. I realise that I could embarrass the Government with many suggestions to rehabilitate local authorities. Government members—and Opposition members too—are fully aware of the difficult financial position confronting the State at the

moment, but local authorities cannot continue to function properly unless they receive additional assistance.

If they are not confronted with one problem associated with nature, they are confronted with another. We recently experienced a severe drought in Queensland, and later we had floods in some areas. Not far from Boonah an area with an average annual rainfall of 40 inches received 92 inches of rain between November last year and February this year. I was invited by the chairman of the local authority concerned to inspect some of the flood damage. Where a bridge had been, I saw only a slab of concrete in the middle of a 5-chain waterway. We are asking local authorities to overcome these situations, but they cannot do so without additional financial assistance from the Government, which I trust will be forthcoming.

A bone of contention with me for some time has been the necessity to have a long look at the present system of land valuation. I have quoted these figures before and they can be verified. Some valuations in the Beaudesert Shire have been increased by 1,200 per cent, while others have been reduced by 50 per cent. Persons who have resided in this locality have assessed the productive potential of those properties as being almost equal. How can the difference be justified? Developmental potential has been mentioned, but in this locality, with areas of 20,000 acres, this cannot be achieved in the foreseeable future. It may come about by the year 2000, yet these people are required to pay rates according to valuations based on potential. It is unfortunately true that, after an investigation lasting 12 months, the Department of Local Government has advised the local authority that it must adopt those valuations.

(Time expired.)

(Sitting suspended from 1 to 2.15 p.m.)

Mr. R. E. MOORE (Windsor) (2.15 p.m.): I desire to second the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, which was so ably moved by my friend and colleague the honourable member for Fassifern, and to congratulate him on the down-to-earth and magnificent way in which he opened this very important debate. Since he has been in this Parliament he has always been logical, compassionate and sound in judgment, and I wish him well in his political career.

Mr. Wright: He capitulates too easily.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: I shall have a word to say about the honourable member for Rockhampton South later.

On my own behalf, on behalf of my Liberal colleagues, and, indeed, on behalf of all Government members, I should like to say that we unanimously wish to record our sincere appreciation of the work of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alan Mansfield, and, through him, to express

loyalty to our monarch, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and to thank her for her unflinching efforts to keep the Commonwealth as one cohesive whole. When I was a child, people visiting Great Britain very frequently referred to the Mother Country as "Home". This is rarely heard today, which is more the pity. But, by and large, Australians as a whole have a great affection for royalty and the British way of life.

Sir Alan Mansfield has been the Queen's personal representative in this State since 21 March 1966. He is the second Queenslander to hold this high office, the first, of course, being Sir John Lavarack, who held the post from 1948 till 1958. As honourable members know, Sir Alan had a distinguished career as a jurist, rising to great heights in that profession to become Chief Justice of Queensland. Since his appointment as Governor, his inquiring mind and wide range of interests have taken him throughout Queensland. He has been to Bamaga, Aurukun and Weipa in the North. He has been to Boulia and other places with the flying doctor. He has shown an interest in coal-mining, and in copper, silver and zinc-mining at Mt. Isa. He has visited Lakeland Downs in the North, and cattle and sheep properties round Longreach, Winton and Charleville in the West. Indeed, there would be hardly a place in Queensland that he has not visited. He has shown a real interest in this State, and he is a worthy representative of the Queen. I shall not labour the point; it can be seen that he is a remarkable Queenslander, and we should be happy to have him as Governor.

If one refers to Volume XIII of "Hansard" and reads pages 5 and 6, which contain the Opening Speech of His Excellency the Governor, the Most Honourable George Augustus Constantine, Marquis of Normanby, Earl of Mulgrave, delivered on 8 November 1871, just 100 years ago, one will note that he drew the attention of the House to the necessity existing for increasing representation in this Colony. In effect, he was talking about a boundary change, and he stated that a Bill would be introduced for that purpose. It can therefore be seen that things have not changed very much since then.

His Excellency spoke also of the extension of telegraph communication (which, of course, is no longer a State responsibility), and the extension of the telegraph line to Normanton, which was then almost completed. He also mentioned delays in construction caused by attempts to buy steel poles because attack by white ants made wooden poles unsatisfactory.

He spoke also of water supply, and of the sugar industry, then in its infancy, and the building of sugar mills at Maryborough and Mackay. He spoke of copper and gold and of auriferous discoveries by prospectors similar to those being made today, and he placed some emphasis on the benefits that

would accrue to the State from an increase in the world market price of our mineral exports.

