

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

THURSDAY, 10 AUGUST 1972

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QUESTIONS UPON NOTICE

SPECIAL EXAMINATION UNDER PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION 88 (12)

Mr. **Houston**, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

(1) Under Public Service Regulation 88 (12), what subjects will be set for a special examination to determine order of merit?

(2) What number of candidates can be anticipated to undertake such examination in (a) 1972 and (b) 1973?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "The special examination for which provision is made in Public Service Regulation 88 (12) will take the form of an Australian Council for Educational Research, Canberra clerical aptitude test for which there is no requirement for any prescribed subjects. It is anticipated that 75 to 100 applicants will undertake the test in 1972 and a similar number in 1973."

MINERAL ROYALTIES

Mr. **Houston**, pursuant to notice, asked The Treasurer,—

Between July 1, 1971, and June 30, 1972, what total amount of royalties was received on the production of (a) coal, (b) bauxite, (c) copper, (d) lead, and (e) zinc?

Answer:—

"As the Honourable Member is probably aware, where rail transport of minerals over specially constructed or reconstructed railways is involved, the State return includes not only the royalty but the profit on the rail operation. Dealing with these factors separately, details of royalties have been obtained from the Mines Department in respect of the production of the minerals specified by the Honourable Member during 1971-72 as follows:—Coal, \$577,327; bauxite, \$561,798; copper, \$1,314,103; and lead and zinc, \$567,520. Separate figures for lead and zinc are not available. So far as rail haulage of minerals is concerned, the profit to the State from these specially constructed or reconstructed lines is estimated at approximately \$13 million for the year in question, after meeting operating expenses, interest on security deposits and refund of such deposits."

THURSDAY, 10 AUGUST 1972

Mr. **SPEAKER** (Hon. W. H. Lonergan, Flinders) read prayers and took the chair at 11 a.m.

ABSENCE OF QUESTIONS FROM BUSINESS PAPER

Mr. **SPEAKER**: Honourable members probably will have noticed that no questions appear on the Business Paper today. I understand that this is the result of industrial trouble at the Government Printing Office. Because of this, I shall call the number of the question and the name of the honourable member, who will then rise and direct his question to the appropriate Minister. I will then call the Minister. It is an unfortunate situation, but it is something over which I have no control.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table:—

- Regulations under—
- Builders' Registration Act 1971.
- Cemetery Act 1865.

GOVERNMENT WHIP

Hon. **J. BJELKE-PETERSEN** (Barambah—Premier): I inform the House that the honourable member for Landsborough, Mr. Michael Ahern, has been appointed Government Whip.

RESIGNATIONS AND RECRUITMENTS, POLICE FORCE

Mr. **Newton**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

(1) For each month from July 1, 1971, to June 30, 1972, what number of persons in each category of rank or appointment resigned from the Police Force?

(2) During the same period, how many persons were sworn in or recruited to the Force?

Answers:—

"I supply the information sought by the Honourable Member."

(1)— "RESIGNATIONS POLICE FORCE JULY 1, 1971 TO JUNE 30, 1972

—	Senior Sergeant	Sergeant 1/c	Sergeant 2/c	Senior Const.	Const. 1/c	Const.
July (14)	2	3	5	4
August .. (10)	1	2	2	5
September .. (2)	1	..	1
October .. (6)	3	1	2
November .. (3)	1	..	2
December .. (7)	1	2	..	4
January .. (4)	1	2	..	1
February .. (8)	2	2	4
March .. (8)	2	3	..	3
April .. (3)	1	2	..
May .. (5)	1	3	..	1
June .. (7)	2	1	4
Total .. 77	1	..	7	25	13	31 "

(2) "Recruitment, July 1, 1971, to June 30, 1972—cadets, 117; probationaries, 233. Persons sworn in, July 1, 1971, to June 30, 1972—188."

(3) "25 aged persons units were completed at Zillmere, Holland Park, Hawthorne and Mount Isa. Contracts have been let for a further 196 units of which 67 are near completion."

HOUSING COMMISSION RENTAL ACCOMMODATION AND AGED-PENSIONER UNITS

Mr. Newton, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

(1) How many applications in each points priority rating for rental accommodation are at present lodged with the Queensland Housing Commission in (a) the metropolitan area and (b) the remainder of the State?

(2) What is the present number of applications lodged with the Queensland Housing Commission for aged-pensioner units?

(3) What was the number of units made available as from July 1, 1971, to July 31, 1972 and where are they situated?

Answers:—

(1)—

" Points Priority	(a) Metropolitan at July 31, 1972	(b) Remainder of State at June 30, 1972
100	133	75
80	62	35
60	126	33
40	1,251	196
Nil	2,115	665 "

(2) "994."

OWNERS AND LICENSEES, MANHATTAN HOTEL, SOUTH BRISBANE AND PINEAPPLE HOTEL, KANGAROO POINT

Mr. Lane, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Justice,—

(1) Will he give the names of the present and the two preceding owners and licensees of the Manhattan Hotel, South Brisbane and the Pineapple Hotel, Kangaroo Point and the periods covered by such ownerships and licences?

(2) If such owners are registered companies, will he also give the names and addresses of the directors of each company?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "The owner of the Hotel Manhattan, South Brisbane, registered at the Licensing Commission on December 21, 1971, is M.C. Development Company Pty. Ltd. Previous owners were Manhattan Hotel Pty. Ltd. registered on August 15, 1967, and John Michael McGuire, Peter Dominic McGuire and Richard Patrick McGuire registered on March 30, 1950. The owners of the Pineapple Hotel, Kangaroo Point, registered on October 16, 1957, are Mrs. Rachael Catherine Colledge, Harold Franklyn Lavers and John Harold Walsh, Executors of the estate of Sydney Guthrie deceased. Previous owners were Sydney Guthrie registered on March 21, 1955 and Richard Warfe and Richard Williams registered on June 22, 1953. The licensee of the Hotel Manhattan since November 23, 1971, is M.C. Development Company Pty. Ltd. Previous licensees

were Manhattan Hotel Pty. Ltd. from December 12, 1967 and Peter Dominic McGuire from January 30, 1964. The licensee of the Pineapple Hotel since March 1, 1970, is Mrs. Elva May Murray. Previous licensees were Hugh William Bothwell from March 31, 1969 and Robert Charles Browne from May 1, 1966."

DRIVING LICENCE TESTS

Mr. Dean, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Transport,—

(1) Between July 1, 1971, and June 30, 1972, how many (a) males and (b) females aged 60 years or over failed in driving licence tests?

(2) Is the age of 60 being considered as the maximum for the issue or renewal of a licence to (a) private, (b) commercial, and (c) taxi-cab drivers and, if so, for what reasons?

Answers:—

(1) "This information is not available."

(2) "No."

EXPORT OF KANGAROO SKINS TO AMERICA

Mr. Hinze, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Primary Industries,—

(1) Are Americans buying professional shooters' licences, originally issued to Queenslanders, and then sending the skins of the kangaroos they shoot to America, thus by-passing the local tanneries, with all the consequential loss of revenue to the Government except for the licence fees?

(2) Is he aware that manufacturers of souvenirs such as toy koala bears, kangaroos, kangaroo-skin purses, bags and other items are finding it difficult to obtain good skins because most of them are now being sent to America?

(3) Has America prohibited the killing of most of its furred animals and is the only abundant supply of fur for souvenirs in the world to-day the kangaroo fur?

Answers:—

(1) "No. Permits to take open season fauna are not transferable."

(2) "No. There has been a substantial reduction in the number of marsupials taken over the past eighteen months leading to some tightening of supply to the toy trade, but mostly in relation to colours."

(3) "Most countries, including America, have accepted the need for a balance to be maintained between conservation and exploitation of their native fauna. Prohibition is normally adopted only in the case of endangered species and it may be, as the Honourable Member suggests, that

America's fur bearing fauna comprise in the main endangered species. The quality of both kangaroo leather and fur make it an ideal material for toys and souvenirs. See also Answer to (2)."

ESCAPE FROM CUSTODY OF PRISONER

R. R. W. GROOM

(a) Mr. Davis, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Tourism,—

With reference to the escape from custody of Richard Robert Walter Groom at Princess Alexandra Hospital on Sunday, August 6,—

(1) Did Groom receive treatment at the hospital before his escape and, if so, what was the result?

(2) Did he undergo the X-ray for which authority was given for his transport to the hospital and, if so, what was the result?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "Groom received treatment at the Princess Alexandra Hospital and had two stitches inserted for a cut in his finger. His hand was X-rayed but disclosed no fractures."

(b) Mr. Davis, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Tourism,—

(1) Has his attention been drawn to the serious allegations made by Mr. T. J. Wallace, Secretary of the State Service Union, concerning last Sunday's escape from custody of Richard Robert Walter Groom?

(2) Was only one prison officer assigned to escort Groom to hospital even though his form was marked "potentially dangerous"?

(3) Was the right hand of the prison officer handcuffed to Groom's left hand and is the prison officer involved a right-handed person?

(4) Was the prison van which transported Groom to hospital returned to the prison instead of awaiting the outcome of Groom's treatment?

(5) What was the commencement date of building of the hospital at Brisbane Prison?

(6) Was the hospital for the treatment of minor cases completed at the prison up to or over 18 months ago and is it not being used because power has not been connected? If not, what is the reason?

(7) In view of the seriousness of the allegations, together with the expense that will be involved in the recapture of Groom

and his accomplices, will he give an undertaking to table the full report on the escape so that it may be studied by honourable Members and made public?

Answers:—

(1) "My attention has been drawn to the allegations appearing in the media attributed to Mr. Wallace."

(2) "One experienced officer was delegated to escort Groom. Groom's papers were not, and never have been, marked 'potentially dangerous', and the endorsement 'potentially dangerous' was not marked on any papers concerning Groom's removal to the hospital."

(3) "It is understood that the escorting prison officer is right handed and that he, by his own arrangement, had prisoner Groom's left hand handcuffed to the prison officer's right hand. The reason for this would be known only to the prison officer concerned."

(4) "The prison van (which was in fact the prison station waggon) was ordered by the chief officer to return to the prison as the officer had been taken from ordinary duties and was required to resume duties in the interim."

(5) "The commencement date of the building of the hospital at the prison by the Department of Works is available from that Department."

(6) "The prison hospital has not been opened for several reasons, the main one being that electrical installation, which is part of a major electrical installation in the rebuilding of the prison, is part of a contract. Unfortunately, this contract is behind schedule."

(7) "No."

MEDICAL TREATMENT OF PRISONERS, BRISBANE PRISON

(a) Mr. Davis, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Tourism,—

(1) How many prisoners from Brisbane Prison have been transported outside the prison for medical treatment or attention on Sundays since January 1 this year and, of these, how many were authorised for treatment by medical staff and how many by a fellow prisoner?

(2) How many medical orderlies are employed within Brisbane Prison and what are their normal hours and days of duty each week?

Answers:—

(1) "Eleven up to August 6, 1972, including Groom. No prisoners are ever authorised for treatment by fellow prisoners."

(2) "Two medical orderlies are employed within the hours of 8.00 a.m.-4.00 p.m. Monday to Saturday and one medical orderly employed Sunday 7.00 a.m.-10.00 a.m."

(b) Mr. Leese, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Tourism,—

In view of the escape from custody of Richard Robert Walter Groom last Sunday, will he, if necessary in conjunction with the Minister for Health, make arrangements for an ambulance man, a medical orderly or a doctor to be available to treat similar cases involving injury within Brisbane Prison on Sundays?

Answer:—

"There is a Government Medical Officer on call to attend the prison every day and night by arrangement with the senior Government Medical Officer and this has been the practice for some years."

ENROLMENT AND STAFFING, INALA STATE SCHOOL

Mr. Sherrington for Mr. K. J. Hooper, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

(1) With reference to the Inala State School, what are the details of (a) enrolment and (b) staffing?

(2) What is the allocation for (a) internal relieving and (b) district relieving?

(3) How many supply teachers have been seconded to this school during the past three months?

Answers:—

(1) "(a) Enrolment, 772 pupils, (b) Staff, Principal, deputy principal, 23 class teachers, one teacher-librarian, one clerk-typist, one janitor-groundsmen, three school cleaners."

(2) "(a) Subject to availability of staff, one teacher would normally be appointed to the staff of the school as a 'Local Relieving Teacher'. A teacher is not at present available for this purpose. It is, however, anticipated that an appointment will be made from August 28, 1972. (b) A number of district relieving teachers is available for service at schools in the metropolitan area. These are allocated by head office."

(3) "A supply teacher has not been employed on the staff of the school during the last three months."

INQUIRY INTO REDUCTION IN PETROL PRICES

Mr. Sherrington for Mr. K. J. Hooper, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Development,—

(1) Is he aware that oil companies temporarily reduced the price of petrol during a price-cutting war earlier this year and that the Government ordered an inquiry?

(2) Is this inquiry completed and, if so, will he table the report for the benefit of all members?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "This matter does not come within the functions of this Ministerial portfolio."

CANCELLATION OF RAIL-MOTOR SERVICES, MARYBOROUGH-URANGAN

Mr. Ahern for Mr. Alison, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Transport,—

With regard to the recent cancellation of all rail-motor services from Maryborough to Urangan and return,—

(1) What was the average number of passengers carried for each day of the week to and from Urangan over the last twelve months?

(2) What is the cost per week to run these services?

(3) What was the gross revenue earned from these passenger services for the twelve months ended June 30, 1972?

Answers:—

(1) "The daily average was 25."

(2) "\$632 equal to \$32,864 per year."

(3) "\$8,892."

TRADES-TRAINING BUILDING, MOREY AND MOREHEAD STREETS, SOUTH TOWNSVILLE

Mr. Aikens, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

Is it proposed to repair or remove the unsightly, dilapidated structure at the corner of Morey and Morehead Streets, South Townsville, which was previously used by his Department as a trades training centre but is now used as a doss-house by no-hopers and dead-beats and has become a public eyesore? If not, what does his Department propose to do with the building?

Answer:—

"The Honourable Member is referring to technical college reserve R550, South Townsville. On June 16, 1972, the Under Secretary, Department of Works advised the secretary of the Land Administration

Commission that this area is no longer required for educational purposes or for other Crown activities. I understand the Townsville City Council has applied to have the land set apart as a reserve for recreation."

VANDALISM AT CEMETERIES

Mr. Aikens, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) In view of repeated shocking acts of vandalism at cemeteries and the destruction of headstones and other grave ornaments, will consideration be given to requiring cemetery trusts and other organisations in control of such resting places to repair such damage, either out of funds or by insurance against damage?

(2) Is there any way by which grief-stricken relatives can recoup their outlay for repairing vandal-caused damage at a cemetery, such as was recently the case at Ingham and Townsville?

Answers:—

(1) "There is no present power under the "Cemetery Act 1865" to require trustees of cemeteries to repair damage to headstones and grave ornaments caused by vandalism, out of their funds or to require them to insure against such damage. Malicious injury to monuments is an offence under the Act incurring a maximum fine of \$20 or imprisonment for a period of three months. Half the fine imposed may be paid to the trustees for the uses of such cemetery, and the other half of the fine to the use of the informer or person prosecuting. I am advised that a prosecution may proceed under the *Criminal Code* wherein provision exists under section 480 thereof for Justices in certain circumstances to impose a fine of an amount equal to the amount of the injury done, and \$200 in addition thereto. The trustees can take civil action against offenders provided they can be located."

(2) "The right of relatives to recover any such amount is not clear and they would be well advised to seek legal advice."

PROPOSED STREET DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST RACIST POLICY OF UGANDA GOVERNMENT

Mr. Aikens, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

Have any applications been made by the A.L.P., the Trades Hall Executive, the Civil Rights Organisation, the Students' Union at the university or any other body to stage street demonstrations in Brisbane, as was done during the visit of the South African Rugby Union football team ostensibly against the racist policy of the white South African Government, in order to

allow these organisations to publicly protest against the vicious racist policy of the coloured Government of Uganda which is, as currently reported in the news media, in the process of expelling 80,000 of its citizens with British passports? If so, who made the applications and will permission to stage the public demonstrations be granted?

Answer:—

"No applications have been received to date from any of the organisations mentioned or any other organisation. As it has often been stated, the internal affairs of any other country are not a matter for consideration by this Government."

WATER SUPPLY, EUNGELLA DAM

Mr. Bird, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Conservation,—

(1) What is the present level of the water stored in Eungella Dam and what percentage of the total storage capacity of the dam does this represent?

(2) What is the present daily off-take from the dam and what quantity of water from this dam has not yet been allocated for irrigation and other uses?

Answers:—

(1) "The present level is about two inches below spillway crest so the storage is virtually holding its full capacity of 106,000 acre feet."

(2) "Approximately 10 acre feet per day supply to Goonyella, Moranbah and Peak Downs. No releases downstream are presently required. Supply not yet firmly allocated is being reserved for proposals now under investigation for additional areas for smaller farms in the irrigation area and a number of farms in the Mona Park area, where underground supplies are inadequate. No further supplies are available for allocation unless these proposals do not proceed."

LAND FOR HOSPITAL SITES, METROPOLITAN AREA

Mr. Sherrington, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

Relative to the public announcement by the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Welfare Services that a future hospital would be constructed at Jindalee and that land had been requisitioned for such purpose—

(1) Has similar land been investigated or acquired for the development of comparable hospitals to serve the needs of heavily populated areas such as Woodridge—Kingston, Acacia Ridge—Inala and similar localities on the northern side of the city?

(2) Why and on whose recommendation was the Jindalee hospital given priority over more closely settled areas which are less adequately served by public transport and whose population enjoys a far lower average wage structure?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "The North Brisbane and South Brisbane Hospitals Boards have been given approval to investigate suitable areas of land in the metropolitan area with a view to obtaining sites for future hospital construction. As a result of such investigations, appropriate action was taken for the boards to acquire land in the Wynnum, Mt. Gravatt—Sunnybank and Jindalee areas. The Honourable Member will be aware that on a number of occasions I have indicated that the decision has been made that priority in the establishment of a new hospital in the metropolitan area will be given to that proposed for the Mt. Gravatt—Sunnybank area. That priority has not changed."

LAND FOR SCHOOL SITES, SUNNYBANK HILLS—BEENLEIGH AREA

Mr. Sherrington, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

(1) Is he aware that land developers have already acquired sufficient areas of land to provide for some 500,000 home sites extending from the Sunnybank Hills area through Woodridge, Kingston and Browns Plains to Beenleigh?

(2) What surveys, if any, have been undertaken to establish future growth patterns in the area to determine and acquire school sites to serve the future needs of the area?

Answers:—

(1) "Yes."

(2) "My Department has undertaken surveys to determine growth patterns in this area and, as a result, eight sites have already been acquired and an additional four are currently being examined. The position is being kept continually under review."

USE OF GOVERNMENT AEROPLANE

Mr. Sherrington, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

(1) How many flights were made in the Government plane between the announced date of the election and the date of its conclusion and what were the destinations?

(2) What was the purpose of the flights?

(3) What was the total mileage and what was the total cost?

(4) What were the relative costs of the Premier's use of the Government plane to travel to the Premiers' conference and that of the commercial flight of the Treasurer?

Answer:—

(1 to 4) "In order to ensure the continued development of this great State of Queensland, it is essential that my Ministers and I are able to travel constantly and with minimum waste of time. This was the reason the aircraft was purchased and for which it has been used. I believe in taking the Government to the people, but perhaps the Honourable Member does not agree with this principle. The benefits derived from the use of the aircraft far outweigh any of the costs involved and, additionally, these costs represent a substantial saving when compared with the costs of other arrangements which would necessarily have to be made."

EFFECT ON ECONOMY OF ABOLITION OF NATIONAL SERVICE TRAINING

Dr. Scott-Young, pursuant to notice, asked The Treasurer,—

Is he aware of Mr. Whitlam's stated intention to abolish National Service training if he becomes Prime Minister of Australia? If so, what loss to the State's economy would result?

Answer:—

"I understand that if the Labor Party is successful at the next Federal Election, a Labour Government at Canberra would abolish national service training. Such action could considerably affect the economy of cities like Townsville at which centre there is a very heavy personnel at Lavarack Barracks. Recent figures available to me indicated that there are over 8,400 Army and National Servicemen in Queensland and that the payroll into this State at that time amounted to \$23,500 per day or approximately \$8 million per annum. Such is in addition to an Army payroll to civilians in Queensland of approximately \$6 million per annum. It can therefore be assumed that if national service training is discontinued such will result in a considerable decline in cash circulation in certain parts of Queensland."

EXEMPTION OF BANKS FROM REQUIREMENTS OF INVASION OF PRIVACY REGULATIONS

Mr. Wright, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Justice,—

(1) With reference to Regulation 16 of the Invasion of Privacy Regulations, 1972, why has "any bank" as defined by section 5 (i) of the Commonwealth *Banking Act*

1959 been given special exemption from the requirements of Divisions I and II of Part III of the Act?

(2) What are the names of the banks, bodies or organisations which made representations to obtain this exemption and what were their reasons?

Answers:—

(1) "The principal objective of the Invasion of Privacy Act was the control of credit bureaux. It was never intended to enmesh within the legislation commercial and professional sources which have a need for involvement in recording information relating to individuals with whom they deal. The internal arrangements of banks raised doubts as to whether they were exempt as was intended. The regulation resolves this doubt."

(2) "I am not aware of any banks, bodies or organisations making specific representations to obtain this exemption."

COST OF ELECTORAL REDISTRIBUTION COMMISSION

Mr. Wright, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

(1) What amount of (a) salaries, (b) expenses and (c) other allowances were paid to each of the Commissioners for duties performed in the course of the recent redistribution of State electorates?

(2) What was the total cost of the redistribution, including printing costs, etc.?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "The total cost of the Electoral Redistribution Commission was \$20,320.10. Included in this amount were a fee of \$2,000 paid to Mr. A. Archer, C.M.G., and an honorarium of \$900 paid to Mr. H. E. Radford, the principal electoral officer."

ROADWORKS, CAPRICORN HIGHWAY

Mr. Wright, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Mines,—

In view of the concern amongst local authorities, commerce and the public generally at the deterioration of parts of the Capricorn Highway and the procrastination which is apparent in remedying the situation, will he (a) explain why this highway has not been given its deserved priority, (b) outline specific details as to the work which is intended during this fiscal year on (i) the Rockhampton-Emerald section and (ii) the Emerald-West section and (c) personally participate in the journey which is being planned by the Rockhampton Chamber of Commerce and other associated groups to travel the

full length of the Capricorn Highway, provided that the cars will last the distance?

Answer:—

"(a) Construction of this highway is in fact being given the highest priority. Rate of construction of course must depend on overall funds available for roadworks in the whole of the State. (b) (i) Work is programmed this financial year in the Rockhampton-Emerald section to a total cost of \$1,055,000 and includes seven bridges and roadworks on the 3½ miles between Bushley and Wycarba, and seven miles under construction between Dawson River and Duaringa and a start on the 10 mile section including bridges between Dingo and Parnabal. (ii) Total expenditure programmed on the Emerald-Barcardine section is \$865,000 and includes work on a bridge over Tallarenha Creek, both approaches between Jericho and Alpha, a 3½ mile section west of Alpha and a 10 mile section east of Jericho. The total anticipated expenditure on the highway this financial year is then over \$1,900,000 which is strong evidence of the priority allotted to this Highway as stated in (a) above. (c) I have travelled this road so often that I probably know its condition much better than the Honourable Member."

RESUMPTION OF FREEHOLD LAND BY BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL

Mr. Miller, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Local Government,—

Is it possible for the Brisbane City Council to legally resume large areas of freehold land within the Greater Brisbane area with the intention of subdividing that land for residential purposes under the guise of re-development in terms of the City of Brisbane Town Planning Act and under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act?

Answer:—

"Section 23 of the *City of Brisbane Town Planning Act 1964-1971* provides *inter alia* that the Brisbane City Council may purchase or, with the prior approval of the Governor in Council, take any land in the City of Brisbane which is required for the development or redevelopment of any part of the city. The taking of land for the above purposes would have to be effected by the council under the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967-1971* and would be subject to the prior approval of the Governor in Council. The question whether a particular acquisition of land by the council is within its legal powers involves a legal interpretation, as I feel sure the Honourable Member will appreciate."

JUVENILE AID BUREAU

Mr. Miller, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

Will he give the House an assurance that he has no intention of discontinuing the level of work done by the Juvenile Aid Bureau within the Police Force?

Answer:—

"The duties and type of results achieved by the Juvenile Aid Bureau in Brisbane have recently been examined by the chief superintendent of police. As the commissioner and I have not yet had an opportunity to study his comprehensive report, I am not in a position to give any assurances one way or another."

OFFENCES COMMITTED BY ESCAPEES FROM WILSON YOUTH HOSPITAL

Mr. F. P. Moore, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Tourism,—

(1) How many males have escaped from the Wilson Youth Hospital this year?

(2) How many offences have been committed by these males?

(3) Did some of these absconders actually commit offences at this House of Parliament?

(4) Is the Wilson Youth Hospital not a detention or security centre and is escape from it quite easy?

(5) Have males who have been responsible for criminal offences been placed in this centre?

(6) Why has nothing been done to make this a place of detention from which the occupants cannot escape?

Answers:—

(1) "Since January 1, 1972, 27 boys aged between 10 and 14 years have absconded from this hospital."

(2) "This information is not available."

(3) "Yes, two boys aged 10 and 13 years conjointly have been charged but have not yet been dealt with by a Court."

(4) "The Wilson Youth Hospital is a hospital for the assessment and treatment of emotionally disturbed children involved in anti-social behaviour."

(5) "These children are committed to the care and control of the Director, Department of Children's Services, by court order, and have in some instances committed offences and in others are deemed to be uncontrollable or likely to lapse into a life of vice or crime, or are in moral danger."

(6) "As stated in Answer No. (4), the Wilson Youth Hospital is a hospital. It has varying degrees of security including a small close security section for hostile, suicidal or recalcitrant patients. Whilst every precaution is taken by the staff to avoid children absconding, it must be borne in mind that these children are under assessment or treatment by psychiatrists and other professional personnel and these highly trained officers guide the department in the nature of security and treatment of children at this hospital. Tighter security conditions could defeat the concept of rehabilitation and treatment and have an undesirable effect on the children generally. These children are not regarded in the same light as adult criminals."

TIED HOTELS

Mr. F. P. Moore, pursuant to notice, asked
The Minister for Justice,—

Under the tied-house section of existing liquor legislation, are the houses leased to brewers or merchants only tied to the sale of wine and spirits?

Answer:—

"No."

DAMAGE BY AERIAL SPRAYING, PINE RIVERS, CABOOLTURE AND LANDSBOROUGH SHIRES

Mr. Frawley, pursuant to notice, asked
The Minister for Primary Industries,—

(1) Is he aware of the widespread damage in Redcliffe, Narangba, Deception Bay, Burpengary, Caboolture and Toorbul areas to fruit and vegetable crops and beekeepers' apiaries, believed to have been caused by aerial spraying of 2,4-D Amiene and 2,4,5-T Ester by Cropcair Aviation Pty. Ltd.?

(2) Are these hormone sprays being supplied to Cropcair Aviation Pty. Ltd. by A.C.F.-Austral Fertilizers Pty. Ltd., the company which supplies fertilizers to the districts' fruit and vegetable growers?

(3) As Cropcair Aviation Pty. Ltd. has or intends to spread these dangerous hormone sprays from aircraft over thousands of acres of land in Pine Rivers Shire, Caboolture Shire, Landsborough Shire, over the adjoining boundaries of the City of Redcliffe, what guarantee can he give that there will be no effects from it to thousands of residents living in these areas and to the wild life, both flora and fauna, and the fish and prawn-breeding areas of Deception Bay?

