

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates  
[Hansard]

**Legislative Assembly**

**THURSDAY, 13 MARCH 1975**

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Mr. SPEAKER (Hon. J. E. H. Houghton, Redcliffe) read prayers and took the chair at 11 a.m.

### PAPERS

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

Report of the Department of Primary Industries for the year 1973–74.

The following papers were laid on the table:—

Orders in Council under—

The Agricultural Bank (Loans) Act of 1959.

The City of Brisbane Market Acts, 1960 to 1967.

Co-ordination of Rural Advances and Agricultural Bank Act 1938–1969.

Dairy Products Stabilisation Act 1933–1972.

Explosives Act 1952–1974.

Fauna Conservation Act 1974.

Fish Supply Management Act 1972.

Meat Industry Act 1965–1973.

The Milk Supply Acts, 1952 to 1961.

Plague Grasshoppers Extermination Act 1937–1971.

Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Act 1926–1973.

Regulation of Sugar Cane Prices Act 1962–1972.

Sugar Experiment Stations Act 1900–1973.

Swine Compensation Fund Act 1962–1969.

Wheat Pool Act 1920–1972.

## Regulations under—

Agricultural Standards Act 1952–1972.  
 Dairy Products Stabilisation Act 1933–1972.  
 Fruit and Vegetable Act 1947–1972.  
 Hen Quotas Act 1973.  
 Hospitals Act 1936–1971.  
 Meat Industry Act 1965–1973.  
 Primary Producers' Organisation and Marketing Act 1926–1973.  
 The Tobacco Industry Protection Act of 1965.

Notifications of Approvals under The Soil Conservation Act of 1965.

## PETITION

## PRESERVATION OF THE "BELLEVUE" BUILDING AND "THE MANSIONS"

**Mr. BURNS** (Lytton—Leader of the Opposition) presented a petition from 179 citizens of Queensland praying that the Parliament of Queensland will do all in its power to preserve the "Bellevue" building and "The Mansions" as part of that heritage which should properly continue to be enjoyed by the people of the State of Queensland.

Petition read and received.

## QUESTIONS UPON NOTICE

## DUST NUISANCE FROM LAE ENTERPRISES PROJECT, HOLLYWELL

**Mr. K. J. Hooper** for **Mr. Dean**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Local Government,—

(1) Is he aware of the grave danger to health and property created by a fine, black dust from a development project at Hollywell by a company named Lae Enterprises and that motor vehicles have to drive with headlights full on as early as 10 a.m. because of poor visibility?

(2) Will he ascertain the names of the directors of Lae Enterprises who are responsible for the development of the 75-acre Shearwater Estate at Hollywell?

(3) Will he invoke the Clean Air Act by forcing this company to comply with the regulations and to complete the development as a matter of urgency so that residents and parents with children are not subjected to this continual threat to their health and well-being?

## Answers:—

(1) "I am not aware of a danger to health and property at Hollywell because of black dust. The Division of Air Pollution Control has not received any complaints, and the planning officer of the Gold Coast City Council has made frequent visits to the site without encountering a dust nuisance."

(2) "The names of the Directors of Lae Enterprises may be obtained from the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs, Anzac Square Government Buildings, Adelaide Street."

(3) "The Clean Air Act is directed towards industry, and land development does not come within the scope of the regulations."

## COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTRE, GLADSTONE

(a) **Mr. Hanson**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) As the Commonwealth Government finance for the establishment of a community health centre in Gladstone was forwarded to his department in October, 1974, and as the State Director of Community Health said in November that it was expected that the centre would operate from February, when can Gladstone people expect the centre to start operating?

(2) Has any staff been appointed for this centre, what are the numbers to be or likely to be appointed and what will be the qualifications and classifications of these personnel?

## Answers:—

(1) "Four properties were investigated and one building is under consideration for purchase."

(2) "Two community health nurses who have commenced training will take up duty within three months. When the centre is established there will be regular visits by the medical officer in charge of community medicine at Rockhampton and the services of therapists and psychologists will be provided from Rockhampton on a sessional basis. The full time staff of the centre will include a social worker who must be eligible for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers; a home help organiser capable of organising and supervising temporary home helpers and who is usually recruited from the community because of local knowledge; three positions for community health aides (two of which may be appointed before the end of June); a clerk; and two clerk-typists. I would advise the Honourable Member that Commonwealth approval of a grant towards the establishment of a Community Health Centre at Gladstone was received on October 24, 1974. In accordance with financial arrangements advances have been received from the Commonwealth to meet forecasted expenditure for the quarter ending March 31, 1975 in respect of capital cost of purchase of property abovementioned and anticipated expenditure on salaries for community health nurses already employed."

(b) **Mr. Hanson**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Works,—

(1) Were any officers of his department engaged in the selection of properties in Gladstone recently for a community health centre?

(2) Was any decision made by departmental officers and how many buildings or houses were inspected?

(3) When is it likely that a decision will be made on the centre's location?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) "A report has been furnished by my department to the Department of Health on four properties inspected by a departmental architect, in connection with a proposal for the establishment of a Community Health Centre at Gladstone. To the best of my knowledge no decision has yet been made for the acquisition of a property or properties in this connection."

#### CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY REGISTRATIONS

**Mr. Ahern** for **Mr. Armstrong**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Justice,—

(1) How many co-operatives are registered under the Co-operative and Other Societies Act?

(2) How many applications for registration were made on behalf of community societies formed solely for the distribution of Commonwealth Government grants for the housing of Aborigines?

(3) How many such applications have been approved and how many are under consideration?

*Answers:—*

(1) "245."

(2) "28."

(3) "Of the above, 10 societies have been registered. The rules of another 14 societies are being examined by either the Crown Law Officer or the Registrar. The remaining four applications were lodged with the Registrar on March 11, 1975."

#### TEACHERS RECRUITED FROM OVERSEAS

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

(1) Is he aware of criticism by and concern amongst members of the teaching profession that special treatment is being given by his department to those teachers who have come from overseas?

(2) Are these teachers being given guarantees that they will be placed in metropolitan or provincial city areas?

(3) Will he table a copy of the contract and conditions entered into by these teachers?

(4) Will he also provide the House with a complete and detailed breakdown of the schools in which all such teachers have been placed in the last two years?

*Answers:—*

(1) "Yes, there had been evidence of some criticism in this regard but in discussions with the Queensland Teachers' Union this has been satisfactorily resolved."

(2) "No."

(3) "Yes."

(4) "In reply to a similar Question last year by Mr. Peter Wood, a list of the placements of overseas teachers in the twelve months to September 20, 1974 was compiled and forwarded to Mr. Wood. As evidence that my department has nothing to hide in this regard, I table that list. However, the list took several days to compile last year and I am reluctant to direct that officers be diverted from their duties to compile a new list. A further 250 overseas teachers have been appointed since the list was compiled, and I am informed that a similar pattern of appointment has been followed."

*Paper:—*Whereupon Mr. Bird laid upon the Table of the House a copy of the contract and the list referred to.

#### REHABILITATION OF FORMER PRISONERS

**Mr. Wright**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Community and Welfare Services,—

(1) What assistance is available to ex-prisoners to enable them to obtain employment upon release?

(2) What organisations, both community and Government-sponsored, give such assistance?

(3) Does the Railway Department refuse to employ persons with a prison record? If so, how does he explain such a policy, which obviously conflicts with his own department's stated aim of assisting in the rehabilitation of ex-prisoners?

*Answers:—*

(1) "Welfare officers have been appointed to the Prisons Department and part of their duties is to assist prisoners to obtain employment on discharge. In addition a monthly visit is made by an officer of the District Employment Office and he advises prisoners on job opportunities."

(2) "The Salvation Army; the Society of St. Vincent de Paul; Teen Challenge; the Prisoners Aid Society; the Legion of Mary Hostel; the New Life Centre, Ipswich; Stewart Lodge for Women; the William Powell Home; Morris House and

the Commonwealth Aboriginal Hostel, New Farm offer shelter to ex-prisoners and assistance in obtaining employment. The Friary at Brookfield provides a sheltered workshop situation."

(3) "The policy of the Railway Department regarding the engagement of labour is not a matter which comes within my administration."

#### NEW SUPREME AND DISTRICT COURTS COMPLEX, ROCKHAMPTON

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

(1) With regard to the repeated promises by his Government to build a new Supreme and District Court complex in Rockhampton, when is it anticipated that this much-needed project will be undertaken?

(2) Has any site been selected for the new complex and, if so, where is it?

(3) Does the proposed complex envisage separate Supreme and District Courts?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) "There has been no change in the position since my Answer to the Honourable Member's Question on August 20, last."

#### PLAYING AREA, SOUTH GIRLS SCHOOL, TOOWOOMBA

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

(1) Is he aware that due to the new buildings being erected at South Girls School, Toowoomba, the play area has been so reduced that lunch breaks have to be staggered and that, although overtures were made to his department to purchase adjacent land owned by an oil company, the school was informed that it was not the policy of the department to purchase land from an oil company?

(2) Is this correct and, if not, will he look into the matter as quickly as possible?

*Answers:—*

(1) "Yes, I am aware that lunch breaks are being staggered at South Girls School, Toowoomba at present."

(2) "It is not correct that my department does not purchase land from oil companies. The offer of an area of 40 perches of land adjacent to the school was rejected last year as the price was considered to be exorbitant. Inquiries will again be made into the possibility of securing additional land to enlarge the school grounds."

#### STATEMENTS BY DR. H. POWELSON ON MARIJUANA

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

(1) In view of the statement by Dr. Everingham that penalties for some drug offences would be lowered and the statement by Dr. Harvey Powelson that marijuana is now known to be amongst the most dangerous of drugs, will he assure the House that the Government will oppose any reduction of penalties?

(2) Is Dr. Powelson the same person who called for the legalisation of marijuana in 1967 and who is attributed as saying that there is no evidence that marijuana does anything except make people feel good and that it has never made anyone into a criminal or a narcotic addict and, if so, was he Head of the Department of Psychiatry in the Student Health Centre at the University of California at the time and does the Minister know what brought about his change of mind?

*Answers:—*

(1) "In answering the Honourable Member, I would like to draw the attention of members of this Assembly and the courts to the penalties prescribed for drug offences in Queensland. Queensland's penalties are based on national agreement and it is pointed out that the penalty is not merely a fine of up to \$10,000 but a fine of up to \$10,000 and/or imprisonment up to ten years."

(2) "Dr. Powelson is the same person who called for legislation of marijuana in 1967 and who made the statement mentioned. It can be presumed that the basis for the change of his opinion is that set out in the February *Readers' Digest*. It is necessary to point out that in regard to the differentiation between drugs regarded as narcotics, Australia is bound by the Single Convention on Narcotics which is an international agreement. Under this agreement cannabis is regarded as a dangerous and prohibited drug and must continue to be so regarded while Australia remains a signatory to the International Convention on Narcotics. Queensland's view is that no alteration should be made to the Single Convention on Narcotics and if necessary would represent this view not only for Queensland but in the interests of international health and safety."

#### LICENSING COMMISSION POWERS OVER PREMISES USED FOR FOOD PREPARATION

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

(1) What powers are possessed by the Licensing Commission to force licensees to maintain in a clean condition those parts of licensed premises used for food preparation?

(2) On how many occasions in the last year has the commission ordered licensees to maintain premises in a clean condition?

Answers:—

(1) "Authority is vested in the commission under the provisions of Regulation 43 (7) of the Liquor Regulations."

(2) "On numerous occasions during the last year, the commission has ordered licensees to maintain premises in a clean condition. On one occasion only did the commission consider the conditions found to be existing to be prejudicial to the health of the public and constitute an immediate health hazard."

#### MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

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

(1) What was the number of motor vehicle registrations to December, 1974, and what were the relative registration figures for the preceding six years?

Answer:—

"Fatalities	1969-70	1970-71	1971-72	1972-73	1973-74
(a) Motor Cyclists .. ..	17	31	44	80	69
Pillion passengers .. ..	3	5	8	13	11
Total .. ..	20	36	52	93	80
(b) Injuries—					
Motor Cyclists .. ..	705	897	1,111	1,331	1,672
Pillion passengers .. ..	91	133	174	207	283
Total .. ..	796	1,030	1,285	1,538	1,955
(c) Total Road Fatalities .. ..	527	580	579	625	603
(d) Total Road Injuries .. ..	10,350	11,440	11,295	10,903	11,276"

#### AUSTRALIAN TIMBERS IN DARWIN RECONSTRUCTION

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

Is he aware that the proposals for reconstruction at Darwin are not expected to specify the use of Australian timbers, despite significant unemployment in the timber industry associated with the recent and dramatic collapse of the housing market, particularly in South-east Queensland?

Answer:—

"Yes, I believe that something like 1,000 men or 20 per cent of the direct work force in sawmills in Queensland have been laid off in recent months, due to the fall off in demand for timber products. I am appalled to think that in these circumstances the Commonwealth Government would not specify the use of Australian timbers, despite strong representations and offers of co-operation by the timber industry itself. It seems beyond belief that the Commonwealth Government should allow the use of imported timbers even at a minor price advantage, while

(2) What were the registration figures for the 17 to 20 years and the 21 to 29 years age groups?

Answers:—

(1) "At December 31, 1974, there were 955,393 motor vehicles registered. The figures for the preceding six years were—1968, 642,203; 1969, 678,863; 1970, 715,895; 1971, 761,509; 1972, 818,478; and 1973, 888,410."

(2) "Ages of registered owners are not recorded."

#### ROAD ACCIDENT STATISTICS

Mr. Goleby, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Police,—

In view of the increased motor-cycle registrations in the last five years, what are the numbers of (a) deaths and (b) injuries involving motor cycles and (c) road deaths and (d) road injuries excluding those involving motor-cycles?

so very many good Australian timber workers are unemployed. I might add that Australian hardwoods are well known throughout the world as being unsurpassed for strength and durability."

#### SUBSIDY TO BUSH NURSES ASSOCIATION

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

(1) Is he aware that the Government subsidy payable to the Bush Nurses Association barely meets half of the salary of the Sister-in-Charge of each centre, due to increased costs?

(2) As the centres provide an invaluable service to residents of areas which do not enjoy the usual medical services, will he raise the subsidy to at least cover the payment of the salary of the Sister-in-Charge, thereby leaving the local committee with the responsibility only of raising money for the council rates and maintenance of the centre?

Answers:—

(1) "The present rate of subsidy paid to the Queensland Bush Nursing Association is \$3,100 per sister for each of its

five one-sister centres. This rate has been applicable since October 1, 1974. Although the State Government has supported the association by way of annual grant for many years, it was never intended that the grant should be the major source of income of the association. I note that the association has not made any recent application for an alteration in the rate of subsidy, nor has any evidence been placed before my Department that the Queensland Bush Nursing Association is in need of additional funds."

(2) "Should the Queensland Bush Nursing Association consider that an increase in subsidy is warranted, and makes application to my Department supported by financial and other relevant data, its submission will receive every consideration. There are no funds available for an increase in subsidy during the current financial year. Any proposal for an increase in subsidy following an application by the association will be listed for consideration when the Budget Estimates for 1975-76 are being framed."

#### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF CLASSIFICATIONS, MAIN ROADS DEPARTMENT

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

Has any action been taken to review the classifications of administrative officers at the Main Roads Department?

*Answer:—*

"A review commenced last year by the department was completed by Public Service Inspectors. This resulted in proposals to create 36 new classified positions and a number of reclassifications being referred to the State Service Union. The union advised that it accepted the proposals under protest, and currently there is an overtime ban, and under Union directions, refusals by officers to carry out certain duties, which are seriously disrupting the operations of the department."

#### LIQUOR LICENCES

**Mr. Ahern** for **Mr. Aikens**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Justice,—

May a liquor licence be granted to a single woman but not to a single man and, if so, what is the reason for this discrimination?

*Answer:—*

"No."

#### SUMMONSES ISSUED IN PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS

**Mr. Ahern** for **Mr. Aikens**, pursuant to notice, asked The Premier,—

Will his Government give favourable consideration to ensuring that any Government department which is reluctantly compelled to take out a summons against any

citizen for an alleged breach of any law or regulation is compelled to take out the summons in the petty sessions district in which the alleged breach occurred, so that the case, if any, can be heard and determined at the nearest court house and the person is not grossly inconvenienced or faced with the unjust alternative of submitting to the proposed financial imposition because it will be cheaper than coming to Brisbane to fight the case?

*Answer:—*

"Under the Justices Act, the jurisdiction of a court in respect of simple offences is invariably linked with the place where the offence was committed. However, in respect of certain statutory obligations, such as lodgement of returns, the obligation arises in Brisbane and, consequently, the offence is prosecuted in Brisbane. There are many considerations involved. The situations which do call for the prosecution in Brisbane are such that the persons having the responsibility should be well aware of their obligation to comply with the requirements. Sympathetic consideration is given in circumstances where there are reasonable grounds for failing to comply with the statutory requirements. Each case, however, must be looked at in the light of its own circumstances."

#### ROAD TRANSPORT PERMIT FEES

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

(1) Has he seen the statement in *The Cairns Post* of March 3 by the Far Northern Zone Vice-President of the National Party concerning road tax levied in Queensland?

(2) When does the Government propose to implement the promise to remove road tax, which it made 12 months ago?

(3) Does he agree with Mr. Rankine that it is unfair to continue the tax in the light of the present rural situation?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) "When the Honourable Member recovers from his apparent comatose condition, I suggest he read my Answer to a somewhat similar Question he asked of me last week."

#### NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AND PRE-SCHOOL CENTRE, SOUTH CAIRNS

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

(1) What stage has planning reached in the establishment of a new primary school at South Cairns?

(2) Has land been secured at Earlville or Bayview Heights and, if so, has a pre-school centre received consideration in the planning?

(3) If not, what stage has been reached and what priority will be granted to the establishment and opening of a pre-school centre at the new school?

*Answers:—*

(1) "The establishment of a new primary school at Bayview Heights is included in my department's forward planning."

(2 and 3) "Land tenure has not been secured at either Earlville or Bayview Heights but the Land Administration Commission is proceeding towards acquisition of a site in each locality. Provision for pre-school facilities will be made in conjunction with provisions at the primary level."

#### MORANBAH REPRESENTATIVE ON CLERMONT HOSPITALS BOARD

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

As the new hospital will open soon, is it possible to appoint an extra member to the Clermont Hospitals Board to represent the fast-growing town of Moranbah?

*Answer:—*

"There is a vacancy for a Government representative on the Clermont Hospitals Board and I am currently giving consideration to the appointment of this additional board member."

#### TRAINING OF JACKAROOS

**Mr. Lester**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Industrial Development,—

Is it feasible to put forward a case to introduce an incentive to cattlemen employing jackaroos, similar to that payable to employers of apprentices in other trades, which would help the depressed cattle industry?

*Answer:—*

"In view of the attention now being given to various training and re-training schemes and which are being heavily subsidised by the Commonwealth Government, I feel that the Question asked by the Honourable Member is timely. The matter has also been raised by the Honourable Member for Balonne. I shall be pleased to have the matter examined to see whether it would be practicable to include the training of jackaroos as a calling under the Apprenticeship Act. In addition, I shall be pleased to make immediate representations to the Commonwealth Minister for Labour and Immigration with a view

to having them included in one of the training schemes of the Commonwealth Government combined with the payment of subsidies as are presently being paid by the Commonwealth Government in respect of its various training schemes."

#### RAILWAY HOUSING SHORTAGE, BLUFF AND BLACKWATER

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

What has been done so far to relieve the acute railway housing shortage at Bluff and Blackwater and what plans are there for future action on this matter?

*Answer:—*

"The provision of additional housing at these centres is dependent upon the amount of finance which can be made available for such works from the department's overall loan allocation which, in itself, is limited when regard is had to the many projects which require to be financed. There is, too, the question of the extent to which the Railway Department, a transport undertaking, can be expected to assume responsibility for the provision of housing. The department has nevertheless not been inactive. Plans have been developed—and presented to the unions for examination—for the early construction of new quarters at Bluff for both permanent and foreign trainmen. Admittedly, these quarters will not provide accommodation for employees' families but they will represent the investment of some hundreds of thousands of dollars in considerably improved facilities and amenities for the occupants. Approaches have been made to the Housing Commission in support of requests for the allocation of Housing Commission homes to railwaymen and other avenues of providing houses at Bluff are being explored. The Honourable Member may be assured that his representations in regard to the housing of railwaymen at Blackwater will also be fully examined. At the same time, however, the Honourable Member must realise that Queensland is represented by 82 Members and many of them have similar requirements in regard to railway facilities. Unfortunately there is only a certain amount of money allocated for these purposes and the best possible is done to ensure that, consistent with the importance and urgency of each case, every area receives a share of the funds."

#### PETITIONS FOR DIVORCE

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

(1) How many petitions for divorce were lodged in the Supreme Court Southern District in each of the years 1972, 1973 and 1974?



(2) How many petitions have been lodged so far this year?

*Answers:—*

(1) "1972, 1,625; 1973, 2,051; and 1974, 2,811."

(2) "1975 as at March 12, 1975—535."

#### DISCIPLINE IN SCHOOLS

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

(1) Are some of the recent outbreaks of violence at schools attributable to the actions of Dr. D'Urso and his Council for Democracy in Schools, who have openly advocated that discipline should be abolished in schools and have encouraged pupils to resist discipline?

(2) Have the utterances of the President of the Teachers' Union also contributed to the undermining of school discipline?

*Answer:—*

(1 and 2) "There is no tangible evidence to suggest that injuries to students at schools can be attributed to the utterances of Dr. D'Urso and/or the President of the Queensland Teachers' Union. It must also be said that investigation into all such incidents reveals no proof of any intent to injure, but rather injury was an outcome of skylarking in almost every case. It could fairly be asserted however that a number of statements made by Dr. D'Urso and/or the President of the Queensland Teachers' Union are designed more to cause unrest and sow doubt in the minds of parents, teachers and students than to engender confidence in schools."

#### SUBSIDY FOR TRAINING OF OBEDIENCE DOGS

**Mr. Jensen**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Sport,—

As the card game "bridge" is classified as a recreation and consequently is eligible for subsidy under the grants for sporting bodies, why is the training of obedience dogs not classified as a recreation for the allowing of a subsidy?

*Answer:—*

"No application for financial assistance has ever been received by my Department from a club for the training of obedience dogs."

#### PRE-SCHOOL CENTRES, BUNDABERG DISTRICT

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

(1) In view of the reply by the Minister for Education to my Question on October 18, 1973, that the pre-school for North Bundaberg would be built in 1974-75, what is the present position?

(2) When will the pre-school at South Bundaberg School be open?

*Answers:—*

(1) "This proposal has been carried forward by the Department of Education for consideration during the 1975-76 financial year in relation to funds which may be made available."

(2) "This building will be available for occupation in about three weeks time. The date on which the pre-school centre will open is a matter for determination by the Department of Education."

#### WORKLOAD OF STAFF, BUNDABERG POLICE DISTRICT

**Mr. Jensen**, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Police,—

How did the excision of five police divisions from the Bundaberg Police District affect the work load of the senior sergeants, causing the reduction of one, as the divisions normally come under the control of the inspectors of police at the stations?

*Answer:—*

"The excision of five police divisions from the Bundaberg Police District affected the workload generally at Bundaberg Police Station, particularly in so far as the relieving component was concerned. Thus, a compensatory reduction in strength of Bundaberg Police Station had to be considered. As part of the establishment of new police districts and regions, a general policy has been adopted that one senior sergeant be stationed at large stations as officer in charge of the divisions and that shift sergeants be provided to meet the requirements of the Police Award—State. This policy is consistent with good administrative practice as it allows clear definition of responsibility, and establishes a proper chain of command. On this basis, then, the position of the second senior sergeant at Bundaberg was eliminated."

#### COUNCIL OF STATES

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

(1) Have South Australia and Tasmania been invited to join the Council of States?

(2) Has either State indicated that it is interested in joining?

(3) Is it proposed to form a secretariat to service the council and, if so, where will it be located?

*Answers:—*

(1) "Yes."

(2) "The Premiers of Tasmania and South Australia advised that they would not be sending a representative to the meeting at which formation of the council was considered."

(3) "It is proposed that the executive officer of the council be a member of the Public Service of the State of the Chairman for the time being of the Council. He will be situated in that State. The details of other staffing requirements have not yet been worked out."

#### HOUSING FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES, HUGHENDEN

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

(1) Is he aware that in Hughenden at least six married railwaymen are living separated from their families because there is no accommodation available?

(2) Is he aware that another two railway families are to be rendered homeless in the next fortnight as a result of eviction notices?

(3) Is he aware that owing to the increase in traffic on the Mount Isa line a further 15 drivers and firemen will be transferred to Hughenden this year, thus exacerbating an already intolerable situation?

(4) What action will he take to overcome this problem and will he guarantee the rent on a dozen Housing Commission houses?

*Answers:—*

(1) "I was not so aware, but accept that the Honourable Member has satisfied himself that such is the case."

(2) "My advice is that one of the two families served with notice to quit the private accommodation occupied has obtained alternative accommodation."

(3) "The Honourable Member presumably is referring to the planned increase in staff to cope with the movement of phosphate from Phosphate Hill to Townsville. It is not foreseen that as many as 15 additional enginemmen will be required this year in this connection."

(4) "The capital sum to be advanced to the department by the sponsors of the phosphate project includes provision for the erection of additional housing. 34 houses have already been provided by the

Railway Department at Hughenden, and the practicability of having further provision made apart from that associated with the development of phosphate traffic will be fully investigated. I draw the Honourable Member's attention to the last paragraph of my Answer to the Question this morning by the Honourable Member for Belyando."

#### TRAFFIC SIGNS AT ROAD CROSSINGS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

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

In view of the general concern in the community regarding traffic problems in this State and throughout the Commonwealth and, in particular, where children are concerned, what criteria are used by the Police Department, the local authority and the Main Roads Department combined, when a decision is made to erect suitable signs at a road-crossing which is frequently used by school children?

*Answer:—*

"Crossing signs and markings come within the scope of 'Official Traffic Signs' as defined in section 9 of the *Traffic Act* 1949–1974. Methods, standards and procedures for these are contained in the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices issued by the Commissioner of Main Roads."

#### BICYCLE LANE ON NEW BRIDGE, ROCKHAMPTON

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

(1) With reference to the proposed new traffic bridge to be constructed in Rockhampton between the present traffic bridge and the railway bridge, has any consideration been given in the design of the bridge to making provision for bicycles, which are used as transport in Rockhampton by large numbers of adults and children?

(2) If no consideration has been given for this facility, will he confer with his departmental officers regarding its provision?

*Answer:—*

(1 and 2) "Yes. The lanes on the old bridge are only 9 feet wide. On the new bridge the outside lane is 14 feet wide. The 5 feet additional width should allow cycles to operate to the left of the lane without impeding motor traffic."

#### APPLICATIONS HELD BY HOUSING COMMISSION, ROCKHAMPTON

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

What applications for accommodation are presently held by the Rockhampton office of the Queensland Housing Commission and, of this figure, how many are for (a) rental, (b) purchase and (c) aged-person units?

*Answer:—*

"Applications on hand at February 28, 1975 were—(a) and (b) for rental and/or purchase houses—100 points 11; 80 points 3; 60 points 2; 40 points 32; nil priority 92; (c) for aged persons units—single persons 20; couples 5."

#### PROFITS OF ELECTRIC AUTHORITIES

**Mr. Dean** asked The Minister for Mines,—

In view of the intended rationalisation scheme in the local authority industry, will he give an indication as to the profits made by each of the major electric authorities during 1973-74?

*(Originally asked March 12, 1975)*

*Answer:—*

"No. Any surpluses of revenue over expenditure by the major electric authorities are utilised for the benefit of electricity consumers. There is no profit in the normal sense."

#### QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

##### FEDERAL ROADS GRANTS

**Mr. ROW:** I ask the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads: In view of the recent media statements attributed to the Federal Transport Minister (Mr. Jones) during his recent visit to Queensland, wherein he criticised the Queensland Government for alleged mishandling of Federal roads grants and allocations, will he inform the House of the true position concerning these road funds?

**Mr. HINZE:** I deplore the fact that Mr. Jones has chosen to use his tour of Queensland centres this week to wage a propaganda campaign against State roads policy, on the eve of talks with me and with local authority representatives tomorrow. At stops from Cairns south Mr. Jones made a point of attacking the Premier and the State Government at every opportunity over Queensland road conditions and spending. I had hoped that Mr. Jones's tour would produce something more tangible in the way of an appreciation of the State's road problems, and co-operation to do something about them.

I quite agree with Mr. Jones that more money is needed to be spent on Queensland's roads, and the Commonwealth (not the State) has the money and the power to

remedy the situation, if Mr. Jones is fair dinkum and the Federal Government really wants to. For the past three years the State Government has been telling Mr. Jones and his socialist Government that we need much more road finance, and we have warned consistently of what would happen to our roads if it is not forthcoming.

The Commonwealth Bureau of Roads has agreed with us, and the Commonwealth allocations for roads in Queensland, particularly the urban and rural arterial roads, fall far short of what even the Bureau says we need.

For Mr. Jones to claim now that the State Government is to blame for the condition of sections of highway he describes as "death traps" is hypocritical in the extreme. I am saying in plain terms that Mr. Jones is a hypocrite. To put it bluntly, he finds it very difficult to keep to the truth. In fact he treats the truth rather lightly.

**Opposition Members** interjected.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order! On earlier occasions I have stated that I will not allow persistent interjections while Ministers are answering questions. All honourable members will have the opportunity to ask questions, so I ask them to refrain from persistent interjections.

**Mr. HINZE:** Mr. Jones has cited increased Commonwealth allocations for roads in the current three-year period, compared with the previous three years. However, the inescapable fact is that, allowing even for modest inflation, the funds provided will build considerably less road.

The State Government contends that, at the present rate of financing for national highways, including the Bruce Highway, it will be 15 years before the system is brought up to an acceptable standard.

On rural arterial roads, with an acknowledged need of \$265,000,000 over seven years and a Commonwealth grant of \$31,000,000 over three years, prospects are considerably worse—even with maximum State funding. The finance allotted by the Commonwealth for rural arterial and urban arterial roads is well below what we have sought and need, and our construction and planning programmes for both these categories have been greatly disrupted and set back as a result.

I can only hope that Mr. Jones's reported criticisms can be taken as an indication that he now recognises the validity of Queensland's submissions.

The Commonwealth's current allocation for national highways is \$11,100,000 more than the amount recommended by the Commonwealth Bureau of Roads. However, for other classes of roads, including the urban and rural arterials, urban and rural locals, and

the beef roads, the Commonwealth allocation is \$92,300,000 less than the Bureau recommended should be spent.

Mr. Jones will have the opportunity tomorrow, when I meet him, to show, with more than empty words, that he genuinely shares my concern and the concern of the State Government over inadequate road spending.

#### TEXTBOOK ALLOWANCES

**Mrs. KIPPIN:** I ask the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities: Is he aware that on the A.B.C. news broadcast at 7.15 this morning an announcement was attributed to him to the effect that he had made it clear that textbook allowances would not be increased this year? If he is aware of this announcement, is it not contrary to the fact?

**Mr. BIRD:** I thank the honourable member for her question. I am aware of the broadcast report. I am very disappointed to think that the statement as broadcast could lead people to infer that the situation is exactly the opposite to what it is, as outlined in the statement which I released. I pointed out in my Press statement that the Government has already substantially increased textbook allowances this financial year. This statement followed a recent contribution by the honourable member for Rockhampton in the House in which he said that because of an alleged racket in the sale of textbooks, textbook allowances should be increased. If indeed there is a racket in the sale of textbooks, we would be far better off remedying the situation than adding to the racket itself and to inflation, as his cohorts in the Federal sphere have done, by simply increasing textbook allowances further.

I am disappointed to think that my first Press statement should have been reported incorrectly. I hope that the facts contained in it will be brought to the notice of the public.

#### MIDDLE EAST TOUR BY DR. CAIRNS

**Mr. HARTWIG:** I ask the Premier: As the front page in today's "Courier-Mail" displays in no uncertain manner that Dr. Cairns has flown to the Middle East, in view of the Australian Government's refusal to allow further exploration for oil in this country and as our own trade mission has just reported that prospective markets exist in the Middle East, from the knowledge he gained overseas can he inform the House whether or not Dr. Cairns has sufficient secretarial staff to assist in negotiating sales of beef and other commodities?

**Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN:** In the first instance, I do not think Dr. Cairns would have much interest in beef negotiations, let alone the knowledge so essential for them.

That is my first point. Secondly, Dr. Cairns certainly has plenty of staff with him. I thought the Leader of the Opposition would have directed a question about this trip since he and other members of the Opposition expressed such great concern at the cost of my trip to London, when I travelled on my own as Premier of the State. However, they have been very silent on the matter of the trip by Dr. Cairns, which is costing the taxpayers of this country a great deal of money, not only for the fares of secretaries and their secretaries and others accompanying him on the mission but also for the cost of flying a V.I.P. aircraft from Australia so that Dr. Cairns and his party may travel through the Middle East. These matters must be brought to the nation's attention. It is a complete and utter disgrace.

It is a tragedy, too, when the trip is thought of in terms of the destruction of our oil industry. The Commonwealth Government has destroyed private enterprise and the inflow of overseas capital into this country for exploration. Dr. Cairns is now attempting to get money from the Middle East. I think that members on this side of the House as well as honourable members opposite—

**Mr. Wright** interjected.

**Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN:** And I include the honourable member for Rockhampton. If he had any gumption or backbone he would be on his feet condemning these things; but we know very well that he has neither the courage nor the ability to do so. I will be interested to see whether the Leader of the Opposition has some courage, too; whether he will stand up for his State and for the community generally on this debacle after the way the Commonwealth has acted.

Today we have had revealed another change of policy by the Federal Government, which has gone into reverse gear on its oil search policy, which completely disregarded the economy and well-being of the nation.

**Mr. Knox:** Don't forget that the Leader of the Opposition is an expert on bulls. He took one to China.

**Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN:** I realise that. The Leader of the Opposition incurred for this nation a great deal of expense when he went to Red China following the Commonwealth Government's gift of a bull to that country. That bull was transported in a big air freighter. I think he ought to be ashamed of himself when he criticises one aspect of everyday living and does not stand up and say something about these other things that are happening. I should like to see him display a little courage in this regard too. The action of the Deputy Prime Minister draws the attention of the nation to the tragedy of Labor's policies and the result of them.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO AUSTRALIAN  
LABOR PARTY FUNDS

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I ask the Premier: In view of the statement in today's "Australian" that the Labor Party intends to approach business firms for donations to party funds, is he aware of the huge contribution of \$60,000 already made by the Seamen's Union and a total of \$250,000 by the Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union? Doesn't this latest attitude of Labor reek of blackmail as it is obvious that firms with import and export licences will be subjected to a great deal of pressure to contribute to Labor funds?

**Mr. BJELKE-PETERSEN:** Obviously it does reek of blackmail of certain business people. It also demonstrates the socialistic attitude of the Labor Party. It seems to think and believe that all people, organisations and political parties are alike and that they should be expected to contribute in like manner to all political parties. I cannot imagine how anyone could think along those lines. We all know that the A.L.P., through trade unions, collects dues from people in all walks of life who do not even subscribe to its policies. Now the A.L.P. wants to go further and demand that people in businesses of all types, irrespective of their political views, be compelled to subscribe equally to all parties. I am quite sure that his proposal will receive the recognition that it merits, which is complete rejection.

At 12 noon,

*In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 17, the House proceeded with Government business.*

ADDRESS IN REPLY

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE—THIRD AND  
FOURTH ALLOTTED DAYS

Debate resumed from 11 March (see p. 228) on Mrs. Kippin's motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

**Mr. MELLOY (Nudgee) (12 noon):** First, I pledge my allegiance to Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of Australia. I express my appreciation to the many members of my party who assisted my return as a member of this Assembly, and also the electors in the Nudgee electorate who expressed their confidence in me.