As I said, if one looks back 100 years, one sees that things have not changed greatly. We still have similar problems, although there are more of them. In those days they did not have the traffic problems of today; they did not have the industrial problems; they did not have the problems of affluence.

Mr. Houghton: They did not have people sitting down on roads.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: No, they did not. People were out building roads at that time. There were no university students marching on Parliament House and hurling abuse at the Premier, although I hasten to add that the university students who march are in a very small minority.

As you know, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the university institution is financed by the Government and also private sources. Many endowments and bequests are made to the university by private enterprise. If a situation of the type presently existing continues, I am afraid that the funds now available for universities will dry up. Pressure also is being exerted to some extent by members such as the honourable member for South Brisbane for certain action to be taken relative to the university, and proposals have been made that reduced funds should be made available if the present happenings recur. One of my Liberal colleagues has suggested that, in so far as the academic staff who are creating problems are concerned, the situation might be overcome if these persons were appointed for a set term of, say, three years or five years instead of for life. I do not know whether in fact it is a lifetime term, but those who are appointed seem to regard it as such. Honourable members will recall the situation that arose in Tasmania when Professor Sydney Sparkes Orr was dismissed. His post remained vacant until he was paid the amount of salary that he would have received for his full term of office. We have a problem; I hope we can do something about it.

The majority of university students are occupied with the job in hand, that is, studying for their degrees, doctorates, and so on. In the main, I am not critical of university students, but I am critical of the rat-bag element.

Mr. Wright: You are having "two bob" each way.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: No, I am not having "two bob" each way.

Mr. Wright: You are having a dollar each each way.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Hooper): Order!

Mr. R. E. MOORE: I shall now say a word or two about the trade union movement. In the main, trade unionists also are a very decent body of men and women; but at present they are being pushed round by union executives, and I shall have something more to say about that as I continue.

In my maiden speech, which was also in an Address-in-Reply debate, I mentioned certain schemes that I thought should be given effect to in legislation enacted for the benefit of trade unionists. Because I believed that there were, and would continue to be, anomalies in awards, I suggested that legislation should be enacted that would allow all unionists to be judged by the same yardstick. I suggested, for want of a better name, a points index or formula based, first of all, on a living wage. My suggestion was that so many points should be given for skill, so many for education necessary to carry out the job, so many for responsibility, proficiency, and so on, and that loadings should be given for danger, uncomfortable working conditions, noxious fumes and similar disabilities.

There would certainly be many factors in any position or vocation to be considered in evaluating its worth, but it could be done. If all the various occupations were so tabulated, it would be possible to devise a formula by which wage justice could be meted out. To a large extent there is wage justice today, but some people miss out and others are always trailing behind. As soon as they catch up, away goes the spiral of union after union applying to industrial tribunals or Public Service Boards for wage increases. Because of the pressure they can bring to bear, certain groups have their demands granted whereas others fail and again they are left behind. It is my view that as the gross national product is increased, so should all wages and salaries be increased; but not necessarily in the same proportion as applies today.

Mr. Newton: Peter Connolly adopted the same attitude originally, but the Government soon got him to change.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: Honourable members opposite were always looking for Peter Connolly to defend them when they were in trouble.

The system seems to be that he who hath shall receive and he who hath not shall miss out. I feel that to some extent that is the way the Industrial Commission operates today. Those who can present the better case—not necessarily the worthier case—obtain wage rises, whereas those who do not are refused increases.

I honestly believe that a request should be made to unions and employers to sit around a table and work out a formula they would be prepared to accept so that, when the economy could stand it, all sections would get a wage increase simultaneously. That would prevent the dog-chasing-its-tail

situation that exists today. We will never have industrial harmony while there are so many wage-fixing bodies, each bringing down judgments on conditions as they see them and not based on any particular formula. My main concern is for industrial harmony. This must be achieved if inflation is to be checked; that is, if what is happening today can be termed "inflation". I am not certain that it is inflation.

I should also like to see some stability in prices so that those on fixed incomes—pensioners, retired persons and rural producers—would not have their life savings whittled away by the inflationary spiral.

Mr. Wright: How are you going to achieve it?

