

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

TUESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER 1972

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

**PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT (LICENSING)
BILL**

Assent reported by Mr. Speaker.

**PROPOSED MOTION FOR ADJOURN-
MENT**

**COMMISSION OF INQUIRY,
SOUTHPORT GENERAL HOSPITAL**

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to report that I have received the following letter, dated 14 November 1972, from the Leader of the Opposition—

“The Honourable W. H. Lonergan, M.L.A.,
Speaker,
Legislative Assembly,
Parliament House,
Brisbane.

“Dear Mr. Speaker,

“I beg to inform you that, in accordance with Standing Order 137, I intend this day, Tuesday, 14 November 1972, to move—

“That the House do now adjourn.”

“My reason for moving this motion is to give this Parliament an opportunity of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, the necessity for an open Commission of Inquiry into the administration, staffing and duties being performed at the Southport General Hospital. The Inquiry should be headed by a Queen’s Counsel, supported by a medical man of high standing.

“This has become particularly urgent because of—

1. the importance of this area having a well-equipped and adequate General Hospital on which the public can rely with confidence;

2. the recent resignation of doctors and the continuing publicity surrounding the affairs at the Hospital, giving rise to conflicting views and statements which have undermined public and patient confidence in the Hospital and staff;

3. the troubles at the Hospital, which could not possibly be due entirely to one person;

4. the Government having a clear legal and moral responsibility to clarify the situation.

Yours sincerely,
J. W. Houston”

I draw the attention of the House to our Standing Order No. 307, paragraph (4), which provides that, on a day allotted for the business of Supply, no business, other than Formal Motions and Government Business other than Supply, may be taken

and that no Motion for Adjournment under Standing Order No. 137 shall be entertained. Under this Standing Order, therefore, as this is a day allotted for the business of Supply, I am not in a position to accept the motion of the Leader of the Opposition.

At the same time, however, I would point out to the honourable member that the Estimates for the Department of Health are expected to come up for discussion on Tuesday next and ample opportunity will then be afforded for debating the subject-matter of his motion.

PAPERS

The following papers were laid on the table, and ordered to be printed:—

Reports—

- Public Service Board, for the year 1971-72.
- Insurance Commissioner, for the year 1971-72.
- Registrar of Friendly Societies.
- Queensland Radium Institute, for the year 1971-72.
- Health and Medical Services of the State, for the year 1971-72.
- Queensland Housing Commission, for the year 1971-72.
- Director of Aboriginal and Island Affairs, for the year 1971-72.

The following papers were laid on the table:—

- Proclamation under the City of Brisbane Act 1924-1972.

Orders in Council under—

- Audit Acts Amendment Act 1926-1971.
- State and Regional Planning and Development, Public Works Organization and Environmental Control Act 1971.
- The Banana Industry Protection Acts, 1929 to 1937.
- The Dairy Produce Acts, 1920 to 1963.
- The Fauna Conservation Act of 1952.
- The Fisheries Acts, 1957 to 1962.
- Meat Industry Act 1965-1969.
- The Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, 1926 to 1966.
- The Stock Acts, 1915 to 1965.
- The Wheat Pool Acts, 1920 to 1957.
- The Harbours Acts, 1955 to 1968.
- Beach Protection Act 1968-1970.
- The State Electricity Commission Acts, 1937 to 1965.
- The Southern Electric Authority of Queensland Acts, 1952 to 1964.
- City of Brisbane Act 1924-1972.

Regulations under—

- The Fauna Conservation Act of 1952.
- The Fisheries Acts, 1957 to 1962.
- The Fruit Marketing Organisation Acts, 1923 to 1964.

The Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Acts, 1926 to 1966.

The Stock Acts, 1915 to 1965.

Queensland Marine Act 1958-1972.

Reports—

Burdekin River Authority, for the year 1971-72.

Queensland Law Reform Commission, for the year 1971-72.

Under the Legal Assistance Act 1965-1970, by the Secretary, Queensland Law Society Incorporated.

Legal Assistance Committee of Queensland, for the year 1971-72.

QUESTIONS UPON NOTICE

PAYMENTS TO TRAINEE TEACHERS, CHRISTMAS VACATION PERIOD

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

(1) What is the payment to first-, second- and third-year trainee teachers for this Christmas period, what period will this cover and when will payment be made?

(2) Are other allowances payable? If so, for what will they be paid and when?

Answers:—

(1) "Provided a teacher scholarship holder passes his examinations he will be paid his allowance for the whole of the mid-summer vacation. Those attending teachers colleges or colleges of advanced education will receive their cheques on December 13, for the period December 11 to January 21. Scholarship holders attending universities and those on four-year scholarships at colleges of advanced education will receive their cheques on December 13, for the period December 11 to December 31. As soon as practicable, after the results of the annual examination are known, those who were successful will be paid for the period January 1 to January 21. At the commencement of the academic year they will be paid for the fortnight from January 22 to February 4. Such payment to all teacher scholarship holders will be at the new rates applying from January 1, 1973, and will include retrospective payment at the new rates."

(2) "Yes. Book allowance. This will be paid at the beginning of the academic year and will be at the same rate as in 1972. The policy in regard to payment of allowances over the 1972 mid-summer vacation will not differ from that of previous years. I table details of the net amounts paid to students for the vacation period concerned."

Paper.—Whereupon Sir Alan Fletcher laid upon the Table of the House the details referred to.

SUBSIDY, GRACEMERE WATER SCHEME

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

As Gracemere, situated only seven miles from the Rockhampton G.P.O. and included in the latest release of the Transportation Study of the City of Rockhampton, has no reticulated water supply but has potential for future building allotments, will he classify the proposed water supply as a new water supply in order to ensure that the scheme will receive the full 50 per cent. subsidy which will keep the cost per tenement down to about \$84?

Answer:—

"The Gracemere water scheme is already regarded as a completely new scheme. As it is based on a supply of water from the Rockhampton City Council, no headworks are involved and the applicable subsidy in accordance with the approved schedule of subsidies is 33½ per cent. Even a completely new scheme would not qualify for a 50 per cent. subsidy as suggested by the Honourable Member unless headworks are involved. I might add that suggestions have been made to the Fitzroy Shire Council that it might consider other methods of financing the cost of the scheme with the object of reducing the annual costs thereof."

NEW FIRE BRIGADE STATIONS,
BRISBANE AREA

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

(1) Has the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board planned to establish 11 new fire stations in the metropolitan area to halt the soaring fire losses?

(2) What are the locations of these fire stations in the order of priority?

(3) When will the construction of the first be commenced and the last be completed?

(4) What is the average delay between a fire call and the arrival of an engine at the scene of the fire?

(5) What is the estimated cost of fire damage in the metropolitan area during 1971-72?

(6) Is action being taken by the Board to ensure that adequate fire-protection facilities are provided in new buildings on industrial estates?

Answers:—

(1) "The Board has planned in principle the erection of 11 new fire stations, seven of which will involve relocation of existing stations. It cannot be said that this will halt fire losses nor would I agree that such losses are soaring. The number of fire calls

involving monetary loss in the Board's district did not show any increase in 1971-72 over the previous year."

(2) "(a) Resited stations—Coopers Plains to replace Yeronga; Toowong station to be resited further out of city; Enoggera station to be relocated; Ashgrove to replace Ithaca; Balmoral to be relocated to serve the area between existing station and Wynnum Fire District; Camp Hill to replace Coorparoo; Corinda to be rebuilt adjacent to the present station. (b) New stations—These are being considered for the Kenmore area, Bald Hills—Brackenridge area, Meeandah—Pinkenba area and the Upper Mt. Gravatt area. (c) Priority for both resited stations and new stations may be affected by the availability of the proposed sites."

(3) "Action is in hand to acquire sites, and plans will be finalised for commencement of construction as soon as possible after sites are available. It is hoped the total programme will be completed in approximately five years."

(4) "The aim is to have an appliance arrive at the scene of a fire not more than three minutes after the receipt of a call, but this is not always practicable in heavy traffic conditions."

(5) "Information is not maintained by the brigade as to the value of fire damage."

(6) "Yes. This matter receives attention when construction proposals are being examined and also by an inspection of premises."

INCENTIVES TO INDUSTRY,
DECENTRALISATION PROGRAMME

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

(1) Is he aware of the Victorian Government's offer to pay up to \$100 to assist families moving from the city to country jobs and also to assist factories to move machinery, equipment and stock to country locations?

(2) With housing arrangements to be also catered for and in view of the obvious desire of the Victorian Government to move positively towards decentralisation, has his Government plans of a similar nature?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "As all Honourable Members appreciate, this Government has for quite a number of years offered generous incentives to encourage the decentralisation of industry in Queensland. These have included the availability of fully serviced industrial land on attractive terms and conditions; provision of factory buildings in certain instances; and financial assistance and freight rebates, as well as assistance

with housing and the provision of technical and other advice. The Honourable Member, as a new Member of this House, may not be aware of the Department of Industrial Development's brochure 'Incentives to Industry' which details what is provided in this field and I therefore table a copy for his information."

Paper.—Whereupon Mr. Bjelke-Petersen laid upon the Table of the House a copy of the brochure referred to.

BLOOD-CLOTTING AGENT CERAMIDE IN HEART DISEASE

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

(1) Has cholesterol now been absolved of complicity as a major cause of heart disease and is a human agent known as "ceramide" the clotting agent causing major heart troubles?

(2) Is ceramide more prevalent in the human male than in the female?

(3) Because of the contradictory influence of various experts on animal fats and their association with heart malfunctions, will he cause a general statement to be made which will relieve primary producers of the burden of any association of animal production with cholesterol as a major heart disease?

Answers:—

(1) "I am advised that cholesterol cannot be absolved as a factor in the development of coronary artery disease. It is one of several factors promoting this condition. The others include cigarette smoking, total caloric intake, high blood pressure, and lack of exercise. The early report on ceramide is only an initial statement and its final importance remains to be more fully assessed."

(2) "There is no published material to ascertain whether ceramide is more prevalent in males than in females."

(3) "The statement in (1) regarding the factors in the development of coronary heart disease sets out the accepted opinion of cardiologists."

STAFF QUALIFICATIONS, JUVENILE AID BUREAU, POLICE FORCE

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

In view of the strong inference given in remarks made by the Police Commissioner, Mr. Whitrod, in an interview on A.B.C. television on November 2, that the staff of the Juvenile Bureau are untrained in the field of social work and counselling—

(1) How many members of the present staff have undergone a course at the Institute of Child Guidance?

(2) How many are attending or have attended the University of Queensland as students in subjects which would be of assistance to them in their work?

(3) How many of the present staff attended the Police Arts and Science course at the Technical College this year?

(4) How many of the staff have, either by way of a Churchill Fellowship or at their own initiative and expense, travelled overseas and visited similar bureaux in other countries?

(5) How many of the staff have had prior experience in social work in their private lives in assisting churches or other organisations?

Answers:—

(1 to 5) "As no strong inference can be drawn from the remarks of Commissioner Whitrod there is little point in answering the five Questions."

ALLOCATIONS FOR CONTINGENCIES, JUSTICE DEPARTMENT ESTIMATES

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

With reference to his Department's Estimates for 1972-73—

(1) Why is \$92,300 required under the Electoral Registration—Contingencies—Fares, Freights, Printing and Stationery when only \$64,014 was spent out of an appropriation of \$72,041 for 1971-72?

(2) Why is \$104,400 required under Licensing Commission—Contingencies—Postage and Incidentals, when only \$43,710 was spent out of an appropriation of \$45,725 for 1971-72?

(3) Why is \$48,400 required under Probation and Parole Systems—Contingencies—Postage and Incidentals when \$24,260 was spent out of an appropriation of \$25,225 for 1971-72?

Answers:—

(1) "Provision has been made for printing of special stationery for use by the Treasury computer in the preparation of output data required by the Electoral Office, and for the estimated cost of printing rolls, a portion of which expenditure may be recovered from some local authorities."

(2) "Amounts of \$50,000 and \$5,000 have been provided for the cost of holding local option vote polls and mechanization of the accounting system in the Licensing Commission."

(3) "Five motor vehicles are due for replacement in accordance with approved policy, and an additional motor vehicle is required for each of two newly created

country offices. Other expenditure is necessary in connection with the equipping of these offices. Additional cadetships in social studies are proposed in 1973 to provide professionally trained staff in sufficient numbers to meet the increase in use of probation by the courts."

LIBRARY GRANTS, INALA STATE HIGH SCHOOL

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

(1) What amounts have been paid to the Inala State High School library by way of maintenance grants for 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73?

(2) Is any amount of grant outstanding and, if so, what is the reason?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "Since 1969, two main sources of Government funds have been available to Inala High School for purchase of books for the school library. (i) Commonwealth Library Grant Funds; (ii) State subsidy. State subsidy has been used by the school mainly for the purchase of periodicals which are not included in book stock figures used to determine Commonwealth library grants. The purpose of the Commonwealth library grant for books was to bring the book stock in each school up to the recommended basic stocks set by the Commonwealth Secondary Schools Libraries Committee. During the calendar years 1969-1971, Inala State High School received \$11,700 for this purpose. The stock return of December, 1971, showed a total of 6,675 books in the library, compared with the recommended basic stock for the school of 6,300. A scheme of State maintenance grants to maintain library book stocks at the recommended basic stock level in those schools where this level has been reached has been drawn up and maintenance grants have been included in the Estimates for 1972-73. When the Estimates have been approved by Parliament, it is expected that Inala State High School will receive a maintenance grant of \$2,520."

ACCOMMODATION FOR AGED PARENTS ON FAMILY HOUSE BLOCKS

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

(1) Has his attention been drawn to the report in *The Courier-Mail* of November 2 entitled "A unit at home for parents", in which it is reported that the Victorian Government proposes to build self-contained flats for parents on the house blocks of their families? If so, will he have his officers study the Victorian proposal with a view to adopting a similar scheme in Queensland?

(2) If such a study is undertaken, will he advise this House of the result?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "I have seen the report mentioned by the Honourable Member. It is desirable that aged parents should be able to share in the family lives of their children where this can be done in circumstances compatible to the parents and to the younger families. For this reason the Government has implemented its election promise to make finance available to encourage younger families to provide accommodation for aged relatives. The Queensland Housing Commission has been authorised to grant loans to persons who desire to effect additions to their existing homes to provide accommodation for their parents and/or relatives who are not themselves the owners of dwellings. This applies not only to persons who are already clients of the Commission but to others who have a reasonable security for a loan which will carry interest at the low rate of 5½ per cent. The extra accommodation may be varied as desired and could range from the simple addition of an extra bedroom to a more comprehensive program to provide private living for the parents with their own bath, toilet and other facilities. The granting of a loan will be conditional upon the borrower conforming to the legal requirements of his local authority. Where a self-contained unit is proposed in a locality subject to town planning ordinances relating to multiple dwellings the owners should consult their local council before taking any other action."

BOVINE MASTITIS IN DAIRY HERDS

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

(1) To what degree is bovine mastitis found in Queensland dairy herds?

(2) Do regular checks or examinations for the disease take place in all dairy herds?

(3) Are such checks or examinations compulsory?

(4) What is the loss in production of milk because of the disease and is there any course of treatment available to prevent cows from contracting it?

(5) If a cow contracts the disease, can it be cured or does the animal have to be destroyed?

Answers:—

(1) "The incidence of the severe form of clinical mastitis is low and is readily detectable by dairyfarmers and promptly treated."

(2) "In so far as the Honourable Member's Question concerns the Department, a screening programme involving 3,000

herds in 20 districts is presently under way. At present a number of producers are undertaking their own herd checks using the Rapid Mastitis Test procedure which is readily available from chemical supply companies. The facilities of the Animal Research Institute are available to producers in special circumstances where the adoption of recommended practices does not achieve the desired results."

(3) "No."

(4) "Where clinical mastitis is present the milk production loss is total. In the situation of a sub-clinical infection, depending on the severity of the disease and its persistency losses up to 30 per cent. of production can result. A more general figure would be 10-15 per cent. loss as respects any individual animal."

(5) "Only in severe cases of the disease need an animal be destroyed. It is a practice on many properties where a satisfactory control programme is adopted to consign animals which contract the infection for slaughter. Protection is afforded under the Stock Acts to purchasers of dairy cattle found to be infected on veterinary examination."

ROYALTIES ON COAL EXPORTS BY UTAH DEVELOPMENT CO. TO JAPAN

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

(1) Has his attention been drawn to a statement by Mr. A. M. Wilson, President of Utah Development, to the effect that his company will ship to Japan between 34 and 52 million tons of Queensland coal for Mitsubishi Development of Japan, which statement follows a contract involving the sale of Australian resources worth one thousand million dollars?

(2) What will be the return in royalties to Queensland from the sale of coal to Utah Development under the contract referred to?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "As advised on many occasions, the return to the State is of the order of \$1 per ton, made up of royalty and the profit on rail haulage. I might add that to the best of my knowledge this is far in excess of the return that the Western Australian Government receives on iron ore exported from that State. From the wording of the Honourable Member's Question I can only assume that he is opposed to one thousand million dollars of new money flowing into this State, and that he associates himself with the communistic disruptionists who are appearing in certain Queensland industries today, who decry the establishment of new railroads, new ports and new townships, and who desire to deny workers in industry larger paypackets and better living conditions."

QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

JUVENILE AID BUREAU, POLICE FORCE

Mr. NEWTON: I ask the Minister for Works and Housing: What police personnel, social workers and representatives of religious and other welfare organisations were present at the conference held on 26 October 1972 at which a report was given concerning changes to be made in the Juvenile Aid Bureau relative to children being charged with offences committed in this State?

Mr. HODGES: As I cannot give the honourable member a detailed answer, I ask him to place the question on notice.

Mr. NEWTON: I have a further question. Was the report that was given to the conference approved by Cabinet? If not, who endorsed the changes recommended in it by the Commissioner of Police relative to the charging of children and the keeping of criminal records on them, including the fingerprinting and footprinting of them for first as well as future offences?

Mr. HODGES: Although I think the question is based on a wrong premise, I ask the honourable member to place it on notice.

ALLEGED ACCIDENT TO OFFICIAL AEROPLANE, FRASER ISLAND

Mr. BURNS: I ask the Premier: Was the State Government aircraft involved in an accident on Fraser Island recently? Was he the pilot of the plane? Was the accident report filed with D.C.A. in the name of the State Government Pilot? Was \$900 worth of damage done? Was the 100-hour inspection brought forward so that the amount involved could be covered up in this way?

Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN: I am not aware of any such "accident", as the honourable member terms it. The aircraft referred to has not been involved in any accident resulting in damage. All honourable members must be aware that, from time to time, it is necessary to land on airstrips of greatly varying types. On one occasion the aircraft became bogged. I am sure the honourable member realises that this could happen to any type of aircraft. However, as I have said, I am not aware of any "accident", as he terms it. We have used many types of airstrip but, except on the occasion when we were bogged, at no time have we been delayed.

REGISTRATION OF BUILDERS

Mr. LANE: I ask the Minister for Works and Housing: Has he seen an article in yesterday's "Courier-Mail" which states that about 100 applications for registration as a builder were still being processed as at that date, whilst only 1,000 had been dealt with by the Builders' Registration Board up to

that date? Will he advise, as a matter of urgency, what action is being taken to approve the 100 applications on hand, if they meet the necessary requirements of the Act, by midnight tonight? Obviously the livelihood of hundreds of Queensland builders and their families depends on these applications being dealt with so that they can continue their business activities tomorrow morning.

Mr. HODGES: Any builders who are concerned about continuing their livelihood would not have left their applications for registration until the last minute.

Mr. R. E. Moore: They didn't.

Mr. Lane: Some were made six weeks ago. Give them a "go".

Mr. HODGES: Those whose applications are being processed have been advised that, if they send a prepaid telegram to the board, their registration numbers will be forwarded to them immediately, and prior to the registration papers being sent to them. The builders of this State have had sufficient time to apply for registration. If some are being inconvenienced, it is entirely their own fault. Every effort will be made by the board to ensure that those who are not at fault will obtain their registration numbers in time to enable them to continue with their business activities.

CONTROL OF CHOLERA

Mr. MELLOY: I ask the Minister for Health: In view of the disclosure that cases of cholera have been confirmed in this State, what action has been taken to contain the disease?

Mr. TOOTH: The responsibility for dealing with this problem lies primarily with the Commonwealth Department of Health. I may say that the State Department of Health was advised of the problem within an hour of the local officers of the Commonwealth Department of Health being themselves made aware of the situation.

The closest co-operation is being maintained between the State and Commonwealth Health Departments in the control of this disease. The identification of it, and the quarantining of suspects, are the responsibility of the Commonwealth Department of Health, and the infectious diseases wards of the State Department of Health are available as and when required by the Commonwealth authorities.

HOUSE INSURANCE IN FLOOD-PRONE AREAS, BRISBANE

Mr. DAVIS: I ask the Minister for Works and Housing: In regard to the statement by him, as reported in "The Australian" on Friday last, that all home-owners should have their houses adequately insured against damage by storm or flooding, is he aware

that people in the Brisbane electorate whose houses were damaged by flooding during the cyclones earlier this year cannot obtain flood insurance? Will he inform the House whether he can assist in getting flood insurance for these householders?

Mr. HODGES: I have no jurisdiction or control over insurance companies or their policies.

REGISTRATION OF BUILDERS

Mr. TUCKER: I ask the Minister for Works and Housing: Is he aware that in the last few days advertisements and statements have appeared in the Press to the effect that the present exemption amount of \$4,000 under the Builders' Registration Act could well be reduced to \$400 by regulation or Order in Council early next year, and that small builders operating below the present \$4,000 exemption should therefore make immediate application for registration? Do such statements have any basis in fact? If not, would the Minister make a statement to clarify the position for the many small builders who are worried?

Mr. HODGES: I am not aware of any such advertisement, but it has no basis in fact. The exemption provision is part of the legislation which went through the House some time ago. No statement has been made by me that the amount would be reduced by Order in Council in the future.

At 12 noon,

In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 307, the House went into Committee of Supply.

SUPPLY

RESUMPTION OF COMMITTEE—ESTIMATES— FIFTH AND SIXTH ALLOTTED DAYS

(The Chairman of Committees, Mr. Lickiss,
Mt. Coot-tha, in the chair)

ESTIMATES-IN-CHIEF, 1972-73

DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRIAL AFFAIRS

CHIEF OFFICE, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Debate resumed from 2 November (see p. 1608) on Mr. Campbell's motion—

"That \$857,147 be granted for 'Department of Commercial and Industrial Development—Chief Office'."

Hon. F. A. CAMPBELL (Aspley—Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs) (12.1 p.m.): The tenor of comments by honourable members who have so far taken part in this debate has confirmed the views expressed by me that the officers in both the departments which I now have the honour to administer are not only dedicated but are

also forward-thinking in all their activities. I thank honourable members for their contributions.

The first speaker was the honourable member for South Brisbane, and I gathered that he was reflecting the general attitude of the Opposition. I thank him for his complimentary and commendatory remarks relative to the activities of officers under my jurisdiction. I also appreciate his positive contribution to the debate.

I could continue in this vein, but I wish to make one or two observations on some of the points raised, which were perhaps expressions of opinion rather than of criticism. In so far as the Department of Industrial Development is concerned, the honourable member referred to the different formats adopted in the publication of the department's annual report. All I wish to say is that no great extra cost was incurred. The printing was exactly the same, the only difference being in the preparation of one cover. Because of the nature of the distribution, it was of a higher status and slightly more prestigious. That was the purpose of the change.

The other matter raised by the honourable member was a suggestion that escort agencies should be subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Industrial Affairs. I regard such a suggestion as rather unreal. If any control is to be exercised, it should be a matter for the Justice Department. The Factories and Shops Act concerns the relationship of employers and employees, and should not be extended to the matter to which the honourable member referred.

Mr. Bromley: I made the suggestion so that I would get it into the debate. I knew I would not be able to get it in when the Estimates of the Justice Department were being dealt with.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The honourable member was also critical of the Government on what he described as our "boasts". We on this side of the Chamber do not boast; we simply indicate the economic progress that is current in these times. He said it was unfair to make these claims or boasts and, at the same time, blame the unions for disruption. I think the Government has an obligation to bring before the notice of the community, if it is not already aware of it, the disruption that takes place in industry. It is the Government's aim to sheet home the blame not onto trade unions generally but onto those individuals who are acknowledged as being industrial disrupters. I agree with the honourable member that a fair degree of industrial harmony prevails in Queensland, and figures support that contention. I will comment further on this matter when replying to the remarks of the honourable member for Port Curtis.

Whilst acknowledging that, generally speaking, we are at present enjoying a fair degree of industrial harmony, at the same

time I deplore the sinister activities of that very small group of what I and other persons, including some high-ranking trade-union officials, would refer to as industrial anarchists. It is indeed unfortunate that this sort of thing should be happening in Queensland today.

There appears to be a tendency in the trade-union movement to defuse many of these industrial problems. A recent newspaper article commented on the fact that Federal trade-union officials have agreed on procedures to settle union demarcation disputes, and a couple of days ago the president of the Queensland Teachers' Union announced that his union would not proceed with suggested industrial disturbances. All I hope is that this lull in industrial unrest is not something of a temporary nature, which might be changed after a certain event on 2 December, but that it will be long lasting.

The honourable member for Wavell used the dismissal of a student nurse as a pretext for making certain observations about the current situation at the Southport Hospital. I would regard his comments as being in the vein of rather dubious political ethics. I also believe that he imposed upon the tolerance of the Chairman. The introduction of the subject as a subterfuge tended to make a farce of the Standing Orders.

The honourable member also brought forward a brief on the situation at the Evans Deakin shipyards and, as well, made some general observations about the shipbuilding industry. However, I do not think he produced any information of which the Government is not already aware. He highlighted the dilemma that confronts the Commonwealth Government, which on the one hand is desirous of maintaining a viable shipbuilding industry in Australia, particularly to meet our defence needs, and on the other hand is called upon to grant a high subsidy—almost 50 per cent of the total cost involved—in order that our shipyards can compete with those overseas.

Mr. Bromley: Have you approached the Federal Government for assistance?

Mr. CAMPBELL: I shall deal with that point when replying to the comments of the honourable member for Brisbane.

The honourable member for Pine Rivers tended to damn the department's efforts with faint praise. He claimed that, instead of promoting the "Buy Queensland Made" campaign in this State, the Government should concentrate on promoting it in New South Wales and other States. The honourable member's claim indicates how poorly he understands the concept that prompted the Department of Industrial Development to mount the "Buy Queensland Made" campaign, which is motivated by the fact that well over \$1,000 million worth of goods

come to Queensland from interstate and elsewhere. If by encouraging Queenslanders to buy more Queensland-made goods we can gain only 10 per cent of that huge volume, that would be of tremendous benefit to our manufacturing potential. I am surprised that the honourable member does not understand the concept.

He also stated that we tend to mislead people by our claims. He seemed to think that development in Queensland was confined mainly to the mining sphere. I point out that in 1970, the last financial year for which figures are available, manufacturing and mining were responsible for 64 per cent of the net value of production. While there has been a very welcome recovery since then in the State's rural sector, undoubtedly the trend has continued.

At times I am surprised to note that some Opposition members seem to take delight in denigrating the efforts of public servants who, as I said earlier, are efficient, competent and highly dedicated to their task. The honourable member for Pine Rivers made a rather derogatory reference to our overseas promotion efforts. For his benefit, I indicate that the department's international outlets for publicity material and films are extremely extensive. The Agent-General's Office in London is but one of the outlets, others being the Australian embassies in nations such as Japan and the United States, and Federal trade offices in countries throughout Europe and other places.

Despite what the honourable member said or implied, I emphasise that our officers in the Agent-General's Office do not sit idly each day gazing out of windows. In the light of his comments, how on earth can he explain our success in negotiating licensing agreements with countries such as France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland? Our organised publicity outlets overseas are strongly reinforced by the efforts of Commonwealth organisations and the department maintains a very substantial mailing list. Apart from what is done in many other areas, every member of the New York Stock Exchange receives the publications, particularly our annual prestige brochure entitled "Investment, Queensland".

In my opinion the honourable member made a rather curious statement—although, I suppose, it is typical of statements made by people who are socialistically orientated—that the Government is leaving promotion to private enterprise. I can think of no better hands in which to leave such an important commercial venture as overseas sales promotion. We are happy to have expertise of our officers supplementing what private enterprise is doing.

The honourable member for Murrumba, who has had wide experience in the electrical installation field, particularly that of lift installation, made a very valuable contribution. It followed adverse Press comment

recently on alleged disrepair and lack of maintenance of lifts, particularly the wire ropes on which they are suspended. He pointed out that sometimes what appeared to be an unsafe wire rope was quite safe. I thank him for the tribute he paid to the efficiency and competence of our departmental inspectors, who are regarded highly by all sections of the industry.

He made a plea for the introduction of a lift mechanic's certificate for lift maintenance electricians. This matter has been considered from time to time, but no decision has been reached as yet. I shall have the honourable member's suggestion examined by the Chief Inspector with a view to seeing whether it is practicable to introduce such a scheme.

He also referred to roadworthiness certificates for second-hand vehicles. As a practical man he acknowledges, as I do, that there could be teething problems in the introduction of such a principle. I am pleased with the reception this measure has been given by the community in general and the effect it is having. I commend the action of my officers in meeting the challenge to introduce this completely new policy. I have no doubt that, as time goes on, this legislation, which was introduced by the Honourable J. D. Herbert, will be of immense benefit to the community by ensuring that motor vehicles are in a roadworthy condition.

Mr. Bromley: It does not go far enough.

Mr. CAMPBELL: That is open to question. Perhaps I will comment further on this subject at a later stage. The legislation is of benefit in weeding out unsafe vehicles, and I can produce statistics to prove it.