(4) Will he take immediate steps to have all the operations stopped until all complaints have been investigated?

(5) Will he give his assurance that he will have the matter of misting machines and aeroplanes spreading hormones within these areas delayed until a thorough investigation has been made and will he also consider making it law that only after the issue of a permit by the local D.P.I. officer may any person be allowed to use hormone sprays?

Answers:—

(1) "Crop damage in these areas has been reported to my Department but the extent of the damage and its cause has not yet been established. The possibility of the damage resulting from spraying operations, other than aerial spraying, cannot be ruled out. The Standards Branch of my Department has a number of complaints of damage under investigation."

(2) "My Department does not have direct knowledge of the supply of chemicals from one company to another. Our responsibility is to ensure that any chemical used is registered and is used according to directions."

(3) "When 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T are used in accordance with registered directions there is no danger to humans and any effect on wild life and non-target flora would be minimal. Any such effects must be considered in relation to the necessity to control major weed pests."

(4) "An officer of Cropcair Aviation Pty. Ltd. has advised my Department that no further aerial spraying will be undertaken in the area while investigations are under way."

(5) "Current legislation provides control over the operations of aerial agricultural pilots and weed control operators on the ground. It is considered that these controls are adequate."

NEW HIGH SCHOOL, SOUTHPORT

(a) Mr. D'Arey, pursuant to notice, asked
The Minister for Works,—

When will the recently-announced high school for the Southport region be open to admit pupils?

Answer:—

"At the commencement of the 1973 school year."

(b) Mr. D'Arey, pursuant to notice, asked
The Minister for Education,—

What grades will be accepted initially at the new Southport State high school?

Answer:—

"Grade 8 in the first year. These students will then advance progressively through to grade 12 with lower grades progressing behind them. The school will have grades 8 to 12 in 1977."

QUALIFICATIONS OF STAFF, GOLD
COAST CITY COUNCIL

Mr. D'Arcy, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Local Government,—

In view of the disparaging remarks made by the Honourable Member for Surfers Paradise in Parliament on August 3, which were reported in the Press and which cast reflections on the qualifications of the staff of the Gold Coast City Council, what are the qualifications of the following senior officers employed by that Council,— Town Clerk, Mr. A. V. Angove; Deputy Town Clerk, Mr. J. Hamilton; Senior Clerk, Mr. E. Saunders; Senior Clerk, Mr. I. Farr, and Administration Officer, Works Department, Mr. W. Box?

Answer:—

"The appointment of the office staff of a local authority is a matter for the local authority concerned and the Department of Local Government has no record of the qualifications of staff members. Accordingly, I am unable to furnish the information sought by the Honourable Member, who appears to be prosecuting a quarrel."

INCREASED SUBSIDY TO Q.A.T.B.
CENTRES

Mr. Casey, pursuant to notice, asked The Treasurer,—

(1) In view of the increasing difficulties that Q.A.T.B. centres established in rural areas are having in balancing their budgets, when does he plan to implement his election promise to increase the amount of subsidy paid to Q.A.T.B. centres in Queensland?

(2) What will be the amount of the increase and will it be made retrospective for the 1971-72 year, the year in which it was promised?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "This is a Budget matter and full details will be disclosed at the appropriate time."

MACKAY POPULATION STATISTICS IN
"INVESTMENT QUEENSLAND"

Mr. Casey, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Development,—

(1) Is he aware that the latest *Investment Queensland* publication issued by his Department shows the population of Mackay as being 19,101 which relates only to the city area and does not include the suburbs of Andergrove, Glenella, North Mackay, Racecourse and Slade Point, all of which are situated within the boundaries of the Pioneer Shire Council, but are just

as much a part of the commercial, industrial and residential sections of this provincial community whose population is 28,416 as shown by the 1971 census?

(2) Will he take action to ensure that all future publications issued by his department show the true figures for Mackay and thus give it the position that it justly deserves whereas it is currently being down-graded statistically because of an antiquated system of local authority boundaries?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "The population figures for provincial cities recorded in the latest edition of *Investment Queensland* refer to the population within the local authority boundaries for each centre as at June 30, 1971, i.e. the date of the last census. Consideration will however be given to including relevant urban area populations in future departmental publications."

BRISBANE PRISON HOSPITAL

Mr. Bromley, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Tourism,—

(1) Is the hospital at the Brisbane Prison completed for patient-treatment purposes?

(2) If not, what work has to be carried out and when will the hospital be ready for service for patients?

(3) What staff will be employed and what type of treatment will be available and given to those in need?

(4) What immediate action is being taken with regard to supplying two escorts for prisoners leaving the gaol for any reason?

Answers:—

(1) "No."

(2) "Security measures are involved."

(3) "These details have not yet been finalised."

(4) "The superintendent will exercise his discretion."

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS
IN DROUGHT-STRICKEN AREAS

Mr. Bromley, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Lands,—

(1) In view of the tragic position facing drought-stricken farmers, what action is he taking to (a) relieve their financial hardship and (b) assist those affected in other ways?

(2) How many people on the land are and have been affected adversely by the present drought or, if the number is not known, how many have contacted his Department for assistance?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "The Honourable Member has apparently suddenly decided to take some interest in a situation which has been with us for some considerable time and in respect of which the Queensland Government has implemented with significant success a wide variety of industry assistance. And, indeed, has merited favourable recognition in Commonwealth circles for its efforts. He touches upon a very complex and comprehensive subject and if I were now to recapitulate the complete situation I could be here for hours. I would refer the Honourable Member to the many relevant departmental reports, booklets, brochures and press statements that have reported and kept up to date the sort of information he seeks generally. One tends to doubt at times the sincerity of some do-gooders who seem to satisfy their personal sense of achievement by off-handedly attacking the Government by insinuating that no action at all has been taken. I have even heard that some people in this category would, at the same time, capitalise on the tragic position of some landholders by snapping up their properties at rock-bottom price if the opportunity so presented itself. I suggest that the Honourable Member would be well advised to study some of the material which, of course, will be readily available to him and he can anticipate a further updating of the situation in the annual reports of such Departments as Lands, Primary Industries, Agricultural Bank and Rural Reconstruction Board which will be available in the fairly near future. Appreciating the Honourable Member's genuine concern in the matter and his desire to be educated in the subject in respect of which he could be expected to know very little, I will personally ensure that so far as my Departments are concerned he will be personally provided with copies of annual reports as soon as they are available."

HOUSING COMMISSION LAND AND RENTAL HOMES, PINE RIVERS SHIRE

Mr. Leese, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

(1) How much land does the Queensland Housing Commission own within the Pine Rivers Shire?

(2) How many homes did the Commission build for rental and for sale in the Pine Rivers Shire during the years 1967-68, 1968-69, 1969-70, 1970-71, and 1971-72?

Answers:—

(1) "178 sites plus undeveloped areas of 39, 48 and 163 acres respectively."

(2)—

" —	Home-ownership	Rental
1967-68	68	5
1968-69	90	..
1969-70	61	..
1970-71	100	..
1971-72	70	..
Totals	389	5

In addition, \$1,009,000 was provided direct to the Pine Co-operative Housing Societies in the five years. The intolerable attitude and lack of co-operation from the council has seriously limited the construction of commission houses particularly for rental by low income families."

RAILWAY SLEEPERS FROM SUPPLIERS IN NORTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES

Mr. Hanson, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Transport,—

(1) What was the price f.o.r. paid for 9" x 6" sleepers, ordered in recent years from suppliers Ward Bros., Robin Brown, A. Smith and Richard Bros., who are located in the Casino and Kempsey districts of New South Wales?

(2) What actual quantities were delivered by these individual suppliers?

(3) How many of the sleepers supplied by the abovementioned suppliers have been rejected as unsuitable by the Department, where are they located and what does the Department intend to do about them?

Answers:—

(1) "The price paid was \$5 per sleeper delivered Redbank."

(2)—

" Supplier	No. of Sleepers Supplied
Ward Bros. ..	100,000
Robin Brown ..	10,000
A. Smith ..	5,000
Richard Bros. ..	5,000 "

(3) "The number of sleepers rejected by the contractor for the construction of the Peak Downs spur line was 6,000 but these included sleepers supplied by Queensland suppliers as well as New South Wales suppliers. The sleepers are held at Coppabella but will be utilised in the track by the

Department, as will a further 32,000 also held at Coppabella but which were not rejected although they will require to be sorted. These 32,000 sleepers also will be utilised in the track by the Department."

PROPOSED STATUTORY ORGANISATION FOR COMMERCIAL FISHERMEN

Mr. Baldwin, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Primary Industries,—

With reference to the proposal to bring all harvesters of sea foods under one representative organisation—

(1) Are such proposals yet complete and, if so, have they been published and when is it expected that they will be implemented?

(2) If the proposals are not yet completed, when does he expect them to be?

Answers:—

(1 and 2) "Detailed drafting of a proposal to establish a statutory organisation for commercial fishermen is nearing completion. It is expected that the necessary legislation will be introduced during the present sitting of this House."

REPORT OF INVESTIGATION INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT MATTERS

Mr. Baldwin, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Local Government,—

(1) Has the report of the committee formed by his Department to investigate methods of rating been completed yet and, if so, when will it be made available for publication?

(2) If the report has not yet been completed, will he give an indication as to when it will be?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "I assume that the matter to which the Honourable Member is referring is the research project being carried out by the Australian Institute of Urban Studies into certain local government matters outside the Brisbane metropolitan area. No indication can be given at this stage as to when the findings of the research project will be available."

SEALING OF ROADS, REDLAND SHIRE

Mr. Baldwin, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Mines,—

With reference to the sealing of roads in shires by his Department—

(1) Is there a set maximum limit for various shires such as a length of road for each year?

(2) If such distance limits are set, what are the various limits and are these limits always reached in every shire?

(3) Is there a limit of two miles set in any one year and, if so, in which shires has that been set?

(4) What lengths of roads were sealed through his Department's expenditure in the Redland Shire in the last three years and what is the description of these roads?

Answers:—

(1) "No."

(2) "See Answer to (1)."

(3) "No."

(4) "Main Roads—5.2 miles sealed under new construction and 5.5 miles under special maintenance. Secondary Roads—6.9 miles sealed under new construction and 5.9 miles under special maintenance."

BRISBANE AIRPORT EXTENSION, CRIBB ISLAND AREA

Mr. Melloy, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

(1) What stage has been reached in the planning of the Brisbane airport runway extension to Cribb Island?

(2) Has any survey been made of the effect of the extension on residents of Cribb Island?

(3) How many people will be affected by the extension?

(4) Has the Government any plans, in conjunction with the Commonwealth Government, for the rehousing of Cribb Island residents?

(5) How many residents wish to be resettled as a group, how many wish to be resettled individually and how many will accept compensation?

(6) What form of compensation will be offered to those who own houses but do not own the land on which they are erected, such as those at Jackson's Estate?

(7) Has a final decision been made on the plan to include Cribb Island village in the necessary resumptions?

(8) When is it anticipated that residents of Cribb Island will have to vacate their homes?

(9) What is the extent of the Queensland Government's participation in the airport extension?

Answer:—

(1 to 9) "The extent of the Queensland Government participation in the airport extension has been limited to assisting with the early investigations and examination of preliminary proposals. Since a recommended preliminary proposal was announced, we have not participated further in the planning which, of course, is a Commonwealth responsibility. At present our only participation is in assisting with a study of environmental effects in the Moreton Bay area."

SCHOOL DENTAL AUXILIARIES

Mr. Melloy, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) Has any action been taken to implement his Department's proposal to establish school dental auxiliaries in Queensland?

(2) Has any action been taken to set up a training college for girls who will undertake the prescribed course?

Answers:—

(1) "The *Dental Act* 1971 provides that certain dental functions may be performed by 'operative dental auxiliaries'."

(2) "A special sub-committee set up by the Dental Board of Queensland is currently preparing recommendations concerning the selection, duties, supervision and training of 'operative dental auxiliaries'. Such recommendations will be considered by the Dental Board for the purpose of effecting necessary by-laws under the *Dental Act* 1971 on matters relating to 'operative dental auxiliaries'."

IMPLEMENTATION OF RADFORD COMMITTEE EDUCATION PROPOSALS

Mr. P. Wood, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

(1) In view of the widespread concern over the implementation of the proposals of the Radford Committee, will he invite Dr. W. C. Radford, chairman of the committee previously appointed, to chair a new committee appointed to review progress to date and to make recommendations for further implementation of assessment and moderation proposals?

(2) What review has his Department undertaken of the effects of the new proposals and what has been the result of any such review?

(3) If no committee of review is to be appointed, will his Department invite submissions from interested persons and organisations?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) "I think I should make it clear that it is the Board of Secondary School Studies and not the Department of Education which has the responsibility for implementing the recommendations of the Radford Committee. The Board of Secondary School Studies has considered carefully statements which have expressed concern over the implementation of these recommendations. It is firmly of the opinion that these statements are based largely on misunderstanding and on lack of information. The Board has indicated that it does not believe there is a need for an independent enquiry to review progress to date or to make recommendations for implementation of assessment and moderation procedures. It has procedures continually under review. District moderators who are appointed from amongst schools of a group on the recommendations of principals of the group report regularly to the moderation committee—the committee which advises the Board on moderation procedures. Queensland has shown initiative in introducing the recommendations of the Radford Committee. This step will bring about a much richer educational experience for students. The introduction of such a radical scheme was certain to produce difficulties, but the Board is confident that these difficulties will be eliminated by the time the first senior certificates are issued at the end of 1973. The Board issued its first junior certificates at the end of 1971 most successfully. The Board is taking steps to communicate strongly the positive features of the scheme and the gains made in its implementation. It also wishes to make people aware of the responsibility of the Board in ensuring that Board certificates are acceptable to the general public and to those institutions which wish to use them. Constructive and well-informed comment presented in a well-considered manner will always be welcomed by the Board."

TEACHERS' COLLEGES AND COLLEGE COUNCILS

Mr. P. Wood, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

(1) On what date will teachers' colleges now operated by his Department become autonomous?

(2) When will the members of the college councils be appointed?

(3) Will conditions of service of staff at autonomous teachers' colleges be determined by college councils or by the Board of Teacher Education?

(4) Will college staff have an option of remaining within the Public Service or of becoming employees of the council?

Answers:—

(1) "College councils have been formed and will be involved in the running of individual teachers colleges for the remainder of this year. College councils will accept full responsibility for these colleges as from January 30, 1973."

(2) "The names of members of college councils were published in the *Government Gazette* on July 29, 1972."

(3) "College councils will determine conditions of service for staff."

(4) "College councils have been requested to promulgate their detailed terms of appointment of staff on or by August 31, 1972. Each staff member is required to indicate by November 30, 1972, whether he wishes to become an employee of the teachers college council or to remain in the Public Service."

HOUSING COMMISSION PENSIONER UNITS,
CLONCURRY

Mr. Inch, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

Relative to the provision of Housing Commission units for pensioners, will his Department carry out a survey of pensioner requirements in Cloncurry and proceed to provide such accommodation should there be sufficient applicants to meet the minimum requirements?

Answer:—

"The Cloncurry Shire Council has arranged for the council's Medical Officer of Health and the council's Health Inspector to carry out a survey of pensioners in Cloncurry with the purpose of ascertaining their housing requirements. Depending on the result of the survey I would be willing to consider the provision of some aged persons units at Cloncurry."

SLEEPER ACCOMMODATION FOR
PENSIONERS ON FREE RAIL
WARRANTS

Mr. Inch, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Tourism,—

Relative to pensioners proceeding on annual holidays, will he give every consideration to the inclusion of sleeper accommodation with the free rail warrants issued by his Department?

Answer:—

"Consideration is always given to the inclusion of provision for sleeping berths on free rail warrants issued by my Department where the person concerned would be prevented by incapacity from making the rail journey otherwise. Such requests should be always supported by a suitable medical certificate."

TRAVEL PASSES FOR ESCORTS TO PATIENTS
TRAVELLING FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

Mr. Inch, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

Will his Department be prepared to meet the expenses of a person accompanying patients who are not in a fit state to travel alone and who are, under medical advice, ordered away to other centres for medical attention?

Answer:—

"When the medical superintendent of a public hospital refers a patient to another public hospital for specialist treatment as a public patient, travel fares are provided at departmental expense where the patient is (a) suffering from a malignant, near malignant, suspect malignant or pre-malignant condition; (b) is in receipt of a maximum social service pension; (c) is in proven poor financial circumstances. Where the referring medical superintendent certifies that an escort is required, travel passes are issued also for the escort."

ASSISTANCE FOR FLOOD DAMAGE
CAUSED BY CYCLONE "ALTHEA"

Mr. Aiken, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

(1) What was the cost to this State and what are the details of assistance granted to the people of Charleville, Wyandra and Cunnamulla for the flood damage to these towns resulting from the rain deluge caused by cyclone "Althea"?

(2) How many applications for assistance were received and how many applicants were assisted?

(3) How many applications were received from rural property owners for assistance to restore fencing and earth dams and to replace stock losses and were any applicants assisted in these ways?

(4) Was a man named James Moore, who received extensive newspaper publicity through being flooded out of his home near Charleville, assisted financially by the Government and were flooded storekeepers assisted by loans or grants?

Answer:—

(1 to 4) "As the flooding which occurred in the areas referred to was not of a catastrophic nature requiring its declaration as a disaster in terms of the State Disaster Relief Scheme, the provisions of this Scheme in respect of personal distress and hardship did not apply."

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PRIMARY INDUSTRIES FOR DROUGHT RELIEF

Mr. Aiken, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

(1) What is the full meaning of Section 504 of the 1937 Banking Monetary System and does this section give the power to the Reserve Bank of Australia to issue emergency money free of interest if the occasion warrants?

(2) If this is the case, will he consider representation to the Commonwealth Government in the urgency of the situation to make moneys available under this scheme to re-establish our ailing primary industries?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "The paragraph to which the Honourable Member refers is part of a report by a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into monetary and banking systems in operation in Australia. This section of the report does not confer any powers, but merely describes central banking operations. It is suggested that he read the full report, where he will find that adverse economic consequences would follow the unrestricted creation and use of Central Bank credit. I hope that the Honourable Member will be aware that the Commonwealth Government has already made substantial sums available to primary industry for drought relief and is continuing to make funds available for rural reconstruction."

RANDALL REPORT ON WOOL INDUSTRY

Mr. Aiken, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

Because of the importance of the Randall Report on the future of wool, will he ask the Commonwealth Government to make this report public so that the wool industry has an early opportunity to assess its prospects of orderly market reform before the controversy of acquisition becomes too confusing?

Answer:—

"The report in question is a Commonwealth document and its release is a matter for Commonwealth decision."

ASSISTANCE TO POULTRY INDUSTRY, NORTH QUEENSLAND

Mr. Tucker, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Primary Industries,—

(1) Has his attention been drawn to an article in *The Townsville Daily Bulletin* of August 9, 1972, under the heading "Warned on Hen Levy Payments", wherein the Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industries is reported to have warned a

ten-man delegation from the North Queensland Poultry Farmers' Association that they could not expect any assistance from the Commonwealth Government and that any assistance must come from the State Minister?

(2) What plans has he to assist the poultry industry in the North which faces bankruptcy if farmers are prosecuted for unpaid levies?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "I have read the report in *The Townsville Daily Bulletin* of August 9 referred to by the Honourable Member. The position is that funds were made available by the Commonwealth from 1965 up to end of last year with which assistance payments were made to egg producers in North Queensland. These payments were initially made at a rate equivalent to 97.25 per cent of levies paid. The rate of assistance was reduced to 90 per cent on December 8, 1969, 50 per cent from October 1971 and finally ceased at the end of last year. It was considered after six years of assistance that the producers concerned, by improved husbandry, rationalisation of distribution and adoption of organised marketing, would have been able to make payment of levy dues similar to other producers throughout the Commonwealth. A condition of assistance after December 8, 1969, was the payment of the levy as and when due as provided by the Commonwealth legislation. Last month by an arrangement between my predecessor and the Federal Minister for Primary Industry the Commonwealth agreed to extend to the end of this year the time within which payment of back levies could be made. Provided this opportunity is availed of by the producers, funds to make assistance payments as outlined will be available from the Commonwealth."

SALE OF RAILWAY COTTAGES, NORTH QUEENSLAND

Mr. Tucker, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Transport,—

(1) Are three railway cottages at Innisfail and one at Hughenden to be sold and, if so, how many more such cottages in North Queensland have been or are to be sold?

(2) In view of the housing shortage, why were these homes not repaired instead of being sold?

(3) Why has the Railway Department recently instituted the procedure of charging water rates at outlying stations where water is supplied by railway pumps, how are such rates computed and why is this extra charge imposed on those already living in hard conditions?

Answers:—

(1 and 2) "The Railway cottage at Hughenden has been sold and three cottages at Innisfail are to be sold. The question of what further cottages will be sold will be determined as dwellings become vacant. There have been a number of railway cottages sold over recent years due, in the main, to the dwellings being no longer required. If there is a request for a modern home at either Hughenden or Innisfail, the Department will assist the applicant in his approach to the Queensland Housing Commission."

(3) "The charges for water supplied from railway water supply installations is lower than the charges levied by adjacent local authorities and is insufficient to meet the cost of pumping and maintaining the supply."

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF STAFF, TEACHERS' COLLEGES

Mr. Tucker, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

In regard to Cabinet approval on May 30 to the granting of autonomy to Queensland teachers' colleges from January, 1973, has he or have his responsible officers consulted with the teachers' colleges staff associations and the Queensland Teachers' Union either before or since such approval in regard to conditions of employment which will apply when such colleges become autonomous? If so, what was the result and, if not, why were these representatives ignored when their members are so vitally concerned?

Answer:—

"(a) Yes. Senior officers of the Department of Education met representatives of the Queensland Teachers' Union prior to Cabinet approval. The staff committee of the Board of Advanced Education met with representatives of the Queensland Teachers' Union and representatives of teachers colleges staff associations after the Cabinet decision. (b) Conditions of employment of staff at teachers colleges was one of the topics discussed at these meetings. The representatives from the union and staff associations were advised of the timing for autonomy for teachers colleges and that college councils would be considering conditions of employment for academic staff for their respective colleges and would promulgate these prior to August 30."

TRANSFER OF PATIENTS FROM BAILLIE HENDERSON HOSPITAL TO RANGE MOTEL, TOOWOOMBA, AND FROM WOLSTON PARK HOSPITAL TO KARAKAN HOSTEL, BRISBANE

Mr. Harris, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) How many (a) male and (b) female patients were transferred from

Baillie Henderson Hospital, Toowoomba to the Range Motel, Toowoomba, during the period July 1, 1971 to June 30, 1972?

(2) How many of these patients have been (a) discharged, (b) gainfully employed and (c) re-admitted to their previous institution?

(3) As 32 psychiatric patients from Wolston Park Hospital are now being housed at Karakan Hostel, 40 Kennigo Street, Valley, is he now satisfied that this old building previously used as an apartment house and guest house is completely free from bugs, cockroaches and lice which prevented the admission of these patients to this building two weeks ago?

(4) What are the names, addresses and occupations of the staff group from Wolston Park Hospital, including doctors, who are directors or have a monetary interest in Karakan Hostel?

(5) Have any members of the staff at Wolston Park Hospital resigned to take employment at Karakan Hostel and, if so, what are their names and in what capacity will they be employed?

(6) Will he now agree that the establishment of these hostels, owned and controlled by private enterprise, is yet another drive in an endeavour to eliminate the Queensland free-hospital system?

Answers:—

(1) "(a) One. (b) One."

(2) "(a) Two. (b) Not available. (c) None."

(3) "Kennigo House has been leased by Karakan Hostels from the owner who has only recently purchased the property. This owner has undertaken extensive remodelling to prepare the residence as a hostel. The hostel has been re-painted, re-wired, carpets have been provided to all floors except kitchen and bathroom, and additional bathrooms have been provided. As part of the remodelling and renovation, the premises underwent routine fumigation."

(4) "The Directors of the relevant charitable organisation are:—Dr. Nicholas Cominos, Psychiatrist, Wolston Park Hospital; Dr. Judith Cominos, Psychiatrist, Wolston Park Hospital; Mr. H. Patchett, Special Teacher, Birdwood Terrace, Taringa; Mr. Geoff Smiley, Social Worker, Logan Road, Gables; Miss Rosemary Gray, Hospital Matron, Pascoe Street, Mitchelton; Mr. R. Gray, Clerk, McGregor Terrace, Bardon; and Mr. R. Carvolth, Psychologist, Crown Street, Bardon. No person has a pecuniary interest in the relevant registered charitable organisation."

(5) "No."

(6) "Community placement of patients who have recovered from their mental illness and who need no longer remain resident in a mental hospital is the obvious desirable result of the treatment process. For more than a decade 1,000 patients every year have been placed from Wolston Park Hospital. However, over the years certain patients have been denied the opportunity of returning to the community because they have lost social contact with their relatives and friends and have been unable to be placed in boarding houses or other accommodation. As a result, many of these patients have remained dependent upon the hospital even though their mental illness has remitted. For a period of at least six years, senior officers of my Department have made every effort to encourage voluntary organisations to provide accommodation for such persons in the form of hostels and half-way houses. It should be stressed that the Franciscan Friars, the Special Caring Division of the Methodist Church and some Lutheran congregations have been active in this field, but the provisions made by them have in no way met demands. There has been certain public criticism of the fact that the Government itself has not provided hostels. This criticism is ill-founded because by its very nature a hostel run under governmental auspices becomes an institution and the whole purpose of community placement is to complete the re-socialisation of the patient and remove him entirely from an institutional setting. Because in this State voluntary agencies have not accepted the responsibility to provide this kind of accommodation, a group of interested and energetic citizens, drawn largely from the ranks of the staff of Wolston Park Hospital, have formed themselves into a registered charitable, non-profit organisation in order to make some placements available and to provide an example to the community. Far from being a matter of private enterprise or profit, this project is an enterprise in good citizenship, based on the most charitable and praiseworthy motives of providing the normal activities of daily living for people who otherwise would remain in an institutional environment."

NEW HOSPITAL, YEPPON

Mr. Hartwig, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) As Yeppoon is a fast-growing community and in view of the project development near there and as the population reaches up to 15,000 during school holiday periods, will he treat the request for a new hospital at Yeppoon as urgent?

(2) What is the age and condition of the present hospital?

(3) What is the average number of daily patients?

(4) Are outpatients' facilities considered adequate at the present hospital, especially in view of the high rate of minor casualties at this popular seaside resort?

Answers:—

(1 and 2) "The Rockhampton Hospitals Board is aware of the need to provide a new hospital at Yeppoon and would have considered the age and the condition of the existing buildings in reaching a decision to replace such buildings. The hospitals board has assessed its priorities in the rebuilding programme for all hospitals under its control and has decided to defer the rebuilding of the Yeppoon hospital to a later date. The needs of Yeppoon will not be overlooked and consideration will be given to the provision of new buildings in accordance with the priorities established by the hospitals board and subject to the availability of loan finance in relation to the requirements of the State as a whole."

(3) "Statistics furnished by the Rockhampton Hospitals Board show that the total daily average of inpatients for the year ended June 30, 1972 was 20.06 comprising 19.02 general and 1.04 maternity patients."

(4) "The adequacy of outpatients facilities at this hospital is a matter which the Rockhampton Hospitals Board would have considered when assessing the need for a new hospital. If the board feels that some improvements are necessary, prior to the constructions of a new hospital, I feel sure that it will raise the matter for the consideration of my Department. The Honourable Member's representations in this matter will be kept in mind."