It is true, of course, that Opposition members are few in number; but I think one might well misquote the statement by Shakespeare's Henry V before Agincourt and say—

"If we are to die, we are enough to do our party loss; If we are to live, the fewer men, the greater share of honour."

As Her Majesty's Opposition in this Parliament, it is our responsibility to ensure that the Government justifies every action it takes and all legislation it introduces and, equally

importantly, to draw attention to those areas where the Government has shunned its obligations to the people of Queensland. This is a responsibility we intend to exercise to the fullest. Depleted though we are in numbers, we are steadfast in our determination.

I believe that the Premier and his Government have reached the heights of hypocrisy in declaring their priorities in this new Parliament—a Bill to give ministerial portfolios to four more of the Premier's friends; a Bill to increase the number of Supreme Court judges; and a Bill to give effect to the 111-year-old office of Agent-General in London.

Back in the world of reality, people are waiting—incredulous at this selfish display—for some signs of the Queensland Utopia the Premier promised they would have if they would only put their trust in him as he rushed them to the polls on 7 December. But the Premier has made promises before, shaped on events of the moment—hollow promises in a growing list, conceived in expediency and forgotten in haste.

This is our Premier of principle who prostitutes principles at whim; this is the State-rights Premier who sells out the rights of our State in the interests of his own personal friendships; this is the law-and-order Premier who is happy to scorn the law and sacrifice order to suit his purposes. He heads a Government which feigns alarm at demonstrations during the visit of a football team but condones demonstrations against the Prime Minister of Australia during an election campaign; a Government which outlaws gambling while southern racketeers muscle in for their share of the lucrative returns from pinball gambling machines; a Government which preaches against the evils of prostitution while prostitution prima donnas do a roaring trade through escort agencies; a Government which bans "Playboy" magazine and censors films, while unclothed girls entertain paying customers in Brisbane vice parlors; a Government which has allowed crime to reach unparalleled levels in Queensland—a rate twice that of the population growth—while it has had its head in the sand.

This Premier heads a Government which is so heavenly good that it is of no earthly use. Take these sanctimonious words as an example—and they are the Premier's words—

"You never know when you'll need a policeman. And because of our planning, when you do need one, he'll be well trained and better equipped to do his job. The Queensland Police Force has been transformed . . . the changes already have resulted in a substantial increase in the number of serious crimes cleared up throughout Queensland compared to last year."

That is an extract from the Premier's election policy speech three years ago, and even then the words were untrue. We found that, while the Premier was piously claiming an increase in the number of crimes solved under his Government's administration, the Police Commissioner was telling the full story. Although the number of crimes solved had increased, the actual solution rate had fallen by 2 per cent. In other words, crime was rising faster than police could solve it. Undaunted, however, the Premier went on to tell voters that, to safeguard Queenslanders' rights against organised attempts to undermine them, the Liberal-Country Party intended to introduce new legislation on public safety.

And what success has the Premier had? In 1973-74 there were 89 offences classified as homicides in Queensland. Four murders and one attempted murder remain unsolved. Rape, attempted rape and other sexual offences totalled 1,200, only 787 of which were cleared up. And this, of course, includes only those offences which were reported. Breaking and enterings totalled 13,908, only 2,844 of which were solved. This is less than 20 per cent. Stealing offences numbered 29,442, only 7,705 or 27 per cent of which were solved. Drug offences soared out of all proportion to 1,285, a rise of 101 per cent from 639 in 1972-73. In total, only 38 per cent of the 72,454 reported criminal offences in Queensland last year were cleared. Well might we ask: What has happened to law and order in this glorious State of Queensland? No wonder the people are unhappy. It is a far cry from the administrative days of a State Labor Government when the Queensland Police Force enjoyed a world-wide reputation for its efficiency and effectiveness. Its crime detection rate then was higher than Scotland Yard and the Canadian Mounties.

The 1972 version of the Premier on the campaign trail told us that his Government regarded "law" as meaning "the protection of the rights of all in the community", and "order" as "the orderly working of society". The latest version—the campaign Premier of 1974—did not find any motive for brushing the dust off his law and order file. In fact, he skipped over both his Government's record and its plans for the Police Force in 40 words, so ashamed was he of the deterioration and low morale under his administration.

**Mr. Jensen:** He ruined the Police Force.

**Mr. MELLOY:** We don't have a Police Force.

We soon found that he was no longer even feigning interest in law and order. In Cairns an unruly rabble of National Party-inspired demonstrators, armed with placards and signs, attempted violent disruption of a visit by the Prime Minister, Mr. Whitlam. We might reasonably have expected the Premier to urge restraint upon

his undisciplined supporters and to condemn these demonstrations as un-Australian, or, if he preferred, as un-Queensland. But the masquerade was over. The Premier no longer pretended to be an advocate of law and order in this State. It was over and forgotten and so far from the Premier's mind that he was moved to appear on a Cairns radio programme where he told amazed, law-abiding citizens that he condoned the demonstration because he could understand the demonstrators' motives. Of course he could—because they were National Party-inspired motives that actuated the demonstrators on that occasion in Cairns.

A few months ago we had the same Premier turning a blind eye to demonstrations by a minority group of farmers, again inspired by the National Party or the League of Rights, which in Queensland now are almost one and the same.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I rise to a point of order. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition attributed these demonstrations to members of the National Party. That is untrue.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! There is no point of order.

**Mr. MELLOY:** The National Party and the League of Rights are now practically one and the same in Queensland.

Let me now speak in more detail of matters directly concerning the breakdown of law and order under this Government, and the misplaced priorities of the custodians of law and order under the administration of their Minister, the Minister for Police.

This Minister, who to date has been only a part-time Minister for Police, has presided over an era of increased crime, a reduced rate of conviction, a hopelessly undermanned Police Force, and an all-time low in police morale. We will watch with interest what happens now that he is able to devote his full-time attention to police matters.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** The position will probably get worse.

**Mr. MELLOY:** We as an Opposition hope that we will be proved wrong. We do not want to see the Minister fall down on his job. We are concerned about the maintenance of law and order, so we hope he does his job.

Obviously, if the Premier had been interested in raising the morale of the Police Force and in helping to restore public confidence in its administration, he would have appointed a new Police Minister during his extravagant Cabinet manoeuvres. Even sections within the present Minister's own party believe that a new man at the top would help the police image.

Dissatisfaction within the National Party with the present administration goes back as far as 1972. And the Minister himself has shown more interest in an overseas appointment than in trying to inspire any real meaning of law and order in Queensland.

In the last Budget we were told that police strength was to be increased by an additional 251 officers this year, from 3,772 to 4,023. On paper, this is a commendable move. But at the time of the Budget the strength of the force was down to 3,337, or 435 fewer than the 3,772. In other words, before being able to go out and recruit the 251 new police officers, the Government first needed to fill 435 gaps in the ranks of serving policemen and policewomen.

I should like the Minister to tell the House what success he has had in this venture. We have seen no evidence of such success in the strength of suburban police stations. We have yet to see the benefit of any increased recruitment in the Police Force. I ask: What is the current strength of our Police Force? Is the all-time-high resignation rate of 1973-74 continuing? The Minister should give us this information.

When low morale and lack of police confidence in the Government's haphazard administration bring about record resignations, how on earth can enough recruits be attracted to allow the Police Force to operate at full strength?

Let me say I cast no reflection on the men and women of the Police Force. We acknowledge the job they do and the difficulties under which they work. It is not their fault that the Police Force can no longer provide proper protection for Queenslanders and their property. Suburban police protection disappeared with the suburban policeman.

How often have members of this House seen a telephone booth wrecked by neighborhood louts and vandals? No one expects a policeman to spend all his time prowling about trying to catch telephone vandals, but in the days of the suburban policeman, who knew his local community and knew who the local louts were, it was a different proposition.

Protection of a public phone may seem a trifling matter. But a life can sometimes depend on a phone, as it did this week only a matter of miles from this House. A middle-aged woman needed urgent medical

help for her husband, who suddenly became ill late at night. When she went to the public telephone booth, she found to her dismay that it had been wrecked recently. Fortunately she was able to arouse her neighbours and use their phone. However, we can well imagine how serious the results could have been if this private phone had not been available.

Often, we read of so-called crack-downs on crime—crack-downs on motorists and crack-downs on pedestrians; but under this Government's priorities, most of the real crack-downs are misdirected, at the community's expense.

Why should police senior sergeants guard a hole in the ground? On a main road recently, I saw a senior sergeant guarding an excavation.

**Mr. Burns:** There was one on the main road near the 'Gabba Post Office.

**Mr. MELLOY:** That is so. Every honourable member has seen similar instances. What a reckless waste of expertise and manpower. Recently I saw two policemen booking parents who stopped to pick up their children from a kindergarten. There was a recent vendetta against jay-walkers, and another against motorists who owned cars with towbars that partly obscured the numberplate.

What misdirection! While police are guarding holes in the ground, swooping on parents at kindergartens, admonishing jay-walkers, and seeking out partly obscured numberplates, we have unprecedented domestic violence on our streets, on our buses and in our trains. These are the places where police are needed, not wasting their time guarding holes in the ground and prosecuting young mothers who are picking up their children.

A girl is mugged and raped almost in the heart of the city; terrorising louts force suburban bus operators to end night services; frightened mothers refuse to let their daughters work at night because there is no certainty that they will get home safely; late-night train passengers are man-handled by young hoods. This is law and order under this Government. We need new priorities—proper priorities in the interests of people. We need a Police Force that is allowed to carry on and act like a Police Force. What better way to wreck a crack policeman's morale—an N.C.O.—than to ask him, his

three hard-earned stripes notwithstanding, to guard a hole. This is a matter of priority. What a waste of manpower!

Policemen have a thankless task. They are not well paid. They work long and unregulated hours. They are abused and accused—and under this Government they are misused. But the common quality which kept the force together was pride in a job well done. This Government's distorted priorities have ruined that pride and the people of Queensland are paying the price.

Freedom from fear is a democratic right. But when that right is threatened it is time for a responsible Government to move in a responsible way.

It is time for a responsible approach when the public transport system to which people are entitled breaks down, as it has done in suburbs on both sides of the Brisbane River, because unruly louts interfere with the bus drivers in the execution of their duty. No worker should be asked to undertake a job which threatens his personal safety, as the personal safety of bus drivers was threatened. In our society we would expect the threat to be removed; but, instead, this Government allowed the threat to remain and allowed the community's night bus service to be removed. Instead of doing something constructive to remove the threat from drivers, this Government through its Police Force took no action and the bus service was allowed to lapse.

The only choice open to young people and families without a car in these suburbs was to pay for a taxi to get home safely at night or to stay at home. The Police Minister would do well to talk to the parents of Inala and Wynnum about his record on law and order.

Or perhaps he could explain his priorities to the worried parents of primary-school children who have discovered that their children are juvenile dope addicts. These are serious matters. The Government would do well to listen intently to such complaints and concentrate its energies on remedying the situation.

I mentioned earlier that the number of drug users detected in Queensland—and "detected" is the operative word—increased by 101 per cent from 639 in 1972-73 to 1,285 last year. This is a frightening record at a time when every member of the community should be aware of the menace of drug-taking. The disclosure that this problem has increased further in the space of

12 months is alarming and, indeed, frightening. But what is the Government doing? It is allowing drugs to creep into school-grounds while policemen book parents for parking outside the schools. What a shocking state of affairs this is!

On a radio talk-back programme this week, the Rev. Charles Ringma, of Teen Challenge, which is a youth-counselling service, told listeners that drug use was still increasing. Some of Brisbane's marijuana smokers and pill-poppers were as young as 10 or 11 years of age, he said. He knew of heroin users as young as 18. I would expect a responsible Government to be concerned about these disturbing reports; I would expect a responsible Government to be appalled that, under its administration a person only 18 years of age was on the way to ruin because its policemen were too busy notching up parking convictions to seek out drug pushers and bring them to justice. That is the situation in this State. As I said before, it illustrates a misdirection of the priorities I would expect from a responsible Government—but, on the evidence, not from this Government. I am urging more positive action on such matters.

**Mr. HODGES:** I rise to a point of order. The Police Force has done a magnificent job in the apprehension of drug pushers.

**Mr. Houston:** That's not a point of order.

**Mr. HODGES:** My point of order is that just recently three offenders were apprehended and subsequently they appealed against their sentences of five years and four years. The other day the Commonwealth Government released them after they had served 12 months.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! The honourable member for Nudgee will continue with his speech.

**Mr. MELLOY:** I am afraid I do not see the point of order, but I will accept it.

There has been no response to our great need in this State for socially orientated legislation, partly because the Government does not care, partly because it has its head in the ground and partly because it is led by Ministers out of touch with reality. And I instance the Minister for Police.

Some of the \$2,000,000 this Government uses on political public relations propaganda could be used far better on an intensified education programme to impress on our young, particularly, the dangers inherent in



taking hard drugs. It is alarming to find that we have drug-takers in our schools. This problem must be dealt with in the early stages. We could find them in our schools if we had a proper programme of drug detection. Drug pedlars and social workers are aiming at the same market. But social workers are hamstrung by lack of finance and lack of research facilities, and the drug pedlars, who are rampant because police are otherwise occupied, are winning. In this morning's Press the Reverend Ringma is reported as saying that his Teen Challenge organisation is closing down because of lack of Government support to enable it to continue its work. The drug pedlars are winning the race all along the line because they are not being harassed as they would be if we had adequate police.

A few days ago, a Brisbane policeman who was concerned because police activities were being misdirected drew attention to another matter—a dangerous, "Big Brother" network. He reported that the Police Department was introducing a system of recording the names and addresses of people spoken to at random on Brisbane streets. I can understand a system such as this for keeping tabs on convicted criminals, but not on innocent people guilty of no more than minding their own business. This is a hit-and-run procedure of pouncing on people and taking their names for various reasons.

This is the way the system works: police are issued with cards described as "Field Interrogation Reports", and young, over-zealous police and some not so young—guns on hip, of course—are stopping anybody and everybody so that they can take names, addresses and make other notations in order to prove to their superiors that they have been working hard. It is not that they enjoy these duties—and anybody who wants proof should speak to a policeman in his area—but they know they are judged on their records.

**Mr. Moore:** If you are right, it's a scandal.

**Mr. MELLOY:** It is an absolute scandal. I agree with the honourable member and suggest that he convey that to the Minister.

**Mr. Jones:** The Minister denied any knowledge of it yesterday in reply to a question I asked him.

**Mr. MELLOY:** As I said, present Ministers, particularly the Minister for Police, are out of touch with reality.

The police officer who reported this new system of placing on record the names of decent, law-abiding citizens, said that the Police Department, under this Minister for Police, is encouraging policemen to fill out as many of these field interrogation reports as possible. He said the department was of the opinion that police who filed many field interrogation reports were doing a good job.

But the people whose names have been recorded, and this Parliament, are entitled to a full explanation from the Police Minister of the reasons for this abuse of privacy, which it surely is. I would expect a responsible Police Minister and a responsible Government to remove these "Big Brother" files immediately and permanently. This type of thing has no place in Queensland's democratic society today.

Queensland criminologist Dr. Paul Wilson recently urged a restructuring of Australia's Police Forces.

**Mr. Hodges:** What classification did you give him and who is he?

**Mr. MELLOY:** Dr. Paul Wilson.

**Mr. Hodges:** What is he?

**Mr. MELLOY:** The Minister knows him. The Minister should not try to kid me. The Minister is not going to have me on. He knows him better than he knows anybody else.

Dr. Wilson said that the justice structure ruthlessly pursued blue-collar criminals—those who broke and entered houses, or those who were charged with public drunkenness. The justice structure did not pursue the rich and the powerful, he said. Embezzlers, pyramid sellers, finance-lending organisations which milked the poor, and businesses which preyed on the ignorance or powerlessness of the underprivileged created an "anything goes" philosophy about life, he said. It hardly engendered respect for the law, or criminal justice personnel and procedures. I agree. But here in Queensland, often the police are not even given the chance to deal with the blue-collar criminal, into which category I put vice operators.

While police are busy taking the names of innocent people who happen to be walking on the streets at night, underground prostitution is gaining a stranglehold on Brisbane through the most unsubtle fronts of escort agencies and massage parlors. A report in the Brisbane "Telegraph" a few

days ago, which failed to evoke a responsible reaction from the Queensland Government, supports matters previously reported to me by my own constituents. For the information of honourable members, I read extracts from this newspaper report, which I believe to be very factual—

“A confidential call girl service, generally using escort agencies as fronts, is operating in all Australian capital cities. The service caters for the wealthy and uses a referral system for clients travelling interstate. One girl said it was easy to get \$150 for sex. She had been offered \$400. At least three of Brisbane’s 12 escort agencies, although owned independently, are linked with southern agencies in the referral service.”

One girl interviewed in this report said she estimated there were about 100 girls working regularly for escort agencies in Brisbane, and that at least 20 of these were call girls. Three women reported that some Brisbane agencies were providing full call girl services for from \$50 upwards, in addition to the basic escort fee of \$30 a night.

A girl described as a former prostitute said there were some “heavy people” involved in the escort agency racket in Sydney, but so far it was “pretty casual” in Brisbane. To my mind, the Queensland Government is being just as casual. A report like that demanded a full and immediate investigation. It demanded urgent attention before the racket involved “heavy people” in Brisbane.

In fairness to some of the entrepreneurs, I will say that the report pointed out that not all Brisbane escort agencies were involved in sex on call. Some of them are probably quite genuine. But an associated, or similar, sex racket is also being allowed to thrive under this Government’s system of priorities. There are the massage parlors and vice dens which masquerade behind the misnomer of “health studio.” Good health is the last thing clients of these establishments expect, or receive. The Government knows where these parlors are; it knows who runs them; and it knows many of the girls who work as massage girls, because they have appeared in court on charges of prostitution. But, as I said earlier, the Government is too busy preaching against the evils of prostitution, and sending its policemen out to fill in name cards, to be concerned.

All manner of curious perversions are available, along with the certain risk of venereal disease. In these establishments, a

“massage”—which means an oily rub or a good sprinkling of baby powder over the undraped body—costs from \$8 to \$10. Even high-school boys, by the way, are aware of these charges. A “topless”—which is the same service performed by a topless massage girl, and usually including crude “extras”—costs from \$12 to \$15. Sex is around \$20—and there are other variations.

These havens of ill-health are quite easy to find, even for those unable to read the yellow pages of the telephone directory, the advertisements in the daily newspapers, or the “business” cards distributed by trusted clients. Because of business drop-offs—and these days, I understand, this rarely happens—some of these girls have been known to walk out on to the streets and recruit customers. They advertise their services and their attributes without leaving anything to the imagination.

When police move in and manage the rather difficult task of gaining adequate evidence for a charge of prostitution, the girls work twice as hard to pay the fine. They boast of making \$75 tax free on a good night—and that is their take after the employer, who usually keeps out of sight, takes his share. The vice kings who manage these parlors escape charges and operate without harassment.

It’s time for a responsible Government to move in a responsible way. If the Police Minister will not rearrange Police priorities, it’s time someone rearranged them for him. It’s time to face reality. Without proper controls, standover men, crime, and an appalling lack of hygiene are the norm with underground prostitution rackets, I do not condone prostitution, but I recognise that it exists; and while it exists, as many precautions as possible must be taken to eliminate associated crime and health risks.

Health Department statistics tell part of the story. They show that the incidence of venereal disease rose by 35 per cent from 1970-71 to 2,555 reported cases last year. The biggest rise was in the number of reported cases in women—from 439 in 1970-71 by 100 per cent to 879. However, the departmental report revealed that a survey had shown the reported incidence of venereal disease to be markedly lower than the actual incidence. Figures reported by private practitioners comprised only 12.4 per cent of the total notifications. A breakdown shows that the age group most involved with prosecutions involving prostitution in

massage parlors is the over-25 group, which is responsible for more than 42 per cent of the total notifications. The Government has taken an ostrich-like attitude; it has adopted a "shut the eyes and it will go away" policy. But this will not work, as its law-enforcement policies are not working.

Since the present incumbent took office, the Budget for the Premier's Department has increased by a staggering 288 per cent. Let us see the same type of attention given to law and order and to cleaning up vice operations on which criminals thrive.

The Government has no need to defend policies which have not worked. When crime is rising twice as fast as the population and people are afraid to walk on the streets of their cities and suburbs at night, we need a complete house-cleaning. If the present Minister for Police finds he is inadequate for this task, then the Police Department must be given new leadership with a new Police Minister. New direction for our Police Force must, of necessity, mean new priorities. We want our streets and our buses and our late-night trains free from fear again; we want an unmerciful war against the pushers who are selling drugs to our children; and we want an immediate crack-down on the crime kings and shoddy operators who are reaping huge profits and spreading disease through vice parlors and underground prostitutes. Most of all, we want a Police Force which once again can be proud of its record and confident in its administration.

These are the problems confronting the Government. The Opposition challenges the Government and the Minister for Police to take effective action in relation to law and order in the city of Brisbane and in the State of Queensland. Even this morning, honourable members heard two members on the Government side—one a member of the Liberal Party, the other a member of the National Party—ask questions seeking further police protection for their constituents, and I think that every member of this Assembly realises that the suburban police situation at present is shocking and out of control. Children are no longer safe even going to school, because there they are preyed upon by drug-pushers and the like.

(Time expired.)

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! The honourable member for Ashgrove. As this is the honourable member's maiden speech, I ask the House to extend to him the traditional courtesies.

**Mr. GREENWOOD** (Ashgrove) (12.39 p.m.): One of the issues on which the coalition parties fought the last election was that of centralism. It is not a new problem. For many years the Government of Australia has been drifting steadily towards centralism. But since December 1972 what was merely a drift has been transformed into the drive of a Federal Government deeply committed to centralism as an article of faith.

I have said that this process has been going on for a number of years. We have all been conscious of it. We have watched while the power of the Federal Parliament in Canberra has steadily grown and that of the States has steadily declined. What we should now do is ask: What is causing it? We should ask whether it will continue. We should ask ourselves whether we should, at this point in Australia's history, endeavour to do something which will restore and protect that federal division of powers which was the deliberate choice of the Australian people.

There is no doubt that federalism was Australia's firm choice. There is no doubt that it was a deliberate choice. The idea of a unitary system was rejected. Power was not to be centralised but was to be distributed. In this distribution it was necessary that many important powers, such as defence and foreign affairs, be held exclusively by the central Government; but, at the same time, it was regarded as essential that the State Parliaments retain powers which were to be full and plenary in their own proper spheres.

These principles were stated in Barger's case. It is said that that case casts a long shadow. So it should. It was decided by three High Court judges who participated in framing the Constitution. Who will contradict their statement that—

"The scheme of the Australian Constitution, like that of the United States of America, is to confer certain definite powers on the Commonwealth, and to reserve to the States, whose powers before the establishment of the Commonwealth were plenary, all powers not expressly conferred on the Commonwealth."

The belief of those who framed our Constitution was that good government depends on being as close as possible to the problems being solved. There was no doubt in the minds of those framing our Constitution that the more remote the decision-makers are from those who are affected by their decisions, the less responsive and sensitive to public opinion they are likely to be.

Whilst it was essential that matters like defence and foreign affairs should be dealt with by the central Government, it was equally essential that as far as possible power and authority remain as close as possible to the people being governed.

This concept of federalism is not new. It was used by the American States, by the Germans and by the Dutch. It involves a division of powers under which neither the Central nor the State Government is inferior, one to the other, but each is supreme in its allotted sphere.

I should refer in more detail to the American experience. The concepts which underlie the Constitution of the United States were used as a model by Australia's statesmen, and the American Convention debates in which those concepts were developed and their interaction analysed were referred to by our own leaders when confronted with similar problems.

I should refer particularly to the defence of federalism as a concept by Alexander Hamilton at the Constitutional Convention at New York on 24 June 1788. Hamilton rose to his feet after the previous speaker had attacked the concept of equality between State and Federal Governments. The previous speaker had contended that it was not possible to have two supreme Governments. He had concluded by saying that there can be only one supreme Government and that the central Government must necessarily be that one. Hamilton's reply was a classic. It at once defended and defined the concept of federalism. He referred to the previous speaker's statement that "where the laws of the Union are supreme, those of the States must be subordinate because there cannot be two supremes", and he said—

"This is curious sophistry. That two supreme powers cannot act together is false. They are inconsistent only when they are aimed at each other or at one indivisible object. The laws of the United States are supreme as to all their proper, constitutional objects; the laws of the States are supreme in the same way."

Having made his point about the division of powers, Hamilton then turned to the difficult area in the middle where a few powers, such as the power to tax, are possessed by both the State and the Central Government. Of this he said the courts should "declare that both the taxes shall have equal operation: That both the powers, in that respect, are sovereign and co-extensive."

I am attempting to show that the continued authority of colonial Parliaments was one of the fundamental assumptions made by the draftsmen of the Australian Constitution, but to put the matter beyond doubt, and to make it absolutely clear that States' rights should be maintained in the federation, section 107 was inserted.

Section 107 of the Australian Constitution provides—

"Every power of the Parliament of a Colony which has become or becomes a State, shall unless it is by this Constitution exclusively vested in the Parliament of the Commonwealth or withdrawn from the Parliament of the State, continue as at the establishment of the Commonwealth, or as at the admission or establishment of the State, as the case may be."

I hope that I have satisfied honourable members that our Constitution was designed to protect the powers possessed by the States. But the question arises as to how extensive those powers were. Were they plenary, to use the expression of Griffith, Barton and O'Connor? Were they sovereign powers, to use the expression of Alexander Hamilton? The Victorian Full Court seems to have no doubt about the matter. To it, it was plain that the powers of an Australian colonial Parliament were sovereign powers, extending beyond the territorial boundaries of the State. Whether this view on extra-territoriality can now be supported is beside the point.

The important thing for us to remember is that this was the view accepted by the leaders of the Australian people when they drafted section 107, and these were the powers that they had in mind when they declared that the powers of State Parliaments should be preserved. The decision of the Victorian Full Court that I referred to is *The Queen against Call*. (ex parte Murphy, 1881, 7 V.L.R. (L) 113 at p. 120 pp. 122-4.) That case arose out of a Victorian Act which allowed New South Wales warrants to be enforced in Victoria and vice versa. It was argued that the Victorian Parliament had exceeded its powers. It was argued that the Victorian Parliament was legislating with respect to New South Wales, that this was extraterritorial legislation and that the Victorian court should regard it as invalid and refuse to enforce it. Implicit in this attack is the notion that a colonial Legislature has limited powers and that it is one of the duties of the Queen's

judges to see that colonial Legislatures do not exceed them. Mr. Justice Higinbotham declined to supervise the Victorian Parliament in this way. He cited English authorities describing the relationship between the Queen-in-Parliament at Westminster and the courts and then used similar language to describe the position of the Victorian Legislature. He said—

“Laws are the decrees of the high court of Parliament, and if the Supreme Court should allow itself to judge of the competence of Parliament to enact this or any other law the inferior would be sitting as a court of appeal from the superior court, and by refusing to administer would, in effect, unmake or repeal the law.”

In other words he was prepared to concede to a colonial Legislature the attributes of sovereignty. And from what followed, it appears that he drew support from the case of *Phillips v. Eyre*. *Phillips v. Eyre* was decided as long ago as 1869. A Jamaican statute had the effect of depriving a man of his right of action in an English court. He argued that an English court should not enforce such an Act. But the Lord Chief Justice and a Full Bench decided that English courts should extend to those colonial Legislatures which have plenary powers the same comity and recognition extended to Legislatures of foreign powers.

It is for these reasons that I say that it was the deliberate choice of Australians that the powers of State Parliaments should be protected in the federation, and it was the understanding of Australians that those powers were full, plenary and sovereign. And so a Constitution was framed to give effect to these ideas and aspirations. Yet we have seen in recent years how a Constitution conceived in this way can be used to achieve a wholly different result.

I turn now to those provisions that have been used to give the Commonwealth a dominating position in Commonwealth-State relations. The three that are most significant are the grants power (section 96), the paramountcy provision (section 109), and the taxation power. It is important to look at these three as they are used and interpreted now. It is even more important to look at them as they were used and interpreted by the people who framed the Constitution, for there is no doubt that, in their inception, they were never intended to be the tyrants they have since become.

Take the grants power, section 96. It has become the most potent instrument of control which the central Government possesses. In recent years we have seen States becoming more and more dependent upon special grants and, as this has happened, the Federal Labor Government has become more and more insistent that those grants should be spent only on projects which have been submitted for detailed approval by Canberra. This is not a distribution of power but the very negation of it.

And yet it is quite clear that section 96 was designed to do the very opposite: it was designed to strengthen State Parliaments and help them over the first 10 years of federation when it was thought that some of the smaller States would have some temporary financial problems. To appreciate section 96 one should look at the group of sections which were inserted with it, that is, sections 94, 93, 89, 87 and 86. The crucial section was 86, which transferred to the Commonwealth the collection and control of customs and excise duties. And one must remember that the most important source of revenue for most of the colonies at that time was the revenue from customs and excise duties.

These sections provided various methods for returning part of this revenue to the States. But ultimately the problem was to be solved by section 94, which was to start operating in about the eighth year after federation. Section 94 provided for all surplus Commonwealth revenue to be returned to the States in monthly instalments. But despite these measures it was common ground that for the first 10 years there might be difficulties, and therefore section 96 provided—

“During a period of ten years after the establishment of the Commonwealth and thereafter until the Parliament otherwise provides, the Parliament may grant financial assistance to any State on such terms and conditions as the Parliament thinks fit.”

Section 96 has lived on. It has lived on past its allotted span and been given a new lease of life. The financial difficulties faced by some States between 1901 and 1911 were unavoidable. But financial difficulties in later years have been caused by the deliberate action of the Commonwealth Government. The States have been made into suppliants and the process was not accidental.

The first step was in 1908. It will be remembered that I referred to section 94, under which the Commonwealth was to give

all its surplus revenue back to the States. Well, it soon side-stepped that one. It passed an Act that said that surplus revenues were deemed to have been spent in certain circumstances. The Surplus Revenue Act of 1908 provided in this way that payments made to trust funds should be deemed to be expenditure. Then, whenever there was a surplus, the Commonwealth paid the surplus into a trust fund for old-age pensions or coast defence.

Having taken customs and excise duties and side-stepped the provision which was meant to compensate the States, the next centralist step was to strip the States of their power to levy income tax. Depriving States of a fundamental constitutional right like the right to levy income tax took a lot of doing, but in 1942 a centralist A.L.P. Government managed it.

The danger to the financial independence of the States can be seen from the figures. Income tax was between 67 and 68 per cent of Queensland's tax revenue in 1941, so it left our treasury with very little. The other States were variously affected. Victoria and Tasmania were low-tax States and in their cases the loss of revenue was 53 per cent and 47 per cent respectively. On the average, the States lost 63 per cent of their total tax revenue.

The scheme devised by the Commonwealth was as follows. Firstly, its Income Tax Act imposed taxes at very high rates—rates of up to 18s. in the £—which made it a practical impossibility to impose an additional State tax upon income. Secondly, the Income Tax Assessment Act gave priority to the Commonwealth over the States in respect of the payment of income tax. Taken together, these two Acts effectively excluded the States from the field. After the Commonwealth tax was paid, nothing was left for the States. That was the stick.

The third Act was the carrot. The third Act was the States Grants (Income Tax Reimbursement) Act, which was an exercise of the grants power to which I have already referred. Grants were to be made to the States on the basis of the average collection of tax by each State during 1939-40 and 1940-41, but on a condition. The condition was that the States did not impose an income tax themselves.

The fourth Act purported to be an exercise of the defence power and was entitled the Income Tax (Wartime Arrangements) Act. It provided that the Commonwealth

Treasurer could, by notice in writing to any State Treasurer, bring about the temporary transfer to the Public Service of the Commonwealth of those State public servants who had previously been engaged in collecting State income tax. In other words, it was a take-over designed to deprive the States of their capacity to collect tax.

The four Acts amounted to a clever scheme to prevent the States from levying income tax. They were opposed by Queensland, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia when first introduced for the duration of the war. The States again opposed it when the Commonwealth extended the scheme after the war. On both occasions the States failed.

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

**Mr. GREENWOOD:** I have dealt with both section 96 (the grants power) and the taxing power of the Commonwealth. In both cases the federation that we live under in 1975 is a very different thing from the federation to which the States and the Australian community consented in 1900.

The other provision in the Constitution which has helped bring about this change is section 109 which provides—

“When a law of a State is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth, the latter shall prevail, and the former shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be invalid.”

That section was necessary because, in addition to powers held exclusively by the Commonwealth and powers held exclusively by the States, there is a range of activities in which both the States and the Commonwealth have concurrent powers of legislation.

On its face, the paragraph refers to matters of detail and State Acts are only to be invalid to the extent of the inconsistency. But since the “cover the field” test was developed by Mr. Justice Isaacs in *Cowburn's case*, any legislation at all by the Commonwealth which indicates its intention to cover the whole field excludes the whole of the corresponding State legislation. Moreover, it excludes State legislation whether there is in fact an inconsistency or not.

Section 109 is a necessary provision for the resolution of conflict, but the “cover the field” doctrine has given it a capacity for overkill. The way this capacity is used by a Federal Liberal-Country Party Government and the way it can be used by a Federal

Labor Party Government bent on centralism are two entirely different things. In the 75 years since federation, more and more areas that were intended to be concurrent have become the exclusive province of the Commonwealth Government.

So section 109, the grants power (section 96), and the taxation power, have brought about a federal society which is very different from the one originally contemplated.

I turn now to the changes that have been made as a result of centralist philosophies on the High Court. Immediately after federation, the Constitution was applied and interpreted by men who had framed it. Their knowledge of what was intended by the constitutional conventions was reflected in their judgments, and their reasoning contains many references to the spirit of the Constitution. They regarded the Constitution as being based on a number of fundamental assumptions about the rights of the States and they were prepared to go so far as to say that it should be interpreted as if it contained an implied prohibition against direct interference by the Commonwealth with matters reserved exclusively to the States.

By 1920, these men had passed from the bench and in that year Mr. Justice Isaacs, who had been a frequent dissenter in judgments which had upheld States' rights, delivered the leading judgment in the Engineers' case. That case rejected the use of the spirit of the Constitution when interpreting it.

Mr. Justice Isaacs declared that the Constitution was an ordinary Act of the British Parliament and that the intention should be collected from the words that were used and from no other source. This was an enormous blow to the protection of States' rights.

Mr. Justice Isaacs relied on the fact that the Privy Council had adopted the same approach in cases dealing with the British North America Act which contains the Constitution of the Dominion of Canada; but the Constitution of the Dominion of Canada arose in a completely different way from ours. There were no conventions of statesmen which debated and defined the intended scope of the various clauses. There was simply a report by Lord Durham—"Radical Jack"—and consideration by Whitehall of its implications. Finally, there was the enactment of legislation in the ordinary way.

The reliance by Mr. Justice Isaacs on the Privy Council's attitude to the Canadian Constitution is a good example of how judicial technique can arrive at an unwelcome decision in constitutional matters if it is divorced from an appreciation of history.

If we are to return to the federal division of powers which Australia originally intended, it will be necessary to amend the Constitution in at least two respects. In the first place, it will be necessary to insert

an express prohibition in terms similar to those which the early High Court judges were prepared to imply. Secondly, it will be necessary to guarantee to the States a reasonable share of tax revenue and allow them to disburse it in accordance with priorities of their choice. In my opinion, the drafting of acceptable amendments to achieve those results is the most important task facing the Constitutional Convention. There is no doubt in my mind that if some positive step is not taken to retrieve the position, within 25 years State Governments will be able to do little that is of importance in Australian society.