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: If I could answer the honourable member for Rockhampton South—

Honourable Members interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Hooper): Order! I remind honourable members that the honourable member for Windsor has the floor. Interjections will be tolerated, but not conversations across the Chamber.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: In answer to the honourable member's question, let me say that if we go back in history we realise how common law was enacted. It was based upon judgments brought down by reasonable, wise men. Consequently, the common law we have today is fair and just. Industrial tribunals have not been functioning for so very long. The period of time I have been talking about covers hundreds of years. We just cannot wait hundreds of years for improvements in the industrial sphere. I have already suggested a formula. If there were some appropriate statute law it would speed up the situation. That would be far better than the present basis of precedent upon precedent which, in fact, the Industrial Commission considers when bringing down its judgments. I hope that answers the honourable member's question.

While dealing with unions and industrial matters generally, I want to talk about the situation presently existing during the South African Rugby Union tour. The Trades and Labor Council and the A.C.T.U. met and decided that because South Africa has a type of separate development programme with which the unions disagree, the trade union movement should call a State-wide strike. It was supposed to be treated as a matter of conscience, but when a unionist, in the exercise of his conscience, decides he wants to work, he is threatened with a fine of \$20 as well as the loss of a day's pay. I think that is a shocking state of affairs. Many unionists have told me that while they do not favour apartheid they feel that South Africa's internal problems are her own, and that it is not for Australian trade unions

to dictate policy resulting in a loss of over \$2,000,000 in wages and \$4,000,000 in production.

Mr. Bousen: They should have kept their footballers in South Africa.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I ask the honourable member for Toowoomba West to refrain from cross-firing. I have said I will allow interjections, but I will not tolerate cross-firing.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: If the unions had the interests of the community at heart, they could have helped by allowing their members to work on that day and donate portion of the day's wages to some worthwhile organisation such as the Cancer Fund, the Save the Children Fund or a fund for some other useful purpose, and thus have made a protest that would really be felt instead of staging the disorganised affair that it was.

I urge the Government to introduce legislation providing for secret ballots, with compulsory voting, for the election of union officers and before any proposed work stoppage takes place. If a strike then occurs, the Government, the Industrial Commission and the people generally will know that it is as a result of the genuine wish of union members. This would result in far fewer strikes with loss of pay and, if a stoppage did occur, we would know it was genuine and those involved would be given far more consideration than they are today.

Mr. Bromley: You did a lot of "scabbing" when you were in the railways.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: I have never in all my life seen a "scab" like the honourable member.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. R. E. MOORE: There is, in the main, little enough in the pay envelope of housewives who have children to feed, clothe and educate and who are committed to heavy hire-purchase loads. These women are placed in real difficulty as many householders have almost every dollar allocated. Let me say here and now that, in spite of what honourable members opposite say, I am not anti-union. I am still a member of the Electrical Trades Union, and I should like to inform the House of the manner in which unions work. I will cite a particular instance.

About three years ago the electricians in the Railway Department went on strike for better wages. It is my view that they had a just case, but that is beside the point. Some of them stayed out on strike for nine weeks before returning to work defeated. Some returned to work after six weeks and others after eight weeks. When those who remained out for the full nine weeks returned, they refused to work with their workmates who had returned to work earlier. These poor individuals had to find work elsewhere.

The unions stood over the Railway Department to the extent of putting a black ban on the men who had returned earlier, and they informed the Railway Department that if it employed them within two years they would not work with them. Honourable members can see from that how these things operate.

We often hear how hard the employer is supposed to be on the working man, but he never stands over the men in the way the unions do and he is not feared by the employee as the unions are. The unions could do something to bring about a better atmosphere which, in turn, would encourage more people to seek membership and not place them in the position that exists today of being forced to join or suffer the consequences of a black list. It is my view that every working man and woman should be able to withhold his or her labour in support of a claim for better wages or conditions, but workers should not be forced to strike on some political issue, such as the present one.

Mr. R. Jones: Did you agree with that electricians' strike?

Mr. R. E. MOORE: I felt that their strike was a legitimate one, but that, after a fortnight, when they saw that their case was hopeless, they would have gained more by returning to work than by remaining on strike. I told them so at the time.

It is regrettable that trade unions engage in politics. They would be much better off and would serve a much better purpose if they stuck to industrial issues and did not join in every crackpot show simply to try to embarrass the Government.

Quite often the trade unions quote article 20 (1) of the United Nations Bill of Rights, which says, "Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association," and article 20 (2), which says, "No-one may be compelled to belong to an association." However, the unions do not quote those articles when they force people into joining them against their will. On the one hand the trade unions quote the United Nations Bill of Rights, but on the other hand, when it suits them to do so, they simply turn a deaf ear. Every day the trade unions break the rule by their policy of compulsory membership of unions, even though the Act provides only for preference at the point of engagement. I hope that in the near future the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act will be amended to bring about some of the changes that I have mentioned.