REJECTED RAILWAY SLEEPERS, YEPPON AND GLEN GEDDES

Mr. Hartwig, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Transport,—

(1) Is he aware of the large percentage of good-quality sleepers rejected at the recent pass at Yeppoon and Glen Geddes by the Department's inspectors?

(2) What was the exact percentage of sleepers rejected at the last two passes at Yeppoon and Glen Geddes?

(3) In view of the higher standard of sleeper required by the Railway Department and the scarcity of good timber, and as sleeper cutting is a hazardous occupation, will he give due consideration to an increase in price for sleepers 9 inches by 6 inches by 7 feet long?

Answers:—

(1 and 2) "Record is kept only of the sleepers passed by the timber inspectors and paid for by the Department."

(3) "The price being paid is considered adequate and this is borne out by the supplies being received."

HOUSING COMMISSION HOMES LEASED BY ARMY

Mr. N. F. Jones, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

(1) How many houses are leased by the Army from the Queensland Housing Commission, what are their locations and what were the years of their construction?

(2) How many houses were built by the Housing Commission for (a) sale and (b) rental during 1969-70, 1970-71, and 1971-72?

Answers:—

(1) "1,792 located at Arana Hills, Atherton, Ayr, Brisbane, Cairns, Dalby, Ingham, Innisfail, Ipswich, Mackay, Mount Isa, Oakey, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville and Warwick and constructed in each year from 1946-47 to 1971-72."

(2)—

"—	Owner-ship	Rental	Total
1969-70 ..	705	998	1,703
1970-71 ..	742	988	1,730
1971-72 ..	575	1,175	1,750
Totals ..	2,022	3,161	5,183

Contracts current at June 30, 1972 provide for a further 1,031 dwellings. In addition there were direct allocations to Housing Societies totalling \$15,091,000 in the above three years."

NOTICES IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE SIGNED BY SPEAKER-ELECT

Mr. N. F. Jones, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

(1) Has his attention been drawn to notices dated July 28, 1972, on official Speaker's Room notepaper, which appeared in various places in Parliament House concerning arrangements in relation to the Garden Party held on August 2, 1972, the day after the Speaker was elected by this House?

(2) Is he aware that these notices were signed "J. E. H. Houghton, Speaker-elect"?

(3) On whose authority were they displayed?

(4) Did the position of Speaker-elect exist either officially or unofficially at the date shown on the notice?

(5) Would it be proper for any Member, who had indicated during the period between the date of an election and the resumption of Parliament his intention of contesting the Speakership, to place notices in this House under the title of Speaker-elect?

(6) If no such provision exists within the Parliamentary system, was the person J. E. H. Houghton, who signed as Speaker-elect, in contempt of Parliament by his actions?

Answer:—

(1 to 6) "I gather from the rather confused phraseology of the Honourable Member's Question that he is seeking to establish whether or not another Honourable Member has been and I quote, 'in contempt of Parliament'. This is not a matter for my determination."

DUMPING OF PRAWNS, GULF OF CARPENTARIA

Mr. Blake, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Primary Industries,—

(1) Have reports of the recent dumping of prawns in the Gulf of Carpentaria, because of the lack of processing facilities, been confirmed?

(2) Have decisions been made for the establishment of Fish Board facilities to service the Gulf area and, if so, when and where are the facilities expected to be established?

Answers:—

(1) "There were some dumpings early in the season by those trawlermen who had not made prior arrangements for sale of their catch."

(2) "No."

TITANIUM HEART VALVES

Mr. Burns, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) Has his attention been drawn to television advertisements by sand-mining companies referring to the use of the titanium heart valve in this State?

(2) How many children in Queensland use titanium heart valves?

(3) Would approximately one shovelful of titanium be sufficient to supply all heart valve needs in Queensland for the next decade?

Answers:—

(1) "Yes. Titanium is used in the manufacture of valve rings for some tissue valves."

(2) "The number of children in Queensland who have been fitted with this type of valve would be no more than three."

(3) "The amount of titanium required to supply the needs of Queensland's heart valves over the next decade will not be great."

PEDESTRIAN AND PEDAL-CYCLIST ROAD DEATHS DURING DAYLIGHT SAVING

Mr. Burns, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Transport,—

(1) Has his attention been drawn to the New South Wales Transport Minister's report on the New South Wales traffic

accident research unit's figures which show a decrease in pedestrian and pedal-cyclist road deaths during daylight saving last summer, as reported in *The Australian* of March 30, 1972?

(2) What are the comparable figures for Queensland covering the same period?

Answers:—

(1) "Yes."

(2) "The period of daylight saving was November, 1971, to and including February, 1972. A comparison of Queensland figures with those shown for New South Wales in *The Australian* of March 30, 1972, is as follows:—

Period	Pedestrians Killed		Pedal Cyclists Killed	
	N.S.W.	QLD.	N.S.W.	QLD.
November 1971 to February 1972 ..	53	19	Nil	8
November 1970 to February 1971 ..	81	36	4	8
November 1969 to February 1970 ..	77	27	8	3
November 1968 to February 1969 ..	92	17	4	3 "

RURAL ESTATES AND DEATH DUTIES

Mr. Neal, pursuant to notice, asked The Treasurer,—

(1) What is the percentage of rural estates in relation to the total number of estates for 1970-71 and 1971-72?

(2) What amount of revenue was collected in Queensland from death duties in those years?

(3) What percentage of total duties collected came from rural estates?

(4) What percentage of State revenue is derived from death duties?

Answers:—

(1) "Details of the number and percentage of rural estates are not recorded in the Treasury but I understand they may be obtained from the Deputy Commonwealth Statistician, Brisbane."

(2 and 4) "The information in respect of the year 1970-71 can be ascertained from the published Estimates of Probable Ways and Means. Details in respect of 1971-72 will be published in due course in the normal way."

(3) "This information is not recorded."

MEMBERS OF POLICE FORCE CHARGED WITH OFFENCES

Mr. Yewdale, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

How many members of the Queensland Police Force, including all ranks, were

charged with offences from July 1, 1971 to July 31, 1972 and of this number, how many were convicted or acquitted?

Answer:—

"Forty-eight members of the Queensland Police Force have been charged with offences in the period stated. Of this number, there were 29 convictions and 12 acquittals. No finalisation has yet been reached in the remaining seven charges."

INJURIES TO SCHOOL-CHILDREN USING SCHOOL EQUIPMENT

Mr. Yewdale, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

(1) What is the responsibility of his Department in the event of an injury being sustained by a primary school pupil during a supervised training lesson, including injury sustained on equipment provided by a parents and citizens' committee?

(2) Has his Department endeavoured to exempt itself of responsibility arising out of such injuries by requesting that parents sign documents to the effect that the parent will take no action against the Department in the event of such an injury to his child?

Answers:—

(1) "When a school pupil is injured at school while under the authority of a teacher, that teacher as an agent of the

Department of Education has been instructed through the *Education Office Gazette* to act as would a prudent parent."

(2) "The Honourable Member is, I think, referring to the installation of a machine jig saw in the Rockhampton Opportunity School in 1968 for use by senior pupils. In seeking approval for the installation, the principal proposed that it would be used by those pupils whose parents had agreed to their children using the power equipment. The principal also recommended certain other conditions for the safe use of the machine including one whereby only children considered capable would be allowed to use it, and another whereby children would not be allowed to use the machine without parental approval. My Department approved the installation of the machine provided all the conditions proposed were adhered to. The question of any departmental liability in the event of an injury to a child using the machine under the above conditions would, of course, depend on all the circumstances surrounding the accident."

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR COUNTRY HOSPITALS

Dr. Crawford, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) What studies are currently being undertaken to assess the necessity for capital expenditure for country hospitals?

(2) Does a complete survey of the present and future optimum requirements for beds exist for hospitals in Queensland outside the Brisbane metropolitan area?

(3) In the absence of a country hospital commission to make specific recommendations and proposals in order of urgency, what mechanism is used to decide priorities between, say, a ward block at Southport and one at Cairns and who makes the final decision?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) "This Department has always looked upon the 58 hospitals boards throughout Queensland as being competent to inform the Department of their needs for capital development. These programmes are examined by officers of this Department and by the Hospitals Buildings Advisory Committee where the project is of a major nature. Each year, hospitals boards submit to the Co-ordinator-General's Department applications for loan approvals to finance capital development which has been approved by this department. Cabinet has laid down that loan funds are not to be recommended until such time as planning for minor works has reached the sketch plan stage and planning for major works the stage of working drawings and

specifications. In instances of major capital development, requests from individual boards may need to be submitted by the Co-ordinator-General to the Australian Loan Council. Each board determines its own priority within its approved loan programme. This Department has for some years now tabled, for the information of the Co-ordinator-General and the Treasurer, a projected programme of major hospital development in Queensland. This programme is reviewed periodically in the light of rising costs, the development of hospital services by other agencies and population trends."

AVAILABILITY OF INTERMEDIATE BEDS IN BRISBANE PUBLIC HOSPITALS

Dr. Crawford, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) Has he considered the many representations made to him to provide a reasonable number of intermediate beds for patient accommodation in Brisbane?

(2) Has his Department considered a flexible system by which unused public beds can be declared sub-intermediate so that patients' preferences can be catered for and hospital finances improved also?

(3) When will Brisbane hospital patients be granted the extra intermediate beds which they deserve to have provided for their convenience if they wish to choose to be treated by their own doctors?

Answers:—

(1) "Consideration has been and is still being given to the representations made to me on this matter by the Honourable Member and by other interested persons. It has always been policy to provide within the public hospital system, private and intermediate beds."

(2 and 3) "The provision of beds as suggested by the Honourable Member would only be practicable by a diminution in the number of available public beds. Whilst it is policy to provide private and intermediate beds, it is policy that such should not be provided at the expense of public beds. The Honourable Member will be aware from my letter to him of May 25, 1972, that the situation at the major metropolitan hospitals is currently under examination with a view to providing some relief if at all possible."

AIR AND WATER POLLUTION, GLADSTONE; FIRE HAZARD, GLADSTONE HOSPITAL

Dr. Crawford, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) Has his Department given consideration to the widespread concern regarding air and water pollution in Gladstone?

(2) Is it considered that the respiratory diseases to which children in that city seem to be prone are connected with air pollution?

(3) What investigations have been carried out by his Department to ascertain the facts in this matter?

(4) When will any recommendation from these investigations be implemented?

(5) What is the current fire brigade report on the risks to the Gladstone Hospital buildings?

Answer:—

(1 to 5) "The Honourable Member will recall that he communicated with me by letter concerning these matters. I have recently replied by letter in the following terms:—"The Clean Waters Act comes under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Local Government to whom I am referring your letter that he might answer you on this particular question. The Division of Air Pollution Control has advised that the major polluter in Gladstone would be the factory of Queensland Alumina Ltd., particularly as the prevailing south-east wind carries the fall-out towards the city. The three original boilers were installed with low chimneys and without electrostatic precipitators before the Clean Air Act proclamation in September, 1970. However, precipitators are being added during 1972. Two new boilers have a single high stack with electrostatic precipitators from the outset so that everything possible is being done to contain fly-ash. The new power house will be located on the other side of the city and chimney stacks at 500 feet are high enough to ensure that residents of Gladstone are not affected in any way by the effluent. Infective hepatitis notified from Gladstone during the financial year 1971-72 numbered 87 cases, month by month figures being: 1971—July, 8; August, 3; September, 5; October, 5; November, 9; and December, 1. 1972—January, 16; February, 11; March, 14; April, 2; May, 12; and June, 1. Total 87. In respect of the alleged fire hazard at the Gladstone Hospital, I wish to advise that the hospital was inspected by the fire brigade in June, 1972, and, except for a minor recommendation, the brigade had no adverse comments. In regard to the Gladstone water supply, it is departmental practice to request water samples from a city of this size at monthly intervals. The Gladstone council has in fact been submitting samples for bacteriological examination twice monthly for the last three years and weekly if any problems arise. The vast majority of samples have been found to be bacteriologically suitable for human consumption and other domestic purposes. In late 1971 and early 1972 problems did arise during very heavy and

persistent rains. At this time samples revealed high total colony counts and some coliform counts of small magnitude. The bacteriological reports have been negative since early May, 1972.' It is possible that this reply has not come to the Honourable Member's attention."

ENROLMENTS, HIGH SCHOOLS AND SECONDARY DEPARTMENTS

Mr. B. Wood, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

(1) How many high schools or secondary departments have an enrolment less than 120, which are they and what are their enrolments?

(2) What is considered the maximum desirable time which secondary school students should spend in travelling to and from school?

Answers:—

(1) "No high schools have an enrolment of less than 120. There are 41 secondary departments having an enrolment of less than 120. They are—Allora, 94; Alpha, 44; Aramac, 28; Baralaba, 81; Bell, 68; Biggenden, 103; Calen, 115; Cecil Plains, 65; Cloncurry, 117; Cunnamulla, 114; Dimbulah, 90; Dirranbandi, 50; Eidsvold, 45; Goomeri, 81; Hughenden, 115; Imbil, 77; Inglewood, 111; Injune, 53; Jandowae, 116; Julia Creek, 43; Kenilworth, 95; Kilkivan, 73; Killarney, 94; Miriam Vale, 40; Mitchell, 111; Mt. Larcom, 116; Pomona, 108; Preston, 65; Quinalow, 46; Richmond, 72; Rosedale, 41; Springsure, 56; Surat, 35; Tambo, 34; Taroom, 67; Theodore, 99; Wallumbilla, 67; Wandoan, 111; Winton, 78; Wondai, 110; and Woodford, 98."

(2) "As a general rule a maximum travelling time of one hour each journey may be acceptable. Special conditions, however, may warrant longer journeys desired by parents."

CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING COMMISSION HOMES, MAREEBA AND CAIRNS

Mr. B. Wood, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

(1) Have tenders for construction of Housing Commission dwellings in Mareeba been called but not let?

(2) When were tenders called in the last three years and what were the quotes in each instance?

(3) Why was no tender accepted?

(4) What quotes were accepted for the building of recent Housing Commission homes in Cairns?

Answers:—

(1) "Yes."

(2) "For five low set houses—January, 1970, \$41,740, \$52,758; February, 1970, \$50,872; March, 1970, \$49,070; May, 1970, \$44,684; July, 1970, \$42,487 to \$54,226; September, 1970, \$45,680 to \$55,000; October, 1971, \$69,052, \$72,177; November, 1971, \$53,960 to \$66,255. The majority of tenders were subject to variation for increased costs of labour."

(3) "The organisation which had requested these houses for its employees indicated that it was not then in a position to proceed and there was an absence of priority applications from the general public."

(4) "For 19 high set houses—November, 1971, \$204,035 (firm price); for two high set houses, May, 1972, \$22,200."

CENTRAL TRANSPORT AUTHORITY,
BRISBANE

Mr. R. Jones, pursuant to notice, asked
The Minister for Transport,—

(1) What steps have been taken since the State election to form the central transport authority to co-ordinate services in the city of Brisbane, as promised by the Government during the election campaign?

(2) When does he anticipate that this important authority will be established and will begin its operations?

Answers:—

(1) "As already announced in the press, a special advisory committee of which I am a member has been constituted to give effect to the Government's election policy speech to rationalise metropolitan transport. Following a meeting of the committee on July 19, a sub-committee comprising the Co-ordinator-General, the Under Treasurer, and the Railways, Main Roads and Transport Commissioners, has been established for the purpose of examining the data before the committee with a view to submitting recommendations for further consideration as to the functions of any new authority which might be established."

(2) "I would refer the Honourable Member to the Governor's speech at the opening of Parliament relative to the setting up of a Metropolitan Transport Authority. He may rest assured that this will be proceeded with as expeditiously as possible having regard to the many complexities which have to be carefully investigated and determined in this area."

FUEL STORAGE, MAYNE RAILWAY DEPOT

Mr. R. Jones, pursuant to notice, asked
The Minister for Transport,—

(1) What is the capacity for fuel storage at the Mayne railway depot?

(2) What was the level of fuel stored at the depot on each day during the period that the Government applied rail cuts in Brisbane during the recent oil industry dispute?

(3) On how many occasions during the curtailment of rail services were Amoco road tankers with fuel supplies turned away from the depot because storage was already at capacity?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) "The fuel supplies held at Mayne during the recent oil dispute required to be dealt with in conjunction with supplies at other depots on a State-wide basis in order that essential services could be maintained for as long a period as was possible, to safeguard the employment and well-being of railway men and workers in Queensland. The fuel held at Mayne could not be considered in respect of the Brisbane suburban rail services only and while these services were curtailed they were operated to the extent necessary to enable workers to travel to and from employment. To my knowledge there was no occasion on which a road tanker with fuel supplies was turned away from Mayne depot."

PROPOSED SUSPENSION OF STANDING
ORDERS

REFERENDUM ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO
STRUCTURE OF BRISBANE CITY COUNCIL

Mr. HOUSTON (Bulimba—Leader of the
Opposition): I move—

"That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would otherwise prevent the acceptance of a private member's motion before the House proceeds with the Orders of the Day to allow the Opposition to introduce a motion to provide for a referendum of the citizens of the City of Brisbane to ascertain whether they desire any alteration to the structure of the Brisbane City Council."

Opposition Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. TUCKER (Townsville West): I
second the motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! Under Standing
Order No. 17 no private member's motion
can be accepted until the Address-in-Reply
debate has been concluded.

Mr. HOUSTON: With respect, Mr.
Speaker, Standing Order No. 332 provides
for suspension of the Standing Orders at any
time.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I have given my
ruling.

PRIVILEGE

STRIKING UNIONISTS, GOVERNMENT PRINTING
OFFICE

Mr. AIKENS (Townsville South) (12.1
p.m.): I rise on a question of privilege, and
I assure the House that there is nothing

facetious in this. Are you aware, Mr. Speaker, that immediately formal business has been disposed of today all Opposition members of this House propose to leave the Chamber in support of the striking unionists at the Government Printing Office—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is out of order. He will please resume his seat.

ADDRESS IN REPLY

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE—SECOND ALLOTTED DAY

Debate resumed from 8 August (see p. 85) on Dr. Scott-Young's motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

Mr. DAVIS (Brisbane) (12.2 p.m.): It gives me great pleasure, as the member for Brisbane and representing both sides of that gerrymandered electorate, to record the loyalty of the electors of Brisbane to Her Majesty the Queen. I propose to bring forward some points which I think are very important to my electorate, and to show that it is one of the most gerrymandered electorates in Queensland.

Prior to the recent redistribution, the Brisbane electorate was bounded in part by the Brisbane River. The three stooges of the Electoral Redistribution Commission changed that boundary by including in the new electorate of Brisbane parts of two former Labor electorates, namely, Brisbane and South Brisbane. If the commission had been "fair dinkum", it would also have considered, on the one hand, the electorates of Toowong and Sherwood, and, on the other hand, Toowong and Kurilpa, which were Liberal seats divided by the Brisbane River. Yet the three stooges on the tribunal could only see fit—

Mr. Lane: What did you call them?

Mr. DAVIS: I called them three stooges, because that is what they were. They placed themselves in this light. During the debate on the Electoral Districts Bill last year, the Leader of the Opposition suggested that the commission should be headed by a Supreme Court judge and that its hearings should be public.

Under the original redistribution handed down shortly before December, the Brisbane electorate was to be the pivot of the metropolitan area. The first figures revealed that the Brisbane electorate had an estimated enrolment of 13,896. Many submissions were made by the Liberal Party and the Country Party, and also by individual members of both of those parties. The honourable member for Windsor, for instance, is well aware of that. Because most of his branch members lived between Vale Street and York Street,

which were in my electorate under the original redistribution, he submitted that they should remain in the Windsor electorate.

Mr. R. E. MOORE: I rise to a point of order. I made no such representations. The honourable member's remark is untrue, and I ask that it be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I ask the honourable member to withdraw the remark.

Mr. DAVIS: I will withdraw it, but it is a well-known fact—

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member will withdraw the remark without qualification.

Mr. DAVIS: I withdraw it without qualification, but I must also say that just after the first redistribution there were Liberal members in this House who could say where the boundaries were to be drawn. If I am forced into a corner, I shall name the persons who told me what the redistribution proposals were. When they were made public, they were exactly as these persons had said they would be.

Mr. R. E. Moore: Name them.

Mr. DAVIS: I will not name the honourable member's friends. I do not want to name them at the moment, because they are still good informants to me.

I go further and refer to the second redistribution. The Liberal and Country Parties submitted about 40 proposals to the commission in respect of that redistribution, and each one put forward by the joint parties, but not one put forward by the Labor Party, was acknowledged. Brisbane was to be the pivotal electorate for the city area. The estimate at the time of the second redistribution was 13,308 voters on the Brisbane electoral roll. However, when the roll was published, it contained only 10,802. It is bad enough to say that the members of the commission were three stooges; I think it is worse when one has to say that the tribunal was incompetent.

Mr. Hinze: Are you calling the commissioners stooges?

Mr. DAVIS: I am calling them stooges because that is what they were. They were stooges for the Government. Now that the Queen's birthday honours list is published each year, I do not allow comics into my house as I find it more amusing to read the honours list and see how many political stooges appear in it. I cannot understand why the other two members of the redistribution commission did not receive knighthoods. However, I shall keep a watch in the future, and probably I shall see where they have been rewarded for what they did for the Government.

As I said before, there were an additional 2,500 voters included in the 1970 estimate. That shows that the tribunal was incompetent, and also that it did not have accurate rolls. If the pivotal electorate was taken into the adjoining electorates, naturally the whole redistribution of the Brisbane area would be out of focus.

I wish to take this opportunity of mentioning some of the tactics used by the Liberal Party in my electorate. As the House is aware, I am a very popular member in my area and the Liberal Party found it very difficult to get an opponent for me. Finally they imported one. His Liberal organisation, or what is left of it, knew that they could not beat me by fair means. They could not defeat Labor Party policy and platform, so they resorted to subterfuge. The Liberal candidate had a friend who worked part time, and lived at the Salvation Army home at South Brisbane. Because his name, being Davies, was similar to mine, they paid his nomination fee of \$40, thinking they would be able to create a little confusion in the gerrymandered portion of the new Brisbane electorate.

Mr. Newton: The honourable member for Merthyr was his adviser.

Mr. DAVIS: I would not say that he advised him. If he had, he would have been lucky to get back himself. The people showed good, sound common sense, and I defeated my Liberal opponent by 5,414 votes to 2,785. If the Brisbane electorate had been extended into Merthyr, the honourable member for Merthyr would not be here to-day.

Mr. Lane: They wouldn't have you down there.

Mr. DAVIS: Don't give me that! The honourable member knows as well as I do that they would.

After his crushing defeat in the election, my Liberal opponent, who had separated from his wife, had the audacity to apply for a variation of the maintenance order, stating in his affidavit that, by telephoning me, his wife had interfered with his political career.

I turn now to a problem that has concerned me since I was elected to this Assembly in 1969. I can claim quite fairly that I and some of my colleagues in this Chamber are the only members of Parliament who have shown any concern about the flooding of Breakfast Creek and adjoining areas. As I have said on about 14 occasions already, the Railway Department was—in fact, it still is—polluting the creek. The Country-Liberal Government hoped that a fairy godmother would come down with a magic wand and remove from it any responsibility for the problem; but, of course, things do not work out that way.

As honourable members will recall, earlier this year cyclone "Daisy" passed across the Brisbane area and deluged the city. In Northey Street, Windsor, and adjacent areas the water was between 14 and 16 feet deep and some houses were submerged completely. Let me show the House how poor the Government's response was to requests for assistance by people living in these areas.

On the Wednesday after cyclone "Daisy" passed over the city, the people in the Northey Street area held a public meeting in the street. Naturally, they asked me to attend the meeting because they knew that I had attempted to have something done for them. One of the Liberal candidates for the coming Federal election, Mr. Anderson, also attended the meeting and tried to obtain some political mileage from it. He said he had been in touch with Sir Gordon Chalk that very afternoon and that Sir Gordon had told him that everything was all right, that the Government of Queensland had been in touch with the Commonwealth Government. He said that the area was not regarded as a disaster area—incidentally, that statement met with some booring—but everything would be fixed up.

On the Friday night of the same week, another meeting was held. It was attended by more than 350 people, and many members of the Liberal Party were there. The honourable member for Windsor attended, as did the prospective candidate for the electorate of Stafford—it was Kedron at that time, I think; it was changed later—Mr. Ray Smith, a former member of this Assembly. Mr. Anderson again attended in the hope of getting a little more political mileage out of the meeting. Of course, as things turned out, he did not.

I should like it placed on record that I, on behalf of my constituents in that area, sent a telegram to the Premier inviting him to attend the meeting and to indicate whether or not Government assistance could be given to the people concerned. In reply, I received from the Premier a telegram in which he referred to the advice given to me by his department earlier in the week that any persons who considered themselves in emergent circumstances should report to the Fortitude Valley Police Station. He went on to say that he had already made requests to the Commonwealth Government for special financial assistance for Brisbane and the Near North Coast areas. We took that at face value. To be quite fair to Mr. Smith, the prospective Liberal candidate for Stafford, I must mention that he attended the meeting, and it may be that I am being very nasty when I point out that the Liberal Party was going to select its nominee for the electorate on the following Wednesday.

On the Sunday forms were distributed by the people who attended the meeting on the Friday night. Those who had been affected by the flood were given an opportunity to

apply to the Fortitude Valley Police Station for personal distress relief. Some 109 persons registered at the Fortitude Valley Police Station for relief. I must be fair and acknowledge that Inspector Beer of the Fortitude Valley Police Station assisted by having a sergeant and a constable on duty in a special office throughout the week to receive and process the applications.

As requested at the meeting, I immediately wrote to the Premier on behalf of the flood victims. In the first week after the flooding I telephoned the Premier's Department to try to arrange for the Premier to meet a deputation of residents to ascertain what assistance could be granted. In a subsequent telephone call from the department my request that the Premier meet a deputation was refused. In my letter I asked him would he ascertain urgently the time-table of relief for personal distress.

I waited four months for a reply. Telephone calls were useless. In the meantime cyclone "Emily" arrived on the scene, and it did as much damage as cyclone "Daisy". I finally received a reply from the Premier on 9 May. I will not read the letter in full, but he said that no reply to his request had been received from the Commonwealth Government, and all that he could say at that stage was that failing a favourable reply it would not be possible to provide relief assistance from State funds to the residents of the Windsor district. He said nothing about the report in "The Courier-Mail" of 18 September last year that the Minister for Works and Housing had flown up to Kin Kin and immediately given personal relief from State funds. That newspaper article stated—

"Mr. Hodges said a local committee would be established to consider claims.

"Cheques for \$500 were presented yesterday to each of five families worst hit by last week-end's storm."

We did not see the Premier or any other Cabinet Minister visiting the areas affected by the two cyclones that hit Brisbane. It is a very different story when the area affected is held by the Country Party.

On 29 May a reply was received from the Prime Minister. It is just a coincidence that the reply came two days after the State elections on 27 May. That letter said that the Commonwealth Government would not accede to the request of the Queensland Government for \$1,500,000. A check by my parliamentary colleagues in the Federal House has indicated that the Commonwealth Government has never refused a request for personal distress relief on a dollar-for-dollar basis, and that there was never a request made by this Government or by this Premier for personal distress relief.

At the first available opportunity after Parliament met following eight or nine months' recess, I asked a question of the Premier—

"Did his department, when making the claim to the Commonwealth Government, make separate applications for (a) personal hardship and (b) local authority losses of roads, bridges, etc.?"