I turn now from a discussion of the Federal aspect of our Constitution to the central and pivotal position of the Crown. It has been my privilege to succeed Sir Douglas Tooth as the member for Ashgrove, and consequently it is my privilege on this occasion to express the loyalty and allegiance of the electors of Ashgrove to Her Majesty the Queen. From time to time one reads in the Press mutterings by those who advocate a republican form of government. They should read their history books. Our community tried republicanism 300 years ago, and once was quite enough. It rapidly descended into a military dictatorship for life, and the same pattern has been repeated again and again in recent years. For a while, South America provided the outstanding examples, but now people such as General Amin are showing that the political evolution from president to dictator has nothing to do with geographical location.

The plain fact of the matter is that when power is concentrated in a Prime Minister and President of the same political party, they sooner or later reach the stage where they cannot see any good reason for allowing the community to vote them out of office. They therefore abolish elections and, if the people wish to get rid of them, they must do it by revolution. Since 1688, the British people have had numerous changes of government, and political power has passed from the hands of one party to another. Profound social and economic changes have taken place as a result—and all this without revolution.

The reasons for this are that the Sovereign is above politics; the army is loyal to her person and not to a political party; and that in her two prerogatives of dissolution of the House and dismissal of the Ministry lie the fundamental guarantees of our freedom.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** An anachronism.

**Mr. GREENWOOD:** An anachronism that protects the honourable member for Archerfield as well as all the rest of us.

In pledging our continued loyalty and obedience to the Sovereign, we guarantee our continued right to live in freedom in a parliamentary democracy, and so, for the reasons I have stated, I support the motion before the House.

**Mr. HANSON** (Port Curtis) (2.26 p.m.): In one's parliamentary service, speaking in the Address-in-Reply debate certainly provides a very refreshing interlude. It is traditional for members of Parliament, in the course of their address in this debate, to state their loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen. On a number of occasions, I, on behalf of the electors of Port Curtis, have expressed that loyalty. When members face the Commissioners appointed for the day and take the oath before actually taking their seats in Parliament, many members of the Opposition do not take that oath lightly. They believe that an oath is something that is taken with due recognition of the role of the monarch, and, in pledging their allegiance, they do so in a fashion that is so necessary to their functions as members of Parliament.

I have always recognised the wonderful service that has been given by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Colin Hannah, and Lady Hannah, and I give them due recognition.

Many honourable members say that this Parliament is unique because of the imbalance that has been thrust upon it by the electors, and it really is unique. Other members of the Opposition have stated very forcefully that the views of the large percentage of people in the State who accorded a vote to the Australian Labor Party will be respectfully advocated by the Opposition. We will be a very effective Opposition, Mr. Deputy Speaker; make no error about that.

I feel in a very generous mood at this particular moment. Of course, I wish to congratulate those who have come into this Assembly for the first time, and it is not without significance that two women members have taken their seats. This is rather historic, because never before have two women members sat in the House at the one time. They represent political opinions different from mine, and I am certain that they will not be here very long before they realise the great gulf—the great abyss—that exists between the conflicting political opinions of the parties of a very unhappy coalition.

Mention has been made of the very serious losses that were inflicted upon the Australian Labor Party. As in most spheres of commercial life and other fields of activity, and also in one's avocation, there are certain ups and downs. Many good men have disappeared from the Opposition benches.

On reflection, I must, by virtue of family association, refer to a very outstanding, dedicated and erudite man, the former member for Baroona, my brother-in-law Pat Hanlon. In the true spirit of an A.L.P. member, he at all times followed the principle of placing human beings ahead of doctrines and grand designs by painstakingly calculating the human cost of political programmes. Because of clear, concise reason—not the doctrinaire reason of the ideologist, but the pragmatic reason of the man who seeks to

attain his goal at the least possible human cost—he was prone to desirable moderation. This reason, combined with compassion, showed him as a man of worth and substance.

His first maxim was that he believed in and respected only those whose motives were compassionate and could stand the test of rational inquiry. His other maxim was a trust in the solid and the true and a distrust of the sad revolutionary, believing, quite rightly, that those who are overenthusiastic today are the oppressors of tomorrow. Unrealistic words? Certainly not.

One must learn to listen to people—not just to what they say—but to how they say it. The criminals, the fanatics, the psychopaths can all use the language of compassion in their political rhetoric; but it is their voices that betray them. The thirst for domination, the intoxication with a “redeeming” spirit, the dark thrust of madness—these are the motives that are hard to control over a period of time. One must therefore listen carefully and patiently, and particularly watch for the ability to laugh. Nothing is more revealing than false laughter or false attempts at it. Listen to their voices; watch for the signals of compassion and watch how they laugh. It is not all that difficult in the end to discern with whom one belongs in the arena of political activity.

Later this year we will have the pleasure of seeing presented in this Chamber the Treasurer's Financial Statement, the main document that comes before us covering the Budget. In the light of the present political circumstances and controversies it should be a most enlightening and interesting one.

Government speakers, many of them making their maiden speech, have been condemnatory of the A.L.P.'s performance. They have ranted and raved about the inadequacies of the Australian Government, its sins of omission and its sins of commission. More than passing reference has been made to the great scourge of inflation.

Naturally inflation will be debated for many months and probably years ahead. I say quite openly that it is something that could have been prevented. It occurred because the Liberal-Country Party administration in Canberra over many years lacked the intestinal fortitude to live up to its responsibilities and to do a few unpleasant things which, unfortunately, might have attracted minimal scorn from the electors.

In 1972, the last year of the Federal Opposition's period of government in Canberra, the net apparent capital inflow totalled almost \$2 billion dollars, all on private account. A basic justification, of course, for permitting capital inflow into a country is that it adds to domestic savings and permits a rate of investment and a rate of economic growth higher than could otherwise be sustained. Overseas capital can benefit domestic economy because it may lead it to a better balance in industrial structure, developing



new industries, bringing new skills and creating considerable job opportunities. In the end the case for international capital flows, like the case for international trade flow, is very much tied up with the efficiency of resource allocation. No one would deny that. Overseas capital has the potential to play an important role in facilitating strong and efficient development of the Australian economy.

However, it is basic to the case for capital inflow to see that the money that comes in does add to the resources available for investment within the country. What happened when the Labor Government assumed office in Canberra in December 1972? Capital was flowing into this country at a tremendous rate, but it was not being translated into additional resources for consumption and investment within Australia.

In 1972, instead of the inflow being accompanied by a substantial increase in imports, imports were well below the level of the previous year. The \$2 billion capital inflow was, by and large, translated into an increase in overseas reserves of \$1.9 billion.

The money supply in Australia increased enormously. The most significant factor generating this excessive expansion was the \$2 billion private capital inflow. This had a tremendous effect upon our economy. Economic management problems that arose from this increase in domestic liquidity were inherited by the Labor Government, and that increase has been a millstone around its neck since it took office on 2 December 1972.

My authorities for claiming that the previous Liberal-Country Party Government in Canberra did not have the guts to stand up to its responsibilities are legion. I could cite authority after authority showing quite plainly that people of Liberal-Country Party persuasion were thoroughly disgusted with their Government and were demanding some positive action. I will content myself, however, with quoting from the Institute of Public Affairs Review for the year before the Labor Party attained office.

In relation to the first quarter of that year, that is, January-March 1971, an article appearing in the review on the responsibility for inflation had this to say—

"The leadership in moderating inflation must clearly come from the Commonwealth. Members of the Government have questioned the wisdom of the Arbitration Commission. They might do better to start by questioning the wisdom of their own economic policies."

I remind the House that in the first quarter of 1971 the Labor Party was in Opposition in the Federal sphere.

In the July-September quarter of the same year the review had this to say under the heading "Undermining the Rich Possibilities of Growth"—

"Governments, which should be giving leadership in the battle against inflation,

and taking decisive measures to arrest the quickening price rise, are failing to do so."

Those are the words not of the Labor Party but of the political friends of the Liberal and Country Parties, friends who support them both materially and otherwise at elections.

The editorial appearing in that publication and referring to the latter part of 1971 and the early part of 1972 contained these words—

"The prospects of continued rapid inflation are so ominous that the Prime Minister should endeavour to create a sense of emergency in the minds of the people through a special national television address. This address could outline the grave consequences which would occur if inflation is not curbed."

To come forward to a more recent date, to the July-September quarter of 1972—shortly before the great day of 2 December 1972—a Treasury Department survey was made of the economy, and following it these words appeared in the review—

"One thing is certain: We can't go on the way we are going, sliding year after year down a path that can lead only to a morass. Unless inflation shows strong signs of easing off in the coming months, the Commonwealth Government may have to contemplate something quite unorthodox to shock the public into a realisation of the seriousness of the situation."

So much for the humbug we have heard from the mouth of our pious Premier and from the mouth of his aide and chief lieutenant, the Deputy Premier and Treasurer; so much for the humbug we have heard from the Government benches. I have expressed the thoughts of their own political friends, which show quite clearly where this country was heading under Liberal-Country Party leadership in the years prior to the end of 1972.

As a member of the Labor Party I resent the blame for inflation being thrust at the door of the Labor Party when in fact it was created by the rotten economic policies indulged in by members of the Federal Liberal-Country Party in Canberra and by many of their cohorts in the States.

**A Government Member:** How long will you be able to go on with that story?

**Mr. HANSON:** For the benefit of the honourable member I shall refer to it in my Budget speech and in the years to come. If he is fair dinkum, the honourable member, who was recently elected to this Parliament, will wake up and find that his real political allegiance should be displayed in this House. Of that I am certain. We will have an opportunity to assess him in the years ahead and determine whether he is fair dinkum to his constituents. If he is not, we will know about it at the next election. When he is put on trial in three years' time, we will see how he fares.

I mention these matters because it is obvious that numerous speeches of recent days have been made for the gratification of party leaders in the hope that names will be noted in the leaders' memories. Whilst their remarks have been somewhat indiscreet the speakers hope that eventually they could bring them higher things in the political sphere.

Since World War II, our economy at times has not been so good. However, we have seen an elimination of the great mass of unemployed, which was familiar in the pre-war days. Although unemployment increased in 1961, and again in 1974, until today there have been only short periods in which it has soared. But the percentage of unemployed has been nothing like the 22 per cent and over of the depression years. Since the war Australia has engaged in large-scale migration. At the same time we have seen increased production to service the increased population and our rising living standards. The consumer public has found, much to its sorrow on occasions, a lack of Government determination to ensure a satisfactory standard of consumer goods, at a reasonable price.

The honourable member for Callide referred to the disastrous situation in our meat industry. Recently, in my town of Gladstone, a prominent American citizen employed by a large enterprise there told me after a visit abroad, "Do not take any notice of Mr. Bjelke-Petersen when he tells you that this country, and this country alone, because of Australian Government policies, is suffering from the scourge of inflation, with a general downturn in its economy and mass unemployment staring us in the face. You should see many of the countries that I have visited in recent weeks. In France I saw farmers and graziers who, because they were unable to get a fair price for their cattle were actually shooting them by the hundred in the fields. That is happening in other European countries as well." He spoke in very gloomy terms about what is happening in the United States of America.

We have read outrageous statements attributed to the Premier about what he was going to do and how he was going to use the big stick on the Japanese. It is only in recent years that the Japanese have become customers in our meat market. Prior to their entry to that market—in the pre-war days—we had the United Kingdom meat agreement. That was the one peg that graziers in post-war days had to hang their hats on. Then the American market opened the hamburger market. Those members of the National Party who are engaged in a rural industry are aware of the ramifications associated with our entry into that market—quota systems, lobbying by the States and many other obstacles that had to be contended with. Japan has been a wonderful

customer for many Australian products—a great trading partner—but it is only in recent times that it has imported meat.

I believe that for the sake of our meat industry some form of stabilisation is necessary. Unanimity among cattle producers of the nation will be required to achieve it. I may add that if stabilisation is obtained it would be disadvantageous for them to work from the present price level. The industry is currently suffering its lowest prices in a long period. Stabilisation should not commence when the market is depressed, and it is presently violently depressed. Stabilisation should be introduced when prices are of the order of those prevailing 18 months or two years ago.

If the industry at that time had taken a grip of itself and entered into long-term contracts—not necessarily at the high prices being obtained at that time—it would be in a much better position today. Unfortunately for all connected with it, the meat industry is the worst organised industry we have. Contrast it with the wonderfully organised sugar industry. Despite what the Government may say about socialism, it buys the whole sugar crop and is responsible, through the agency of the C.S.R., for the disposal of the crop. Long-term contracts are entered into and these have proved to be most beneficial to the industry. It has weathered adverse seasonal conditions, depressed world prices and many other factors. It also overcame the Government's inadequacy when, following the report of the Gibbs Committee in 1963, it ill-advisedly created new assignments and sent many a good man to the wall.

I believe that stabilisation is necessary. Some form of floor price should be established so that the beef industry will become more viable in the long term. Unfortunately, insecurity is part and parcel of the beef industry at the present time. The beef producer has to contend with fluctuations, variations, seasonal conditions and all sorts of economic tangles. I repeat that other industries have the safety of a minimum price and, as a result, are assured of receiving something for their labours. The beef industry, ill-organised, has no such protection.

Of course, Government critics, principally the Premier, assert that the beef industry is in its present depressed state because of Australian Government policies. If two years ago the fine economist who advised the Australian Meat Board had told him that in two years' time the industry would be receiving the present low price for cattle, he would have been locked up in irons and told that he was a raving ratbag. Unfortunately for the industry, prices have in fact dropped drastically.

What I really do not like is the Premier's suggestion that the Australian Government has not lifted a finger to assist the meat industry in this country. That is wrong and untruthful and certainly needs considerable correction. One has only to look at articles

in "Queensland Country Life" in approximately October last year to learn that the then Minister for Overseas Trade, who is now Deputy Prime Minister, was engaged in calling a high-level meeting in Washington. That meeting was designed to assemble in conference all meat-exporting and importing countries in the world, under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, to establish some form of stabilisation and so ensure that effective forces would always be ready and guide-lines always present and that producers and consumers would not be severely disadvantaged in times of adversity.

In the early part of this year a mission led by the head of the Australian Meat Board (Colonel Macarthur), and comprising many other fine people, was to visit the Soviet Union, Yugoslavia, Rumania and Bulgaria to try to help out the meat industry in this country. Moves are constantly being made in Canberra to correct the position.

I mentioned earlier that the meat industry was one of the worst organised industries in this country. Unless some drastic form of remedial measures are taken by the producers themselves, I fail to see how this situation will not continue. The meat monopolists are among the greatest racketeers ever to come to this country.

On 29 October last year I asked this simple question of the Minister for Primary Industries concerning the retail meat trade in Queensland—

"(1) What would be the approximate weights of the following items in the body of an average 650 lbs. bullock—  
(a) brains, (b) tongue, (c) cheek, (d) heart, (e) liver, (f) sweetbread, (g) kidneys, (h) tripe and (i) tail?"

"(2) What are the ruling wholesale prices per lb. for these items?"

"(3) Has the high price of meat and the growing volume of meat sold by supermarkets had an effect on the traditional corner butcher shop and is there any appreciable cut-back in butcher-shop numbers?"

"(4) Is monopoly handling in the retail meat trade now centering around a few big operators and the supermarkets and is his department apprehensive of this being prejudicial to the public's good?"

The Minister answered the first part of the question as follows—

"Approximate weights for certain items of a 650 lb. bullock are as follows:—

	Weight
Brains .. .. .	1 lb.
Tongue .. .. .	6 lb.
Cheek .. .. .	4 lb.
Heart .. .. .	4½ lb.
Liver .. .. .	12 lb.
Sweetbread .. .. .	1½ lb.
Kidneys .. .. .	1½ lb.
Tripe .. .. .	8 lb.
Tail .. .. .	2½ lb."

That amounts to approximately 41 lb.

The Minister for Works and Housing, who is present in the Chamber, will agree, as a very influential cattle producer, that the operator, if it is one of the large monopolistic firms to which I have considerable aversion, pays the producer a price per 100 lb. dressed carcass weight. The producer is charged a certain transport fee to get the beast to the works, a certain commission on the sale and a very questionable 3c a lb. for shrinkage.

Mr. Gunn: Three per cent.

Mr. HANSON: Yes—3 cents a lb. That very questionable charge is for shrinkage. Those items that I mentioned, plus the hoofs, horns and everything else except the squeak, represent clear cop for the operator. The livers, brains, kidneys and all other similar items are charged to the butcher at wholesale prices, and the consumer pays dearly for them when he goes to the butcher shop. But the grazier receives absolutely nothing for them. All he gets from the operator are complaints that the cattle were badly bruised in the truck on the way to the works, and all the other rorts.

The graziers receive nothing for hides. Years ago, when world-parity prices were being received and hides were being sold to leather merchants, if a merchant kicked up a fuss he received no more hides. But the order was given in the meatworks to press heavily on the scales when every two hides were weighed in order to make 19 lb. with every press. Those are some of the rackets that went on for years.

An inquiry should be held into this industry. I am here to advance the cause of the worthy people of the State. I am not concerned about monopolists and others who contributed to election campaign funds of the National and Liberal Parties. I am here to advance the cause of the decent people who, as worthy citizens of this country, raise the cattle. I am here to espouse the cause of those whose livelihood is in the meatworks. I am also here to look after the consumer, too.

I say that these operators are the worst brigands ever to come to this country. For years they have been playing their confidence tricks on the people of this State, and it is time that they were stopped. Unfortunately, directly or indirectly, the Premier is espousing their cause when he vomits his hatred on the Australian Labor Party and talks in such terms for mere political advantage. If one looks at the record of these operators, one finds that they are expert confidence men. They have no political ideals, and their only aim is to obtain the very best for their money. After gaining control of the principal overseas meat export markets, they have in recent years, either directly or indirectly but subtly, gained control of the domestic market.

They are consolidating their position day by day by means of their control of the market. And, in recent years, their efforts

in this direction have been aided and abetted by the Government under the ridiculous regulations that have been applied to the small retail butchers over the length and breadth of this State. By demanding impossible standards of hygiene, the Government is harassing retail butchers and trying to drive them out of business. The Government cannot deny that that is so. It surprises me that the honourable member for Callide and others in the National Party caucus have not had the stomach to stand up and tell the Premier and his Ministers, in clear and concise terms, just what a racket is going on.

It is an absolute disgrace that Government regulation should be used to assist these brigands, these burglars, who have inflicted themselves upon the State for so long. The economy of the State has, unfortunately, suffered and the efficiency of the industry also has suffered considerably from their determinations and the implementation of their plans. Today, because of the illegal demands that have been made upon the retail industry, in every centre in this State there is a growing incidence of illegal killing of cattle. Many honourable members will say, "Why not?" But it is regrettable, and I do not like to see it.

Unfortunately, the power of Government has been used unjustly and erroneously to try to assist foreign interests to obtain financial and material advantage. Although these interests do not control the whole of the market, they control it sufficiently to be able to dominate it. Of course, in dominating the market, they make price determinations—make no error about that, Mr. Deputy Speaker—and we pay the price that they ask and, in fact demand.

It is about time that the meat industry had a very good look at itself. I realise that it would be very difficult to bring the industry to a stage where one could set it beside the wool industry and the sugar industry—one might say that they are on different playing fields—but there are guidelines that the Government could follow and so ensure for the cattle producers, the people working in meatworks and the people of Queensland generally a period of harmony and contentment and a much better life.

Incidentally, in many instances these foreign interests have created—not in the interests of the graziers but in their own self-interest—inflammatory situations that have led to industrial disputes, and that certainly is not to their credit.

What does one find within the coalition itself? Probably my speech is falling upon deaf ears, because there are people within the coalition who certainly have placed themselves in such a compromising situation that they will not be able to stand and fight for people in the cattle industry. There are two varying points of view.

**Mr. Moore** interjected.

**Mr. HANSON:** Imagine the honourable member for Windsor fighting for the cattle producer and the meatworker! All he is interested in is the huge commercial operator who fills his pail at election time and to whom he says, while genuflecting, "I give you my complete and utter allegiance." What a shocking thing! It is typical of some—I do not say all—members of the party to which he belongs.

**Mr. Hales:** Rubbish!

**Mr. HANSON:** It is not rubbish, and I shall be able to prove that as the months go by. They are the friends of the monopolist, the friends of the commercial burglar. As I said, to see this one has only to note how at times the Government is compromised by the undue and wicked influence of foreign interests, and they have been in this country for years and years.

The present Government cannot be accused of disloyalty or lack of party support for vested interests, whose greed and inefficiency no doubt receive approbation from it. I cannot see any reason why a stand should not now be taken against many of the rotten manipulations of these operators. Unfortunately at the present time, cattlemen are being sacrificed. Traditionally as a bunch, they have been loyal National Party supporters.

(Time expired.)

**Mr. LESTER** (Belyando) (3.5 p.m.): I rise in this place today to try to give an honest and fair appraisal of my electorate, its people, its problems and its achievements. I come to this place after some five years of continual hard work.

At this stage I affirm my complete allegiance to the Queen and at the same time I offer my complete allegiance to the electors of Belyando. My first thoughts on all occasions will be for the interests of those people who have put me here, and all the men, women and children who live in my electorate—some 24,000 of them within an area of approximately 36,000 square miles.

Despite the events of recent days it is not my intention to become a radical. I would hope that I will not be just the type of person who is thrown out of the House occasionally merely to get his name in the newspapers. Let me make it very clear here and now that I will not give up the fight when something needs to be done urgently for my electorate. However, I point out that the radical does not always get the best deal for his electorate. It is my intention to try to act responsibly as a member of Parliament, and I hope that I will eventually become one that the electors of Belyando will be proud to have representing them.

It would be very unfitting and very remiss of me if I did not mention my predecessor, who sat in this place representing Belyando for 11 years. I refer to Mr. E. C. O'Donnell, who has become a close

personal friend of mine and whom I regard as one of the greatest gentlemen who has ever graced this place. Throughout my early years as an apprentice politician I always admired the work he did. I always admired his ability to make constructive contributions without pulling people to pieces—without personal attack or insult. In many ways I have tried to model myself on him. Until the latter stages, when his health began to fail, he gave excellent representation to the Belyando electorate. He continued to attend all the functions in our area. He had a great interest in school-children and he missed very few sports days. I got to know Mr. O'Donnell personally and better through having fought against him in the election before last. Although I had admired him before that, I was never really sure just what type of person he was. However, it did not take me long to realise that he was fighting me with everything he had, while, at the same time, he maintained his dignity and never at any stage attacked me personally. Even attacks on my policy were very limited. He fought the campaign on what he had done for the people over the years. His defeat of me was not necessarily a vote against me but a vote of appreciation for a man who had done a lot for country people. I am pleased to say that I was able to respond and, in turn, conduct my campaign cleanly. He obviously appreciated this because he did mention in Parliament that ours was one of the cleanest campaigns that had ever been fought. I understand that our campaign at that time has gone down in political history as one of the cleanest campaigns ever fought. Although the most recent campaign, unfortunately, was not conducted by my opponents in quite the same way, the net result for me was far better than when I was fighting against Mr. O'Donnell.

I consider it fitting to pay a sincere tribute to my mother. I lost my father at a very early age, years ago when sick people could expect little help. We were left virtually penniless, and my mother moved to Too-woomba, where she rented a flat and, to put me through school, worked for some years as a barmaid. Things went along quite all right for a while until she purchased a home. Having done that she found it necessary to work in country towns, again as a barmaid, to enable me to continue on to secondary school. I deeply appreciate what my mother has done for me, and I fully realise that I would not be here today but for her.

It would be remiss of me not to express my sincere thanks to my wife, Mary. She has had to put up with a lot over the past five years. First of all, over that period my election campaign cost me in the vicinity of \$20,000, and, in addition, we have had to employ other persons in the bakehouse while I have been absent. Our vehicles suffered mechanical breakdowns and we had

all sorts of other trouble. Through all this my wife stuck to me. I sincerely hope that she will no longer have to face the problems that have confronted her over the past five years.

**Mr. Jensen:** At least you're away from home.

**Mr. LESTER:** That's why she supports me so well!

I also pay a sincere tribute to those people who have helped me in my election campaign. I particularly mention Mr. Noel McFarlane, who took four weeks' leave from his employment to work as my campaign director.

As I have said, my electorate is a very diversified one, covering approximately 36,000 square miles. The people in it are engaged in the cattle and sheep industries, coal-mining, sawmilling, the grain-growing and other agricultural industries. Some places have a country-town atmosphere, while in others, like Moranbah and Blackwater, life is more urban.

In the northern part of the electorate special problems are created by a fast growth of population. Both the State and Federal Governments are called upon to do their utmost to meet the demands of the people in that area. My work-load as the representative for the area will be tremendously heavy. I do not bemoan that fact; even though at times I find it difficult to keep up, I am sure that I will be able to do all I am called upon to do.

Long distances create a major problem in servicing the electorate. For example, it is often very difficult to get to Collinsville, where the population has interests outside my electorate. By the same token, I cannot imagine why places such as Springsure are not within my electorate. Obviously the correct thing to do in the best interests of the people of these towns is to place Collinsville in the same electorate as Bowen, which would give the people of Collinsville a fairer go and also easier access to their member.

**Opposition Members** interjected.

**Mr. LESTER:** I am making these comments objectively. Honourable members will at all times find me to be a fair person.

As I was saying, the people of Springsure, just a few miles outside my electorate, are presently serviced from Roma and they should be within my electorate.

The Collinsville-Scottsville area is noted for both coal-mining and grazing. Things are going along quite well in that area. It contains a new power station as well as many new homes constructed under the Northern Electric Authority's housing programme. There are, of course, many residences of the older type. They were built when mine workers were forced to supply their own housing. In the new towns in my electorate, however, the situation is very

much different. The mining companies provide the housing, at rentals as low as \$5 a week.

We are pleased indeed, that a new laundry block and maternity section have been approved for the Collinsville Hospital. A new manual arts centre is under construction at Collinsville, and we have a new library centre. However, more classrooms are needed in the Collinsville area, and at the Collinsville School. We are very pleased that a new classroom has been added at the Scottsville School. However, with the increased mining activity and additional houses, more accommodation is required at the Scottsville State School, and we believe it will not be long before an extra teacher is required there. These are some of the things I intend to work for in this area.

It was very pleasing to find that I was readily accepted by the Collinsville people. I was told by some people that I might not be very well received in that area. People there certainly did not vote very strongly for me, but they have treated me very well. I am very pleased to say that they have my name on the waiting list for membership of the Collinsville Workers' Club. I regard this as a high tribute. I am wearing the badge of the Collinsville football team, which was presented to me at the Collinsville Workers' Club. The Collinsville football team is a little like the Clermont football team, of which I have been president for many years, in that it has won a great number of premierships over the years.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** What position do you play? Front row forward?

**Mr. LESTER:** No, I was the little man with the squeaky voice who played half-back.

Moving away from Collinsville, I come to the Mt. Coolum area, the centre of a brisgalow belt. It has a very colourful history. Years ago a murder and a big robbery were committed. Gold used to be conveyed from Mt. Coolum and, on this occasion, the magistrate shot the driver of the mail coach. That is part of early history of the area. It is a good area and I have certainly enjoyed the hospitality of the Mt. Coolum Hotel.

In the Belyando Shire there are three towns, namely, Clermont, Moranbah and Blair Athol. The latter is being phased out because of future coal-mining developments that it is hoped will be undertaken in the Clermont area. Moranbah has a population of about 3,000 people. It is one of the new coal-mining towns and is the centre for the new coal mines at Goonyella and Peak Downs. Moranbah was not established without problems, but it has an olympic-size swimming pool, a relatively good State school—I shall deal with it in a few moments and discuss some of its problems—a new post office, a community centre, a sports field, fire brigade, ambulance and, what is more,

a really fine hotel where everyone can go and have a good beer after finishing work. It is quite a big hotel and is well thought of.

It is essential that Moranbah should have a high school by 1976. We have been promised this facility and I only hope the Government finds it possible to keep that promise. I know that it is not easy to build an autonomous high school at such short notice. We will be trying hard to get the high school and so relieve the accommodation shortage at the Moranbah School, which has an enrolment of about 780 students. The high top section of the Moranbah State School is responsible for pupils from Dysart—some 50 miles to the south—who have to commute to and from school every day.

I turn now to Clermont, the town where I have lived for some 10 years. Unlike some other towns, it has gone ahead during that period. The population of the town itself is approximately 1800 and, of the district, some 1200. We in Clermont are affected by the current slump in the cattle industry, which has been reflected in a down-turn in business.

One thing I will be watching very carefully in the future is the provision of facilities in Clermont if Blair Athol is developed, as we all hope it will be. I trust that the Government will ensure that schooling, hospital facilities and other amenities in Clermont will keep pace with the progress made following the reopening of Blair Athol. We do not want our amenities to be overtaxed with an increase in population caused by new mining activities.

Blair Athol is one of those towns with a great history that has to be phased out. It has the largest single seam of steaming coal in the world, some 90 to 100 feet thick. I recommend all honourable members to visit Blair Athol and inspect it. I would be quite happy to give honourable members opposite a conducted tour of the mine. They need only come to see me and I will certainly arrange to show them over it.

I move on to the Capella area, which is in the Peak Downs Shire. The industries there centre mainly around cattle and grain. Peak Downs Shire is small and we were very disappointed when it did not receive any Federal Government money from the amounts made available to various shires last year. That decision seemed a little difficult to follow as the Belyando Shire received some \$108,000, which was appreciated, and the Emerald Shire received about \$97,000. It is our hope that the powers that be do not forget the Peak Downs Shire, and we would hope that that position is not indicative of a policy of wiping out smaller shires. They have a very important part to play in our community.

**Mr. Jensen:** You are putting up a good case.

**Mr. LESTER:** I am glad the honourable member for Bundaberg recognises it.

The next town I mention is Emerald, which is centrally situated in the Belyando electorate. The population of town and district runs to approximately 4,000, and nearby are the Fairbairn Dam—a magnificent structure—and also a pastoral college. I might point out that we are not without our problems in the irrigation of the Emerald area. Because of silting and other problems, a difficult time is being experienced. However, we are grateful to the State and Federal Governments for making money available to keep irrigation workers in employment on the Fairbairn Dam. I register our appreciation in this House.

My electorate office is situated in Emerald. As I live in Clermont, I thought it best to have my office in Emerald.

Emerald will be the central town involved when B.H.P. commences the operations of Queensland Coal. In time it is hoped that Emerald as a result will become a much bigger town. When cattle prices improve we are anxious to see the establishment of a meatworks there.

Moving down the railway line, one comes to smaller places such as Yamala and Comet. Of course, honourable members do not need me to tell them about the problems of the Comet River bridge, on the Capricorn Highway. I mentioned it again in the House today. Only the other day I read in an old "Hansard" where the present Minister for Water Resources (Mr. Hewitt) advocated that a new Comet bridge should be built at an early date. That appears in his maiden speech in 1956! I tell the Minister that the progress made in that time has been absolutely nil.

**Mr. Yewdale:** What constructive criticism you are making!

**Mr. LESTER:** Recognising that I am a voice for the rural people, members of the Opposition are trying to disrupt me. I wonder if the position would have been the same had Mr. Hewitt continued to represent that area.

Many people suffer difficulties because of the present Comet River bridge. We could lose our coach service because the coach cannot cross the bridge on many occasions. I have personally had to go to that bridge and help many distressed people whose cars were sandwiched there and they were unable to get out of the area. I am fair dinkum in speaking about the Comet River Bridge and I will add to my comments the representations of the honourable member for Bundaberg who, I am sure, supports me in every way.

**Mr. Jensen** interjected.

**Mr. LESTER:** I appreciate this help. The honourable member can join my deputation. Opposition members must admit that I have not been getting stuck into them. We have been trying to work together to find a solution to our problems.

Moving further down the Capricorn Highway, we come to the new town of Blackwater. It was the first mining town to be established in my area. Three mining companies operate in Blackwater and some problems exist concerning hospitals (which we will have shortly), education services and water in this town. Unfortunately, much of the problem appears to be brought about by the presence of three mining companies, each of which is trying to get a better deal than the others. This is the difference between Blackwater and Moranbah where there is only one company to deal with, although we are not without problems in that town either. We will keep working on the Blackwater problems and see what we can achieve.

I record that I am delighted at the wonderful vote the people in Blackwater gave me. It was better than I thought I would get, so I will have to try to do my best for them.

It is necessary for me to point out very forcefully that there is a desperate need for playgrounds at the Blackwater High School. No playgrounds have been provided and that is not really good when one realises that the school has been in existence for some 2½ years. Very forthright representations will be made on this issue. There is no need to point out the problems existing at a high school without playgrounds.

I commend the Government on the work it has done. It has done quite a deal in Blackwater. Recently money has been allocated for a new parade ground at the Blackwater School. That will be a big help to the students in that town. In addition, money has been allocated for the maintenance of the Blackwater High School.

I shall now move further down the Capricorn Highway. This morning I asked a question in all sincerity concerning railway housing at Bluff. I know now that there are plans to build a new complex to house railwaymen. Train crews hauling coal from Utah change over at Bluff. It is very upsetting to visit that town and see the problems that exist there. It is bad enough being a politician and being forced to be away from one's wife, but the men at Bluff are away from their wives for so long that it is indeed a problem. I know that the Minister for Transport, who has entered the Chamber purposely to listen to me, is doing his very best. I thank him for the excellent work he has already done to help us. If he can do more for us, it will be appreciated.

Bluff has the reputation of giving me my rowdiest street meeting of my campaign. One fellow came across the road and was going to flatten me because I asked where their member had been for the past three years. We overcame that problem and have since become quite good friends. The union men, too, have been quite good to me, so we are not going too badly in Bluff.

Travelling a little further down the Capricorn Highway over some of the really rough road which I hope the Minister for Main Roads will try to fix up for us, we come to Dingo. It is a sawmilling town. Around it is grazing area. The graziers there are not without their problems either.

A little further on we come to the Duaringa area. It has a special place in my heart because that is where I started in business. I went to the bakery at Duaringa, and I was there for some two years before moving to Clermont. I record in this House my appreciation of the magnificent help that was given to me by the people of Duaringa. The Minister for Health has before him a submission from me for a relieving doctor to be made available for the people of Duaringa at least once a week, or perhaps once a fortnight. If he is able to do this, it will be very much appreciated.

Other places in the district are the Woorabinda Aboriginal Community and the Bauhinia Downs area. People have settled on brigalow land there, and I shall be going to see them.

It is very frustrating to see that all A.L.P. members except one have left the Chamber and not bothered to stay to listen to me. This means that they cannot be very concerned about the electorate of Belyando. It means also that they must have given up hope of regaining the seat in the future. In reporting to the newspaper in my electorate, I will be able to say that the honourable member for Cairns was the only A.L.P. member who listened to my maiden speech.

I come now to Alpha and Jericho. Alpha has a railway workshop and is the centre of a large cattle industry. Jericho is the centre of a sheep and cattle area, and the Jericho Shire Council is administered by Mrs. Elsie Langston, M.B.E., who is one of the few madam chairmen in this State. I will have her name recorded in my maiden speech in tribute to the wonderful work that she has done over the years for so many people.

It would be inappropriate if at this stage I did not mention a few of the observations that I have made since coming to this place. It concerns me greatly that there appears to be an appalling waste of money in Government departments. I say this in all sincerity, and I ask all people in responsible positions to see whether anything can be done to reduce costs. Only the other day I ascertained that the quotation for a certain Works Department job was of the order of \$1,900. Just as an exercise, and without making it known to anybody, I obtained another quotation for the same job, and it was \$800. It just beats me where the money is going. Inflation is presenting considerable problems, and there is a definite need for us to endeavour to keep costs down in Government departments.

My next observation may be a rather touchy one. I might say that I am not fully possessed of all the facts in the matter, so I ask honourable members not to rubbish me. It seems that first-class air travel is available to all members of Parliament and most public servants. This surprises me. I, for example, travel in a one-class aircraft to Rockhampton, and the trip from Rockhampton to Brisbane takes three-quarters of an hour. It beats me why people have to travel first class on such a trip. I call on members of Parliament and public servants who may feel as I do on this matter to volunteer to travel, at least on some occasions, economy class as a contribution to helping the economy of the State. I feel that that is not too much to ask. I am prepared to do it some of the time, and if a few others were of the same mind it would be a small but tangible way of reducing the awesome costs of government. Federal members of Parliament might like to take me up on this offer, too. It would be appreciated, and it would show that they were not being one-eyed about the matter.