The honourable member for Rockhampton North criticised our lack of effort in the field of occupational safety. I claim, on behalf of my officers, that the Safety Branch, in the 10 years of its operation, has, together with the National Safety Council, and with a greater awareness on the part of industry, made a remarkable advance in mitigating the grievous losses that have occurred in this field. To support that statement, I point out that, in 1962, 42,000-odd workers' compensation claims were finalised, and that 99 injuries were suffered per 1,000 workers, whereas the figures for the last tabulated year indicate that, while approximately the same number of compensation claims were finalised, the injuries figure had dropped to 72. In the intervening years there has been a gradual reduction in the number of injuries per 1,000 workers. I could refer to other aspects of the matter to show that the present policy is paying very handsome dividends.

The next point of criticism by the honourable member for Rockhampton North was that apprentices were not paid adequate allowances under the block-release training

scheme. The allowances paid are not intended to cover the keep of apprentices; they are to assist apprentices with accommodation expenses. Apprentices are regarded as persons who are required to pay board, and when they are in Brisbane it can be expected that they are not paying board in their home towns. The subsidy that they receive is not intended to pay for their board but to assist them in meeting this expense.

A survey is being undertaken at present by the Apprenticeship Executive to ascertain whether apprentices are suffering undue hardship as a result of accommodation expenses when attending block-release training. The allowance paid to first-year apprentices is greater than that paid to second-year and third-year apprentices, because first-year apprentices receive smaller wages than those in subsequent years of their training. A larger allowance is therefore required by first-year apprentices to cushion the effects of any disadvantages that they suffer by having to pay board for the time they are in Brisbane. This matter is therefore being investigated.

The honourable member for Rockhampton North also mentioned the introduction of incremental payments for apprentices. This is not a matter for my department, and I do not think there is any need for me to make any further comment on it.

The next matter to which reference was made by the honourable member was the practice of some people in business of dispensing with the services of apprentices as soon as they have obtained their certificates as tradesmen. As the legislation stands at present, the Government is not in a position to take action against employers who dismiss apprentices when their apprenticeships have been completed. Once an apprenticeship has been completed, an employer has no more obligation to continue to employ the apprentice than the apprentice has an obligation to remain in his employ. Quite often employers propose to the Apprenticeship Office that the Apprenticeship Act be amended to make it obligatory for an apprentice to serve his employer for a number of years after completion of his apprenticeship in order to allow the employer to obtain some recompense for the years during which he trained the apprentice. The suggestion by the honourable member for Rockhampton North could therefore be a two-edged sword.

The honourable member also referred to the industrial dispute in which the Rockhampton Fire Brigades Board is involved. In response to an interjection by the honourable member for Somerset, who asked if the United Firefighters' Union is a registered union, the honourable member for Rockhampton North said it was registered Federally. I have had inquiries made into this matter, and they reveal that the union's application for registration in the Commonwealth court was rejected, as was its application for registration in the State Industrial

Commission. That rejection was confirmed, on appeal, by the Full Industrial Court of the State. It was essential to await the decision of the Full Industrial Court in the appeal by the United Firefighters' Union against the refusal of the State Industrial Registrar to grant its registration. Now that the decision has been given, the Solicitor-General has advised that there is no legal impediment to the constitution of an appeal board to hear appeals by the dismissed men, and action is now being taken in this regard.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Everton is not entitled to have a conversation whilst standing in the Chamber.

Mr. CAMPBELL: It is true that the Rockhampton Fire Brigade has been manning its fire station with fewer men than were employed before those involved in the dispute were dismissed. However, pending determination of the appeals lodged by these dismissed employees—as I indicated earlier, because of various legal processes it has not been possible to have them determined—the board has not been able to engage staff.

The honourable member for Rockhampton North referred also to the non-payment of the cash equivalent of long service leave to one of the dismissed employees. The advice received from the Solicitor-General has been to the effect that the employee concerned is not entitled to any such benefit. Of course, the employee is quite free to proceed by way of a plaint for the recovery of the cash equivalent of any long service leave that he considers is due to him under the provisions of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1961–1964.

The other matter to which the honourable member referred was the fees paid to board members. A review is at present being undertaken by the Department of the Public Service Board of fees and allowances in respect of membership of boards, committees, and the like, and the question of fees paid for attendance at Apprenticeship Executive and group committee meetings is being examined in conjunction with this review, which it is expected will soon be completed.

The honourable member, by interjection, also cast what I thought was a serious aspersion on the magistrate appointed to hear the appeal against dismissal at Rockhampton, when he referred to the fact that the magistrate was a member of the N.C.C. Presuming that the honourable member was referring to the National Civic Council, I think that for an honourable member to make such a comment casts an unwarranted and unjustified slur on a magistrate.

The honourable member for Windsor gave a very interesting dissertation on the theme of the profit motive vis-a-vis the Labor Party's policy of socialisation. He pointed out that it was no mere coincidence that,

since the accession of Labor Governments in South Australia and Western Australia, a serious downturn has occurred in the formerly very buoyant economies in those two States. I thank the honourable member for his comments on our policy relative to industrial estates. It is the only one of its type in Australia and is looked upon with much envy by the Government of other States.

The honourable member for Brisbane questioned the accuracy of the employment figures. He made the stupid assertion that because—and this has been so since time immemorial—some unfortunate men have to line up at St. Vincent de Paul and the Salvation Army for meals, that supports his argument. It mystifies me why some honourable members seem to take a delight, from time to time, in denigrating the efforts and actions of public servants, and that is the only way I can look upon the honourable member's contribution.

Mr. Davis: Where did I criticise public servants?

Mr. CAMPBELL: When the honourable member questioned the accuracy of the employment figures.

Mr. Davis: I don't think you even know how they are made up.

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. CAMPBELL: As the honourable member has again questioned my comment, I reiterate my reply to his first interjection.

The honourable member then made some reference to the Evans Deakin shipyards. He mumbled somewhat and it was difficult to follow the trend of his remarks, but I listened as intently as I could. I did not notice that he had any suggestions to offer in this regard. The situation is a very difficult one. Evans Deakin has one of the most efficient shipyards in Australia, and in the last 10 years a considerable amount of capital has been spent in upgrading its efficiency. As a result, the company is now competent to turn out work equal to any in the world. It is in serious competition with shipyards in South-east Asia, Singapore and Hong Kong and, in that regard, has a tremendous cost disadvantage. That is bad enough to commence with, but one must also consider the enormous amount of "down" time that has occurred at those yards, much of which has been instigated by those to whom I referred earlier as industrial anarchists and whose motive seems to be the perpetuation of industrial trouble rather than catering for the legitimate needs of those they represent.

This is a tremendous disadvantage to any company that is trying to operate successfully. Some three years ago when, because of factors outside its control, the company

was confronted with a very serious financial situation, the continuation of stoppages was a calamity, particularly to the company. There is little point in such a company spending a large amount of capital to increase its efficiency and meet competition from overseas yards when the efforts of a small proportion of the work-force mitigate against it.

The honourable member said that when help was wanted the Government was not there to render it. Some honourable members might not have thought it was really wanted. I could produce voluminous records to indicate the activities of the Government over the years, mainly through the Department of Industrial Development, in its advocacy, particularly to the Federal Government for help in overcoming problems in the Evans Deakin yards. Some two years ago, as Acting Minister for Labour and Tourism, I was confronted with a march from these shipyards, but I think that, as a result of my action on that occasion, I took the heat out of that dispute.

I would not have raised the following matter except that the honourable member made some comment about Mr. Hawke, although I could not quite hear what he said. The honourable member is entitled to his opinion, but as a negotiator I do not think Mr. Hawke could hold a candle to Mr. Albert Monk, who for 20 years fulfilled his position as president of the A.C.T.U. with dignity and a great deal of competence. We do not need a film star as president of the A.C.T.U., as the present incumbent seems to be projecting himself. I happened to be in Melbourne when the petrol crisis came to a head, and on one occasion I travelled in the same lift as Mr. Hawke. I will not make any comments about his health at the time, but I would say that in those negotiations Mr. Hawke failed miserably in the face of the activities of Mr. Carmichael and Mr. Halfpenny. He was completely subjugated by them. He has also failed during the last couple of days in the solution of another problem. It would appear to me that, unlike the president of the Trades and Labor Council in Queensland, the president of the Australian Council of Trade Unions does not have the confidence of the rank-and-file officials whom he purports to lead.

Mr. Bousen: You would like to think that.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The honourable member is saying that Mr. Hawke has the confidence of the people he leads?

Mr. Bousen: One hundred per cent.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The facts do not uphold such a contention. I stand by what I say.

The honourable member for Somerset commented on the complicated farm machinery being manufactured in his area which

competes with design and quality throughout the world. This again is part of the industrial romance that is taking place in Queensland where, through the initiative and enterprise of manufacturers and the thoroughness of the skilled tradesmen who work in these plants, they are able to hold their own with the rest of the world. The honourable member also referred to the incentives that we give to assist industries locating themselves in these decentralised areas.

The honourable member for Port Curtis, as he always does, pontificated in a very exalted manner. He was very critical of the fact that our imports exceed our exports. It is easy to fall into a trap in this regard. Queensland's trading situation cannot be examined on a purely interstate basis, as overseas trade movements are by far the most important factor to be considered because of foreign-exchange earnings. Queensland has enjoyed a favourable overseas balance for a considerable number of years and our exports in the financial year to 30 June 1971 were almost \$800,000,000 while our imports were some \$268,000,000. Money earned from Queensland's exports has enabled Australia to import machinery and other equipment necessary to expand and improve secondary industry. This, in turn, has not only raised the living standards of Queenslanders but those of Australians generally.

While looking at interstate trade, it must be borne in mind that considerable quantities of overseas cargoes destined for Queensland are unloaded at southern ports. These cargoes are then classed as interstate imports to Queensland. Queensland's exports for 1970-71, at \$1,320 million exceeded total imports by \$54,000,000. Surely this is a fairly good performance and I am sure that, when the figures for the current year are made available, they will be so much better again.

I applaud the honourable member's comments in springing to the defence of his town of Gladstone against the foul criticism in the Press, which indicated that it was a slum town, and I made it my business to visit the town last week. That visit confirmed all the regard I previously had for the progress that has been made by Gladstone, particularly in the realm of housing, which has been so trenchantly criticised. I would say that, in this field, Gladstone is making more progress per capita than any other city in Australia.

However, I was disappointed that the honourable member did not comment on the industrial situation there, because this is not only inciting public comment but is a matter of great concern to Queenslanders. I want to acknowledge the tremendous degree of tolerance and understanding that has been displayed by both parties to this dispute.

Mr. Sherrington: We need to be tolerant with you pinching all our time like this.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! That is an irrelevant interjection.

Mr. Sherrington: It is pertinent.

Mr. CAMPBELL: If the honourable member believes that this comment is irrelevant, he has a poor idea of what matters are important and what matters are not.

Mr. Sherrington: It is important that some of our men have their say, too, instead of you hogging the lot.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I drew the honourable gentleman's attention to an irrelevant interjection. He is persisting and I now warn him under the provisions of Standing Order No. 123A.

Mr. Bromley: Wake up to yourself.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for South Brisbane is reflecting on the Chair. I ask him to withdraw that remark.

Mr. Bromley: I am not reflecting; I am just stating a fact.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! There will be no debate on my ruling. I ask the honourable member to withdraw the remark or I will deal with him.

Mr. Davis: Oh!

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I ask the honourable member for South Brisbane to withdraw the remark.

Mr. Bromley: I withdrew it.

Mr. Davis interjected.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Brisbane also appears to be involving himself in this. I warn him, too, under the provisions of Standing Order No. 123A.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I was acknowledging the great degree of tolerance and understanding displayed by both parties to the dispute at Gladstone, namely, the employers and contractors on the one hand and a number of top trade-union executives on the other. Over the past fortnight they have been negotiating, and I am heartened by the trend indicated by the events that have occurred.

I wonder whether members of the Opposition have been quite as articulate in this matter as they might have been. They have failed to condemn the perpetrators of this and other industrial problems throughout Queensland. Again I refer to this small clique of industrial anarchists, who, as I have said previously, seem bent more on fomenting and perpetuating industrial strife than on looking after the legitimate claims of those persons whom they are supposed to represent. These industrial anarchists are

identifiable, and in fact have been identified not only by the employers but also by top officials in the trade-union movement, so the lack of articulation on the part of honourable members opposite and their failure to come to grips with this matter suggest a betrayal of the interests of the ordinary, decent working man. Almost all working men are loyal and dedicated citizens, whose only desire is to work and get on with the job at hand. I am hopeful that those irresponsible persons who have been fomenting this industrial unrest can be identified with the result that their future efforts might be negated by the actions of more responsible citizens.

Members of the Opposition are restive, and I hope that those speakers who follow me will make a worth-while contribution to the debate. Before concluding, however, I must comment on the attempt by the honourable member for Port Curtis to disparage the activities of Sunshine Vinyl at the Molen-dinar Industrial Estate.

Mr. Hanson: It's run by a con man.

Mr. CAMPBELL: The honourable member has repeated his assertion that a con man is associated with that enterprise. Perhaps the honourable member might like to identify the person to whom he refers. I inform the Committee that the company is a well-established one and commenced production a few weeks ago.

In view of the restiveness of honourable members opposite I shall defer further comment until later in the day.

Mr. BLAKE (Isis) (12.44 p.m.): I welcome the opportunity to join in this debate. From the speakers who have preceded me I gather that the first objective of the Minister's department is the assistance and development of commerce and industry in the right areas. By "right areas" I mean those that meet the aims of practical production and profitable markets, and, more importantly, decentralisation wherever possible. I am concerned firstly with the Isis electorate and its environs. Statistics supplied by the Commonwealth Statistician prove that there has been a decrease in the number of permanent male workers employed on rural holdings. This report appeared in the Maryborough "Chronicle" of 17 March—

"Permanent male workers on rural holdings in Queensland decreased during 1970-71 compared with the previous 12 months.

"At March 31, 1971, permanent male workers on rural holdings in the State totalled 58,855, compared with 62,270 12 months earlier.

"Over this period the number of working proprietors and share-farmers, who account for about 70 per cent of all permanent male workers, decreased by 4.7 per cent, while the number of paid employees declined by 8.7 per cent."

The decrease is caused by people being displaced from the land and having to find employment in other areas. If we do not provide decentralised industrial development, displaced persons must gravitate to, and settle in, the metropolitan area although it has been proved that the per capita cost of maintaining services there are very high. That fact is accepted by many people, and I think it has been amply proved that costs become disproportionately high when the population in a metropolitan area exceeds a certain figure.

The re-employment problem has been, and is, of great concern to me personally. At different times I have had discussions with the Minister and his officers in an attempt to promote alternative employment avenues within, or adjacent to, my electorate. It becomes immediately obvious that the resources of the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development are not equal to the demands of our time. A lot of the blame for this lies squarely on the Federal Government through its lack of assistance in this field.

Decentralisation is largely a national responsibility. National assistance in decentralisation is not merely a wishful thought; it is a proven economic proposition when balanced against the costs incurred in high-population metropolitan centres. However, such help is conspicuous by its absence except in promises at election-time. I therefore recognise the salient contention of the Minister and his officers that practical and successful industrial expansion depends largely on the development of the natural resources of a particular area, or the utilisation of the skills of the work-force in a particular area, or a combination of both.

This principle of utilisation for successful development has been demonstrated quite effectively in the Bundaberg, Isis and Maryborough areas. The obvious development in the secondary side of the sugar industry, milling and refining, is evident in those areas. As another illustration, I refer to the developments in the manufacture of agricultural implements and cane-harvesting machinery in the area. Honourable members probably know that Bundaberg is now considered to be the cane-harvesting-machinery capital of the world. This is a direct result of the utilisation of the natural resources and talents of the area. International firms, such as the International Harvester Company and Massey-Ferguson, have been attracted to the area. In addition, because of their exports, some local firms are now of world renown in the manufacture of cane-harvesting machinery. This is a prime example of the use of local resources and know-how.

Perhaps less is known of developments in the utilisation of timber resources. Both Maryborough and Bundaberg have firms of renown in the production of timber and timber products. Both cities use the highest

standard of sawmilling and joinery technology. Last week the Minister and several honourable members saw a wonderful example of local development when they visited Petersen Bros. Pty. Ltd. in Bundaberg, which manufactures pre-cut and pre-fabricated homes. It was a remarkable experience to see the raw material turned into the finished article—and I mean “the finished article”. Many people believe that a pre-cut or pre-fabricated home lacks something, but there was definite evidence that these homes lack nothing. This service has been accepted, and markets exist for this marvellous product not only in Australia but also overseas. This is a wonderful achievement by a firm in a rapidly expanding provincial city.

To a great extent, these activities have absorbed our displaced rural work-force, which has resulted from the introduction of mechanical harvesting in particular. This displacement is continuing and more secondary industry in the area is required if we are to attract greater population to that area.

In his annual report, the Director refers to overseas negotiations into the use of bagasse. His report reads—

“In the early part of the year I accompanied the Honourable the Minister on a visit to the United States of America, the United Kingdom, Western Europe and South-east Asia for the purpose of conferring with industrialists and for on-the-spot discussion with local Australian representatives. Opportunity was also taken to participate in an International Forum on the Utilisation of Bagasse, sponsored by PEADCO—a wholly-owned subsidiary of W. R. Grace and Co., of the United States—which was held at Torremolinos in Spain.

“ . . .

“Subsequently it was announced that Grace and Co. would carry out an in-depth study into the prospects of establishing a bagasse-based paper pulp plant in the Mackay area.

“The results of this study proved most encouraging . . .”

I relate those remarks to the development of the timber industry in the Isis-Bundaberg-Maryborough area, where seven sugar mills are established. While W. R. Grace may be looking at the Mackay area, and probably knows its own business best, I suggest that there is an additional use for bagasse in the area I represent as alternate feedstock for a wood-pulp mill, which it has been predicted will be developed somewhere in South Queensland or South-east Queensland within the next few years.

Conservationists have claimed that our coastal timber resources would be rapidly depleted if the needs of a pulp mill were fulfilled for only a few years. Although I do not claim to be an expert in this field, I do not doubt that today's technology would

be quite capable of integrating bagasse with pulp material for use in a pulp mill. It has occurred to me that the output of bagasse from these seven mills would serve a very useful purpose in augmenting (particularly for five or six months of the year, if not, by means of storage, the whole year) the raw material necessary for the operation of a pulp mill in this area.

It is my hope that the Minister will have this possibility put to those who are interested in such a proposition. I think that this could be the critical factor in reaching a decision on the establishment of a pulp mill in the Bundaberg or Maryborough region. The feedstock that could be provided from these seven mills might be the factor that helps some organisation or combine to decide to establish a pulp mill in this area.

Before leaving the timber industry, I wish to refer to the Howard-Torbanlea area. When an officer of the Minister's department visited the area, I had discussions with him on the development of industry there to provide job opportunities, mostly for displaced miners. The economic coal reserves of the area are failing. Since I have been in this Parliament I have pressed constantly for further investigation and experimentation in the production of softwoods in the area. I claim, as I have claimed ever since I have been in this Chamber, that the trials carried out in the area do not give a fair indication of its ability to produce softwoods and raw materials for industries that might establish there. Before this area is discarded as unsuitable for the production of softwoods, I ask the Minister, with his fellow Ministers, to assist, where possible, to have trials re-run under the timber-husbandry methods used today on forestry plantations.

There are great timber complexes south of Maryborough and north of Childers, and I do not think that the rainfall and soil type vary to such an extent that the Howard-Torbanlea area can be dismissed as one that would not support an alternative industry to employ people, or would not produce raw materials to attract secondary industry.

In passing, I should like to mention a matter that perhaps does not come within the jurisdiction of the Minister's department, but of which I am quite certain that the Minister and his officers are aware. There is displacement of personnel in this area, and I should like to see those who leave replaced by others. Unless employment opportunities are provided, there is the great danger of a population vacuum in the Howard-Torbanlea area. The promotion bureau in Maryborough, the locally-formed Howard promotion bureau, and I, are trying to make known to people with small incomes, who desire to settle outside cities, the advantages of living in this area.

Howard and Torbanlea are quite unique in Queensland. Much of the area has kerbing and channelling. As well, it has

a water supply, electricity, and bitumen roads. It is astride the Bruce Highway, and it has a railway service. It is a very short drive from Howard and Torbanlea to Bundaberg and Maryborough, which are two very good cities for shopping. The Howard-Torbanlea area is even closer to excellent seaside resorts such as Hervey Bay, Toogoom, Burrum Heads, Woodgate, Bargara, and others.

Because of an absence of employment opportunities, building sites in Howard and Torbanlea are available at "give-away" prices. I cannot give exact figures, but someone said that one was passed in at \$17. I do not know whether or not that is a fact, but I am certain that one can buy many building sites at Howard and Torbanlea for under \$100—excellent sites with all the necessary amenities—and I know that there is a demand throughout Australia from people who are retiring and who, with limited incomes, would be only too pleased to settle in that area.

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

Mr. BLAKE: Before the recess, I was speaking about the availability of cheap residential allotments in the Torbanlea-Howard area. Since hearing questions during the recess about investment possibilities there, I hasten to add to what I said earlier.

If anyone has an idea of making a quick speculation in land, he had better forget about it, because the last thing that either I or the local promotion bureau wish to see is the land tied up on a speculative basis and not being developed. In fact, I believe that anyone with that idea in view would quickly get his fingers burnt, because, as I have already attempted to explain, this residential land is available because of the lack of employment opportunities in the area. At the moment, anyway, its great appeal is to those people who are thinking of retiring and who do not have to seek opportunities for employment.

If any person realises that here is very cheap land, that there are timber firms in both Bundaberg and Maryborough that are competitive with any similar enterprise in Australia, and that here is an opportunity to put a very comfortable type of dwelling on a cheap residential site and thus attract somebody else to the area, he will have a welcome both from me and from the promotion bureau in the area. As I said earlier, I think that quite a number of retired people throughout Australia who have not sufficient money to retire in their own home in highly-priced city areas would find it within their means to retire in this salubrious area, which has every convenience. Although development brings people, people also bring development. If the Minister, in the course of his duties, meets any organisations or people who are interested in this aspect of development, I hope that he will take the opportunity of mentioning the Howard-Torbanlea area to them.

Another controversial question, as you know, Mr. Lickiss, is that of sand-mining on Fraser Island. As my time has almost expired, I shall have to come to the point quickly.

The A.L.P. is not opposed to sand-mining if it is competently determined that there are sufficient safeguards regarding disturbance to the ecology and to the security of the area. It has been demonstrated in other areas that there is definite danger when mining is permitted under terms that create a risk, and that, in the long term, the community will be the loser, either because of the cost of the necessary restoration or because the economy of the State has not benefited sufficiently by cash inflow or by development, or both.

If sand-mining is to be permitted on Fraser Island, I hope that the Minister, and also Ministers in charge of other departments, will ensure as far as possible that the local area benefits from employment and development of local amenities. I accept that there is a limit to conditions that can be imposed on such an enterprise, but I fervently hope that the Minister and his Cabinet colleagues will bear these factors in mind in determining any conditions that might be laid down before deciding to permit further sand-mining in this area.

The Minister has said to me on a number of occasions that his department operates more on the principle of helping other people with their own ideas than on having them come to the department for ideas. I accept that; it is fair enough. There are fewer kickbacks—I speak advisedly, not cynically, in saying that—if an enterprise fails. But I suggest that the Minister and the department have learnt much that would be of advantage to people who do not have the information or experience required to start an industry in a particular area. There are people in the community who are not prepared to invest and risk sufficient capital to start off an enterprise.

(Time expired.)

Mr. MILLER (Ithaca) (2.20 p.m.): I welcome the debate on these Estimates because it gives honourable members an opportunity to speak about industry and the problems associated with it. Unlike Mr. Whitlam in his policy speech last night, I wish to refer to some of the problems associated with industry. It was very evident that Mr. Whitlam had nothing whatever to say about industry or its problems. I should have expected that in a policy speech of such magnitude he would have said something about these problems, but he did not. Fortunately, we have the opportunity to discuss these things here.

First of all, I wish to refer briefly to a comment by the honourable member for Pine Rivers during the debate on legislation recently introduced by the Minister for

Development and Industrial Affairs to amend the Apprenticeship Act. On that occasion the honourable member suggested that I was interested not in helping the apprentices of the State, but in helping the employers. I took a point of order on his statement, because at that stage I knew that the Commonwealth Government had already decided to help employers in all States by way of subsidies.

Let me say that I am opposed to subsidies. I want to know where we are going with them. During the debate I have just mentioned I suggested that we should consider introducing a scheme under which, during their last two years at high school, young lads could be given the requisite trade training. My suggestion was aimed at making things easier, not for the employer but for lads who may want to enter a trade. As well, it would make things much easier for people in the community who could suffer future hardship because of a lack of tradesmen.

To emphasise the point that the Commonwealth Government regards apprenticeship as a vital issue, I shall cite the amounts it will pay from 1 January next by way of subsidies to employers who engage apprentices. Over all, the Commonwealth Government is to spend \$5,300,000 on trade training. Country employers will receive a subsidy of \$339 for each first-year apprentice and city employers \$194 as an encouragement to engage lads who wish to enter the various trades. That highlights my assertion that I am not interested in the employer, who has already been helped by the Commonwealth Government.

I now pose this question: can we continue to pay out subsidies to various industries and thus create problems? I repeat that it would be far better to train lads in their last two years at high school. I am referring to lads who know at that stage that they wish to become tradesmen. I should prefer the introduction of such a scheme rather than have the Commonwealth Government paying subsidies to employers to take on apprentices. I make that valid point. I think it answers the comment of the honourable member for Pine Rivers, who questioned my sincerity in wanting to help apprentices in this State.

While on the subject of subsidies, another area that concerns me greatly is the shipbuilding industry in Australia. The shadow Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs (Mr. Bromley) referred briefly to Evans Deakin and said that the honourable member for Brisbane would be highlighting certain facts about this firm. However, all that the honourable member for Brisbane said was that we would see what would happen to Evans Deakin after the forthcoming Federal election. I should have imagined that he would give us some of his thoughts on how to overcome the problems presently associated with the shipbuilding

industry, which could well close down if its problems are not tackled very soon. I thought we would have heard some constructive suggestions from the honourable member for Brisbane relative to overcoming this industry's problems. But we did not. No constructive suggestions whatever came from members of the Opposition.

Mr. Bromley: What are your thoughts on it?

Mr. MILLER: I should like to tell the honourable member my thoughts. The subsidies we have been paying the shipbuilding industry have been steadily increasing ever since 1947.

Mr. Houston: You are against subsidies.

Mr. MILLER: I am, and I wish to do away with them except where an industry is an economical and viable proposition, but which, because of overseas conditions, it is necessary to subsidise. I think it has been proved that, at the present time, the shipbuilding industry is not an economical and viable proposition, either for Queensland or for Australia.

Mr. Houston: What about the dairying industry?

Mr. MILLER: I do not think the dairying industry has been affected to the same extent by the irresponsible tactics of shipbuilding industry employees over the last few years. I have previously mentioned in this Chamber that, in five months, some 59,000 man-hours were lost by the employees of Evans Deakin. I cannot see such a haphazard, irresponsible attitude being adopted in the dairying industry. It is a hard-working industry, operating seven days a week. If we could get the employees of Evans Deakin to work an average of five days a week, it would be an achievement.

Let us look at the subsidies being paid to the shipbuilding industry and see how they have grown over the years. In 1947 a subsidy of 25 per cent of the total construction cost was paid. In 1955 it was increased to 33½ per cent, and it has remained at that figure ever since. But the Tariff Board report issued in 1971 says that the shipbuilding industry will require a 55 per cent subsidy to enable it to remain buoyant.

Where are we going to stop? Are we to continue increasing subsidies to the shipbuilding industry simply so that we can say that in Australia we are building our own ships? I realise that, because of the possibility of war breaking out, we need shipbuilding yards, but I want the employers and the employees in the industry to make it an economical and viable proposition. I do not want the people of Australia to be paying it a 55 per cent subsidy in 1972 and perhaps a 60 per cent subsidy by the year 2000. We have to look at the situation and call a halt in this matter of paying out subsidies.

Shipping should be the lifeline of this State and its industries. Because of its geographical situation and Australia's huge area, it is imperative that we have cheap transport.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! There is too much audible conversation in the Chamber.

Mr. MILLER: I repeat that it is imperative for us to have a cheap means of transporting manufactured articles to the other States. Otherwise, how can we sell our products in those States? The honourable member for Pine Rivers made the point that we should be selling our products in other States. I agree with him, but how can we compete with industries in Victoria, South Australia or Western Australia if we have not the cheap facilities for shipping goods to these States? I ask that question of the honourable member for Pine Rivers, because he is an out-and-out socialist who agrees with the attitude of the employees of Evans Deakin and agrees that they should go on strike or hold a stoppage for any irresponsible reason whatever, even if only to decide when they will have a Christmas tree.

Mr. LEESE: I rise to a point of order. The honourable member for Ithaca said that I agree with the irresponsible actions of employees. I have never said at any time that I agree with irresponsible actions by anyone.

Mr. R. E. Moore interjected.

Mr. MILLER: I cannot see that there is any valid point of order, Mr. Lickiss.

Mr. Houston: Chuck him out.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! In case the Leader of the Opposition is in any doubt, the Chair is controlling the Chamber. A valid point of order was not made. When an honourable member rises to a point of order under Standing Orders, he normally does so on the ground that a remark by another honourable member is offensive to him. The honourable member for Pine Rivers, however, did not make the point that the remark was offensive to him.

Mr. LEESE: I now make the point that the remark was offensive to me, and I ask that it be withdrawn.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I ask the honourable member for Ithaca to accept the denial of the honourable member for Pine Rivers.

Mr. MILLER: I accept the honourable member's denial.

As I say, cheap transport is essential to this State. A typical example of the way it helps can be seen in the fact that Queensland industries are able to benefit from cheap back-loading rates offered by road hauliers whose vehicles would otherwise be

returning empty from Queensland to southern States. But what will be the situation when industry in this State grows and transport vehicles will not be returning empty to the southern States? If we expect Queensland's industries to grow and expand in line with the State's growth, we must offer them cheap means of transport. We have in Brisbane the only manufacturer of steel tubes in Queensland. Because this company is able to take advantage of cheap back-loading rates, it can compete successfully with B.H.P. and sell its products in Victoria, and even in South Australia. However, this enterprise will not always be able to enjoy such an advantage.