In answering the question, the Premier grouped the two questions together. The particular part of the answer to which I wish to refer reads—

"I can also inform the honourable member that when the Commonwealth Government's decision was received, my Government gave very careful and sympathetic consideration to the question of the State providing financial assistance from its own resources but decided that to do so would create a precedent that could have financial implications over a very wide area on other occasions."

In October last year when damage was done at Kin Kin the Government did not worry about precedent, but because this was an area in Brisbane held by Labor—an area only two miles from the Brisbane City Hall—this Government refused assistance. In answering my question in that manner, the Premier demonstrated that in this instance he completely ignored the fact that there are ways of giving assistance other than from the State's resources alone.

The Federal member for Brisbane, Mr. Manfred Cross, wrote to the Prime Minister, Mr. McMahon, and the reply received on Monday shows just how "fair dinkum" this Government is. The letter reads—

"Dear Mr. Cross,

"I refer to your letter of 7 June 1972 concerning the possibility of Commonwealth assistance to the Queensland Government for the relief of personal hardship and distress caused by cyclone 'Daisy'.

"I understand that my colleague, the Treasurer, wrote to you about this matter on 19 June 1972. I have seen a copy of Mr. Snedden's letter and I find that there is little that I would wish to add to what he has said except to reiterate that State Governments carry the basic responsibility for providing natural disaster relief assistance and they are in the best position to assess whether it would be appropriate for assistance to be provided in circumstances such as those which resulted from cyclone 'Daisy'.

"While the Commonwealth normally assists, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, in meeting the cost of relief of personal hardship and distress caused by natural disasters where substantial widespread damage occurs, it does so only at the express request of the State Government concerned. The Queensland Government did

not ask the Commonwealth for assistance of this nature in this instance. What it did ask for was assistance in financing the restoration of assets damaged by the effects of the cyclone and as the Treasurer explained, the Commonwealth was not convinced that this was warranted.

Yours sincerely,

William McMahon
(William McMahon)"

I suppose I would not be much different from the majority of Australians in having a very poor regard for William McMahon as Prime Minister and leader, but this letter highlights the ridiculous Country Party advertisement exposing the "missing links" about the place.

Mr. R. E. Moore: You are it.

Mr. DAVIS: There are no second prizes. Some of the "missing links" could not even make the grade at their State convention. That was obvious to anybody who saw them on television. While I do not like William McMahon it is ludicrous to suggest, as was done in the advertisement I have referred to, that while Australia is looking for a leader Queensland has found one in Johannes Bjelke-Petersen. I personally would prefer Mickey Mouse; I think he would be a stronger leader.

The account I have given of what occurred is a true one, and it demonstrates once and for all just how honest and "fair dinkum" the Premier and his cohorts were when the cyclones "Emily" and "Daisy" ravaged this State.

On the Saturday morning that the flooding occurred in Northey Street, I visited the area and saw the police officers manning the boats, aided by volunteer helpers. However, when the women and children alighted from the boats they were simply left under shop awnings. I asked one of the policemen on duty what arrangements had been made to provide them with shelter. He told me that that matter did not concern him; his job and responsibility was purely and simply to get the people out of the houses. After there had been a lot of mucking around, I was told by one constable that he thought the Salvation Army building in Ann Street and the Valley State School in Brookes Street had been set up as shelter areas. However, the water in Breakfast Creek had risen and the roads were under 10 feet of water so that it was impossible to get through to the Valley or Ann Street.

Mr. Bromley: They should have used Joh's plane.

Mr. DAVIS: He may have used his plane to fly over it, but he certainly did not use his car to visit Northey Street.

Eventually the warden of St. George's Church of England Hall kindly allowed the building to be used, and the ladies' guild did

a wonderful job in providing food and blankets to the women and children. This was done without even any expression of thanks from the Disaster Relief Organisation, about which we hear so much.

I remind honourable members that the television channels kept issuing warnings when cyclone "Daisy" was nearing Brisbane, and I can vividly recall one announcer saying that the organisation of relief had been left in the hands of the Minister for Works and Housing. The Minister did not even put in an appearance in Northey Street or the adjacent area. During cyclones "Emily" and "Daisy" no official organisation performed any relief work, although I admit that during cyclone "Emily" the Civil Defence Organisation distributed some blankets.

A number of my electors asked me to write to the authorities to ascertain what disaster relief organisation, if any, operated in this State. I rang the Premier's Department and asked, "Who is responsible for disaster relief? Whom should I ring if there is danger of a future flood occurring?" The Premier's Department told me that I should contact the Minister for Works and Housing, so I wrote to him in the following terms—

"Following the recent flooding in the Windsor and adjacent areas of my Electorate, I am writing to you for clarification of the roles of responsibility in the event of future emergencies.

"Firstly, the Police of the district did a splendid job in organising boating to evacuate residents. Their role ended when the people were put on dry land.

(1) Who is responsible for opening and staffing of centres to house and feed victims?

(2) In the event of a Church or similar hall in the area being made available for the above purpose—is any payment made to such a body?

(3) What Government Department has the necessary powers to co-ordinate all facilities, e.g. sheltering, clothing and feeding of people?"

The Minister acknowledged my letter immediately—I must pay him the tribute of always answering letters promptly—saying that the matter was not under his control, but under the control of the Co-ordinator-General, who is in the Premier's Department. I then wrote to the Co-ordinator-General, who replied as follows:—

"In the event of emergencies involving many persons and considerable damage there is a disaster relief organisation in existence, of which the Inspector of Police for the area is the district controller."

Mr. Sullivan: You have spent 30 minutes reading letters, what about making a bit of a speech?

Mr. DAVIS: The Minister should listen to this because it might help him if a flood occurs in his area.

A deputation from the Brisbane Flood Association approached Inspector Beer of the Valley Police. He was very attentive to suggestions. We asked him if any organisation could be approached in the event of a flood next week and pointed out that it was on the cards as the Government had failed to do anything to overcome the problems associated with this creek. Inspector Beer said, "I will send an inspector along who will be able to tell you what arrangements have been made about the police." The inspector came to one meeting of the association and said, "I have had instructions from above that we do not want to be involved in this organisation because it is political."

A Government Member: "From above"?

Mr. DAVIS: Yes, from above.

This was simply an organisation that had been formed to try to help solve the problems. When we tracked down the political issue, we found that it was an argument between the Brisbane City Council and the State Government. If a flood should occur next week-end, we do not know whom we should ring about getting people out of their houses, because there is no such organisation in this State.

I will now deal with another important subject, namely, our welfare services that have recently been under attack.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Lickiss): Order! There is too much audible conversation in the Chamber.

Mr. DAVIS: I recently read a statement in "The Australian" which contained some of the allegations made by past inmates, parents of inmates, and present inmates of Westbrook. Something must be wrong with Westbrook, because there have been almost 100 escapes from that institution. Today, there was another escape and three have taken place in the last 24 hours. However, when any criticism is levelled at our welfare services, the prisons, or Westbrook, an immediate hue and cry is raised that everything is right, and nothing is wrong. But something must be wrong when I, as a parliamentarian elected to this Legislature, am restricted as to the time of my visits to it.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Lickiss): Order! There is too much audible conversation in the Chamber. I do not intend to remind honourable members again.

Mr. DAVIS: I rang the office of the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Welfare Services because I wanted to visit Westbrook with my parliamentary colleagues, and last week his private secretary replied that the Minister thought it would be better if we visited on an open, public field day in October this year. Why would I want to visit on an open

public field day? We all know what happens when an open day is declared at an institution. All the boys are paraded, scrubbed and cleaned. Each would probably have a toothbrush that day, whereas normally they use communal toothbrushes. I suppose society matrons would be brought from Brisbane, probably of the same type as those who are always in the Council Chamber Liberal dis-cotheque. They would go to Westbrook and say, "These boys are almost human."

I emphasise that as a parliamentarian I do not see why my visits to any institution, prison or Government instrumentality should be restricted in any way. If I am forbidden to go into any place, I suspect that it is because something smells; that there is something wrong or bad in the place that the authorities do not want parliamentarians to see.

Mr. R. E. Moore: There is—when you walk in.

Mr. DAVIS: That is typical of the stupid, inane utterances of the honourable member for Windsor.

I shall now relate my remarks to the complaints I have received from parents of boys not only in Westbrook but also in Boggo Road. One person was very concerned about the treatment given to his son at Boggo Road. He was 21 years of age but had, to use the father's own words, the mentality of a boy of 14 years. He had been mentally retarded all his life. Nevertheless, he was sent to Boggo Road where he was attacked by a group of prisoners in a way similar to that outlined in the infamous case that received so much publicity last year. He was homosexually raped. He called out to the warders, but no notice was taken of him. Something must be done to protect people who are obviously a bit simple.

Mr. Peel, in his report, which was described by "Sunday Sun" as a complete whitewash, said—

"The evidence is that there was some homosexuality going on between the inmates but not a lot—it could not be said to have been rife. The sexual activity was mainly 'masturbation' and not 'sodomy'. There were previously two inmates who took part in these practices—one of them has now been discharged from Westbrook—the other lad, a bit on the simple side . . ."

I cannot believe that this does not go on, because the statements I have prove that it does and, according to Mr. Peel's report, insufficient screening is done.

I have other statements that I am prepared to table for the information of a joint parliamentary committee, which I suggest should be set up. I would not give them to any Minister. If a person came to me with allegations about either the prison or a Government department, fancy giving them to a Cabinet Minister! He would immedi-

ately hold a departmental inquiry into the allegations and that would be the end of the matter.

Mr. Hinze: What would you do?

Mr. DAVIS: I said I would table these allegations if Government back-benchers move to establish a joint parliamentary committee. All of these statements, except two, are on oath and, as I said, I am not prepared to table them for a Minister or a public servant.

An incident at Westbrook in July was not brought to public notice. After being in the compound for a number of weeks, two young fellows attempted suicide by hanging, one using his socks and the other his T-shirt. That is why no socks are now allowed at Westbrook.

Something must be awfully wrong at Boggo Road because "The Australian" today published the sworn report of a person about the treatment he received there recently. The Minister for Tourism, Sport and Welfare Services (Mr. Herbert) told "The Australian" that its representative could not visit Boggo Road and that he did not have power, under the prison regulations, to allow such a visit.

(Time expired.)

Mr. HINZE (South Coast) (12.40 p.m.): On behalf of the electorate of South Coast, it is my pleasing duty to express loyalty to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and to say how proud I am to be representing her in this Chamber.

I congratulate Sir Colin Hannah on his appointment to lead the State of Queensland as its Governor. During the last few weeks we have seen our new Governor carrying out the most important duties for which he has been appointed, and we are already impressed. He carries with him a dignity befitting his high office. Of course, we all know that the A.L.P. would, if they had the chance, put the skids under the office of Governor. Fortunately, they will not get an opportunity to do so.

I hope the period during which Sir Colin and Lady Hannah are at Government House will be long and fruitful, and that they enjoy their stay in Queensland. I also hope that when they decide to retire they will take a leaf out of the book of the previous Governor, Sir Alan Mansfield, and take up residence on the Gold Coast. I congratulate Sir Alan and Lady Mansfield on the way they carried out their duties whilst Sir Alan was Governor, and I am pleased to say that they have chosen my electorate as the place for their retirement. They are now living in Rio Vista, and all honourable members will be pleased to know that they are enjoying good health.

It is customary to congratulate the mover and the seconder of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply, and I

have much pleasure in so doing. I congratulate both the honourable member for Townsville (Dr. Scott-Young) and "Young Brucie", the honourable member for Surfers Paradise. They very capably carried out the important duties of respectively moving and seconding the motion initiating this debate.

I congratulate all members on being returned to the House. All members, whether new or old, wish to participate in the government of the State and, irrespective of the side of the House on which they sit, I extend to them my congratulations. In particular, I congratulate the Leader of the Opposition; I want to see him stay for ever as Leader of the Opposition—he is going the right way about it.

Mr. Houston: With gerrymandering and other skulduggery.

Mr. HINZE: If the Leader of the Opposition will remain in the Chamber I will tell him all about gerrymandering and percentages. We listened to the honourable member the other day, and we heard the same old claptrap we have listened to year in, year out. Again we heard about percentages, served up to him by Stanaway or somebody else. I do not know who prepares these figures for the Leader of the Opposition, but we have to listen to them.

Mr. Houston: Why don't you reply to them?

Mr. HINZE: I wish to refer specifically to the 14 new members who have just entered the House. I congratulate them on becoming members of Parliament, and say how pleased we are to see them. No doubt this will be a very interesting session. I am pleased to see here Roy Harvey, an old friend of mine in local government affairs for years. Frankly, I think that if all honourable members had experience in local government before coming to this House, it would be a good thing. I refer, too, to my very good friend from Callide, who has given service in local government, and also to the honourable member for Hinchinbrook and my good friend Vi Jordan, both of whom served in local government before entering Parliament.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member is out of order in referring to honourable members by name. He will please refer to them by the names of their electorates.

Mr. HINZE: I refer, then, to the honourable member for Ipswich West, Vi Jordan.

It is a pity that Vilma Ward would not come in here and say what she wants to say instead of pimping on politicians. A lot she would know about us, anyhow. We have

to take phone calls and introduce deputations to Ministers, yet we have to put up with this old pimp sitting in the gallery. When I was asked, "Will you go on 'This Day Tonight' with Vilma Ward?", I said, "I would love to have such an opportunity. Let us see how good she is." But, of course, she could not be found anywhere in Brisbane once she heard that I was going to give her a little bit of a "touch-up". The person who made the approach from "This Day Tonight" said, "Never mind, Russ, she'll keep." And, of course, she will. The House is going into recess today for 18 days. He said, "I suppose she will be sitting up there again when you come back." I said, "If she is and you want me to go on 'This Day Tonight' I will, and I will say what I think about it." As far as I am concerned, anyone who sits in the gallery and takes notes and pimps on members can go to hell. The people of the South Coast electorate put me here originally; they re-elected me on this occasion. They are the only ones of whom I take any notice.

Mr. Baldwin: You will have to gerrymander next time.

Mr. HINZE: The Electoral Redistribution Commission will not have to gerrymander my electorate as it did the honourable member's electorate. There had to be some safe Labor seats, and I said, "Look after old 'Red Ned Ted' for me, will you? Give him a good strong Labor seat so we can keep him here for ever." He has now been elevated to the Opposition front benches over some of my good Catholic friends, and I cannot understand why. What did the A.L.P. do to Hanlon, Hanson, Bennett and the others? It seems to be like the I.R.A. The skids have been put under them, and for the life of me I cannot understand why. Honourable members opposite cannot tell me that they are not men of ability. I have sat in this Chamber and listened, year after year, to the speeches of the honourable member for Baroona. He is an extremely capable member, and so is the honourable member for Port Curtis. But they have now been relegated to the back benches, and my friend from Redlands has been brought in to the shadow Cabinet. Anyway, I offer him my congratulations.

Mr. Jensen: They wanted to be on the back benches with you.

Mr. HINZE: I will not be on the back benches much longer, as the honourable member well knows. There is always opportunity for advancement in my party. Government members do not have their heads lopped off as members of the A.L.P. do.

I thank my constituents for electing me to represent South Coast, and I also thank my many supporters in the election campaign. The Liberals thought they were going to put the skids under me, but I had about 200 people working for me. That indicates that

they thought I had done the right thing by them over the previous six years and that they were going to make damn sure I was returned to represent them again during the next three years.

Three-cornered contests are costly. I say without any fear or equivocation that the election campaign cost me about \$8,000, and it cost the Liberal Party about \$5,000 or \$6,000 to try to beat me. In the three-cornered contests in the electorates of Surfers Paradise and Albert, between \$10,000 and \$20,000 was spent in retaining Government seats. That is not good business. Possibly the Liberals will mend their ways and see that it is futile to stand against sitting Government members, because the Liberal Party certainly took a pasting in Landsborough, Redcliffe and South Coast. Personally, I do not care whether they mend their ways or not. It is their business; it is entirely up to them.

It appears to me that in the Federal electorate of McPherson something of the order of \$100,000 will be spent in trying to win the seat. That is big business and a lot of money, but it is fairly typical of the money now being spent in election campaigns.

Possibly McPherson will be the most closely contested seat in Australia in the coming Federal election. As honourable members know, the president of the Liberal Party is seeking political honours in that seat. Tommy Veivers, who previously was a member of the Country Party, is contesting the seat for the A.L.P. (Opposition laughter.) Of course he was a member of the Country Party. He wanted to stand for big "Red Ned Ted's" seat. He said to me, "Is it a certainty?" I said, "No. Old 'Red Ned Ted' will take a bit of knocking over." I said, "We will give him a bit of a flutter." Tommy Veivers said, "Is it a safe seat?" I said, "It is safe if you win it." He said, "Well, is it a certainty?" I said, "There are no certainties in politics." Under those circumstances, the A.L.P. "pinched" him. In spite of that, he is a good bloke.

Mr. Baldwin: And we have all the other Veivers, too.

Mr. HINZE: Don't be silly! All the other Veivers are Country Party to the backbone. The A.L.P. has only got Tommy, and I don't even know whether his missus will vote for him.

Mr. Aikens: Why didn't you debate with Vilma Ward on television last night?

Mr. HINZE: The honourable member for Townsville South is a little bit late. You should have been here. I told the Assembly all about that a few minutes ago.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for South Coast will address the Chair.

Mr. Houston: All he said was, "I am not game to meet her on television."

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. HINZE: When I was down the street last night I saw a tidy-can that had on it, "Back the A.L.P. team—Houston-Jones". I cannot understand why the Leader of the Opposition dropped his mate, the honourable member for Townsville West. What did he do to poor old Percy Tucker? Why did he drop him? Honourable members opposite come into the Chamber and talk about the North. The A.L.P. is a Brisbane party, and honourable members opposite know it.

Mr. Houston interjected.

Mr. HINZE: Of course the honourable member dropped him. It was the Houston-Jones team. He put the skids under his old mate. Poor old Perc. had not done anything wrong, but the Leader of the Opposition was prepared to dump him. And he nearly did, too, because Perc. Tucker only got up by about 10 votes.

Mr. Sherrington: Why did you put the skids under Houghton?

Mr. HINZE: I did not put the skids under Houghton; in fact, I backed him.

The other day we listened to the Leader of the Opposition as he quoted the kind of figures he always trots out. I do not know if Stanaway gets them for him or who brings them into the Chamber. From the Leader of the Opposition it is always the same old political jargon when he starts talking about who should be governing the State. Let me point out to him that in 1935 Forgan Smith—one of those good old leaders whom we could all respect—won 52.49 per cent of the vote. On that result he would be entitled to govern. In 1941 he followed up with 50.48 per cent of the vote. In 1953 Vince Gair won 52.52 per cent of the vote. In 1956—before that calamitous day in 1957 when the A.L.P. cut its own throat—he won 50.12 per cent of the vote. How did Jack Houston, the honourable member for Bulimba and Leader of the Opposition, fare? In 1972 he won 46.8 per cent of the vote.

Mr. Houston: That is not true.

Mr. HINZE: Yes, it is; the honourable member knows it is. That means that 53.2 per cent of Queenslanders do not want him. It is as simple as that.

Mr. Sherrington interjected.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Salisbury will please control himself.

Mr. HINZE: Does he want me to chuck him out?

Mr. SHERRINGTON: I rise to a point of order. The honourable member for South Coast is threatening me.

Mr. HINZE: Mr. Speaker, I know as well as everybody else that you are going to have trouble throwing these fellows out.

Mr. Sherrington: It would take a better man than you to throw me out.

Mr. HINZE: Now he is provoking me.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I warn the honourable member for Salisbury. I should not like to order him out, but if he continues in that manner I will.

Mr. HINZE: I think I have amply demonstrated that the figures presented on Tuesday by the Leader of the Opposition were just a lot of hotch-potch, and that by far the large majority of Queenslanders do not want to see an Australian Labor Party Government in Queensland.

When the electoral boundaries were "gerrymandered", or whatever other term honourable members opposite might like to use, the Federal president of the A.L.P.—may I refer to him as "Tom Burns"?—got out on the stump and said, "This will do us." And so did the Leader of the Opposition. He came out publicly and said, "These boundaries will suit us." All honourable members opposite and even the Lord Mayor of Brisbane held that opinion. They were all patting themselves on the back because they thought they had us over a barrel.

Mr. Sherrington: You directed the commission to change the boundaries.

Mr. HINZE: The honourable member agreed that it was a good gerrymander for his party.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! There is far too much interjecting. I do not intend to tolerate any more of it.

Mr. Houston: He cannot make a speech without interjections.

Mr. Sherrington: He cannot even make a speech!

Mr. Aikens: There is a difference between interjections and organised interruptions.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I warn the honourable member for Townsville South, too.

Mr. HINZE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I had better lay off them. Like that well-known dog, they can dish it out but they can't take it.

Along with other responsible members in the Chamber, I deplore the fact that for such a long period we have not had the opportunity to speak from this floor. We have only the one Chamber—we have no Senate, thank the Lord—and we want the right to meet in the Legislative Assembly Chamber more often. We want the right to ask frequent questions of Ministers, but we are deprived of this right for a long period during an election year. Frankly, I cannot see the reason for it. I would have appreciated the opportunity to come back here in February and March. We would have belted the socks off the A.L.P. if we had had that opportunity. However, that is by the way. I only hope that such a long break between sittings of Parliament never occurs again. On this occasion Parliament did not meet for 210 days. We can all see what happens when such long breaks occur. No-one can blame the departments, but we get departmental government to such an extent—

Mr. Houston: You can't blame us.

Mr. HINZE: The departmental officers cannot be blamed either. During that long period some stupid things were done. I refer particularly to the regulations issued by the Department of Harbours and Marine setting out what has to be carried in a dinghy if a person wants to go fishing, say, in the Coomera River. My good friend Bill Foxwell lives on the Coomera River. His father came to the area and pioneered it 100 years ago. Recently, an inspector approached him when he was out in his boat fishing. The water was not very deep—at low tide it would only have been up to his ankles—but the inspector said, "Have you a life-jacket or a buoyancy vest for each person on board? You need a pair of oars, two buckets of a capacity of not less than 2 gallons each, a 6ft. lanyard, a waterproof torch or lamp, a signalling mirror and an anchor with a cable not less than 60 ft. in length." The regulations require a boat to contain everything except the kitchen sink. My friend said, "If I have to get all that gear into my boat there will be no room for me or the fish—if I catch any."

Mr. Sherrington: The only thing left out is an extra pea for your whistle.

Mr. HINZE: I am making the point that these things are done by departmental decision, and if Parliament is not in session we have no opportunity to discuss them here. I am not blaming the Opposition; I am bringing forward instances of things that happen when the House does not meet for long periods, and I hope that we never again see the day when this State, with only one House, goes so long without a Parliamentary sitting. We know, of course, that it will not happen again. It was a stupid practice, and it had to be changed.

Because of the increased boating traffic these days there has to be some control. I agree with Inspector Phil Barnett, who said recently that when boats go out to sea across the bar from Southport, or Currumbin or wherever it may be, when they leave they should advise someone when they expect to return. We have had instances recently of boats being reported missing. However, the boats return and because nobody is informed time and money are expended looking for them. I appreciate that the department must do something in this regard, but I am giving only one glaring example of the type of thing that can happen.

Mr. Houston: Wouldn't that provision have been approved by the Minister or Cabinet?

Mr. HINZE: I do not want to answer that question; I do not know.

I recently had another example in my electorate of what can happen. It affected what is possibly the most modern butcher shop on the South Coast. Because the ceiling was 2 ins. too low, the building looked like being rejected as a butcher shop. It was an air-conditioned shop, with no sawdust on the floor. I made representations on behalf of the builder. I said, "This would be the best butcher shop in my electorate." I suppose there have to be some rules, otherwise ceilings could get so low as to leave no appreciable space. However, these are the silly little things that could be corrected if members had the opportunity to come here and ask questions about them or discuss them with Ministers and have them quickly cleared up before serious problems are created.

Mr. Sherrington: Did you complain to the Premier about his failure to call Parliament together?

Mr. HINZE: I spoke about it just three minutes ago.

Mr. Sherrington: Did you complain about it previously?

Mr. HINZE: Of course I did—and I will complain every time I get the opportunity. The Premier said, "As you have made representations, I recognise your position. You can take it for granted that it will never happen again."

In view of the controversy about daylight saving, as the member for South Coast I think I should have something to say on that subject. Honourable members know the feeling of the people in my electorate and in the area generally. We have the position that people there are threatening to go it alone.

Mr. Houston: You compromised with the Liberals.

Mr. HINZE: I did not compromise with the Liberals. I am a party man, just as the honourable member is. I fought like hell for daylight saving.

[Sitting suspended from 1 to 2.15 p.m.]

Mr. HINZE: I wish to deal with only one or two other electoral matters. I have taken the trouble to colour in a map of Queensland to depict the areas represented by the three political parties. I have coloured the area represented by the Country Party in blue—a good royal colour—and I have coloured the area represented by the Australian Labor Party in red. Any similarity between the Labor Party and that colour is purely coincidental, because I am not the type of fellow who would do that deliberately. As we have heard far too much cock and bull about percentages, I shall show honourable members this map. They can see that the blue area extends from the sophisticated area of Surfers Paradise, through the mining towns, out to the woolly West. That is the area represented by the Country Party.

Mr. Melloy: Just a minute. We represent people; you represent cattle.

Mr. HINZE: Never mind about what the Labor Party represents; I am showing its members a map of Queensland. They do not like it when I show them the truth. The green area is represented by the Liberal Party. Perhaps I should put the map away! I think I have shown ample evidence to indicate that the Country Party is firmly entrenched throughout the State. Do not let us hear any more about percentages. I might add that I have not "touched" any boundaries; they are all "fair dinkum" and "ridgy-didge".

When dealing with the Gold Coast area the commissioners erred very badly. Those of us in the area tried to impress upon the commissioners that it should contain five seats; however, as all honourable members are aware, it contains only three. The numbers given to us at the end of April 1972 revealed that in Albert there were 15,353 voters; in South Coast, 14,947; and in Surfers Paradise, 16,462. At that time the total number of electors was 46,762, and since that time the number has grown to more than 50,000.

Mr. Houston: How many did the commission say were in those three electorates?

Mr. HINZE: I claim that the commissioners could not believe and would not accept the fact that there is tremendous development going on in the Gold Coast area. It is a good thing that I am backed up by two other honourable members in this House—and I do not care to which political party they belong. I will certainly train young Bill D'Arcy if need be. Of course, beside me I have my colleague from Surfers Paradise. Three voices in this Assembly speak on behalf of the Gold Coast, and I make a plea for an immediate

partial redistribution of the Gold Coast area, because before the next election is held it will contain nearly 60,000 electors. I believe that they are entitled to greater representation—not better representation, but greater representation. I suggest to the Minister for Justice that he grant a partial redistribution of the Gold Coast area, as provided for in the Electoral Districts Act that was passed by this Parliament last year.

Mr. Houston: You realise that you will not get any more members under that Act?

Mr. HINZE: If we get another two members they will both represent the Country Party.

Mr. Houston: But you cannot get any other members under the Act. All it allows is a rearrangement of the boundaries; it does not provide for any more members.

Mr. HINZE: I will take the point.

Mr. Houston: Ask for another Bill.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. HINZE: The point is well taken. If that is the situation, the number of seats in this House will have to be further increased. My colleagues who represent the area and I certainly will not be satisfied with the present position, because there is going to be a tremendous build-up of population on the Gold Coast. It will outstrip all other areas in Australia, except Canberra, which is a city assisted by Government funds. The population and development growth of the Gold Coast is certainly greater than that of any other area in the State. I know that honourable members get sick and tired of listening to this, but, whether they like it or not, they will have to cop a lot more of it. I suggest that the Gold Coast is entitled to at least five seats.