I am still concerned, as I always have been, about the road toll, and I again urge motorists to reduce speed, both on the open highway and in the city. I would like to see motor-cars fitted with electrical governors based on the fail-safe principle. This could be done by embedding a conductor in the roadway or installing one at the side of the road and by having certain signals

emitted at set frequencies to activate an electrical device, which is in effect a radio with a relay, in a car when resonance occurs on the transmitted frequency. This in turn operates a governor. As I have said, if model aeroplanes can use this system so, too, should a car be able to use it. In the past I have proposed that all cars should be governed to a maximum speed of 60 miles an hour on the open road, 45 miles an hour in a 45-miles-an-hour zone, and 35 miles an hour in that speed zone. Whatever other factors cause death on the road, speed is the prime cause. In the past I have claimed that death was caused by either inattention and speed, carelessness and speed, drunkenness and speed, arrogance and speed, or by a driver giving his girlfriend a cuddle and a kiss at speed.

Mr. Houston: How do you do that?

Mr. R. E. MOORE: Recently, as I was driving down to the South Coast, I was passed by a car doing about 80 miles an hour, in which the driver had his arm around his girlfriend giving her a "smooch".

Mr. F. P. Moore: Who were you cuddling?

Mr. R. E. MOORE: No-one; but it certainly brought out one of my jealous streaks.

As I have said, whatever other factors may cause death on the road, speed is the prime cause. I claimed then, and I claim now, that speed is a common factor in almost all deaths on the road, although it is not necessarily responsible for all accidents.

Rather than incur unwarranted expense in implementing my previous suggestions, I now propose that a moratorium on speed be declared for two or three weeks. I should like the maximum speed to be reduced to 55 miles an hour, to be policed by every motorist who is passed by another who is driving faster than that. I should like such a speed limit imposed for a certain period so that we could analyse the results. We have imposed many restrictions on motorists in the form of the breathalyser, the points system and so on, but we have not yet had a reduction in the speed limit for a short period to analyse the results. An Order in Council is all that would be required to cover a period of two or three weeks. If the reduction in speed appeared to be effective, the Order in Council could be extended week by week. Speeds could later be increased in certain places where the roads are suitable, depending on the results.

Similar speed-limit reductions could be imposed in the suburbs during peak hours. In my electorate, cars travel along Lutwyche Road observing the speed limit, with the drivers jockeying for position. But the speed at which some cars are driven is far in excess of the drivers' vision and the braking ability of the vehicles. Many accidents have occurred on that road, and a number of pedestrians have been killed.

In Queensland, in the last 12 months 537 people have been killed on the roads. Of these, 233 were drivers, 156 were passengers, 22 were motor-cyclists, 13 were pedal-cyclists and 111 were pedestrians. In addition, 7,332 people were injured, some of them being crippled for life. Those figures may appear to be far higher than those for other States, but in Victoria it is not necessary to report a traffic accident if no-one is injured. When we compare statistics in such a situation, the comparison may not be valid.

I should like to see the right-of-way rule changed by our adopting the major and minor-roads system. If it is to be claimed that the cost of providing and erecting the necessary signs would be exorbitant, I say that the cost would be very small compared with the losses incurred in traffic accidents.

I ask the various local authorities to re-examine the concrete median strips constructed in their areas. I believe they are occupying too great an area of the road which otherwise could be used as actual driving surface.

The recent Maryborough and Merthyr by-elections provided the first opportunity for the people to vote on the principle of law and order. The people of Maryborough, confronted with a political strike last week, exercised their right, and Labor now has the result: Its candidate got the "chop". Opposition members should learn something from that lesson.

In his Opening Speech, the Governor referred to the Government's concern about farmers, dairy products, transport costs and rice and tea exports, its humane policy on leases and properties affected by drought, and assistance in growing crops such as soybean, sorghum and so on, which may have better sales. He dealt also with the acquisition of marginal dairy farms—I think 200 will be acquired this year—and said that additional sheep land would be made available to holdings which are at present economic. He then touched on dam construction and made particular reference to Glebe Weir, Fairbairn Dam, Beardmore Dam and the Bundaberg irrigation scheme.

He mentioned pollution control and noise pollution. I believe that the Governor does not prepare his own Opening Speech; that it is written for him. I join issue with the use of the words "noise pollution". It would be better to speak of noise nuisance or noise abatement than to speak of noise pollution, because the moment the sound disappears there is no more pollution and it is, therefore, not pollution in the true sense of the word.