The Tariff Board's report on shipbuilding is of great importance to Queensland. It is interesting to note that it forecasts an annual increase of 20 per cent in interstate transport costs unless the shipbuilding industry can be made economically viable. How can Queensland expect its industries to grow if it is to impose upon them an increase of 20 per cent in the cost of transport?

During the 1950's the subsidy to the shipbuilding industry averaged approximately \$2,000,000 a year. By comparison, in 1969-70 it had increased to \$18,000,000, which represents an amount of \$2,800 paid to each employee in the industry. I might well ask: would it not be cheaper to pay shipbuilding employees to stay at home? It is a farcical situation when an amount of \$2,800 is paid to each employee in the shipbuilding industry from the nation's revenue, to which every worker contributes by way of income tax. This situation has not been brought about because of the wage rates in this country. Sweden pays slightly higher wages than Australia, yet it can build ships more cheaply than we can.

We must ascertain why the Australian shipbuilding industry is not economically viable. While employees and employers in other countries have been able to combine their efforts to achieve increased productivity, such has not been the case in Australia.

I wish to refer again to the Tariff Board report. It says—

"Tons of steel fabricated per employee provides one measure of these differing growth rates and of the relative efficiencies of Australian and overseas yards in the use of resources. A Scandinavian yard, for which evidence was provided, increased its output from 17 tons in 1965 to an anticipated 40 in 1970. Figures from a British builder show rises from 20 in 1969 to an anticipated 45 in 1971."

What is the position in Australia from the point of view of increased productivity? The report says—

"The best Australian performance was an increase from less than 7 to 9 tons per man in the 7 years to 1969."

When we compare Australia's performance with the British production, showing an increase from 20 to 45 tons, and the

Scandinavian production, showing an increase from 17 to 40 tons, the obvious question is, "How can this industry possibly compete?" It would be far better if Australian shipowners were able to purchase their vessels overseas. I do not believe that we should subsidise this industry to the extent that we do, or that we should protect it in the way we are. Australian shipowners are not permitted to acquire ships that are built in overseas countries.

An Opposition Member interjected.

Mr. MILLER: I made the point previously that it may be cheaper to pay shipyard employees to stay at home. If we have to pay a subsidy of \$2,800 for every man in the shipbuilding industry, we may as well pay them the \$2,800 and let them engage in some more productive work. In the light of the present situation, what is the use of paying a subsidy of \$2,800 to every man in this industry?

Mr. Sherrington: The trouble is caused by a lack of continuity of orders.

Mr. MILLER: That is true.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member will address the Chair.

Mr. MILLER: I agree with the honourable member for Salisbury. The trouble results from a lack of continuity of orders. I think we should examine this industry to see if it is economically viable and able to carry on.

Of the 82 ships built in Australia under subsidy since July 1962, about half were subject to subsidy exceeding 30 per cent. In those cases the Australian Shipbuilding Board would have considered the British price to be less than 70 per cent of the lowest Australian tender. British prices used by the A.S.B. would in most instances have been assessed from the knowledge accumulated by, and the advice available to, the A.S.B. and would not have been based on actual quotations. They would also not reflect lower prices available from shipbuilders in other countries such as Japan and Sweden.

I point out here that Britain could hardly be described as a low-wage country. The unions in that country are causing industries there to be faced with the high cost of strikes, and I am quite sure that Great Britain is entering the European Common Market to bring some form of competition to its unionists. I wonder where they will turn when they have to compete with European countries in the matter of prices for cars and other commodities? It could well be that they could price themselves out of work.

That is one problem Great Britain will have to face on entering the European Common Market, yet we in Australia are able to say that the price of a British ship

is less than 70 per cent of one produced in Australia. When we consider all the problems confronting Great Britain through union activities and so on, I do not think we can be proud when we hear that she can still produce ships at less than 70 per cent of the Australian cost.

Mr. Sherrington: Do you want to import ships?

Mr. MILLER: I believe we could well find other areas of employment for these people. Failing that, the employers and employees should get together in an effort to make the industry economically viable. Why is it that we have not been able to increase productivity in line with other countries of the world? It is only because it is not in the best interests of the unionists to see this industry grow. They do not want it to expand.

(Time expired.)

Mr. CASEY (Mackay) (2.40 p.m.): It is always a pleasure to speak to these Estimates because the Minister is prepared to accept criticism in the vein in which it is given and, likewise, the department carefully analyses constructive criticism put forward in this debate and takes action where possible.

I shall touch on one particular point which is probably of great concern to the Minister. It is of great concern to the people in the Mackay district and throughout the sugar industry generally. Some two years ago, at the invitation of the Minister, I attended an excellent seminar in Mackay on the use of bagasse in Queensland and the possibility of the manufacture of pulp and paper from bagasse. I congratulate the Minister and his department on the excellent job they did in organising and running that seminar. Without doubt, it was the best seminar of this type that I have attended and I am sure that everyone else who attended it left with a full knowledge and understanding of all future aspects of a bagasse-pulping industry.

However, some developments followed the seminar. They culminated in an announcement in May this year by W. R. Grace and Co. It is a large American industrial organisation that took part in the seminar and, in conjunction with the department, made a feasibility study and a viability study of a bagasse-pulping industry in Queensland. On 20 May it announced in "The Australian Financial Review" and other newspapers that a decision was expected in the near future on the establishment in the Mackay area of Queensland of what would become one of the largest bagasse-pulping plants in the world. This was joyous news not only to the people in Mackay but also the sugar industry as a whole because, as was indicated at the seminar, this would possibly be the first of many such plants working in conjunction with the sugar industry in Queensland.

It was also announced that the companies concerned were negotiating contracts with large Japanese pulp buyers and pulping factories, involving 67.7 per cent of the output of the plant. Negotiations were also taking place for markets in other parts of the world and even locally. But what has happened to date? On 20 October—exactly five months after the initial announcement—it was learned that the company concerned had failed to secure any long-term contracts for the sale of pulp from bagasse. While it claims that marketing negotiations are continuing, I feel sure that we are as far from the establishment of a bagasse-pulping industry in Queensland as we ever were. So that the possibility of having one of the best industrial enterprises that could come to this State has flown the coop.

It is interesting to note that, at the time of these negotiations, certain Japanese factories were entering into agreements with sugar producers in Taiwan, the Philippines and Hawaii. Despite the statements made at the time a plant in Queensland was proposed, it was revealed only a few weeks ago by a leading figure in the sugar industry in Queensland that there had been no discussion with sugar industry representatives about finance, compensation for boilers and alternative fuel. Despite the viability of the scheme, and the statement by the company concerned that it would encourage the pulp and sugar industries in Australia to make a 50 per cent investment in it, there has been no discussion between the company and sugar industry representatives on these very important aspects of the proposal.

I believe that the sugar industry should participate in the financing of this project. Its attitude should be, "What can we put into any proposal such as the one to establish a pulping plant using bagasse?" It should not be, "What can we get out of it?" Unfortunately, that is the attitude of some people in the sugar industry. The industry itself has most to gain from the establishment of such a plant in Queensland. From statements that have been made, it appears that discussions between the company and the industry have not reached the conference stage, and that there has not been any discussion about compensation for boilers. The boilers used in sugar mills are specially designed to burn bagasse, and many are used as incinerators to burn surplus bagasse. The bagasse itself is used as a feedstock for the provision of power in sugar mills, and an alternative fuel would have to be found.

All these points were discussed at the seminar, and I thought that they were covered quite well two years ago. Before a final announcement on such a project was made, such as was made in May this year only seven days before the last State election, I would have expected that all these points would have been properly discussed. I am now wondering if these, rather than marketing problems, are the reasons why

the company has not proceeded with the project. Even the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development has said that the prospect of continuation of this project is now at least 12 months away. As I said a few moments ago, I believe that the project is as far away as ever.

Those in the Queensland sugar industry have always known the value of the short fibre of bagasse in the production of paper. Processes using bagasse for the production of paper have been developed, and have been in use for more than 30 years in other manufacturing countries. Expertise and technology in this field have been constantly improved, and it is now considered that bagasse is as good a fibre as any other from which to manufacture paper. World trends show a big increase in the use of paper and consequently in the demand for pulp, with a smaller percentage of pulp from other sources being used in the paper-manufacturing industry throughout the world.

I believe that one of the reasons why Queensland has lost the opportunity to obtain a bagasse plant is the establishment of wood-chip industries in Australia, in conjunction with Japanese pulp manufacturers. On the marketing side, I feel that the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development, and the Queensland Government, could have been far more active. A wood-chip industry is now being established in Tasmania.

Mr. Harris: Not one, but two.

Mr. CASEY: As the honourable member for Wynnum mentions, wood-chip industries are being set up in two areas. Production from these areas is being exported direct to Japan. These are the companies that have secured the market outlets. I understand also that Victoria and New South Wales are presently looking at similar proposals in conjunction with overseas companies.

As was pointed out by the Minister in his introductory remarks and also in the report of the Director of Industrial Development, the office of the Agent-General in London has been of tremendous assistance to the department. But I remind the Committee that Great Britain is no longer Australia's major trading partner, and I believe that if Queensland had a similar office in Japan, which is now Australia's major trading partner, the State would have had a much better opportunity of securing markets that have gone to other States and to other manufacturing areas such as Taiwan, the Philippines, and Hawaii.

While I am speaking of the Agent-General's office, I suggest that, particularly from the point of view of the Department of Industrial Development, a close, hard look should be taken at the need for the continuation of that office in London. Migration policies are changing; under the immigration laws in

Great Britain, Australians and their sons and daughters are no longer really considered to be blood brothers and sisters of the English. From the point of view of trade, I think that the time has arrived when the office of the Agent-General should be moved from London to Brussels, which is the headquarters of the European Economic Community. Great Britain has entered the Common Market and, as from January next year, will be on the same footing as other manufacturing countries such as Germany, Italy, France and some of the Scandinavian countries. If Queensland is to follow the world trend, it would be advisable for the Government to scrap the Agent-General's office in London and move it to Brussels, where it would be in the centre of the major trading group in Europe today.

Mr. Hanlon: The Agent-General would still be able to get a work permit when he went to London.

Mr. CASEY: No doubt. And no doubt he would still be able to attend the English race meetings in his top hat and tails or in a grey flannel suit.

There has already been much discussion of the great projects that are under way in Queensland today; there has also been much talk in this Chamber about apprentices. I draw the attention of the Committee to one of the most glaring anomalies associated with major projects that have already been completed, that are currently being developed, or that are even being spoken of today. I have in mind the Goonyella mine project, the Greenvale nickel project, the major work on the alumina plant at Gladstone, and the Moura and Blackwater developments. I should mention also, because of the effect that it will have on the Mackay district, the project at Saraji, the building of the new town at Dysart, and also, possibly, the Hail Creek project.

On all these projects, not one apprentice has been or is employed in the trades that are represented so strongly in construction work. None of the major companies such as Fluor or the Bechtel-Pacific Group, which is moving in to construct the Saraji mine and Dysart township, have any apprentices with them. With the very high wages that are negotiated between the companies and the unions for the construction jobs, the companies simply draw the best tradesmen from the surrounding areas. I am sure that the honourable member for Port Curtis will appreciate the point I am making, because I am sure that in Gladstone a considerable number of young boys would be looking for apprenticeships after leaving school and would find that the major contractors on these projects do not want apprentices.

They are getting away with contributing nothing whatsoever to the training of the young men of this State as the tradesmen of the future. It is time the Government

took a hand in ensuring that these companies do something about it. I accept it as a fact that because the companies are operating within a confined area for only a limited period of time, and are working under bush conditions, they would find it difficult to obtain and retain apprentices. Rather than employ apprentices they fleece all other sources of tradesmen, including Government departments.

The Works Department in Mackay at the present time cannot obtain the services of a carpenter in that area because they are all engaged on major construction projects to which they have been enticed by site allowances and the high wages that have been negotiated with the big overseas companies. Such companies should be forced to contribute to an education fund for apprentices. As it is, they are sidestepping the law and not fulfilling the obligation of every Queensland company and every Queensland contractor operating in the normal field to train young Queenslanders as the tradesmen of the future.

Mr. Harris: Of the 84 members of the Committee, how many would have indentures?

Mr. CASEY: I could not say, but I do know that the honourable member is a qualified tradesman in his field.

The annual report of the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development indicates that all the large developmental projects are in regional areas. But the increase in factory production is in the metropolitan area. It is the factories of the State that create the jobs. It is the factories that provide the job opportunities to young school-leavers—the young men and women of the State. Most of the factories are in Brisbane.

The annual report also shows that only \$463 was granted by way of concessions for freighting machinery to new factory locations in country areas. That would cover about 10 to 20 tons of machinery sent to the North—possibly not even that. Only \$9,214 was rebated under the export rail subsidy scheme. Decentralised industry cannot be achieved without freight incentives. Freight incentives are certainly not being offered in Queensland.

The 1966-71 census showed that the only places in Queensland that had a growth rate greater than the average for the State were the divisions of Brisbane, Moreton, the Peninsula (including Weipa) and the North-West (which includes Mount Isa). Apart from the latter areas, with two great mining enterprises which drew people there, the only two places in the State that had a greater growth rate than the State average were the Brisbane and Moreton divisions. Not for one moment can that be called decentralisation.

There has been a great deal of talk about an industrial estate in the Mackay area. I remember mention of it being made in the first Estimates the Minister presented. We still have not had an estate developed. I know that the Budget refers to 68 acres that will be developed at a cost of \$65,000. I would ask the Minister to have everybody concerned get on with the job. The chain has been dragged for too long. The development of that estate is holding up other work in the Slade Point area. It is holding up design work by the Main Roads Department for a future road; it is holding up design work of the Land Administration Commission for the reclamation of land in the area. As for the other 148 acres mentioned by the Minister in his brochure, it is all mangrove swamp.

The publication "Investment, Queensland" shows the Mackay area as having only 19,000 people. In fact that is only the population of the city area—9 square miles. The whole of the urban area of Mackay, as a result of the antiquated local government boundaries, has spilled out so that today it alone has a population of over 29,000 people. Any industry that wants to move into that area has, even on a local basis, a confined district market of over 60,000 people to whom it can sell or distribute.

(Time expired.)

Mr. HINZE (South Coast) (3 p.m.): As a member of the coalition team, I speak with great pride and satisfaction on the Estimates for Development and Industrial Affairs. I should like to congratulate the Minister. I know that he came up the hard way. Unlike some of my friends on the Opposition benches, he did not get things easy. He had to work hard all his life. He was elected to this Parliament and is now on the ministerial benches, holding the very important portfolio of Development and Industrial Affairs.

An Opposition Member interjected.

Mr. HINZE: Jokingly, the honourable member asks what he did with his chook farm.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order!

Mr. HINZE: I am only indicating, Mr. Hewitt, that I believe the Minister and his officers have done a remarkable job for the Government and the State of Queensland in the development of industry. Everybody throughout Australia believed that Queensland was a primary industry State and that everything that happened here was related to primary industries. But we have seen a great change over the last few years since Sir David Muir, Mr. Benstead, Mr. Harold Muhl, the Under Secretary of the department, and our present Minister got together.

We now see great progress in every sphere of secondary industry in Queensland. We all know that the economy of this State was based on primary industry. I know in my own electorate that if the wool-grower did not come we had a very bad year. Those times have now passed. While we still appreciate seeing the wool-grower on the Gold Coast, the area is not quite so dependent on his presence because the state of secondary industry and the economy of the State is so good. And this has all been brought about by the Government's involvement in the development of secondary industry. I sincerely congratulate the Minister and his officers.

The economy of this State has never been better and in support of that statement I point out to the Committee that, for the first time, Queensland has the lowest unemployment in Australia. According to the "Telegraph" of 19 October, the national average for unemployment was 1.85 per cent. In Queensland it was down to 1.1 per cent; in New South Wales it was 1.4 per cent and in Victoria 1.6 per cent. Honourable members will appreciate that all those States are governed by Liberal-Country Party Governments. Let us look now at Western Australia, where the figure rises to 2.6 per cent, and South Australia, about which we hear so much from my colleague from Albert, who talks about his friend the Premier of South Australia, Mr. Dunstan. South Australia has 2.2 per cent unemployment and Tasmania also has 2.2 per cent.

Mr. Sherrington: Why?

Mr. HINZE: Because they are all controlled by A.L.P. Governments. That is the simple answer. Facts do not lie and, as I have indicated, the State of Queensland has less unemployment than any other State in Australia. Its figure is far below the national average.

Mr. Sherrington: Get rid of the Federal Government.

Mr. HINZE: I watched the prima donna last night for half an hour, until I got sick and tired of watching him.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. HINZE: Didn't he put on an act! And didn't my old friend from Lytton help him put it on! The prima donna of Australian politics! He paused every five minutes to put on a toothy smile before asking when he could proceed—the Father Christmas and prima donna of Australian politics, Gough Whitlam!

All I am saying is that the attitude of the Queensland coalition Government has created the right climate for investment, which has reached an all-time high. This year investment has increased by 3 per cent; the previous year it increased by 2 per cent. Queensland factory production is up by 11.4

per cent for five years. Those figures indicate how much this Government applies itself to the development of secondary industry. The assistance given to secondary industry amounted to \$1,700,000 for the year 1971-72. The Government gave that assistance because it believes in decentralisation.

I commend the Government on the establishment of the Molendinar Industrial Estate, which is situated approximately 1½ miles west of Southport. The estate comprises 110 acres, and has proved to be so successful that within the short time since its establishment six firms have commenced operations there.

Mr. D'Arcy: How many years?

Mr. HINZE: Is it in your electorate or mine?

Mr. D'Arcy: How many years?

Mr. HINZE: My late friend and colleague Cec Carey succeeded in having the estate established, and there is no way in the world that the present member for Albert will get any credit for it. The estate is the result of the hard work of Cec Carey.

Whereas until a few years ago Queensland was forced to import either from other States or from overseas nearly every manufactured article that it required, today this State is capable of producing just about any article that comes to mind. This situation has arisen partly from the creation of industrial estates, such as the one at Molendinar, on which the following firms operate: Crystal Craft Pty. Ltd., which manufactures decorative gifts and ornaments; Sunshine Vinyl Pty. Ltd., which manufactures vinyl and synthetic leathers and is a large exporting enterprise; Golden Sun Hosiery Pty. Ltd.; United South Coast Baking Company; A.R.C. Engineering, which processes steel; and Southport Timber Company, which is engaged in general joinery works and sawmilling. Both Crystal Craft and Sunshine Vinyl occupy Government-built factories. The Government deserves commendation for the erection of factories that are leased at reasonable rates to manufacturers. Although the installation for Sunshine Vinyl Pty. Ltd. is not quite finished, the cost to date is \$325,000.

I hold up a copy of the "Gold Coast Bulletin", which is one of the best provincial dailies in the State, and I draw the attention of honourable members to a photograph of the Minister. In the accompanying article, under the headline "A region of spectacular development in everything", this appears—

"Investment in new factory premises on the Gold Coast during the first nine months of 1971-72 totalled nearly \$750,000."

Mr. Davis: I move that that photograph be tabled.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Brisbane knows full well that he cannot interject from other than his usual place.

Mr. HINZE: In addition to the area to which I have referred, the balance of the 50-acre developed section has been leased or allocated to another seven organisations that propose to establish themselves there. Negotiations are also under way with seven industrialists with a view to commencing operations on the estate. Furthermore, a \$144,410 contract has been let to develop another 12 sites comprising approximately 23 acres.

The amounts spent on the Molendinar Industrial Estate are \$153,033 on general roadworks and \$461,564 on buildings, or a total of \$614,597.

It is necessary that the Government provide such assistance, because, whilst the Gold Coast is recognised as the tourist capital of Australia, it also has an annual output from its high schools of 3,000 youngsters who are seeking job opportunities. We must find work for all who do not proceed to the university. If we do not, they will go to Brisbane. We do not want that to happen; we want to keep them fully employed and domiciled with their families, enjoying possibly the best climatic and working conditions in the world. We therefore have to ensure ample secondary industry in which they can be employed profitably on the Gold Coast.

Mr. D'Arcy: You have not done that.

Mr. HINZE: For the information of the honourable member for Albert, I now refer to the balance sheet of the South Coast Co-operative Dairy Association, which recently celebrated its 25th anniversary. On Friday last, as Chairman of Directors, I had the pleasure of presenting the balance sheet on behalf of the company. Total wages paid for the year were \$845,470. We could have established the company in Brisbane or anywhere else.

Mr. D'Arcy: Are you going to get a hand-out?

Mr. HINZE: I do not go looking for handouts; anything I get is well and truly deserved. I am merely indicating the amount we pay in wages to people profitably employed in an industry that is a credit to Queensland and the Gold Coast. We are competing successfully against the world's biggest manufacturers of ice cream, such as Unilever, British Tobacco, Q.U.F., and Norco. We established our factory on the Gold Coast because we believed in the principles of decentralisation espoused by the Queensland Government.

Mr. Houston: A Labor Government was in office when you established the enterprise! It helped you; be truthful about it.

Mr. Bruce Small interjected.

Mr. HINZE: As the member for Surfers Paradise has said, we did it in spite of the A.L.P. You know as well as I do that you had your chance—

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member will address the Chair.

Mr. HINZE: I heard an honourable member interject a little while ago, "What about the dairying industry?" No-one in Queensland can say that this Government has not done everything possible for Queensland's dairy farmers.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. HINZE: No Government in Australia has done more for its dairy farmers than the Queensland Government. Opposition members can argue about that anywhere and I will prove to them time and again that we have done more for the dairying industry than any other Government in Australia.

Mr. F. P. Moore: Why have you driven so many off their farms? Come and look at what has happened in North Queensland.

Mr. HINZE: That is only because of the honourable member's poor, weak, miserable representation. If the honourable member comes to my area, he will see development at its best. I do not have to go to North Queensland.

Running in parallel with the great secondary-industry development in my area, guided by the Minister and his officers, are the tourist industry, the racing industry, which is developing quickly on the Gold Coast and will become a major industry, and the building industry. Last year, \$425,000,000 was spent in Queensland on new buildings. The honourable member for Surfers Paradise and I realise and appreciate that the private sector on the Gold Coast is spending at the rate of \$7,000,000 a month.

Mr. Bromley: Why are you building on the beach?

Mr. HINZE: I am talking about the Gold Coast and the Albert Shire. The honourable member would not know what a beach was; he has never been there.

I have referred to the major industries in my electorate. I recognise and appreciate what the department has done throughout Queensland and, more particularly, on the Molendinar Industrial Estate. However, I urge the Minister to again look at our area, because I believe the time is right to secure a further 100 acres, in my electorate, somewhere at the back of Currumbin or Palm Beach.

It is not many years since we attracted James Kemp & Co. Pty. Ltd. and Thompson Engineering Pty. Ltd. to Currumbin. In that area a successful industrial complex is today undertaking all types of work. When I was chairman of the Albert Shire, I was successful in attracting these industries to that area.

They have been a great success. I have a busy little area, an industrial complex, a housing estate and a happy little group of people all of whom vote for Russ when the time comes around. And they cannot be blamed because of the attention paid to their requests.

According to the report, the State has 10,600 acres of Crown industrial estate. I have listened diligently to the speeches of Opposition members and I have not heard from them one word of constructive criticism about industrial estates, or what they would have or could have done. What did they do when they had the opportunity? Absolutely nothing!

Mr. Sherrington: What about Rocklea?

Mr. HINZE: What about Rocklea? The honourable member would have to be proud of Rocklea, because it is the only industrial estate he can refer to. When I ask what Labor did in 28 years of office, all he can say is, "What about Rocklea?" And I suppose that happened by accident rather than by design.

Mr. Sherrington: You don't know what you're referring to.

Mr. HINZE: Of course I do. I know the Rocklea trotting track. Anyway, I think I have made my point.

To assist the development of secondary industry, this Government has ploughed back into resources, power, transport and communications, no less than \$304,000,000. Nobody can claim that this Government does not recognise and appreciate the need for decentralisation when it allocates annually for those purposes an amount of \$304,000,000 out of the resources at its disposal.

The Government has provided 13,000 extra jobs in five years. Twelve months or two years ago, Opposition members were screaming, crying, ranting and raving about unemployment. Yet there has not been one word from them during the past nine months, because there is no unemployment. Anybody who wants a job in Queensland can get one. The only people who are unemployed do not want a job. It is as simple as that.

Out of the total acreage for industrial estates, an area of 7041 acres has been set aside in 29 provincial cities. That indicates once again the tenacity and determination of this Government to promote decentralisation. In a Press statement, the Minister referred to a company manufacturing a range of muffler exhaust systems for motor vehicles. This indicates the magnitude of products that are made in Queensland. Some 12 months or two years ago, a firm would have had to send to Newcastle or somewhere else to get an article such as that.

Mr. Bromley: We should put a muffler on you.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Persistent interjections of that type will certainly not be tolerated by the Chair.

Mr. HINZE: I think the muffler backfired on him and blew his funny head off.

This Government is interested in balanced development of primary, secondary and tertiary industry. That is why I am pleased to make a contribution in this debate, and to congratulate the Minister and his officers. I am looking forward to a very bright and prosperous period under the guidance of the Minister and his policy and programme. There is no doubt that Queensland will shortly be the leading State of Australia. It is the only State that always balances its Budget.

(Time expired.)

Mr. JENSEN (Bundaberg) (3.20 p.m.): I shall not blow a lot of wind about nothing, as the honourable member for South Coast has done. He spoke about the dairying industry. He sold half his farm for \$1,000 an acre, and he is only waiting for the development of that area to sell the rest for \$2,000 an acre. That is the only interest he has in the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development. The Minister is a "wake-up" to him.

The honourable member even mentioned ice-cream. It astounded me that he mentioned ice-cream, because this food for children has been over-priced for years. His firm, with all the others, has been robbing children for years in the sale of ice-cream in order to grant bonuses and big payouts to shareholders. I do not want to waste any more time dealing with his speech.

In the first place, on behalf of the citizens of Bundaberg I wish to thank the Minister for leading a delegation to Bundaberg.

Mr. Hinze interjected.

Mr. JENSEN: I am simply saying what the Minister did.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for South Coast has made his speech. I ask him to allow the honourable member for Bundaberg to make his.

Mr. JENSEN: As I was saying, I thank the Minister for leading the delegation consisting of officers of his department. The Assistant Director and other important personnel were in Bundaberg with the Minister last week.

Mr. Lane: What about some of the members who also went?

Mr. JENSEN: I cannot understand why the Minister took a certain member with him. I thought that perhaps the Minister took him along to protect him, because he is a "shady" detective. The Minister needs no protection in Bundaberg, and why he took that member with him, I do not know. He may have needed protection in Gladstone, but certainly not in Bundaberg.

I thank the Minister for taking the delegation to Petersen Bros. last week.

Mr. Hanlon: The honourable member for Merthyr is such a persistent interjector that we should all have backed the Melbourne Cup winner, Piping Lane.

Mr. JENSEN: The honourable member for Baroona is quite correct. I had dinner with the Minister and the visiting delegation on Melbourne Cup Day and I said to the honourable member for Merthyr, "I'll bet you won something today on Piping Lane. You are the greatest 'piper' in the Queensland Parliament."

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I trust that the honourable member will now return to a discussion of the Estimates under review.

Mr. JENSEN: Yes, Mr. Lickiss; I am trying to do that.

The CHAIRMAN: I assure the honourable member that the Chair will assist him if he does not succeed.

Mr. JENSEN: I am hoping that you will assist me, Mr. Lickiss, because you have not tried to stop the interjections being made on me. I am trying to deal with the Estimates before the Committee.

The Minister saw how Petersen Bros. were assisting the economy of Bundaberg and the State of Queensland. He and his officers also inspected the Bundaberg Foundry Co. Ltd.—which no doubt he had to do—Keppels Pty. Ltd., the seafood processors, and the industrial estate. It is unfortunate that the Minister did not visit Wypers, Tofts, Massey-Ferguson and Bonels, which were mentioned by the honourable member for Isis this morning. Bundaberg is, I believe the honourable member said, the world capital in the manufacturing of cane-harvesters, and I think the Minister should have found time to inspect these important manufacturing establishments.

Mr. F. P. Moore: They even make tea-harvesters, too.

Mr. JENSEN: Yes, they even make harvesters for the tea that is grown in North Queensland. They have developed these harvesters, and they are world renowned. There are three firms exporting overseas, but they are never given much credit for what they do. The Minister no doubt appreciates, from his personal visit, the progress and potential of the city and district of Bundaberg. I should like other Ministers to do what the Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs has done.

Mr. Bird: Didn't an A.L.P. member try to stop them exporting these machines?

Mr. Sherrington: No; it was the Premier.

Mr. JENSEN: The Premier tried to stop them. I rose in this Chamber and said they would not be prevented from exporting them while I was a member of this Assembly. I made sure that that was stated emphatically in the Press.

We would be very pleased to see other Ministers in Bundaberg broadening their knowledge, as the Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs did last week.

I turn now to the Estimates for Development and Industrial Affairs. Under Trust and Special Funds, in 1971-72 there was an appropriation of \$300,000 for the Assistance to Industries Fund. Although only \$1,213 of that \$300,000 was expended, the amount required for 1972-73 is again shown as \$300,000. If we turn to pages 20 and 21 of the annual report of the Director of Industrial Development, Sir David Muir—it is a fairly sound report in some respects, which I might have time to mention later—we see, under the heading “Assistance to Industries Fund”—

“The Assistance to Industries Fund is used to provide loan advances to industry; to meet losses on guaranteed loans; and to pay the rail freight rebate which may be claimed on the transport of plant for the establishment and/or expansion of decentralised projects.”