I should now like to refer to some very important legislation that I believe should be introduced in Queensland. First, the recent Country Party conference at Broadbeach passed a resolution—to be specific, No. 29—covering the protection of marine mammals. (Opposition laughter.)

If honourable members who are laughing had studied this morning's Press they would have seen the mammals. The wording of the resolution was as follows:—

"That all marine mammals in Queensland bays, estuaries, rivers and coastal waters are to be protected."

As most members would be aware, Queensland's current legislation for the protection of certain species covers only one marine mammal, namely, the dugong. It is protected because it is an extraordinary member of the animal kingdom. At present

the killing of these animals is permitted only by the Aborigines and Islanders in the northern part of the State. It may interest the House to learn that in modern times the first Government to give legislative protection to dolphins was the Soviet Union, and in 1965 laws were enacted in Russia to protect all marine mammals.

Mr. Houston: You are advocating their system?

Mr. HINZE: Whose assistance?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member will address the Chair.

Mr. HINZE: I took it that the Leader of the Opposition was suggesting that we should follow the Soviet Union. I do not know why he made the point.

Mr. Harris: They all know you are a Comm.

Mr. HINZE: They all know what?

Mr. Harris: They all know you are a Commo.

Mr. HINZE: I am a Commo?

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member will address the Chair.

Mr. HINZE: Mr. Speaker, I have not called the honourable member a Commo in my life. I have not called any member in this House a Commo. The honourable member cannot offend me; I have been offended by experts.

Mr. Harris interjected.

Mr. HINZE: I have never been called a Commo and I do not call any Opposition members Commos.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. HINZE: It was noted at the time the resolution to protect our marine mammals was being considered that the Government of the United States of America was also considering protective legislation. The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 was at that time passing through the U.S. Senate. Since our conference at Broadbeach it has come to my attention that this Bill has now been passed and will shortly become law in the U.S.A. I have a news item which says that the U.S. Senate agreed on 26 July, by 88 votes to two, to prohibit for 15 years the killing or capture of creatures including whales, sea lions, polar bears, seals, dolphins, porpoises, walruses and sea otters. The Lower House of Congress had already passed a similar Bill; all that remains is to resolve differences between them. There are some exceptions in the protecting legislation. Eskimos, Aleuts and Indians who catch

animals for food, clothing and implements will be allowed to keep on doing so. It will also remain permissible to catch protected mammals for scientific research or for display in oceanariums.

As honourable members are aware, off the shores of certain Australian southern States, dolphins are used for shark and lobster bait and, while this barbaric practice has not been emulated locally, it should be remembered that dolphins in Queensland waters enjoy no protection and even here they are occasionally killed for sport. It may be recalled that last year a pair of dolphins that had fascinated the people just north of Brisbane for many months were, to the amazement and disgust of the local inhabitants, shot for no apparent reason.

Mr. Newbery: It was a shame.

Mr. HINZE: Of course.

It is therefore my opinion that Queensland should act and set an example that we hope would be copied by our sister States and, in due course, by the Federal Government. The other day honourable members would have seen that Mr. Gorton, probably our next Prime Minister, put forward a proposal that the Australian Federal Government should introduce legislation.

Mr. B. Wood: They are getting caught in shark nets all the time.

Mr. HINZE: That was the reason for the Bill, and I am sure the honourable member considers that it was a good one.

I could be asked why the dolphin should be protected, because it has no great commercial value and does not contribute materially to the revenue of the State. However, we have learnt in recent years through work undertaken in the United States, and more recently at the local level in my own electorate and the electorate of my colleague and friend, the honourable member for Surfers Paradise (Mr. Bruce Small), that this animal is an extremely sensitive and intelligent creature. It has traditionally demonstrated a wonderful affinity with human beings and is excellent for study purposes. If for no other reasons, it deserves our compassionate concern.

Therefore I am suggesting that, as a responsible sovereign State, we should take the initiative and introduce legislation. I ask the Minister for Conservation, Marine and Aboriginal Affairs to seriously consider asking the Director of Harbours and Marine to take cognizance of the resolution passed at Broadbeach and act quickly on it so that Queensland can take the lead in Australia in what is a sensible, not controversial, matter. Other

States would follow, and we could expect the Commonwealth to assist us by passing the necessary complementary legislation.

Mr. W. D. Hewitt: Something should be done about controlling the keeping of dolphins in captivity.

Mr. HINZE: That could be true. We are also interested in keeping dolphins in captivity and we should ensure that they are protected throughout the State.

I commend the people running Marineland, particularly Mr. David Brown.

Mr. F. P. Moore: I was there last week-end.

Mr. HINZE: Did you take your wife and kids?

Mr. F. P. Moore: Yes.

Mr. HINZE: Did you get in on the "grouter"?

Mr. F. P. Moore: No.

Mr. HINZE: It's a wonder you didn't. You asked me for a few tickets to the races. Did you get them? However, that is by the way. I know the honourable member would have had an enjoyable day at Marineland.

It is a wonderful tourist attraction. No doubt honourable members have seen the excellent photograph in today's issue of "The Australian", which shows that, as proof of my love for these wonderful creatures, I jumped into the pool with them. I know some people might have trouble in distinguishing the dolphin from me.

Mr. F. P. Moore: You should have worn your glasses.

Mr. HINZE: I should have had my glasses on.

I know, Mr. Speaker, that you are a considerate gentleman and that you are allowing me a certain amount of latitude today, to which we are all entitled at some time or another.

The Government experimental groyne at Kirra Point is proving to be a great success. Last year we set out to overcome the erosion problem on the Gold Coast, particularly at Kirra and Coolangatta. The groyne is to extend out some 600 feet. I understand that 300 feet of it will be completed at the end of this week. Some six feet of sand has already built up. The local people are more than jubilant at the results from the construction of this groyne. This Government gave the local authority a grant of \$250,000. It is no good anybody claiming we are not entitled to it, because that area earns more

for the State than any other area in Queensland. I am pleased and proud that the Government allocated those funds. This groyne, and the implementation of the recommendations of Delft Laboratories, will certainly solve the erosion problems on the Gold Coast beaches.

Another recommendation by Delft Laboratories, which was agreed to by Dr. Sylvester from Western Australia and the Director of Harbours and Marine, was that sand should be pumped from New South Wales. The Queensland Premier made the necessary representations to the New South Wales Premier, and sand will be made available from the Tweed River free of royalties. The Director of Harbours and Marine should ensure that, simultaneously with the building of the groyne, sand is pumped from the Tweed River to increase the beach build-up, which, as I said, has already reached six feet. I hope that, in the near future, the Gold Coast City Council will call tenders for the pumping of this sand.

The Delft report has been accepted by both the Government and the council but the implementation of the recommendations will cost some millions of dollars, and honourable members know as well as I do that 20,000 or 30,000 ratepayers cannot carry such a burden. They have to provide a water supply, sewerage, roads, kerbing and channeling, and all the other responsibilities of local government, and obviously they require assistance to have this work carried out in what is virtually the capital city of tourism.

The State Government has said, "We will come to the party and assist you, but you will have to make a survey to prove to the Commonwealth Government that you are entitled to Commonwealth funds." If there is an entitlement to Commonwealth funds for beef roads, the Ord River project, and other fancy schemes, surely there is an entitlement to Commonwealth funds for use in an area that earns so much for the State and the Commonwealth. I suggest that the State assist the Gold Coast City Council in carrying out a survey to prove to the Commonwealth its entitlement to financial assistance. I think this will have to be done quickly, because if assistance is not obtained before the coming Federal election, it will probably never be obtained. All parties are breaking their necks to win the McPherson seat. Mr. Whitlam has been up there promising the world. In the circumstances, if somebody is given a nudge in the right direction, Commonwealth funds might be made available for this work. The Gold Coast is certainly entitled to them.

I know the House will agree with me that the beaches of the Gold Coast are not my responsibility alone. They are the responsibility of the honourable member for Surfers

Paradise and the honourable member for Albert. They claim the Gold Coast beaches as their beaches, too. Some 12 months or two years ago I recall saying to the Leader of the Opposition, when he referred to something affecting my electorate, "Get out of my electorate. I will look after it myself." He said, "These are our beaches also." I accept that reply, and I think that Commonwealth and State assistance should be provided for implementation of the recommendations of the Delft report within the foreseeable future.

We do not want any repetition of the bad publicity that the Gold Coast has received over the last few years. Every time there is a cyclone, or even a bit of a blow, the television stations send cameramen to the Gold Coast, and pictures of the walls at Palm Beach and Kirra are thrown on the television screens in Melbourne and Sydney. This is what southern travel agents like. They do not want to send people to the Gold Coast; they want to go to other places. Publicity that is bad for the beaches is bad for the whole area.

Mr. Jensen: You are like King Canute; you think you can hold back the sea, but you cannot.

Mr. HINZE: The honourable member would not know. He is too stupid to know anything.

Another proposal that the Gold Coast Council has to consider, in the light of the Delft recommendations, is improvement of Currumbin harbour. Plans have been prepared to provide a safe passage from Currumbin harbour to the open sea. Deep-sea fishing is becoming very popular on the Gold Coast, but at present the passage to the open sea is not safe. People who come to this area with boats should be able to get to the open sea safely without the fear of foundering on the bar.

During the election campaign I, and every other candidate, used licensed premises for the conduct of meetings. I was told, "If you continue to hold any more meetings on licensed premises, action can be taken against you. If you are the successful candidate, you can be thrown out of office." I immediately cancelled all my meetings at hotels. At that time Bob Hawke was on the Gold Coast assisting my opponent, and he also had to do the same thing at the Burleigh Heads Hotel.

I think that is a stupid, out-moded provision of the law, and I cannot for the life of me see why any candidate should be liable to action against him for having a meeting on licensed premises. In the old days when this stupid legislation was introduced, I suppose it was thought that if a candidate bought

"grog" for any of the electors, he could be said to be endeavouring to influence them. Surely we have developed beyond that stage.

(Time expired.)

Mr. LEESE (Pine Rivers) (2.35 p.m.): First, let me express my sincere appreciation to the electors of Pine Rivers for their confidence in electing me as their member. It is indeed an honour, and I am proud to represent one of the fastest-developing areas in Queensland and also the largest electorate numerically, with almost 17,000 on the electoral roll.

I express deep appreciation to my campaign director, Mr. Ian Maclean, who spared no effort on my behalf, and also to the many members of the Australian Labor Party and the trade union movement who worked tirelessly to ensure that the new seat of Pine Rivers would be won for the Australian Labor Party. The result of the election shows just how hard they did work and how well the progressive policy of the A.L.P. was received.

The electorate of Pine Rivers is a fast-developing area, made up, in the main, of young families who are striving to build homes and a future for their children. The only major employer in the area is the Australian Paper Manufacturers Ltd. mill at Petrie, so the majority of the work-force have to commute daily to the city and industrial suburbs.

To give some indication of the growth-rate of Pine Rivers Shire, which is the local authority area in the major portion of my electorate, in the year ended 30 June 1954 the population was 6,308, whereas at 30 June 1972 it was 32,000. In a matter of 18 years it has grown from a sparsely populated rural area to the threshold of a city.

As with all fast-developing areas, the needs are many and, mainly through lack of finance, the local authority has not been able to keep pace in providing all the amenities that are so necessary for modern-day living, and, of course, the responsibilities of local authorities are many. Although the council has made determined moves to sewer the shire, a tour of the electorate would show that there is much yet to be done, particularly in Division 2, which takes in Arana Hills, Ferny Grove, Everton Hills, Bunyaville and the Albany Creek area. The land in these areas being completely unsuitable for septic systems, many of the yards are in a permanently soggy and evil-smelling state; so much so that in many instances parents cannot allow their children to play in their own yards because of the health hazard. A day rarely passes without some mother telephoning me to seek assistance with this problem.

In the year ended 30 June 1972, six cases of infantile diarrhoea, 24 of infectious hepatitis and four of meningitis were notified. In his report to the council, the Chief Health Surveyor noted that the predominant incidence of infectious hepatitis had caused some

concern. Prevention appears to be restricted to a high standard of sanitation and personal hygiene. The incidence of hepatitis could be attributed to the lack of sewerage.

As I said, the Pine Rivers Shire Council is making progress in this field, but the major stumbling block is finance. The Government knows full well these difficulties, and if it truly has the welfare of the people at heart—a sentiment that Government members are often heard to expound—it would genuinely seek ways and means of providing some truly meaningful assistance to enable the Pine Rivers Shire to remove what is a disgrace in 1972. It is not sufficient to allow suburbs to grow and leave them purely as dormitory suburbs to cater for the needs of a city. The facilities that are so necessary for real community life and community spirit must be provided.

Although at present local authorities have the major responsibility, surely it is a responsibility of good government to see to it that the authorities have the necessary finance to carry out their responsibilities. If a more realistic approach to financing local authorities is not forthcoming, the local authorities will find themselves in a position where they will be rating already heavily taxed young families out of their homes and still not being able to provide all the cultural and recreational facilities that are their responsibility.

In most of the suburbs in Pine Rivers we are fortunate inasmuch as there is a strong spirit of progress among the residents. The progress associations and service clubs are doing a wonderful job, but, of necessity, the work they can carry out must be limited. They cannot provide the much-needed transport, the sewerage, the water reticulation, the libraries and a host of other amenities required. These things, as I have said before, are the responsibility of the local authority. I reiterate that if the Government is not prepared to make any bold, radical changes in the concept of financing local authorities, then many of these amenities will certainly be of a long-range nature.

I refer now to a piece of legislation, brought in by Order in Council, that is causing no little consternation to many of the residents in the Pine Rivers electorate. In fact, it would be fair to say that this legislation precipitated an immediate and angry public reaction. I refer to the Order in Council of 23 December 1971 that extended the Brisbane milk-marketing area, which was amended to take in areas north into the Pine Shire, and also the Shire of Redlands and parts of the Shires of Albert and Beaudesert. At this point of time I do not intend to dwell on the over-all ramifications of the extension of the Brisbane milk-supply area, but rather, for the record, to set out the facts as to the full implications

of the extension of the Brisbane milk supply on the people of Pine Rivers district, and to show that certain agreements between the companies involved have not been, over all, in the best interests of the consumers in my electorate.

The extended areas are supplied with milk and cream by a new company—Milk Marketing Pty. Ltd. This company is owned jointly by Queensland United Foods Industries Ltd., which owns 50 per cent of the shares, and Rural Milk Co-operative Federation Ltd., which is made up of 10 co-operative dairy associations supplying milk and cream to Brisbane areas and which owns the other 50 per cent, each co-operative having a 5 per cent interest in the new company.

The requirements of Milk Marketing Pty. Ltd. will be packed by Pauls, and Pauls' transport will be used. Herein lies the bone of contention. Prior to the Order in Council I mentioned, the areas in the Pine Rivers affected by that Order received their milk supply from Caboolture Co-operative, and had done so for the past five years. These areas included Arana Hills, Ferny Grove, Everton Hills, Bunyaville, Albany Creek, Lawnton and parts of Strathpine. Two years ago Caboolture Co-operative introduced into the area a new form of milk packaging, namely, poly-packs. I understand that Caboolture Co-operative were the pioneers of this type of packaging in Australia, so it can be fairly said that the consumers involved acted as guinea pigs for this new type of packaging.

The many advantages of the poly-packs type of packaging over the traditional bottles soon became apparent, with 85 per cent of the consumers choosing poly-packs. It should be stressed at this point that this was not a "take it or leave it" attitude; the consumers had the choice between poly-packs or bottled milk, as the Caboolture Co-operative puts out both types of package. It is necessary to point out that the people have also expressed a marked preference for Caboolture milk.

Honourable members might feel that milk is milk and that the Milk Supply Act ensures that all milk in Queensland is of a high quality. This is so, and I do not question the quality of milk; I simply say that there is a marked preference for Caboolture milk and poly-packs. It is also pertinent to point out that the advent of poly-packs with their lighter and easier handling enabled the retail vendors to give an added service by introducing an evening delivery.

The lightness of poly-packs, cutting some two hours off the delivery time of an average retail vendor's run, is in itself a move in the right direction towards improved working conditions; yet this piece of legislation is forcing vendors to turn back the clock and accept inferior working conditions, something that no other group of workers in

Australia would accept. The fight to retain their freedom of choice—that is, to have the right to purchase the milk of their choice in the package of their choice—started in January 1972, when the Arana Hills Progress Association organised a petition towards this end, with some 7,000 signatures being obtained. According to the electoral roll, this would be nearly 100 per cent of the adult population of the area concerned.

It is interesting to note that 5,000 of these signatures were obtained in the first week that the petition was circulated. Local organisations then elected committees to represent them and to place the petition before the Minister for Primary Industries. The Minister subsequently, in early May, met a deputation headed by Councillor M. Morton. On 22 May 1972 Councillor Morton received a letter from Mr. A. A. Ross, Acting Director-General of Primary Industries, which was written by direction of the Minister. To acquaint honourable members with the Minister's attitude I will quote briefly from the letter, as follows:—

"The Minister is prepared to accept that there are certain advantages applying to Poly-pack containers. Consequently, he would not oppose any arrangement which might be made and which would result in consumers being given a choice of different types of milk in a variety of containers. As suggested to your deputations, the first step towards this should be an approach to the General Manager of the Caboolture Co-operative Dairy Association to discuss the matter objectively. Ultimately the matter should also be discussed with Milk Marketing Pty. Ltd."

The letter continues—

"It is my Minister's belief that the requirements of the consumers can readily be met. As previously indicated, he would be prepared to support any constructive proposal which might emanate from discussions with the wholesale vendors provided the welfare of the producers and the consumers is preserved."

Immediately after the election on 27 May, I was requested by residents to make representations on their behalf. On 30 May the Leader of the Opposition contacted the retiring Minister for Primary Industries by telephone in an attempt to work out a solution whereby the residents of Pine Rivers would retain their freedom of choice. To ensure this, the retail vendors were prepared to carry both Pauls' and Caboolture milk.

The Minister's attitude was that he had no objection to the people retaining Caboolture milk in poly-packs provided agreement could be reached with Q.U.F. and Caboolture Co-operative. Both of these companies

were contacted. The proposal that the consumers in the Pine Rivers district should be given a choice between poly-packs and bottles was unacceptable to Q.U.F., whilst Mr. Douglas, of Caboolture Co-operative, said he would like to continue to supply the area but did not believe that the Order in Council would permit his co-operative to do so.

On Sunday, 18 June, a public protest meeting was held at Arana Hills, attended by well over 1,000 residents. It was unanimously decided to fight in every possible way for the retention of Caboolture milk in poly-packs. At the meeting, a milk action committee consisting of 28 members was elected. It was fully representative of all areas concerned, and was set up to work and co-ordinate on behalf of the residents. Its members are to be congratulated on the enthusiasm and vigour they have shown in applying themselves to their task.

I stress the point that to the residents of Pine Rivers this is a very important issue, and no amount of paternalistic advice from the Government or the companies concerned will convince them that they are not being denied a freedom of choice. The committee has made representations through every possible avenue open to it. There have been deputations to Q.U.F., the Milk Board, the Caboolture Co-operative, and to Mrs. Keys, the consumers' representative on the Milk Board. I led a deputation to the Minister for Primary Industries, but he did nothing.

I am advised that numerous letters of protest have been written to the various Government departments that the people felt might have some interest in their cause. One of those departments is the Consumer Affairs Bureau, which the citizens of Pine Rivers thought, quite rightly, might have been able to help them. But of course they got short shrift from that bureau and were told that although they were consumers they could not be helped by it.

The committee has even sought legal advice on the legality of the Order in Council. I say that to illustrate the sincerity of the people of Pine Rivers in their fight to retain poly-packs in their area. Counsel's opinion has been forwarded to the Minister for Primary Industries for his comment.

I point out that this action is taken not by a small pressure group but by the vast majority of residents in Pine Rivers, who contend that the Government did not consider their best interests in allowing the extension of the Brisbane milk-supply area. By way of protest more than 76 mothers, many with their children, attended the deputation to Q.U.F. It is a sorry state of affairs when mothers have to protest publicly in their efforts to retain their right to purchase the commodity of their choice. Many of those mothers spend more than \$350 a year on milk, so surely they have the right to say

what type of package will be used for the delivery of milk to them. To me, the situation is indicative of the out-of-touch attitude of this Government.

The advice given to the deputations has generally been stereotyped, inasmuch as the deputations were told that the extension was made in the interests of orderly marketing. That would only tend to suggest that orderly marketing did not exist in Pine Rivers prior to the issue of the Order in Council. I know approximately 8,000 electors who would not agree with such a claim.

It is interesting to note that Mr. George Douglas, the manager of the Caboolture Co-operative, told the deputation that met him on Tuesday, 11 July 1972, that he had no intention of applying again for the supply of milk to the Pine Rivers area, as he said this would upset the orderly marketing system. That statement is in sharp contrast to one that he made to the "Pine Rivers Mirror" on 3 February 1972, as revealed in this article—

"Mr. Douglas said that the people who were now receiving Caboolture homogenised milk in plastic packs from local vendors should continue to do so. He could assure them of that. Mr. Douglas refuted the claim that customers would have to go back to bottles. The new company which would be handling the distribution was Milk Marketing Pty. Ltd., and the only difference to customers in this respect was that some new depots would be in use, but to all other intents and purposes the service and the milk would be exactly the same as it was today."

It seems obvious that up to that point of time Mr. Douglas was under the illusion that the Caboolture Co-operative would be supplying milk to the Pine Rivers area.

The committee is still waiting to hear the attitude of the Minister for Primary Industries to the submissions placed before him by the deputation. But at the time of the deputation the Minister did say that the extension of the milk-supply area was a business deal between the companies, and that the Government supplied only the necessary machinery. Surely it is a responsibility of government to ensure that the interests of the consumers are fully protected before putting its seal of approval on any proposal that big business may put before it. That obviously did not happen in the extension of the Brisbane milk-supply area.

We see a ludicrous position in which a Minister of the Crown said he believed that the people should retain their freedom of choice (that is, the milk of their choice and the package of their choice) provided they could reach agreement with the companies concerned. If that is the Government's view, surely it should be directing the companies concerned to give the people their just demands—and these demands are not excessive. As I have said, the Caboolture

Co-operative introduced poly-packs into Australia. In fact, it pioneered these containers some two years ago. The consumers now have a marked preference for them, and since Caboolture introduced poly-packs I understand that some 20 other companies have introduced this form of packaging. It has many features in its favour. It takes up little space when stored in a refrigerator and it can be frozen.

There is also the weight factor. Filled poly-packs weigh approximately 20½ ounces each, whereas a full one-pint bottle weighs approximately 2½ lb. The most important point in favour of poly-packs is their safety, particularly where young children are concerned. All honourable members would be well aware of the frequency with which their children have gone out to collect the morning milk when, with dew on the bottle, an accident has occurred, often resulting in injury.

To emphasise this safety factor, I quote in part a statement by Professor Adrian Flatt that appeared in "The Australian" of 13 July 1972. Professor Flatt is Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Director of the Division of Hand Surgery at the University of Iowa. He is this year's McIlraith guest professor at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney. He flew into Sydney to operate on a Qantas pilot's thumb that would have been lost if the services of this learned surgeon had not been available.

The article reads—

"He said a large number of his patients were children who required surgery after accidents with milk bottles and other glass containers.

"It seems criminal to me that these containers should be made of glass", he said. "They should be made of plastic."

That is just what the mothers of Pine Rivers are saying. They are also saying, "We have had the poly-packs; they are safe for our children and we like them." The mothers believe that this is a definite backward step. One mother said to me, "It is like doing without electricity and going back to oil lamps."

I suggest that it is not only a backward and retrograde step; it is also morally wrong to allow a situation to develop whereby people are being denied the right to choose for themselves the type of packaging they prefer, a right they enjoyed for some two years until it was decided it no longer fitted into the scheme of a business deal to allow it. I say emphatically that it is a business deal, with Q.U.F. having the most to gain. It has been suggested all along the line that possibly Q.U.F. has been allowed to grow so large as to protect it from a take-over, which would not be in the interests of Queensland. I agree that a take-over would not be in the interests of Queensland because, at the moment, Q.U.F. is owned 80 per cent by Queensland interests and 20 per cent by overseas interests. We were advised in the

financial columns of "The Sunday Mail" last Sunday to watch Q.U.F. because it could be taken over, not necessarily by overseas interests, but by southern interests. What will happen to Queensland's dairying industry if it is taken over, with the prospect of the Brisbane area being flooded with milk from New South Wales or some other State?

As another instance of Government double-talk, the Deputy Premier told the annual conference of the Australian Institute of Dairy Factory Managers that the consumer holds the key to the prosperity of the dairying industry, as he does of every other food industry, and that if the product is not made to suit the consumer there can be no legitimate complaint if he does not buy it. I remind the House of that statement by the Deputy Premier. What is the Government's attitude? If it honestly believes in freedom of choice—its doctrine of free enterprise is based on this—it should cease hiding behind the skirts of the companies concerned and come out and accede to the just demands of the people of Pine Rivers, which, as I said before, are not excessive.

I should now like to comment on the Pillar Naco dispute, during which the Premier turned his back on the workers when he was in a position to give some positive assistance. This was no ordinary dispute. The workers were not demanding higher wages or better working conditions; they were simply asking for the right to work. The dispute arose when the giant combine—Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation—which is a nation-State in itself and owns Pillar Naco decided to rationalise its holdings in Australia, not caring one iota about what happened to its employees in Queensland and their families, whom it was prepared to throw onto the scrap-heap. I say that because many of the employees had been with this company for well over 15 years and some were nearing retiring age.

Prior to its take-over by this foreign combine, the company that was known as N. V. Appleton Pty. Ltd. was a thriving Queensland concern which won the 1964 export award and employed some 1,000 workers. When it was first taken over, the employees were told that they could expect wonderful things. They were shown 5-year plans which foretold tremendous expansion in the future. To say the least, the workers were sceptical, and their reservations have proved to be well founded.

The reason given for the staff dismissals was the loss of export markets. I again point out that in 1964 this company, under Queensland management, won the export award. Is it any wonder that the export markets were lost when so many joint manufacturing operations—all owned by this giant combine—were set up in low-labour-cost countries. Its profits are safe, and it cares little whether Queensland has export markets or not.

The workers and their unions first heard of the dismissals on 21 June 1972. Only a fortnight previously union officials had been holding discussions with the company to arrange dates for the renewal of an industrial agreement. No mention was then made of the fact that dismissals could be in the offing, although the Government knew at the time that there would be mass sackings at Pillar Naco. In fact, I have reliable information to the effect that the Government knew six weeks prior to the State election of the impending dismissals. Of course, for obvious reasons it was not prepared to release this information.

As I said before, the workers made representations to the Premier in the hope that, as Premier of Queensland, he would for once show some sort of leadership and let it be known that he was not prepared to allow foreign companies to come into Queensland, take over viable Queensland industries, and then, if it suited their schemes of international planning, either sack workers or close firms down.

When the workers' representatives saw the Premier, he told them that there was nothing he could do. I suggest to the Premier that there was a lot he could have done. He could have told foreign interests that, if they wanted to buy into the future of Queensland, there must be inbuilt safeguards for their employees, and that he was not prepared to allow a memo from London or elsewhere to dictate the destinies of Queenslanders.

As I said before, this was no ordinary dispute. The workers at Pillar Naco were well aware that, because of its vast resources, they could not bring economic pressure to bear on this giant combine. They set out to show Australia what can happen to a thriving Australian industry. No money or conditions were involved; all that was at issue was the right to work. I think those people showed the workers of Australia what can happen when their destinies are directed from beyond these shores. I believe that to a great degree they achieved this objective, and I congratulate them on their stand.