It is necessary that I now refer briefly to the cattle industry and its present state in Australia. It is absolutely heartbreaking to me to see the great distress that has been caused to country people and the strain that has been imposed on them because the cattle industry is failing at present. Many people will argue that prices were very high last year. However, when prices were high and people in the industry were told that they would have good incomes for years and years, cattle producers borrowed further money and improved their properties. They are now faced with overdraft and taxation problems, and an attempt must be made to assist them.

To try to get my message across, I point out to the House that the present situation of cattle producers would be similar to the situation in which I, as a baker, would be if I had been receiving 40c a loaf for bread last year and were now receiving about 10c a loaf and producing bread for only about one-third of the year. It is very frustrating to me when people come to my office and say, "Look, Vince, I have received a rate notice. I owe \$80,000 or \$90,000. What can I do?" I try to get help for them, but I know that I am only putting them further into debt if I do.

I call upon everybody concerned to consider the situation in the cattle industry and see what can be done about it. The State Government has made some moves in this field, but certainly more assistance is needed. The \$20,000,000 loan made available by the Federal Government is appreciated, but the interest rates are a little beyond the capacity of cattle producers to pay. I again call for every form of assistance—combined assistance—to be given to save the cattle industry from its present plight.



The Federal Government has no reason to query the Premier's attitude to coal deals with Japan. It surprises me that it has not got behind this honourable man, and it surprises me also that it should begin quibbling about what he has done when its own policies are holding up the development of the coal mines at Norwich Park and Blair Athol in the Clermont area. Its attitude to Utah, the company which has done a great deal for Australia, is surprising. What would the level of unemployment be in Queensland if these coal mines were not operating?

There is no doubt in my mind that the Government of Queensland has acted correctly all through on the coal issue. It is a fact that in future the Government will have to demand that the companies make more money available for schooling and similar amenities, as these are creating very big financial problems for it. The mines are costing the Government a great deal of money, and without doubt its decision last year to increase royalties was justified. The fact that royalties were lower in earlier years at least gave companies a chance to begin operations in Australia when they were facing severe competition from overseas countries.

I turn now to the bread industry.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** Weevils and all!

**Mr. LESTER:** No, there are no weevils in my bread. The honourable member may come to my bakery at any time and I will give him a loaf of bread. He will not find any weevils in it, and it is not fattening, either.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** I am not available.

**Mr. LESTER:** You will be very welcome. As all honourable members know, I am the only baker who has ever been elected to Parliament in Australia, and that is why I have something to say about bread. Most bakers—this is not an indictment of the industry—have to work so hard that they have no time to become interested in politics. If they are interested they do not get the time to carry on the way I have done over the past few years.

Queensland bread is still the cheapest in Australia, but there is one way I believe we could bring costs down even further. There is no doubt in my mind that the return of unsold bread should be outlawed in this State. It encourages wastefulness. Most shops buy more bread than they need and therefore bread is being wasted. It is argued that the extra production involved does not cost very much. I would ask those people who argue along those lines just what they know about the bread industry. If a baker has to make more bread, his wages and

everything else must cost a heck of a lot more. I cannot stress too strongly that the return of unsold bread should be outlawed in Australia as part of the effort to halt inflation.

The small baker should be given a fair go. Again there is no doubt in my mind that the big wholesale companies are doing nothing for the bread industry. We need the small men and we need some big companies, so let us not get too outlandish in our ideals and do away with all the small people. They have a job to do and they play a very important part in our State.

I am pleased to see that hot-bread shops are opening in Queensland. I hope that small private enterprise can be encouraged and that the hot-bread shops will not be taken over by the big merchants.

It is necessary that the Queensland and Federal Governments do all they can to recognise the voice of the rural people. It has been very disturbing to me that the Federal Government has taken so much away from country areas. It has given us a redistribution which it hopes will be something like one vote one value. Goodness me, what are the city people talking about? They just do not understand. Even in my electorate I find it difficult to give the people the service I would like to give. It becomes a major operation for me to try to do what I want to do. It means that I am away from my family for up to two and three weeks at a time. One vote one value might sound all right in some instances, but it cannot be applied in country areas. Country electorates need to have fewer voters because of the huge distances involved. As a fair-minded person I believe that country people have a right to fair representation. Every time a country person in my electorate rings me up it means a trunkline call for him. I ask people to be fair in their considerations. Goodness me, I have to swim creeks and do all sorts of things to get to people in my electorate! All I ask for is a fair go.

**An Opposition Member** interjected.

**Mr. LESTER:** The honourable member can come with me one of these days and then he will see what I am talking about. But let him not ask me to save him from drowning.

I thank honourable members for listening to me. I have tried to give a fair appraisal of the problems of country people, including people in my electorate. I give them my pledge here and now that I will work as hard as I can in their interests, and will try to be a stable and sensible member of the Government working towards sound legislation.

**Mr. CASEY (Mackay)** (3.44 p.m.): Having just partaken of the staff of life, I should like to offer my congratulations through you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to Mr. Speaker on his election. The office of Speaker is a noble position to which every honourable member should pay tribute.

After the election of Mr. Speaker I was grateful to have the opportunity to accompany him on a visit to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Colin Hannah. At that stage I was able to pass on to him the loyalty of the people of my electorate of Mackay to Queen Elizabeth the Queen of Australia. I am very happy that she now has the new title of Queen of my nation, my homeland. I am also very proud on occasions—unfortunately they are too infrequent in Queensland—to be able to stand up for the Australian National Anthem.

I am also very pleased to see the institution of the Order of Australia, which is an Australian honour for Australians. The Order of the British Empire means nothing whatever to me. After all, the term "British Empire" is a relic of the colonial days. The British Empire has long since disappeared and to continue to pay tribute to it is ridiculous. It no longer exists.

As in the case of many other titles that have emanated from ancient times, I do not know whether St. Michael and St. George would feel honoured if they were able to see some of the gentlemen upon whom orders bearing their names have been heaped. I doubt whether some of those gentlemen who have received the Order of the Bath have one very often.

I offer my thanks to the people of Mackay for their strong support in the recent election campaign. I particularly mention those men and women who worked very, very hard for me both over the past three years and during the election campaign.

The campaign in Queensland was a rather interesting one. I think all honourable members would agree that it resulted in an A.L.P. loss rather than a Government gain. From the campaign the A.L.P. can learn important lessons. I warn the Government, however, that it should not be complacent or overconfident, because it, too, should have learned many lessons from the campaign. For example, the result in the Mackay electorate proved conclusively that, where the people felt there was an acceptable alternative, the Government lost ground. In fact, the Mackay electorate is the only one in the entire State in which the Government lost ground.

So the Government cannot regard its victory as being a total one. It must look to certain things which I shall mention later.

The Queensland Government's complacency and over-confidence are shown by the fact that it allowed C.S.R. Ltd. to take over The Australian Estates Co. Ltd., so turning back the sugar industry's clock 50 years. It is disgraceful that this should be allowed to

happen. I suppose, however, that it was to be expected, because the State Government is attempting to form a council of the States of Australia. Goodness me! Such a step would take us back 75 years. I thought the Australian States federated in 1901 to become the Commonwealth of Australia.

**Mr. Moore:** But now we've got Gough Whitlam.

**Mr. CASEY:** It doesn't matter whether it is Gough Whitlam or Bob Menzies. Many people in Queensland were dissatisfied with Bob Menzies, but they put up with him because he was the properly constituted leader of the nation; he was Prime Minister of the honourable member's country and mine.

To revert to the C.S.R. take-over of Australian Estates—the C.S.R. company is one of Australia's two largest companies. In fact, it is one of only two Australian companies listed in "Fortune" magazine among the 300 largest companies outside the United States of America.

The C.S.R. company has vast interests in mining, chemical industries and the production of building materials. It also has a major investment portfolio.

It is very interesting to examine the names of the directors of the C.S.R. company. Two of them are also directors of the Bank of New South Wales; two are also directors of the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney; others are associated with well-known trustee companies, such as Perpetual Trustees, which controls major trustee organisations throughout the Commonwealth; and another is connected with the Lend Lease Corporation. It is interesting to notice the alteration that has occurred over the past few years in the constitution of these boards. It is interesting to note how the banker and financier interests of Australia started to take control of our major industrial organisations. The main interest of the Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited is just what the name implies, but the company has been forward enough, or progressive enough—even as a bastion of conservatism—to drop the title Colonial Sugar Refining Company Limited, and merely call itself C.S.R. Ltd.

Under the new set-up, with the take-over of Australian Estates, this company will control 30 per cent of Australia's sugar production. It already controls 96 per cent of Australia's sugar refining capacity. As agents for the Queensland Sugar Board and the Queensland Government, it controls 100 per cent of our export sales of sugar. In addition, it has a strong influence on all the statutory organisations established by the sugar industry. The mill-owners' representative on the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board is a C.S.R. man. The C.S.R. is represented on the Sugar Board by the mill-owners' representative, while a C.S.R. man is chairman of all the bulk sugar terminal organisations in Queensland. Despite these controls,

the company does not participate in the work of the Australian Sugar Producers Association nor is it a member of the Proprietary Millers Association, the body set up by the privately owned mills in Queensland as opposed to the co-operatives. In the past, the company has not contributed to the finances of Sugar Research Institutes Limited, an institute set up to sponsor research into the manufacture of sugar throughout Australia, and which has done a tremendous job to uplift the sugar industry in Australia in the past 25 years. One has only to talk to a group of cane-growers or farmers in a C.S.R. mill area to realise their feelings towards the company and how opposed it is to the work of certain cane-growers in Queensland. The company completely controls the refining of sugar in New Zealand. In recent years it was kicked out of Fiji when the Fijian Government and Fijian farmers took over the organising and control of the island's sugar industry after almost a century of C.S.R. control. So strong is this company's influence on the sugar industry—without this new acquisition—that the question is often asked whether the C.S.R. is the agent of the Queensland Government or the Queensland Government is the agent of the C.S.R.

Australian Estates has been associated with the sugar industry in Australia for a long time through its subsidiary Amalgamated Sugar Mills. It owns the Pleystowe sugar-mill near Mackay and Kalamia sugar-mill on the Burdekin. By a strange course of action in recent years, it purchased 65 per cent of the shareholdings in the Invicta sugar-mill at Giru, or in the Houghton Sugar Mill Pty. Ltd. Amalgamated Sugar Mills is owned by the Sir Denys Lowson Trusts of the United Kingdom. If we try to examine the tie-up there, it becomes so complicated with all the various trusts and companies that it is extremely confusing and difficult, even for the purchasers, to work out who owns what. This was admitted by C.S.R.

Australian Estates, as well as owning the sugar-mills, is a major property owner in Australia. Let me detail some of its interests. It conducts wool-broking operations at Melbourne, Portland (in Victoria) and Brisbane. In recent years it averaged about 200,000 bales a year. Some of our western members will appreciate that that is no small figure in the wool industry. It operates over 50 stock and station agency branches in Victoria, Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia, which deal in property, merchandise, livestock, insurance, etc. As pastoralists the group runs about 160,000 head of sheep and 190,000 head of cattle, in Queensland, New South Wales and the Northern Territory. This gives an idea of the vast extent of the operations of the company. The last figures I was able to find, which relate to 1972, indicate that Australian Estates had an annual turnover of about \$162,000,000.

C.S.R.'s history in the sugar industry is a very interesting one. It is a history of take-overs and mergers. That has been the pattern throughout the company's lifetime and as a result it has developed into a vast organisation. I suppose "history of take-overs and mergers" is a polite term to use when the booklet the company itself produced in the 1950's to mark its centenary referred to it as "the high cost of putting down opposition". That is the way in which the C.S.R. company viewed transactions.

This corporate giant was originally established by the Knox family in Sydney. I do not know whether there is any connection between that family and our Attorney-General. I doubt it very much because he is quite a nice person, really, and fairly honest, which cannot be said for too many of the Knox predecessors in the C.S.R. group. I say unhesitatingly that C.S.R. built its entire fortune by cruel exploitation of labour—white, yellow and black—as well as the farmers who pioneered the sugar industry.

I can remember as a small child hearing the tales of pioneer workers in the industry about the way in which C.S.R. ruthlessly ruled the roost in many Queensland cane plantations in the early days. Of course, one of the things for which it was notorious was black-birding. C.S.R. was the organisation that gained most from the black-birding of South Sea Islanders into the sugar industry—I refer to that nefarious and ugly trade carried on for many, many years, by which the people of the South Sea Islands were so cruelly exploited. Spurious explanations were given about the way in which it was carried out. On many occasions C.S.R. imported Chinese labour in order to break the spirit of Australian workers, who were trying to get a better deal. That is how the fortune of the C.S.R. Company was built.

Then, with the invention of farm implements which proved to be more productive than kanaka labour, C.S.R. decided to look elsewhere. Its operations were extended to Fiji—and what happened there? Coolie labour was imported from India, because that was cheaper than the local Fijian labour. That is how most of the Indians came to be in Fiji.

C.S.R. realised that it could control the sugar-mills through its refineries, which is exactly what happened. As the industry in Australia grew to a stage of self-sufficiency, C.S.R. realised that it could control the balance of the industry by becoming the exporting agent. It felt in the earlier part of the century that through its selling agencies it could control the sugar industry without having to run the risk of the fluctuations inherent in growing sugar-cane. C.S.R.'s plantations were split up and many of the mills sold. The company kept what it considered at that time to be its best mills. However, over the last 30 or 40 years there

have been tremendous changes in the sugar industry. The change commenced with the Sugar Acquisition Act of 1915. From that time till the 1930's there followed the support of the Labor Government to help farmers control their own industries. Those moves were a credit to the members of this House at that time.

The Mackay and Burdekin areas, which at that time were considered to be very poor sugar-growing areas, have now become the best in the State. In those days the farmers were struggling in this high-cost industry; so C.S.R. sold out its mills in Mackay and other areas. However, the industry has stabilised its development over that period and many of the small mills were amalgamated into central mills, which had financial backing from the Queensland Government. On many occasions the Queensland Government actually purchased the mills.

**Mr. Lowes:** You'll get back.

**Mr. CASEY:** If the honourable member for Brisbane would show some interest and listen carefully, he would discover that the sugar industry is the strongest agricultural industry in Australia today. If he examines the structure of the industry he will realise that its strength lies in the fact that the industry is subject to the strongest rural legislative controls. It could be said that it is probably the most nationalised or socialised industry in Australia. That, indeed, has been the measure of its success.

Small mills were amalgamated into central sugar-mills. I might add that all of the farmers in this State, through the Queensland Cane Growers' Council, unanimously agree with this control, whether they be Labor voters, Liberal voters or National Party voters. Many of these mills were financed by the Queensland Government. Many of them were owned by the Queensland Government. In a struggling period when sugar prices were very low and it was very difficult for mills to continue to operate, the Government ensured that the farmers were not let down and that the industry kept on moving.

When the mills started to get back on their feet, the Government turned them over to the farmers themselves as co-operatives. In my own area, six of the eight mills are co-operative mills. The strength of the sugar industry in the Mackay district is that every penny of profit earned from the industry in that area is poured back into the industry.

In one seven-year period—from 1924 to 1931—Babinda, Farleigh, South Johnstone, North Eton, Gin Gin, Tully and Proserpine mills, just to name a few with which many honourable members are associated, were made into co-operatives by the Government and given to the farmers to control. The industry has continued to become stronger since that time.

I mention the Proserpine Mill especially. The Minister for Mines and Energy, who was chairman of directors of that mill for a time, would admit that he would not dare get up in Proserpine and advocate that that mill, which has grower control within its own area, be sold off to a company like C.S.R. Ltd.

The amalgamation of mills into co-operatives has resulted in the continuing prosperity and progress of the sugar industry. The industry had become stabilised and then, suddenly, within the past three years we have witnessed a changing trend in mill-ownership. This has been brought about by some of the smarties who realise that the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board has no control over the sale of mills. This has led to take-overs of mills in this State. I refer to an answer I received to a question I asked the other day of the Acting Minister for Primary Industries. He confirmed that the change in ownership of a sugar mill does not require approval in the same way as the transfer of cane assignments.

Peaks are issued to mills by the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board and are then distributed in accordance with mill area schemes. It is most important that legislative provision should be introduced urgently to bring changes in the ownership of mills under the control of the Central board.

Even five or 10 years ago I do not think anybody in this House would have thought these circumstances could have arisen. But it has occurred. First of all, the Wallaville Mill was taken over by Gibson and Howes. Then the Bundaberg Sugar Co. was formed as a major company controlling milling in the Bundaberg area and took the mill over from Gibson and Howes. This has all happened within the past few years. Plane Creek Mill was changed from a co-operative to a company and the company was then sold to Pioneer Sugar Mills. The main people who benefited were not the growers but the major shareholders of the mill. Now we have Australian Estates being taken over by C.S.R. Ltd. Those three companies between them—the Bundaberg Sugar Co., Pioneer Sugar Mills and C.S.R. Ltd.—now control just on 50 per cent of Queensland sugar. C.S.R. alone controls just on 30 per cent.

There is more to come. We are awaiting an announcement from the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board on additional peak assignments in mill areas and how they will be distributed. I am waiting to see just what proportion the various C.S.R. mills will get out of this deal. As I pointed out before, because of its representative membership on the Central board, it already has confidential information that is not known to any other mills in the area.

**Mr. Doumany** interjected.

**Mr. CASEY:** The honourable member for Kurilpa displayed his lack of knowledge of the sugar industry the other day when he spoke about fertiliser. There were problems in the sugar industry with fertiliser supplies until a few years ago, when Austral-Pacific entered the field in Queensland. At long last, monopoly control was taken out of the hands of one company. But what happened? Within a very short time, A.C.F. & Shirleys and Austral-Pacific amalgamated to form another major monopoly known as Consolidated Fertilisers Ltd. The farmers now have exactly the same trouble, with the control of the fertiliser industry back in the hands of one monopolistic group. If the honourable member for Kurilpa would sit back and listen, he would learn a little of what is happening.

An examination of the sugar areas of Queensland will reveal that three major water development schemes are under way or contemplated. These will help to guarantee the expansion and consolidation of certain mill areas. They are the three areas in which the three major companies to which I referred have begun to buy. There is the Kinchant Dam in the Mackay area, which will benefit not only the North Eton co-operative mill but also Amalgamated Sugar Mills' Pleystowe mill. There is the Bundaberg scheme, which is of full benefit to the three mill areas under the control of the Bundaberg Sugar Company. It is certainly not helping the Isis co-operative mill at present.

There is also the investigation currently being made into water development on the Burdekin and Haughton Rivers, which will help the Kalamia, Pioneer and Inkerman mills in the Burdekin area, and the Invicta mill at Giru. Again it is seen that these companies are obtaining control of the better areas in which expansion in the sugar industry must come. It will certainly not come in the areas that C.S.R. Ltd. previously owned in the Far North. Much of it, at least, will not go there, because that locality is limited in area.

So many problems are there in that area that only 12 months ago the C.S.R. advocate stated before the Central Sugar Cane Prices Board that his company felt that there should not be any expansion of the sugar industry, and that no additional assignments or peaks should be given. Fortunately the majority of board members felt that there should be an expansion, and since then Queensland has been able to supply the market, and also additional markets throughout the world. If C.S.R. had had its way, that would not have happened. Now, 12 months later, not only has that company changed its mind; it is racing in to buy the best mill areas and so expand its own profitability. At that time, the company had nowhere else to expand. It has now taken over areas in which it can expand.

Another point I make is that the Pleystowe mill area is close by the area in

which it is proposed to establish the first bagasse-pulping plant in Queensland. It will provide major feed-stock for that plant, which again will make that mill far more profitable than it has been. The establishment of such a plant was another project that C.S.R. tried to knock. The Minister for Industrial Development is not in the House, but he will recall being in Mackay in 1971 at a seminar that he organised at which C.S.R. representatives tried to knock this proposal. Fortunately there were others sufficiently interested to take up the banner, and it is hoped that within a short time this project will be a reality.

At long last we see what is happening. The Government has had an opportunity to step in and help the farmers of the Kalamia, Pleystowe and Invicta sugar areas to take over their mills as a co-operative. There was an opportunity for the Government to show whether it was a friend of the farmers or of C.S.R. Ltd. At the recent Queensland Cane Growers' Council conference representatives of all cane-growing areas unanimously supported the proposal that mills for sale should be made into co-operatives under the control of the farmers. There are members of this Assembly who were engaged in other industries before coming here and who would dearly love to have control of those industries in their own hands. If control of the beef industry had been in different hands, it might not have reached its present situation. The wool industry, with its fluctuations, has been in a similar situation at various times.

So there was an opportunity for the Government to assist North Queensland farmers to control their own industry. But what happened? Did it show leadership or give support when it was needed? Did it show that it was the friend of C.S.R. Ltd., or did it show that it was the friend of the farmer? I believe that it showed it was the friend of C.S.R. Ltd. Could that have been because C.S.R. Ltd. is a major contributor to National Party funds? It could well be so. Only the Government would know that.

The Government cannot say that it did not know what was happening, because I raised the matter as far back as 26 September last year, in a question to Hon. V. B. Sullivan, the Minister for Primary Industries. His answer then was that he was not aware that these sugar mills were for sale; yet C.S.R. Ltd., which is the agent of the Queensland Government in sugar sales throughout the world, was the very company making the offer to the Australian Estates Co. Ltd. in London. What sort of an agent was that company? It was busily looking after its own interests.

C.S.R. Ltd. knew all along what the situation was, because on 4 February this year the chairman of the company admitted that a number of exchanges took place between the board of Australian Estates and C.S.R. during the latter part of 1974. These took place at a time when C.S.R.,

as Queensland Government agent, was in possession of information regarding 1974 crop sales and possible profits and returns to the shareholders of Australian Estates that was then completely unknown to the board of Australian Estates and to the shareholders of that company—privy information that it had as agent of the Government because it was making commercial sugar sales throughout the world—and it used that information to exploit the shareholders and the directors of Australian Estates. As I said before, “The high cost of putting down opposition”—the words it used rather than “take-over”.

Of course, the other point was—and this is the most important point—that the information that C.S.R. Ltd. had on 1974 sugar sales was also unknown to the farmers of the Kalamia, Pleystowe and Invicta mill areas. I have seen a copy of a circular letter that was sent by C.S.R. Ltd. to shareholders of Australian Estates. As I said, most of the companies involved are trustee companies owned in England, and Australian Estates is also interested in the cattle industry. C.S.R. Ltd. frightened the shareholders by pointing out the slump in cattle prices and the slump in general world economic conditions, and it even tried to allege that the Australian Government's ownership conditions were working against them. The shareholders were unfamiliar with what was happening in the Australian sugar industry other than that the industry had lost its United Kingdom market, which at that stage was its most important market. They were unaware that new contracts were to be signed in Asia—with Malaysia and South Korea, and particularly with Japan—but C.S.R. Ltd. knew this because it was the commercial agent operating on behalf of the Queensland Government.

I believe that the directors and shareholders of Australian Estates were duped by C.S.R. into believing that the world-record price of £650 a ton for sugar was being reflected in their profits at that time. In fact, very little Australian sugar was being sold at that price on world markets. They were unaware, also, that Australian sugar sales were then secure for at least five years at a very high price because negotiations were being finalised by C.S.R. Ltd. Therefore, they were prepared to accept the offer.

Thus C.S.R. Ltd. maintained its track record and purchased for less than \$53,000,000 sugar mills and properties owned by the Australian Estates Co. Ltd. that were worth more than \$90,000,000. The growers were not in the hunt, because privileged information was used by C.S.R. Ltd. to get itself into a position where no-one else could make a share offer of the type that it was making.

One body that should have been informed was the Queensland Government, because C.S.R. was its agent. The Government should have known what was going on. It should have come to the assistance of the

growers, as have previous Governments in this State. Even the notorious Moore Government in the early 1930's helped co-operatives to take over some sugar-mills, and in that way continued the policy of previous Labor Governments. But not this Government! We saw the two representatives of the 650 growers in the Burdekin and Mackay areas, cap in hand, walking around London merchant banks trying to get finance. What was the reaction of the Queensland Government before they went? It said it would look at any proposition.

Any Government worth its salt would have known what the situation was. Any Government of a State that is so dependent on the sugar industry would have known what was going on. I do not believe that this one did not know what was going on. I believe it did, but it just stood by. Certainly it displayed quite clearly that the State Government is no friend of the farmers of Queensland. It is a friend of C.S.R. Ltd. It is to its shame and disgrace that it allowed this take-over of Kalamia, Pleystowe and Invicta Mills without stepping into the breach and assisting the cane farmers of the State.

I wish to move on to another important matter which, up to this stage, I have not heard discussed in the House. During the recess, while we were conducting our election campaigns, we received the report of the Royal Commissions into exploratory and production drilling for petroleum in the area of the Great Barrier Reef. The royal commission was established by joint Commonwealth-State agreement on 5 May 1970. The report was presented on 30 October 1974 to the Premier and Prime Minister, but it was not released until after the House had risen. For some 4½ years that royal commission was active. That was the period from the time of its appointment and drafting of its terms of reference until its report was presented to the House.

As soon as the commissioners began their hearings it became apparent to them that throughout the length and breadth of the world there was no accurate information available on the effects of crude oil on the life, life cycle, reproduction and food chains of coral organisms, or indeed of any of the animal and marine life that constitutes the delicate balance of reef structures. It was immediately apparent to them that there was a great need for both short and long-term scientific experiments and data to determine the effects of oil on coral structures. Without the relevant information they knew they would be completely unable to give any answer at all to term of reference number 2. For the benefit of those who are unfamiliar with it, term of reference number 2 simply stated—

“What would be the probable effects of such an oil or gas leak and of the subsequent remedial measures on—

(A) The coral reefs themselves;

(B) The coastline;

(C) The ecological and biological aspects of life in the area."

This is very important to everyone who lives along the Queensland coastline. Indeed, it is very important to the whole of the State of Queensland. But what happened? Once the commissioners had received a report from a group of scientists whom they had asked to give them any information they had on this, the chairman wrote to the then Prime Minister, Mr. Gorton, and our present Premier, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen, requesting experiments by C.S.I.R.O. and a determination on these things. In June 1971, eight months later, they finally got correspondence from Mr. McMahon, who was then Prime Minister, and Mr. Bjelke-Petersen, refusing to provide information or to allow C.S.I.R.O. to carry out the required experiments. Any further requests were also refused. The reason given in general terms was that C.S.I.R.O. had indicated that they would be of no real value.

If honourable members look at the report of the commissioners they will find quite clearly set out in evidence given by the principal research scientists of the Division of Fisheries and Oceanography of C.S.I.R.O. on 24 June 1971 that C.S.I.R.O. had proposed to both the Prime Minister and the Premier of Queensland that scientific experiments be set up exactly along the lines suggested by the commission, but that no reply was given to this. Almost every technical and scientific expert examined by the commission agreed that it would be no good making any findings at all unless they were based on long-term properly evaluated scientific research. Notwithstanding that, both the Queensland and the Australian Governments refused to allow C.S.I.R.O. to enter into it.

The commission's report contained the clear finding that there is no great geological knowledge of reef problems; it is sketchy. Seismic surveys have never been made of a large portion of the reef. I believe that, having been furnished with the report, the Queensland Government should do all in its power to ensure that this scientific data is compiled. The experiments recommended by the commission should be carried out, and in this area the Queensland Government should take the lead by having this work undertaken as soon as possible.

The other findings of the commission are of equal importance. The commission found that, although there was a small risk of blow-out, there was a grave risk of both chronic and random spills. In fact the commission stated that in any oil-drilling on the Great Barrier Reef chronic and random spills were absolutely certain to occur. The commission also found that no proper safety precautions had been laid down. It added that in the light of changing technology the code of regulations drawn up by the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments was totally inadequate.

It is essential that the research recommended by the commission be conducted. This research programme is set out quite clearly at page 159 of volume 1 of the report. The commission recommends research into the full life cycle of reefs on both short-term and long-term bases. The Queensland Government has the major responsibility to see that this research is carried out. As I have said, it should take the lead.

Another finding of the commission was that, if there is commercial drilling on the reef, any economic benefits therefrom will flow to Queensland more than to any other part of Australia. If we want to share in these benefits, we must set an example by ensuring that the other conditions set out in the commission's report are complied with.

The Queensland University, the James Cook University and the new Griffith University should be put to work immediately on scientific and biological research. Furthermore, the Commonwealth Government should ensure that C.S.I.R.O., through its Marine Institute, compiles this technical information and data as quickly as possible.

(Time expired.)

**MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! Before calling upon the honourable member for Everton I remind the House that he is about to make his maiden speech and I ask that he be accorded the usual courtesies.

**MR. LINDSAY** (Everton) (4.23 p.m.): In rising to make my maiden speech as part of the debate on the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply in the 41st Queensland Parliament, I feel that in deference to my grandfather, the late Queensland Senator John Valentine MacDonald (Labor), I should first make the point to the Labor 11 that they should not feel obliged to remain silent during this or any other speech that I make. Again in deference to my late grandfather, and because I believe that no man, and certainly no party, has a monopoly on truth, the members of the Labor Opposition can be assured that I will attempt to be a good listener to their submissions. Whilst I will often disagree with what they say, I am prepared to fight for their right to say it.

To fight for the policies of the democratically elected Government of the day is of course not new to me. I refer here to my first oath of allegiance on entry to the Duntroon Military College and to my subsequent 16 years' service in the defence forces of this country. I allude to these experiences because I wish to make it perfectly clear to each and every member of this Parliament that I belong with the great mass of Australians, the silent majority, square in the middle of the Australian political spectrum.

In the short time that I have been involved politically—I have been a member of the Liberal Party for only the last two years—what has shocked me most in the over-all

political spectrum is the existence in this, my own State of Queensland, of fanatics who espouse the political views of the extreme Left or the extreme Right. To those of the extreme Right I say this—

"In recent years you have had ample opportunity in Korea, in Malaya, in Borneo and, more recently, in South Vietnam, to put your courage where your mouth was and combat, as we the Australian fighting soldiers did, those forces who represented the extreme Left. The fact that none of you were there, and that Australians in recent years have had to be conscripted for such operations indicates the thin veneer of Right-wing support in this country."

The mandate given to my Government by my fellow Queenslanders of 7 December last indicated their distaste for that once great party, which my late grandfather helped to forge, that is now dominated and controlled by those of the extreme Left.

I see this speech not as an attempt to show the members of this House how well I have been able to adapt to my new environment but rather firstly to implement a two-way dialogue with the 14,000 Queenslanders who live, work and play in the Everton electorate. I say to them that I have a moral obligation as their democratically elected representative to do the best I can for them. I am pleased that I have been elected to the five parliamentary committees of education, transport, police, lands and Aboriginal affairs. There is much that needs to be done in these areas in Everton.

On the other hand, I point out to the people of Everton that they, in their turn, have an obligation to me. As the first Liberal ever to be elected from the area, I depend on them to let me know their views, not only as many are doing now, but throughout the entire three years. The Everton Electoral Office at 5 Sizer Street, Everton Park, belongs to all taxpayers of the electorate. It is not a party political office. There are no political party signs on the front door as was the case prior to my election. As far as I am concerned, people come to the Everton Electoral Office as fellow human beings. I have the obligation to do the best I can for each and every one of them regardless of party or whom they may or may not vote for in subsequent elections. It is an obligation that I intend to honour.

As a recently elected member of this House, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I intend also to take the opportunity to speak from experience and tell honourable members what an outsider—whilst I am still in that category—thinks. I intend to comment on Papua New Guinea, education, law and order and my own attitudes generally.

I am not an expert on Papua New Guinea, although I fancy that anyone who stated that he was a Papuan New Guinea expert could be considered in terms of "X", the

unknown quantity, and "spert", a drip under pressure. The facts are that Australians, and particularly we Queenslanders, will this year have to cope with the existence of another independent neighbouring power. How many members of this Assembly, let alone how many Queenslanders, have begun to think of the possible consequences?

In this context, knowledge of the past will tend to govern the usefulness of what is done in the future when the battle for political power really begins. I do not intend turning this into a history lesson, but I do recommend Peter Hasting's book entitled "New Guinea—Problems and Prospects", which the Parliamentary Library has obtained at my request. It provides up-to-date background essential to informative debate on the Queensland border issue, which almost certainly will become a major issue during the life of this Parliament.

My background in the area was my three years as a soldier with the Pacific Islands Regiment and associated long-range patrols in the Sepik and Fly Rivers and along the border, mapping crossing places with West Irian. What does "Irian" mean? It only means "the hot country". I am therefore talking about the western part of the hot country. I was also involved with boat patrols along the Queensland border in the Boigu and Saibai Island areas.

Presently there is considerable feeling with-in Papua New Guinea that there should be no independence until its Constitution is properly written and accepted. This delay in independence has given time for problem areas to develop. The main problem as I see it is Miss Abaijah and her Papuan Besena Movement. This "Papua for the Papuans" Party is very well organised and contains cells in most towns and villages throughout Papua. The organisation is certainly becoming a force to be reckoned with and has recently won support from the Port Moresby City Council. Papuan dissidents plan a unilateral declaration of independence for next Sunday, 16 March 1975.

Australia has undertaken to largely fund the Papuan New Guinea Defence Force beyond the date of full sovereignty, presumably to help give Australia some leverage in future defence arrangements. It is proposed also to have Australians seconded to all three branches of the joint Papua New Guinea Defence Force. Australians will have a degree of control, therefore, particularly through the air transport wing on which the army depends for its movements.

Our Federal Labor Government has indicated that after independence Australian assistance will continue to be made available only to a Government of a united Papua New Guinea and not to any separatist movement or even any de facto separatist Government. For this reason I believe the "Papua for the Papuans" Movement will make a major show of force before independence, not after—and that means soon! A further



point is that it would be very difficult for the Federal Government to resist demands for military assistance that the Papua New Guinea Defence Force is bound to make when confronted with the serious challenge of a secessionist or revolutionary movement.

Australian military intervention after independence would seem possible as a result of—

(a) Secession by—

- (1) Papua, as already mentioned;
- (2) Bougainville;
- (3) New Britain and the Tolai people of the Gazelle Peninsula.

(b) Indonesian expansion by—

- (1) Border violations;
- (2) Infiltration;
- (3) Overt aggression against East Irian (the east side of the "hot country").
- (c) Atrocities against the European or Asiatic population either before or just after independence in Papua New Guinea.

(d) Border disturbances along the Queensland border on Queensland islands such as Boigu and Saibai—and this is where we in this House are affected. These could include—

(1) Mass migrations of Papuans from the mainland in fear of the New Guinean majority.

(2) Outbreak of disease amongst humans or animals as a result of lower standards of public health which may occur after independence. I understand last year foot and mouth disease moved east to the island of Bali. (It is of interest that the furthest movement of Hinduism east is to Bali, also—another story that we could perhaps discuss another day.) The suns rays kill the virus and prevent transmission of the disease through the air in the tropics. Foot and mouth disease is transmitted from animal to animal in this area. Australia has been protected to date by isolation; but, once the deer and wallabies in the Bensback-Morehead River areas of West Papua contract the disease, we could have problems along our existing Queensland border, and indeed throughout Australia.

(3) Arguments over fishing or oil exploration rights.

(4) Attacks by Indonesians or Papua New Guineans on Torres Strait Islanders.