That indicates clearly what the money is used for. Of that princely sum of \$1,213, \$750 comprised loan advances, and rail freight refunds amounted to about \$463. That miserable assistance to industry was about \$67,000 less than it was in 1970-71, as can be seen in the statement of receipts and expenditure on page 21 of the report, which sets out clearly the amount received from Consolidated Revenue and the amounts paid out in 1971-72 and in 1970-71. The Minister might question me on this point, but the Assistance to Industries Fund is important. The Director says what it is for, then sets out receipts and expenditure, and shows that \$1,213 was expended last year.

Let me turn now to the subsidy on rail freight refunds, shown on page 24 of the Estimates. The appropriation for 1971-72 was \$10,000 and the expenditure was \$9,214. That was at least of a little assistance to some industries, but it was so embarrassing to the Government that the provision for 1972-73 has been increased from \$10,000 to \$40,000. I say to the Minister through you, Mr. Wharton, that I hope the increased allocation will assist some decentralised industries during the next financial year.

I turn now to the Industrial Estates Construction Fund. We find that the amount appropriated for 1971-72 was underspent by approximately \$590,000. The amount appropriated was \$2,072,000 and the expenditure was \$1,482,000. Of the amount appropriated,

\$1,187,340 was provided for land and developmental works, and \$884,660 for factory buildings. Probably the provision for factory buildings fell short, because the construction fund shows a credit of \$612,576. The provision for 1972-73 for the Industrial Estates Construction Fund is \$4,263,000—an increase of \$2,200,000—and it will be very interesting to see how that sum will be spent this financial year when only \$1,482,000 could be spent in 1971-72.

I desire to see more assistance given to industry by the provision of factories, and also to get the factories into production. I know of two projects that have been shown as viable for Bundaberg, but neither has yet got under way. Officers of both the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development and the Department of Primary Industries have assisted in the preparation of reports on these projects which show them as viable, yet nothing has been finalised. Where money has been expended on work on such projects and the reports on them are favourable, more effort should be forthcoming from the Minister's department to ensure that they are started.

Why have these projects failed to commence? Is it because someone is no longer interested? Is it that someone is on the wrong track as far as money and markets are concerned? The officers of the Minister's department should follow these things up and ascertain why and where the projects have gone wrong. They should do everything possible to ensure that these projects are commenced so that they can help in bringing about decentralisation and improve the employment position in provincial cities and country towns.

I merely mention two projects in my city which have been shown to be good ones, but the same could apply in any other city. Money has been spent by two departments and the projects have been shown to be viable, but something has gone wrong. Where have these proposals gone wrong? Why have they gone wrong? These are questions that have to be answered, and the men in the Minister's department are the ones who can answer them. They know what is going on. They can stand up to other departments and make sure that no line of demarcation is drawn, as is done by some unions. We do not want demarcation lines; we want industry. If there is demarcation between one department and another, it is time someone stepped in and showed these people which way to move. The officers are there for that purpose, and I should like to see them work on that basis.

I turn now to the department's annual report. First of all, I refer to the bagasse scheme sponsored by PEADCO, which the honourable member for Mackay has mentioned. Departmental officers and others went to Mackay to make inquiries about it. In the first instance, much of the information

obtained was quite incorrect. These people did not even consider Bundaberg at the time. They were looking for some 3,000,000 tons of cane. Bundaberg will produce over 3,000,000 tons this year and every future year. The Minister's officers do not understand that the difficulty with the Mackay area is that it has co-operative mills, which have done nothing for the sugar industry. The co-operative mills wait for the private mills to prove whether a new type of machinery is efficient and economic before they will spend any money on it.

How in the world could the Minister get co-operative mills to spend any money on such a project? Fairymead, Bingera, and other big proprietary mills have put the sugar industry on the map. They have installed the latest equipment, and they are the only ones who could measure up to the requirements of this new industry. The co-operatives will not spend a cent. Like the dairy co-operatives that the honourable member for South Coast was talking about, all they want to do is get their bit out of the industry. They will not put any money into this project until the proprietary millers have proved that it is viable and economic. As I say, they will not import or manufacture machinery until it has been proved a success by the proprietary mills.

It is about time the Minister's officers realised that they cannot get finance or support for such a proposal in an area where there are co-operative mills. Whether we need it or not, of course, is another matter. With the pollution it could cause, I do not think we do need it.

In the sugar industry, I will always back the proprietary mills against the co-operatives, who would not instal a filter or anything else until somebody else proved it for them. They will only instal it after the private firms in this great industry have proved that it is economical. I had not intended to raise this point, but the honourable member for Mackay brought it up.

Mr. Sherrington: It would have been better if you had not.

Mr. JENSEN: I do not care if it would have been better. I know how the sugar industry works and how much money it will spend on certain things. And I will stand up to what I say.

Mr. F. P. Moore: I believe Tully and South Johnstone have done a fair job.

Mr. JENSEN: The Tully co-operative has done all right because it appointed a chemical engineer as manager. He came to Fairymead and looked things over before he accepted the job. He was with me for a fortnight before he took it. He was a chemical engineer and he had the necessary brains; he was not a cane inspector or an accountant, whom most of the co-operatives employ to run their industries. He was a

chemical engineer who knew where to look for knowledge and how to use it. He has made Tully a very good mill indeed.

South Johnstone is in a similar position. It now has a factory manager who is a chemist, not a cane inspector. Co-operative mills that appoint managers who do not understand how the industry runs are the ones that miss out.

I am very pleased to see some of the things contained in the department's annual report, but as much of my time has been taken up by interjections from Government members I will not have time to go right through it. I am very pleased to see that a sum of \$20,000 is to be made available to the Industrial Design Council. This will be very helpful to many small industries, and will also cover many aspects of pollution. In design work, this is very important.

I should like to go through many of the matters relating to production. There has been some boasting about the increase of 11.4 per cent in factory production, but one would expect this in any young, developing country that is increasing its manufacturing production. One would also expect to see a wide margin over the national figure, particularly when other States have been in these fields for many years. We could expect such a big increase because we are developing quickly—and Queensland will develop much faster when Labor takes over the reins of government. Although I am very pleased at the increased production, I do not think it is very much to boast about.

Mention is made in the report of the growth of industries, the volume of production and the fact that the State's ability and capacity to manufacture a large range of goods is continually increasing. This is very good, but, as I said before, it has to be pushed much further. And we have to look also at price rises. The Minister will tell us all about wage rises. A few weeks ago in this Chamber I pointed out that wages in the sugar industry had increased by 50 per cent but prices had remained stationary. We find that with every other commodity prices are pushed up at will. In the U.S.A. they are virtually fixed. In England at the present time a moratorium on prices and wages is being introduced, and it is about time something along those lines was done here. A 90-day freeze is being introduced in England, and similar action was taken in the U.S.A. Inflation has to be stopped somehow, and it is about time somebody in this country took a stand.

Mention is made in the report of bank savings, but the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Anthony, is telling the people to spend their savings. He apparently thinks the money simply remains in the bank and grows. He must think that the \$8,000 million in saving bank deposits has not been spent by the banks on housing and other projects. He is telling the people to get out and spend this money,

claiming that such expenditure might help the country. Perhaps the purchase of a few washing machines or similar appliances might be of some assistance to the nation, but I cannot see how. If the current rate of inflation continues, the sum of money I mentioned will be worth very little in a few years' time.

(Time expired.)

Mr. LANE (Merthyr) (3.40 p.m.): It is with a great deal of pleasure that I enter this debate. I am also pleased to be able to follow the honourable member for Bundaberg, who has praised the development of Queensland under this Government's policy of assisting and encouraging private enterprise. By paying such a tribute, the honourable member has politically isolated himself very firmly among that small group of Right-wing members of the Opposition on whom the axe will fall shortly before the next State election. For the honourable member for Bundaberg I have a fond affection that can be likened to the affection that one might have for a koala at the Lone Pine sanctuary. It sits in a tree nibbling at gum-tips and does no-one any harm. I am sorry that the honourable member put his foot in it today by revealing how widely he differs from the majority of his colleagues on the other side of the Chamber.

To make some more positive comments, I first of all compliment the Minister and his staff on the excellent job they have done in assisting the development of Queensland. They have given a great deal of advice and encouragement to private enterprise in the setting-up of business in this State. As well, they have provided a wide range of research facilities and co-ordination services to embryo businesses. I think it is true to say that they provide a clearing house for progress and are, in effect, a switchboard for developmental activity.

All Queenslanders will derive both short and long-term benefits from the work of the Minister's department. Although the results are not always apparent, and are sometimes even intangible, the benefits are there. To those who would "knock" the achievements that result from this Government's encouragement, I would suggest that they travel throughout this State and see what has been done. If they are honest, they will return to Brisbane with their heads hanging in shame.

Recently, in company with the Minister, I visited Bundaberg and Gladstone. Bundaberg is much more industrialised than I thought, and I can well understand the pride that the honourable member for Bundaberg has in his city. I was impressed by what has been achieved in both Bundaberg and Gladstone.

Industrial development cannot be achieved without a backdrop of harmonious industrial relations. These days, considerable sums of

money are spent on maintaining good industrial relations. Employers who are not always motivated by feelings of idealism have a vested interest in prolonging their contracts and maintaining their plants in operation. Productivity means profit to employers; but, of course, it also means profit to employees. Although the great majority of employees recognise this fact, unfortunately they are in the hands of union officials who sometimes misuse their position and cut away the ground from underneath those members whom they are supposed to represent.

Many employers are honest and sincere in their effort to do the best for their employees. Of course, it is not always possible to do the best in areas where work is carried out under difficult conditions, such as Gladstone, Weipa and Mt. Isa. In these places the solution to the problems must be more sophisticated than in others, and staff men of the best quality have to be employed to handle industrial relations satisfactorily.

The Government, too, is interested in harmonious industrial relations and, through its officers, goes to considerable lengths to achieve all that is good in this area. Unfortunately, in recent times we have witnessed an apparent lack of will to co-operate on the part of those who control the third corner of this triangle. One could be justified in believing that they have a vested interest in disharmony and in refusing to complete the happy industrial-relations triangle for the over-all benefit of Queensland.

Some trade-union officials are traitors to the State and country in what they do to halt progress and development. Of course, we are about to hear something by way of interjection from one of the mouthpieces of the Trades Hall, the honourable member for Brisbane.

Mr. Davis: I have not said a word.

The TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN (Mr. Wharton): Order! The honourable member for Merthyr should not anticipate interjections.

Mr. LANE: Recently I commented on the activities of militant trade-union officials—not the rank-and-file members, many of whom I support—who neglect the legitimate industrial interests of the people they should represent—the people who pay their salaries—to advance their personal ambitions and their entrepreneur activities.

At this stage, I propose to examine the role of a trade union in the purest terms of what it should do. The best textbooks tell us that a trade union is an association of workers in a trade or industry formed with the object of furthering the social,

economic and industrial interests of its members. The principal aims of a trade union are to secure for all its members—

- (a) fair and adequate rates of pay;
- (b) moderate hours of work;
- (c) healthy, safe and pleasant working conditions;
- (d) benefits such as annual, sick and long service leave; and
- (e) to assist members financially when they are on strike or in cases of sickness or injury.

No-one would disagree with those aims. I joined a union for those reasons and, as a unionist of many years' standing, those are the ideals I would cling to.

Mr. Houston: Are you still a member of a union?

Mr. LANE: In answer to the Leader of the Opposition, I point out that I am not a member of a union because, unfortunately, the rules of the union of which I was previously a member precluded me from retaining membership when I left that field of employment.

If union officials kept in the back of their minds the pure ideals outlined in school-children's textbooks when approaching their task, I am sure that the State would go from strength to strength with little interference in its harmonious activities. Unfortunately, they do not. When I last spoke on matters of this nature, I said that the president of the A.C.T.U. was using his power and position merely to further his own personal and political ends. I also spoke at length about the activities of some trade-union officials in Queensland in other fields such as consumer credit, building societies, credit unions and so on.

An Opposition Member interjected.

Mr. LANE: They certainly have a right to enter some of these fields, but first they have a responsibility to look after the workers industrial interests and prepare adequate cases for presentation before the various Industrial Commissions. This they have not done. The A.C.T.U. has neglected the industrial interests of workers at a national level by failing to carry out its job of preparing a National Wage case for presentation to the Commonwealth Arbitration Commission.

Mr. Bromley: What does the Minister think about that?

Mr. LANE: It is common knowledge. Anybody who studies the subject knows that Mr. Willis, the industrial advocate for the A.C.T.U., has political ambitions. In fact, he is the endorsed candidate for Gellibrand in the forthcoming Federal election. He has been devoting his time and activities to that field. That is why the recent case was not

very well presented. Again, there is some doubt whether he will be successful in his ambitions.

People at all levels in the community are concerned about the escalation in strike activity. It has alarmed all Queenslanders except those who revel in it and engage in it or have a vested interest in disharmony—and I suggest that some Opposition members can be included in this category. It results in a direct loss to the economy of the State, as well as to the working people through their pay packets. Therefore, people at all levels are concerned, and this concern at the irresponsible attitude of some of the people who prop up A.L.P. members in both the State and Federal spheres will ensure a Liberal win at the Federal election on 2 December.

An Opposition Member interjected.

Mr. LANE: I do not know the type of people represented by some Opposition members, but they would not think otherwise unless they moved in very small circles, disappearing in and out of doors at the Trades Hall and talking only to their friends. They certainly do not get out among the people at large, who know that what I am saying is true.

People do not trust the Labor Party or the trade-union officials who control it. It is a well-known fact that two-thirds of the people who control the Labor-in-Politics Convention are trade-union representatives, either as direct delegates of the trade unions or as delegates of the various branches.

Mr. Bromley: That's a lie.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for South Brisbane knows that the term he used is unparliamentary. He will withdraw it.

Mr. BROMLEY: I rise to a point of order. I did not call him a liar. I said it was a lie.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! That term also is unparliamentary.

Mr. BROMLEY: Well, it is untrue.

Mr. LANE: I suggest that the honourable member for South Brisbane is not very good at arithmetic or he would know that what I have said is true. It is a simple matter to sit down, take a tally, put the names into two columns and make a count. If he did that, he would know that what I have said is true.

I intended to speak on the settlement of industrial disputes because I thought Opposition members would be interested in hearing something about it. I was pleasantly surprised a couple of years ago to discover that certain tripartite meetings had been held to consider the matter of industrial disputes. Those who attended them were the then Federal Attorney-General (Honourable T. E. F. Hughes, Q.C., LL.B.,

M.P.), the then Minister for Labour and National Service (Honourable B. M. Snedden, Q.C., LL.B., M.P.) and representatives of the A.C.T.U. and the National Employers' Policy Committee. They met in Canberra and, on 6 May 1970, issued a document in booklet form. It is available to honourable members. In fact, I shall obtain copies for Opposition members. It is entitled, "Procedures for Dealing with Industrial Disputes". At that time it had the endorsement of the A.C.T.U. delegates—when it suited them.

Mr. Leese interjected.

Mr. LANE: The honourable member for Pine Rivers said he has read it and that it is shocking. He may think he is better qualified to speak on this matter than his A.C.T.U. bosses at the national level, but I suggest that he is not.

This booklet contains only eight pages and, whether all the people involved were sincere or not, it sets out quite clearly a very simple procedure to be followed in the settlement of industrial disputes. Without going into every detail contained in it—I am quite prepared to supply it to honourable members opposite—I point out that it says that first of all there should be an effective means of communication between employers and employees and unions in all matters of mutual interest and concern, at job, State and national level. We all know, of course, that this takes place.

Mr. Davis: That is written into every award. How stupid can you get!

Mr. LANE: Of course. It is so simple that everyone knows of that requirement. It proceeds through points (a) to (p) in alphabetical order. To refer to the three simplest ones, it is said that in the case of an employee who has a grievance, he should first of all see his foreman. Even if the employee were the honourable member for Brisbane, he could probably find his way to the foreman, no matter how big the job was. If an employee does not get satisfaction at that level, he should send his job representative to see the employer's representative, who would be the industrial relations officer on the job. I should imagine that job representatives could also find their way to the industrial relations officer's office. The next requirement listed in this document is that within 24 hours a conference between these people shall take place at job level. Those are the three elementary first steps that should be made on the job.

Mr. Houston: Which employer does that?

Mr. LANE: If he was requested by a delegate on the job who was an accredited union delegate, there is no reason why he would not do it. Approaches of this type are rarely made. They are certainly not made in Gladstone, where there is considerable industrial trouble at the moment.

I should like honourable members opposite to study this booklet, prepared by the Department of Labour and National Service, which I intend to make available to them. I should like them to read it against the background of what is now happening at Gladstone. There have been 900 stoppages at Gladstone since November 1970, and these have resulted directly in the loss of 500,000 man-hours. Had the men remained at work, they would have received pay for those 500,000 hours. They have been deliberately deprived of that money by those who have called them out on strike.

I do not suggest for one minute that all the stoppages were without cause. I know there have been occasions when there were legitimate gripes which gave rise to industrial action. Even the honourable member for Brisbane and his friends at the Trades Hall, who would blockade Parliament House with their trucks if they objected to certain legislation, would surely agree that in the period between November 1970 and now 900 is a manifestly excessive number of stoppages. Of course, 900 may be a number too large for the honourable member to comprehend; probably he can only count to 10.

There is trouble at Greenvale at the moment. There is also trouble at Evans Deakin, which has been a hotbed of disputes for many years. Most of the trouble is caused by the Boilermakers and Blacksmiths' Society, or a group of members of that society at Evans Deakin.

I must press on, because I want to speak about a new type of threat being made to industry in this State and nation at this time. It is being made by trade-union officials, some elected, some appointed or self-appointed, but spokesmen who owe their allegiance to a new Left-wing group which is new to the industrial scene in this country. They are known in some circles as "revolutionary socialists", and in others as "Trotskyites". They are also known in some places merely as "worker-control action committees", or something of that nature. They have been acknowledged even as recently as 26 October by Max Jessop in an article in the "Telegraph" of that day in which he said, in speaking of the position at Gladstone, that neither the unions nor the employees have found a way to handle the group of "Trotskyites", the "super-Leftists" who have caused industrial disruption for its own sake at Gladstone. This is a group that I would have hoped the Opposition would see fit to disown. I know that, with an election approaching, they are an embarrassment to the Australian Labor Party and the Left-wing section of the Labor movement generally.

Mr. Houston: What are they to the Government? A blessing?

Mr. LANE: They are a very great nuisance to the Government. In fact, I know that the Minister is concerned about their activities because they delay the progress and development of the State and affect the daily pay

packets of many good Queenslanders. It is something about which all honourable members opposite should be concerned.

(Time expired.)

Mr. O'DONNELL (Belyando) (4.1 p.m.): In entering the debate on the Estimates of Development and Industrial Affairs, I first express my appreciation to the officers of the department for the assistance they have given me over the years. Sir David Muir, Mr. Muhl, Mr. Bensted and other officers of the department have always been helpful. Although, because of its location, my electorate has been somewhat difficult of access by the department, help has been forthcoming whenever I have asked for it.

However, the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development is not as closely tied to the Public Service as are some departments in which professional officers, in the strict sense of the term, are employed. For example, in the Department of Primary Industries, the Department of Education, and the health services, professional men are employed whose word, in many instances, the Minister or even the Government would find difficulty in negating. Therefore, the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development—I am not being disrespectful to the public servants in the department in saying this, because their task probably is more difficult—is dependent on Government policy.

In the field of industrial development, there is a come back to the policy as laid down by the Government, and this, as I said earlier, makes it difficult for the public servant, because he has to implement a straight-out policy defined by people who perhaps lack the administrative ability or professional knowledge that is found in other departments, and he is dealing with people who are, in themselves, confounded by the need to be versatile. But when one criticises the department, I do not think that one iota of blame can ever come back to the public servant; it comes back to the Minister and the Government that he represents. It is important to realise that.

Mr. Lane: Whom do you think you are kidding?

Mr. O'DONNELL: I like that remark from the honourable member who has just resumed his seat after a stream of vituperation against about 75 per cent of the Queensland community, attacking trade unionists—

Mr. Lane: Officials.

Mr. O'DONNELL: You were not attacking officials. You were attacking trade unions and the A.C.T.U.

Mr. Lane interjected.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Merthyr has had the opportunity of making his speech. I trust that he will listen to other honourable members in silence.

Mr. Lane: If they tell the truth.

The CHAIRMAN: Order!

Mr. O'DONNELL: I am telling the truth, and I condemn the attitude adopted by the honourable member. He forgets that when he pours forth his bile day after day, he speaks in this Chamber not only as an individual but also as a representative of a political party. A trade unionist certainly would have reason to be hostile after listening to the speeches of the honourable member for Merthyr in this Chamber, because he never lets up. He never gives any credit to trade unions or trade unionists. He never shows any respect for trade unions or trade unionists. Perhaps he thinks that all the rubbish he pours out day after day rates him highly with his confreres. I am certain that it does not, because Liberal Party and Country Party supporters in this State have openly said to me during my life-time, "Thank heaven we have trade unions. How would we negotiate otherwise? How could we conform to the needs of our industries if we did not have these associations with whom we could have discussions, and through whom we could implement the progress we want in our industries?" From time to time there is friction. I suppose there has been friction for centuries, and it will go on for centuries to come. However, there is no need for the honourable member to come into this Chamber and continually denigrate. It would be far better for the honourable member if, from time to time, he selected something on the credit side and praised it. If he did that, both he, as a member of Parliament, and his party would attain higher respect. Sometimes I get stirred up, and I am stirred up about this issue.

Mr. Lane: You're a good actor.

Mr. O'DONNELL: I should like the honourable member to repeat that.

Mr. Lane: I said that you are a good actor.

Mr. O'DONNELL: I am no actor. I am just a plain, ordinary fellow who knows the difference between right and wrong and the difference between truth and falsehood.

Mr. Lane: Then why don't you stand aside from some of the ratbags in your own party?

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I warn the honourable member for Merthyr under the provisions of Standing Order 123A for being disorderly.

Mr. O'DONNELL: Thank you, Mr. Lickiss. That is an indication of the type of man he is.

In his interim reply today the Minister denigrated the submission of the honourable member for Port Curtis on our favourable trade balance overseas and our unfavourable interstate trade balance. The Minister spoke as if the unfavourable interstate trade balance were not of great importance. He suggested that our overseas surplus, resulting from very successful trading, was the keynote. I am not denying that. In his speech the honourable member for Port Curtis expressed regret that Queensland had an adverse interstate trade balance. That was the point the Minister took up. He seemed to think that it was not of any great moment, and that the important thing was the favourable overseas trade balance. That was the tenor of his remarks. I do not like to be personal, so I regret having to say that I am afraid the Minister does not know what is going on in his own department. In criticising the contribution of the honourable member for Port Curtis, one to which he could not adequately reply, the honourable gentleman revealed that he is not aware that his own department is most concerned about the position. In the third paragraph on the first page, the annual report states—

“The export rail freight incentive which is designed to encourage manufacturers in decentralised areas to enter the export field is to be widened to include exports interstate as well as overseas.”

That in itself indicates that the criticism by the honourable member for Port Curtis was completely valid.

The unfavourable interstate trade balance is very significant. Until the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development makes a strong contribution to rectify this, all the wealth that the State accumulates overseas for its own benefit, and for the benefit of Australia, will be frittered away in interstate trading operations. I remember a few years ago indicating in this Chamber that in some years we were actually in the “red” because of our unfavourable interstate balance. That is the crux of the matter and the test of the success of this department. When it succeeds in lessening this disastrous interstate effect and improving our position to the point where we are enjoying favourable balances not only from overseas trade but from interstate trade as well, then I will say that the department has achieved the success we want from it.

Honourable members have made various points in this debate today. The question of apprenticeships has been raised and ideas were expressed which I feel are most important. This department has so many links with various aspects of other departments that it is very difficult to confine one's remarks to its activities. Apprenticeship is tied up with education, and in that field many problems are being encountered. That has always been so, but the problems of today are unique because we have a higher school-leaving age. We are trying to educate all children to a stage that is beyond the

mental ability of some. These students in our secondary schools are, quite frankly, wasting their time because they have not the ability to cope with the courses provided and therefore cannot make the specific effort that is required.

The whole system has to be considered in toto and the education process has to be considered in conjunction with the apprenticeship system. We have to decide whether it would not be better to note that many young people in schools will go into trades and correlate the requirements under the apprenticeship scheme and the prospects of various students in high schools throughout the State.

From time to time, I receive complaints from various country towns. I had one recently from Alpha where there is a railway diesel shed. Responsible people in Alpha asked, “Why can't we have apprentices in the diesel shed?” This is important because there is a secondary department at the Alpha school and the courses of young boys attending that school could perhaps be channelled according to future apprenticeships at that diesel shed. In other words, their courses could deal with the actual local opportunity. Of course, these matters would have to be supervised and defined by responsible people.

An important aspect of apprenticeship has been raised today by honourable members who said that certain firms do not employ any apprentices at all. That large firms should be without apprentices is rather an indictment of the whole system. In these developing towns we also have industries that would not come under the jurisdiction of the Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs because they are not located on industrial estates although, in a sense, their areas of operation are industrial estates. I refer to Blackwater, Moranbah, Moura and the future coal-mining towns.

I do not think honourable members realise that a very large number of young people reside in towns like Moranbah and Blackwater. Over the next few years they will be leaving school not in groups of five or 10 but in hundreds each year, and they will be thrown onto the labour market without being able to find jobs locally. My colleagues on this side of the Chamber have stressed the fact that, in future, employment opportunities must be offered to people in the rural areas. If that is done, the development of this State will be carried out in the true sense of “decentralisation”.

Recently, training hospitals for nurses have been closed, with the result that young country girls are deprived of nurse training. Surely in the true spirit of “decentralisation” something can be done to counter such a trend. It would be wrong to force country people to go to large towns, provincial cities or even the metropolitan area in order to make a future for themselves.

The Minister for Conservation, Marine and Aboriginal Affairs is in the Chamber, and I am sure that he will confirm my contention that a businessman in Blackwater who desires to build a home either for himself or for his employee has to wait until freehold land becomes available at auction. Surely that is not fair to a man who is establishing an industry, no matter how small, in a town like Blackwater. The tremendous cost that he has to carry will naturally be reflected in his prices to the community, so surely in mining towns such as Blackwater and Moranbah leasehold tenure could be offered to tenants, just as it is on industrial estates, in order to give them the opportunity of setting up their homes in the community.

When land is thrown open to auction in Blackwater the local residents are competing not only amongst themselves but also against Utah Development Company, which requires land for its own employees. Because of the peculiar provisions in the Aliens Act, under which foreigners are permitted to own anything in Australia, Utah is quite eligible to bid to any amount in an endeavour to obtain land. I suggest that the industrial-estate principle should be extended into country areas so that people can obtain land by ballot for rental. It is certainly wrong to subject them to the terrifically high costs that flow from the auction system. Leasehold tenure would give the ordinary run-of-the-mill businessman a fair go.

Quite recently a mine employee approached me in search of a house. I told him of the system that obtains, and he replied that, owing to his domestic situation, he was not entitled to a home. He was anxious to obtain a piece of land so that he could erect a home on it, and the only hope he had of acquiring any land was by bidding for it at auction. Of course, all employees of service businesses, not the mining industry, are in a similar situation. Many matters have to be considered in the important project of industrial development.

This is one of the most important departments in the State. However, its success depends on the Government's policy. If the policy is right and sound it will be a good department.

(Time expired.)

Mr. HARTWIG (Callide) (4.21 p.m.): In making my contribution to this debate I first compliment the Minister and his staff, including the Director (Sir David Muir), on the wonderful job they have accomplished over the years in decentralising industry in Queensland. Large manufacturing and consuming companies have accelerated mineral exploration and development, particularly in Central Queensland. Without doubt, industrial expansion in provincial cities has provided employment for many thousands of people, most of them Queenslanders who, with their wives and children, are enjoying a much better way of life as a result.

The Government has been successful in achieving a high degree of decentralisation, although I admit that much remains to be done in this field. I stress that Queensland has more provincial cities with populations in excess of 30,000 than any other State in the Commonwealth. We can boast of five provincial cities, exclusive of Brisbane, Redcliffe and Ipswich, with a population exceeding 30,000. The population of Sydney represents 70 per cent of that of New South Wales, which can boast of only three provincial cities with a population exceeding 30,000. It can therefore be readily seen that we have achieved a great measure of decentralisation. I am sorry that the Minister is leaving the Chamber, as I intended to pay him a compliment.

The people of Brisbane, Ipswich and Redcliffe represent only about 45 per cent of Queensland's population, which over the last five years has increased by 160,000. This is the second-largest increase of all the States. Is it any wonder, therefore, that we have the lowest unemployment figures in Australia? Is it any wonder that people are coming here from the other States seeking employment?

I am very happy to represent my important Callide electorate, which is situated in Central Queensland. The two main centres in the electorate, Biloela and Yeppoon, are growing spectacularly both in population and development. In 1957, under Labor, Biloela's population was 1,452. In 1971 it had a population of almost 5,000. The Government has invested more than \$30,000,000 in the Callide Power Station and the Callide Dam. In addition, many millions of dollars have been invested in the area by Thiess Bros. in their mining activities.

This year, the cotton ginnery was transferred from Rockhampton to Biloela. I believe that it should be situated where the cotton is produced, and I am happy that the board has had the vision to relocate it. Approximately one-third of all cotton produced in Queensland is grown in the Callide Valley, and the transfer of the ginnery to Biloela will boost cotton production in Central Queensland.

Biloela also boasts a modern meatworks which employs 180 men and women. Housing development is continuing at a fast rate. Biloela is situated in the heart of a rich agricultural area and enjoys a happy balance of prosperity. It has, on the one hand, secondary industry which provides jobs for its young people and, on the other hand, a rich agricultural area which produces wheat, sorghum, beef, dairy products and pigs.

I shall now deal with Yeppoon and the Capricorn Coast, which is known the world over for its beauty and tranquillity. It is one of the main pineapple-producing areas in Queensland. Improved pastures are being

established close to the coast, and beef is being turned off closer to the coast than ever before.