I also believe that the Government could have done far more for the workers at Pillar Naco, because they are possibly the first of a great number of workers who will be affected by the actions of foreign companies. I am not suggesting for one moment that foreign investment is not needed in Queensland; what I am suggesting is that control is needed over it.

I am wondering what will be the position when many of these companies change over to the metric system. It is obvious that they will install the most refined and up-to-date machinery. We have heard talk in the past of technological change. I suggest that conversion to the metric system will produce intense movement in technological change. I should like workers to be well aware that

quite possibly in the very near future they will have to battle to save their jobs, because time-saving machinery, which must replace workers, will be introduced.

At this point of time there is no scheme for the re-employment of those workers who are displaced. Government members are never loath to comment on industrial disputes, but not one of them made any comment on the Pillar Naco dispute. Not one of them came out on the side of the workers. Usually Government members make statements against the unions, and therefore against the workers. This means that their statements are made against the people of Queensland, whom they are supposed to represent. On this occasion not one Government member said that the workers had right on their side, and that the company should toe the line and do something for the workers.

Each Pillar Naco worker who had been made redundant should at least have been in receipt of full pay from the company till he had obtained other employment satisfactory to himself and to his union. Of course, that did not happen.

The Trades and Labor Council, which controlled the dispute, did a wonderful job in negotiating with the company. It should not be forgotten that Pillar Naco is a giant combine and not easy to negotiate with. It knows its own powers; it does not have to obey the dictates of any one country. I remind honourable members that many of the giant combines have a capital turnover far greater than that of most countries. In fact, the United States of America would be one of the few countries in the world that has a capital turnover greater than that of many of the giant combines.

A recent Press article indicated that the Country Party is suggesting that it intends to try to win the support of the blue-collar workers, the blue-collar trade unionists. It has not a cat-in-hell's chance of getting one trade unionist on side with the Country Party's thinking. There is no way in the world that it will, because at no time in any dispute has the Country Party, or, for that matter, the Liberal Party, ever come out on the side of the worker and said, "You are right. Your claims are just. Your submissions are correct." I reiterate that in the Pillar Naco dispute the claims of the workers were just. They were not fighting for more pay or for better conditions; they were simply fighting for the right to work.

Mr. LANE (Merthyr) (3.12 p.m.): I should like first to publicly associate myself and the electors of Merthyr with the motion of loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen so ably moved at the beginning of this debate by the honourable member for Townsville and so well

seconded by the honourable member for Surfers Paradise. Each of these new members made a worth-while contribution to the debate, and I am sure their speeches are indicative of their future conduct in this Chamber.

It was a great shame that the Leader of the Opposition found it necessary to make some rather petty remarks about the maiden speeches of the two new members.

Mr. Aikens: They made better ones than he did.

Mr. LANE: Very true. The honourable gentleman commented on the brevity of the speech of the honourable member for Townsville, who was speaking for the first time in this House, and he voiced some criticism of the attitude of the honourable member for Surfers Paradise. In my opinion, his remarks were in bad taste and should not have been uttered. However, they will remain on the record as an indication of the plain bad manners of the honourable member who leads the A.L.P. Opposition in this Chamber.

I shall deal now with a facet of Government activity in my electorate that has a serious effect on many of my constituents. I speak of the proposed freeway works that will be undertaken in the next few years. Earlier today I listened to the speech by the honourable member for Brisbane, who has many people in his electorate affected by the freeway, and it was disappointing not to hear him make one single comment or submission on their behalf. Be that as it may, I wish to say something about it today.

The initial programme of works that affects my electorate is known as F.5 and is part of the central and northern freeway planned by the Main Roads Department. These works and current proposals all form part of an improved road system for Brisbane, a system that will be of benefit to the entire community of Brisbane, which will give a free flow of traffic from the north side of the river to the south side without the terrible congestion with which we all have to contend now in the city and Valley areas. These works and the preliminary investigations are well advanced, and design details are being prepared for the section known as F.5.

Government approval for the acquisition of the property has been given, together with approval for the construction, in stages, of the entire project. Several weeks ago a brochure, which had been prepared by the department, was posted to the many owners of property in the path of the freeway, and distributed per letter-box to the occupiers of the various premises. This was done as

a legal requirement under the Act and, I believe, as a moral requirement, to advise these people exactly how they stood in respect of the proposed freeway. Now they will know in detail the intentions of the Main Roads Department.

The project, which is 4.35 miles in length, will extend from Harcourt Street, New Farm, in my electorate, through Bowen Hills in the electorate of Brisbane, through Windsor, adjacent to Breakfast Creek in the electorate of Brisbane, through a small portion of Albion in my electorate, on through Woolloowin and Kalinga, and terminate at Gympie Road, Kedron, in the electorate of Clayfield. This facility is a section of the ultimate major link proposed between the north and south sides of the river, bypassing the main central business area of Brisbane and Fortitude Valley.

Of course, it is only part of the project, and part of the freeway that the Government will build at a later date in accordance with the recommendations under the Wilbur Smith plan. We all know—and it has been acknowledged by the Minister—that it is intended in due course to build a bridge across the river from New Farm to the south side of the river. Fortunately, the bridge will be at the end of the New Farm peninsula and in that location will affect the least number of people in the area. This is dependent on shifting all or part of Evans Deakin shipyard from its present position at Kangaroo Point, where it presently causes considerable noise nuisance to my electors in New Farm, to some more suitable site towards the mouth of the Brisbane River.

I understand that the hold-up at the moment has been caused by the negotiations between the Commonwealth department and the relevant State departments on the financing of the shift of part or all of Evans Deakin shipyard to the mouth of the Brisbane River. I hope that the Commonwealth Government recognises that that shipyard should not be in its present site in the centre of a residential area, and that it will come to the party in terms of some finance to facilitate the establishment of it in an industrial area. When that is done, the Main Roads Department will be able to continue with its proposal to build a bridge across the Brisbane River to link up with the northern and central freeway to which I have referred.

The brochure that was issued by the Main Roads Department includes detailed maps which indicate the properties between Teneriffe and Kedron that will be wholly or partly required for the project. The maps show the carriageways, street locations, possible interchange layouts and all the details that a person would want to know if he lived in the path of the freeway. I believe the maps serve two very desirable purposes. They not only inform the people affected, but also quieten the very many rumours that are rife in areas in the vicinity of

the freeway about certain homes being affected. Many aged people are involved, and they worry more than we do at our age. Since the brochure has been distributed many fears have been allayed because people now know where they stand.

The Main Roads Department, on request, has already entered into negotiations to acquire some of the properties in the path of the freeway. The work will be carried out in stages up to about 1980. Notification has been given to the people affected that the last of the properties required by the Main Roads Department will have to be vacated by 1977. The stages with which I am concerned are those in the New Farm and Albion areas, because they are in my electorate. Homes and business premises required by the Main Roads Department have to be vacated by 1974 for one stage, and by 1975 for the next.

The date by which a particular property will have to be vacated to permit the programme to advance is scheduled and outlined in detail in the brochure. At an appropriate time prior to an area having to be cleared, negotiations to acquire the properties not already purchased—I understand there are something like 160 properties already under negotiation—will take place under the Acquisition of Land Act 1967 to 1969. However, at the present time, officers of the Main Roads Department are available, as they always have been, to discuss any proposals relative to this freeway, and I must say that I have found the officers of the Main Roads Department to be very competent men. They are very considerate of personal problems of the people affected and they are always ready to receive a phone call, a letter, or a visit from people who are deeply worried about this matter. I should like to pay a special tribute to Mr. Harry Lowe, Commissioner of Main Roads, who is by no means the average man's popular conception of a top public servant. He is a man who is always open to suggestions, or to any plea from anyone who requires sympathetic treatment.

Mr. K. W. Hooper: Would you say that the property officers are very good?

Mr. LANE: Yes, the property officer, Mr. John Bell, and his officers have been very co-operative in assisting people and attending to their property problems. I pay great tribute to the professional approach of the Minister and the Main Roads Department.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Lickiss): Order! There is far too much audible conversation in the Chamber.

Mr. LANE: Their attitude is to be commended. It is well known that several Main Roads Department officers were sent overseas to study the various methods of land acquisition, the social problems caused by the building of expressways, and the effects on the home situation of people involved. These

men came back well trained, experienced and briefed in the many and varied ways of acquiring properties. I believe that they were able to pick the best methods used throughout the world and have implemented them here so that the least possible harm is caused to those affected.

In due course, satisfactory settlements must be made and adequate compensation paid to those people whose homes and properties will be taken for the freeway. Of course, they have the safeguard always provided by a Government of this particular political colour, namely, the system of appeal, which allows persons to obtain justice if they are not satisfied with the negotiations—and there are always one or two who will not be satisfied. In the event of agreement not being reached, an owner has the right to appeal to the Land Court, subject to the relevant Act, but this is a last resort. However, an owner has this right and I understand that, on the south side of Brisbane where there were a number of major resumptions in recent years, a very small proportion of those affected ultimately took their cases on appeal to the Land Court.

Mr. Lee: They like to get around the table with the officers of the department to discuss these matters.

Mr. LANE: That is true; that is their first line of approach.

Mr. Aikens interjected.

Mr. LANE: Later I shall deal with the methods of resumption adopted by the Brisbane City Council and contrast them with those used by the Main Roads Department. I think that comparison will show very clearly the way in which the people were treated when the Labor Party was in power.

A person who, in the interests of the great majority of residents of Brisbane, is required to dispose of his property prior to the date of commencement of road works is served with a notice of intention to acquire the property under the Acquisition of Land Act. Of course, prior to acquisition he may sell his property by negotiation to the Main Roads Department. Compensation is based on fair market value plus disturbance allowance and such other allowances as are necessary to ensure that the person is adequately, justly and fairly treated by the Main Roads Department.

Mr. Lee: It is different from the Brisbane City Council, isn't it?

Mr. LANE: There is a marked difference between the behaviour of the Main Roads Department and that of the Brisbane City Council.

After the issue of this brochure to the various householders in the path of the proposed freeway, I had a discussion with some of my Liberal colleagues as to how those people could best be given assistance by us

as members of Parliament. These discussions resulted in a band of Liberal members getting together and meeting the people whose homes lay in the path of the proposed freeway, to see what could be done to assist them in their negotiations. I should like to pay a public tribute to my colleagues the honourable members for Clayfield, Chatsworth, Ithaca, Kurilpa and Toowong, who, with me, called on those people. From my continuing close contact with my electors, I knew that many of them were aged people and others were migrants who have a limited understanding of official procedures and official forms that they would have to handle in disposing of their properties to the Main Roads Department. I was conscious of this great concern amongst these people.

Several weeks ago the honourable members to whom I have referred and I went on a door-knock along the proposed route of the freeway so that we could discuss with the people in their homes their particular problems. We took a questionnaire with us and asked the residents to provide the answers. Of course, each person has his individual problem. Care of the individual and attention to his individual problem is basic to the philosophy of our party. We felt that a door-knock was the best way of helping these people. I know that the tactics of the Opposition are to call a major protest meeting either in a hall, on a footpath, in the middle of a road, or in a park.

Mr. R. E. Moore: And sit down.

Mr. LANE: And sometimes sit down. All the Opposition does is try to stir up, only for political purposes, a great furore without giving any real assistance to the people confronted with any difficult situation. We saw an example of that during the flooding of certain parts of Brisbane. The mass protest meetings held were directed not at improving the plight of any people who might be affected but at stirring up disquiet among them. These efforts were not confined to State Labor members but were made also by their Federal colleagues. To play on a person's genuine concern is a despicable act, and I will have no part of it.

Mr. Lee: It is political hypocrisy.

Mr. LANE: It is.

On this occasion we spoke to individuals in their homes. It took a long while to canvass homes in the several miles involved in this part of the freeway. In fact the exercise took some weeks, but we gathered a lot of useful information. So that we could collate it properly we took questionnaires with us that we filled out. We wanted to ensure that the people were adequately catered for by the legislation and official procedures covering the resumptions.

We made no effort to usurp the role of officers of the Department of Main Roads or to interfere in the negotiations between the department and the householder for which the law provides a very definite and, I believe, fair system. There are, of course, legal procedures and it was not our desire to become caught up in them or to discuss settlements in detail. Trained officers of the Department of Main Roads are better equipped in these matters and have legal and official standing to attend to them. We were interested mainly in the social effects, the personal problems of the people concerned, and whether the present arrangement for acquisition of their property needed supplementing in some way.

With my colleague, the member for Clayfield, I have collated all this information. I intend to present some of it to the House today and I understand that, in due course, he will express his views and make some pleas on behalf of people affected in his area. In due course a full report will be prepared by us and sent to the Premier and the Ministers concerned. We have already had preliminary discussions with the Premier on this score and have received a rather sympathetic hearing.

The survey disclosed some interesting facts. We found that 59 per cent of the people affected by the freeway owned and occupied their own homes. A number of long-term residents will be affected. Our survey, which covered a comprehensive sampling of those to be affected, showed the following relative to years of occupancy of homes and percentage of those surveyed—

Years	Percentage
More than 50 years	2
Over 40 years	9
Over 30 years	6
Over 20 years	14
Over 10 years	16
Over 5 years	19
Lesser periods	34

Sometimes a person who is uprooted from his home after a long period of occupation suffers dire consequences. If he is shifted into another environment after 50 years of residence, the change must be carried out carefully, with due consideration for social problems.

From speaking to these people we ascertained that approximately 89 per cent of residences entered along the freeway route were built prior to 1940, with a considerable number built prior to 1930. I hope that this information will be of assistance to the honourable member for Brisbane in assessing the needs of the people affected by the freeway in his electorate. Some of the properties were substandard. In fact, some of the people said they would be quite happy to shift from their residences. In the Windsor area some homes are subject to excessive

flooding, and the owners of many of them will be happy to sell their properties and get away from this flood area. We found that most of the homes, no matter how humble, were well kept, in good condition, and of a very homely and comfortable appearance. The owners were proud of them.

Different people were affected by different problems. For example, some had sick relatives and had taken up residence in these localities so that they could have access to rail transport to the Royal Brisbane Hospital or so that they could have the doctor of their choice. A major problem to them is uprooting themselves and finding another home with similar access to those facilities. Many aged people had stayed in these homes because they were low set and therefore had few stairs. The only pleasure left to a number of widows and aged persons is to potter about in the garden, and those persons we interviewed who have nice gardens will have to set about establishing new ones in other places. Although many of the homes are of relatively small value, they are comfortable and provide all that these people require in the remaining years of their lives.

Many tradesmen and small businessmen have improvements on their properties such as toolsheds or garages in which they can park trucks. They include bricklayers, builders, electricians and plumbers. They will be forced to find other properties which have facilities for their fields of employment or businesses.

A good deal of the land to be resumed is situated relatively close to railway transport. Pensioners living there can walk a few yards up the road to the railway station and use their pensioners' passes to travel to either the Valley or the city. These areas are convenient to trains, buses, churches and the hospital, and are well catered for with shops. For these reasons the Government must be a little more generous in assessing compensation.

We found one rather surprising fact in this survey. Of the hundreds of people interviewed, 44 per cent were pensioners of some kind, that is, age, widow, deserted wife and invalid. The great majority were people in their 70's and 80's and a shift will be more difficult for them to make. Approximately 39 per cent were family groups with small children who attended schools such as the Windsor State School and the New Farm State School. They were concerned with finding homes handy to schools. Approximately 17 per cent were middle-aged people or working people with families. They would possibly have least difficulty in shifting from their localities.

Forty-one per cent of the people in the area affected were tenants who were paying rent to owners. Not all of these had moved into their premises last week, or even last

year. In fact, the periods of occupancy of rented homes varied greatly, from weeks to over 40 years. Although it is probably surprising to learn that there are people who have been paying rent for over 40 years, this exercise showed that that situation is quite common.

Our survey showed that 2 per cent of the people interviewed who occupied rented homes as tenants had been in those homes for over 40 years. Three per cent had lived in rented homes for over 20 years, and 6 per cent had lived in rented homes for more than 10 years. Without delving too deeply into matters of a personal nature, it was apparent that there was a fairly large percentage of relatively low-income earners in this area. These people would have difficulty in making new financial arrangements and meeting substantial payments on other homes. I believe that they warrant due consideration for that reason. They are people who are quite happy where they are. They entered into financial arrangements, possibly with building societies or finance companies, for old homes years ago when they were of lower value, and when deposits were low and payments were low over a long period. If they have only small equities in these properties, as many of them have, they will have to obtain finance, with low deposits, to resettle themselves somewhere else.

Armed with these facts, the honourable member for Clayfield and I intend to make some recommendations to the Government. The first recommendation that we hope to put forward is that some form of bridging finance be made available to the people in this area. By that, I mean that finance should be made available to people such as aged pensioners, who may be in their late 70's and 80's, who live in homes of relatively small value, and who would have difficulty in obtaining finance to purchase other homes. I feel that the Government has a responsibility to see that some form of bridging finance is made available so that those who are in their latter years can resettle themselves satisfactorily in other homes.

Another recommendation that we intend to make is that some degree of Housing Commission priority be given to certain of these people so that they can be moved into Housing Commission homes. We appreciate that this would have to be done without detriment to present applicants. This means that it would be necessary to step up in some way the housing programme to cater for them.

These people are of all types. There are aged people who would be happy to move to aged persons' units. There are young

families who in some instances wish to buy, with the small equity that they may have in their present homes, Housing Commission homes on low deposits and low repayments. There are people who have occupied rented homes for 20, 30 or 40 years, and who expected to stay in those homes for their remaining years. If these people are shifted, I believe that the Government has a responsibility to give some priority to those who have been paying rent for so many years and who are to be moved against their will. They should be given some Housing Commission priority in obtaining rental accommodation.

Above all, in handling this problem the Government and the Main Roads Department must bear in mind that the problems of residents in the path of this very necessary freeway are so varied in complexity that each case must be dealt with sympathetically and individually, and on its merits. It is no use coming out with a wierd scheme that may satisfy two per cent of the people, making a great song and dance about it in the newspapers, and thinking that this will solve the problem. I believe that, with the efficient officers in the department and the sympathetic Ministers who sit on the Government front benches in this Chamber, due consideration will be given to dealing with these people individually so that they will be rehoused adequately to their own satisfaction. An indication of that is that more than 160 residents have already negotiated with and sold their homes to the Main Roads Department.

Another matter that has affected my electorate for many years is strictly a matter for local government participation. I refer to the proposal to build a public library in the New Farm area to meet the requirements of the many aged people who live there. There is a great need for such a library. In fact, if I were to pick out the one item on which I have received most requests from my constituents in the New Farm area since I have represented Merthyr in this Parliament, I should say that it would be the provision of a public library somewhere in New Farm. When one considers the number of aged people who live there, this is quite understandable. A number of church and charitable homes are situated in the suburb. For example, there are the "Gleneagles" units, two beautiful sets of units that stand so proudly on the bank of the Brisbane River at New Farm, built and occupied by a number of people who contributed towards the cost of each unit. They were built by the Buffalo Lodge and are soon to pass into the hands of the Church of Christ. These units, 105 in all, are occupied by aged people who would appreciate a public library in New Farm.

There is also St. Andrew's House of the Presbyterian Church. Again, the people living there have contributed towards the cost of that. The War Widows Guild has units there. The Salvation Army has a home in New Farm occupied by aged ladies living in retirement, and the Salvation Army does an excellent job there. In addition, there are more than seven convalescent homes in the area, some quite palatial, some relatively modest. A number of aged people also occupy private units, flats and houses in the suburb of New Farm.

Mr. Lee: You would think the Brisbane City Council would build a library in New Farm.

Mr. LANE: Yes, of course. I see a former Labor alderman of the Brisbane City Council smiling on the other side of the House. He knows why a library has not been built there, and I am about to tell the House why it has not.

Opposition Members interjected.

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

Mr. LANE: I should like to tell the tale of the New Farm library without interruption, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and I will endeavour to do so in the next three minutes.

In 1959, when a C.M.O. administration was in office in the Brisbane City Council and Alderman Groom was the Lord Mayor, a block of land near the intersection of Merthyr Road and Brunswick Street, New Farm, was acquired on which it was intended to construct a public library for the use of the many residents of whom I spoke earlier. In about 1960, the then Vice-Mayor of Brisbane, Alderman Crawford, who is my local alderman, in discussing the budget arrangements for that year said that it was intended to set aside a certain sum to build the library.

In consultation with the alderman for Toowong, Mr. Lex Ord, a discussion was held on which library the council could build at that time. Alderman Ord put the view that a library should be built first at Toowong to serve not only the Toowong area but also those areas in that part of Brisbane right through to Oxley. Seeing the justice of this, and being a fair-minded man, Alderman Crawford agreed to let the arrangement for his library stand down for 12 months. The council proceeded and built the excellent library at Toowong. However, before having an opportunity to discuss a further budget that council went out of office.

Mr. Harvey: Not quite. It was in 1961.

Mr. LANE: Alderman Groom went out of office in 1961.

Mr. Harvey: The ground was bought in 1959.

Mr. LANE: That is so.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Lickiss): Order! The honourable member will please address the Chair.

Mr. LANE: This has been a contentious issue ever since then. There have been proposals to build a library by such bodies as Valley Jaycees, who submitted a proposal to the Brisbane City Council to build a civic centre through a private developer, such centre to include a theatre, a child-minding centre, a restaurant, and meeting rooms that would then be rented to interested parties in the suburbs. The Brisbane City Council was asked to pay something like \$16,000 towards rent for the library facilities in the civic centre, but the proposal was rejected.

(Time expired.)

Mr. F. P. MOORE (Mourilyan) (3.52 p.m.): It gives me great pleasure to pledge the loyalty of the electors of Mourilyan to Her Majesty the Queen and to congratulate Sir Colin Hannah, together with his good wife, on being appointed to his high office.

I am sorry that Mr. Speaker is not presently in the chair, Mr. Deputy Speaker. However, I ask you to convey to him my congratulations on attaining such a high office against the opposition of people like the honourable member opposite who is now trying to interject and who voted informally in that ballot.

I say "Thank you" to all those people who saw fit once again in 1972 to vote for the Australian Labor Party and, in particular, for me as the member for Mourilyan. I will later be elaborating on the problems within the new boundaries of that electorate.

On the basis of the electoral redistribution the Leader of the Opposition moved an amendment, which was seconded by the honourable member for Salisbury, to the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. However, once again the House refused to accept our amendment.

The first matter I should like to touch upon is the tied-house section of the Liquor Act, which was again amended in 1970 by the then Minister for Justice, Dr. Delamothe. Before I elaborate on what occurred at that time, I should like to discuss what is occurring at the present time in North Queensland. I believe that the merchants in North Queensland have a stranglehold on the liquor trade. The merchants own their own hotels, and other freehold hotels are being subjected to pressure by the merchants. Over the years

the merchants have moved into the field of freehold hotels, but their moves have been devious. Indeed, they have been typical of the moves of the honourable member for Yeronga against the Lord Mayor of this great city of Brisbane.

At this stage the whole system stinks. Let us consider the position applying to certain freehold hotels in North Queensland. No money changed hands, but the merchants came forward and gave guarantees about the monthly payment for beer supplies. The moneys were not supplied by the merchants, but they held head-leases over certain freehold hotels. Recently it has been found that certain persons who had sufficient finance purchased these freehold hotels. The merchants held head-leases prior to such sales, and by devious means they obtained or retained head-leases under the new ownership.

Most of the people who bought these freehold hotels were migrants who came to this country and realised that the liquor trade was quite a good one in which to invest. However, many of them have found that by devious means the merchants—I do not know whether the banks are in cohorts with them—hold head-leases over their hotels. They have found, after selling certain commodities in these hotels, that they are now faced with Supreme Court writs taken out by North Queensland merchants, and I say without fear or equivocation that these people have been caught. They signed documents without knowing the full circumstances pertaining thereto.

Mr. Lee interjected.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: For the information of the honourable member for Yeronga, many of these migrants can neither read nor write English. I would appreciate it if he would inform me whether he can. Although many of these people can converse in English, they are unable to read it.

Up to this point of time these people have been selling various types of beer in their hotels but, as I said before, recently Supreme Court writs have appeared out of the blue. They are being taken out not only on the freehold hotels but also against the merchants' own hotels that are run by licensees. I agree that the merchants have the right to deal with the hotels they own, but the people of North Queensland are deeply concerned about the situation that has arisen and what the outcome of it will be.

This problem arose with the advent of Fourx beer to North Queensland. The honourable member for Yeronga and other people in the southern part of the State may realise that Fourx beer is not sold in North Queensland if the merchants say it cannot be sold. Merchants who apparently are tied to the Cairns Brewery are forcing their will on

the hoteliers, and if the will of the Cairns Brewery is being forced on the hoteliers in North Queensland then it is also being forced upon the public of North Queensland.

These are strong-arm tactics. These people are saying straight out to the public of North Queensland, "You cannot drink Fourx beer." Personally, I believe that Cairns draught beer should be sold in North Queensland by the keg. Although I regard it as the best beer in Australia, why cannot bottled Fourx be sold to the public if they want it? That is the point, and in my opinion this action by the merchants is basically a restrictive trade practice. There is only minimal legislation in the Commonwealth to control these practices, and it is about time that complementary legislation was introduced in this State. In 1970, Dr. Delamothe, the then Minister for Justice, on the introduction of the new legislation had the word "liquor" included in the Bill. After being attacked in the parliamentary lobby by the merchants, he changed it by amendment to "wine and spirits". The then Minister was steam-rolled by the merchants. I do not want to name the people involved.

Mr. R. E. Moore: Name them.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: If the honourable member tempts me, I will name them. They were in the lobby at 3 o'clock in the morning during the introductory stage of that Bill.

Mr. R. E. Moore: There's no truth in that.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: Once again the "wizard from Windsor" is opening his silly mouth. If he wants me to name them, I will.

Mr. R. E. Moore: I challenge you to name them.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: The person who challenged Dr. Delamothe with his endorsement was Mr. Carmody, one of the directors of Samuel Allen & Sons Ltd.

On 19 September 1945, the Honourable D. A. Gledson, who was the Attorney-General in the then Labor Government, said—

"I was going on to say that we were between these two extremes. Whether as the facetious hon. member for Stanley thinks, we are between the devil and the deep sea I do not know, but we are endeavouring to do something never before attempted in this country or in any other and that is to give a square deal to the public in the purchase of liquor. The Bill provides that if a hotel is owned by a brewery the licensee shall not be bound by any agreement between the brewer and himself to stock only those liquors for which the brewery is the agent."

That legislation was designed to try to get rid of tied houses similar to those in England, to which Mr. Gledson referred previously. The then Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Nicklin, spoke during the same debate. Before the 1945 Bill was introduced, the Act was certainly anti-public. In 1945 the first concerted attempt was made to aid the public in the purchase of liquor.

In the 1945 Liquor Acts Amendment Bill this provision occurs—

"That the licensee does not keep in stock and/or supply, in reasonable quantities, all classes, kinds, and descriptions of liquor which are usually consumed or demanded by the general public in the locality in which the licensed premises are situated and supplies of which are reasonably obtainable by the licensee in Queensland, excepting that if a registered brewer is entitled to an estate of freehold in possession or to an estate of leasehold from the Crown of the land upon which the licensed premises are situated or is the mortgagee in possession of such land it shall be a sufficient answer to this ground for the licensee to show that he is bound by agreement with such brewer not to stock and/or supply any class, kind, or description of liquor brewed or made by a person other than such brewer and similar to a class, kind, or description of liquor brewed or made by such brewer and that, subject to such agreement, he does in fact stock and supply, in reasonable quantities all classes, kinds, and descriptions of liquor usually consumed or demanded by the general public in the locality in which the licensed premises are situated;"

I believe that the only binding factor in that legislation was that the merchants had a tie only on hotels or premises owned by brewers; they had no tie on freehold hotels, irrespective of what appeared in the lease.