Australia's capacity to attempt anything more in Papua New Guinea at the moment than the rescue of our nationals is very limited. Presently Australia could put only an under-strength task force into the field and, on its own, would be incapable of protracted operations in Papua New Guinea without re-introducing conscription. Probably the best we could do would be a mass evacuation of our nationals, as in the recent Darwin operation, involving our one and only aircraft carrier, our few dozen helicopters and

service aircraft, Sir Reginald Ansett's fleet and T.A.A. I understand there are contingency plans for this, as long as it does not happen on week-ends or public holidays. In my opinion it is most likely to be required on a Friday night after the hotels close, which is why so many expatriates aware of their lack of security have already left the country. Under existing arrangements, I fear for the minority groups. My view is that secessionism will be accelerated by the formal withdrawal of Australian authority. The degree to which Australia becomes involved will depend on the political view of the strategic significance of Papua New Guinea to Australia.

Military intervention by Australia could probably result from—

(a) Pressure by powerful economic interests such as C.R.A. in Bougainville or Exoil in the Torres Strait—Queensland border area.

(b) An outdated defence strategy with its deeply held conviction by Australians that Papua New Guinea is a key domino in forward defence, a spring-board for action in South-East Asia and a convenient trip-wire and last line in defence in the event of a southward thrust by China, Japan or Indonesia.

(c) Politicians with experience in World War II but who have not adjusted to technological advance in weapon delivery systems and who may be reinforced by an ill-informed public opinion.

For those of us who took part in military operations in Asia in the 1960's, the lesson was the futility and indeed immorality of military intervention as a means of stabilising a neo-colonial relationship with politically and economically unstable neighbours. Particularly is this the case when it is realised that we had to conscript our own men for the purpose. Prior to Papua New Guinea's gaining independence, Queensland would be best advised, I believe, to withdraw her northern border to 10°S latitude and make arrangements to resettle those of the 1,500 Torres Strait Islanders involved who care to move. Social service arrangements, hopefully, could be made with the Papua New Guinea Government for those who care to remain. Papua New Guinea no doubt would appreciate this foreign capital. There is already an Islanders' resettlement scheme at Bamaga on Cape York. If we don't resettle them, who is going to protect them and with what? Surely to God we have sacrificed enough men of Australia in the swamps of Asia.

My last point in relation to Papua New Guinea is its trade-union movement, which is undoubtedly going to have a powerful say in the future. It is unfortunate that it has the example of Australia so easily and readily at hand to follow. Already it has some groups, even university students, flexing their muscles and striking for higher wages. It will require a very fine balance to appease both union members and private enterprise as to what is a fair wage for

a fair day's work. It is to be hoped that union bosses will not price the worker out of employment as they have done already in Australia.

In education, as in everything else, a little knowledge is often dangerous. My basic points are: Firstly, that a teacher's role should, I believe, go beyond helping students to acquire knowledge. The main purpose of our schools is to educate students so they can live successfully and happily in the democratic society that they are expected to shape and maintain. Secondly, that we cannot separate the learning experience from the formation of character. The highest purposes of a teacher's calling are achieved not by what he says, nor yet by what he does, but by what he is.

It is a matter of great concern to me that the increasing secularisation of education in this State of ours has produced what one may term an anti-religious bias. Where religious instruction now takes place at all, it is often treated as a mere appendage of no consequence. This is not to deny the value—the necessity!—of the progress of secular knowledge, yet an educational system devoted to technical excellence without an adequate moral code can lead, and has already led, in our lifetime, to a situation where products of that system are able to hold in high esteem the scientific magnificence of a gas chamber. If we lose sight of those principles which imbue concern for others and fail to instil them in the young, then one of the fundamental props of our society will decay, and this is happening now.

I question the wisdom of importing the North American culture into our future society per medium of young Canadian and American teachers on secondment. I question the monopoly American publications have on the shelves of our teacher-training libraries. I believe we need as talented and as widely selected a staff at our teacher-training colleges as possible. Some staff members should, and must, be Asian, some Central European, and all should be widely travelled and experienced. Not all need to have had long years in classrooms. We, as the political leaders of our society, need to support and show our interest in not only pupils but also the teachers, for in their hands lies the future of our State, even more so than in ours.

I believe that individuals are not created equal. They do not become more alike as they grow older. Any members of the House who have followed the progress of the education system in Queensland must be aware of the widespread dissatisfaction with the Radford scheme. Perhaps it is a product of the thinking of our times that our whole advanced secondary system seems increasingly devoted to the levelling of differences between students, and to the reduction of all students to a great middle to fit the "normal distribution curve" so dearly beloved by the

"whizz kids" in our society. This "democratisation of education" is reducing all students and schools, whatever their abilities, to the one predetermined level of achievement.

Another irritant in our present system of secondary education in Queensland is the situation under which students are graded by criteria of excellence which depend upon their teacher's own summation. In effect, the teacher determines what will be taught, and how it will be done. He sets the textbooks, and grades the results. He is therefore at once judge, jury and executioner. Obvious dangers result from this, but by far the worst is the possible alienation of the traditional teacher-pupil relationship. Another cause of concern with the Radford scheme is the frequent decline in students' work under the progressive assessment system, either because they have achieved their number of points or because they have no hope.

Finally, with regard to education, children of today are living in a time of technological revolution. They are constantly bombarded by pervasive and sophisticated mass media. This is all the more so now that television is in colour. Improved standards of physiological health now mean that typical young people experience an accelerated bodily growth and achieve earlier sexual maturation than in previous decades. If we accept that people are now mature enough to vote, drink, bet and drive at 18, it seems reasonable that those who seek to leave school at 14 should be allowed to do so, provided parents and headmaster consider it advisable. Presently in our schools we are holding an army of non-achievers in the 14-15 age bracket who are acquiring few abilities other than the tendency to resist authority. These children are both inflationary in terms of cost effectiveness with regard to the wastages in allocation of teachers and resources and disruptive in terms of their effect on the actual students. Not all need, or want, to be trained for academic pursuits. If the 18-year-old of today is capable of voting, then the 15-year-old of today is equal to the 18-year-old of previous years, and should be treated as such.

What is the headline in today's newspaper? It reads, "Gunman holds up post office." Let us now talk about law and order. An important Chinese concept which has played its part in the history of that huge nation is called "The Mandate of Heaven". The basic concept of this is that a ruler is permitted by the heavenly powers to continue only as long as his strong, wise rule brings peace and security to his kingdom. Any sign that the ruler had lost this mandate, such as prolonged drought, pestilence, invasion, or an increase in crime and lack of security, often leads to his overthrow. The concept is Asian, but it has practical application for us, the members of this Parliament. It is the duty of any government to provide for the peace and security of its subjects. I believe that we are failing in this duty. One

can see this when one is door-knocking, because door after door is opened by frightened persons.

The social evolution of urban industrial society has meant both an increase in violent crime against persons and property and disrespect for the law. The "lunatic fringe" now abuse society, and society expects us—and rightly so—to do something about them. The answer lies in effective protection of the citizen and his property and, secondly, in the use of an effective deterrent as punishment. The increasing lawlessness of our society would argue that neither of these goals is being achieved.

There seems to be a trend in sociology to argue for an understanding of criminal motives. This has lead to insufficient punishment being applied. I say to all honourable members that we, the legislators of this State, must take a stand; we have been given the mandate. In the case of violent and heinous crimes, our sympathy and the sympathy of the legal system must rest with the victim of the crime. The senior members of this House have an odd double standard if on the one hand they supported conscription and sent men to fight in Vietnam and yet themselves will not take a firm stand against the enemy within our society, the habitual criminal and the cold-blooded murderer.

It is obvious that we as a group need to show more support for our Police Force. We need more police, and the police need to relate as individuals with the public. As I walked through Papua New Guinea, through Malaya, Borneo, Vietnam, and more recently on door-knocks in the Everton electorate, I became convinced that the way to identify with the public at large, to become known and trusted, is to walk among them. London police still walk, and so should ours. This is not to deny the use of modern technological equipment or the vital necessity for quick methods of transport. Prevention of crime can best be done by combining all available operative techniques; walking is one of these techniques.

Let me turn now to general Australian attitudes. Australians function best when they are members of a team battling against superior odds, and in this regard the team that supported me, and without whose efforts I would never have won the confidence of the Everton electorate, are no exception. To each and every one of the hundreds involved in my election campaign, I say "thank you." My particular appreciation goes to my hard-working campaign manager, Noel Battershill, and his wife, Pam. Through his experience and drive he forged our success. The true Australian statesman, in my opinion, is not the politician who pontificates from the ivory tower of his blue or red-ribbon seat, but rather the Australian who attempts the "impossible dream". In this regard I commend Noel Battershill, who on several occasions has tackled the "tall red ponies" in the name of liberalism and freedom of the individual.

I would also like to say to the two lady members of this Parliament, the member for Mourilyan and the member for Salisbury, how much I enjoyed both the presentation and content of their speeches in this, the address-in-reply, debate. They have my support. And here I would like to disagree with a statement made earlier by an older member. On entering parliament, and becoming politicians, women should not lose the courtesies due to them. I believe that the reasons are obvious. The growing rebellion against inequalities and restrictions imposed by society upon its female members is one of the most important trends of the 20th century, and I applaud the success of our two lady members in being elected to this distinguished House. In the immediate future, many young women will strive, as others are striving now, to escape from ancient stereotypes. The girls who now attend secondary schools will soon become women with psychological characteristics different from earlier generations. Stresses will be caused by the community which, I feel, will continue for some time to resist the personal and vocational aspirations of women. At least here in our Liberal-National Party coalition Government of this, the 41st Parliament, we have two ladies who undoubtedly will add to the wisdom of future legislation.

In closing, it is with pride that an old soldier again expresses his loyalty to his God, his Queen and his country, and I thank the people of Everton for the position of trust and responsibility they have given me.

**Mr. AHERN** (Landsborough) (4.51 p.m.): First of all, I wish to associate myself with the expressions of loyalty to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

I am taking the unusual step of speaking at this stage during the Address-in-Reply debate, when priority is generally given to a great number of maiden speeches, because a matter of extreme urgency has arisen in my electorate, a matter of extreme urgency that affects many industries in Queensland.

Several members in the Chamber will be aware that in 1970 during the Address-in-Reply debate I raised the general problem of food additives, imitations, substitutes and so on. The problem has arisen again with a new urgency. It will have a dramatic effect on the passion-fruit industry, which is a very strong one in my electorate. It is a viable \$1,000,000 industry. Indeed, 160 growers depend on this industry for their family income, and about 1,000 workers are directly associated with it in and around the environs of Brisbane. Over the years agronomic experience in the industry has been dearly bought, as has been experience in management and marketing.

The plant *Passiflora edulis* was discovered in Brazil nearly a century ago. Since that time its fruit has proved to be an essential food of mankind. It contains a unique

natural balance of essential vitamins, providing a natural food for human-beings. It has been served notice that its activities are to be severely curtailed. Apparently it is one of the best balanced foods known to man. It contains a delicate balance of all the nutritive vitamins, minerals and so on which are so important to mankind. It has a moisture content of 79 per cent. It contains 0.9 gm protein; fat 0.1 gm; carbohydrate 12.8 gm; calcium, phosphorous, iron; vitamin A, 1310 units; thiamine, riboflavin, niacin and ascorbic acid. Very certainly it has been an excellent natural food for mankind over the past century. Apparently it is now to be thrown on the scrap-heap because the human palate can now be successfully deceived.

**Mr. Hanson:** Why don't you kick up about Mr. Juicy and all that rubbish? Stick up for your orange juice.

**Mr. AHERN:** The honourable member for Port Curtis has recalled the speech I made during 1970 when I spoke about the tremendous number of that type of product on the market. That is what I intend to talk about today.

Action was taken in every State of Australia as a result of the steps we took on that occasion. Through the Maroochy Fruit and Vegetable Growers' Council we made representations to the State Government, and through the National Health and Medical Research Council in every Australian State amendments to the Food and Drug Regulations were instituted, and these covered—not completely adequately, but to a very great extent—what I was talking about in 1970. To the honourable member, who says that we should do something about it, I say that we did something. We took certain action, and today I am asking that further action be taken.

**Mr. Hanson** interjected.

**Mr. AHERN:** As to hospitals, I have perused the speech I made in 1970, and as far as I know the situation is the same as it was then. It needs changing. However, I intend not to be distracted by the honourable member.

Over the years there has been an explosion in the knowledge of food engineering, not only in Australia but throughout the Western World as well. But it must be one of the great paradoxes of our time that as man's knowledge of the food that he eats and of his own physiology has increased dramatically, the net amount of public nutrition has gone down.

I look upon food technologists as scientists who are betraying their ethics and also the public ethics. Instead of reinforcing public diet by their knowledge, they have set about finding out how many vital substances mankind can do without. Technologists have become consumer deceivers. Many of the substances in our everyday diet are included without adequate tests.

The "inner environment" will become the major issue of tomorrow. There is mounting public concern in our community at the purity of the food that we eat. Food processing seems to be regarded as an indication of a lift in standards of living. But the more food processing that is carried out, the lesser the public nutrition that results. As I have said, this must be one of the great paradoxes of our age.

Today I ask this Parliament to declare a value on food pollution. After all, it has declared values on similar problems of this nature. For example, to combat the problem of water pollution this Parliament has set up the Water Quality Council; to ensure the quality of the air that we breathe it has created the Air Pollution Control Council; to protect our environment it has passed a plethora of legislative measures, such as the Litter Act; to protect us from moral pollution it has set up the Literature Board of Review; and to protect us from obscene films it has constituted the Films Board of Review. So again I ask this Parliament to set a value on food pollution and to determine that it will set up a pure foods council in Queensland. Such a council would be the first in the Commonwealth—but we in Queensland are used to "firsts".

I am not about to suggest, as perhaps some honourable members expect, that we are all becoming junkies, that we are all going to contract cancer or that we are all going to die suddenly as a result of food-processing. I do suggest, however, that some people in our community have died, and others will die, from that cause. A point that gives rise to grave concern is that a large number of today-type maladies, disorders and subclinical conditions are brought about by causes for which we have no direct answers. I contend that by applying the most basic logic we must come to the conclusion that the finger of grave concern should be pointed at this problem of poor diet.

This major problem has three facets. Firstly, there is overconsumption—our young people are often disposed to overconsumption of various foodstuffs; secondly, there are interactions between the various additives, emulsifiers and preservatives in our food; and thirdly, there is the creation of tendencies for other diseases to occur.

There is a wealth of scientific evidence that could be presented to this Parliament. I intend to bore some people this evening by quoting extensively from articles depicting the serious concern that has been expressed in scientific circles about this general problem. There is so much evidence that it is hard to know where to start and where to end, but I ask Parliament to look with me at what happens between the garden and the gullet in our food-processing society. That is the situation in which we exist today.

I shall look generally at the problem of the things that today's society adds to the food that we eat.

It is estimated that there are over 2,500 food additives (1,610 artificial flourings, 34 artificial colourings, 33 preservatives, 111 emulsifiers, 24 bleaching and maturing agents, 60 buffers, acids and alkalies, 39 stabilisers and thickeners, 28 antioxidants, 45 sequestrants, three artificial sweeteners and 117 synthetic nutritive supplements to replace what processing takes out of the food that we eat), less than half of which have been thoroughly tested for their effects on human beings. Marvin Legator, chief bio-chemist at the U.S.A. Food and Drug Administration (F.D.A.) warns, "We never know for sure whether additives are safe or not." He also said—

"Long-term usage of additives can in no way be rated with safety. We have so many cases of common disease like mental retardation and cancer, for which we can't account through epidemiological studies, for which we can't find a cause and effect."

Geneticists, Nobel laureate Dr. Joshua Lederberg at Stanford and Bruce Ames at the University of California are concerned about the effects synthetic food additives might be having on our genes. Mutations may take generations to show up, when it might be too late to do anything about correcting them.

Many additives have been found to be definitely harmful, many are suspect, and the rest, in my view, are therefore open to question. F.D.A. has found it necessary to remove certain additives from its G.R.A.S. (generally recognised as safe) list when laboratory experiments have proven them to be detrimental to human health.

I shall now examine some of the detrimental effects of some additives. Cyclamate, an artificial sweetener, was known to be dangerous as far back as 1950, but because of the strong influence and lobbying by manufacturers and chemical firms wanting to retain its use, it is only recently that it has been banned in America. Our authorities still permit it to be used in Australia. It seems that an additive has definitely to be proved harmful before it is banned rather than that it has to be proved safe before it can be used. In my view, that is the wrong approach.

Cyclamates were found to cause tumors in rats' lungs, kidneys, skin, uterus and bladder. The U.S. soft-drink manufacturers bowed to public concern and ceased to use cyclamates to sweeten their drinks. It was the adverse publicity that forced them to do this, certainly not any high ideals about public health. In fact, so as not to incur any financial losses in the policy and recipe change, the supplies of drinks on hand containing cyclamates were dumped on foreign—and presumably ignorant—markets. Sales

of saccharine, another artificial sweetener, are now booming, but laboratory tests give reason to fear that it, also, may cause tumors.

I refer to what I said earlier, namely, that the tests which have been carried out are few and are based on consumption at the normal rate. I also emphasise that many people in the community, particularly the young, are prone to excesses. There is a tendency to create a disease situation from all sorts of subclinical conditions, which are almost certainly occurring as a result of it.

Safrole, the artificial flavouring in root beer, was banned when it was proven to be a cancer-inducing agent. M.S.G. was found to be a source of brain tumors in mice. Artificial soft-drink flavourings, brominated vegetable oils (B.V.O.) formed by stabilising artificial flavourings in vegetable oils with a process using bromine, have been found by the Canadian Food and Drug Directorate—the official agency there—to cause the following damage to rats: liver, heart, kidney and spleen damage, growth retardation, impaired food utilisation, anaemia, thyroid hyperplasia, and arrested testicular development. F.D.A. banned the use of B.V.O. in 1970—Sweden totally banned it in 1968—but has since capitulated because the Flavour Extracts Manufacturers Association—it is a very strong lobbyist throughout the world—complained that it was not satisfied with the Canadian experiments and would carry out its own. In the meantime the argument drags on, and consumers are still drinking the brominated vegetable oils.

Sodium nitrite and nitrate have been found to cause cancer and gene mutations. These chemicals are used as an artificial colour fixative in meat (they prevent the haemoglobin in blood turning brown) and a preservative for smoked fish. If only people realised the dangers of nitrites, they would demand safe, brown meat in preference to that which is artificially coloured.

The antioxidants BHA and BHT have been found to cause tumours and liver enlargement in rats. Breakfast cereals, packaged sliced bread and packaged fatty foods contain these additives. Britain has now restricted their use and completely banned them from food for babies and young children; but, because some of the tests have not been conclusive, the F.D.A. has taken the passive way out, rather than stand up to the big manufacturers, and permits antioxidants to remain in use. They have not been proved to be positively harmful. Neither have they been proved to be positively harmless. It is the consumers in this country about whom I am most interested.

**Mr. Hanson:** Can you stand up to them?

**Mr. AHERN:** I can stand up to them. I am just wondering about the honourable member for Port Curtis. Can he stand up to all these things that he is obviously eating?

Preservatives, sodium benzoate (one of the most commonly used preservatives in this country) and benzoic acid, which are used in margarine, fish, confections, jams, jellies, and soft drinks, have been suspect for years. The F.A.O./W.H.O. committee on food additives reports that in experiments benzoate caused death in rats after convulsions, hyperexcitability, urinary incontinence and weight loss. Benzoic acid reduced survival rate and possibly contributed to cancer. As a result of these reports, the State of Wisconsin banned their use completely, but once more the F.D.A. adopted a don't-rock-the-boat attitude and did nothing. Honourable members may have the thought that carcinogens are ingested in only small amounts with the result that the situation is not harmful. However, a tremendous amount of information is available which indicates that even in small amounts these compounds cannot be trusted. I shall now quote from a cancer expert, Dr. W. C. Hueper, retired chief of the environmental cancer section of the National Cancer Institute of the U.S.A.

He doubts if there is any such thing as a safe dose of a carcinogenic chemical added to food. He declared—

"There is no scientifically valid and practical method available for determining a safe dose of carcinogens for humans. In fact, science has failed so far to establish a safe dose for any of the many recognised environmental carcinogens, although knowledge of such a dose would be of the most practical importance to industry and public health agencies."

A safe dose depends on how good the body's defensive mechanisms are working. This no doubt would vary widely and would be directly connected to diet. Dr. Heuper stated years ago, "We have to consider the fact that materials which may be carcinogenic are ingested for our entire lifetime." He concluded, "I suppose that it would be a wise precautionary measure not to add any chemicals to our food supply which produced cancer in either man or in experimental animals." That is what we are doing in this country in relation to a great number of our processed foods—and more and more as the years go by.

According to "The Plain Truth" magazine—

"This advice has not been absolutely followed. Is there any connection between this fact and the soaring numbers of cancer cases in modern technological societies?"

"Dr. Hueper declared, in Congressional hearings in 1957, 'It is thus a well established fact that an appreciable and growing number of chemicals, of which a few are known to enter the human food supply, are capable of causing and do cause cancer in man under proper conditions of exposure.

"This disconcerting situation is aggravated by the observation that many additional chemicals, some of which are incorporated into consumer goods, including foodstuffs, elicit cancers in experimental animals when introduced in proper amounts and under suitable conditions. Although at present no evidence is available that they have done so in man, they must be suspected. . . .

"These observations and considerations indicate that an uncontrolled introduction and an indiscriminate use of chemical food additives create or may create cancer hazards to the human population."

When this type of scientific information and opinion is being dispersed by these people throughout the world, it is high time we took more than a defensive and soft-line attitude towards these matters. I am certain that we must take a harder look at this general problem, stand up to the situation and take action along the lines I have suggested.

Many synthetic colourings have been banned because they are cancer-inducing and those still in use are suspect. "Artificial colours are very suspicious", warns Dr. Lederberg, who says their molecular structures look like potent carcinogens. F.D.A. laboratory tests show that skin tumours and ulcers form on rats. Kaiser hospitals in California have had numerous patients with artificial-colour-caused asthmatic and other allergic reactions. Without any question at all, clinical cases have been definitely proven.

Other dyes are causing direct concern. FD&C Red No. 2, which causes cancer in mice, was banned, but is still in use because the maraschino cherry lobbyists convinced the F.D.A. that on-one would want to eat more than one or two such cherries at a time. It is rather frightening when the story is heard, because it all adds up.

I am in possession of some correspondence from Lady Cilento, who would be known to several honourable members. When told of the problem confronting the passion-fruit industry, she had this to say, and I am sure she would not mind my quoting it—

"The other concern is for the health of children and those who are using passion-fruit products. It has now been shown by a number of doctors in America and Dr. Finegold of the Kaiser Foundation in San Francisco that the additives and preservatives, particularly those which contain salicylate and the dyes, particularly the Yellow 5, which would certainly be in synthetic passion-fruit products, are most deleterious to the health of children and are often the cause of overactivity, lack of concentration and slow learning and also of the allergies to which so many children are prone.

"The National Health Foundation of America and its counterpart in Australia—National Health Federation—is most concerned about these things and has quite a lot of specific information about these synthetic fruit flavourings."

This is the situation in Australia today. There is a lot of concern but not enough action on the whole question. It is a problem that requires urgent action, I submit, along the lines I have suggested.

Conditioners and bleaches such as hydrogen, benzoyl and acetone peroxides, chlorine dioxide, nitrogen oxide and nitroxyl chloride may have mutagenic effects.

**An Honourable Member** interjected.

**Mr. AHERN:** I am deliberately spelling out the complexity of the completely artificial substances now being ingested by our human bodies. I am trying to make honourable members understand the absolute plethora of completely unnatural matters that are now being ingested by our bodies, and at an increasing level.

We are wiping out whole industries and replacing natural nutrients with dye Yellow 5 which would appear to be a carcinogen—a cancer-producing agent. We are closing down industries based on wonderful natural foodstuffs in South-east Queensland and replacing them with what? Possibly, and almost certainly in my view of the facts I have presented, with a health hazard. It is not good enough.

It is up to this Legislature. If we do not take this action nobody in this country will unless it is the Federal authorities, who are always trying to take things over. It is the responsibility of the State Government to act. I hope I am alarming the House with the complexity of the products that are now being ingested by the average human body, even in our own Parliamentary Refreshment Rooms.

If bleach changes the colour of flour, it will certainly produce other chemical alterations, according to Dr. Lederberg. Chlorine reacts adversely with DNA in micro-organisms, therefore possibly in human cells also. With that type of evidence, the DNA molecule being the basis of all human life, is there not cause for concern when a leading scientist in the Food and Drug Administration of the United States expresses such a scientific view? Is there not cause for alarm? I think there is.

All these additives are in flour used in bread-making. Potassium bromate, an ingredient of many flours, has caused poisoning outbreaks in South Africa. Potassium and ammonium persulphates, used as flour strengtheners, have been proven to cause dermatitis in bakers. Dangerous nitrate also forms in the flour products.

President Nixon's nutritional adviser, Dr. Jean Mayer of Howard University, is greatly concerned over the use of artificial flavours.

In the Food and Drug Administration tests so far conducted on these, half caused retarded growth in rats, increased mortality rate, degenerated heart muscle and decayed liver tissue. Kaiser hospitals have also treated humans for allergies caused by artificial flavourings. Such artificial flavourings are used extensively throughout Queensland in almost all carbonated beverages, and certainly will be in Passion products if Cottees get their way, and unless this Legislature takes certain action. These were in all the drinks that I mentioned back in 1970, and Queenslanders have been drinking all this junk for the last four years. This is not good enough. Whilst this is happening, horticultural industries are in trouble because their good, natural products, well proven to be of value to man, are being replaced by these ersatz products.

Methylcellulose, an all-purpose thickener used in imitation jams, jellies, beverages, desserts, toppings, and low-calorie diet foods, causes arterial lesions, hardening and thickening of the arteries, and a high incidence of heart attacks in rabbits. Propylene glycol, which retains the moisture in ice-cream, candies, toppings and icings, baked goods, shredded coconut, and meat, has been found by food and cosmetic toxicology to cause limb malformation in chicken embryos.

Modified food starch used to thicken gravies and pie fillings may complicate gastro-intestinal troubles and be harmful to the very old and young, warns F.A.O. Have any tests been carried out on the very old and the very young? Are they adequate? Have they been sufficiently long term? Of course not! Most of the additives would probably be passed out through the body in waste matter; but the use of emulsifiers in food causes them to be assimilated by the body more readily. This is the interaction factor that I was talking about.

Laboratory tests so far undertaken have been conducted on animals of a monogastric nature, like human beings. This is the type of scientific testing that it has been possible to do over the years, because the results of tests on monogastric animals are almost certainly reproduced in the results of tests on human beings.

I now deal with the most classic case of them all—bread, the broken staff of life. Most processed foods have a number of additives included, and usually much of the natural nutritional content is removed or destroyed during processing. Bread made from refined flour is a classic example of this. Bread was, in ancient times, regarded as a staple food. The end product was indeed nutritious. Sadly, that is not the case today. As time went by, some unenlightened soul decided that white or "pure" flour would be a more desirable product. It was more costly to produce, so only wealthy classes could afford it, and to eat wholemeal bread became a sign of poverty. To obtain this white flour, the outer layers of the grain—the bran and

the germ—were removed by sifting. It is from these parts that the main nourishment of the grain is obtained. The remaining 87 per cent of the grain—the inner section called the endosperm—is the source of the white flour and is almost pure starch, the only nutritive value of which is an overabundance of fattening calories.

**Mr. Moore:** So the animals became healthy and the people died.

**Mr. AHERN:** That is the idea. There is no doubt that the animals were much better fed than the human beings.

The bran and germ contain Vitamins B1, B2, B3, B6, A, D and E, folic acid, pantothenic acid, chromium, chlorine, manganese, selenium, zinc, iron, cobalt, calcium, sodium, potassium, magnesium, and phosphorus. These elements are all important to healthy tissue building and body functioning and their lack causes ill effects, for example, heart attack, and diabetic patients are generally deficient in chromium. When experimental animals were deprived of this element, the inner walls of their blood vessels became thick with fatty deposits which clogged the arteries, suggesting that this could possibly be one of the factors relating to heart attacks.

So far, I have discussed the removal of nutrients from the flour; but to enable it to be made into bread, many additives are now thrown in for good measure. The flour is artificially aged by the use of chemicals. Nitrogen trichloride was once used, but caused some eye disorders and fits in dogs. Chlorine dioxide is now used and bleaches, ages, and preserves the flour; it also destroys some of the remaining nutriment. The flour has to be conditioned by use of calcium stearyl-2-lactylate and sodium stearyl fumarate for easier handling in machine production. Softeners and emulsifiers such as lecithin, palyoxyethylene monostearate, stearyl tartrate, or partial glycerol esters are added.

**Mr. Frawley** interjected.

**Mr. AHERN:** I know that the honourable member would not fully understand what I am talking about, but I do want him to understand the complexity of the completely artificial products that are finding their way into his stomach. He sees himself as a thrower of the javelin. I suggest that many of the problems to which I am referring could be impeding his performance.

Bakers add chemical stale-inhibitors including mono and di-glycerides, di-acetytartaric acid esters of mono and di-glycerides, so that no matter how long the bread actually sits on the grocery shelf or how far it has to travel, it always looks fresh. Ironically, it is the reduction of the protein content that speeds staling, according to Dr. Stig R. Erlander and Leatrice C. Erlander. Mould and rope inhibitors and preservatives,

calcium propionate, sodium diacetate, bromates, persulphates, acid calcium phosphate, ammonium chloride, fungal amylases, bacterial proteases, are added to disguise the age of the bread. All of these are added to make one unhealthy loaf of bread.

I have placed quite a lot of technical information before honourable members, but it should now be clear that it is easy to substantiate that a tremendous number of completely unnatural substances—some of them tested; some of them untested—are placed in processed food as a result of improved technology. They are causing general concern in the community, and I think that some action should be taken to overcome the problem.

On the other hand, there has been developed in Australia, since the days of Captain Cook, a primary industry that has created a great variety of good natural products that do not require any nonsensical synthesising of compounds totally alien to the natural system, and nature certainly has a patent on these formulations. Without any question, these things should not be thrown on the scrap-heap in the interests of yellow dye.

What is this doing to the health of the nation? There is certainly cause for concern. All it is doing, I suggest, is making the position of the processor and the big manufacturer more competitive. He can make more money out of it. He can afford to advertise it more as a health product. It must be a great paradox to honourable members to know that what are advertised as health products are the very ones I have been referring to. The manufacturers of those products can afford to spend money in advertising those so-called health products. In fact they are the very opposite to health products.

Nature has a certain patent which has been developed over many years. It is something we should foster. We should be asking people to eat plenty of natural foods. We have plenty of them. We have an abundance of them throughout South-east Queensland. People are employed in their production. We know the agronomy of those commodities. They provide decentralisation. Those people are happy and living a good form of life. Surely this is the way nature intended us to be, healthy and strong. It is a good society. This is what we should do.

It remains for us to take certain action. What I ask is that this Parliament set a standard. It seems to me that the best way of going about it is to create a pure foods council as the means to the end.

**Mr. Hanson:** What about banning insecticides?

**Mr. AHERN:** Perhaps that is another issue. If insecticides are going into food it is something that the pure foods council could look at. What I am asking is that the Queensland Parliament set up a watch-dog on which consumers and consumers' rights would



be directly represented. Matters could be referred to that body, particularly advertisements. The manufacturers of the products to which I have been referring will be the first to be found guilty of misleading advertising. Their foodstuffs are highly processed and low in all of the good, natural products of the land. Their foodstuffs are the ones they can afford to promote more. They are promoted on television to young people as being the health foods of the nation. That is exactly what they are not. That is what this council could look at.

**Mr. Moore:** Misleading advertising.

**Mr. AHERN:** There is just no question about it. The council could have independent studies carried out, if necessary. There are independent industrial chemists in Queensland who do that type of work. The council could submit an annual report to Parliament. I am sure the council would agree that the plethora of fine, natural foods that we have worked to create in this State over many years ought to be preserved for the use of future generations. Certainly it is a subject of great public concern today. I know of no issue today that causes parents greater personal worry than whether the food they are giving to young people is nutritious. Often it is not.

I am afraid that our food and drug regulations have not kept pace with the situation. We have looked too defensively at the situation and said, "Let us prove that something is wrong with this product before we ban it" rather than ask the manufacturers to prove it is actually safe. A wealth of evidence has been produced to the House today in this respect. The answer is not in any one independent action or an amendment to one food and drug regulation. The answer is that we nail our colours to the mast. Let us set a standard and appoint a pure foods council or some like statutory organisation which can be a standing watch-dog and, if necessary, take action in the interests of the consumers of Queensland and the primary producers of the State.

(Time expired.)

**Mr. SIMPSON** (Cooroora) (5.30 p.m.): It gives me great pleasure to support the motion so ably moved and seconded by the honourable member for Mourilyan and the honourable member for Salisbury.

As the member for Cooroora, I am privileged to represent what must be the most beautiful part of Australia, if not the world. In Cooroora we have the meeting of mountains, rivers and sea, of forest and plain, and of country and urban living. All this is within a very short distance of Brisbane.

The potential is there for a wide variety of industry, both primary and secondary. Market gardening, grazing, fruit-growing, dairying, fishing, cane-growing and forestry are only a few of the primary industries

that are carried on in my area. In addition, tourism is important, as are light secondary industries, which at present are aligned mainly to the construction industry.

The development and encouragement of industrial estates within planned zoning procedures will provide further employment and prosperity and at the same time the means for families to live and work in their loved, secure and familiar habitat. They will be able to live in health, happiness and prosperity, removed from the pollution and unhealthy ways of city life.

Yes, the potential is there, right in my electorate of Cooroora. To bring the potential to fruition requires careful planning and research as well as the closest co-operation between citizen and government. We face the challenge of showing the world how good and just democratic government really works, with free enterprise of ideas and the peaceful and honourable expression of differences, with the goal of common interest and determination, and with the endeavour to work together constructively. Man and his elected government can work together for the well-being and security of the people.

Planning of both present and future needs has to be done to lay the foundations for future generations. Cooroora can be compared with a beautiful chrysalis; it is relatively untouched and unspoiled, yet capable of wonderful growth. We are able to study and to learn from the monumental mistakes that have been made in areas developed earlier, thereby avoiding the monstrosities of uncontrolled and pollutant industries, of garish architecture and of abuse of nature's wonderland.

It is of utmost importance that the already fine network of primary and secondary schools in Cooroora be further improved and consolidated. This can be achieved by the careful and judicious establishment of more kindergartens and more pre-schools in a vigorous and united community. Nambour, with a population of 7,000, is still without a pre-school, but we are working hard in that direction.

It is also our aim to achieve Government involvement in the establishment of a technical college, an agricultural college and a university in our electorate. Last but not least, the encouragement and development of further medical facilities and the establishment of improved teaching hospitals is another of our goals. We are also trying to create a better awareness of the apprenticeship system allied to local industry.

The fact that many of the electorate's wonderful young people are forced to leave their homes to seek education and employment elsewhere causes grief to their parents. The children go to places where the environment is not as pleasant as in Cooroora and where the educational gain is offset by certain disadvantages.

**Mr. MELLOY:** Mr. Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I draw your attention to the state of the House.  
(Quorum formed.)

**Mr. SIMPSON:** Many parents are grieved that their children have to go away to school. Family life is precious to my electors and it is the quality of this life, above all, that sets Cooroora already far above the so-called developed world. This family basis is essential to the education and well-being of a community.

In my area we are privileged to have surfing, yachting, water-skiing, fishing, canoeing, bush-walking, rock-hounding, mountain climbing, trail-riding, arts and crafts, theatrical societies and numerous sporting clubs for team and individual sports, which are there in plenty. With our increasing population, more of these facilities are needed. Those that do exist deserve every encouragement and support. It is far cheaper to encourage good, healthy young citizens than it is to pay out huge sums for crime prevention and community security. It is also imperative to broaden existing facilities for adult education in order to retrain people in later life to meet the changing circumstances and use their leisure time profitably.