The Livingstone Shire Council is implementing a sewerage scheme at a cost of \$2,250,000. The State Government has assisted it by providing thousands of dollars in subsidy for this scheme, as it has for other schemes, particularly water supply schemes and sewerage schemes, which have been undertaken by other local authorities in Queensland and which make for better living conditions in country areas. Only this morning I heard that the Victoria Point State School, which is 22 miles from the G.P.O., is to have a septic system installed. I congratulate the honourable member for Redlands on this achievement, although he is not in the Chamber.

At Parkhurst, on the outskirts of Rockhampton, the Central Queensland Cement Co. has invested some \$6,500,000, and has provided employment for more than 100 people.

I shall revert to the Yeppoon area, which has beautiful views and good schools catering for some 2,000 pupils. A very important and contentious issue is the proposed investment of between \$10,000,000 and \$20,000,000 in 3,500 acres of land at Farnborough Beach by Mr. Isiwaki, a Japanese businessman, who is 72 years of age. Recently, a Japanese delegation visited the area. This was instigated by a visit to the Far East, or the Near North, by the Minister for Tourism. The Livingstone Shire Council entertained this delegation, and there was a Press, radio and television conference. Mr. Isiwaki, in saying that public opinion could be opposed to his investment, seemed to be conscious of the possibility of opposition to his enterprise. Prior to the election I appeared on television Channel 3 with my A.L.P. opponent. We discussed this matter, and beyond any doubt I made an election issue of it.

Mr. Isiwaki made it quite clear that if he decided to go ahead with the complex he would use Queensland labour in its construction. He said he would use Queensland materials and Queensland foodstuffs, and, if necessary, would finance the appointment of Japanese teachers in high schools so that within a few years Queenslanders could staff this complex and run it as an Australian enterprise. He also indicated that he was prepared to lose on the enterprise for the first five to eight years. To give a brief indication of what he proposes, he intends to build an aerodrome, a golf course that would be suitable for world tournaments, bowling greens, gardens and parks, inland lakes, and many other features.

For some reason unknown, and beyond my capacity to understand, unfortunately there is opposition to this project. I know that other areas on the coast of Queensland—and, for that matter, throughout Australia—would welcome this expenditure of from \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000. We hear

people say, "The Government does not create jobs for young people." I claim that this would be a wonderful enterprise that would, both directly and indirectly, bring great benefits to Central Queensland, particularly the Capricorn Coast. This would be an international complex that would bring overseas visitors in their thousands, and thousands of people would also come from the other States to see what must be a unique development in Queensland. I feel that we must do everything in our power to see that the development of this complex goes ahead.

In the field of local government, regional planning must be considered. I forecast that we will have regional planning, irrespective of whether local authorities want it or not. There is at present too much duplication of small shires, and their plant and staff. We can well do without such duplication today. Cities are now being brought closer together. Fast motor vehicles and good roads have brought towns that were once a day's travel apart within a few hours' travel of one another. Regional planning must be viewed in that light. It will bring industrial development and decentralisation to Queensland, and it will also bring prosperity to many local authorities that are today virtually starved through lack of finance.

I should like to conclude by congratulating the mayor of Gladstone on replying to a report on Gladstone that appeared in a recent edition of a Brisbane newspaper. He said—

"Thousands of people—families—are living in Gladstone very happily; many have indicated no desire to live elsewhere.

"I object to the reporter's use of such terms as 'rotten', 'guerrilla warfare', 'biggest slum in Queensland' to interpret and summarise the growing problems of a boom town.

"We are appreciative of his description of our harbour, which despite the development of the past seven years still remains the most beautiful in Queensland.

"However, I must comment on several aspects of Gladstone life which have been painted black by the author.

"We are still proud of Gladstone despite the rubbishing we have received."

He later said—

"The Gladstone Town Council has spent \$31m in the past eight years which is considerable development for a growing town. This is made up as follows:—

1964-1972	
Roadworks ..	\$1,050,000
Water Supply ..	\$8,139,294
Sewerage ..	\$3,127,728
Roadworks from Revenue ..	\$247,000
Water from Revenue ..	\$11,251,000
Grants from Commonwealth ..	\$143,666
Subsidy on Loan Works ..	\$3,295,160 (State)"

To spend that amount of money in Gladstone over the past eight years is not a bad effort, and I compliment Alderman Golding for bringing these facts to the notice of the good-thinking citizens in Gladstone—and there are many thousands of them. He said also—

“... the majority of the 1,200 Q.A.L. site construction workers live in flats, houses and boarding houses.”

In addition, he said—

“On housing in Gladstone, hundreds of homes and flats have been provided in the past few years. To be exact 1,685 homes and 331 blocks of flats over eight years. The total value of all new buildings in this period is \$44m.”

I again commend Alderman Golding for his reply, because he is a wonderful man and has done more for Gladstone and Central Queensland than any other man I know. He has developed Gladstone into a first-rate port, and its destiny is assured under his guidance.

I conclude by congratulating the Minister on his efforts to decentralise industry, and private enterprise for the part it has played. I know that Queensland will go from strength to strength under the Country-Liberal Government.

Mr. HARVEY (Stafford) (4.38 p.m.): In speaking on the Estimates for Development and Industrial Affairs, I am aware that there has been a reshuffling of ministerial responsibilities and that the Minister's portfolio now includes some activities that formerly came under the control of the Minister for Labour and Tourism. Because of that, it is rather a difficult exercise to make an assessment of the departmental expenditure and compare it with that in former years.

I note on page 23 of the Estimates, under the heading “Department of Commercial and Industrial Development, Chief Office”, that \$857,000 is required for 1972-73, whereas in 1970-71 the amount required was \$580,000. The number of personnel in the Chief Office has increased from 47 in 1967-68 to 63 in 1972-73. Immigration has also been included in the Minister's portfolio, and I note that the Vote, which was \$202,400 in 1970-71, has increased to \$237,000.

When one relates these figures to the Treasurer's comments, in introducing the Budget, on the need to provide for wage and cost movements in the current year, one sees that although the Chief Office Vote has taken that factor into account, the Immigration Vote has not kept pace with the escalation in costs from 1970-71 to the current year.

I notice that for the Apprenticeship Office \$225,596 was expended in 1970-71 whereas the appropriation for this year is \$381,797. I acknowledge that additional expenditure

and am particularly pleased to note what is being done in the field of apprenticeship. On the same page of the Estimates I notice that the appropriation this year for the Industrial Estates Construction Fund is \$4,263,000. In 1970-71 the amount expended was \$2,043,181. At that time the Loan Fund contribution towards that amount was only \$700,000. In 1971-72 the allocation moved up to \$1,482,000 and the Loan expenditure went to \$1,700,000. On this occasion, if I interpret the figures correctly, of the \$4,263,000 allocated, \$3,200,000 will be coming from loan moneys.

I have in mind the charges made to industries in country areas that are availing themselves of the facilities of industrial estates. I understand that they are paying rental of only 7½ per cent. Would their contributions be sufficient to service the loan moneys used for that type of development? I acknowledge that in the city area industries are paying something of the order of 10 per cent of the capital outlay for that type of development. I also ask the Minister whether the type of return we are getting for the capital outlay on these projects is sufficient. How much of this developed land is being utilised to its full advantage at the present time? I acknowledge that we must plan ahead. I note that of the total of 10,000 acres that has been developed, over 7,000 acres are situated in 29 provincial cities throughout the State. I commend that fact.

I particularly note the location of some of the industrial estates. That takes me back to the exercise that I noted in England. Development of new towns was undertaken in such a way that industrial estates were close to residential areas. That meant that the time employees took in travelling to and from work was kept to a minimum, and at the same time it reduced traffic hazards. A much better environment is created if workers can live close to where they are employed. After all, travelling time is not leisure, pleasure, or productive time. In our own situation, many people who live at Wacol have to travel two hours a day to and from their place of employment. That sort of thing should be discouraged as much as possible.

Because of the climate in Brisbane, particularly the north-easterly breezes in the summer months, industries located on the northern side of the city should be so sited that they are not likely to cause fall-out, smog or other hazard across the city. As a member of the Brisbane Town Planning Committee, Sir David Muir, no doubt, takes such factors into account. However, I urge that there be closer liaison between planning authorities, transport authorities and all services necessary for the proper functioning of industries.

In 1968-69 \$712,000 was expended on the Division of Occupational Safety and Weights and Measures, but the appropriation for

this year has moved up to \$1,241,000. That 100 per cent movement is a very important one, particularly when we consider the time lost through accidents, the need to prevent them, and the steps that have been taken in recent times to ensure proper supervision in this field.

Further on in the Estimates I note the reference to practical training of country apprentices for which, in 1968-69, \$22,000 was provided. This figure has now been increased to \$68,500. I heard one honourable member this afternoon commenting on apprenticeship training in country areas. My information is that many country apprentices are required to come to the city to avail themselves of facilities essential to their apprenticeship training. In many country centres the opportunity to follow some trades or professions just does not exist. If we are sincere in our desire to give the youth of the community, irrespective of where they live, equal opportunities, we must provide these facilities in country areas.

Many apprentices today are employed merely as a source of cheap labour. Many are employed in undertakings so small that they cannot be given the training they require to become fully qualified tradesmen. In Germany, for instance, apprentices are rotated from industry to industry or from firm to firm during their period of training. Therefore, a far greater field of opportunity is available to them and they have a firm assurance that, during their period of apprenticeship, they will not merely be carrying out repetitive work. Thus, on the completion of their apprenticeship, they leave as fully qualified tradesmen.

In the Brisbane City Council, because of the ramifications of the various departments, we have an apprenticeship committee for the whole of the council work-force. This ensures that an apprentice will not stay more than 12 months with a particular department. He may be with the Transport Department for his first 12 months and then go to the substation section; he might then go on to lines work or switchboard work. Apprentices operate under a programme that ensures full training and they come out of their apprenticeships as better qualified men.

Mr. Sherrington: The electrician's apprenticeship is one of the most comprehensive of all the trades.

Mr. HARVEY: That is so. The honourable member for Salisbury mentions that this is one of the most comprehensive apprenticeships in the industry, but I think it is fully justified and that any big undertaking such as the Brisbane City Council should provide such facilities. In the electrical line alone we make sure that we put on at least 40 apprentices annually.

Some query was raised this afternoon about what happens to apprentices when they come out of their time. Some of them may not continue in the employ of the

department because they cannot be absorbed, but wherever possible we try to find them alternative employment in the council. Time does not permit me to elaborate further on that point.

I commend the department on its annual report, which contains a great deal of information. However, I issue a word of warning to the Government. We must plan ahead at least five to 10 years and know exactly where we are going. Much has been said in this Chamber about our industrial activity and what has been achieved in this field. Figures published by the Bureau of Census and Statistics show that, of Australia's total output, Queensland's represents the following percentages for the listed products:—

Product	Queensland's Percentage of Australia's Output
Alumina	74.4
Copper	66.7
Silver	52.3
Black coal	19.7

By comparison, on the primary-industry side, Queensland's rural holdings constitute 17.4 per cent of the nation's total; areas under crop are equivalent to 12 per cent; areas of crop fertilised make up 4.7 per cent; and areas of pasture fertilised represent only 1 per cent of the total for Australia. In the wool industry, Queensland possesses 8.3 per cent of the nation's sheep, and its wool for overseas export represents 8.7 per cent of the total.

Amidst all the talk about strikes, it is significant to note that a Government document discloses that in Queensland the number of working days lost as a result of strikes represents 7 per cent of the total for Australia. But whereas approximately 180,700 days were lost as a result of strikes, a staggering total of 755,936 days were lost as a result of accidents and injuries. Those figures show Queensland's record to be a very good one. It must not be forgotten that many strikes are the result of the poor environment in which employees are required to work. I suggest that a large percentage of those strikes could have been avoided if management had co-operated with the workers and entered into conciliation in the true spirit.

I have found that democracy goes far beyond its political definition. If we are to achieve anything in Australia, we must face up to industrial democracy, in which both the worker and management participate in planning and organisation as well as the improvement of the Government and the increase in productivity. On many occasions trade unions have put forward suggestions to alleviate industrial unrest that had been overlooked by those persons who carry out supervisory duties in business organisations. Many worth-while proposals have been put forward by rank-and-file members of trade unions.

I wish to refer now to the inspection of motor vehicles. Although the legislation that has been introduced contains certain loopholes, which will have to be closed, it is worthy of commendation. Over the past year, of a total of 3,122 complaints received by the Consumer Affairs Bureau, 686 related to motor vehicles. I have no doubt that many of them involved mechanical defects. These figures show that the legislation was necessary. Now that builders are required to be registered, I am sure that in the building industry, too, certain defects will be highlighted.

I shall now refer briefly to the report of the Chief Inspector of Machinery. I commend the co-operation given by this department to the Brisbane City Council electricity department in converting Brisbane lifts operating on D.C. power supply to A.C. The two authorities did a commendable job. The only persons using D.C. power supply are Government Printing Office operators of some old linotype machines which, I believe, in time, are to be replaced.

On many occasions comments have been made about industrial accidents. Figures published by the Bureau of Census and Statistics disclose that 755,936 man-days were lost through them. There were 37,696 cases of work injuries to males, 63 of which were fatal, and 872 resulted in permanent disability.

We hear much talk about industrial accidents, but I wonder how much concern or thought is given to training people under the age of 15. Quite recently I read an article published in the South about how children, who, according to some critics, get everything their own way, are missing out on one vital lesson, that is, the safety lesson. As we realise that safety in industry is essential, I urge the Government to consider training our youth, while at school, and in other areas, in the need for safety. Many children lose their lives because they have not been trained in this field. According to the latest figures available, 822 children under 15 years were killed in one year in Australia. They were poisoned, burnt, drowned or maimed in accidents in their homes, many of which could have been avoided. After leaving school some children roam the parks and streets and do things that we, as adults, consider to be stupid and ridiculous. But have we done anything to ensure that they are trained in safety? As a great deal of time is devoted to enlightening workers about time lost in industry through accidents, I urge the Minister to consider devoting equal time to the training of our school-children so that they will be aware of the dangers.

I noted in the last few days that the Minister for Mines and Main Roads referred to our coal export trade. I sound a note of warning.

(Time expired.)

Mr. KAUS (Mansfield) (4.59 p.m.): It is a pleasure to take part in this debate. Firstly, I congratulate the Minister, the Director, the Assistant Director, the Under Secretary and the staff generally on the time and wonderful work they have devoted to producing the department's annual report covering the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development, which is very interesting to read. It is pleasing to note that some departmental officers have been overseas gathering new ideas and studying what is taking place in the development of industries in other countries.

I congratulate the department on making \$20,000 available to the Industrial Design Council of Australia to enable it to establish a branch in Queensland in association with the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development. This will no doubt assist the smaller manufacturers as it is intended to.

I congratulate the department on the development of industrial estates. Only a couple of days ago I received a copy of a Press statement setting out a list of factories that the department is assisting to develop in certain areas. The list proves what the Government is doing in its aim of decentralisation. It refers to the establishment, in a Crown industrial estate at Warwick, of a confectionery factory that will cover 6,500 square feet, and will employ 20 people who no doubt are looking forward to the commencement of operations. It will certainly assist the economy and development of Warwick. The report lists all Crown industrial estates, including Acacia Ridge, Colmslie, Gibson Island, Hamilton, Rocklea and Wacol in the metropolitan area, and those in each provincial city, including Cairns, Charters Towers, Dalby and Gladstone. No doubt they will assist businessmen to establish themselves in those centres.

The State's economy is in a very healthy state. In unemployment, we are better off than Australia as a whole. This indicates the climate for development and business improvement in Queensland. Over the past few years, the flow of capital, labour and other productive resources into industrial development and mineral development has been running high.

One of the most outstanding developments in the economy, particularly in more recent years, has been the inflow of capital from overseas. Issues surrounding overseas investment have become the subject of debate and controversy, not only here and in the Federal House but also in overseas countries. The implications of capital inflow have occupied the attention of officials in financial and academic circles for many years. The present renewed interest underlines the great complexity of this matter in our modern, free-enterprise economy. The Opposition's attitude is one of opposition to an improvement in our economy and our State.

Mr. Sherrington: What benefits have we got from private enterprise?

Mr. KAUS: More benefits than the honourable member realises.

It was pleasing, on my recent tour of the State, to see development taking place in the whole of the State, not merely in one corner of it. There is a universal recognition that Governments have a full role to play. I think the Government has performed well, and Queensland's industrial development over the last decade is very evident. Basically, the Government assumes over-all responsibility for the maintenance of full employment and growth. We have certainly done this since we have been the Government. We have been in office for 15 years, and it takes some time to get into gear. We are now really in top gear.

Full employment and growth cannot, of course, be achieved without the necessary capital, and capital, like labour, is a scarce commodity in a full-employment economy. There is no doubt that future requirements of capital will be heavy unless growth is to be retarded. Free enterprise will win every time against socialisation of industry. In my opinion, if industries were nationalised or socialised, as they have been in Britain, much unemployment would result.

Mr. Sherrington: What do you mean by that?

Mr. KAUS: A considerable amount of unemployment would result. It is all very well for Mr. Whitlam to say that he will take over this and that. It is easy to say a few words; I should like to see the implementation of these plans. We know, from overseas experience, what would be the result of Mr. Whitlam's policies.

As I have said, full employment and growth cannot be achieved without the necessary capital which, like labour, is very scarce in a time of full employment, and there is no doubt that, unless growth is to be retarded, capital and labour must be continually increased in line with the rate of growth that is acceptable to the community in general. In Queensland, as throughout Australia, this rate is high. It is therefore imperative that, both now and in the future, all available capital be allocated on the most efficient basis to obtain maximum growth and development.

Of course, we all know that Australia has maintained a very high rate of domestic savings to gross national product of about 23 per cent, which ranks very high by world standards. The Government accepts responsibility for the efficient allocation of available capital resources in order to provide the most conducive environment for the attraction of an inflow of private capital not only from Australian sources but also from overseas. It is imperative that the Commonwealth Government be called on to shoulder

its share of the burden in the provision of developmental finance essential to accelerate a form of regional industry in Queensland.

One honourable member referred to inflation. I should like to quote from an article on this subject that I read recently. It includes a statement by Mr. Snedden, and it contains two highly significant features. The article reads—

"Mr. Snedden's comment contained two highly significant features. The first was its summary rejection of the 'scare' pictures of the economy and the unemployment position given in recent months by the media, many economists, some employers, and, not unexpectedly, by trade union and political leaders . . ."

An Opposition Member: Shame!

Mr. KAUS: It is a shame, because they seem to have scare tactics that they use, and use to good advantage. This comment by the Treasurer is worth quoting—

"With all this in mind, it is necessary to say something about the various alarmist opinions which have been so freely expressed in recent months as to the state of the economy in general and the labour market in particular. Charges such as 'recession' and even 'depression' have been freely asserted from many quarters. So far from being in recession, the economy is basically sound and is growing quite strongly. Gross national product can be expected to show an increase of over 4 per cent in real terms in 1971-72. If that is to be described as a 'recession', words have lost their meaning."

The article continued—

"The second noteworthy feature of the Treasurer's statement lay in its emphasis that the battle against inflation was one for the whole community, not just for Government. 'It is fair to say that no democratic Government, of whatever political complexion, can deal effectively with this grave matter unless it has the broad support of the community.'"

Later, the article said—

"The task of beating out the fires of inflation is one for the whole community. It is absurd to think that Government alone can do the trick while the community goes its own sweet way."

People today seem to be wanting more and more while doing less and less. If the productivity of the country is not increased, we will find ourselves going out backwards, and the situation must be watched carefully.

The article continued—

"If inflation is to be overcome, new and different attitudes will be required of employers, trade unions, wage tribunals, State and local governments and government instrumentalities, not to mention the communications media."

"Leadership, self-discipline and example will be demanded of all the main sections of the nation. Unless they are willing to play their part in the battle to beat inflation, the Commonwealth Government will be like a general whose army is not prepared to fight."

Later, it said—

"The trade unions have a clear responsibility to moderate their wage and other cost-increasing claims. They should face up to the truth that wage and salary rises far in excess of productivity gains are really not genuine rises at all: or, if some sections gain benefits, others must lose. Those who lose are, in the main, not employers or investors but fellow workers (including the hundreds of thousands of those in retirement) less favourably placed to enforce their demands. Whatever they are saying for public consumption about wage rises bearing no responsibility for price increases, trade union leaders know in their hearts that this is not true. Unless union officials are prepared to give a higher priority to the national interest,——"

Mr. Sherrington interjected.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! I do not intend to remind the honourable member for Salisbury again that persistent interjections will not be tolerated.

Mr. KAUS: It continued—

"... and to educate their members in the simple relationship of wages, productivity, and prices, inflation will go on. The reduction of work stoppages and threats of work stoppages will, needless to say, be another test of how far the trade unions are prepared to co-operate with Government and the rest of the community in achieving the goal of price stability."

Recently I had the opportunity of accompanying the Minister for Transport to North Queensland to see some of the mineral developments there, including the nickel project being undertaken by Queensland Nickel. It gives me great pleasure to congratulate the company on the work that it has carried out in such a short time. We inspected the railway installations and also the mine. The manager and his staff showed us where the lode is and we also saw a number of graphs. I have inspected quite a few of the developing areas in the State, but on this occasion one man in particular amazed me with his ability to put in simple words such things as the percentage of the lode, how it shifted, and the different grades of ore. It showed that this State's young engineers are certainly making good use of the technological training they are gaining with the new companies that are coming to Queensland.

Mr. W. T. Hewitt: Was that a man named Fletcher?

Mr. KAUS: Yes, Mr. Fletcher—a gentleman and a scholar.

What I have said of course, does not apply only to the nickel works. We had a look at the employees' accommodation, and it far surpasses others that I have seen over the past few years. No doubt this company has benefited from the experience of others.

Mr. Bromley: Would you say nickel is a winner?

Mr. KAUS: Yes, it seems that it is.

There was a strike at the main sulphur plant the day we were there. This sort of thing is very unfortunate. These men enjoy good wages and conditions, and they should get on with the job and complete it. No doubt it is only a few of the rat-bags in the unions who create this sort of situation. In my opinion the decent unionists should kick them out.

Mr. Marginson: Who told you that?

Mr. KAUS: It is the pattern that has been forming right throughout the State. These men do not want Queensland to develop. They do not want their fellow workers to have good conditions. Believe me, the conditions there are really good.

From Greenvale, we moved to Goonyella and had a look at the development there. It is running very smoothly and the men are quite happy.

Mr. Marginson: Did you have a look at the lack of accommodation?

Mr. KAUS: The men at Goonyella have very good accommodation. In the nine months since I was last there, the company has done a tremendous job. Of course, there is always the person who does not want a house. Some of the employees are living in caravans, but they are the type who are not interested in good conditions. Possibly they would be the "stirrers".

Moranbah is a first-class town.

Mr. Marginson interjected.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Wolston is engaging in persistent interjections. I hope he will desist.

Mr. KAUS: Moranbah is well planned, just as the town at Greenvale will be. In going through the plans at Greenvale with the foreman, I was amazed at the detail that had been gone into. The plans even include landscaped gardens and details of the various types of trees. The homes are magnificent.

Moranbah is certainly a very pleasant place. The people working there are dedicated, and I congratulate every one of them. It is a beautiful spot.

(Time expired.)

Mr. BOUSEN (Toowoomba North) (5.19 p.m.): It was rather amusing to hear the honourable member for Mansfield making so much of the fact that an industry has been established at Warwick to employ about

20 men. It is about time the Government did something to put industry back into some of the provincial cities that have become almost ghost towns because of the transfer of railway-men. More than 100 men, with their wives and families, were transferred from Warwick almost overnight. At one time Warwick was a very important railway depot, carrying a district superintendent, a locomotive foreman, workshops, and a number of running men and other station staff. Today, rather than being an important railway depot it is merely a whistlestop.

It is sickening to hear almost every Government member deliberately attacking honourable members on this side and those very decent citizens of the State who are termed "trade-unionists". Let me tell them definitely that the trade-unionists of this State, and of the Commonwealth of Australia generally, have played a very important part in the development of both the State and the nation.

A Government Member: We are not denying it.

Mr. BOUSEN: Almost every honourable member opposite has made a virulent attack on the trade-union movement. No-one can deny that.

Government Members interjected.

Mr. BOUSEN: I was a leader in the trade-union movement before I entered Parliament, and never once did I deliberately advise men to strike.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member will address the Chair.

Mr. BOUSEN: The honourable member, who has been absent from the Chamber all day and has been on annual leave, comes back and interjects when I am trying to make a constructive speech.

Mr. Frawley: I have not been on annual leave; I have been attending an education committee meeting.

Mr. BOUSEN: If the cap fits, the honourable member can wear it.

Mr. BIRD: I rise to a point of order. If the honourable member for Toowoomba North is not referring to the honourable member for Murrumba, I think we on this side can all take offence.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member has no valid point of order.

Mr. BOUSEN: I thank you, Mr. Lickiss, for your ruling on the matter.

After having heard the Minister's address on his Estimates, one can agree that some development has taken place in Queensland. But I believe that insufficient is being done to attract industries to some of our provincial cities. I believe that this is where the development of our State has to take place—in the larger country towns and provincial cities.

In his address the Minister also mentioned that the 25 per cent rebate on inward and outward rail freights will also be available to manufacturing industries. This, in effect, means that the Government proposes to extend the existing export-freight rebate of 25 per cent to the transport of goods being sold interstate. Whilst this idea is no doubt commendable from the point of view of those concerned, let us look at the position closer to home. There is an obvious need for the development of processing industries in the inland areas of the State. Therefore, should not these export-freight rebates be extended to cover products such as wool tops and foodstuffs moving within the State? I am sure it must be obvious to everyone that the processing or partial processing of our inland resources must supply the base for genuine regional development.

I have previously extolled the virtues of the city environment of Toowoomba for the establishment of secondary industries, such as a vegetable and fruit-canning process, a towelling factory, a potato-chip factory and a chocolate factory. I do not want to go into detail or repeat what I have said previously, but I point out that Toowoomba is in the heart of the Lockyer Valley and the Granite Belt area and lends itself admirably to the establishment of such industries.

The establishment of these industries would, in turn, bring about urban and regional development and population growth. I remind the Minister that in his address he said that one of the elements he is seeking is rapid population growth. One might ask what he is doing about urban and regional development which, in turn, will attract people to this State and increase its population.

The Minister failed to comment on whether the Queensland Government is to receive any assistance or co-operation from the Federal Government through the National Urban and Regional Development Authority. If Queensland is not to be included in the scheme, I should like to know what is to be the alternative proposal, if any.

The Estimates do not provide any significant amount aimed at creating one or more regional growth centres. One must take note of what the Commonwealth and other State Governments are doing in their intense interest, for example, in the Wodonga-Albury area as well as in the Orange-Bathurst district, where, I understand, a project is in hand to create a regional development area at a cost of approximately \$34,000,000. Surely the time has arrived when the Queensland Government should join with the Commonwealth in embarking upon a similar scheme. I suggest that Toowoomba is the ideal location for such a regional development area.

Mr. W. D. Hewitt: In terms of regional planning, Queensland has probably shown the way to the Commonwealth.

Mr. BOUSEN: I would not think so. The failure of the Queensland Government to "come to the party" and assist in the establishment of a wool-processing plant at Toowoomba resulted in a very big Japanese company taking its business to Orange. I understand the reasons advanced by the Japanese company for such a move were that the land is cheaper in Orange than in Toowoomba, that the water is much softer there, and that the New South Wales railways granted it higher rebates on rail freights than it could obtain in Queensland. It is surprising to note that this Japanese company commenced operations at Orange in spite of the fact that that town lacked a development board and an industries officer who could provide it with all the relevant information that it desired.

The Toowoomba Development Board did all in its power to induce the Japanese company to establish itself in Toowoomba. However, a representative of the company, Mr. Yamaguchi, said he was quite satisfied that Toowoomba could not offer the advantages that could be enjoyed in Orange. He also commented that many Japanese processors were desirous of setting up business in Australia, so I hope that the Minister and his Government will interest themselves in encouraging Japanese industries to commence operations in this State. I am sure that, like myself, the Minister is anxious to see the establishment of new industries and processing plants in Queensland.

Mr. W. D. Hewitt: How is it that the Japanese are trying to create a tourist industry in the centre of Queensland?

Mr. BOUSEN: That is being done by private enterprise. I want to see the State Government involve itself on a co-operative basis.

I have said that the Toowoomba Development Board did everything possible to have this Japanese industry established in Toowoomba, but the scope of the board's work is limited by a lack of finance. I am aware that the Department of Industrial Development provides an annual subsidy to each development board of \$1,000, but that is not enough. If these boards are to do the job expected of them, they must be given greater financial assistance so that they can upgrade their promotional activities and go out looking for business. It is the Government's responsibility to ensure that sufficient finance is made available to these boards to enable them to promote industries within their respective areas.

I again ask the Minister and his departmental officers to investigate regional development within provincial cities. I understood that a regional resource survey was to be undertaken in the Darling Downs-Maranoa area. I should like the Minister to advise me in his reply if finance has been made available to complete the survey and, if so, whether he will make public the results of the survey. The Darling Downs

and near-Maranoa areas are recognised as having some of the most fertile and richest soils in the State, and we are very proud of that fact. There is plenty of undeveloped land available, together with power and fuel supplies. In addition, most of the centres in the area have an abundant water supply and a large work-force available for any industry that may be established. For some years the Toowoomba district has had one of the largest employment pools in the State. It is obvious that if anyone wishes to establish an industry on the Downs, the necessary work-force would be available.

There is a great need for the establishment of a series of new cities in Queensland, and the Darling Downs is one of the best areas to make a start. It is reasonably close to all markets, with suitable transport available for any industry that may be established. The city of Toowoomba has a fairly large airport, and Oakey has an even bigger one. The Toowoomba Airport is now open for night flying, and the town enjoys exceptionally good rail and road services. Private enterprise, including large public companies, is now operating large road trains from the Downs.