The Bill introduced by the present Government was of no help whatever to the people of North Queensland. I cannot speak with authority on the situation in the southern part of the State, because here there is no middleman in the handling of liquor. In North Queensland, although the kegs go straight from the brewers to the hoteliers, the merchants pick up their "cop" in between. The reason for that is beyond my comprehension.

In Brisbane, Castlemaine and Carlton United supply kegs direct to the hotels and there are no merchants; the brewers are the middlemen. That leads me to believe that the brewers have a hold over this Government. And I am not the only one to believe that. I have here an editorial from "The Methodist Times" of 22 June 1972, which reads—

"It is not the people on their way to church that are the problem but those on their way from the pubs. And our political

leaders know that. They are not stupid. But they do face a dangerous apathy on the part of the public and they are obviously afraid of causing any trouble to the liquor manufacturers."

I now come to the most pertinent point which, I think, was broadcast on the A.B.C. news throughout the State.

The editorial continues—

"Would it have something to do with campaign funds?"

I believe—and it is rumoured throughout Queensland—that Dr. Delamothe's attempt in 1970 to change the legislation failed in the foyer of this Chamber because the Government's "slush fund" was increased by large contributions from the brewers and merchants of North Queensland and other parts of Queensland. That is an indictment of the Government. I do not hear the bleating of the "wizard from Windsor" now. The whole system of marketing of beer in North Queensland will be jeopardised if the present system persists.

I admit that the Labor Government tried out State-owned hotels, which were a complete failure. The managers did not carry out their duties properly because they had no monetary interest in the hotels. The manager system needs some incentive. The merchants will find that the licensees of their own hotels will be in trouble. The rent for these hotels is increased, not monthly but weekly. The contracts also contain painting clauses under which a charge of \$50 a month is imposed on the licensee. I can cite hotels throughout my electorate that have not been painted in the last three years although a levy of \$50 a month is imposed on the licensees under a painting clause.

I believe that, legally, the merchants have the right to tie the licensees in their hotels, but the attempt to tie the freehold hotels is absolutely unjust. I have advised people served with Supreme Court writs, particularly the freehold hoteliers, to take the merchants on. I believe that under the Profiteering Prevention Acts, 1948 to 1959, they are protected, because section 62 provides—

"A person shall be guilty of an offence against this Part who either as principal or agent refuses, either absolutely or except upon disadvantageous or relatively disadvantageous conditions, to sell or supply to any other person or to purchase from any other person any goods—"

The point is that these hotels in North Queensland have been allowed to sell Fourx bottled beer, but now they have been told that if they do not cease doing so they will be served with a Supreme Court writ. Under the Profiteering Prevention Act, are not merchants guilty if they fail to supply any goods that the hoteliers wish to obtain? They will be told that they will not be supplied with kegs of Cairns beer.

Mr. Lee: Are you "knocking" Cairns beer?

Mr. F. P. MOORE: The only thing the "nut-grass farmer" from Yeronga knows about beer is how to slop it down. I have just said that I believe that the best beer in Australia is Cairns draught beer.

I am speaking on behalf of the beer consumers of North Queensland, who have every right to drink the beer of their choice. As outlined in the legislation, the public should have a free choice in the beer that they want to drink.

Mr. Sherrington: What chance have they with this Government?

Mr. F. P. MOORE: The people of Queensland have had 15 years of dictatorship, and at present, on the issues of daylight saving and the proposed amendments to the City of Brisbane Act, the Liberals have again forced the Country Party with their strong-arm tactics and Joh. Petersen does not have the "guts" to stand up to them.

Mr. Sherrington: And the people didn't get the Government they wanted.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: That is right.

The result of monopoly selling is also evident in the price of beer in North Queensland. Kegs go direct from the breweries to the publicans, yet the middleman—the merchant—is paid a surcharge on the kegs.

Mr. Lee: Nationalise the pubs!

Mr. F. P. MOORE: We have had State-owned hotels in this State, but they were a failure.

Mr. Sherrington: We should nationalise the land-subdividers.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: We should nationalise the land-subdividers, such as the honourable member for Yeronga, the honourable member for Surfers Paradise and also the Postmaster-General, who failed to subdivide 40 acres a few years ago. Pressure should be brought to bear on these people.

Why should the merchant in North Queensland receive this surcharge on beer kegs when he does not handle them? This adds to the cost borne by the North Queensland consumer. I know that drinking beer is considered to be a luxury. I do not mind admitting that I enjoy a few beers. However, as the beer is brewed in Cairns, why should people 100 miles from Cairns pay 62c for a 26-ounce bottle of Cairns beer, compared with 43c that the honourable member for Yeronga pays in Brisbane? Can the honourable member justify the difference? Does it

cost the equivalent of 19c a bottle to transport hops from Brisbane to Cairns? The honourable member for Mount Isa and other western members, including you, Mr. Speaker, can verify what it costs to enjoy the luxury of drinking beer in the West. The facts I have presented warrant investigation. As I said before, I am suspicious of the Government's intentions.

Mr. Jensen: Compare the price of a 26-ounce bottle of vinegar in Brisbane with that in the North. You will find a difference of only 2c.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: That is right.

As I have said, the Christian churches are involved in this matter. I have quoted from "The Methodist Times", in which the belief is expressed that some pressure has been brought to bear on the Government. That journal quite openly asks whether this is why the State has to put up with the present legislation. We all know that the Premier claims to be a Christian, so he would not want hanging over his head or his conscience suspicion that this sort of thing has occurred. It is quite openly stated in North Queensland, and indeed throughout the whole of Queensland, that apparently the slush funds of the Government are raised substantially by means of donations from breweries and merchants.

I now wish to deal with the recent electoral redistribution. This time I am wheeling my own barrow. My new electorate of Mourilyan has had an extra 7,000 sq. miles added to it. It is quite unlike the electorate of Yeronga, which lost .5 of a sq. mile when Rocklea was excised from it. During the last 18 months I built my first home in the town of Tully, and that town has now been removed from my electorate. I am left with a new home, with quite a debt attached to it, outside my electorate. What did the parties opposed to me do during the last election? They came out and stated that the Country Party candidate lived in the electorate that he was contesting, and left it at that. In other words, they left the innuendo that the Labor Party candidate, the present member for Mourilyan, did not live in the new electorate of Mourilyan. I was quite indignant about that statement, and felt that the less said about it during the election the better. An area of 7,000 sq. miles, containing dairy farms and a small section of a mining district, was added to my electorate, and I increased my majority by 200 per cent.

Mr. Lee: You will be in trouble once they find you out, though.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: Apparently the electors have not as yet found out the honourable member for Yeronga. At least

my constituents are able to see and interview me. Since I have been in Brisbane in the last three years I have visited schools and spoken to teachers and other people in the Yeronga electorate and they have asked me quite openly, "Who is Mr. Lee?" I have told them, "He is your State member." The honourable member for Yeronga apparently finds it very difficult to communicate with people, just as he finds it very difficult to communicate here.

I return to my new electorate. Only the other day a Government member—I cannot recall with certainty who it was; I think it was the honourable member for Windsor—said that the recent redistribution was based on shires or divisions of shires. I can say quite openly, without any fear of contradiction, that my electorate takes in part of two divisions of the Cardwell Shire, part of divisions of the Johnston Shire, and all the Herberton Shire. Therefore, I fail to see how anyone could get the impression that the redistribution was based on division or shire boundaries. Two months before the redistribution was declared, I had in my possession a photostat copy of a map showing the proposed Mourilyan boundaries.

Mr. R. E. Moore: Where did you get it from?

Mr. F. P. Moore: When the honourable member for Windsor passed it to me in the foyer of this Chamber,—

Mr. R. E. Moore: I rise to a point of order. I realise that the honourable member for Mourilyan is speaking in jest. However, as I said on another occasion, smiles and jests are not recorded in "Hansard," and some of my friends might take it as being said in earnest. Therefore, I ask that the statement be withdrawn.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I ask the honourable member for Mourilyan to withdraw the statement.

Mr. F. P. Moore: I withdraw it. However, Mr. Speaker, I ask you to try to keep the honourable member for Windsor quiet for a change, and I will get on much better.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I am in control of the House. I do not want any advice on how I should control it.

Mr. F. P. Moore: I am very sorry, Mr. Speaker.

As I said, Tully, the town in which I live, has been removed from my electorate.

Mr. Lee interjected.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Yeronga is interjecting far too frequently. I ask him to restrain himself.

Mr. F. P. Moore: Without trying to praise myself, I can say truthfully that I do appear in my electorate and make myself known to my constituents. I have interviews continually, and when I leave Tully to travel to that part of my electorate on the Atherton Tableland I am in the Herberton Shire for three days and in the Innisfail Shire for one day. Many people outside the House make snide remarks about the work done by parliamentarians. Those people should follow a parliamentarian round a country area and see how much work he does.

I reiterate that I am willing to fight for the rights of my constituents and that I am willing also to fight for my own conditions. I point out at this stage that I do not want a rise in pay; I want improved conditions. In the new Mourilyan electorate I have no alternative to using the telephone if I wish to get in touch urgently with a person at Herberton or Mt. Garnett. The line of communication is from Tully to Cairns, over the Tableland, and back to Herberton and Mt. Garnett. Such a call is quite costly; in fact, it is almost as costly as a call from Tully to Brisbane. I believe that by some means or other I should be assisted to meet that cost.

When I travel round country areas, I find that every Tom, Dick and Harry in the Public Service has a car provided for him. Although I am away from home on parliamentary business on many occasions, I have never owned two cars. The way things are going now, I never will be in a position to own two cars. I have no grazing properties in the West through which I can avoid taxation, as do some people I know. In my opinion, it is the duty of everyone in this State to make sure that the parliamentarians who represent them in this Assembly have facilities that will enable them to do their job to the best of their ability. The facilities now available to country members of Parliament are atrocious, archaic and altogether beyond comprehension. I would settle for any vehicle that would enable me to leave my own car at home for my wife and family. All honourable members who are family men know that sickness occurs in families at times, and when one is away for four days one's wife and family should have access to a car in case of sickness.

Mr. R. E. Moore: What about the workers?

Mr. F. P. Moore: The workers usually work in their own home town.

Mr. R. E. Moore: Some of them do.

Mr. F. P. Moore: Most of them can ride a bicycle to their job. I would like to see the honourable member for Windsor ride up the Palmerston Highway to Herberton. He would give up at Innisfail.

I outline these problems not specifically to get a rise in salary. This is not what I am seeking. I want better facilities and better conditions to help me work for my salary.

Mr. Frawley interjected.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: I openly admit that I would willingly accept a salary rise. I should like to hear the honourable member say that he would not accept a salary rise.

Mr. Frawley: I intend to take it.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: The correspondence staff in this House are doing a wonderful job. Since my return after your election, Mr. Speaker, I find that they are doing even better than before. They are very co-operative and are deserving of the highest congratulations. You, Mr. Speaker, are a country member; you have made a stand for the country—and good on you. You have my congratulations, anyway. You would understand the problems of country members. They have no access to a correspondence secretary, say, in North Queensland. I suppose we could use the facilities at the various court-houses, but that is something I will be mentioning later. Even if members could be moved from point A to point B by departmental cars it would be a great help. It would go a long way towards members not having to leave their families at home without a car. This week the Premier was presented with an \$11,000 Jaguar. He already has a \$145,000 aeroplane. The money that was spent on the Jaguar could provide three country members with average-priced vehicles. We do not want Jaguars; Mini Mokes would do us. That amount of money could probably provide four or five members with cars to work their areas. I respect the Premier's right to use a Jaguar if he wants to,—

Mr. Sherrington: You only hope it eats him.

Mr. F. P. MOORE: I hope it has teeth.

The work of country members would be greatly facilitated if they had vehicles at their disposal. They would be more able to keep in close contact with their electorates.

During the election campaign I fell a victim to the Palmerston Highway. I have been in the Tully district for 18 years or more, and prior to my election to Parliament I campaigned for the Australian Labor Party in that area. For 12 years I have heard the honourable member for Mulgrave promising the rehabilitation and widening of the Palmerston Highway, but it has not come about.

The Palmerston Highway is the worst road in Queensland, and if the Government does nothing to improve it I will hold it responsible for any death that occurs on that highway. I will make that announcement in this House at any time that someone dies on the Palmerston Highway in the Herberton Shire. At 9 o'clock one morning I was travelling along the Palmerston Highway in pouring rain on my way to Cairns to meet the Leader of the Opposition. Because of the condition of the road surface I could not take one of the turns and I went over the side. But for a tree I would have crashed down 200 feet. That highway is wide enough for only one car, yet milk tankers travel on it.

If the Government is not going to improve the Palmerston Highway, let it install toll gates at the top and the bottom of the range. If that is not done, somebody will be killed by a milk tanker. It will not be the fault of the driver of the tanker, but of the Government. Insufficient money is being made available to the Herberton Shire Council to maintain the roads in that shire properly. They were built by a Labor Government, the last one being built in 1947 when the Hon. H. A. Bruce was a member of the Cabinet.

The pot-holes in those roads are so bad that I defy any Minister or other Government member to show me worse roads. If they can, I will eat my hat. The sign "Highway 1" appears on the beef road running from Mt. Garnet to Herberton, and again this road is so bad that there would not be six inches between the pot-holes. The reason, of course, if that not enough money is being provided for maintenance. The Treasurer has connived to so distribute the money available in this State that these roads have been starved for maintenance. The former Prime Minister, Mr. Gorton, stated openly in a letter which I read here that the Queensland Treasurer had not channelled the money he had been given into the correct local authority areas.

The Herberton Shire Council, under the very capable chairmanship of Councillor Holdcroft, has not been given enough road-maintenance money, and a section of the Palmerston Highway runs through that shire. I repeat that the lower section of this highway is one of the most disgraceful roads in Queensland, and I say again that I will certainly hold the Government to blame for any death that occurs on it. Every time a death occurs on the roads I mention I will come into this House and go very close to labelling Government members as murderers.

(Time expired.)

Mr. HARTWIG (Callide) (4.32 p.m.): I desire, on this the occasion of my maiden speech in this House, to associate the electors of Callide and myself with the expressions of loyalty to Her Most Gracious Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

I wish to join with the mover of the Address in Reply, the honourable member for Townsville (Dr. Norman Scott-Young) and the seconder, the honourable member for Surfers Paradise (Mr. Bruce Small) in congratulating His Excellency the Governor on the wonderful Speech he delivered at the opening of this parliamentary session. With my electors, I also desire to offer congratulations to His Excellency on his appointment by Her Majesty, and to express our hope that His Excellency's administration of affairs will be personally most happy and successful and of great benefit to the State of Queensland.

I should like to congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your election to your high and honourable office. I also extend my congratulations to my colleagues on both sides of the House on being elected or re-elected to this the Fortieth Parliament.

We certainly look to you, Mr. Speaker, to assist and guide us as new members in the ways of traditional parliamentary procedure. We trust that you will not be too hard on us for our transgressions in our early parliamentary careers. You may rest assured that any such transgressions will be through accident rather than design. I offer you my full co-operation in the discharge of your duties.

To the newly appointed Chairman of Committees I offer my sincere congratulations and I look to him also for guidance.

As a newly elected member of this House, I convey my congratulations to the Premier, Honourable J. Bjelke-Petersen, on the return to office of the Country-Liberal coalition Government and on being given a clear mandate to govern this wonderful State for the ensuing term of three years. I feel I must also comment favourably on the interest and effort shown by his good lady in the recent elections. I sincerely thank him, Mrs. Petersen, and other Ministers, for the assistance given to me in Callide during the recent election campaign.

I extend thanks to the electors of Callide for expressing their confidence in me by giving me an absolute majority over my opponents, the A.L.P. and D.L.P. candidates, at the recent State election. I am very conscious of the responsibility that my position entails. I believe that a member of Parliament should speak as his conscience dictates, in the interests of the people he represents and the people of the State generally. I shall at all times endeavour to maintain the prestige and dignity of Parliament.

As the member for Callide I feel I must take this opportunity to pay a tribute to the late "Vin" Jones. He held the seat of Callide for over 20 years for the Country Party—in fact, since its inception—and if I am able to emulate the work of my predecessor with the same honesty of purpose and dedication I shall consider myself very well satisfied.

I wish to express a word of appreciation to my friend the Minister for Conservation, Marine and Aboriginal Affairs, the Honourable N. T. E. Hewitt, who, although kept very busy in conducting his own portfolio, found or made the time to represent the people of Callide for approximately seven months.

To my campaign directors, campaign committee, the 13 Country Party branch members, and all the others who worked so hard on polling day towards my election, I say "thank you". I must also pay a tribute to the Press, radio, television and P.M.G. officers for their full co-operation.

The Biloela Branch of the Young Australia Country Party gave me full support, as did the Marlborough, Rockhampton and Raglan Branches of the Young Country Party. With our young people showing such keen enthusiasm in politics, our Country Party is destined for many years to come to be a force to be reckoned with in Central Queensland.

I was elected to represent Callide as the Country Party member with 50.29 per cent of all the votes cast. A big improvement was thus achieved over the A.L.P. candidate. Our Country Party vote also increased considerably in my neighbouring electorates of Auburn, Belyando and Mirani. In fact, Vince Lester almost achieved a victory, and the honourable member for Belyando would not want that one over again. I firmly believe that our increase in Country Party support was due, in the main, to the fact that, during the past 15 years of Country-Liberal coalition Government, Central Queensland has become a very important area of this State.

I would also like to commend the Premier, the Deputy Premier and their Cabinet colleagues for having come to Rockhampton to launch the election policy speech from Central Queensland. I believe this was a splendid gesture, and it certainly won the gratitude of thousands of people in our region.

To revert to the election itself, I suggest that the A.L.P. really thought this was its big chance to win Callide. All the so-called "big guns" were called in, including Dr. Everingham, who was the A.L.P. candidates' campaign director, and who, might I add, tried, as usual, to conduct the traditional smear campaign of the A.L.P. The Leader of the Opposition also came into Callide, and

made the great prediction that Labor would win not only Callide but also the Government. How wrong he was! I increased the Country Party vote in Callide, whereas Labor polled only 37 per cent. of all votes cast.

This Government has been accused by critics among the Australian Labor Party of doing nothing about decentralisation. In 1957, when the Labor Government was defeated, Gladstone had a population of 6,944. Today the figure has grown to 15,365, and is still increasing rapidly. The growth rate is approximately 225 per cent. In 1957 the population of Biloela was 1,399. Today it is 4,022, an increase of 300 per cent. In 1957 the population of Moura was 265. Today it is 1,877, an increase of 700 per cent.

A similar story applies to Blackwater and Goonyella. Today these centres are little cities and hives of industrial prosperity. The mining people, and others, know full well that this Government has injected this new prosperity into Central Queensland and that during the Labor Party's long term of office it did nothing to promote this vital area of the State. As a result, it denied employment and high living standards to the average worker, who is so important to the economy and welfare of this State.

The Callide electorate has an area of some 8,690 square miles with just over 10,000 electors. It stretches from Thangool in the South to Ogmoo in the North, joins the Mirani electorate—another Country Party seat held by my old friend, Mr. Tom Newbery, who has just left for Japan—just south of St. Lawrence, and extends down the beautiful Capricorn Coast to just north of Port Alma. The two main centres are Biloela and Yeppoon. It takes in the whole of the Livingstone and Fitzroy Shires and part of the Banana Shire.

Yeppoon and Emu Park are the main seaside resorts for all of Rockhampton and its hinterland. This area, called the Capricorn Coast, is one of the great tourist attractions of Central Queensland. Recently, much publicity has been given to a projected development north of Yeppoon which I believe will cost in excess of \$10,000,000. It will be responsible for the influx of interstate and overseas tourists by the thousands and will give tourism a tremendous boost in this part of Queensland.

Look at how our Country-Liberal coalition government has promoted tourism: it is already the fifth largest industry in this State. As a matter of fact, last year more than 2,032,000 people visited Queensland. Currently, tourism is worth \$140,000,000 a year. To make a comparison, in 1957 the cash collection from the Tourist Bureau was only \$2,600,000 and today it is \$6,250,000.

The off-shore islands and the Barrier Reef are a haven for holiday-makers. They are frequented by tourist vessels that operate locally. The fishing industry and boat owners generally are grateful to this Government for building the Rosslyn Boat Harbour. They await anxiously the development of the third stage, which will include a 300 ft. extension to the breakwater and dredging to allow its use by vessels at any tide. I request the Minister for Primary Industries to see that the Queensland Fish Board establishes a receipt depot, with a small processing department attached to the foreshore, and provides unloading and wharf facilities in the Rosslyn Bay Boat Harbour. Snap freezing and refrigeration facilities should be provided to ensure constant supplies of sea-food to local people.

The marketing system in Rockhampton and Yeppoon should be overhauled and a system introduced similar to that in operation at the Mackay depot. Rockhampton and Yeppoon are the only two prawn-receipt depots in Queensland that are not on the waterfront. I therefore request the Fish Board to provide unloading facilities for these centres.

The Yeppoon pineapple industry is large and prosperous. Thanks to Government assistance it has now become a very stable industry.

Gracemere, a town in my electorate with a historic background associated with the settlement by the highly respected Archer family over 100 years ago, has become one of Queensland's largest cattle-selling centres in Queensland. Gracemere township has terrific potential for building development, and is anxiously awaiting approval of its town water supply. Because it is only seven miles from the Rockhampton G.P.O., I have no doubt that Rockhampton people will look in its direction for future homesites and development. I am sorry to say today that, unfortunately, the submissions I made to the Treasurer were unsuccessful.

Sir Gordon Chalk: That is not right.

Mr. HARTWIG: I hope that the Treasurer makes it right.

I move now to Biloela which is truly one of the fastest-growing areas in Queensland today. Rich in agriculture, with crops such as lucerne, wheat, grain sorghum, sunflower and safflower, the Callide Valley produces over \$3,000,000 worth of primary products annually. Dairying, crop-fattening of beef cattle, poultry farming and pig raising make this area a vital one in the production of primary products equal to anything in the State.

The people who produce the food so essential to us all and the farmers who produce grain and fodder and establish pastures can only stay in business if they receive an ample reward for their labour. Drought over many years, irrigation bores going dry, two consecutive years of mouse plague, rising costs and falling incomes have made people on the land very disillusioned.

Primary producers, who are the most loyal and non-militant people in this country, are fed up to the neck with this constant cry of strikes. Farmers and graziers have to combat drought, floods, pests and a thousand other things while the Trades Hall-controlled unions are virtually white-anting our democratic way of life.

The unions are threatening our very freedom. Trades Hall Communistic policies do not give a damn for their fellow-man or our cherished freedom. All they are interested in is a stream of tyranny designed to destroy our democracy, which is a freedom that thousands of young Australians laid down their lives to preserve. I congratulate the Premier on our Government's policy of law and order, and God give us strength to keep this monstrous thing of illegal strikes and the Communist desire to destroy our very way of life out of our country. How long would these unions last on strike if the primary producer cut off their food supplies? Every strike adds to the farmer's rising costs.

The man on the land has to take it, yet he works far in excess of 35 or 40 hours a week. His children have to walk, and go by bus, for anything up to 50 or 60 miles a day. Yet we have a segment of Trades Halls unions, aided and abetted by Bob Hawke and his mob, continually showing complete contempt and disregard for the people, who are becoming sick and tired of this sort of tyranny.

One of our major threats, apart from these unauthorised strikes, is drought. As you, Mr. Speaker, would be well aware, droughts have cost this State and nation millions of dollars over the past 10 years. I am adamant that unless we unleash an unprecedented scheme for the conservation of water, we will find in a few years that we will not be able to produce enough food for this nation.

At present, we are importing butter from Victoria. Declining production has continued to be one of the major problems confronting the Queensland dairying industry. Although 1971-72 was one of the industry's best years seasonally for some time, most areas of Queensland are again feeling the effects of a deteriorating season, and many farmers urgently require rain. As a flow-on effect of a series of drought years prior to 1972, Queensland recorded its lowest-ever dairy

production in 1971-72, contributing approximately 18,000 tons of butter and 8,000 tons of cheese to an over-all Australian production of 192,000 tons of butter and 72,000 tons of cheese.

Queensland dairy farmers are dismayed and alarmed at the recent announcement that they would be paid only 32c. a lb. for commercial butter. If this is correct, thousands of dairy farmers will suffer economic hardship and will find it impossible to meet their increasing production costs.

I urgently request the Government to implement the full flood gates at the Callide Dam. This would increase the present capacity of some 40,000 acre-feet to 103,000 acre-feet at the low cost of some \$1,700,000. I know that the Irrigation and Water Supply Commissioner, Mr. Haigh, and the Minister for Conservation have a scheme ready for submission to Cabinet for approval. This will assist irrigators in the Callide Valley.

I also believe that the site on Kroombit Creek should be further investigated with a view to establishing another major source of water supply.

The case for an irrigation scheme in the Dululu and Wowan districts must be considered. The Wura site on the Dee River is a splendid one. It has a catchment of 230 square miles, and could irrigate thousands of acres by gravitation. The Callide Valley and Wowan areas, given adequate water, would become the food bowl for Central Queensland.

I strongly advocate the setting up of a water resources board for every major river system in Queensland, this board to consist of men of primary-producer organisations. This board would also liaise with the Irrigation and Water Supply Commission, and list priority ratings for future water storages. Costs associated with major dam sites should have some relativity to what the valley below can produce. In other words, water should be conserved where it will benefit the most people.

I do not consider an estimate of, say, \$13,000,000 to construct a dam on Kroombit Creek excessive when the net gain per annum would be in excess of \$1,000,000 a year. Life on the land must be made secure, and this security can be given only by water conservation and irrigation.

Let us now look at the electricity supply industry. Callide Power Station, situated only 10 miles from Biloela, is a 120 megawatt station generating approximately 94 per cent of the total power requirements of the Capricornia Regional Electricity Board area. This station was designed to become a much larger station, and I have personally submitted a case to the State Electricity Commission for extensions to Callide. I firmly believe that this site has all the qualifications necessary for an increase in generation capacity.

Coal mined by Thiess Pty. Ltd. under the open-cut method is progressing, with some 200,000,000 tons in reserve. This coal is cheap, very suitable for steam turbines, does not require washing, and is situated within 1 mile of the power station.

Callide Power Station provides power via 132 kV lines to Thiess Peabody Mitsui at Moura and to Utah at Blackwater to operate some of the largest draglines in the world. It also provides power to Queensland Alumina at Gladstone, the largest bauxite-processing plant producing alumina in the world, and we anticipate further extensions in this region. All easements, access roads, railway sidings and housing at Biloela are readily available. Callide has water and coal on the site. I am sure that economically this station must be extended to augment the super power-house close by at Gladstone.

I shall now have a word to say about hospitals. The recent announcement of extensions to the Biloela Base Hospital, costing in excess of \$500,000, has been welcomed. However, much more needs to be done, as Biloela warrants a completely new hospital. At Yeppoon there is one of the oldest hospitals in Queensland, and, after personal approaches to the Minister for Health, I am more than hopeful that finance will be made available for this much needed amenity. Yeppoon and surrounding areas have a population of 5,000, whilst at holiday periods this increases to 15,000 to 20,000.

Summing up, I firmly believe that we must implement long-term loans at a low interest rate to keep those who are presently on farms in a position in which they can carry on. The promised reductions in grain rail freights were a mere token, and grain-growers in my electorate are far from happy at the recent so-called reductions.