The magnificent pioneers who first established the settlements that grew from farms into villages and towns deserve remembrance and enshrinement. They battled strange and often frightening circumstances alone and far from their motherland to create the development and comparative ease of life that we now enjoy. Many of their names live on, their families enriching and carrying on their traditions of work and constructive citizenship.

It is important that the histories and triumphs, the sadness and joys of the early pioneers and the pioneering days be not forgotten. They should be cherished and the stories told and retold to the young people of today. We are further enriched by the culture and life of many who have come more recently from other parts of the world to our part of Queensland.

Rising populations all over the world and increasing demands for primary and secondary products should create a situation of demand in which those who supply these things are encouraged to study, develop and produce, within their family habitat, with their generations of old skills or expertise and particular dedication within the family farm or the family industry, those things that the world is needing and demanding. Surely with increasing demands there should be a commensurate increase in security and prosperity in the areas where commodities are grown, manufactured and supplied. It is one of the ironies of life that those who produce food (the greatest, and most important commodity), the nation's farmers, are working longer hours and receiving lower returns than any other section in the community. In fact, the nation's farmers are

tragically broke. The farmers are caught between pressure groups. Partly through lack of public understanding, partly through jealous attacks by those who believe that working, saving and property ownership are some sort of sin, the farmers of Australia are in a parlous position.

It has always been the aim of certain political forces to push the farmer down. One force believes in keeping him down to supply food on the cheap, regardless of fairness and justice, and the other force would keep the farmer down in order to provide a cheap supply of raw materials for the great factories and industrial complexes of what have now become the multinational corporations of processors and manufacturers. So the farmer is caught between the two. Ironically, his very rugged individuality and his independence have so far prevented that very thing which would give him protection—the formation of a strong farmer's national union and lobby.

Lasting happiness does not come from gifts from Government. True happiness comes from knowing that there is a future to strive for and a wonderful place to raise children to standards that will not be undermined and continually lowered. Happiness does not come from the kind of freedom represented by standards of films for cinema and television, articles designed to shock, and continual presentation of that which is unhealthy and objectionable, if in fact that means looseness and no control. We have seen those very things before in nations, and this so-called freedom has brought down civilisations through immorality, looseness and lack of control.

We can only be happy in an area knowing full well that these standards and our security will be looked after today and tomorrow, that this country will be defended, that this country will be properly laid out with the very necessary services of rail, road, air and other technological communications. The extent to which a nation can support these services will depend directly on its degree of productivity and enterprise.

Only through free enterprise can we have maximum production, and thereby maximum revenue, without killing incentive. I am opposed to the centralist, socialist Labor Party policy—a policy of Government ownership of land, houses, production, distribution and all finance—a policy which kills incentive and causes unemployment. Lately under the Federal Labour Government we have seen a pouring out of moneys, or promises of money, to give the impression that it is very benevolent and that this socialist Labor Government is the ideal one for the people. The Government collects money only from people who do business in the market-place—from farmers who produce food, materials and fibres, from products that are exported and from minerals and the fruits of other endeavours that are sold.

But Government itself does not make money. We are being handed a yardstick which, I feel, is endangering the future of Australia. Government is becoming too expensive, requiring too high a tax and taking incentive from Australians. We have to see that there is a minimum of government in this country. Because of its nature, it is not productive and should be kept to its efficient minimum.

I feel that today, through the power of the media and not the media itself, there is a division of the people. There is too much setting apart of groups in the community. There are those who for their own reasons would like to separate city from country, set one man against another, set one group against another and often simply to write a good story in a magazine or to attract another viewer to the screen.

I believe it is high time that our educationists took a hard look at what our education should be doing and what it should be achieving in the end result, which is surely to bring harmony in the community—harmony in the country—rather than division and hatred.

It should, for instance, bring an understanding of the plight of country dwellers, of those less fortunate than themselves, of those who carry out an essential service, of their part in the community, and their right to a voice and respect in the community. Today in primary industry we have many who are underprivileged and poverty stricken. They will not fall into the category of those who come for dole or wish to change their way of life. They are there, and they are deserving of a standard of living equal to that of others in the community. In the main it is a recognition that their product is worthy of a percentage of the community's pay packet and not a steadily decreasing amount.

There is a need to educate people to recognise that the presentation of goods to the public should include a clear indication that natural products are natural products and that synthetics are synthetics. The previous speaker (the honourable member for Landsborough) gave an indication of what synthetics can do and the danger they present. He was referring to the passion-fruit industry, which is threatened at this time by the inclusion of a synthetic additive of unknown worth, which could deprive many people on the land of their livelihood.

Let us ban misleading labelling, advertising and commentary from our country and replace them with clear factual statements. Education should be headed towards more specifically equipping young people to fit into the community tomorrow not only from the work point of view—I am sure that this is being attended to as part of the curriculum—but also from the point of view of becoming stable human beings in the community, good husbands and wives and good mothers and

fathers. They must also have an understanding of their fellow man and neighbour in the community and have respect for others.

Other honourable members have already mentioned the need to take a hard look at saving the lives of school-children and the need to take another look at school buses and traffic crossings near schools. Speed on the road can be reduced by building in speed humps without necessarily adding to the staff to control it.

There is also the need to reduce the road toll and preserve the lives of those who will be the drivers of tomorrow. This should be taught in schools. I feel radically that there should be no age limit to the obtaining of a driver's licence; rather it should be based strictly on the ability to drive—a very strict evaluation of the person's ability both to handle the vehicle physically and to handle the situation mentally, whether it be control in an emergency or simply the general attitude to others on the road.

Related to education and behaviour there is a need to take another look at the question of violence in our community. It is high time legislators in this country realised what effect violence shown through the media and films has on the community, more particularly those of unstable mind. It causes violence and crime in our community. I realise we must provide a safety margin between allowing the individual the right of access to any material and discerning for himself what is good and what is bad and the possibility that that right might in fact be bad for the community as a whole as others less mature will become excited by the material, the result being a higher crime rate and a lowering of our community life standards.

I feel very strongly that violence should not be shown in a moving, dramatic form on television, or the motion-picture screen. It could be described by voice or by the written word, and photographs could be used in the Press to show the authenticity of what was reported. In the past, television has shown violent incidents live to a very wide audience, uncontrolled by age or other means of determining suitability, and, shortly after, another similar incident has occurred. It is highly likely that the idea came from the previous showing of a similar violent act. I am not advocating the stifling of the media—I think they should be permitted to cover whatever happens in this country and other parts of the world—but I believe that violence should be presented in a form that breaks the hypnotic effect that it has on those who cannot control themselves.

I feel that good government can bring lasting happiness to the people only if we as citizens, and members of Parliament, realise that there must be a change in the attitude of the individual. He must become more aware of the rights and privileges of his fellow men, and their needs in times of hardship and stress. If there is a change to

a greater awareness of the needs of our neighbours, this would reflect good government. We would not then, I believe, find an ever-increasing desire by the public for Governments to provide more and more amenities and more and more social supports. Instead, the people would be motivated to seek things other than those that are material, and to look to those things that bring happiness in the world.

At a Rotary conference almost 12 months ago, I had the pleasure of meeting a native of South Africa who was trying very hard to raise the standard of living in his country, and to obtain facilities that we have in this country such as hospitals, schools, reasonable roads, mines and industries. His people had very few of these amenities, but they had plenty of fresh air, a simple and primitive life, and they were happy and contented. Yet here in Australian cities people who have all of these amenities want to get out into the country and, in some secluded place away from the rat-race, find a way of life that this man already enjoyed in South Africa. In other words, a collection of material things does not necessarily bring happiness.

I should like to bring to the attention of the House, and the people of Queensland, the need to make a clear claim to fishing rights in waters to the continental shelf, and beyond to a reasonable limit, for the gainful employment of Australian fishermen. Other countries are likely to take over the rich fisheries just off the Queensland coast if this is not done. There is a fishing potential awaiting further development adjacent to my electorate of Cooroora. There is a need to improve the river entrance at Noosa for the benefit of the fishing industry, and also sporting and amateur fishermen.

In my electorate, tourism is a very important industry deserving of more Government encouragement. I am sure that with very little effort by the Government tourism could provide sufficient revenue to more than recoup whatever expenditure may be necessary. However, the development of tourism places a tremendous burden on local authorities. They are quite capable of providing essential services in my electorate, but they are finding every day that their finances are inadequate. There is a crying need for a set percentage of the money in the national coffers to be provided, through the States, to help local authorities in this situation. If it is not forthcoming, the future looks hopeless.

National parks are essential for any community that is hung up with concentrated living in cities and crowded places. The cheapest therapy that one can give people living in such a community is to allow them to go into national parks and commune with nature. I believe that these parks should be carefully planned to achieve that end, not simply on a theoretical basis.

In the last few days honourable members have heard references by the Federal Minister for Transport (Mr. Jones) to Queensland roads. He is the man holding the purse strings; therefore, he is responsible for preventing Queensland from having better roads. People on the Sunshine Coast have been crying out for a four-lane highway from Brisbane to be extended quickly to Nambour. Quite apart from safety reasons, such a highway is necessary for reasons of economy. The cost of road transport per mile is very high for existing industries; it also is discouraging people from establishing new industries on the Sunshine Coast.

Local roads are in a disgraceful condition. It is difficult for vehicles to travel over the Kin Kin-Pomona Road, and the Pomona-Boreen Point Road is little better. The Boreen Point-Tewantin Road is in poor condition, and the Noosa-Eumundi-Dooran Road is dangerous and of very poor quality. The Yandina-Coolool Road is also breaking up because insufficient funds are coming from the Federal sphere through the State Government to local authorities. The Mapleton-Kenilworth Road, which is in a high-rainfall area, is subject to deterioration as a result of landslides and flooding of the rivers. The Kenilworth-Imbil Road is also in poor condition. All these roads are important to people living in these areas and trying to carry on the particular industry in which they are engaged, and I suggest that the Federal Minister for Transport is letting Queensland down by not supplying the State with finance in proportion to the damage caused to roads by an increasing volume of traffic, vehicle loadings, rainfall, and so on. Other States that have lower rainfall do not have to contend with some of the factors I have mentioned.

I could not let this occasion pass, as the member for Cooroora, without mentioning that in the 65 years that that electorate has been represented in this Assembly it has had only two representatives before me, Harry Walker and David Low, both of whom are now deceased. I congratulate them on the wonderful job they did for the electorate. They both achieved much, and they are both very much missed.

I also thank those who assisted in the campaign to have me elected as the representative for Cooroora in this Assembly. My campaign chairman, Jack Kennedy, and his wonderful campaign committee did a splendid job. I also thank my wife, Norma, my son Bruce, my daughter Helen, my son Jock and my daughter Fiona for the family effort they made to assist me in the campaign. Without their help I could not have been successful. I place a great deal of importance on family life, which I believe is under test and challenge in Australia today.

I have endeavoured, Mr. Speaker, to summarise within a fairly short time the many facets of life and industry within my electorate of Cooroora. It is blessed with

great potential for the happy, healthy welding of industry, recreation and community development in harmony with the rich endowments bestowed by nature.

On behalf of the electors and residents of Cooroora, I ask His Excellency the Governor to convey to Her Majesty the loyalty and affection of her subjects and their concern for the upholding of the valued standards that she sets. I add my support to the motion before the House.

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

Mr. BYRNE (Belmont) (7.15 p.m.): I express my sincere thanks to the people of the Belmont electorate for their support and confidence in me in the recent election, and affirm my allegiance and that of my electors to the Crown. I offer the electors of Belmont my personal assistance in their social and communal difficulties, and extend an invitation to them in this regard so that we may co-operate and together build a community within Belmont that will provide the climate for personal growth and fulfilment, and satisfy the needs of familial and individual interests. It shall be my endeavour in the years that follow to seek to represent the interests of Belmont and of Queensland, not as an anti-Labor politician but as a non-Labor one. I endeavour to seek justice whatever the personal costs involved; to seek truth in spite of opposition; to be honest in my expression, true to myself and, above all, bear responsibly the trust of the community.

As the youngest member ever in the Queensland Parliament perhaps my youth is eloquent in my idealism. It is my hope that it will not be destroyed, that cynicism will not prevail, and that my approach to Parliament and Government will be positive and not simply a naive negativism. Indeed, my comments may often be found irksome, and some toes may be bruised. But I have long believed it is only through the dialectics of conflict that change has come, and change which is beneficial and reformative. My belief in a reality beyond us is my social, moral and legal conscience. To it alone do I forbear justice and truth, and that I state at the outset.

Today we create the society of tomorrow. The Government, the community and the individual are the three areas of responsibility in the society. When these three fail to operate and co-operate the society loses; the future of our children is overshadowed by money, power, greed or self-interest. It shall be my intention to look at our society, its values and its principles, and speak of my hope for the future in the present.

Wordsworth once said, "The child is father of the man." That perhaps is the theme of my speech in that our future rests in our governmental decisions of the present as they affect the children of today. In

Belmont I see neglect on the part of Governments, of the community and of the individual. It is indeed a very diverse electorate encompassing the very rich and the very poor, so, indeed, my criticism is relative.

There is an easy tendency to avoid, forget and neglect the voiceless and oppressed groups within our society, but it is the duty of government and its representatives to listen and speak on their behalf, to give hearing to their problems, voice to their silence, hope to their despair, justice to their injustices and reality to their dreams. Indeed, gross governmental neglect at all levels cries out loudly in the very essence of a society. Delinquency, vandalism, crime, broken homes, family neglect, social ostracism, apathy, hatred and despair—all must have a foundation. They all must have a beginning.

I sought pre-selection for Belmont because of this neglect, and my hope that change could be wrought. I sought the confidence of the electors of Belmont because I believed change could be forthcoming.

A depressed environment is self-perpetuating; a depressed society is self-destructive. People for whom the material side of life has been fraught with misfortune often cannot rise from their misfortune to change their society. There are those who try and succeed; there are those who try and do not succeed; there are those who do not try; and there are those who cannot try. Towards this latter group the Government owes its greatest responsibility, not to give them hand-outs but to create the climate and the environment for human endeavour.

To this end I believe this Government possesses at this time its greatest responsibility in three fields. I see those fields as housing, education and police. The major stress that I put in these areas is in inequity that exists. In housing and education it is inequity of maintenance. It is important that this inequity be resolved.

But government rests on different levels, and because of the situation in this electorate, and indeed in many electorates in Queensland, criticism can be levelled at various councils. In this case I cite the Brisbane City Council. It cannot escape harsh criticism here either. It has a responsibility in the environment for the presentation and preservation of parks and recreation facilities. In this regard it has been sadly lacking.

It is my desire to see change and improvement in Belmont, and I quote some of the more important aspects in which the people of Belmont would like to see change come about. In parks and recreation facilities, they would like to see a park reserve made of the Pine Mountain reserve, which would enable a border environmental concept to be created for the recreation of the residents. They would like to see the Bulimba Creek recreation reserve finally come to fruition under the guidance of the council. They would like to see reserves developed in

Margate Street, Buckley Street and D'Arcy Road. These places were set aside many years ago for reserves, and the people would like to see them developed, not left aside and forgotten as so many of the people in my electorate have been.

In schools, they would like to see maintenance carried out so that the schools present at least the appearance of decency. They would like to see the schools painted externally and new furniture installed to overcome the inequity that exists between new schools and older schools. They would like to see playgrounds and other facilities provided in these schools, some of which are nearly 100 years old. After all, they see that the new schools in the same area have modern furniture and modern facilities.

It is my hope to see a high school developed on the corner of Creek Road and Fursden Road, on land that was set aside for that purpose but remains undeveloped. I would like to see pre-schools established in Mayfield and Seven Hills State Schools.

As to housing, the maintenance of Housing Commission homes must be high on the Government's list of priorities. If the Government does not give it top priority, it fails grossly. I shall elaborate on that further.

Perhaps it is possible that in the purchase of Housing Commission homes the Government may assist by providing loans, at interest rates similar to those charged by the Housing Commission, to enable purchasers to carry out repairs and enhance their homes so that their families can grow up in a better environment—not so that the environment becomes depressed, so the community becomes depressed and, in turn, the families become depressed.

High on the list of priorities there should also be the prevention of crime, vandalism and delinquency. The Government should do all it can to improve the environment. It should also endeavour to create a concept of community within the Belmont environment.

Churchill once said—

"We must beware of trying to build a society where nobody counts for anything except a politician or an official, a society where enterprise gains no reward and thrift no privilege."

They are relevant words. They show up the diversity between harsh and corrupt capitalism and extreme socialism—where people are no longer considered as individuals, where people are relegated to secondary positions, where people do not receive the just fruits of their reward, where people are discriminated against and democracy fails.

Our country is divided: there is apathy, there is turbulence, there is discontent and there is gross distrust of Governments. Only we in a Government, only we in Parliaments, are the people who are able to change that

unrest, discontent and distrust that exists in our society. If we ignore those symptoms, this Government—and every Government of the West—shall find itself falling, as Governments have done in the past. As capitalism becomes more corrupt, the society will not withstand corruption and it will fall. The same can be said of extreme socialism. Where people seek money as an end, society falls. Where people seek power as an end, society falls. They are the two extremes that we find and these extremes are becoming more marked and the people are being forgotten more and more.

Yes, there is a conflict; the dialectic is simple: it is a conflict of capital and power. If we as a Government, if Parliaments throughout this country, do not assume the middle road between the two of them—assume a democratic structure and assure the rights of the individual—then we and everyone else in Parliaments throughout Australia deserve to fall—and our society with us.

Today, I remind you, Mr. Acting Speaker, that we create the society of tomorrow. De Tocqueville once said—

"The entire man is, so to speak, to be seen in the cradle of the child. The growth of nations presents something analogous to this; they all bear some marks of their origin, and the circumstances which accompanied their birth and contributed to their rise, affect the whole term of their being."

There rests a statement for the judgment of our own consciences. How many of us in this Parliament, how many people in any Parliament in this country, put as a priority before them in legislation the future of this country, the future of the children of our country? How many of us find ourselves putting capital or power before us? The end is spoken of eloquently by history. We need to assume our responsibilities within the society, and we not only need to assume them; we need to accept them and we need to operate under them.

I mentioned in relation to the electorate of Belmont that there was neglect. I also go on to say that an ad hoc basis of government in this State also shows a gross neglect. The two areas of major concern in Queensland at the present time rest, in essence, at the base, in housing and land settlement. They are the two major priorities. It is from them that the solidarity of family life stems; it is from that solidarity of family life that a good and wholesome society evolves—a society where crime is not prevalent, a society where welfare hand-outs are not an essential, and a society which will grow and progress. Yet we see here an indictment of this Government. But I do not heap this criticism upon this Government only. Indeed it falls upon every Government in this country. It falls upon the Commonwealth Government and it falls upon councils. They

refuse to accept their position that a Government must not only administer finance but it must also make effective policy decisions that affect the whole community.

In the 20 years to 1973 a comparison of the positions of the Queensland Budgets will clarify the situation. When a Budget is drawn up in Queensland and when the departments make their various submissions, it appears that the prime point is this: how much was spent last year? Once that is decided, that becomes virtually the base figure for the following year. If the income is to be somewhat larger than for the previous year, how do we then distribute the rest? If a policy decision rests in that area, then it will take a great deal of force and power to overcome this archaic method of finance administration rather than governmental policy-making.

The two areas to which I draw closest attention are housing and land settlement. Two further areas are police and social welfare. In housing, at a time when one would think that more money should be spent by Governments to assist the community to grow, the amount of the Budget set aside for housing has been halved. The amount of finance set aside for land settlement has been more than halved. In such a situation and climate as that, I ask: how can people who find themselves in troubled economic situations be more enabled to bring up families in a safer and more stable environment? I contend that it is not possible.

Indeed, we see this extended. Because we have not had the finance essential in these two areas, we now see the fruits of our mismanagement. It has become necessary to increase the expenditure of the percentage budget on crime prevention and crime correction. Because we have not spent the finance in the first place in the areas of priority and importance, we are now having to correct our errors. Social welfare has to be increased. Had our society been far better off communally, had moneys been apportioned in a far better manner and had there been policy decisions rather than administrative decisions made in respect of our Budget, perhaps we would be in a better situation.

But there is hope for the future. There is change in this Government, there is change in this Parliament and there is a new understanding of the values that rest in this State. However, I shall here choose several areas of governmental administration and express what I see as a base criticism and need for change in these areas.

Firstly, I mentioned that the conflict was one of administration versus policy-making. In the Treasury we see administrative rather than policy decisions. Indeed, that goes back to the Cabinet. In housing, we have seen the concept of shelter rather than the concept of a home in a community. Is it more important to provide a roof than it is to

keep a society with houses that are maintained at a level of dignity, in an environment that maintains dignity, in a community that maintains human dignity, and creates families with human dignity?

I offer no criticism here of the various Ministers involved, but I do hope that in the future as this Parliament—this Government—creates the society of the future it takes into account these factors, it apportion its finances with a realisation that housing is indeed a most important function and that money should be well spent in that area and, most importantly, it spends not just to provide the roof but to maintain the standard of dignity and maintenance that people deserve.

On health, unfortunately, political pressures have forced the Government into what I would consider a foolish decision. The people of Brisbane do need further health facilities but why it is necessary to create another bureaucratic complex such as the one proposed at Mt. Gravatt is beyond me. Look where it is positioned—outside the grounds of the university. What sort of parking facilities will we have? What sort of individuality will the people who go there experience? Nothing but a perpetuation of the same sort of bureaucratic structure as already exists at the massive public hospitals.

Why not an innovative idea—hospital clinics with perhaps some 30 beds in various places centred throughout the metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas? The expense involved in these single-storey buildings is not great. They enable a much greater degree of participation by individual doctors and do not require a bureaucratic structure that does not take into account the individual, a structure that provides a service only to the community and not to the individual.

In relation to education, once again there is an enormous bureaucracy which is now bearing its fruit in the discontent seen in schools; discontent that youth express not only in the community but in other educational institutions as well. If a situation exists, there is a cause. We as a Government must ask ourselves: what is that cause? Having asked ourselves that question and found the right answer, perhaps we see it goes back to the very structure, the very essence, of liberalism—the concept of the individual having importance and priority and maintaining that importance and priority in governmental decisions.

Perhaps the concept of regionally or communally organised schools would be one worth thinking about—one where there is more community participation. As our society becomes more educated, there is more room for it. There is greater capacity for other people within the community to participate and for families to participate. Schools are meant to be community complexes that belong to the community, and they should use them. They should use them in school

hours and outside of school hours. That is essential. Once again maintenance and the inequity that exists between the new and the old must be a priority of this Government; to raise equity in the levels of not only housing but also education.

I turn now to police and law and order. In this particular area we must review our understandings and review our concepts. As mentioned earlier, we have a corrective form of justice and that form of justice that exists in our society is corrective because the right decisions were not made in the past in relation to the community, its housing, its education and its environmental position. So the principle of law and order must not be essentially corrective but rather preventive to ensure that vandalism, delinquency and crime as they develop are prevented rather than corrected after they occur.

In our transport system we have another bureaucratic structure that is cumulative rather than innovative. Areas of change and areas of need for improvement—these are areas that this Government must accept.

In welfare, action once again should not be corrective of the ills of the past; rather it should be productive of the individuals of the future.

In business, there is a priority unfortunately where big business is the business that succeeds; where small businesses eventually find themselves inundated, overcome, or monopolised. They are the businesses within our society that have their strongest ties to the past; that have their strongest ties to the community. And they are the businesses that we must encourage.

The approach of the Government to environmental and urban matters has, in the past, been very much on an ad hoc basis. It is time that there was planning; that there was community development; and that there was family development understood in that concept. Basically, it comes down to a conflict between the privileged and the voiceless. It is time that the Government stood up for the voiceless; that it spoke for them; that it heard them; and that it enabled them to have their problems solved.

Recently in this House there was a discussion on an increase in the number of Ministers. Indeed, this is a modern idea. At last we have within the Government Ministers who will be able to concentrate on portfolios that are directly concerned with important modern and contemporary matters in the community. It is now the responsibility of those Ministers to carry out their duties, and it is the responsibility of the Government, standing behind the Ministers, and the Parliament, standing over the Ministers, to ensure that they fulfil the responsibilities that have been given and accepted. From the new structure of the Ministry, the hopes of the community in a modern environment may be fulfilled.

I mentioned earlier, in the quotation from Churchill, that we must beware of trying to build a society in which nobody counts for anything except a politician or an official. They are the privileged ones in our society. But by "official" I do not mean simply a person with an official position; I mean people who are privileged in whatever walk of life they find themselves. Whether they be economically, educationally, socially, or in any other way privileged, they are officials within society, and indeed they form a minority within it. Because they have such privileges, they must also accept a responsibility, and it must be fulfilled. If society continues in its present path, with the privileged remaining aloof from the rest of the people, society will one day speak, and the voice with which it speaks will not be kind.

The second part of the quotation to which I referred spoke of a society in which enterprise gains no reward, and thrift no privilege. Indeed, there is a difficulty within our society, and that is to find a middle road between the two extremes. But it is essential that a person receives merit for his work; that he receives reward for his activities; and that he is given drive and incentive to achieve and to develop into the whole person. Enterprise must gain a reward.

People must not be discriminated against, irrespective of the level on which they find themselves, and a man of thrift must find that he has some privilege. His thrift should not be whittled away; it should not be forgotten, but remembered. And where it is remembered, it must be real. A man must not just be told that he has something; he must have it. I repeat that today we create the society of tomorrow.

There are three essentials to growth—food, shelter and climate. That is very basic, very simplistic, but very real. In this situation, food rests in a concept of the input—what goes into it; shelter speaks of, "What protective mechanisms are there, what safeguards?"; and the climate presents the suitable environment. It is in that situation that the child must grow into the man; it is in that situation that a young society must grow into a nation. So it is the bounden duty of those three areas in society—the Government, the community, and the individual—to co-operate to ensure that the input, the protection that the society may offer and the cultivated environment enable the full growth, the whole growth, of the child.

I wish to elaborate a little further on the role of the Parliament, and perhaps to propose some concepts and some ideas that could benefit its better running. I speak firstly in relation to what is termed in this place "Question Time". At present we have the ludicrous situation that there are questions on notice and questions without notice, and we waste half an hour to an hour each morning having read answers to



questions asked on notice. I suggest that that time could be used better, that members would have more time in which to seek further answers to questions affecting them, the State, their electorates and individual electors, if answers to questions on notice were tabled. That is one principle.

There are other areas within the Parliament in which changes and improvements could be made. Indeed, there is the concept of parliamentary committees. They also are an area of importance which, in order to make a Parliament more democratic, needs to be investigated, needs to be looked into.

So, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I come back to my primary point—that we must create a society today which is a society for the future. We must look at our present situation, we must assess it, we must think what policy incentives can be put into it, and we must act upon them.

In conclusion, I say that if this Government, and, indeed, other Governments throughout the country, do not ensure that they take into account the problems that exist, if they do not realise the apathy and the distrust of them that exists in society, if they do not realise that present structures of money and power are not the ends that must be aimed for but, rather, the rights and the privileges of the community, they will fall—and they will fall in a very short period of time, for, as yet, no alternative has been presented to us.

**Mr. GOLEBY** (Redlands) (7.49 p.m.): First, let me say what an honour and a privilege it is to support the motion so ably moved by the honourable member for Mourilyan and so capably seconded by the honourable member for Salisbury.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** Tell us about passion-fruit.

**Mr. GOLEBY:** The honourable member will hear more about passion-fruit later. I ask him to listen.

I take the opportunity to pledge my loyalty and that of the constituents of the Redlands electorate to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

As the member for Redlands I am fully conscious of the responsibilities that lie before me as the representative of that very large electorate. The electorate is largely an urban one, changing in character over recent years from what was basically a rural area to what is now an electorate of rapidly spreading residential development.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** Why does the National Party represent it?

**Mr. GOLEBY:** Because the people there prefer it. They kicked the A.L.P. candidate out.

The electorate of Redlands begins at the Belmont State School and extends to the Manly West State School. It includes Gumdale, the whole of the Redland Shire with

its many islands, and vast developing satellite areas of Eight Mile Plains, Springwood, Rochdale, and Slacks Creek.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper** interjected.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr. Miller): Order! Persistent interjections will not be tolerated. I ask all honourable members to co-operate.

**Mr. GOLEBY:** The electorate of Redlands is the second largest numerically in the State, having a voting population of almost 24,000. It is a very diversified electorate and includes part of the city of Brisbane, the whole of the Redland Shire with its many bay islands, and the northern section of the Albert Shire. I do not wish to give the impression that the rural industry has gone. Far be it from that, as the rural industry, although perhaps a little diminished in recent years, still plays a vital role as the largest industry in the electorate.

There are two distinct areas of community interrelation in the electorate. I refer to the closely settled areas along the coastline and the satellite areas in the northern end of the Albert Shire. They are two distinct communities with little relationship one to the other, but there are 13,500 electors within the main section of the electorate—the Redland Shire—7,500 in the Albert Shire, and the remainder (approximately 2,500) in the city of Brisbane.

**Mr. Moore:** You will be there for ever representing them.

**Mr. GOLEBY:** Of course I will.

With the rapid expansion and development envisaged in the electorate, it is expected that within the next three years it will contain approximately 36,000 voters. The honourable member for Pine Rivers understands, as I do, the complexities and the problems of such a fast-growing electorate. Even at its present size it represents what I would term two normal city electorates.

It is expected that the Redland Shire alone, with the present rate of residential development, will contain 50,000 residents by the end of the 1970's.

I mentioned earlier that the Redlands electorate is a very diversified one. It is an electorate of many interests and I refer particularly to its many islands.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** What about the islands?

**Mr. GOLEBY:** If the honourable member listens carefully he will hear about the islands.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! I suggest that the honourable member for Archerfield return to his usual seat if he wishes to interject.

**Mr. GOLEBY:** North Stradbroke Island lies wholly within the electorate of Redlands. At the present time it has 60 to 70 per cent of its total area under mineral lease, and it is being mined by two mineral sands companies. The mining industry has brought

many benefits to Stradbroke Island. It has provided permanent employment for many men. It has made it possible for the local authority to provide reticulated water not only to the mining industry but also for the two principal towns of Dunwich and Point Lookout. The very presence of the mining industry has made it economically possible to reticulate electric power throughout the entire island. All centres on the islands are provided with this amenity. The only service from the mainland is provided by two barge companies which operate a regular ferry service. Besides transporting mineral sands, they provide a very good vehicular service to the island.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** You need a diving suit to get to most of the land on Russell Island.

**Mr. GOLEBY:** The honourable member has never been there. He should listen carefully.

Stradbroke Island has many beauty spots and is a drawcard to tourists. As it lies within 30 miles of the city of Brisbane, it must in the very near future become the holiday playground and recreation centre for a large proportion of Brisbane's population. This untapped tourist area has beautiful surfing beaches at Point Lookout, good fishing, rugged cliffs, fresh-water lakes and an abundance of natural flora and fauna.

To develop, a tourist area needs additional services. The completion of the east coast road linking Point Lookout and Dunwich needs to be proceeded with in the very near future. The road is controlled by the Main Roads Department and is sealed for only half its length. The remaining portion is a nightmare for motorists when the gravel portions collapse under heavy mining traffic. I appeal to the Government to return to the island some of the many thousands of dollars that it has accumulated from mining royalties since mining was first carried out on the island some 20 years ago. The provision of such finance will allow this vital trans-island road to be sealed.

Large mining development is presently under way south of the principal residential area of Dunwich. With restoration, this area will be an ideal residential zone. With panoramic views from one end of Moreton Bay to the other, it will become a subdivider's paradise—a glorious residential area. I believe that a bridge connection across the bay, linking the mainland with Stradbroke Island, will help to develop this area rapidly.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** Why did your Government pull up the railway line?

**Mr. GOLEBY:** If the honourable member is patient, I shall tell him the reason.

While speaking about Stradbroke Island, I must mention the fast-developing oyster industry there. At the present time 42 commercial oyster farmers operate leases along

the foreshore of the island. When we think of oysters our minds immediately turn to the Hawkesbury River and Port Stephens areas of New South Wales. The oyster industry on Stradbroke Island is little advertised, yet many tons of oysters leave the island each week for the Brisbane markets. The quality of the product is second to none. I appeal to the Minister for Fisheries to give this industry every opportunity to expand.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** Who wrote this speech for you—Burleigh Marr?

**Mr. GOLEBY:** It certainly wasn't Ted Baldwin.

Queensland contains a tremendous untapped market for seafoods, and I believe that if Stradbroke Island is given the opportunity it will provide seafoods of this nature to the local market.

One of the problems facing the oyster industry is the law governing the tenure of oyster leases. It may interest the House to know that an oyster farmer who invests perhaps thousands of dollars in his lease does so with the knowledge that within 12 months his whole livelihood can be taken away from him with the stroke of a pen. Oyster leases are granted on only a 12-month tenure. Surely this is not good enough, so I request the Minister to conduct a full investigation into this matter so that security of tenure may be offered to oyster farmers. This will allow the industry to be established on a sound basis.

Over recent months a good deal has been heard of certain Moreton Bay islands, namely, Karragarra, Macleay, Lamb and Russell. They have been subjected over recent years to blatantly bad development. The policies adopted by some of the developing companies have been nothing short of deplorable and scandalous. Until recently the islands were not under the control of any local authority; consequently some unscrupulous land developers took advantage of this and subdivided almost the entire islands. They now contain approximately 18,000 allotments for residential development but provide very few amenities. Furthermore, road construction by the developers was, to say the least, second rate.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** What about Russell Island?

**Mr. GOLEBY:** If the honourable member were listening carefully he would know that I am talking about Russell Island.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper** interjected.

**Mr. GOLEBY:** The honourable member would not know where it is.

No provision has been made for parks. The foreshores have not been protected and, in almost every instance, land has been developed right to the shoreline. The public has no access to the foreshores except at the various landing points on the

islands near the jetties. Many low areas have been subdivided. It appears that from 5 to 10 per cent of the allotments are either under water at high tide, or lying in swamps on the islands. I should like to know how any firm of surveyors could theoretically survey such land into residential blocks. How could their ethical standards allow them to engage in such blatant subdivision, knowing full well that much of this land lies permanently under water? Since the take-over of the islands by the Redland Shire Council—the Government should know it was at their request—they have become a tremendous financial burden on the shire. I admit that certain money was made available by the Government to assist in restructuring and in the development of essential amenities; but the amount received was grossly inadequate to provide any lasting benefits. Since the take-over two years ago inflation has diminished considerably the value of the money granted. The cost of the resumptions necessary to provide the future necessary parks and recreation areas on the islands is overwhelming for the local authority's finances. Most of the council's money from the Government grant has been used to acquire gravel areas. It must be borne in mind that there are very few gravel reserves on these islands and that it is essential for any local authority faced with the mammoth task of road development in the future to acquire these areas immediately, before residential development takes place adjacent to the quarry sites. The only form of road construction done by the developers was the clearing of trees and the shaping of some kind of pathway—without drainage—to give access to the many thousands of residential blocks.

Health facilities are needed on these islands. Many of them were settled by elderly people before the islands came under the control of an authority. The people were attracted to the islands because there were no rates to pay, which meant cheap living in pleasant climatic conditions. I must say that the nearest doctor is eight miles away across what are sometimes treacherous waters. I appeal to the Minister to establish a health clinic, or what is perhaps better known as an outpatient clinic on these islands, where the people may receive medical attention. I draw the attention of the House to the fact that in the early 1960's the late Dr. Noble, the then Minister for Health, established a similar clinic on Stradbroke Island. It has treated many thousands of cases and, on many occasions, has been responsible for saving life. Many arguments have been advanced against the establishment of one of these centres, but I assure the Minister that such a facility is urgently needed to save the inhabitants of the islands the hazardous trip across the bay in rough weather.

Police protection also is required on these islands. At present they are served only from the Cleveland Police Station. When a problem arises, a police officer has to travel to Redland Bay, charter a boat and go to the island to investigate the cause of the complaint. Anybody who knows anything about law enforcement will quickly realise that this situation is far from good. The only way a police officer can operate effectively is to have at his disposal a boat so that he may regularly visit the islands and be quickly at the scene of a complaint. A boat is essential for inter-island service; it is the only way a police officer can get around.