I point out that the area to which I have been referring encompasses a number of local authority areas, including the Toowoomba City Council, the Warwick City Council, the Dalby Town Council and the shires of Stanthorpe, Allora, Cambooya, Chinchilla, Clifton, Crow's Nest, Inglewood, Jondaryan, Millmerran, Pittsworth, Rosalie, Rosenthal and Wambo. The major cities are Toowoomba, Dalby, Warwick, Stanthorpe and Oakey, their populations totalling about 145,000. Land is readily available and can be purchased at reasonable prices.

In the vicinity of Stanthorpe, in the Granite Belt area, land can be bought at from \$40 to \$60 an acre. In the adjacent Warwick area prices range from \$100 to \$120 an acre. In and around Toowoomba they vary from \$110 to \$150 an acre. Between Toowoomba and Warwick, land costs about \$120 or \$130 an acre. Adjacent to Dalby, it can be bought for \$160 to \$180 an acre.

Every requirement for establishing industry is available on the Darling Downs. In the light of my submissions, I am sure honourable members will agree that the Toowoomba-Darling Downs area is a logical choice for selection as a growth centre. Toowoomba has the potential to cater for substantial growth, whether it is brought about by the normal process of urban and regional development or by the infusion of large sums of money by way of Government aid. The Minister should give these matters urgent and favourable consideration.

In conclusion, I pay a tribute to the devoted staff members in both the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development and the Department of Industrial

Affairs. We are grateful to them for what they have done in furthering the industrial development of this State.

Mr. CORY (Warwick) (5.36 p.m.): I am pleased to have the opportunity to join in the debate on these Estimates. I congratulate the Minister on what he and the officers in the departments under his control have done over the past 12 months. I congratulate Mr. Bensted and those associated with him on their energetic work in negotiations, discussions and interviews that have taken place between individuals from my area and the department. I also thank all officers for the courtesies that they have extended to me. I congratulate Mr. Muhl. This is the first occasion on which he has been associated with the Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs. I look forward to a continuing and happy relationship with Mr. Muhl in the industrial affairs of Queensland.

The concept expressed by the honourable member for Toowoomba North on regional development and regional planning was very interesting. However, we have yet to see the practical application of that concept. I was particularly interested in his assessment of what already exists in the area. What he said is very true. However, as I have said before, I do not agree with the development of new centres, as the honourable member does. I, for one, am proud of the centre I represent. I believe that development should be encouraged in existing centres that can provide the services. I refer not only to city amenities but also to social and economic amenities. New centres should not be created at great cost when existing centres are crying out for assistance.

The establishment of a new industry on the Warwick industrial estate was mentioned. It is only one of the industries to be located there. I point out to the honourable member for Toowoomba North that the Government has spent \$180,000 in the past 10 days in purchasing another enterprise in the area, in addition to assisting the one mentioned, which will employ 20 people.

The association between districts, members of districts and the department is not a momentary one; it is a continuing association because continuing negotiations and activities are required if we are to bring about the type of expansion and progress that we seek. I should like to make known to the Minister how well the Government's policy of assisting industries beyond the metropolitan area is accepted. The honourable member for Stafford said that in non-metropolitan areas government-built factories are made available at a rental of 7½ per cent compared with 10 per cent in the metropolitan area. This is true and much appreciated.

Whilst I do not know the reasons that the Minister will give for such a concession, there are two reasons that are very obvious. The first is that land, and many of the

services that go with it, are cheaper in non-metropolitan areas. The other reason is that the Government, as it has already indicated by its actions, has a responsibility to give assistance in areas that do not have the inbuilt, automatic expansion that applies when the population reaches a certain figure. It is because of this responsibility that the Government has been prepared to do something about the matter in a very practical way, and this concession is very much appreciated by those who are now able to consider starting business enterprises in non-metropolitan areas.

The scheme under which Government-built factories are made available is one of the best concepts of assistance to industry that Queensland has ever seen. Although there are some improvements that could be made, as time passes greater and greater expansion of this concept will be seen. Those who wish to set up in business see the real advantages of the scheme, and more and more of them are trying to take advantage of it.

The scheme is available equally for the large and the small man. I have said on various occasions how hard it is for the man who is in business in a small way to obtain assistance. When a man has a big business, it is easy for him to obtain bank finance and other types of assistance when negotiating a deal. But when a man is in business in a small way, with only his skill, initiative and willingness to work hard as security, it is often difficult to obtain finance. The scheme of Government-owned factories adapts itself equally well to large and small enterprises. I have had the pleasure of seeing it operate in both these fields.

I noted with interest the Minister's statement that the Government is providing \$20,000 to assist in the setting up of the Queensland branch of the Industrial Design Council of Australia. I mention this matter for two reasons. The first is that it is obviously vital that Queensland industry, too, have access to this council. It is also a very practical attempt by the Government to assist in making available something that is very important to small industries.

Again, it is very difficult for a person starting with only small financial backing to provide all the services that he desires for his operations. Big businesses have no trouble in that direction. They have special sections in their own enterprises that provide these services, and the businesses are big enough to keep the sections fully employed. There are obvious reasons why a small operator cannot do that, and the Government's decision to assist in setting up a Queensland branch of the Industrial Design Council is very important, principally because it will help the small man.

One does not have to go back many years in history to find one-man businesses that have grown into major companies. The Ford Motor Company is one example. It was started by a man who had only the

skill of his hands and faith in the future, and it has now become one of the major companies in the world. There is nothing to say that a small business that receives assistance from the Crown today will not be equally successful. If small businesses are not given a chance, no-one will know whether or not they could have succeeded.

Of course, because of the economic and social factors that operate now, it is much more difficult to set up a small business than it was in days gone by. It takes not only additional manpower but also more capital to start an enterprise. In fact, it is becoming more and more difficult to do so. Because of that, I think that Governments and local authorities must combine in giving greater support to small industries that are prepared to start. In their own way, and in the community in which they are established, they provide just as great a service as bigger industries give in other areas.

In my opinion, the small man is the basis of many decentralised industries. It is obvious, of course, that in an area with a small population any new industry must begin in a small way, and the small man plays an important part in creating activity in the inland areas of the State and providing service of a type that the community needs. Industries, whether large or small, assist in maintaining and increasing the population of the centres in which they are established, and the employment they provide has an important effect socially and economically.

In considering the wisdom of making public moneys available to assist the establishment of industries, slightly different views must be taken according to whether the industry to be established is a major one or a small one. I do not say that the security of the enterprise must not be taken into account, but what constitutes security in accordance with the size of the enterprise must be considered. If it is a major enterprise, obviously security constitutes straight-out profit on turnover and availability of capital to bring it to fruition. On the other hand, in a smaller enterprise success depends not so much on the capital involved as on the initiative and hard work of the person who is running it. I am very pleased that the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development is using quite a large amount of discretion and common sense in that regard.

I turn now to the problems of apprentices in country areas. These occur more in some trades than in others. The electrical trade is one that probably causes more concern to apprentices than most. Because of the large amount of theory in the course problems do arise. In country areas it is hard for apprentices to get that little bit of extra tuition to assist them with their course, and extra tuition can make the difference between their success and failure.

As I see the situation, the first-year apprentices do not have a great deal of trouble because it is fairly easy for them to obtain assistance if it is required. For example, school-teachers are often readily available to assist. But as their course progresses, it becomes more difficult for them to obtain the services of someone sufficiently qualified to assist them. During their second year they can obtain a certain amount of help if they require it, but in the third year this is virtually impossible. It is not that somebody could not assist them if he had the time and the interest to settle down and sort out the course. But not too many people have the time or the interest, even though they may have the requisite basic knowledge.

Not many of the older tradesmen can assist, because courses have changed and are being continually changed as progress and updating takes place. The older tradesman is not normally aware of the latest changes in the theory side of the course. Of course, this does not affect his competence as a tradesman. Unless the older tradesman is able to make the effort and follow the course right through, he is not able to assist the apprentice to a great extent. In Brisbane, of course, apprentices have access to a technical college, to night classes and to tutors who specialise in providing assistance to students.

The correspondence courses are very good, but if an apprentice gets into trouble with them, he finds it difficult to get out of that trouble unless he has someone with whom he can discuss his problems. I know that he can write and ask questions, and I know that the system can work well, but in practice problems do arise, with the result that lads have to battle to get through the course even though they are quite capable students.

Of course, while they are taking their correspondence course they have their half day a week on practical work. In some cases, rather than a half day a week they go into a bigger centre for one day a fortnight. That is quite good as far as it goes, but it does not go quite far enough in providing the necessary assistance when problems arise. That applies to the theory side of the electrical trade course. Most of what is done on the one day a fortnight is on the practical side, and that does not pose the problem. The apprentices can usually keep up with the practical side without any difficulty.

I commend the Minister and the department on the introduction of the seven-week intensive course which is provided for the printing industry. In recent weeks I have spoken to quite a number of apprentices from other trades and they believe, as do many of the employers, that this is probably one of the answers in our present situation. Apprentices do not have the problem of having to diversify their thoughts, and of having to work all day, study at night and

then get back to the job next morning. They have the opportunity to really get down to their course in a concentrated fashion, and obviously with access to people who can provide the type of tuition that these courses require.

I know from the Minister's introduction that the scheme has worked successfully in the printing industry. In fact, I know this from my own experience, but the Minister is looking into the extension of the scheme to other trades as finance becomes available and the need arises.

(Time expired.)

Mr. NEWTON (Belmont) (5.56 p.m.): The Estimates for Development and Industrial Affairs always create a good deal of interest because the importance of industry to the State and also because of the need to maintain some balance in the development of industry throughout the State. The Minister, having taken over the new portfolio of Industrial Affairs, previously known as the Department of Labour and Industry, has introduced some controversial topics in the discussion of his Estimates. For some unknown reason, ever since the start of this Parliament we have witnessed a concerted attack on the trade-union movement of this State.

Mr. Alison: Rubbish!

Mr. NEWTON: The honourable member is one who has taken part in it. I am pleased he has interjected, as he will probably get a lesson before I finish speaking. Any attack, whether it is on a trade union or a trade-union official, has to be answered by honourable members on this side because all of us have either been members of a trade union or trade-union officials. Anybody who has devoted his life to becoming a trade-union official in this State has had a hard and long row to hoe.

Mr. R. E. Moore: I have been one.

Mr. NEWTON: Some of the honourable member's contributions to debates here would indicate that he has a lot to learn from his career, both prior to entering Parliament and since then.

The role of a trade-union official starts on the job. Anyone who is interested in trade-unionism eventually becomes a member of a job committee and will probably be elected as a job representative. In a trade-unionists' early days in this position, he carries a heavy responsibility as he is the one who represents the trade-union movement on the job and has to negotiate with the employer on all matters affecting the job. His next elevation is probably to a sub-branch committee. Then, if he shows ability, he is elected by the rank-and-file members as either president or secretary of the sub-branch.

These, too, are very responsible positions. If a union has sub-branches operating throughout the State, a sub-branch president

or secretary never knows when he will be called upon to deal with a dispute on the spot if there is no trade-union official on the job. He will eventually reach the stage where he is elected as a delegate to Australian Council of Trade Unions conferences and Trades and Labor Council conferences and congresses. Here, again, he has to undertake much work and research if he is to advance the views of the union he represents.

[Sitting suspended from 6 to 7.15 p.m.]

Mr. NEWTON: The next position to which the trade-unionist is elected is one on the State management committee or, as it is known in some unions, the committee of management. Such a position is of great importance in the trade-union movement because this committee, whatever its name may be, is the controlling body of the trade union. In a number of unions the only paid official on the committee is the State secretary. It is true that in other unions the State organisers are represented on the committee, but, owing to the small number employed, they do not constitute a majority on the committee.

From there, the real work of the trade-union official begins. He is required to keep abreast of the various industrial awards under which his members work. At any time he can be called upon to appear before the Industrial Commission as advocate for his union. I point out here that whereas previously this task was handled by the State secretary or the State organiser, or even by a member of the management committee, more recently industrial officers have been appointed by some unions to represent them before industrial tribunals.

Mr. Lane: Who is the president of your old union?

Mr. NEWTON: It has had many presidents. Which one is the honourable member referring to?

Mr. Lane: The present one.

Mr. NEWTON: It is Mr. Hamilton.

The role of a trade-union official consists of more than simply looking after the interests of his members in the payment of wages and the provision of award conditions. He is also required to guard the welfare of apprentices, many of whom subsequently become members of a trade union. In some instances they take a very keen interest in award provisions and become active trade-union members. Union officials must become conversant with such things as overtime and penalty rates, parities, country allowances, travelling time, and the rates applicable to the various classifications. To quote an example, the union to which I belonged was a party to a large number of awards, including the Railway Award—State, the Bridge, Wharf and Pier Construction Award, the Meat Industry Award, and the Electrical Engineering Award.

Moreover, the trade-union official is required to be aware of the benefits that an employee is entitled to receive under various Acts of Parliament. The Minister knows that the duties of industrial inspectors, who are appointed to police the provisions of the Acts, are in fact no different from those of the trade-union official. In fact, both the inspector and the union official police the provisions of the Acts. Many trade unions played an active role in maintaining safety in industry long before this Government took office, and it is pleasing to note that the Government has done much to effect improvements based on recommendations made by both the trade-union movement and employer organisations.

Mr. Miller: What increases have there been in union dues over the past 15 years?

Mr. NEWTON: In my union, the increases have not been large. After all, they are based on the service intended to be given to members. The building trades group of unions operates from Brisbane. It has to provide motor vehicles for its organisers and pay their accommodation costs when they are visiting various jobs throughout the State. They go mainly to the far western areas. When I was an organiser I would have to go to Quilpie, or anywhere else in the State.

Irrespective of where one may travel in the State, unions have members working there and they must provide a service for them. Preparing court cases is a costly process. This work is not undertaken willy-nilly. I have heard Government members say that the preparation of court cases should be the main job of unions. That may be so, but they tend to forget that, whenever a claim is lodged, counterclaims may be filed and this necessitates quite an amount of work by a union before the case can proceed.

Mr. Lane: Over the last two years, how much time in man-hours did your trade-union officials spend on protest marches?

Mr. NEWTON: The honourable member for Merthyr knows quite well that, as a member of Parliament, it is my duty to be here when Parliament is sitting. I have had no opportunity to check on the time spent in this way, but I am sure that the officials of my union have never failed to do the job they are paid to do, and that is to look after their members.

Under the Factories and Shops Act, union officials have to see that proper first-aid facilities are provided, that toilet facilities comply with the standards laid down by the local authority, that proper changing and eating facilities are available, and that long service leave, holiday pay and sick leave entitlement provisions are observed. It may be thought that workers' compensation matters are relatively simple because they are governed by the Act, but it must be remembered that these cases are regularly

handled by the trade-union movement, and Opposition members of Parliament are constantly concerned with them.

Entitlements under the various Commonwealth social service Acts often need to be sorted out by trade-union officials, who are involved in the fields of sickness, unemployment benefits and pensions. Quite a number of unions have retired aged members who pay reduced fees of about 20c a half-year while the unions provide them with the usual service and facilities. When I was a union organiser I would be away from home for eight or nine weeks, home for six weeks, and then out again to give service to the members. Before Government members condemn trade-union officials, they should consider everything that is involved in this field.

Time and again Government members have referred to disputes in industry. I point out that Queensland is a big State, with many provincial cities and towns. Even in the metropolitan area men have frequently had a meeting on the job during the lunch-hour, taken a vote and walked off before a trade-union official has been able to address them on the dispute. What responsibility has a trade-union official in such circumstances when the men demand that he take up their case and solve the dispute? By no means are all disputes in this State inspired by trade-union officials.

A trade-union official is paid by his members to look after their interests, and they tell him what they expect of him in carrying out his duties on their behalf. It may be true that a minority of these people—I shall not give them the same name as Government members do—are involved in some of the biggest projects in the State, but if a trade-union official gives them the correct advice and it is supported by the majority of the decent members on the job, he will have gone at least some of the way towards solving the problem. But it is not an easy task.

Acting on behalf of the trade-union movement—irrespective of whether it is the Queensland Trades and Labor Council or the Australian Council of Trade Unions—Opposition members have indicated the importance of a peaceful employer-employee relationship under which there is give and take by both sides. It is no use if only one side gives and the other side wants to take. But this does happen. I was a militant trade-union official of a militant union—I am proud of it—and wherever I found that this relationship did not exist, I hit the employer concerned with the "book". I make no bones about saying that. In such a case, in the interests of my members I would see that the position was rectified. However, if the employer was willing to play ball, I would return the complement and allow him some latitude in rectifying the position.

Over the years—and particularly since this Government came to office—union officials have been hounded by the security police.

Mr. R. E. Moore: That is a thorn in your side.

Mr. NEWTON: It is not a thorn in my side. I am as good as any other citizen, and I take just as many oaths of allegiance to the Queen as anybody else does. However, I objected to being hounded by security police in the course of my duties as a trade-union official. One policeman in particular was noted for his practice of sitting under a shady tree in the park alongside the Trades Hall watching the movements of trade-union officials in the course of their duties. This is the sort of thing that goes on.

Mr. Lane: You couldn't name him.

Mr. NEWTON: There is no need for me to name the person concerned. If the honourable member knows to whom I am referring, he should tell him.

Mr. R. E. Moore: You are talking a lot of tripe.

Mr. NEWTON: It is interesting to hear the honourable member for Windsor say that. He has frequently claimed that he is a good trade-unionist. If he says I am talking a lot of tripe, he admits that every speech he has made in this Chamber has been made with tongue in cheek.

A good deal can be learned from the redundancy dispute at Pillar Naco. Both the Federal Government and the State Government have had ample opportunity to do something about this matter. Honourable members on both sides of this Chamber have made speeches on the retraining of personnel so that, whenever there is redundancy, they can fit into other aspects of industry. Unfortunately, this has happened all too frequently. No consideration at all has been given to the workers, who have been immediately dismissed or retrenched—call it what you will—without even a week's notice. What happens then? In such a situation, men who have been trained in one field of activity find it very difficult to obtain jobs with rates of pay equal to those that they formerly received.

I make no apology to anyone for the action that has been taken by the Waterside Workers' Federation. I give that union the highest praise, because it realised what is happening in its industry. It saw automation brought in, and now it has seen the introduction of containerisation.

(Time expired.)

Mr. ALISON (Maryborough) (7.31 p.m.): I must surely be the most unlucky speaker on the list, because I understand that at this hour I am competing with the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable William McMahon. I do not really mind, because I know that during the next half hour he will

be telling the people of Australia of the sound government that the Federal Liberal-Country Party Government will give this country during the next three years.

Before dealing with the Estimates, I should like to thank the honourable member for Belmont for his dissertation on union affairs. I found it most interesting. I listened intently, because I wanted to know if he thought that secret ballots of union members should be conducted before they went on strike. I would have been pleased to hear also if he thought that union officials should receive their full pay when members of the union are on strike. And I wanted to hear his opinion on the payment of union funds into A.L.P. campaign funds. I should have been interested to hear some details on those matters, and also, above all else, how many Communists are leading unions in Queensland.

Mr. Bousen: They're full of them! Didn't you know?

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Toowoomba North will cease interjecting.

Mr. ALISON: I am particularly pleased to be a member of the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development committee, and, in particular, to be associated with the presentation of the Estimates of that department. I should like to thank the Minister sincerely for the advice and assistance that he has given me in my duties as member for Maryborough over the last 18 months. I also wish to place on record my appreciation of the assistance received from the Director (Sir David Muir), the Deputy Director (Mr. John Bensted), Mr. Graham Baker, and other officers.

It has been commercial and industrial development over the last 10 years, fostered and encouraged by the State Government, that has brought such prosperity to virtually every corner of the State. Some of this development, of course, has come about without any Government assistance or incentives.

Mr. Bousen: Who wrote this for you?

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Toowoomba North apparently will not heed the warning from the Chair that persistent interjections will not be tolerated. I now warn him under the provisions of Standing Order 123A.

Mr. ALISON: At the same time, much of this development has come about with the assistance of the State Government, through the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development. The facilities, services and incentives offered by the department to prospective industries are of particular importance, and they have certainly become a very important, permanent function of the State Government. It has for some years no longer been acceptable for a State Government to sit back and watch its State

develop without providing information to prospective industries on the services and the natural resources that are available in the State; without providing ready information on the facilities and resources that are available in particular areas in the State; and without providing assistance, such as land on very reasonable terms, buildings at very reasonable rentals, financial assistance under certain circumstances, and freight assistance in shifting plant in the event of the industry being a pioneer type of industry wishing to establish outside the metropolitan area.

Mr. Hinze: You have to say that we are a very benevolent Government.

Mr. ALISON: A very benevolent and wise Government.

All of these facilities—in fact, more—are provided by the department, and have been provided by it for some years, with outstanding success, not only assisting the development of the State but also assisting to decentralise industries. Although the Government has done much to assist decentralisation of activities throughout the State, I believe that much more remains to be done.

I realise, of course, that the overriding concern of the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development is to attract industry to the State. But I firmly believe that on the next notch down the scale of priorities must be an aim to provide incentives and concessions to industries wishing to move out of the metropolis to decentralised areas or to new industries from outside the State wishing to establish themselves in decentralised areas. I know that the Government cannot dictate to private enterprise where it must set up its industries; but I firmly believe that, by using an increasing range of concessions and priorities, very powerful arguments can be offered why industries should be set up in decentralised areas.

It seems to me that the rental being charged by the department for land on industrial estates is very attractive, and I do not know whether a much better concession could be offered to industries setting up in decentralised areas. Perhaps some additional concession could be granted, but it may not be of sufficient consequence to influence an enterprise that is considering where it could set up a factory. In fact, the annual rental on Crown industrial estates now is only 3 per cent of the unimproved capital valuation, and I do not know whether it would be possible to go much lower than that for decentralised industrial estates.

At the present moment, the department considers construction of factory buildings on Crown industrial estates for pioneer-type industries. Pioneer-type industries are, of course, industries that are completely new to a region or those not directly competitive with other established local industry. Annual rental in the metropolitan area is 10 per

cent of the cost of the building, and a special incentive to provincial areas is given by way of a reduced rental of 7½ per cent of the building cost. I suggest to the Minister that funds should be allocated for the construction of buildings in decentralised areas—that is, areas outside Brisbane—for any industry wishing to set up its factory on a Crown industrial estate, regardless of whether it is a pioneer-type industry. I know that this would certainly take more funds than the Committee is considering in the Estimates now before it, but I believe that it could be a very practical method of bringing about even more decentralisation in Queensland.

Even if this suggestion was implemented, I do not believe that there would be a great flood of industries trying to get out of Brisbane into the provincial and country areas; nor, for that matter, would it mean that no further industries coming into the State would set up in Brisbane, because there are too many very strong reasons and attractions for most types of industry to set up in Brisbane. I believe that if preferential treatment were given in the case of buildings on industrial estates outside Brisbane, it would mean that many more industries would in fact go into decentralised areas, with the resultant benefits not only to those areas but also to the State as a whole.

Concessional freight rates on both raw materials and finished products will be negotiated by the Railway Department on a contract basis provided that an acceptable volume of freight, with reasonable regularity, is offering and that the granting of such a concession will not act to the detriment of other established industries of a similar character. I firmly believe that, although this is a step in the right direction, it does not go far enough. Concessional freight rates should be used more extensively, and road tax exemptions should also be used as a means of decentralising industry.

I have advocated to the Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs, and also to the Minister for Transport, that the necessary legislation should be enacted to either exempt from road tax or give some concession to manufactured goods being transported to Brisbane from outside a certain radius. I know that the law on road transport fees is quite complex and certain problems arise in giving a concession on certain types of goods being transported from one area to another, but undoubtedly the necessary legislation could be drafted and enacted and administered successfully to give just such a concession to goods manufactured outside a certain radius of Brisbane. It would help to offset some of the additional costs incurred by decentralised industries in the form of freight on raw materials, mostly out of the capital city to the decentralised area.

We have this problem in Maryborough and, of course, it exists in other provincial and country areas. The manufacturing plant or the processing plant in the outside area has to pay freight on its raw materials from Brisbane, process them and then pay the freight back on the finished article.

Mr. O'Donnell: Your Government is not listening to your representations.

Mr. ALISON: I am sure that it is taking good heed of them.

What I am seeking over all is that decentralised industries be at least placed, so far as is possible, on the same cost footing as industries set up in Brisbane. There are so many powerful influences at work for the establishment of industries in Brisbane, and so many advantages for those set up here, that it is extremely difficult to attract industries to provincial and country areas unless they have attractive natural resources or incentives and concessions are offered by the Government to make up for the built-in cost advantages of setting up a business in Brisbane.

I was particularly pleased earlier today to hear the honourable member for Isis support me in my efforts to have the Government bring about softwood forestry plantations north of Maryborough.

Mr. BLAKE: I rise to a point of order. I am not supporting the honourable member for Maryborough. If he reads "Hansard", I think he will find that he is supporting me.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! There is no valid point of order.

Mr. ALISON: Whether or not the honourable member is supporting me does not matter very much. The honourable member called for further trials of forestry plots north of Maryborough. He was, of course, referring to the three experimental forestry plots north of Maryborough that were planted in 1933. He quite rightly mentioned that the growth in those experimental plots is not to be compared with the growth of the softwood forestry plantations south of Maryborough. The correct explanation for this is that the experimental plots were not given the same treatment as the Tuan-Toolara forest. We certainly do not need further trials, because I am sure the Forestry Department is aware of that. The fact that the growth rate of the experimental plots north of Maryborough is not "up to scratch" does not mean that softwoods cannot be grown there. In order to attain the same growth rate as in the Tuan-Toolara area, the plantings have to be given the same treatment as has been applied in that area.

Over the last 10 or 20 years, for various reasons, there has been this great battle by industries—primary, secondary and tertiary—against increasing costs. One of the methods adopted to combat increasing costs is to put out a greater volume of goods or

activity and thereby help to spread fixed costs, in particular, over a greater number of goods or services. This, of course, is known as mass production, and mass production tends towards centralisation. In turn this centralising of activities, mainly in our capital cities, has seriously impaired the quality of life or quality of living in the capital cities, largely because, with too many people congregating in too small an area, we get resultant transport chaos, pollution, lack of green-belt areas where people can breathe freely and enjoy recreation, and other disadvantages.

As well, the quality of life in provincial and country areas has generally deteriorated, mostly because some of their industries have drifted to the capital city, and they have not obtained industries that provincial and country areas would normally expect to get. This has resulted in decreasing job opportunity, which brings serious personal problems to many families endeavouring to find suitable employment for their children leaving school, to say nothing of the breadwinner possibly losing his job through a scale-down in business activities in his area. These problems are very serious ones, and our Government has set out to tackle them in a very business-like and sound manner. Whilst I agree with the trend of incentives and general action of the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development, I believe we must extend the incentives and priorities in order to ensure that the decentralised areas win out more and more in attracting new industries.

The big cities, that is, cities with a population of about 100,000 or more, would have nothing to fear from greater incentives and concessions to industries setting up in the provincial areas. Of course, in Queensland I do not think we have any cities over 100,000, apart from the capital city, which I think speaks volumes for the decentralisation policy of the present State Government.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! There is too much audible conversation on my right.

Mr. ALISON: It has been stated by experts that, when a city reaches a population of about 100,000, it becomes self-generating by reason of the services required by the people and industries, with the result that, quite apart from its natural resources and natural attractions, the city generally develops and grows.

I should like to see the name of this department changed to the Department of Development, Decentralisation and Industrial Affairs. This department, while certainly working for the development of the whole of the State, at the same time is making a tremendous contribution to decentralisation. I should like to see this word brought into the name of the department to emphasise the importance that the department, and the Government for that matter, place on decentralisation. I have heard honourable members of the Opposition advocate a separate

department of decentralisation, but I believe this is quite unnecessary. I think it would be a quite redundant department and would merely add an extra burden for taxpayers, who, in my opinion, are taxed enough already. I do not see any advantage whatsoever in having a separate department of decentralisation. I cannot see what a department of decentralisation could do any better than the Department of Industrial and Commercial Development is doing, and has been doing, including the trend to incentives and concessions that are given and, no doubt, will be increased, to encourage decentralised industries.

Of course, we have the problem of decentralising Government activities. I believe our Government has done a great job in this respect, too, but that there is room for further improvement in having further sections of certain Government departments moved out into the country.

Decentralisation is a problem detrimentally affecting most areas of Australia and I was absolutely shocked to read in Gough Whitlam's election promises, published in today's Press, no mention of what he would do to assist the States in this very serious problem.

Mr. Hartwig: He has never heard of it.

Mr. ALISON: No, he has not. He mentioned setting up a Ministry for northern development, but what about the rest of Australia and the need to decentralise in other areas? Does he not realise that the need for decentralisation is a problem throughout most of Australia? Gough Whitlam realises that many areas are suffering in various ways from the drift to the bigger cities, including the State capital cities and Canberra. Gough Whitlam is the greatest advocate for centralism in Australia today and he does not give two hoots about any part of Australia outside Canberra. In fact, he wants all power centralised in Canberra not only to satisfy his lust for power but also to make it easier to bring in socialist controls over State Governments, local government and private enterprise—in fact, over our very democratic way of life.

It must be pointed out to the people of Queensland—and of Australia, for that matter—that State Governments and local governments can expect no help from Gough Whitlam and his cronies in decentralising industry and thereby making Australia a better place in which to live. We can watch out for large doses of centralism if Whitlam gets into power, with a drift to our larger cities the like of which we have never seen before.

A Government Member interjected.

Mr. ALISON: He is certainly the greatest centralist in Australia at the moment.

The Federal Government can do much to assist in decentralisation through its Taxation Department. Under existing taxation laws we have zones A and B—the

remote Outback areas of Australia in which residents are given a taxation concession in recognition of the hardships they suffer by living there. I submit that a new zone C should be brought into operation under the taxation law, and that residents in this zone, too, should receive a concession in taxation. I am referring not to companies but to individual taxpayers. The concession to those in zone C should be less than that for zone B, but one should be given on the same principle.