He mentioned the clean air regulations and pointed out that the period of grace expires on 8 May 1972, so that we should see some improvement in the atmosphere, especially around Brisbane. I have not enough time to deal with all matters mentioned by His Excellency. He mentioned the harvesting of pulp wood and the establishment of a

particle-board factory in Brisbane and a second one eventually in Gympie. He also referred to a number of Bills, one to provide for the well-being of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders on the basis of consent. Many well-meaning people have spoken on this score, and I join issue with the comments of some of them. I returned recently from the Torres Strait islands. I had been there previously, but I wanted to see the islands I had not visited at that time. To give honourable members an idea of the present situation, I quote the following figures:—

Island	Total Population (includes children under 16 years)	Children under 16 years of age
Yam	117	54
Darnley	205	102
Murray	400	182
Saibai	162	78
Dauan	52	29
Boigu	193	88
Coconut	129	60
Mabuiag	167	90
Stephen	36	17
Badu	446	214

Badu is fairly prosperous. It earned \$200,000 in one year from the sale of live shell and pearl shell, but this activity has now fallen off.

These islands have small populations and no real natural resources. It is true that there could be some fishing, but in a 1971 economy, these people, when educated, will not be satisfied with that sort of existence. It will be like the bird in the drain. If the bird had not got out, it would have thought it was its whole world. If these people are not educated, they will be content with their lot on these islands. The higher the standard of their education, the greater will be the problem encountered. Saibai has 162 people, Boigu has 193, and Dauan has 52. Mr. Whitlam, on one of his tours of the North, decided that a line should be drawn somewhere up the middle of Torres Strait, and that the islands of Saibai, Boigu and Dauan should become part of New Guinea. I and other members spoke to the people on these islands, and they told us that under no circumstances did they want them to become part of New Guinea. They said to me, "We have been under the flag; we were born under the flag; and we wish to remain under the flag. Under no circumstances do we want our islands to become part of New Guinea." It appears that the Australian Labor Party would be only too happy to sacrifice that small number of people by saying, "They are nothing. They are expendable." I think that this is a shocking thing for any responsible person to say.

Mr. Knox: What does the member for the area think about it?

Mr. R. E. MOORE: I do not know. I should say that he would be out of step with his party, but he is not game to open his mouth.

We also visited Bamaga. As my time is running out, I shall deal with it quickly. The population of the Bamaga area is 1,034. In 1970-71 the Government spent \$400,000 on a water supply from the Jardine River, which is 10 miles away. An amount of \$21,000 was spent on a sawmill, and \$159,000 was spent on a power station. On a new jetty at Red Island Point, \$200,000 was spent. Bamaga has 380 head of stock, and an additional 75 are being obtained from Weipa. The island has good country, with red soil that will grow almost anything. Townsville stylo or lucerne grows in profusion. An area of 10,000 acres is also being developed with improved pastures.

On the hospital and school \$420,000 has been spent, and \$618,862 is being spent on the provision of a boarding school to accommodate 100 pupils.

Mention has been made of industrial development at Bamaga. I think that that, too, is very necessary. I should like to see a type of development at Bamaga, but not separate development with the South African connotation, which some people are placing upon it. I think it would be far better if there were integrated settlement at Bamaga, with both Europeans and Aborigines, as Aborigines would benefit from the knowledge that could be imparted to them.

I omitted to mention, as another example of the Government's humane attitude to Torres Strait Islanders, that a pregnant woman is taken to Thursday Island at 24 weeks of pregnancy, and there she remains till her baby is six weeks old. She is fed, clothed and cared for, and, if she has money, the cost is 90c a day. If she has no money, the cost is borne by the Department of Aboriginal and Island Affairs. That shows how humane the Government is. Torres Strait Islanders are given every opportunity to live very decent lives.

We often hear it said that the Aborigines were here first; that this is their country. If a person is born here, I say that this is his country. I say to anyone a little younger than I am that I have a little more say in this country than he has. If one speaks about being born somewhere or being there first, is one to say that Britain belongs to the Picts and the Scots? To whom does it belong? If one goes to Europe, is one to say that Europe belongs to those who came from Babylon or from ancient Greece?

(Time expired.)

Debate, on motion of Mr. Houston, adjourned.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

Hon. J. BJELKE-PETERSEN (Barambah—Premier): I move—

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

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 2.57 p.m.