The only method of access to the mainland from these islands is by a co-operatively owned ferry or a water taxi. However, landing facilities at Redland Bay are very poor, even dangerous. The new jetty was erected only a few years ago, but its design is totally unsuitable for exposed waters. With the increase in the island population, passenger traffic is increasing, and adequate safe-berthing facilities are required urgently. I ask the Government to implement the plan suggested by the Redland Shire Council to dredge Weinem Creek so that vessels can load and unload their passengers without risk to life or limb.

I have dealt at length with the problems associated with the bay islands, but I have done so with one object in mind—to remind the Government that the problems I have outlined tonight were not brought about by the inhabitants of the islands or by the Redland Shire Council. They stem from the shortsightedness and ineffectiveness of this Government in allowing the islands to be subdivided. The islands did not lie within the boundaries of any local authority and the statutes of the State did not prohibit the wanton subdivision of the lands.

When a former member for Logan—the present chairman of the Redland Shire Council, Councillor Wood—some years ago pointed out to this Government the problems that would arise in these islands from the subdivision that was taking place, his words were not heeded. However, the necessary legislation has now been introduced and all islands along the Queensland coast are under the control of one local authority or another. The Government realised its mistake too late when it introduced that legislation, and the bay islands have paid the penalty for the rest of Queensland. What happened to them can never happen again, but the Redland Shire is being forced to take over those islands and all the problems associated with them. It is now faced with tremendous financial burdens and it will be for many generations to come.

I now refer to one of the most thickly populated areas of my electorate, bordering the city of Brisbane. I refer to the satellite development on the northern end of the

Albert Shire. This area is settled predominantly by young people. I understand that a recent survey revealed that the average adult age of the population of the Springwood, Eight Mile Plains and Rochedale areas is 35 years—ample evidence of how young the population is.

Many facilities that one associates with young people are required. Firstly I refer to the need for adequate educational facilities. The Government has done its best to meet the expanding growth rate of the area with new schools; some have been established. I refer particularly to Springwood. Unfortunately, the rapid residential development is outstripping the provision of accommodation at that school. It will be necessary to acquire more land in the future, and the erection of additional classrooms for the coming year is certainly required.

The area of which I speak has the greatest congregation of population within my electorate. Although, as I mentioned earlier, the Redlands electorate is the second largest numerically in the State, it has only one high school—to service 50,000 people. Springwood has no secondary school facilities.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** What a shocking indictment of the Government!

**Mr. GOLEBY:** I can assure the honourable member that that situation will not remain for long.

The only high school in the electorate is at Cleveland, though land at Springwood has been purchased by the department for another. A recent survey that I made in conjunction with the Education Department revealed that over 400 students from the Springwood-Rochedale area can be anticipated to require secondary education next year. At present high school students in that area travel in at least five different directions to attend schools outside the electorate to receive their secondary education.

While I am on the subject of high schools—a similar situation exists in the Capalaba and Gumdale areas where a similar number of students are forced to attend five or six high schools. About six years ago land was purchased at Capalaba for a high school and I appeal to the Minister to have one constructed immediately, as that would considerably alleviate overcrowding at the Cleveland High School. As I mentioned earlier, it is the only high school in my electorate.

Many problems are associated with the many residential developments in my electorate. These are becoming apparent in the Springwood and Eight Mile Plains areas. I refer to the urgent need for police protection in the area, which lies on the boundary between two police districts. As it is a rapidly developing residential area, it is apparent that a police station, fully staffed, is urgently needed. I have already had discussions with the Minister along these lines and I urge him to have a very close

look at the present situation. I trust he will see fit to have a police station erected in the very near future.

With such a large population, many facilities for young people are urgently required. The Albert Shire Council has recently acquired some 90 acres of land to be developed for recreation and sporting purposes. The council is to be commended on its forward step. This young community has limited finances to assist in such development and reliance will be placed on both State and Federal finances to assist with the development of these recreation areas.

Transport has always been a problem for large centres of population. The areas that I have mentioned are no exception. I ask that, when the new transport study takes place and the electrification of our suburban rail system is undertaken, close consideration be given to the areas of Springwood, Eight Mile Plains and Rochedale, along with the large residential areas in the Redland Shire.

It must be remembered that the Redland Shire was serviced by railway until 1961, when it was closed by this Government. I feel that the closure of this line was short-sightedness to say the least, and the present population developmental figures of the area clearly substantiate that. I appeal to the Government, when undertaking any extensions to the existing rail system, to restore the railway line in the light of the residential expansion in the area.

**Mr. Moore:** It should happen, too.

**Mr. GOLEBY:** It will happen. It must be remembered that most of the residents of the area commute daily to the city for employment. It has been proved beyond doubt that a fast, efficient rail service is the best means of transporting large numbers of people.

At the beginning of my speech I mentioned briefly the rural industries, which are still the largest industries within the electorate. Although there are many smaller diversified industrial developments, the rural area of the Redlands electorate has become more concentrated over recent years. Although perhaps the number of farmers has decreased, the amalgamation of many farms has made possible greater production from a given area. The acquisition of specialised machinery and the use of improved varieties have led to further increases in production.

Although probably the total area under horticulture has reduced, production still remains at a very high level. Many of the marginal soils have been introduced into the horticultural industry. This has been made possible by the use of the by-products of the very large poultry industry within the Redlands electorate.

Associated with the development of the farming industry and the use of the latest technology, an important role has been played by the Ormiston Horticulture Research Station. Many of the new varieties I have

mentioned were propagated almost exclusively at this station. Many of them are being used throughout Australia. I pay tribute to the officers who have been involved for many years in the work at this station, to the Government for its practical assistance in this work, and to the C.O.D., the growers' own organisation, which has provided funds for many of these vital projects.

The Redlands crimson strawberry is one of the chief varieties grown commercially in Australia. All of the varieties of passion-fruit grown commercially had their origin at this station. Through the processes of elimination and cross-breeding, the scientists working at the Ormiston Horticulture Research Station have been able to produce a passion-fruit variety that is disease resistant while at the same time giving increased production. Only yesterday I mentioned in the House the problems associated with this industry. I again appeal to the Government tonight to come to the assistance of these growers in preparing a case for the Tariff Board to ban imports from overseas countries such as Sri Lanka, Brazil and Kenya, which are cheap-labour countries that this country with its high-cost labour cannot compete with. The processors of this country must close their doors if these imports persist. I call upon the Government to take the necessary action to assist these growers.

While talking about the horticultural industry, I must mention in passing the cut-flower industry, which provides a very large proportion of the income of the rural section of the electorate of Redlands.

Earlier in my speech I referred briefly to the poultry industry, which is a very large operation in Redlands. The latest figures supplied to me reveal that approximately 50 per cent of the broiler industry is in the electorate. This industry has expanded rapidly in the last decade, but it, too, is going through difficult times as a result of the slump in the beef industry. The two products are aligned. Meat prices have fallen dramatically, and the down-turn in the beef industry has flowed on to the poultry industry. Poultry producers in my electorate are facing extreme difficulty at this time. In some cases, output has been reduced from 30 per cent to 50 per cent. The industry generally is based upon concentrated production and quick turnover. With similar production problems to those experienced in the beef industry, poultry producers are facing a financial crisis.

I should like to devote the remainder of my speech to local government, a field with which I am very familiar after being a local government representative in my shire for almost 15 years. Surely the representation of local government in this Parliament by those experienced in it has never been greater. Local authorities everywhere are facing problems in many fields, the major one, of course, being finance, which is shared by all. The escalation in costs over the last two years has been insurmountable. A local

authority has only one option open to it, and that is to pass these costs on to the rate-payers. I feel that if considerable finance is not forthcoming from State and Federal Governments alike, local government as we know it today will collapse under the present financial structure.

No one knows more thoroughly the problems of the people than the members of local authorities. As they live close to the people, they know their problems and their needs. Unfortunately, through lack of finance, in so many cases they are powerless to act. I firmly believe that a prescribed percentage of taxation money should be returned directly to the States for use by local authorities so that they will have adequate finance and be able to solve to some degree the problem presented by the huge interest and redemption payments that face them all. Prevailing interest rates make it almost impossible for local authorities to provide the services necessary to meet the growing demands of a developing community. I believe that State Governments can assist local authorities in a practical manner. In closely settled shires, many amenities are needed. In most cases the Government provides them, but it is left to local authorities to provide water and sewerage, road widening, parking areas, and so on, to meet the requirements of State institutions, such as schools, hospitals and pre-school centres.

I hope that, when legislation is being brought down in the House, provision will be made by means of amendments dealing with town planning for the Crown, like ordinary business instrumentalities, to provide such amenities, thus taking the burden off local authorities. The Local Government Act needs amendment in many places. I refer particularly to the provisions pertaining to residential developmental conditions. Local authorities today have to exercise their powers under town-planning and re-zoning laws, because the Act does not go far enough in local government administration in these days of modern development. I believe that it should be mandatory for developers of large estates to provide 15 per cent of the developed land for parks and recreation purposes. It should not be left to shire councils to barter and bargain to have adequate provision made for these facilities.

Let me make it quite clear that the State Government does give considerable assistance and financial help to local authorities in some fields. I refer firstly to the installation of new water schemes and sewerage schemes, for which subsidies of 50 per cent and 40 per cent respectively are paid by the Government. Without the subsidy, local authorities could not provide these necessities of modern-day living.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** Aren't you in favour of direct funding of shire councils by the Australian Government?

**Mr. GOLEBY:** Nobody knows the position better than the local people themselves. I am sure that the State Government has a greater knowledge of local authority needs than the Federal Government has. Let it give the money to State Governments; they will hand it out to the shires. The honourable member should not make any mistake about that.

Local authorities also receive subsidy from the State Government on many permanent works of a capital nature. They are grateful for the assistance given by the Government in these fields; but I believe that they are entitled to a greater share of assistance from the Federal Government. I hope the honourable member for Archerfield notes that.

I point out that, under the present system, the Federal Government gives some assistance for the provision of sewerage, but it still falls far short of the subsidy received from State Governments. Let me give the House an example. Federal Government assistance by way of grants for sewerage installations and developmental costs in that field amount to approximately 30 per cent of the capital cost. The remainder comes by way of a loan. If a local authority accepts finance from that source, as it has to if it is to obtain adequate finance for all its schemes, it deprives itself of 10 per cent of the total cost. If it were able to get funds from the State Government, the subsidy in the field of sewerage would be 40 per cent. So that 10 per cent leeway, which represents many thousands of dollars in a large scheme, has to be borne over the entire scheme by the ratepayers, usually for a period of about 30 or 40 years. The additional 10 per cent has a considerable bearing on the final pedestal cost.

In borrowing funds on the present high-interest market, local authorities making sewerage installations are faced with an additional capital cost that reflects very largely in one direction. In all sewerage schemes, the final cost of interest and redemption must be met by the ratepayers.

Finally, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I refer to the urgent need for a four-lane highway from Capalaba to Brisbane, using Old Cleveland Road. The upgrading of this road was promised by the Government during the terms of office of former members representing the Redlands electorate. It is one of the major arterial roads leading into the city and carries a continuous stream of traffic at most times during the day. With the fast development along the coastline, it is very necessary that provision be made immediately for a four-lane highway from Capalaba to Brisbane.

I pay tribute to the fine band of supporters who assisted me throughout the recent election campaign. My campaign committee, my campaign director and secretary and my family gave me their support and loyalty. Last, but not least, I must mention the loyalty of the electors of Redlands, who

chose me to represent them in this Parliament. This fast-growing electorate needs a man with local knowledge to handle effectively the many problems that arise in it.

I thank Ministers in this Parliament for the assistance they have given me in the short time I have been here. I look forward to the challenging times ahead and to giving positive representation to the Redlands electorate for many years to come.

**Mr. YOUNG (Baroona)** (8.24 p.m.): As this is the first opportunity I have had to speak in the House, I wish, through you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to offer my congratulations to the Speaker on his election to that high and honourable office. It is a position that we in Queensland treat with a great deal of respect. Even though Federal A.L.P. members showed their complete contempt for the authority of the Chair by blatantly disregarding their Speaker's ruling in the House of Representatives, I am confident that such a thing will never happen in Queensland as long as a reliable Government, such as we have had in this State for some time, continues in office.

I associate the citizens of Baroona with my expression of loyalty to the throne, and I thank His Excellency the Governor, Sir Colin Hannah, for his services to the State. I trust that he will remain in that office as he is a dedicated Australian, and we are indeed fortunate to have him as Her Majesty's representative in this great State.

I congratulate my colleagues who moved and seconded the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

I wish to direct my remarks mainly to the importance of the individual, a topic which is extremely important in this day and age as we see less and less emphasis on the individual and more and more emphasis on the system. This is indicated by the present centralists in Canberra who, if they are successful, will be referring to people in Queensland merely as numbers, with little or no concern for them and definitely with no thought of them as people. When individuality is lost so also is the pride, and the integrity, of the community. We must ensure that this does not happen in Queensland. This great State has been built on the hard work of diligent men and women who, over the last century, have built Queensland into the prosperous State it is today. Any endeavour from Canberra to squash the "Let's get on with the job" attitude we see daily in Queensland must be repulsed and continually rejected. Canberra must be told that Queensland cannot be bought, threatened, bullied or humiliated into submission by Canberra. We are individuals and will continue to be so, but we are equally determined to be Australian when the cause is a legitimate national one and not just the fulfilment of some whim of the Federal A.L.P. socialist Government.

In Queensland we continually see evidence that the Federal socialists in Canberra are trying to reduce the status of Australians generally by taking away from us our pride in a job well done, and replacing it with ever-increasing hand-outs for displaced workers. Australians want jobs, not hand-outs from the Federal Government. Never before in our nation has it been so hard for the small businessman or subcontractor to make ends meet. It appears that Canberra is trying to force local businessmen out of existence. This is an area where individual rights must be upheld. We must never lose sight of the importance to this Government of every citizen in Queensland. As members of the free-enterprise parties, we must continually ensure that every person has the right to enter into any legitimate business of any size. We must ensure that the rights of the local business community are not lost. The smaller local businesses in the suburbs are the life-blood of the free-enterprise system. We must ensure that their rights are not overlooked or forgotten. Without the spirit of the small businessman, production in Queensland would suffer greatly.

The socialist aims of the Whitlam administration are for complete control—complete control over production, distribution and the exchange of Australian wealth. The Federal socialist Government advocates complete State ownership and, most importantly, it insists upon complete control over its politicians.

I stand here tonight as the member representing Baroona. The people in that electorate know that I can freely represent them because I am not subjected to hard-and-fast party control, which the A.L.P. demands and expects from its elected members in this House. My party respects the wishes of the electorate and does not tie the hands of its elected representatives. Therefore the people in the electorate of Baroona—the people who elected me to this place—know, and can have confidence in the fact, that I truly represent them. How can the A.L.P. politicians truly represent their constituents when they are bound hard and fast to caucus and trade union control? On 7 December Queenslanders said, "It's time. Let's go and get on with the job of governing Queensland in line with true democratic ideals."

Never is any individual group in any community more overlooked than those who reside on the flood plains of metropolitan creeks. These people face property damage with almost every downpour. They have been given the greatest run-around ever by the Brisbane City Council, which appears to show very little interest, if any, in their particular problem. The people on the flood plains live there in the hope that the local creeks will be widened and dredged to their former width and depth so that the rainwaters will be able to get away quickly.

Local people used to swim in these creeks, but they can no longer do so because the

Brisbane City Council uses them for the disposal of its waste materials. Nearby residents now look in bewilderment and apprehension at these creeks, for they do not know when the creeks will rise again and claim their land or their homes.

Some people live on the flood plain in the expectation that one day the Brisbane City Council will carry out this much-needed work. Others live there because they do not possess the means to enable them to move. In many cases these people have had to seek medical assistance to enable them to sleep, because it was while they were sleeping that the creeks last rose, claiming their properties and endangering their lives.

We as the Parliament of Queensland must not lose sight of the fact that these people living on the flood plains throughout Queensland face a very special and individual problem. Last year the Brisbane City Council was given authority by this Parliament to help the people of Brisbane, and we must do our utmost to see that the necessary work is carried out. We cannot place a value on human life.

The greatest injustice that has ever been perpetrated against any section of the community in recent times is the Brisbane City Council's latest proposal aimed directly at people associated with caravan parks. This matter has been discussed previously in this Chamber. Firstly, the council proposed placing a \$20,000 bond on the proprietor of a caravan park. This is another attempt by the A.L.P. to reduce the driving force behind a free-enterprise system. But the real problem is the council's total, typical disregard for personal feelings, in this instance of the many people who presently reside in caravan parks in Brisbane. By forcing them to move every six weeks the council is aiming directly at the very old and the very young.

Elderly people live in caravan parks because of the company and also because of the low cost. The Brisbane City Council would turn these elderly pensioners out into the street and impose upon them high towing charges for the removal of their caravans to other parks. But of course this is typical of the A.L.P., which attacks defenceless sections of the community that do not have at their disposal the means to speak out for themselves.

Other speakers have drawn attention to the problems in the housing industry. Many young married couples reside in caravan parks because of the unavailability of suitable homes. This situation was brought about by the collapse of the building industry, as confidence in that industry waned under Federal socialist rule. Young people are now struggling to pay off caravans so that they can eventually sell them and use the proceeds as deposits on their homes. Instead of encouraging these people, the council, in typical fashion, adds to their financial burden by forcing them to move every six weeks.

Another problem is that a large number of citizens in Brisbane will be deprived of their right to vote by moving every six weeks. That will mean that they will not be eligible to register on either the State or the Federal electoral rolls.

There are many aspects of the Brisbane City Council's proposals that call for close scrutiny. The real victims are the youth of Brisbane. The burdens imposed upon the parents are nothing compared with those borne by the children, who strive to keep pace in the 70's with changing patterns in education. If they are forced to change their schools every six weeks they will find it almost impossible to do so.

So I say that these proposals should be totally rejected by us as members of a Government that cares for the people—in this instance, the people of Brisbane. We cannot pussyfoot around with these unjust requirements. In the name of true democracy we must not. We will not accept them. If we do so, our credibility will be in jeopardy. Caravan parks are at present helping to fill a vacuum created by the slump in the building industry. Most of the blame for this slump must rest on the Federal Government. I realise that the State has had its own problems with housing—I am the first to admit that—but the answer does not lie in the Brisbane City Council's attack on tenants of caravan parks throughout Brisbane. Apparently the A.L.P. council is totally unaware of the number of unionists, seasonal workers and semi-permanent workers who will be affected by being forced to move residence every six weeks.

The only argument in favour of the proposal, apparently, is from the health point of view. If the council needs any advice on how to overcome health problems I suggest that the Lord Mayor should have a quick talk to our Minister for Health, who, I am sure, will be only too pleased to make reasonable suggestions to him as to what he can do to overcome health problems in caravan parks.

Another topic that has been aired this session is the Juvenile Aid Bureau. No member of any Government party can always be in accord with all the proposals or suggestions of the Government. I am no exception. It will be deplorable if the Juvenile Aid Bureau, which has helped thousands of Queenslanders each year, is altered in any way. Any attempt to remove the police from their vital, necessary role as detectors of offences, councillors in minor matters, supervisory officers and referral officers to other more-qualified agencies, both State and non-State, will be to the detriment of Queensland. Other honourable members have spoken strongly in favour of the bureau as, I believe, all reasonable thinking men must do.

People argue that a Children's Court conviction for a criminal matter has no effect in later life. That is totally untrue. I am sure all honourable members agree that most

people are honest. I know of many people who, when filling in a form that includes the question, "Have you ever appeared in court?", always answer, "Yes", remembering an appearance in a children's court many years earlier. For such a paltry reason, many people in Queensland have been refused entry to the Public Service, the armed services, the Police Force and the prisons service. Even an A.L.P. State member of the Victorian Parliament lost his seat because of a children's court conviction. A sentence in the Children's Court blots a child's character for life. That is a hard, cold fact of life. Any step that we as a Government take to allow the children of this State to make at least one mistake without permanently blotting their copybook will be applauded by all Queenslanders.

The Children's Court has a detrimental effect on children generally. It is far better to have a police officer initially investigate an offence, establish whether or not it was perpetrated and then have an opportunity of counselling, further supervising, or referral, as the case may be. Any move to replace these dedicated, truly interested officers by social workers must be rejected. Civilians just do not have the appropriate power—and in some cases the respect—to enable them to investigate an offence or a crime initially. These police officers already refer children to social workers in appropriate cases. I am sure all honourable members will agree that this is the right and proper way to handle such cases. I take this opportunity to reaffirm my support of the retention and strengthening of the bureau in its present form, as a matter of urgency, by this Parliament.

Many speakers in the Address-in-Reply debate have spoken about the percentage that the major political parties in Queensland received of the votes at the last election. The Labor Party claimed that because it received 36 per cent of the vote it is entitled to more than the 11 seats it presently holds. A study of the percentages received by the Liberal Party and the National Party reveals that the Liberal Party received approximately 44 per cent of the votes in all the seats it contested while the National Party received approximately 55 per cent of the vote in the seats it contested. Following the rationale of Labor Party supporters, that would mean that the coalition partners would have won 99 per cent of the seats they contested—and I am sure that even the Opposition with its presently reduced numbers would not agree to that. It must be appreciated that if a student gets 36 per cent in an examination he fails. If the A.L.P. received only 36 per cent of the vote at the last election, the hard cold fact of the matter is that it failed. Indeed, it is fortunate to have its 11 seats in this Assembly.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper** interjected.

**Mr. YOUNG:** If the honourable member opposite listened, he might learn something



after all these years in the Parliament. It is obvious that anybody can justify anything by figures or percentages.

I turn my comments now to the Leader of the Opposition, who in this Chamber continually tells the people of Queensland how great we Liberals are—I am sure each one of us in the Liberal Party would agree with him on that—and how eager he was to support Sir Gordon Chalk as Premier. Imagine having socialists supporting a free-enterprise system. Even his own faithful 10 must have found that hard to swallow. Was the wedge that the Opposition hoped to drive between the coalition partners worth sacrificing life-long principles for? Apparently the Leader of the Opposition thought so. His is a stop-at-nothing attitude to get Joh, whatever the merits or faults of the scheme. These desperate endeavours by the Opposition do nothing to endear it to the public in general.

I have a few words of advice for the Leader of the Opposition. It is impossible for a wedge driven by a socialist force to penetrate the solid, confident coalition team that we have in Queensland—a team that is giving the people genuine, responsible Government.

A short time ago I mentioned the faithful 10 of the Leader of the Opposition; but I wonder whether he is completely sure that they are faithful. Need I point out that it was not the Government that had three leaders and two deputy leaders in the last 12 months? Possibly it is the position of the honourable member for Lytton as Leader of the Opposition that is very unsure in this House. I feel sure that he could better spend his time by endeavouring to fend off challenges to his leadership, as it is known that he received only 60 per cent support among the A.L.P. 11, while both Sir Gordon Chalk and the Premier received the unanimous support of the Government parties. If the A.L.P. continues to have three leaders a year, each member of the Opposition can hold that position at least once in this Parliament. The greatest threat to the Leader of the Opposition is from within his own ranks. The honourable members who sit on the edges of their seats like the honourable member for Port Curtis, are just waiting for the Leader of the Opposition to fall so that they can pounce.

I stand here representing Baroona, an electorate which saw at first hand the way the Trades Hall, under the thumb of Mr. Jack Egerton, deprived the A.L.P. of one of its greatest men, Mr. Pat Hanlon. Pat was well respected by all, it appears, except the powerful Trades Hall mob. I suggest that Mr. Egerton and the Leader of the Opposition were out to give Pat the chop. Is it any wonder that Pat Hanlon retired? His retirement was a great loss not only to the A.L.P. but also to this Parliament.

So I warn the Leader of the Opposition. There are those among his ranks, particularly

Pat Hanlon's brother-in-law, who are biding their time until he makes that fatal mistake. When he does, he will slip back into oblivion.

It is impossible to split the coalition team, which is the strongest it has ever been. As members of that team, we are dedicated to ensure that the rights and privileges of the individual are not lost under party policies. To the National and Liberal team, individuals are the most important part of our existence. If we help to ease the burden of only a few, we will have succeeded. No-one is unimportant to us. We hold each member of our electors in equal regard. It is a pity the Opposition do not do likewise and stop grandstanding and playing politics in this arena.

**Mr. DEAN (Sandgate) (8.47 p.m.):** The debate on the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply gives every member very wide scope. Unfortunately one becomes confused about which of the various important matters concerning our wonderful State of Queensland—matters that cannot be raised at other times during the session—should be dealt with. Legislation restricts a member to the Bill before the Assembly. However, this debate gives one the refreshing experience of being able to wander a little and to enlarge on many pet ideas that cannot be amplified or developed at other times during the session.

First of all, I join with my constituents in reaffirming our loyalty to Her Majesty and His Excellency. The only time I do this is at the beginning of a Parliament. It becomes rather tedious and unnecessary to keep reaffirming in parrot-like fashion the fact that one is loyal to the Throne or the system under which one lives. I think that affirmation at the beginning of a new Parliament should be regarded as covering the full three years of the Parliament. I have adopted that principle since 1960.

I express my appreciation to the electors of Sandgate for again electing me to this position. It is a great privilege and honour to serve one's State and it does not come the way of many. There is an old saying that many are called but few are chosen. A representative of the people of the State of Queensland should feel grateful, honoured and privileged. If many of the new members find time during their term of office to look through the records of this Parliament, they will realise that over the years not very many have served the State of Queensland as parliamentary representatives. It is a privilege to be chosen to hold that very important position.

I speak tonight with a certain amount of sadness. Many familiar faces are missing. They include many old friends whom I knew for many years outside this place and got to know better following their election. I am not going to mention all of them; I do not think it necessary to do so. I was,

however, particularly reminded of two of them whilst listening to the debate during the last few days. One, whose father was also a great friend of mine, is the former member for Baroona, Mr. Pat Hanlon. I knew his father very well. For many years before I had any notion of entering public life I worked in party circles, and in my early formative political years I had the privilege of knowing the late Ned Hanlon very well. I think it should be placed on record that he was one of the statesmen of Queensland, and one of its greatest Premiers. Beyond doubt we are today still reaping the benefit of legislation put through this House during the premiership of the late Ned Hanlon.

His son Pat was a man of different character, but a very wonderful personality when one came to know him. He had a different type of approach to many things. He had the advantage of higher education, which most members have not had.

**Mr. Lowes** interjected.

**Mr. DEAN:** I say to the new member who has made a foolish and inane interjection that as time goes by he will learn that, irrespective of the side of the House on which a member sits, there are certain rules that are recognised. I hope that he will learn not only common sense but also respect. Despite the party-political system in which I believe, and in which he must also believe otherwise he would not be here, he should, if he has any principle in him, show some respect irrespective of whether a person to whom reference is being made is dead or alive.

**Mr. Lowes:** You respect the electors.

**Mr. DEAN:** Of course. If you respect yourself, you respect the electors. But enough of that.

I should like to congratulate the two lady members. I think they made very fine contributions in their maiden speeches. One thing that impressed me very much was that they acted as lady members, and as ladies. I did not expect them to be foolish in their speeches, and I was not disappointed. As I listened to them, I thought of Mrs. Jordan who over the years played her part in this House very well. At all times she conducted herself as a lady. She entered into debates and at times was very critical, but it was always constructive criticism. I feel sure that the present lady members will do the same. I congratulate them on their behaviour, and on their maiden speeches.

It is only right and proper that I should make brief reference to Mr. Speaker. I feel that I should devote some of my time to this subject. Over the years I have brought forward many subjects during the Address-in-Reply debates, and I suppose it is unnecessary for me to repeat now many of the things that are vital in my electorate. They

will be raised from time to time on appropriate occasions. I take the opportunity now of congratulating Mr. Speaker, not just because I have known him well over the years but because he has so far conducted himself as a very fair Speaker.

I think all honourable members will agree that he has been very fair; I have no doubt that he will continue to be fair. Of course, he had extensive experience in the local authority field. Many other honourable members have had the privilege of serving in local government, and I am sure that their experience has been—it certainly has been my experience—that local government gives one an understanding of people and an ability to keep one's feelings within proper bounds. I congratulate the honourable member for Redcliffe on attaining the high and honourable office of Speaker of this Assembly.

I also pay a compliment to my leader, the honourable member for Lytton (Mr. Burns), whom I knew for many years before I became a member of this Assembly. I first became aware of his ability in other places. He was the General Secretary of the Queensland Central Executive of the Australian Labor Party, and I know the part he played in that position during very difficult years. As I listened to his speech as Leader of the Opposition recently, my mind went back to the many occasions on which I was in his presence in another place, and I thought, "Here we have a leader who will make his mark in this State and take his place beside other great leaders that the Labor Party has had in the past."

Reference has already been made to changes that have taken place. The honourable member for Lytton did not enter this Chamber as a newcomer to public life. He came here with a great amount of valuable experience gained in many spheres and at all levels of industrial life outside Parliament. He had wide experience in the trade-union movement, and I challenge anyone who appeared before him when he was General Secretary of the Q.C.E. to say that he did not receive fair treatment and every consideration from him and ultimately have his case placed fairly and squarely before the highest authority of the party in Queensland, that is, the Queensland Central Executive, on which I served for five or six years many years ago.

I am not saying this to curry favour with the Leader of the Opposition, because he knows my feelings and my loyalty and has no doubts in that regard. I reiterate that his name will stand beside those of great Labor leaders in Queensland over the years, and I believe it is only a matter of time before he is Premier of the State.

Before dealing with some of my pet subjects, I wish to refer to a question that was asked on my behalf in the House this morning. When I returned to the Chamber and read the answer given by the Minister

for Local Government, I was very disappointed, because I expected a little more information than I received.

My question related to a health hazard that now exists on the Gold Coast. As you know, Mr. Deputy Speaker, the area mentioned by me—Hollywell—is not in my electorate, but I know the Gold Coast very well indeed and have known it all my life. I did not ask the question with any idea of embarrassing the members representing the Gold Coast area. They are new members, and I am sure I will have their support in my efforts to overcome the problems and hardship now being experienced by the residents of Hollywell as a result of the activities of a certain developer.

In the question that I asked I mentioned Lae Enterprises, and I shall restate the question now so that honourable members will have a clear picture of what I am speaking about. I am doing this deliberately in the hope of provoking some interest and trying to get the Minister to take action in conjunction with the Gold Coast City Council.

**Mr. Burns:** I am told that people have to turn the headlights of their cars on when they drive into the area in daylight.

**Mr. DEAN:** That is correct, and I mentioned that in the question that I asked the Minister. It was—

“(1) Is he aware of the grave danger to health and property created by a fine, black dust from a development project at Hollywell by a company named Lae Enterprises and that motor vehicles have to drive with headlights full on as early as 10 a.m. because of poor visibility?”

(2) Will he ascertain the names of the directors of Lae Enterprises who are responsible for the development of the 75-acre Shearwater Estate at Hollywell?

(3) Will he invoke the Clean Air Act by forcing this company to comply with the regulations and to complete the development as a matter of urgency so that residents and parents with children are not subjected to this continual threat to their health and well-being?”

Was the Minister's reply a fair answer to a sensible question? He replied—

“I am not aware of a danger to health and property at Hollywell because of black dust.”

The Minister lives within a stone's throw of the area, figuratively speaking. There is something wrong with that part of his answer. I am not blaming the Minister; I know he must have received that advice from somebody. But through his own common sense and sense of responsibility as a Minister surely he could have given me a better answer than that. He continued—

“The Division of Air Pollution Control has not received any complaints.”

Somebody must have been leading me up the garden path. I have been assured that complaints have been received. He further replied—

“The Planning Officer of the Gold Coast City Council has made frequent visits to the site without encountering a dust nuisance.”

There must be something wrong with him. He must be blind or drunk when he goes there. That is a stupid answer. The Minister further replied—

“The names of the Directors of Lae Enterprises may be obtained from the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs, Anzac Square Government Buildings, Adelaide Street.”

Should I have to go trotting down to the office of the Commissioner of Corporate Affairs to find out? Why could not the Minister tell me who they are? Are we not entitled to be told here who they are?

**Mr. Ahern:** No.

**Mr. DEAN:** Why?

**Mr. Ahern:** Unless you clearly state the reason why you need it I don't think you should get it. It is not allowed in other Parliaments.

**Mr. DEAN:** I am sure that if I did a little research I would find many precedents.

The Minister further replied—

“The Clean Air Act is directed towards industry, and land development does not come within the scope of the Regulations.”

That means that the health of the people does not mean anything.

**Mr. Burns:** The Clean Air Act does not mean anything.

**Mr. DEAN:** Evidently not. I am certainly not satisfied with that answer. I am very disappointed in it. I am not going to let it rest at that. I am going to persevere even if I become a bore on the matter. Something must be done. I again appeal to honourable members in that area to take the matter up. It means more to their political existence than to mine. Of course, it affects me in another way. I am sorry the Minister is not here tonight. I am very disappointed in his answer to my question.

Enormous damage has been done down there. Not only have the exteriors of homes been damaged, but furnishings have suffered, too. When a certain wind is blowing it is impossible for residents to keep windows and doors open without having their homes filled with fine black dust. It is not like the coarse dust we get around Brisbane. It is as fine as flour and jet black. One lady showed me a \$1,000 carpet that had been ruined. It could not be properly cleaned. That lady had been in a brand new home for only a few months.

**Mr. Lowes:** Does the wind come from the east?

**Mr. DEAN:** Whether it comes from the east or the west the damage is caused. It is not fair to people who pay such high rates on the Gold Coast that they should be subjected to this nuisance. I lay full responsibility for this on the Gold Coast City Council, because it failed to lay down proper conditions for this development.

Instead of allowing the developer to tear down the natural protection afforded by mangroves and other vegetation, it should have insisted that the area be developed in proper and orderly fashion. But now development has ceased in one section of the area. It is not difficult to see why the development has been brought to a halt. I had been told certain things, and when I went and looked for myself I realised that what I had been told was correct. Development has been brought to a halt so that the company can proceed with another project, the erection of a hotel, close to the estate. The developer is more interested in erecting a grog house than in completing its other development project.

No-one is against the development; the complaint is that work has been proceeding for months. The developer is under no obligation to complete the work as soon as possible.

Nearby residents have good grounds for claiming compensation, not only from the developers but also from the Gold Coast City Council. After all, like Parliament, the council is elected to look after the rights of citizens. The citizen is entitled to look to the council for protection and for decent living conditions.

I repeat that at certain times of the day motorists are forced to turn on their headlights when driving along the nearby streets. I ask the members who represent that area to prevail upon the developers to complete the project so that the entire area can be grassed. It is useless to lay lawn in small portions as blocks are sold. As I say, the protective barrier against the natural elements has been destroyed.

I turn now to the very important matter of road safety. The Government is lacking in the enforcement of the Traffic Regulations. From time to time we see police officers using radar equipment to apprehend speeding motorists. There are, of course, hundreds of law-abiding motorists, but I am sure that the Minister for Transport will agree with me that those who are bad motorists are really bad. Many times I have driven in fear of stupid motorists on the road.

I was about to refer to the use of radar traps. I suggest that they have outlived their usefulness. At one time they played a very important part in the enforcement of the traffic regulations, but now, notwithstanding the fact that police officers manning the machines do their job most efficiently, the radar traps are virtually useless, because within minutes of their being set up their

presence is made known all along the highway. Drivers with a very poor sense of law enforcement warn oncoming drivers of the location of the radar trap with the result that speeding motorists slow down and are not apprehended.