I think an even more useful method, and certainly one which would produce the best results in decentralisation of industry would be a rebate of a certain percentage of company tax for companies operating outside an area of, say, 100 miles of any capital city and certain other cities with a population of over 100,000. Individuals in business on their own account, or in partnership, should also receive an equivalent rebate in addition to the concessional rebate for living in zone C. If we want to improve the quality of life and ensure equal opportunities for all in employment, recreation and education, we have to be prepared to pay for it; it is going to cost money.

Last week, with certain other members of the Committee, I had the pleasure of accompanying the Minister on a three-day tour of certain centres including Gladstone. We inspected certain industries and the industrial development in these areas, and I must say that the trip was most informative and interesting. It will certainly help me, and no doubt the other members of the party, to better understand what is going on in these areas when we are considering such matters either in Government committee meetings or in this Chamber.

We spoke to a number of people with first-hand knowledge of the totally unnecessary and tragic events that occurred recently in Gladstone. The consensus seems to be that the constructing authorities at the alumina plant should have sacked the construction workers two years ago and dealt with the properly authorised union representatives on any industrial matters that may have arisen. As it is, the people with whom they were negotiating could only be described as industrial thugs. It is quite obvious that some of these so-called union leaders—I use the term loosely—did not have the welfare of their fellow workers at heart, but were motivated by other ideas. As a result of their actions, 1,200 men were put out of work.

(Time expired.)

Mrs. JORDAN (Ipswich West) (7.52 p.m.): I am pleased to note that there is some evidence that the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development is realising that a mammoth task lies ahead of it in fostering and encouraging the development of existing industry and the setting-up of new industries in this State. This department is of great interest to all honourable members, as all

that it covers forms the basis of expansion in Queensland. This department has to contend with fast-changing outlooks in the power-bloc alignments throughout the world, and needs to be closely allied to constantly changing technical skills. This means that it must have a very flexible outlook.

Lately it has been difficult to determine which department is responsible for certain activities. In fact, even the names of certain departments under the Minister's control have been changed. The department under his control is now known as the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development, and I believe it is a good thing that the "Commercial" tag has been added to the title. No matter what is its name, the department's achievements govern the economic expansion of Queensland. The Government must ensure effective planning and sufficient finance for expansion. Queensland simply cannot afford to lag behind.

The Australian Labor Party is just as keen as the Government to see Queensland become a highly developed State. We of the A.L.P. are keen to see expansion and the offer of greater opportunities to the people. Those honourable members who speak in terms such as those used by the previous speaker do nothing more than belittle themselves and the Government. They achieve nothing by claiming that the A.L.P. is not interested in the development of Queensland. Such an important matter should be above party politics, because it results in a higher standard of living for the people and the creation of more jobs and business opportunities, which surely all of us want.

I agree with the honourable member for Belyando that job opportunities must be created in country areas, and that the training of young people must also be extended to those places. It is wrong to compel country people to flock to the large cities to receive training and gain employment. The decentralisation of industry must be fostered, and inducements must be offered to industrial and commercial undertakings to establish themselves in country towns. Governments, both State and Federal, subsidise primary industries. I believe that they should also subsidise and offer inducements to suitable industries to encourage them to become established in country towns so as to keep people, both young and old, in the country. If for no other reason, that would be well worth while.

Ipswich has a great deal of industry. Indeed, in several fields we have some of the biggest undertakings in the State. I refer particularly to the Ipswich railway workshops, which are still a big undertaking in spite of the fact that the Government has reduced them to a repair shop and has awarded contracts for the supply of rolling-stock to private enterprise.

We also have the Morris Woollen Mills at Redbank which are in the Wolston electorate, and have kept abreast of new techniques and methods and are au fait with the modern outlook and today's modern fashion needs. They are run by a very progressive firm, which has developed a large export trade. We in Ipswich are very proud of this enterprise. It is kept so busy that it operates two shifts a day and therefore provides quite a high level of employment for people in the Ipswich area. The firm must be given great credit for absorbing much of the skilled labour made redundant by the closure of the Queensland Woollen Mills at North Ipswich.

We also have a hardboard mill at Bundamba, which has far outstripped the mother mill in Tasmania. It, too, has a good export trade. We also have Rothman's tobacco factory, two abattoirs, several sawmills and a number of engineering firms and factories too numerous to detail. In addition, we have the Swanbank Power Station and we are in the centre of the rich West Moreton coal-mining area, which we hope will be even more highly developed when, and if, we get the second power-house we are hoping for.

All this means that Ipswich has a well-balanced economy that is not dependent on seasonal industries. It also has rich surrounding rural industries. Thanks to all this, with the exception of Brisbane it has the best housing-growth rate in the State, second only to the Gold Coast. We also have one of the lowest levels of unemployment. This means that we have an in-built consumer level that calls for a large variety of goods. Indeed, Ipswich is a very solid city and its residents are very proud of their city.

For a number of years I have been very vocal in this Assembly on the need for Crown industrial estates. I was therefore very pleased to see in the Director's annual report comments on the many such estates that are now situated in cities throughout Queensland. As I pass the Wacol Industrial Estate daily, I am pleased to witness the development taking place there. I note from the report that there must be further expansion on this estate, but I am saddened to know what a white elephant the Ipswich Industrial Estate at Wulkuraka, which is in my electorate and contains an area of 148 acres, has turned out to be.

I was really pleased when the development of this estate was announced several years ago, but only two industries are planned to be established there and, so far, neither is a concrete fact although one of them—Polystar—is established in Ipswich on another site. It seems that business people do not want to go out to Wulkuraka, which is away from the city and the developed-industry area on the Brisbane side of Ipswich.

It has been the tendency for industry to go where it is handy to the main roads and to Brisbane. This estate is on the western side of Ipswich. Indeed, many Ipswich

people have said that it is on the wrong side of the city, and I agree. Although the department and the Ipswich City Council have put a good deal of money into this estate, about the only thing it has created is speculation in building land in that area. Early in the piece, the subdividers jumped on the band wagon, as they thought, and even they have had their fingers burnt. They made a large outlay for virtually no return. There are those who will hate me for saying this and will want to brush it under the carpet. But it is a fact of life and one that we had better face up to. I can only hope that such is not the case with the industrial estates in other provincial cities. I certainly hope that the Ipswich estate will eventually come good. I do not want to "knock" it. On the contrary, it is my fervent hope that it will come good.

I shall now refer to a few cases that have been brought to my attention concerning young apprentices who had almost completed their training and, unfortunately, were charged with and convicted of certain small offences. As a result, they struck difficulty in completing their apprenticeships. These few cases occurred in my area and, if they can happen in one area, many more similar cases must occur throughout the State.

One lad, in the final year of his electrical apprenticeship, was convicted on a drugs charge. As a result, the Railway Department, in which he was serving his apprenticeship, terminated his services before his final examination. Another firm was willing to employ him and take over his indentures, but difficulties arose and the Apprenticeship Board was asked to consider his transfer by mutual agreement of the parties concerned. A decision has yet to be made.

That is an example of how young fellows do not look ahead when they do such things. The lad concerned was one of a party. Apparently one member of the party had some drugs in his possession and the whole party was charged and convicted. The story I have since been told was that this lad was not concerned in the drug-taking; he merely happened to be in the group. However, his solicitor advised him to plead guilty, saying that he would be better off. He pleaded guilty, which was a very foolish thing for him to do.

I know this lad personally and he is not at all a bad lad. In fact, he is quite a nice young fellow. Perhaps his parents have been too easy with him. As I said, this is an example of what can happen to a young man and how his future can be harmed by trying to keep up with his peers and being "one of the mob", while not being able to stand up against some of the things other people do. In addition, there is often a great deal of bravado in many of these young lads and they are apt to waste the years of their training by doing foolish things.

In addition, I know of two young fellows who were convicted of drink-driving charges. Their future employment, again with the Railway Department, is in doubt as they were both given gaol sentences. The magistrate concerned was making examples of young fellows at the time. I quite agree that we need firmness in the matter of drink-driving, but this action seems hard when it affects the future of young lads. It is certainly a very difficult situation to have to deal with, and I am very sorry for these lads, who are in their difficult adolescent years.

Mr. Hughes: They could be responsible for injury or death on the road.

Mrs. JORDAN: That could be so, but, in the case of a very young lad whose training represents his future, I think some compassion could be shown. In one of the cases to which I referred, the young fellow realised that he had had too much to drink. He pulled to the side of the road in front of a house. It was early in the evening, and the lady of the house was in the yard. He gave her the keys to his car and walked off. The lady concerned rang the police. The police came, found the car against her fence, and then went after the lad and charged him. He is now at Palen Creek. That was certainly little encouragement for that lad to do the right thing, which he did. He got out of his car and gave the lady the keys. I do not think that what she did was a very nice thing.

Mr. B. Wood: In those circumstances, they are being punished twice.

Mrs. JORDAN: I shall come to that.

An article in today's "Telegraph" headed "Life in '72", by Erica Parker, refers to the seven ages of stress. In enumerating and describing them, in the one in which she labels "2" as "Between Age" she refers to adolescence as the time for testing ideas and submitting the mind to pressures that can lead to breakdowns, drug-taking, crime and "dropping out". To me, this is very true of so many young people. They are the between-age ones—they are no longer children, yet not adults, and they have not matured. They do not know what they want, and they have not developed codes or attitudes. Many are confused. Others seem more positive but are really quite confused and try to hide it. Yet we judge them from our experience and knowledge gained throughout our lives.

To push them even further down, to take away or hinder their opportunity for training, to "wipe" their jobs as well as punish them for a crime they have committed, mostly not such a very great crime, is, to me, doing them further wrong. The court has already punished them once, and society—in this case, the Railway Department—punishes them again.

Mr. B. Wood: That is a much greater punishment.

Mrs. JORDAN: It is, because the prison sentence they serve is over in a few weeks while the other sentence continues for life. It could perhaps ruin the rest of their lives.

I feel that the Government should be more compassionate and considerate towards many of these wrongdoers, and not sweep the ground completely from under their feet and quite disillusion and discourage them. Often the ensuing punishment for some adolescent capers "overfits" the crime and helps to make a future criminal, when perhaps this could have been avoided by at least a measure of compassion and understanding earlier. I feel that the Government edict that, once convicted, a person in a Government job must be dismissed, is too strict. Of course, I draw a line, too, and believe that there should be some discipline; I do not mean that compassion should be extended in the case of gross crimes or hardened criminals, or those who should know better. It is the adolescent in his formative years for whom I am concerned, and I feel that more consideration and understanding could be given to him.

With the Government now taking a lead in prison reform, with its release-to-work policy, week-end gaol sentences, etc., I feel that consideration for young apprentices, in the light of what I have said, would have long-term results in many cases. It would have results good enough to make such a change in attitude by the Government well worth while. The Government expects private industry to employ these supposedly reformed people, and I feel that it, too, should pull its weight in this matter and not expect private enterprise to be the only one to carry the baby.

I wish to say how pleased I was to hear two members of this Assembly, the honourable member for Cairns (Mr. Ray Jones) and the honourable member for Ithaca (Mr. Miller), say recently that they thought apprenticeship training should begin at high-school level instead of lads having to wait until they leave school to start their training. I have long held this view, and I put it forward in a speech that I made in this Chamber in the Address-in-Reply debate in August 1967. I said then that courses could be commenced at high school and that lads could follow on from there at the technical colleges, with exemptions being given for high-school studies and results.

I think this would be a much more feasible and reasonable approach than the one presently adopted, and I believe that it would obviate much of the boredom that many students experience with the type of education now provided. It would assist the average student more and perhaps provide the much-needed "spark of interest" which I mentioned earlier and encourage more young lads to take up apprenticeships. This, then, would assist to provide the additional tradesmen who will surely be needed in our fast-developing State.

(Time expired.)

Mr. ROW (Hinchinbrook) (8.11 p.m.): I congratulate the Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs on the presentation of his Estimates and Sir David Muir and his staff on the presentation of the report of the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development for the year ended 30 June 1972. I also commend them for their efforts that have resulted in the great industrial development that has taken place in Queensland during the term of office of Country-Liberal Governments.

I am pleased to see that the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development has sanctioned the development of a new industrial estate at Ingham, and also one at Cardwell, which is in the adjoining shire in my electorate. The development of the estates, particularly the larger one at Ingham, will assist greatly the continuation of developmental projects in the industrial field in my electorate. I am sure that, in time, the small township of Cardwell will become an offshoot of the general industrial pattern in the area and that the industrial estate there will prove to be worthwhile.

There has always been considerable potential for the manufacture of agricultural machinery in the sugar areas of North Queensland. A classic example of the success of that type of industry in this State was given earlier in the debate by the honourable member for Bundaberg, who referred to the manufacture of mechanical cane harvesters that has developed so strongly in southern sugar areas. I am certain that, with assistance from and promotion by the State Department of Commercial and Industrial Development, this rather heavy manufacturing industry will move into northern areas. In fact, it is my hope and belief that such a manufacturing plant will shortly be established on the industrial estate at Ingham, and I urge the department to see that local production gets under way as expeditiously as possible.

I was interested also to hear the comments made earlier today by the honourable member for Mackay about the cane-fibre processing industry that has been investigated by officers of the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development in Queensland. I realise that the likelihood of getting this industry may now be somewhat less, most likely because of the high cost of its establishment and doubts about a reliable, alternative fuel supply for the sugar mills, which would have to change their combustion processes over to carbonaceous elements. I do not hesitate to say that the degree of industrial anarchy displayed in Australia by certain unions connected with the fuel industry has done a great deal towards stifling the progress of the project.

The honourable member for Mackay referred to the successful establishment of similar projects in other places including Taiwan. I have had the privilege of seeing that one at first hand. The conditions that

existed for the establishment of such an industry in Taiwan could not be compared with those in Queensland. The alternative fuels that are required to maintain the industry in Taiwan, without the use of cane-fibre in the mill furnaces, were available close at hand; they were already established industries. The island of Taiwan has an area of 13,000 square miles and supports a population of 13,000,000.

Let us take a comparable area of Australia, stretching from Bundaberg out to Warwick, down to Lismore, and back up the coast, and assume that the whole population of Australia is in that area. It is then easy to realise the huge benefits that are available from the restructuring of industry in such a densely populated area. Taiwan is an extremely low-cost area industrially. The markets for its products are close at hand. The whole industrial complex of the sugar industry in Taiwan is so much more concentrated than that in Queensland, and so vastly different, that I think the Committee would be interested to hear a little more about it.

In Taiwan the sugar industry is a totally integrated unit, with a full circle of industrial activity, using all of the by-products, and recovering and recirculating most of the usable factory-process materials. As a point of interest, I mention that Taiwan has approximately the same number of sugar mills as Queensland. Each mill conducts a large animal-husbandry enterprise. The depithing of the sugar-cane fibre is carried out, and the fibre itself is baled and stored in readiness for a continuous operation of megasse-board manufacture, as well as the manufacture of other products. The pith from the cane-fibre is used in a process of manufacturing fertiliser. Each mill manufactures a vast quantity of a yeast product that is suitable for stock feed. Each cane-field supports as many as five alternate crops as well as sugar-cane. They include stock-feed crops.

The cane areas also support pigs and cattle. All the waste products from the animals are mixed with the cane-pith, and then mixed with urea and water. Incidentally, the urea is manufactured on the spot. This product is then returned to the fields and so on. It is a completely closed-circuit economy.

Although Queensland industry will not achieve this kind of closed circuitry, with improvements in industrial development in Queensland, I think we can at least expect to have a fibre industry based perhaps on hardboard and paper, and the sugar industry in Queensland will enjoy the benefits of such an enterprise. At the moment, the prospect on the surface appears to be that the feedstock will be taken out of Australia by the participating overseas countries. I think that, when this trend is somewhat abated and more local benefit is derived, this industry will flourish.

Big steps in decentralisation have been made in Queensland but decentralisation policies must be closely related to the economic facts of life in the areas to which they apply. I wish to draw attention to the fact that principles of concentrated or selective decentralisation being adopted in the South are only related to the opportunities for economic growth in southern areas. The application of these policies to the North, in its current stage of development, would not be practicable. To understand the differences in the economics of the two areas—the developed South and the under-developed North—it is necessary to bring together some facts of history and geography and their effects on the pattern of growth in Queensland.

The situation is made more difficult by the fact that most of the North experiences an annual drought. Relatively small areas of North Queensland enjoy a high, year-round rainfall and about half of North Australia's population exists in this small, high-rainfall area.

The great developers of Australia—the wheat and sheep industries—did not prosper in this tropical area. Even results from cattle grazing in the North—which is the only industry over much of its area—were poor on a per-acre basis. In the choice high-rainfall corridors of North Queensland's coast, development of the sugar industry took place under an import embargo. The area had attracted a considerable population through an earlier mining boom, but with the agricultural possibilities then known offering limited support, the population declined as the mining boom subsided. With only a small population, the area has been uncompetitive as a location for most manufacturing and service industries. Indeed, like most decentralised locations, the area has suffered from the centralising and urbanising forces within the southern economy of Australia.

Obviously, until the area can develop a larger population base, it will continue to be unattractive as a location for most manufacturing industries and many servicing industries. Even the artificial injection of 100,000 people into one city in the area is not likely to change the basic situation. In fact, this is exemplified by the injection of a large population into Townsville. The basic situation there is undergoing some slow industrial changes, but more incentive is needed for industry to move into the area. In these circumstances, the North must look to develop at a more fundamental level. In the past, however, the view had often been held that the area was relatively poor in mineral resources and in suitable areas for intensive primary industry development. The past 10 years have disproved any ideas that the northern parts of the continent are deficient in mineral resources. In fact, over that period there has been a developmental boom based on mineral discoveries.

I join with those honourable members who referred to the recent visit of the Minister for Transport and his party to the Greenvale nickel project. The unions that are responsible for the industrial disruption that has occurred on the project are in many aspects guilty of industrial anarchy. It is deplorable that such action should be taken in North Queensland.

There has been a change also in the views held about the prospects of developing other resource-based industries in North Queensland. On a wider scale, there has been a considerable amount of rethinking about primary industry prospects in the tropics in general. It is clear that the so-called green revolution in Asia is a revolution in tropical agriculture technology. In northern Australia the green revolution has occurred mainly in the improvement of tropical pastures and cattle breeds. North Queensland's pioneering work in the mechanisation of the sugar industry is related to this general trend. The extension of the development of industrial services to mechanised agriculture will be a big step towards self-sufficiency, and, provided this Government offers the incentive for the establishment of industrial complexes, the opportunities are innumerable.

At the time of primary industry troubles in the southern part of the State, those industries in North Queensland remained in a comparatively sound position. New industries, such as rice and tea production, were being established and a number of large grazing-cropping projects were implemented in the more remote areas of the Cape York Peninsula. There is evidence that similar factors have applied in tropical forestry and the marine industries.

In short, at a time when in the South the resource-based industries were reaching maturity and the emphasis was on the manufacturing and service industries, the North surged ahead with a boom in resource-based industries. This is reminiscent of earlier stages of growth in the southern economy, when that part of the State relied on resource-based industries for its early development. There is every sign that, if appropriate policies are followed, the North's new surge of development will continue well into the future and that there will be a call for the sound industrial planning that the Minister's department can provide.

In partnership with the northern division of national development, which is sponsored by the Commonwealth Government, and the National Urban and Regional Development Authority, Queensland will have a strong voice in the development of its northern regions. We look forward to a great contribution from the Minister's department in promoting this development.

Mr. TUCKER (Townsville West) (8.30 p.m.): I think it could be said with a great deal of truth that I have always considered

this department to be a tremendously interesting one, and one whose activities should be expanded. I have frequently said—and I repeat it—that the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development is doing a very good job within the limits of the restricted Budget allocation made available to it. It is well led by Sir David Muir, who I am sure all honourable members will agree is an outstanding public servant and has given wonderful leadership for a number of years. I am sure the Minister would completely agree with that statement. He has a very dedicated staff, numbering 57 in all. His Deputy Director (Administration), Mr. John Bensted, provides a perfect example of staff dedication. The Minister also has another Deputy Director on the technical side.

At the risk of being accused of tedious repetition, I point out that I believe the department to be hamstrung by the comparatively small budget allocated to it each year. However, it is amazing what can be, and is being, done by the staff. I am happy to note that a number of departmental officers travelled overseas last year and made some very valuable contacts while doing so.

The department should be congratulated on its publicity and promotional displays, and the literature and films it sends overseas. The films and literature that I have seen, both in Queensland and overseas, were excellent. About two months ago I was fortunate to be a member of an overseas delegation of six, led by the Minister for Health and consisting of Messrs. Newbery and Hinze of the Country Party, Messrs. Chinchon and Hughes of the Liberal Party, and Mr. Melloy and myself of the Australian Labor Party. We visited Japan, Thailand and Hong Kong, where we inspected as many industries as possible.

This was my first journey to those countries, and I was very impressed by what I saw. I was unaware of the industrial development that has taken place in Japan. When I went to the Kokan steelworks—I know there are other and bigger steelworks—I was amazed by what I saw. I was told that it employed about 15,000 men. Although it would have been impossible to count them, I am sure that would have been the correct figure. Near the entrance to the steelworks I saw Queensland coal and Australian iron-ore in great stockpiles waiting to be used.

It was obvious from what I saw that we in Queensland, and Australians in general, must work in harmony with these countries in South-east Asia, which have had such great industrial development. In their halls of science we saw ingenious electronic ideas which have not been seen in this country. This proved to us that these people are well ahead of us in electronics, and it became obvious that our destiny will be tied to theirs. It is imperative that we work harmoniously with them in trade, particularly as Britain moves into the European Economic Community.

I was forcibly struck by the tremendous knowledge of the officials in the countries we visited. On many occasions we had an interpreter, but we did not have to use his services because in both Japan and Thailand the officials we saw spoke fluent English and could give us all the information we wanted about their countries and their various departments. They had this information at their fingertips and could give it to us in amazingly short time. Not only were they able to give us the kind of statistics we wanted about their countries, but they also amazed us with their knowledge of primary and industrial development in Australia. They were happy to talk to us and give us this information. This applied not only to Government officials but also to the businessmen we met on the tour. We met businessmen from Mitsui, Mitsubishi and other leading Japanese industrial firms. They were very keen, trusting and courteous. They asked many things about our country and simply amazed us with what they knew about it.

Other members of the delegation and I met the Commonwealth Trade Commissioner in Japan. He has a pleasant office. We also met some State Trade Commissioners or representatives. However, we were dismayed when we could not find a Queensland representative in Tokyo, and we felt that we had been let down. Trade representatives or commissioners make valuable contacts in a country. It was obvious that many of them in Tokyo had made valuable contacts. I believe that such a representative could save Queensland businessmen hours, perhaps days, of valuable time because he would already have made certain contacts and explored markets, and he could tell Queensland businessmen where they may be able to sell their products or make the first contact. I know that other States benefit from having trade representatives overseas. Queensland claims that it is one of the leading States in the Commonwealth—and I believe that it is—yet it relies heavily on the Commonwealth Trade Commissioner in Japan where, for the past few years, our trading activities have increased. We should certainly have a trade representative in Tokyo. I believe that this State is missing out in this respect. We are leaning too heavily on the Commonwealth for help.

From the industrial point of view, I urge the Minister to use his weight to have such a representative appointed in Tokyo. I am not going to be facetious in suggesting who should receive that appointment, although I could quite easily do so. I believe that the Minister should at all times use his influence in Cabinet to have such an appointment made on behalf of Queensland in one of the great industrial countries of the world. Queensland's trade with Japan continues to increase because of its geographical position, and there is no getting away from the fact that this State will trade more and more with the South-east Asia area as Britain moves away from us. I believe that

this State needs keen businessmen who are right "on the ball." I am not saying that it does not have them.

Mr. Campbell: I am glad you acknowledge that.

Mr. TUCKER: That is quite right. I am prepared to acknowledge it. This is one of the things that have to be fostered. Queensland needs men of vision who are prepared to go to South-east Asia and become businessmen of the same type as those whom we met when on our tour. We need men who are capable of going to these areas and selling Queensland products. We need men who are quick to see trade openings, and who have the drive to exploit them. Such people need all the support the Government can give them. I was looking for people of this type, and so were other members of the delegation, when we were in Tokyo. We asked, "What support has the Queensland Government given our businessmen here?" The only answer I could get was, "None." There are some good businessmen there. We met Sir Leslie Thiess while we were there, and he would come within that category.

Mr. Campbell: Are you suggesting that he criticised us?

Mr. TUCKER: No, I am not suggesting that at all. Please do not put words into my mouth. I am the one who is doing the criticising. I said that I met Sir Leslie Thiess over there, and he is a keen businessman.

I do not think the Government is doing enough in this regard. It is tardy; it is not "on the ball." The Government claims that it is leading, but it is not. It is miles behind the Governments of other States. That is what I am saying. Please do not put words into my mouth.

Businessmen who go overseas need all the Government support they can get. No doubt we have businessmen of the type that I am speaking about, but there seemed to be a dearth of Queenslanders in Tokyo when we were there, and we were not able to find, through the Trade Commissioner and others, evidence that many had gone there. Perhaps each year the Minister could lead a Queensland mission overseas. He could gather together certain Queensland businessmen to join him on an overseas mission. I have noticed that delegations led by a Minister have opened for them doors that are not opened for others. A Minister would be able to speak with officials to whom ordinary people could not gain access. If the Minister led such a delegation, a great deal of goodwill would be created. If such missions travelled overseas once a year, or twice if necessary, Queensland would certainly benefit, and what was achieved would be invaluable for this State. Such visits would give Queensland businessmen and officials world standing. It would give them confidence in themselves, and bring out leadership qualities.

Again I ask if a building or hall somewhere in this State could be set aside for the permanent displaying under one roof of all the products of this State, both primary and secondary, and models of industrial projects. For example, we were able to go to Toshiba and, in a few hours and under the one roof, see all the latest electrical and electronic equipment available. We were able to move from point A to point B and from point B to point C, and all the equipment was on display there. Surely similar permanent displays could be established in this State, showing its achievements. Perhaps such a display could be called "Queensland's Showroom Window", and visitors and members of trade missions from overseas could be taken there to view the State's products. It might have a small beginning, but I am sure its value would soon become apparent when it was seen by overseas visitors and trade missions, and also by businessmen and industrial leaders in this State.

I turn quickly now to other industrial matters. In my opinion, it is a great pity that many Government members adopt an irresponsible attitude to industrial unrest. Whenever industrial problems arise, their only answer is to indulge in name-calling—"rat-bags", "no-hopers", and so on. They never attempt to find out the real cause of industrial unrest. They only see the result and then resort to irresponsible name-calling of the type to which I have referred.

Many industrial agreements between constructing authorities and trade unions are negotiated in Brisbane, but difficulties often arise in remote areas. The Greenvale nickel project and the construction of the smelter at Yabulu was mentioned earlier in the debate. When this industrial agreement was entered into, it was thought that a large percentage of the construction workers would come from Townsville. That thought was expressed to me by the manager of the Greenvale project. In fact, 83 per cent of the construction workers on the site have come from outside the Townsville area.

There is an acute housing shortage in Townsville, where the Army needs 200 additional houses, and cyclone "Althea" aggravated the position. So this industrial agreement had an Achilles heel. It did not take into account the \$40 or \$50 weekly rent that the itinerant workers, if I may call them that, must pay for a house—that is, if they can get one.

The problem of finding housing is forcing many of the workers into substandard accommodation. It is rather peculiar that local government sets certain minimum living areas for people and certain ceiling heights for comfortable living, yet construction workers can live in cramped quarters, cheek by jowl, and no-one raises a finger to do anything about it. It is no wonder that certain social problems arise, and I think they

have arisen in my area. I hope that in the next week or so good sense will prevail and that something will be done about it, but usually there is more than one side to a problem.

Perhaps the Minister and his department could try to anticipate some of the pitfalls that might occur in remote areas. They might, for example, carry out surveys in particular areas and try to discover the difficulties that might arise. If the pitfalls were discovered, it might prevent arguments occurring, people leaving the site or being sacked, and all the other horrible things that happen.

If the Minister and his department took cognisance of this, they could make a very valuable contribution to industrial peace and the good of Queensland. It is a pity that many Government members could not adopt the same attitude and look for the reason for what is occurring rather than denigrate all those who have found there is something they have to argue about, but whose only way to argue is to withhold their labour. If such a responsible attitude were adopted, Queensland would be the better for it.

(Time expired.)

Mr. AIKEN (Warrego) (8.50 p.m.): No doubt the recently constituted committee of Commonwealth and State officials on decentralisation was displeased with the statements of the Premier about the viability of wool scours and topping works in the inland areas of this State. Undoubtedly the Premier was assuming that the Australian Wool Committee had been without fault in its statement that a wool-scour and carbonising and topping works were not economic in the town of Walgett, in New South Wales. However, recent events have proved that the Australian Wool Committee must have been wrong, and so, too, must have been the Premier, because a plan of depth, based on evidence gathered at length and in detail, and obviously practical and factual, has resulted in the Nyngan wool scheme. It is outlined in booklet form in what is called "The Little White Wool Book".

This booklet, which took its co-authors five years to compile, has certainly shown that a wool scour and topping works are a practical venture in selected areas. What better area could have been chosen in Queensland than Blackall, where an established and viable wool scour has been operating for many years? Surely, instead of "knocking" my suggestions, the Premier could have made an investigation and proved that the sensational decisions recently made by the Marubeni Corporation and Toyobo Ltd.—two of the largest wool-processors in the world—to open wool scours in areas of New South Wales and Victoria must have been made only after detailed feasibility investigations. In this State, where we have the only Country Party-dominated Government in the Commonwealth, we should have

been first in the field with wool scours in the inland areas. Yet here we have the Marubeni Corporation and Toyobo Ltd.—not only two of the world's biggest wool-buyers but also two of the world's biggest wool-processors—prepared to spend \$3,500,000 in Orange on a venture that they promise will grow into a very big establishment. The same future has been prognosticated for a scour and carbonising works that they will build into a topping works in Victoria.