We must investigate the setting up of a committee to deal with problems of drought, and come up with some positive conservation scheme for fodder.

I appeal to Ministers to be more flexible in policy decisions concerning country towns and rural areas. In saying that, I might mention that a detective living in Biloela, about a mile from the police station, made application for a telephone. He had no other means of communication with the sergeant of police. The application, which I made for him, was refused.

The other thing that I should like to mention is that country children are walking long distances along lonely bush roads to catch the school bus. Surely the Minister can be sufficiently flexible in his policies to grant, where necessary, small

favours to keep people in rural areas. School-bus runs need extending so that all children in farming areas can be picked up. Each case should be treated on its merits. Local authorities must receive more Federal aid to assist in improving school-bus routes.

I consider that interest rates on local authority borrowings are all too high and that loans of too short duration are approved. The Commonwealth Government could subsidise interest on local authority borrowings. I do not agree with the 50 per cent reduction in local authorities suggested by the honourable member for Surfers Paradise, but regional planning must be considered in the future. For instance, in 1916 Queensland had 186 local authorities, and the number has gradually been reduced. In April 1961 there were 131 local authorities, and that is still the number.

I believe also that due consideration should be given to the reintroduction of subsidies for electricity extensions in rural areas. Electricity must be made available to more people in remote areas, many of whom just have not the financial resources to pay for their own extensions.

I suggest also, Mr. Speaker, that a State transport authority be set up, so that road transport will not be penalised to the detriment of isolated areas in which people have no easy access to the railway.

In view of a greater emphasis on decentralisation, I would like a specific portfolio established for environmental control and decentralisation. I believe that one is closely associated with the other. Things such as pollution and development go hand in hand. We must take more definite steps in this direction.

I wish to comment on the wonderful job that the Minister for Mines and Main Roads has done in the construction and maintenance of Queensland roads. True it is that there are still unsealed sections of road, and I have in mind particularly the Burnett-Callide highway. I am pleased to have received a letter from the Minister this morning informing me that construction of a seven-mile section of that highway southwards from Lawgi is programmed for the current financial year. It is planned to follow up construction of this section in 1974-75, commencing at the end of it and continuing to the boundary of the Banana and Monto Shires.

Mr. Speaker and honourable members, I look forward to a very interesting and rewarding period in Parliament. May our deliberations be beneficial, and may we all contribute our activities and resolutions for the general welfare and advancement of all people and of this great State of Queensland.

Mr. N. F. JONES (Everton) (4.57 p.m.): Firstly, I congratulate His Excellency the Governor on his presentation of the Government's legislative programme.

I also congratulate you, Mr. Speaker, on your appointment by an impressive majority vote of this Parliament. Your election against an official Government nominee was obviously an indication of the high esteem in which you are held by members on both sides of the House. I am certain I speak for all members of the A.L.P. Opposition when I say that we look forward to a harmonious working relationship with you, and I confidently believe that you will implement many of the reforms that even my short experience have shown are necessary in this Assembly.

I take this opportunity also to personally thank the many people, both within and outside Everton, who assisted me during the election campaign. Everton is a new outer-suburban electorate on the northern side of Brisbane, based mainly on the old seat of Kedron. The citizens of my electorate have a long history of A.L.P. representation in both State and municipal politics. Since 1951 their representative in this House has been Mr. Eric Lloyd, who retired at the May election. His support throughout the election campaign is something that I will always remember with tremendous appreciation. Anyone who visits Everton will quickly realise the great respect held for him in the area.

In the Brisbane City Council, the people of Everton have for a long time been represented, and still are represented, by my colleague in this Parliament, the honourable member for Stafford, Alderman Roy Harvey. His success, after not only the boundaries but even the name of his electorate had been changed to reduce his chances, was, I believe, one of the more notable achievements of the May State election.

I congratulate my leader and his deputy on their conduct of the campaign and their re-election unopposed by the State Parliamentary Labor Party Caucus.

No election campaign can succeed without the assistance of many supporters, some of whom are not necessarily party members, and the co-operation of an efficient political party organisation such as the State Central Executive of the Australian Labor Party.

Having worked as a State organiser of the Australian Labor Party since 1967, I have been associated with numerous election campaigns and I know the enormous amount of work involved. The rewards for these unsung workers in our electorates and on our executives and committees lie in the degree of public support which their efforts

and our policies achieve. Their congratulations rest in the fact that at the May election the Australian Labor Party won 48 per cent of the over-all Queensland vote and, under any democratic assessment, should be the rightful Government of this State today. Regrettably I cannot offer the same congratulations to the Government, which already sits in unhappy division on the other side of the House. It is a minority coalition which masquerades as a Government through the grace of an undemocratic redistribution, false promises, political deceit and political distortion. In the State election it received only 42 per cent of the vote, six per cent less than the A.L.P. It has no mandate; it lacks public confidence; it is a phoney Government without objective, direction or cohesion.

At the election the people of Queensland endorsed A.L.P. policies. They wanted a Labor Government with Jack Houston as their Labor Premier, but they were cheated of their right by a set of rigged electoral boundaries that make the word "democracy" a joke and a disgrace in the Queensland of 1972.

The entire redistribution exercise manipulated by this Government was a farce. I have no doubt that its commissioners will go down in the Queensland history books in the same way as my colleague the honourable member for Brisbane referred to them this morning—the "three stooges". I will speak at greater length on this subject later, but first let me return briefly to the electorate of Everton.

Everton has an enrolment of 12,056 of whom 11,100 voted in the State election. As the A.L.P. candidate I received 5,835 votes, or 53.62 per cent. The other voting percentages in the electorate were—

Liberal Party	..	23.46 per cent
Country Party	..	12.32 per cent
D.L.P.	..	7.23 per cent
Independent	..	3.36 per cent

Everton achieved historical significance as the first electorate situated entirely within the city of Brisbane to be contested by the Country Party. It was here that the Premier tried futilely to prove that his Country Party was a broad-based political party. The response in Everton of 12.32 per cent for the Country Party, despite a despicable personality campaign, is proof that it remains a sectional party that is unwanted, and is repugnant to the overwhelming majority of the citizens of Brisbane. I claim with confidence that if the election for Everton were rerun now and the Country Party again nominated, its share of the vote would be 5 per cent or less.

As I mentioned briefly a moment ago, the anti-Labor campaign in Everton was despicable and contemptible. I was subjected to the type of vicious personal propaganda and abuse that only a warped, unbalanced mind could create. There are several reasons for this type of campaigning. Firstly, as State organiser of the Australian Labor Party I was campaign director in the successful Isis by-election in which Mr. Jim Blake soundly trounced the Country Party in one of its blue-ribbon strongholds. He not only trounced the Country Party candidate in November 1968 but he has also repeated the drubbing on two subsequent occasions, with an increased majority each time. It was the present Premier's first by-election, and neither he nor his party has ever forgiven me for my small part in their electoral humiliation. Secondly, and even more importantly, last year I dared to display my contempt for the racist policies of the South African Government and its racist intrusion into the field of sport where men and women are chosen to represent their country not on ability but on the colour of their skin. I dared, in the Bjelke-Petersen Queensland of 1971 to agree with the United Nations, the World Council of Churches, the Governments of Britain, America and most other civilised democratic countries, the International Labour Organisation, Sir Donald Bradman, the Olympic Games Federation and most other international sporting organisations.

I could continue, but the valid fact is that in the State of Queensland under this Government my sin was not with whom I agreed but with whom I disagreed. My sin was that I dared to disagree with the Premier at a time when he was trying to arouse a wave of false hysteria designed to inspire division and terror among the people of Queensland on a question of Christian conscience.

Several years ago, shortly after the Premier's elevation to that position, I saw in "The Sunday Mail" that he reads the Bible every day. On his administrative performance during the Springbok tour and his rampage of vilification against me and other A.L.P. candidates in the recent election campaign, I can only assume that he has been conveniently avoiding a number of chapters, not only over many days but over many years. Is it any wonder that the Sydney "Daily Mirror" commented of the Premier that it must be reassuring for the South Africans to discover that here in a far-flung corner beats a heart as undemocratic as Mr. Verwoerd's? Is it any wonder that the same newspaper was prompted to comment still further, as follows:—

"For some time many people have felt that Queensland is not really part of Australia at all. Mr. Bjelke-Petersen is doing his best to prove them right."

Is it any wonder that the Melbourne "Age," the favourite reading matter of the founder of liberalism, Sir Robert Menzies, in its New Year awards after cyclone "Althea" had devastated Townsville, bestowed the following accolade:—

"Still the greatest disaster in Queensland's history—its Premier, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen."

Is it any wonder, with this type of national reputation—the type of reputation that earned our State the title "Banana Republic" in the Melbourne "Sun"—that the people of Everton rejected the vile campaigning of the anti-Labor elements in the recent election?

In conclusion on this point, let me say that I still abhor the type of racist violence and suppression that exists in South Africa at present. I am horrified that there are still international areas such as the Cabinet room of this Government where it is condoned and even protected.

For my opposition to apartheid I received congratulations from the United Nations. This is a document which I venture to say with more than a certain degree of confidence that neither the Premier nor his Government are ever likely to receive. I could proceed and mention the imaginary weapons "discovered" by the Minister for Police at the time of the Springbok tour. The police report presented to this Parliament on an incident at the Trades Hall was, to all those who were present, nothing more than a document of despicable distortion. But there are other issues that I wish to raise in this Address-in-Reply debate.

My leader has already outlined the terrible injustices of the Government's proposals concerning the Brisbane City Council. However, I feel that the motives and facts of this issue deserve and require repetition. On their relative records of administrative achievement, this is a clear case of an unsuccessful Country-Liberal State Government trying to destroy a successful A.L.P. municipal council. The Government has given no legitimate reason for its actions. Its intentions were deceitfully hidden from the people during the election campaign, even though I am told that the Bill was already drafted and the composition of the new wards decided in principle. I doubt whether the Brisbane people have ever been so united in their opposition to any proposal of any Government in this State.

A public-opinion poll conducted by "The Australian" revealed that 75 per cent of Brisbane's residents were opposed to the change in the Lord Mayoral voting system, and 60 per cent were against any reduction in the number of aldermen. In the latter poll, a reasonable redistribution of the

undecided votes cast would have lifted public opposition to about 70 per cent. Every major newspaper in the city of Brisbane is opposed to the Government's plan. Even "The Courier-Mail", which for so long has been an ally of this Government, commented in its editorial of 5 August 1972 that the scheme was unwanted, unnecessary and undemocratic. In today's editorial "The Courier-Mail" says—

"Cynical . . . ruthless . . . overbearing . . . or just plain foolish. Pick any one, or all of them, for they apply to the decisions yesterday by the joint Government parties on daylight saving and changes to the Brisbane City Council."

In today's issue of "The Australian" this appears—

"The joint Government parties yesterday drove the final nail into the coffin of responsible Government in Queensland."

"The Courier-Mail" said that even Sir Robert Menzies would have had a hard time deodorising this draft Bill, and added—

"Who really can believe that this proposed phoney legislation is valid or responsible?"

This is the same newspaper that on the evening prior to the May State election told Queenslanders that the voters should support the Country-Liberal coalition. At that stage the Liberal Party and the Country Party were still in the throes of an excursion into public deception, snidely hiding their repugnant objectives from the electors of Queensland.

When asked on Channel 9 to justify public support for his plan, the Minister for Local Government and Electricity replied that he had spoken to a few taxi-drivers. I suppose we should refer to him as "Hail-a-cab Henry". It is little wonder that he languished for so long on the Government back-benches, for now we learn that his legislative inspirations on a matter as important as this depend on the availability of taxi-ranks.

The real truth is that this abortive measure is the illegitimately conceived brain-child of a Liberal Party clique, which in the main is known as the "ginger group". "The Courier-Mail" of 5 August agrees with that. This group is regarded in illegitimate fashion by its leader when he thinks in terms of Cabinet selection.

I now wish to quote from an official booklet published by the Liberal Party of Australia and entitled "Broad Highway—a Statement of Liberal Values". I have the second edition, which was published in 1963 when the honourable member for Toowong was still the Liberal Party's State secretary. I

can only assume, therefore, that at that time he adhered to the principles expressed in this booklet.

Under the heading "The Importance of Being You", the introductory paragraph says this—

"The Liberal agrees with the warm old saying that 'politics is people', but he will not go along with today's bossy-minded theorists who say that 'politics is pushing people about'. The importance of being allowed to be you is the clue to the Liberal Party political thinking."

What about the overwhelming majority of citizens in Brisbane who have made it crystal clear that they want to retain their present number of aldermen and their democratic right to select their Lord Mayor? They have been pushed around ruthlessly by a bunch of Liberal conspirators who are determined to "get" Clem Jones at any cost and wreck the image and effectiveness of the A.L.P. city council. These people want their rights, as individuals but they are being deprived of them by a Liberal Party, which, according to its own words in 1963, professed hypocritically to be their protector.

In the 1970 municipal election Alderman Clem Jones gained 209,000 votes, or 60 per cent of the votes cast in the city of Brisbane. This figure represents almost 30,000 more than the votes won by the Country Party and 8,000 more than those won by the Liberal Party in the whole of the State some two years later, when the population had increased. In this year's State election in the city of Brisbane the Liberal Party secured only 139,000 votes, or 36.7 per cent, which is 70,000 votes fewer than those gained by Alderman Jones two years earlier. Yet this is the collection of political rejects that claim to understand Brisbane's feeling; that demand some kind of selfish, pathological right to undermine a municipal administration system that is the envy of every other capital city in Australia and other countries of the world.

But let me look still further at some of the leading plotters in this subversive little exercise of destruction against the city of Brisbane. Last week-end the State Liberal Party Convention was held in Brisbane. The Treasurer, the State leader of the Liberal Party, was conveniently absent fulfilling a long-standing engagement, namely, the opening of a show at Weipa. Some people have suggested unkindly that he was not really opening the show, that he was an exhibit in it. Of course, this is the same Treasurer and Liberal leader who said earlier this year that his interest in the city of Brisbane had now come to an end. His absence from this highest of high administrative bodies in

his party is strangely mindful of the sudden absence of the Premier a few years ago when church and temperance leaders marched on Parliament House to protest against the liquor legislation. On that occasion he, too, found a long-standing engagement, but his was in Dalby.

But, with or without their leader, the Liberal convention went on. The original motion to approve the proposed Brisbane City Council changes was moved by a Mr. Brian Cahill. This is the same Brian Cahill who, three months ago, stood as the Liberal candidate for the seat of Wynnum and won only 29 per cent of the votes. His second was the honourable member for Toowong (Mr. Charles Porter) who was later dumped by the same convention as a member of the Liberal Party State executive. There was one successful amendment. This emerged from a Mr. R. Smith. He is the same Mr. R. Smith who, as the Liberal candidate for Stafford at the recent State election, could gain only 40 per cent of the votes and was soundly defeated by Alderman Roy Harvey, a senior member of the very council he now wishes to destroy. These are the ringleaders: a Treasurer who poses as Premier-elect every three years and then retires to his more suitable role of always a bridesmaid, never a bride; two candidates who were rejected by the Brisbane people only three months ago; and a member of this Parliament who was dumped by his own rank and file and is distrusted as Cabinet material by his own leader. No plot in history has ever been stage-managed by such a sorry little bunch of misfits and failures.

From the Brisbane City Council, I wish now to turn to the expression "law and order". I open my remarks on this topic with a very famous quotation—

"Above all, a man who feels it is his duty at such an hour to assume the leadership of his people is not responsible to the laws of parliamentary usage or to a particular democratic conception but solely to the mission placed upon him; and anyone who interferes with this mission is an enemy of the people."

Those are not the words of the Premier of this State as he finalised the recent redistribution or demanded his right to drill the Great Barrier Reef. It is the famous statement of the infamous Hitler as he justified his murderous invasion of Austria. That was a generation ago, but the text bears a real resemblance to the attitude of this Government when it talks of what it describes as "law and order".

I now refer to a statement made in this Parliament on 3 October 1961, in these terms—

"We as a Government have a responsibility to protect the people from themselves as far as possible."

The speaker was the present Premier, then a back-bench member of this House. That was 11 years ago but, in regard to what he calls law and order, his attitude has changed little. Perhaps the text could be changed a little to read, "We as a Government have a responsibility to protect the system from the people as far as possible."

To most people "law and order" means the protection of persons and property; it means the prevention and detection of crime; it means the orderly administration of society; and it means freedom of expression and the right of dissent. In other words, "law and order" is the basis upon which our community exists and functions. But, for political purposes, the phrase "law and order" has assumed a new meaning—a new definition—for the Liberal and Country Parties. To them, "law and order" is the verbal weapon to suppress those who display the audacity to differ with their policies; the verbal excuse to intrude into the lawful affairs of trade unions simply because their members exercise their right to seek improvements in wages and conditions. It is the verbal excuse used to brand a handful of students carrying banners as subversive and law-breakers. It is the verbal excuse to defame those who seek to protect our Great Barrier Reef or our beautiful Cooloola. Coupled with inflation—an evil created by the Liberal Party and the Country Party—it is the verbal excuse used to incite foreign-owned companies to push and provoke Australian employees into industrial unrest.

The law and order practised by the Liberal Party and the Country Party today is a vile type of political paralysis designed to create suppression, designed to destroy the very freedom that our ancestors fought to establish and preserve, designed to undermine adult faith in young Queenslanders and designed ultimately to wreck the industrial processes of arbitration and negotiation. It is the kind of verbal philosophy that has been the catchcry of all potential dictators.

I shall now examine briefly some of the samples of the Government's law and order—its real law and order. Under this Government's law and order, Queensland's crime rate is at a record high, while the crime-detection rate is at a record low. Police morale continues to fall alarmingly. Never in our history has it been easier to maim, bash, kill, or rob and get away with it scot-free.

It was this Government's order of penal administration that last Sunday allowed a man, whose papers were marked "potentially dangerous", to be removed to hospital for treatment of a minor injury in the escort of only one prison officer. He was taken

for this treatment on the authority of a fellow-prisoner, who, I venture to suggest, has little or no medical knowledge. Needless to say, the man involved escaped.

I shall now examine the order of this Government in education. It is best expressed in the front-page words of "The Australian", which has just completed a national survey of Queensland. It reported, on 26 July 1972—

"For long the educational sick man of the continent, it has been jabbed in the arm by the Radford report. So far it has merely jumped convulsively and screamed. Whether it will grow healthier or lie down and die is far from certain."

So much for the Government's order in education.

I refer now to the recent oil dispute and the savage suburban rail cuts ordered by this Government. At the time rail service reductions were being enforced, the fuel storage facilities at Mayne Depot were filled to capacity. Tankers were turned away because their supplies were not needed. In other words, in a false attempt to inspire a "law and order" reaction against trade unions, this Government was prepared to deliberately invent and enforce inconvenience against the public.

Let me now examine pensioner housing. In the 12 months to 30 June 1971, of the 1,433 pensioner units built under the Commonwealth-State scheme in Australia, only 18 were constructed in Queensland. Queensland has one in six of Australian pensioners, but this Government could construct only one in 80 of the new Australian units for them. Perhaps the Government's order in the construction of pensioner units has been best expressed by the Federal Housing Minister, a Queensland Liberal, who told the Commonwealth Parliament on 7 October 1971—

"Queensland has not constructed dwellings in the same manner or at the same rate as other States."

I shall now deal with the "law and order" attitudes of this puritanical Government on redistribution—an issue which affects the very basis of democratic justice in our society. The original Bill presented last year was amended in accordance with the lawful, constitutional responsibility of this Parliament. The Premier refused to abide by this lawful decision of Parliament. The Bill was withdrawn and handed back to the dark-room bosses of the Government parties and the proposal was re-presented in a new, undemocratic form. But worse was to come. The original plan of the commissioners was handed down in December. The A.L.P.

was not satisfied with it, but was prepared to accept it. However, the Liberal Party and the Country Party objected, and under the disguise of objections, a new redistribution was conducted and 34 alterations were approved. The undemocratic nature of the final product can be seen in the fact that, in May this year, it took an average of 13,044 votes to elect an A.L.P. member, 9,600 votes to elect a Liberal member and only 6,972 to elect a Country Party member.

There are numerous other examples which expose the hypocritical Government concept of what it calls "law and order." I could refer to the 18 to 21-year-olds who have been refused the vote and are labelled "rat-bags" if they express their views. I could refer to the 20-year-olds who are conscripted, but condemned if they object. However, as I wish to speak only on housing, I shall content myself with a couple of final observations.

In the Everton electorate, where the Country Party in particular used its "law and order" slogan in a vicious personal manner against me, the same party was happy to accept the preferences of a candidate who not so long ago was an Army deserter. This candidate's description of his offence was that he was absent without leave for 12 months. I venture to say that he was A.W.L. for a longer period than most of the young men whom the Government condemns today for resisting the draft.

There is little doubt that the real architect of the Government's phoney "law and order" campaign is the Premier. I am sure that this would surprise Mr. Justice Taylor of the High Court of Australia. In fact, when the Premier appeared in the High Court in 1962 seeking to evade his legal taxation payment on an oil search permit deal in which he converted \$4 into \$50,000 and accumulated a share empire in Exoil, the learned Judge not only rejected his interpretation of "law and order" and threw out his application but also added a few pertinent remarks.

I shall content myself with one observation that the learned judge made on the Premier's dealings. He described them as "a simple circumvention of departmental practice." I will be kind and not use the words that certain senior lawyers used to describe the same deal.

Finally on this subject, for the benefit of those Liberal members who are continually trying to invent all kinds of sinister associations involving the A.L.P. to prop up their fictitious "law and order" propaganda, no doubt some of them will recall the words of a Mr. Arthur Smith in a feature article in

"Sunday Truth", now "Sunday Sun", early in 1969. To quote Mr. Smith, a former Fuehrer of the hated Australian Nazi Party—

"The turning point in our organisation came when we received financial help from certain sections of the Liberal Party."

There is the deep infiltration of the Queensland Country Party by the League of Rights, led by Eric Butler, who was accused by Dr. Evatt in the Federal Parliament in February 1945 of having written articles "which in the opinion of the Director General of Security constituted an attempt to create adverse public reaction to war loan campaigns and to the war effort generally."

I have dealt in greater length than I had intended with the false definition of what the Government calls "law and order", and I now turn very briefly to housing and the Government's poor order of administration in this field. In my short time as a member of this Parliament I have heard more complaints and learned of more disturbing cases in housing than in any other field. A major problem has been created by the Government's abolition of rent control, and its failure to provide anywhere near adequate low-rental housing through the Housing Commission. I have the case of a woman and her children who have been waiting two years for a Housing Commission home. I have another case of a large family with an income of \$58 a week who are paying \$20 in rent. In both cases, there is no Housing Commission accommodation in sight.

The Housing Commission can make an annual profit of \$900,000 on its operations when there is a waiting list of about 5,000. I am firmly convinced that the present system of priorities applied by the Commission, while they may have merit in some cases, too often lack the elements of sympathy and individual understanding required in this very human field. Persons can be virtually victimised because an officer may gain a wrong interpretation or impression of their cases. They can be penalised if they have accommodation, even though they may be unable to afford it.

I should like to see social workers appointed to the Housing Commission so that they could make an expert assessment of the human needs and problems involved in individual cases. Earlier I quoted from a Liberal booklet that said, "politics is people". Let me tell the Minister that housing is also very much people.

At 5.30 p.m.,

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! Under the provisions of Standing Order No. 17 I propose to permit the honourable member for Everton to complete his speech.

Mr. N. F. JONES: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

Social workers would have the knowledge to judge quickly the urgency of cases. Instead of being forced to wait until almost doomsday for Commission housing because of the rigid nature of priorities, cases would then be treated on an individual basis of understanding and need.

The latest report of the Bureau of Census and Statistics shows that housing costs in Queensland rose by 9.3 per cent, compared with the national average of 7.4 per cent. That represents an increase of about \$550 on a \$10,000 home.

Young couples must settle in outer suburbs. They face high transport costs. In many cases they have furniture and a car on hire-purchase. We all know how prices generally are rising without governmental control. I believe that the Housing Commission should be planning today for tomorrow, not leaving the inevitable suburban sprawl to the mercy of land developers.

In "The Sunday Mail" of 19 March 1972, Mr. Brian Marsden, a lecturer in Urban Geography at the University of Queensland, said—

"Urban Brisbane will spread outward like a metropolitan tidal wave between now and the year 2001 when its population should reach 1,644,000."

Commonwealth figures show that between the 30 June 1966 national census and the latest census on 30 June 1971—a space of only five years—the population of the area classified for statistical purposes as the Brisbane Urban Centre rose by 100,585 (or by 14.04 per cent) to a total of 816,987. The statistics reveal that 44.81 per cent—compared with 42.79 per cent—of the State's population now live within this region. Likewise, the figures show that 1,308,884 people (a rise of 15.86 per cent since 1966) reside in urban centres of 5,000 or more population. This represents 71.78 per cent of the State's population. It is obvious that the sprawl will accelerate, to use Mr. Marsden's word, "like a metropolitan tidal wave".

The Housing Commission should be moving in advance. I believe that it should be purchasing land, in particular dairying properties, on both the outer-northern and outer-southern sides of our urban areas so that reasonable land will be available for people as population reaches the district.

I believe also that there should be planning now to set aside the necessary land required for schools, perimeter hospitals, shopping centres and other amenities associated with urban expansion.

The rail system should be planned ahead to take railways to the people as they are required. Rapid transit rail services will be needed urgently to meet the urban explosion of the near-immediate future. Unfortunately, in Brisbane today we have the most antiquated rail system of any capital city because of the abandonment of the electrification plan by a Country-Liberal Government in 1958, with not an inch of new railway line being constructed in 15 years. Hundreds of thousands of people are isolated from trains. No wonder we have the morning and evening traffic chaos on our roads.

Unfortunately, in the acquisition of land for future expansion purposes, land developers are leaving this Government for dead, like a maiden performer in a Melbourne Cup. They are grabbing up the land while the Government closes its eyes and sits helpless, counting its annual Housing Commission profit. By the time people move into the fringe areas, the land developers will be firmly established before them, rubbing their hands together for easy, rich profits.

I say no more except to add that too many years have been wasted. Housing is a continuing problem and it is time that the Government, through the Housing Commission, viewed it as such.

This is my maiden speech in this Parliament and I would have liked to say more, but time escapes me. In conclusion, I say that the Government is not democratically elected. It is here on the Treasury benches against the wishes of the great majority of people in Queensland. Its past record is its indictment. Certainly its record since the May election is

ample proof of the dictatorial dangers it presents to our community and the urgent need for its removal. I have seen reports in newspapers from Government spokesmen supporting their proposed changes in the system of election of the Lord Mayor of Brisbane. They say that since the Premier of this State is elected by his parliamentary colleagues, and not the people as a whole, the same should apply to the Lord Mayor. Of course, they neglect to mention that the President of the United States of America is elected on the popular vote of all American electors.

In closing I merely comment that with the Premier's Country Party able to obtain only 20 per cent of the votes, and the Treasurer's Liberal Party able to obtain only 22 per cent of the votes, I can well understand their aversion to a popular vote. If there were a popular vote of all Queenslanders, or all the people of Brisbane, Clem Jones would still be Lord Mayor, Jack Houston would be Premier of Queensland, but both Mr. Bjelke-Petersen and Sir Gordon Chalk would be political history, and the Minister for Local Government would have more time to catch taxis.

(Time expired.)

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT

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

“That the House, at its rising, do adjourn until Tuesday, 29 August 1972.”

Motion agreed to.

The House adjourned at 5.38 p.m.