I urge an increase in the number of police Q-cars on the road. We should let the police officers travel with the traffic and catch offenders in that way. I am sure that by operating in this way they would catch more offenders and, at the same time, educate the public. I do not believe in imposing penalties on people on every possible occasion, but I do believe that serious consideration should be given to discontinuing the use of radar and bringing back more patrols on the road, at the same time ensuring that we enforce very rigidly the laws that we pass in this place.

I believe that too much leniency is extended to offenders. The other day we listened to a speech by an honourable member on the judiciary and court procedures. I know that we cannot agree with his extreme views, but many of us must feel that our courts are not taking the serious approach to road safety that they should. And wrongdoers keep coming before them. After repeated transgressions a driver's licence should be cancelled for life instead of being suspended for only a certain time. That type of action should be taken more frequently. I am quite satisfied that many offending drivers are incapable of driving properly and should not be allowed to drive a vehicle on the highway. In other words they are temperamentally unsuited. I have said on other occasions that some kind of test should be devised for them. I have been challenged on this—and rightly so, because we should be challenged at times—and asked who would carry this very serious responsibility of declaring a driver temperamentally unsuited to driving a motor vehicle. We must entrust the duty to someone. We should be able to trust psychiatrists or some other panel of men. The time will come when this has to be done. I am satisfied that some people should not have a licence.

**Mr. K. W. Hooper:** That is done in some parts of Canada.

**Mr. DEAN:** It is done in parts of Sweden, as well. It is in the best interests of everyone that people who are temperamentally unfit to drive a motor vehicle should not be allowed to do so.

I want to be fair about this. I am not in any way implying that young people are always to blame. There are many excellent young drivers on our highways. The trouble seems to lie in the middle-age group. I do not know whether there is any truth in the saying that there is a silly age or an insane age, when people approach middle age, or a certain stage in life, but people in their late 30's or 40's seem to be more irresponsible than the young people with long hair on whom we cast reflections. I

cast no reflection on anyone's appearance, but many people are prone to blame young drivers. I repeat that it is not always the young driver who is to blame.

Our courts, and many people as well, sheet the blame home to irresponsible drivers, many of whom raise the popular excuse of intoxication. That is the weakest excuse in the world. If alcohol makes people lose their sense of proportion and responsibility, they should not touch it. No-one makes them go into a hotel to drink. They can only blame their own weak will and outlook on alcohol. The mere admission that irresponsibility is brought about by alcohol should automatically mean that a penalty must be extremely heavy—much heavier than it would be for a man who does not drink alcoholic beverages. Another familiar excuse is that a car gets out of control. What a stupid thing to say! It is the driver who is out of control, not the car. The law is very weak on this aspect of a car getting out of control, crashing into a telegraph pole or plunging into a creek. But the driver never seems to be blamed for it. The only time a car could be out of control—and this would be on very rare occasions—would be through a lapse caused by the driver's sickness or illness. However, it would be a very rare occasion that a car would leave the road for any other reason than the driver's neglect. There are recorded cases of people having died through sudden illness, but it is rare for a person to become ill so suddenly that he has no prior warning that would allow him to pull over to the side of the road.

I stress, as I have stressed on many occasions, that this Government should enforce the laws that we have passed in this Parliament and placed on the Statute Book. When will the Government have the courage to use the law, and use it as we intended it to be used against the drinking-driver and the negligent driver? I have newspaper cuttings by the dozen that I could quote, but it is quite unnecessary as they are all on record. The most serious aspect of this menace is that it is presently on the increase. It is not getting any better. Cars and motor-cycles are becoming more powerful, but it seems that those who are purchasing them are doing so very easily. They have the money with which to buy them and they obtain a licence too easily.

I think the test for a driving licence should be such that people would consider it to be really worth having. Licences should be much more difficult to obtain than they presently are. Only last week I was driven by a lady driver. Most lady drivers with whom I have driven have been very good and careful drivers, but this one frightened the wits out of me because of the risks she took. It is hard to believe that anybody could be so bad. It took me many moments to recover from the trip. She actually went through a red light! I have never done that in my life. I asked her, "How long

have you had your licence?" She said, "Three weeks." She told me the driving school she had gone to, though I will not mention its name. She should never have had a licence. Honourable members know my physical condition, but if I could not have got a lift home by some other means I would have started to walk. I thanked her when I got out, breathed a sigh of relief and was satisfied that my time was not up. But I would not like to take the risk again. All jokes aside, she was the worst driver I have ever shared a car with. As I said, the average lady driver, in my experience, is very good; but I almost stopped breathing on that occasion. I would not even open my mouth, because I did not want to distract her attention in any way. I thought she needed every faculty she had to keep that car on the road.

This is a serious matter. Some people complain that they find it extremely hard to get a licence. To a certain extent, that is a good thing. I do not know what standard is applied by our testing officers. Do we set a uniform standard or is the decision whether an applicant should have a driving licence just left to the whim of an individual?

**Mr. Frawley:** Do you think women make the best drivers?

**Mr. DEAN:** I repeat that the women whose driving I have experienced have been better than a lot of men I know—and far better than I am. I have driven cars for many years. I suppose I have been very fortunate not to have been involved in an accident. However, I cannot understand how a woman such as the one I have spoken of could have been issued with a licence.

**Mr. K. W. Hooper:** You will be pleased to know that testing procedures are presently under serious consideration.

**Mr. DEAN:** I am pleased to hear that. I do not want to make it extremely hard for the person who may be quick on the pick-up or whose reflexes are very good and who can gain a licence quicker than somebody else, but it should be given on merit. A licence should be given on mental qualifications and reflexes.

From time to time we read in the Press about serious accidents. I often wonder whether many of the fatal accidents result from inexperienced driving or plain negligence. I read in the "Telegraph" today that there is a high incidence of drink-driving in country areas and that it is on the increase. I cannot advance any theory on that. Perhaps those who come from the North and West may be able to give the reason. Possibly drivers drop their guard when on the open road, think no-one else is on the road and take undue risks.

Where an accident involving a fatality or a serious injury takes place, serious consideration should be given to the reissuing of a cancelled licence. It should not be

reissued for quite a long time and certainly not until the driver can prove he is entitled to carry this very important document. This should be done in the interests not only of that individual but also other users of the road.

As I said, there are many matters I could deal with; but there are some concerning my electorate that I feel impelled to mention again. I appeal to the House and particularly to the new Minister for Health to investigate conditions at the "Eventide" home at Sandgate. As I have said previously, the treatment down there is beyond reproach. It would be impossible to get better staff anywhere else in the world. They are honest, dedicated people who are devoted to their very difficult task.

The conditions under which they work leave a lot to be desired. To start with, the place is too large. There are too many inmates for the staff to look after properly. But the staff do the best they can and the result is very good under the circumstances.

I have already spoken to the new Minister for Health on the telephone about visiting "Eventide". He has promised he will look at it and I believe he will. I am repeating this so that it will go on record. I hope the Government will give serious consideration to the construction of a new complex to house not the present 1,000 inmates, but a reasonable number, such as 600 to 700. A comparable complex exists at Wynnum. It also is doing an excellent job. I would be very happy if the inmates at Sandgate enjoyed the same facilities.

I now want to refer to the police facilities in my electorate. There are about 25 officers on the staff, including policewomen who are doing an excellent job. However, they have no separate facilities. They have to use the same facilities as the men. I feel sure that the two Ministers in the Chamber at the moment would know the old building in which these officers are working under very difficult conditions. I admit that we have a modern court-house.

The amount of work done in the area is enormous. Most of the time is taken up in dealing with petty matters. Much of their work involves traffic duties and paperwork which take up a good deal of time. The facilities at the Sandgate Police Station would be among the poorest in the State. I can say that because I have travelled the State extensively. I know Queensland very well and I have visited many of the police districts which have very fine police stations and good conditions. As I have done previously, I ask that the Government give consideration, in the forthcoming Budget, to an allocation of money for this purpose.

Finally, I refer to the medical and dental clinics at Sandgate. There is a large population in this area. Whilst I know that many country members represent very large electorates in terms of area, in electorates

such as mine there is a heavy concentration of population and the responsibilities falling on essential services are becoming greater every day. That is why I want the medical and dental clinics updated. For aged and infirm people who live in seaside areas such as Sandgate, Redcliffe and Wynnum, it is a real hardship to have to travel to the large hospitals or dental clinics in the city. I have received some information about the clinic, and I have been told that tenders will be called for a section of it. I appeal for an early calling of tenders, because if only part of the clinic can be in operation it will at least afford some relief till the whole complex can be completed. It is very necessary in an area of dense population such as Sandgate.

(Time expired.)

**Mr. FRAWLEY** (Murrumba) (9.27 p.m.): It gives me a great deal of pleasure to take part in this debate. At the outset, I invite interjections from both sides, Ministers included, and I shall do my best to handle them.

First of all, I should like to congratulate the Premier and the Deputy Premier on the great part that they played in leading the coalition parties to victory at the last election. There is no doubt that we have two leaders who will go down in political history as great men of politics in Queensland.

I should also like to congratulate Mr. Speaker on attaining his high and honourable office. We had an example of his ability in the closing days of the Fortieth Parliament. I have known him since the 1950's, when he was Mayor of Redcliffe when it first became a city. He became the member for Redcliffe when it was taken out of the Murrumba electorate in 1960. He has already demonstrated that he will be a very fair and impartial Speaker.

I should like to reaffirm my allegiance, and that of the people of Murrumba, to Her Majesty the Queen. I am a loyalist and a believer in State rights, and I have no hesitation in standing up and announcing my allegiance to the Queen.

I should also like to congratulate Sir Colin and Lady Hannah on the part that they have played in Queensland since Sir Colin became Governor. On the occasions on which he has visited my electorate to perform his vice-regal duties, he has always conducted himself as a worthy representative of Her Majesty. I should certainly hate to see the office of State Governor abolished. That, of course, is part of the A.L.P. platform.

I should also like to congratulate all those people of Murrumba who voted for me, as well as those who did not because, after all, I represent all the people. I will not elaborate on the outstanding victory that the National Party had in Murrumba, because I know that it was not directly attributable to me and the good representation that I have given over the past 2½ years. We all

know that. The National Party was victorious because the people in my electorate, as well as those elsewhere throughout the State, realised the dangers that faced them if they elected an A.L.P. Government. With a Federal A.L.P. Government and the A.L.P. in power in the State, before we knew it we would all have been in chains.

**Mr. Ahern:** Quite frankly, I think the Labor Party will go out altogether shortly.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** At least I thought they would have had a twelfth man. It is pretty tough that they have only 11 men. I have heard that they will get a twelfth man in the near future. Normally A.L.P. members do not interject on me because they know that if they do I will belt hell out of them. They have had a demonstration of that over the last 2½ years, and probably they are not game to take me on again. Even though I am a fairly new member, I am just as tough as all of them put together.

**Mr. Hales:** Didn't you bring any notes?

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** Actually I did not bring many notes tonight, so I welcome interjections.

I should like to place on record my thanks to those who assisted me in the election. I do not usually do this, but I place on record my thanks for the assistance given to me by members of the National Party who manned the 33 polling booths in the Murrumba electorate.

I also specially thank the Liberal Party for its assistance. If ever there was a true coalition effort, it was in Murrumba. The Liberal Party really got behind me, as the joint National-Liberal candidate for Murrumba, and I have no hesitation in endorsing the comment by the honourable member for Baroona that this is truly a coalition Government.

My personal thanks go to Mrs. Margaret Hodges, the wife of the Federal member for Petrie, who spent a great deal of time on the Clontarf polling booth on my behalf. I appreciated her assistance very much.

It is good when a man's family assists him in an election campaign, and I thank my family for their efforts on my behalf. Usually I do not do so, but my family has stuck by me since 1967, when I was first elected an alderman of the Redcliffe City Council, and I think that at some time a man should be prepared to express the feelings he has for his family. After all, blood is thicker than water, and if a man's family sticks to him there is always a fair chance he will make good in life.

A man in public life also owes a debt of gratitude to his wife. It is not just the man who is successful; the woman behind the man really counts. I go on record as saying that I owe my wife a great debt of gratitude for the way in which she has stuck to me over the years. I have not been an easy person to live with—I am aware of that—because I certainly do not believe in women's

lib and I am master in my own home. (Laughter.) I hope my wife does not read this speech.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr. W. D. Hewitt:) Order! I suggest that the honourable member abandon his flights of fantasy and come back to his speech.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I bow to your wishes, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

The 41st Parliament of Queensland is unique for several reasons. First, it is the only Parliament in the history of the State in which there have been so few Opposition members; in addition, it is the first Parliament to which two women members have been elected. In 1929 Mrs. Irene Longman became the first woman member of Parliament, and she actually moved the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply in that year. She represented the Nationalist Party, which I believe was the forerunner of the Liberal Party. In 1966 Mrs. Jordan was elected as the A.L.P. member for Ipswich West, and as the honourable member for Sandgate said, she conducted herself as a lady should. In my time as a member of this Assembly, Mrs. Jordan always did her duty.

I congratulate the two ladies who have been elected to the Government benches and who have now made history by moving and seconding the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. Mrs. Kippin, the National Party member for Mourilyan, moved the motion, and I congratulate her on her speech. Mrs. Kyburz, the Liberal member for Salisbury, seconded the motion, and I also congratulate her. I was impressed, as was the honourable member for Sandgate, by the fact that these two ladies did not express only a woman's point of view. They are the representatives of their electorates, and they represent both men and women. I am quite certain they will make valuable contributions to the work of this Parliament.

The 41st Parliament is unique also because for the first time an Aborigine, Mr. Eric Deeral—he is not in the Chamber this evening—has been elected to the Parliament of Queensland. He represents the Cook electorate, and he had to overcome about 150 years of racial prejudice to become a member of this Assembly. He is a very fine Queenslander and a credit to his electorate. His election takes away any taint of racism that may have attached to the National Party over the years. Although it has been accused of being racist in its attitude, the National Party now has as one of its members in this Chamber Mr. Eric Deeral, a man of whom we are all proud.

**A Government Member:** There is one in the Northern Territory, too.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I am speaking only about the Queensland Parliament. I believe in Queensland first and other places afterwards.

As other honourable members who have preceded me in this debate have said, the intervention of Whitlam in the campaign was one of the main reasons for the defeat of the A.L.P. in Queensland. When will he learn that when he takes on Joh Bjelke-Petersen he is taking on one of the greatest political leaders of all time. Every encounter that the Prime Minister has had with the Premier has seen Whitlam the loser. The latest defeat must have been the most humiliating of all for him. Perhaps he will learn now to keep his big nose out of Queensland's affairs.

**Mr. Doumany:** He will never learn.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** The political gods must certainly have been "dirty" on us to saddle us with a blundering great oaf such as Gough Whitlam as Prime Minister of Australia. Imagine a Prime Minister who could run down the economy to near depression level at home and then make his country a laughing-stock abroad when he took a Murray Grey bull over to China, with the Leader of the Opposition in the aircraft, ostensibly going along as a representative, but I heard he was there to change the diapers on the bull. It is rather debatable who was the biggest bull in the aircraft, the honourable member for Lytton or the Murray Grey.

Whitlam the wanderer ignored even his own party's advice not to flit around Europe while Australia staggered under economic blow after economic blow. Even 12,000 miles from home Gough Whitlam could not resist hurling insults like "abominable" and "monstrous" at the Australian car industry for laying off workers at a time when that industry was brought to its knees by the Federal Government's mismanagement. When the Darwin tragedy blew Gough home prematurely, we might well have regarded his return as another disaster. But we have a lot to be thankful for. The members of the A.L.P. here may be a pretty drab lot, but they are still a mile ahead of their Federal counterparts.

The second reason for the overwhelming defeat of the A.L.P. was the stupid trendy policies adopted at the Cairns convention. It wanted abortion on demand; it wanted this and that. It wanted to condone homosexuality and lesbianism. The people of Queensland showed in no uncertain manner that they certainly did not agree with any of these policies. The A.L.P. Opposition has steadily dwindled until there are only the Lone Ranger and Tonto. I leave honourable members to judge which one is Tonto. With almost the complete wipe-out of the Left-wingers and Communists in the parliamentary wing of the A.L.P., one would have thought that a Right-winger—someone like the honourable member for Port Curtis—would have been elected leader. I have a great admiration for the honourable member for Port Curtis. When he played front row for Nudgee College he was not a bad bloke.

But the Trades Hall cracked the whip. The big whip was cracked up at the hall and it was decreed that a Left-winger had to be leader. What better choice than the honourable member for Lytton—from the Trades Hall point of view, anyhow! He is a prominent Left-winger who is well versed in all the filthy tactics employed by the A.L.P. He is used to hatching plots in the back room of the Trades Hall. When the honourable member for Lytton found himself in the limelight as the shadow Minister for Health, he chickened out when he found the going too tough, saying that his home had been robbed by his political enemies. I asked a question of either the Minister for Justice or the Minister in charge of police whether in fact members of the Liberal or National Parties had really robbed the member's home. Of course I received an answer in the negative. Now we are going to see how the honourable gentleman performs as Leader of the Opposition. Already he has been mouthing his instructions from the Trades Hall, like the honourable member for Archerfield, who is another Trades Hall parrot.

The cheeky request of the Leader of the Opposition for the use of the Government aircraft to inspect bushfire damage was just another political gambit. His whingeing about the four new Ministers was the greatest politicking I have ever seen.

He talked about jobs for the boys when referring to the four new Ministers. One of them is in charge of the House tonight, the honourable member for Burdekin. He will be a credit to the Government as a Minister, as he has already shown by the way he handled his first deputation today.

The Leader of the Opposition talks about jobs for the boys. Since the A.L.P. came into power in Canberra, a number of leading Communists and Left-wingers have been appointed to various Government advisory boards and agencies. There was the recent appointment of Mr. Pat Clancy, the president of the pro-Moscow Socialist Party. He was put on the newly-created Australian Population and Immigration Council. The A.L.P. Government has created a multitude of boards. It has even created a board to determine whether the sun comes up or not. Clancy was a senior Communist official of the Building Workers' Industrial Union, and a member of the three-man committee which recommended to the Minister for Labour that the Government set up the National Employment Training Scheme. He was one of the brains behind that. He is also a member of the Australian Opera Board. What the hell would he know about opera? He would think the Desert Song was something sung out in the Simpson Desert.

Another member of the Communist Party, Ted Gnatenko, the Amalgamated Metal Workers' Union convener of shop stewards in the G.M.H. plant in South Australia, was given a new post by the A.L.P. Government.



Another leading Communist official, Jack Munday, was appointed to the Advisory Cities Commission Board. Norm Gallagher, another well known Communist, is now a member of the Advisory Council of the Australian Code for Residential Construction. It is almost impossible to remember all the boards that have been set up by the Federal Labor Government. Next, there was Max Ogden, who was employed by the A.M.W.U. and the Arts Council. There was John Halfpenny, the assistant secretary to the A.M.W.U. and a member of the Federal Government's Advisory Committee on the Environment. There was also Paddy Troy, one of the five members of the Western Australian Committee on Discrimination in Employment and Occupation. These Communist officials form a very influential force with direct access to Government departments.

Closer to home we see evidence of other jobs for the boys. Frank Doyle, who was 17 months in the saddle and defeated by Kevin Cairns for the Federal electorate of Lilley, was appointed to a position in the Federal Department of Labour. Brendan Hansen, the defeated A.L.P. member for Wide Bay, besides receiving his parliamentary pension of \$10,000 has a full-time job with the Federal Department of Tourism. There is also Jack Egerton, now a director of Qantas and a member of several other Government bodies. He is in receipt of generous allowances. This is "one man one job" Egerton.

Bob Hawke, the Federal president of the A.L.P., has been appointed to the board of the Reserve Bank, and J. I. Armstrong—he is not a relative of the honourable member for Mulgrave; I carefully checked on that—who is a defeated A.L.P. Senator and a former Lord Mayor of Sydney, was appointed Australian High Commissioner to London. And the Labor Party squeals about the Queensland's Government appointment of an Agent-General in London!

I have already told the House about Al Grassby. He is in receipt of a salary of \$25,000 and on an expense allowance of \$1,200. He has the use of a Commonwealth car in any capital city and is paid \$31 a day travelling allowance. Because he "travels" seven days a week he receives another \$210 a week. He even charges \$31 when he goes to church, and I don't think he puts it in the plate. As I have said before, he is not paid an entertainment allowance, but now that he has lost Junie Morosi that is to be rectified. I am sure that the entertainment allowance paid to Jim Cairns will be cut down at the same time.

There is C. H. Webb, the defeated A.L.P. member who is now Administrator of Christmas Island. Christmas certainly came early for him! Then there is J. N. Nelson, a former A.L.P. member, who is Administrator of the Northern Territory. We have seen the appointment of Lionel Murphy to the High Court. He was put there only to gerrymander the whole show. There is

Jim Kennedy, an A.L.P. candidate, who pays the salary of Mr. Tom Burns's extra assistant out of his earnings from his tourist resort at Tangalooma. It is interesting to note that on occasions the Leader of the Opposition works as a barman at Tangalooma. In fact he was in the presidential suite there when his house was robbed. There is also Peter Wilenski, an ex-employee of Mr. Whitlam's and an A.L.P. candidate who was defeated on endorsement. He was appointed head of the Federal Department of Labour and Immigration. Honourable members can see how many men have been appointed to jobs for the boys. And the Labor Party cries about four new Queensland Cabinet Ministers!

The Leader of the Opposition, on Tuesday, said that the Federal member for Petrie, Mr. John Hodges, was running around Deception Bay trying to claim credit for the \$151,000 RED money that had been allocated to a good group of people in Deception Bay. Incidentally, the area is in my electorate as well as in the Federal electorate of Petrie. In reality, however, Mr. Hodges was trying to patch up differences between two committees engaged in a little bit of in-fighting. The two committees just cannot seem to agree, and Mr. Hodges was afraid that the money may have been lost to Deception Bay. After all, \$151,000 is a pretty large sum of money to a little seaside resort like Deception Bay.

I propose to read a telegram, a copy of which I received today. It is addressed to John Hodges, and it reads—

"My department have advised me of the developments concerning the RED project submitted by the Deception Bay Civic Centre Sports Trust. They have also informed me that you are giving my Regional Director every assistance in resolving the matter rationally and amicably. I am very grateful for your assistance. I have today sent the following telegram to the Secretary of the Deception Bay Civic Centre Sports Trust—

"Further to my telegram approving your scheme application for assistance under the RED scheme I am informed that recent developments suggest that further evaluation of your application is necessary. I have therefore requested the Queensland State Committee to carry out this evaluation and will advise you of the outcome as soon as possible."

Signed Clyde Cameron, Parliament House, Canberra."

That is an acknowledgment from Clyde Cameron that the Federal member for Petrie, Mr. John Hodges, is actually assisting in having this money spent. I congratulate Mr. Hodges, and I am glad that I have had an opportunity to set the record straight after the deliberate untruths told on Tuesday by the Leader of the Opposition.

The A.L.P. has tried to attribute its defeat to a gerrymander. That claim is completely untrue, and is merely designed to confuse the issue. Members of the A.L.P. squeal about gerrymanders but forget that in 1949 the rottenest gerrymander of all time was made by a Labor Government. In the recent election the A.L.P. contested all 82 seats; the Liberal Party contested 53 and the National Party 48. The average vote obtained per seat in the seats contested, was Liberals 5,432, National Party, 5,335 and the A.L.P. 4,137. Labor's cry of gerrymander is all hog-wash.

The A.L.P. believes that "profit" is a dirty word, but we should not forget that this country has been built on the profit of private enterprise and its endeavour.

**A Government Member:** The A.L.P. has gone to private enterprise to try to get money for its election campaign.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** It has tried to blackmail private enterprise to get money for the election campaign. And it will do it, too.

According to the A.L.P., "multi-nationals" is a dirty term. When the A.L.P. wants to blame anyone for something, it blames the multi-nationals. The position of Labor in Queensland is no different from that of its Federal counterpart. It bleats continually about the multi-nationals and forgets all the good things done by them. What does Labor think about the \$100,000 given to the Darwin Relief Fund by Mount Isa Mines, which is a multi-national company? At the same time Labor conveniently forgets about the multi unions. Communist and Left-wing-controlled unions are certainly trying to get the Federal Government to approve an amalgamation of unions under the guise of eliminating demarcation disputes. The real motive behind this is centralisation of power. The Australian Council of Trade Unions decided that unions should charge members one per cent of their average weekly earnings. Incidentally, A.L.P. members in Queensland are paying three per cent of their salaries to retain endorsement.

**Mr. Lester:** Is that right?

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** Yes.

**Mr. Lester:** Can they use that as a taxation deduction?

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** Unfortunately they do. That is the shocking part of it.

The Amalgamated Metal Workers Union of Australia has 180,000 members. Its annual income is \$11,500,000, roughly one-quarter of what the Tasmanian Government receives in taxation. That amount will be greatly increased if the A.M.W.U. is allowed to conscript other unions, and the centralisation of power and money under the control of the self-confessed Communists Halfpenny and Carmichael will be enormous. They are committed to a foreign ideology and the principle that might is right, without regard

for others in the community. The Amalgamated Metal Workers Union throughout Australia is controlled by Communists. There are 33 Communists holding key positions in this union, seven of whom are in Queensland. They are: F. Thompson, the Townsville organiser; E. Wyper, in the Queensland office; K. Hickey; G. Hennessey; David Lofthouse, the Queensland local delegate of the A.M.W.U., who is on the State Council of the Communist Party; E. Crisp, who is a Queensland official of the Communist Party, and F. Bishop, another Queensland official of the Communist Party. There are plenty of other under-cover Communists in this union, but the ones I have named are the well-known ones. These men are not working for the benefit of the union; they are betraying the country and trying to destroy Australia's economy. For years officials of the A.M.W.U., led by Carmichael and Halfpenny, the Victorian secretary, have waged a vendetta against General Motors-Holden's and other car manufacturers.

It is very interesting to note that Mr. Whitlam, on 2 June 1972, attended a conference of the A.M.W.U., where he received a donation of \$25,000 towards the Labor Party's 1972 election campaign.

It is not the multi-national companies that we have to worry about but multi unions. I believe that the Federal Government and all the Communists who control the Federal Government have cleverly contrived the collapse of this country. The Federal Government is not even interested in people owning their own homes. It is against private ownership of any kind. It would like to see all houses owned by the State, and all people (especially young people) tenants. Under the 1973 housing agreement, expenditure on welfare housing this year will increase by a minimum of 7 per cent. This is at a time when inflation is running at about 25 per cent.

The Federal Government is establishing the Housing Corporation and it will use at least half of the 7 per cent increase to set it up. It will be another bureaucratic part of the Federal Government's plan to socialise this country. It tried to force the State Government to build Housing Commission houses for rental only, but this Government objected strongly. However, the best agreement that we could obtain was that we build 70 per cent for rental and 30 per cent for sale.

The money offered by the Federal Government to purchase cheap land in my electorate around Narangba had the usual socialistic strings attached to it. There was to be no freehold land. It was all to be leasehold. In other words, people could never own their own land and their own homes. The land would be perpetual lease. The present Federal Government has done nothing about housing for the young people of Australia, yet the State Opposition supports its actions.

In 1972, when the Appeals and Special Reference Bill to enable the continuation of appeals to the Privy Council was debated, we saw just what a give-away group this A.L.P. Opposition was. One of the most dangerous men in the Federal A.L.P. is Dr. Jim Cairns, who in 1972 wrote in his book "The Quiet Revolution" that revolution in an advanced capitalistic country can only become a possibility if there is a serious economic crisis. That is presently happening in this country. Dr. Cairns and some of his friends are pushing Australia towards disaster.

The inflation being experienced in this country is deliberate. It is not imported, as Dr. Cairns claims. What is happening in Australia is a carefully connived collapse of the economy. The aim is socialism. The platform of the Labor Party is democratic socialisation of industry, production, distribution and exchange. High inflation and unemployment, tight credit, high interest rates and industrial disruption are all part of the plot. This Opposition supports that plot.

We have heard a lot of criticism about the State education system both before and after the election on 7 December. Most of the trouble was caused by the mouthings of the Queensland Teachers' Union president (Mr. Costello), who is nothing more than a stooge for the A.L.P. He uses his position to spread A.L.P. propaganda. Likewise, a Mr. J. Hungerford, the secretary of the Petrie executive of the A.L.P., has attacked conditions at the Bray Park and Strathpine State Schools in the electorate of my friend the honourable member for Pine Rivers.

It is interesting to note that when the A.L.P. held Pine Rivers in the last Parliament not a word was said about this; but now there is a capable member for the electorate—the Liberal member for Pine Rivers (Mr. Bob Akers), a man who will be a credit to this Parliament and who will do a fine job for Pine Rivers—they have already commenced a campaign against him. But isn't this typical of all the dirty, filthy, rotten tactics employed by the A.L.P.? They are not concerned about schools or school-children. They are just using them for political propaganda.

The allegations about the Bray Park and Strathpine State Schools were nothing but blown-up charges. In fact, the principal of the school refuted the statements made by this social worker, Mr. Hungerford, about its accommodation conditions. Mr. Hungerford described the first-day situation at the Strathpine school as a disgrace. He referred to infants having to be shunted into demountables, pupils accommodated under the school building and teachers without light, blackboards or other aids. If teachers are any good, they can teach under any difficulties. I have no doubt about that.

Most school-teachers are good, sincere people who are not pro-Labor, as Mr. Costello would have us believe. Mr. Costello

spent \$6,000 of Teachers' Union money campaigning against this Government by inserting advertisements such as the one I am holding—"Please give us a fair go. Just because we are out of sight, don't put us out of mind too". I received many letters and telephone calls from teachers saying they entirely dissociated themselves from Mr. Costello's statements.

**Mr. Ahern:** Do you think we should legislate to make political donations to unions non-compulsory?

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I think that would be a very good idea. I think it is a shocking thing when a union's money is dissipated on the insertion of ridiculous advertisements by a person who professes to be non-political.

The A.L.P. has a plan to gain control of the schools and use them as indoctrination centres by putting the party line in textbooks. It intends to present homosexuality and promiscuity as normal and healthy—and, of course, eliminate all laws governing obscenity. It intends to eliminate prayer and religious instruction in schools and belittle all forms of national culture. It intends to discourage teaching of most history, and place more emphasis on Russian history. It intends to create the impression that violence is a legitimate aspect of national tradition and that students should rise up and use united force to solve economic, political and social problems. To change a nation politically and socially, a start must be made with the children and of course the education system is to be used by the A.L.P. to further its aims.

Already the Communist Party of Australia is being helped by the Australian Union of Students at the Sydney University in freely distributing marijuana. Another organisation whose aim is to destroy discipline in schools is the one I mentioned in a question this week—Dr. D'Urso's Council for Democracy in Schools. I have no hesitation in saying that one of his stooges was the former member for Barron River—not the present member who would drop-kick D'Urso out the door if he ever poked his nose into the electorate of Barron River.

It is Dr. D'Urso and the Council for Democracy in Schools who are causing a lot of this trouble in schools. They have gone around mouthing their theories about democracy in schools and telling the students what they should and should not do. This has given these young people the belief that they can decide just what they will do and won't do; that they can throw everything out of the door.

**Mr. Ahern:** Isn't the Federal Government helping Dr. D'Urso and the Council for Democracy in Schools to do it?

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** Yes. It has given them a grant of \$19,000 to set up some branch in Brisbane to further their rotten aims to destroy our schools. The Council for

Democracy in Schools wants to transfer discipline from the principal and teachers to the children. What a ludicrous situation! My colleague he honourable member for Isis would not put up with that.

**Mr. Powell:** No way in the world.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I am sorry, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I digressed.

Sensitivity training is something to which I want to draw the Minister's attention. It has to be watched very closely. I have had complaints from parents in my area that some of the aspects of this form of training now being used in some training colleges in Queensland leave much to be desired. Sensitivity training encourages students to express themselves and their points of view freely and without restraint and even allows obscenity—the removal of all inhibitions. This is nothing short of thought persuasion and heathenism and it is intended to change a person's behaviour and social relationship.

It was developed by Dr. L. Bradford of the National Education Association of the United States in association with psychologists and a behavioural scientist. I intend to keep a careful watch on this sensitivity training and I urge the Minister for Education, too, to watch it before it gets out of hand. Regardless of the consequences, I will expose any facets of this sensitivity training which I consider are immoral or against normal human behaviour. And I will do it from the floor of this House.

This Government has been attacked many times by Senator Keeffe, who is allegedly the champion of the Aborigines. But when a house next to Senator Keeffe's home was let to Aborigines, he squealed to the Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and tried to get them shifted. That shows what a champion he is. He is the one who moved the motion in Cairns to legalise homosexuality and when it was over he actually put his arms around somebody and kissed him. Could there be anything more sickening than kissing Senator Keeffe?

**A Government Member:** Senator Georges.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I'll pay that one. Senator Georges has appointed the former member for Everton as his research officer. All they can research is how to sit down in the street.

**A Government Member:** Jobs for the boys?

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** Big jobs for the boys.

**A Government Member:** He's a racist. There's evidence of that.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** Of course he's a racist.

Recently he attacked the Queensland Minister for Community and Welfare Services and Minister for Sports, whom I have known personally for 37 years. We were in the same class at school. He is a man who is a credit to this Parliament.

In his vicious attack Senator Keeffe alleged malpractice in the administration of prisons in Queensland. It is completely untrue. The senator also claimed that the Premier had instituted legislation in Queensland to prevent members of the Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation from operating here except at the clear direction of the State Government; this would prevent any further work on the Burdekin Dam. Senator Keeffe also claimed that the Queensland Government only opposes works north of Kingaroy. We all know that Senator Keeffe is an associate of Communists, and his job is to knock the Queensland Government at every opportunity, especially the Premier. He travels in deadly fear of the Premier.

The Government's reason for passing the Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation (Queensland) Act was to give the Queensland Government some control over what happens in this State. I believe that that is reasonable. The Federal Government amended the Snowy Mountains Corporation Act in August 1973, making it possible for that body to undertake work in Queensland on its own initiative without obtaining permission from the Queensland Government. That would be a ridiculous situation.

At 10 p.m.,

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER** (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! Under the provisions of Standing Order No. 17 and the Sessional Order agreed to by the House on 5 March, I propose to allow the honourable member to complete his speech.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Deputy Speaker. Unfortunately, at 10 p.m. I threw most of my notes away, so I shall have to start again.

Whilst I am on my feet, I should like to speak about the section of road in Elizabeth Avenue, Clontarf, from the Clontarf State School to a street named Pikett Street on which the speed limit has been changed to 80 km/h. It used to be a 45 m.p.h. zone, which is about 72 km/h. When speeds under the metric system were introduced, it was changed to 80 km/h.

Recently there was a fatal accident at the corner of Elizabeth Avenue and Duffield Road. There have been so many accidents, reported and unreported, on this road that a person who lives there has erected a sign, "Motorists beware! You are now entering hell's corner." In 1973, I rose in this House and made one of my usual impassioned appeals to the Minister to reduce the speed limit in Elizabeth Avenue. It is ridiculous to have a speed limit of 60 km/h from the Hornibrook Highway to the Clontarf State School, then 80 km/h till it reaches Pikett Street, and then reverting to 60 km/h approaching the Kipparing State School. After another three-quarters of a mile, it reverts to 80 km/h.

I urge the Minister for Main Roads, the Minister for Transport, or whichever Minister has control of this matter, to reduce the speed limit on this road before I am killed. I travel on this road twice a day, and I could be one of the unfortunate ones to be hit at the corner of Duffield Road and Elizabeth Avenue, Clontarf.

**Mr. Hodges:** The Minister for Main Roads.

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I thank the Minister.

It would not be fitting if I resumed my seat without some further congratulations. I should like to congratulate all the new members who were elected to this House. They are a fine body of men and women. I have no hesitation in saying that, and nothing to gain by it. It is just the truth. I welcome them all, both Liberal and National Party members, and I say that I consider it a privilege to be in this House to serve with them. I hope that in the ensuing three years they can put up with some of my persistent interjections.

The House adjourned at 10.4 p.m.