Today we heard the shadow Minister for Lands (Mr. Bousen) telling us how the Toowoomba Development Board is negotiating with several international companies to establish a processing works on the outskirts of that city. As labour and land costs continue to rise in Japan, possibly there will be other major Japanese moves to process more and more wool in Australia. Of course, the Premier, being human and prone to failure, is not prepared to recognise his failures. Let us realise that his serious failures reflect so badly on Queensland's progress. He "missed the bus" in getting a wool-processing factory established in a town like Blackall.

Whether or not the Premier likes to admit it, the simple truth is that Blackall, with its already established wool scour situated in the heart of a huge wool-producing area, should definitely have been the first processing factory established not only in Queensland but in Australia. The Blackall scour is already exporting scoured wool and has been doing so for years. The manager of the scour is to be congratulated on his wonderful effort and the first-class wool he has exported overseas.

Is it not logical that, with high shipping charges, wool should be cleaned of such impurities as dust, fat, yoke, burr and grass seeds? Why have we not moved at Government level to do something about the obvious need to set up inland scours and commercial plants to handle our most famous commodity? Or is it that we need to be shown by superior businessmen, such as the Japanese or any other shrewd thinker who wants to come here and capitalise on us because of the tortoise-like thinking of our lethargic Government? Surely the Premier and his Government can claim little credit for their slowness in getting cracking on something that would be so obvious a saving to wool men, not to mention the assistance that these factories would be in creating inland employment and aiding decentralisation.

To my knowledge, "The Little White Wool Book" has not been challenged by the Premier or anybody else and, according to its findings, an inland top-making plant costing \$2,000,000 would employ 150 men, find \$600,000 in wages and prove 100 per cent more effective in returns to our wool-growers. What could be better than that?

I would say that wool has had a supreme triumph in its recent marvellous recovery and has dealt a smack in the eye to its "knockers". That refers particularly to this Government which, by its lack of action in coming to the assistance of wool-growers, was unofficially predicting that the industry was finished. Had the Government known that wool would experience the marvellous recovery it has, surely it would have done something about it. Unofficially, by their "knocking", they were condemning the wool industry to destruction. The reason why there is very little wool in Queensland today is the lack of Government help and that history has recorded a barometer-like rising and falling of wool.

Diversification and local stability instead of complete overseas dependence is required to give the producer confidence in wool's future. What better way to do this than to establish the wool-processing industry at the base of supply and take our scours and processing works to country areas? What better time could there be than now to effect the many changes needed in the production, marketing and handling of wool, while we have some return of confidence and a better relationship in Government thinking instead of the despondency and the previous give-it-away attitude adopted by this Government over the last five or six years? Is it not fair to think that as much of Australia's wool as possible should be processed here—at least scoured and topped—regardless of who buys it and whether it goes to China, Japan, America, France, Belgium or Great Britain? As much as is possible, our wool should be handled in this country. Are the free-for-all struggle and the Rafferty's rules taking place in the auction rooms throughout Australia the result of fear that the supply of wool could dry up and that, before the end of the season, the many mills of the world could be short of wool?

Is this to the credit of this Government, which has sacked the wool-grower and refused to stabilise factories in the inland areas? If the present boom should end, is it not reasonable to assume that growers who have missed out on this short market will expect to gain the ultimate for processed wool, which, once the waste has been removed, is a better proposition for overseas mills?

It is apparent that, from the point of view of both economics and employment, Japan is becoming more and more dependent on Australia, particularly Queensland, in meeting its expanding commercial requirements. It is time we got the idea right out of our minds that we are dependent on Japan. Rather, as I have said, is Japan dependent on us. I fail to appreciate the further introduction of Japanese finance into what should be the traditional enterprise

of the Australian, that is, grazing and wool-processing. I am sure that most Queenslanders agree that this State should be on the move internationally. It should be expanding and crossing new frontiers as well as gaining new markets. In the face of the challenge of world nations, Queensland should be setting its objectives to gain greater recognition for its top agricultural products, especially processed wool. Yet this Government denies the town of Blackall, even with an established scour, the opportunity to do something about it. Is it the way to progress to allow foreign infiltration into the processing of our goods in our own State?

Is this Government so foolish as to ignore our industries, thus enriching speculators and allowing the erosion of our western economy? Is it so stupid as to allow the stealing of wool-processing away from our own wool scours? Is it going to do something about this foreign invasion into our primary industries as well as our other commercial industries? I am wondering, too, to what extent the Government tends to accept the advice of the so-called academic experts, such as a certain professor who recently said, "We serve no useful purpose in carrying the economic burden of our back country. We should abandon the inland for the next 20 years." I believe that the Government has taken notice of such so-called academic experts, and that this is the reason for our present trouble.

If Australian finance needs overseas help to establish wool-processing industries—I suppose this is possible—a requirement must be that the major shareholdings in such industries are Australian owned. Surely we are not going to be completely Japanese orientated. Surely we have pride of ownership in our own land. We have let the Japanese gain too much of a stranglehold on our industries. Surely, too, we can gather sufficient money from loyal Australians to finance our own projects.

If the Premier had shown at least some interest in promoting the Blackall scour into a bigger concern, together with a topping and carbonising works—he showed no interest whatever—I feel sure that, with the participation of local finance backed by Government guarantees, there would have been sufficient money to establish in Blackall a very profitable enterprise in wool-scouring, carbonising and topping.

With typical Government arrogance, my questions and the hopes of the West were brutally and callously brushed aside by an obstinate Premier. We should remember that overseas mills do not usually scour wool but buy it in partly-processed form. The argument I am trying to advance tonight is that it is time we did something like that ourselves. Let us not worry about blends of wool. I have heard experts say, "You cannot blend scoured wool". They do not know what they are talking about. We should have

no fears on that score. Judged by world standards we are not an emerging industrial State, and we must play carefully with the foreign infiltrators, with their huge amounts of finance and their desire to control this country. We must be concerned with the reality, viability and prosperity of industries that are natural to our State and I refer, in particular, to our agricultural industries.

We should always remember that not all foreign finance is beneficial to the State, irrespective of what industry it is invested in. Speculative capital calls for speculative dividends, which rank as hidden exports as finance is milched from the State in the shape of returned capital and profit dividends that present false export figures and must eventually become a threat and a strain on the State's resources as more and more is drained away and the ultimate ownership of the State is directly threatened.

Are we living in a double-standard economy where wealthy exploiters can become more affluent at the expense of the down-trodden local producer, particularly the wool-grower, who has been ruthlessly exploited and is now to be further used by foreign-promoted wool processors? I ask the wool-growers, "Are you being led to destruction by this Government without any option and without protection?". That certainly seems to be so. Why have the mining and heavy industries always attracted priority of importance, completely overshadowing the vitally important inland industries that are still proving to be the real basis of this State's export earnings?

To go further, I point out that Government expenditure actually exceeds the gross national product, but we continue to show heavy borrowings abroad and we are a claimant State. Instead of attempting to finance our own development, we allow, in an indiscriminate way, foreign capital to take over our industries and our companies. Is that good government? Surely not. Now is the time to do something about these things.

With poor government and a complete disregard for the State's economy and the future, we have allowed a false sense of affluence and security to cover the influence of these foreign infiltrators. With their money they have increased inflation and caused erosion and dust. They combine to take over industry in what promised to be one of the most balanced States in the world—our Queensland. But it will be "our Queensland" for how long? Unwittingly or stupidly—I do not know which—the Government has allowed these white-anting policies to undermine our resources, our future and our way of life. The blame for the take-overs, our failing primary industries and unemployment rests squarely on the shoulders of this apparently unworldly and unworthy Government.

Hon. F. A. CAMPBELL (Aspley—Minister for Development and Industrial Affairs) (9.10 p.m.): The honourable member for Warrego, in typical fashion, wandered all over the place. His remarks warrant a reply in only one respect. His deportment indicates that he treats this as a big joke and that is how we on this side of the Chamber regard his contribution.

In typical and characteristic fashion, he denigrated the officers of my department and of the Toowoomba Development Board in their joint efforts to secure for Queensland this much desired wool-top industry. Would the honourable member have all of the States vie with one another and fall over one another in an effort to secure this industry and so play into the hands of the Japanese entrepreneurs, which is the very thing he is criticising? Yet, out of his own mouth, he condemns his own argument. Because New South Wales was preferred, we were disappointed. But that is not the end of the story. I am fully confident that, with the facilities offering in Queensland, we will secure this type of manufacture or processing operation in the fullness of time. That is all I want to say on the contribution of the honourable member for Warrego, who just stayed the distance. If he had had one more minute to go, his voice would have collapsed.

The honourable member for Isis referred to the bagasse project in Mackay and suggested that a similar project might be located in his area, using the bagasse from local mills. He suggested that the feedstock be augmented by pulp from the timber mills in the area. For his information I indicate that the use of bagasse with woodchips to produce pulp would require large duplication of the equipment in the pulp mill. Woodchips are normally treated by the Kraft process, which uses a sodium sulphate solution as the chemical pulping medium. On the other hand, to de-pith bagasse fibres requires a much more gentle digestive process and the soda process, based on caustic soda as the chemical pulping medium, is used in this case. Whilst it might be considered desirable to combine these two raw materials into paper pulp, it would necessitate two separate digestive trains in a pulp mill using both timber and bagasse. The advice from my people is that, even though that might seem desirable, it would be uneconomic.

The honourable member for Ithaca referred to the ship-building industry. He seriously questioned the economics of the subsidy. I repeat what I said this morning. The Federal Government is confronted with a dilemma in this respect. On the one hand it has to look at the need to maintain a viable ship-building industry, particularly from the defence point of view and, on the other, has to weigh up and decide whether the country can afford to pay upwards of 50 per cent subsidy on this very high-cost product.

Another problem is continuity of orders, and I am sorry to say that the inability of this yard to deliver orders on time in the past has militated against its obtaining further orders.

I thank the honourable member for Mackay for his complimentary remarks concerning my staff. He went on to refer to the bagasse project proposed at Mackay. Most of his comments were valid, except his stated belief that we are as far as we ever have been from the establishment of this industry. I say to him that what is happening in this case is typical of what happens when one sets out to establish a large-scale industry for the processing of raw material. I am not as despondent as he seems to be, because I have no doubt about the ultimate success of this project. I do not believe that there is any question of viability, nor do I think that there will be any problems ultimately in the provision of alternative equipment in the mills or other local needs. I do not think that there is any ground for criticism of the efforts of my departmental officers, nor can I agree with his comments about the lack of direct contact with Japan.

The problems being encountered with this project highlight the main problem in any business enterprise, which is the marketing of the product. It is easy to produce a product, but very hard to sell it. The problem with this product is that the world market is still over supplied. I have not the slightest doubt that when there is more equilibrium in the supply-demand position, a market will be found for this product. I appreciate the honourable member's genuine interest in the matter, and I ask for his patience and understanding of the underlying problems that beset the project.

The honourable member for South Coast referred to the combining of two departments under one ministerial head. We have had sufficient experience to appreciate that each department is complementary to the other, and I think, particularly from the point of view of industrial relations, that the combining of the departments is very desirable.

The honourable member also reminded us of the buoyancy of the economy, and he implied, even if he did not state it, that Queensland has the lowest unemployment rate and the lowest rate of inflation. We have the highest employment rate, and the highest figures for motor-vehicle registrations and homes built. These are indicators of a buoyant economy.

The honourable member also referred to the Molendinar Industrial Estate. The honourable member for Albert seems to think, by his interjections, that this is a damp squib. The honourable member for South Coast pointed out that \$650,000 has been invested in this estate, and he indicated numerous industries established there. He also pointed

out the importance of a company such as the South Coast Co-operative Dairy Association Limited, which pays almost \$1,000,000 a year in wages in a decentralised area. He also referred to other manufacturing operations in that locality.

The honourable member for Bundaberg made some comments about our recent visit to his fair city. It was a most profitable exercise, as was the visit overseas of the honourable member for Townsville West, from which much knowledge was obtained. I wish that I was able to make more frequent visits to various parts of Queensland, but there is always the time factor to be considered.

I was very favourably impressed by the initiative and enterprise behind a number of operations in the manufacturing field in these areas. The honourable member for Bundaberg referred to the virile enterprise of Petersen Bros. Pty. Ltd., which provides panel-built homes as a package deal and ships them right across northern Australia, particularly to North-western Australia. Enterprises of that type succeed because of the skill, enthusiasm and drive of the entrepreneur and those who work with him.

The honourable member for Bundaberg apparently was not aware that during our visit we were able to make a call on Massey-Ferguson (Australia) Ltd., where we saw the production line turning out very efficient cane-harvesting machines. When one considers that the value of each machine is about \$33,000 and that each is the product of the skills of the operators and fabricators in that factory, one realises what a valuable asset it is to a city such as Bundaberg. It is a typical case of Australian inventiveness combined with first-class workmanship producing a first-class article, and I share the view of the honourable member that in this field Queensland is the envy of sugar-producing countries overseas.

Little known, except in Bundaberg, is the seafood-processing plant of Keppels Pty. Ltd., another very viable enterprise in which entrepreneurial skill has successfully been put into operation.

Mr. Jensen: Keep helping it, won't you?

Mr. CAMPBELL: Yes. The firm has a particular process, as the honourable member would know, and is obtaining valuable overseas export markets. As the honourable member also would know, it has a large labour-force of women. Although they are working in a fairly confined space, I did not discover one sign of industrial discontent, and I made it my business to inquire about that. On the subject of industrial relations generally, I ask: why is it that some groups of people can work productively without strike action, whereas others cannot? Surely the answer must lie in the fact that in certain

sections of industry there are individuals whose sole purpose in life seems to be the destruction of harmonious relations.

Mr. Sherrington: That is rot!

Mr. CAMPBELL: The honourable member may say it is rot, but in a factory such as that, even though there is complete harmony between employer and employees, the circumstances are such that they could give rise to industrial discontent.

The honourable member for Bundaberg raised my eyebrows when he questioned the ability of the department to spend the funds available to it. I assure him that, far from there being any concern in that regard, most of the money has already been allocated for this year.

Then we saw the paradox of the honourable member for Bundaberg exhibiting staunch support for the private enterprise philosophy of private sugar mills in comparison with co-operative mills.

The honourable member for Merthyr analysed the role of unions in society and indicated from the document produced by the Federal Department of Labour and National Service the procedures to be followed in resolving industrial disputes. It indicated that a large number of industrial disputes would be stillborn if recommended procedures were adhered to. Honourable members opposite objected when he related his remarks to industrial saboteurs such as revolutionary socialists and Trotskyites. Those were not so much his words. He did not initiate them; they are customary jargon amongst the trade union movement these days.

As usual, the honourable member for Belyando delivered a most thought-provoking speech, which is what we can always expect from him. He, too, acknowledged the services of departmental officers. He pointed out that the department is not so closely tied to the Public Service as, perhaps, some other departments are. I like to use the expression that we are a free-enterprise Public Service department, if such could exist. He pointed out that departmental officers were implementing Government policy, and that the Minister had to accept the responsibility for the activities of the officers.

He then went on to say that I denigrated the contribution of the honourable member for Port Curtis when he made a submission on exports-imports. I did far from that. I did resent his unseemly criticism of Sunshine Vinyl at Southport, because he was way off beam in that respect, even though he still thinks that there is a "con" man associated with that firm.

Mr. Hanson: There is.

Mr. CAMPBELL: That is his opinion.

As to his submissions on exports-imports, I merely pointed out that some aspects of the statistics can be misleading because much of our interstate imports originate from overseas. Whether the goods come from interstate or overseas sources, our officers are dedicated to minimising such imports through progressive efforts to encourage manufacturers to set up business here, together with a highly charged campaign to encourage Queenslanders to buy more locally-made products.

The honourable member for Callide repeated what others have observed about Queensland being the most decentralised State. It has more cities of 30,000 people than any other State. The honourable member emphasised the great importance of regional development in sustaining population in existing country towns. His quotation of the statement by the mayor of Gladstone was quite timely. This is a matter that the honourable member for Port Curtis touched on. In that statement the mayor of Gladstone utterly rejected the ill-founded criticism of Gladstone as it is today.

The honourable member for Stafford asked whether we were getting a satisfactory return from the capital invested in industrial estates. In reply to his question I say, "Unquestionably, yes, we are—not only for the present, but also for the future." We plan acquisition of land for many years ahead, and the provision of industrial Crown land in provincial cities a few miles from post offices will be a great boon to those cities in years to come. He expressed concern about industrial fall-out. We are fortunate that we were the first Government in Australia to introduce a Clean Air Act.

He referred to strikes and pointed out that Queensland's proportion is 7 per cent of the national total, and said, "We have a proud record." We are below the national average. But so what! Is the honourable member proud of the industrial strife that bedevils heavy industry and activities in the construction field, which appear to be the main targets for industrial saboteurs? Is he proud of the great upheaval to the community as the result of the futile and unnecessary oil strike? I acknowledge the high degree of responsibility displayed by both employers and trade union executives generally, but the community is the loser when strikes occur. I feel that we could do better if a greater degree of tolerance and understanding prevailed.

The honourable member for Mansfield referred to the establishment in Queensland of a branch of the Industrial Design Council. I think it is a feather in the cap of my officers that they were able to induce the Industrial Design Council to set up a branch here. We are one of the last States in this field and we will be working in close

harmony with this branch. The provision of some \$20,000 will do much to set up the office and establishment for them.

Reference was also made to the provision of a rental factory for a confectionery manufacturer in Warwick and the advantage that would accrue to an industry in that locality from cheap back-loading. I think this important factor gives food for thought.

The honourable member for Toowoomba North said that there was no provision in our Estimates for the establishment of regional growth centres. This proposal, which has emanated from the Commonwealth, is still in the embryo stage but I can expect a real political dog-fight when these favoured centres are selected. This is quite a valid claim because the honourable member believes that his centre should be the most favoured.

Mr. Bousen: Doesn't it lend itself to that? You must agree that it lends itself to it.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I am a political realist and I know half a dozen honourable members in Queensland who hold a similar point of view. What a political dog-fight will occur if such a policy comes to pass! I do not think that this policy is practicable in Queensland. Our policy is progress through the development of our resources and I feel that our experience in the last few years has shown how successful we are. If anything is going to come out of the Commonwealth purse to the States for regional development, we will certainly be expecting our share in order to proceed with our type of regional development.

The honourable member for Warwick dealt admirably with this subject. He questioned the practical application of the proposal to create regional growth centres. I do not want to repeat what I have noted here. He expressed appreciation of the Government's policy of stimulation of manufacture in cities through incentives such as land and rental buildings. I think I am entitled to say that we are succeeding with this policy.

The honourable member for Belmont gave us a very interesting discourse on the progression of a trade-union executive from the bottom rung to the top of the ladder. Because of his experience, he is well qualified to speak in this field. He also demonstrated the wide range of activities in which union officials are called upon to participate. I acknowledge the close co-operation that exists between union officials and my departmental officers, particularly in relation to many aspects of industrial awards. The honourable member stoutly denied that union officials went out of their way to foster disputes. As I said previously, I am aware of the high degree of responsibility shown by both employers and trade union secretaries in discharging their duties, but I do decry

the activities—which nobody can deny—of those industrial anarchists to whom I referred earlier. I think the trade-union movement has a task ahead of it in endeavouring to neutralise the activities of those people who are acting antagonistically against the interest of genuine trade-unionists and certainly against the common interest.

Mr. Bousen: Wouldn't you say this is the exception rather than the rule?

Mr. CAMPBELL: I would like to think it is the exception.

Mr. Bousen: Then why do you blame the whole of the trade-union movement?

Mr. CAMPBELL: I remind the honourable member of the poor record at the Kangaroo Point shipyards, at Gladstone and at Greenvale. They are only three current instances of industrial unrest, and I do not think the honourable member can rightly claim they are the exception rather than the rule. I agree that the great majority of Queenslanders are loyal, hard-working employees and good trade-unionists. However, I repeat what I said this morning, that is, I do not think members of the Opposition have been articulate enough in speaking out against the activities of these industrial anarchists. That is not my expression but one used by a top, responsible trade-union officer in this State. As I have said before, these industrial anarchists are identifiable and have been identified, so I hope that the trade-union movement will take action to neutralise their activities. They are nothing more than industrial saboteurs, and they are of no use whatever to this State.

The honourable member pleaded for better employer-employee relationships. If his remarks represent the outlook of the trade-union movement generally, he will find that my officers will be most anxious to facilitate action to bring about an improvement in this important field.

The honourable member for Maryborough appealed for greater incentives to attract industries away from the centres of population, where, of course, the markets exist. He also asked that decentralised industries be placed at least on an equal footing with those in more favoured locations. He acknowledged the Government's action in assisting country industries.

The honourable member also suggested that the title of the department might be changed to include the word "Decentralisation". The title is already a little bit cumbersome, but, to use the words of Shakespeare, a rose by any other name would smell as sweet. My department's heart is in the right place and my officers earnestly apply themselves to the furtherance of the already widespread decentralisation in Queensland.

The honourable member also made the very sound suggestion that decentralisation might be facilitated by an alteration to the Commonwealth taxation laws.

The honourable member for Ipswich West said that the department's achievements will govern the future development of the State. I take that remark as a compliment. But then she said that the development of the State should be above party politics. I may be wrong, but I think that the Government and the Opposition have two entirely different basic political approaches to this. Whereas the Government supports a free-enterprise approach to the development of industry, the Labor Party supports a socialist approach. In saying that, I am not being sarcastic or critical.

The honourable member indicated the importance of an industry like Morris Woollen Mills to her area, and as well said that Ipswich has achieved a well-balanced economy. I would add that since the last State election it has also achieved a better balanced political representation.

Mr. Hanson: Dr. Edwards won't be here long.

Mr. CAMPBELL: That is what I was told 12 years ago.

Next the honourable member said she was saddened to see what a white elephant Wulkuraka has turned out to be. She said that nothing had happened in seven years. However, the acquisition of the land was finalised only in 1969 and the first-stage development works were completed only in 1971. One departmental building has been completed on the estate, another one is presently under construction and negotiations are proceeding with three other organisations relative to site allocation.

Her comments were typical of what the honourable member for Albert said 18 months ago about the Molendinar Estate. He tried to give it a big "send-up" by saying that because there was only one small industry established there it was a white elephant. That seems to be a favourite phrase. He did not know that 10 applications for leases had either been granted or were in the pipeline.

It is not worthy of the honourable member to speak in such vein. She also said it was on the wrong side of Ipswich. What utter nonsense! Would the honourable member want it to play second fiddle to Wacol? With those comments I think she neutralised her earlier remarks about balanced development. I hope that the honourable member will adopt a more optimistic attitude and perhaps do a little herself to encourage manufacturers to take up leases on this estate.

The honourable member for Hinchinbrook urged that development be proceeded with on our land at Ingham. That will come in

the fullness of time. He also referred to the bagasse project. I thought I heard him say that its establishment was in doubt and that there was also a doubt about the provision of alternative fuel. I can only say that, if that is the view of sugar producers, it is not that of my officers and other interested parties. Having made comments in reply to the honourable member for Mackay I will not deal further with that matter.

The honourable member for Hinchinbrook said that the regional growth-centre policy is not practicable in the North although it may be in the South, and should be treated with a great deal of reserve. I think his observations were wise. He also indicated the benefits flowing to the State from the development of our resource-based industries.

I think the honourable member for Townsville West used the speech that he has used on three or four other occasions. I thank him for his complimentary remarks. He indicated how impressed he was with Japanese thoroughness, which is typical of the national character. He criticised the absence of a Queensland officer in Tokyo and compared this lack with the offices provided by other States. I believe that it is hard enough to establish an Australian identity in a foreign country, let alone a State identity. I have very great faith in the willingness of the Commonwealth Department of Trade to dispassionately represent the interests of the States without favouring one against the other.

Mr. Casey: The Minister for Mines has had to do it in relation to our coal sales to ensure their future.

Mr. CAMPBELL: It may well be that more frequent visits by Ministers could be much more effective than the stationing of officers there, because I am not satisfied with the results that other States are obtaining by having officers there. But why only in Tokyo?

Mr. B. Wood: Your attitude does not say much for their intelligence.

The CHAIRMAN: Order! The honourable member for Barron River may interject only from his usual place.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I do not pay much account to the honourable member's intelligence.

Why only Tokyo? I can think of several locations in the world where Queensland representation would be more appropriate.

Dealing now with the Department of Industrial Affairs, the honourable member for Ithaca suggested that consideration be given to the introduction into high schools of a modified course for lads who wish to become apprentices. One or two other honourable members spoke in similar vein. While this is primarily a matter for the Minister for Education, there is a strong

view that education at high-school level should, as far as practicable, be general in nature rather than directed to one particular area.

Mr. Bromley: Quite right, too.

Mr. CAMPBELL: I thank the honourable member very much.

As the honourable member for South Brisbane would know, there is provision for students to receive tuition—moderate though it is—in industrial subjects at these schools. I imagine that the duplication in all high schools throughout Queensland of the necessary equipment to provide apprenticeship training would be enormous.

The honourable member for Mackay referred to the fact that these development projects did not employ any apprentices. This is regretted, but it has recently been given consideration by the Tripartite Apprenticeship Promotion Committee. I have no doubt that, in due course, this committee will submit its recommendations to me. At the moment, the matter is being given serious consideration.

The honourable member for Stafford referred to the need for children in schools to be trained in safety. Again this is primarily a matter for the Education Department. However, since 1960, the Division of Occupational Safety has been interested in this field. High schools are visited by inspectors, who conduct lectures and screenings for students when requested. Safety posters are supplied to manual arts centres at high schools, and safety films are borrowed by manual arts teachers for screening before their students. Since 1962 each intake of manual arts teachers is trained in safe working practices by the Department of Industrial Affairs and hundreds of such teachers have done the course. Since 1966 safety examinations have been conducted and the trainee teacher who receives the highest marks is given a prize.

The honourable member for Belyando raised the question of apprentices in the Railway Department. This is a matter for that department.

Honourable members referred to the introduction of the block-release training system. It will be extended as from the beginning of next year. As is known, a pilot scheme in all callings in the printing industry commenced in Queensland for the first time early this year. Under the scheme, every apprentice in the printing industry eligible for technical training was required to undertake a continuous course of instruction at a technical college or school for seven weeks in each of his first three years of apprenticeship.

The Apprenticeship Executive and the relevant Apprenticeship Committee have now recommended, and I have approved, that the scheme be extended to apprentices in the bread-baking, pastrycooking, and retail

butchery industries, and block-release classes in these industries will commence early in 1973. However, the system of training will be slightly different from that in the printing industry as it does not appear at present that the attendance for seven weeks in each of the first three years is necessary. In these industries, attendance will be for a period of seven weeks in each of the first two years of apprenticeship.

The training of printing industry apprentices has indicated that continuity of tuition is definitely an advantage to an apprentice, and the advantages attached to such training are recognised not only by other States but by overseas countries as well. This type of training will be introduced progressively in other industries subject to the availability of staff and of residential accommodation for the apprentices.

Provision exists in the Apprenticeship Act for the employer, the apprentice and his guardian to object to a particular commencing date for the specialised training if such a date be not convenient to the parties concerned. This is a problem, and, as long as everybody approaches it in a common-sense manner, which is usually the case, the specific requirements can usually be met. If the objection be upheld, a new starting date will be substituted.

This type of training is proving very successful in the printing industry. I therefore hope that employers in the industries to which it will now apply will give it their fullest co-operation. In this regard, whilst I know that some employers consider it an onerous burden, I think we have a responsibility to young lads to see that as many as possible are given the opportunity of obtaining this type of apprenticeship training. There is no need to dilate on that philosophy. Relevant inquiries concerning the extension of the scheme to the industries mentioned should be addressed to the Apprenticeship Office in Brisbane, or the Apprenticeship Advisory Committee in the area in which the employer's business is situated.

I shall conclude by making a few comments on the proposed national apprenticeship assistance scheme. It is being introduced because in recent years national apprenticeship intakes have fallen below the level necessary for the healthy growth of Australian industry, and this scheme is designed to encourage the employment of apprentices in greater numbers than at present.

The scheme seeks to achieve this by providing financial assistance to metropolitan and country employers who achieve and maintain a desired level of apprentice employment or who increase their over-all level of apprentice employment. It extends coverage to country apprentices in all trades and redefines country and metropolitan areas.

The scheme will apply to all employers, including State Government departments and instrumentalities, and it will cover all trades proclaimed as at 1 January 1973. It extends to all apprentices, including probationers and, in New South Wales, "trainee apprentices", whose employment has been properly notified to the appropriate apprenticeship authority.

The rate of subsidy, payable quarterly, will be, for metropolitan employers, \$16.16 per month for each qualifying first-year apprentice, and, for country employers, \$32.32 per month for each qualifying first-year apprentice. An employer can become eligible for subsidy in either of these two ways—

A. Where all apprentices equal or exceed 25 per cent of all tradesmen employed, a subsidy will be payable for all first-year apprentices employed.

B. Where an employer has increased the over-all level of his apprentice employment compared with that for the preceding year, a subsidy will be payable for first year apprentices to the extent of the over-all increase achieved.

Eligibility for subsidy will normally be assessed at 31 March each year and will be reviewed at the end of succeeding quarters. Employers may progress from category B subsidy to category A. Claim forms will provide a table for the guidance of employers in establishing eligibility under category A. To qualify for subsidy, first-year apprentices must still be employed at the end of the quarter for which claim is made.

The brochure to which I have just referred gives definitions and information as to where people in various parts of the State may apply.

At 9.55 p.m.,

The CHAIRMAN: Order! Under the provisions of the Sessional Order agreed to by the House on 25 October, I shall now put the questions for the Vote under consideration and the balance remaining unvoted for Development and Industrial Affairs.

The questions for the following Votes were put, and agreed to:—

Development and Industrial Affairs—		\$
Chief Office, Department of Commercial and Industrial Development		857,147
Balance of Vote, Consolidated Revenue, Trust and Special Funds and Loan Fund Account		20,053,443
Progress reported.		
The House adjourned at 9.57 p.m.		