

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates  
[Hansard]

**Legislative Assembly**

**WEDNESDAY, 19 NOVEMBER 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 papers were laid on the table:—

Proclamations under—

Trustee Companies Act Amendment Act 1975.

Liens on Crops of Sugar Cane Act Amendment Act 1975.

Orders in Council under—

Medical Act 1939–1973.

The Physiotherapists Acts, 1964 to 1965.

Health Act 1937–1974.

Harbours Act 1955–1972.

The Grammar Schools Acts, 1860 to 1962 and the Local Bodies' Loans Guarantee Act 1923–1975.

The Rural Training Schools Act of 1965 and the Local Bodies' Loans Guarantee Act 1923–1975.

River Improvement Trust Act 1940–1971.

Liens on Crops of Sugar Cane Act 1931–1975.

Regulations under—

Radioactive Substances Act 1958–1970.

The Grammar Schools Acts, 1860 to 1962.

By-law under the Education Act 1964–1974.

Statutes under the University of Queensland Act 1965–1973.

Rule under the Coroners Act 1958–1972.

Scheme for the variation of certain trusts upon which the University of Queensland holds funds donated for the establishment of the Nicklin Scholarship.

### MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

#### EXPLOSION OF LETTER BOMB IN EXECUTIVE BUILDING

**Hon. Sir GORDON CHALK** (Lockyer—Deputy Premier and Treasurer) (11.4 a.m.): I desire to inform the House that at approximately 8.54 this morning two officers of the Premier's Department were dealing with mail on the 14th floor of the Executive Building when a letter bomb addressed to the Premier exploded. Both officers were injured—one with multiple superficial lacerations and the other with an eye injury for which the prognosis is only fair. Both officers are receiving all possible medical attention in hospital.

On behalf of the Government and, I am sure, all honourable members, I express sincere sympathy to the officers concerned, their families and all other members of the department who were shocked as a result.

I want the people of Queensland to know that immediate steps have been taken to implement maximum security arrangements as of now. These will continue indefinitely, irrespective of whatever delays or impediments they might cause to the conduct of public business. I also want to assure all public servants that their personal security will be protected to the fullest extent possible and action is already in train accordingly. The full facts of the incident will be made public as soon as possible, having in mind all the considerations and implications of the incident.

### PERSONAL STATEMENT

**Mr. MELLOY** (Nudgee—Deputy Leader of the Opposition) (11.6 a.m.), by leave: On behalf of the Opposition I want to join with the Acting Premier in the sentiments he has expressed in relation to the incident this morning. I think it is to be deplored that we have reached this stage in our political lives where such incidents are occurring. We too are greatly concerned about the safety of our ministerial and departmental officers. I join with the Acting Premier in hoping that today's incident will not recur at any time in the future in this State. I hope that those responsible for it will be brought to justice and we will not have our public servants going in fear of their lives because of incidents such as this.

### QUESTIONS UPON NOTICE

#### 1. COURT-HOUSE FOR MORANBAH

**Mr. Ahern** for **Mr. Lester**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General—

As Moranbah is now the second largest town in the Belyando electorate, will he again consider programming the construction of a court-house for the town in the near future?

*Answer:—*

There has been no change in the position since my answer to the honourable member's question of 14 October last. The matter is being kept under review.

#### 2. DELIVERY OF GOLDEN CASKET TICKETS

**Mr. Melloy**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General—

(1) What method of transport was used for the delivery of casket tickets from agents to the head office prior to the rise in rail freights?

(2) What were the details of the rates charged for the delivery of tickets prior to the rail freight increase?

(3) What type of transport is now used for the delivery of tickets?

(4) What are the present rates charged for delivery via the present form of transport?

*Answers:—*

(1) Value rail, air freight, bus transport and post.

(2) These charges varied according to type of transport, size of parcel and location of agent.

(3 and 4) The same types of transport are still used. In some instances, post has been substituted for value rail for economy reasons, and the charges for these vary according to size of parcel and agent's location.

#### 3 and 4. SALE PRICES AND RENTS OF HOUSING COMMISSION HOUSES

**Mr. Melloy**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

What procedure is adopted and on what basis is the selling price of Housing Commission houses fixed and how are rents on rental houses assessed?

*Answer:—*

Sale prices are based on replacement costs discounted for the age of the house. The commission reduces the price by an allowance for principal paid by the tenant in his rent. This would not be expected from a private vendor. Economic rents contain an amount to cover redemption of the capital cost over a long period. The rent also includes the operating costs, which comprise rates and charges levied by the local authority plus provision for maintenance and management. In low-income cases the economic rent is disregarded and the tenant pays a subsidised rent related to his capacity to pay.

**Mr. Melloy**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

(1) What procedure does the Housing Commission adopt in setting the sale price for a State rental house when the tenant wishes to purchase it?

(2) Was this procedure adopted when calculating the price of State rental house Goondiwindi 116 and, if so, did the commission on 11 March 1974 state that the price was \$11,230?

(3) Did the commission on 14 October 1975, in a letter to Mr. A. J. Spicer, Lagoon Street, Goondiwindi, state that State rental house 116 was now valued at \$16,990?

(4) What is the reason for the increase in value of the property by 49 per cent in little over one year?

(5) What was the inflation rate last year and what was the original cost of building house 116?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 5) The honourable member for Carnarvon, whose electorate includes Goondiwindi, has approached me on this case. I promised him that I would look into the matter and advise him further. One wonders who is actually the shadow Minister for Housing because the honourable member for Archerfield, the honourable member for Nudgee, the honourable member for Archerfield and the Leader of the Opposition all ask questions about it. I think the Trades Hall does out question after question for each one of them to ask.

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** You ducked that one.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order! I warn the honourable member for Archerfield that I will deal with him under Standing Order 123A if he persists with interjections. I warn all honourable members that I will not tolerate persistent interjections while a Minister is on his feet.

#### 5. MARYBOROUGH RAILWAY WORKSHOPS STAFF

**Mr. Alison,** pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Transport—

(1) Are metal and wooden wagons which are sent to the Maryborough Railway Workshops for repair hauled regularly out of the Maryborough yards for Ipswich and other workshops, simply because the Maryborough workshop is not permitted to work overtime and does not have the staff to handle the repair work on rolling-stock which is regularly available?

(2) Will he take urgent action to substantially increase the staff at the Maryborough workshops so that they contain a more balanced staff better able to handle more of the repair work available?

(3) Will he also take urgent action to ensure that at least some apprentices are engaged at the Maryborough workshops in the new year, even if these apprentices have to be transferred to larger workshops in their third or fourth year to complete their training?

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*Answers:—*

(1) Wooden wagons which require general overhaul are sent from the Maryborough area to the Ipswich workshops, as the Maryborough workshops are not staffed and equipped to handle such general repairs. Repairs to wooden wagons, other than general repairs, and all repairs required to steel wagons, are carried out at Maryborough. The working of overtime in the Maryborough workshops is not necessary, as wagons for repair are drawn from other districts to maintain the work-load and there is no build-up of wagons awaiting repairs.

(2) The staff at the Maryborough workshops is considered to be adequate to cope with the work available. Because of the heavy demands being made upon that section, the Maintenance Branch has experienced some difficulty in making a plumber available to the workshops, and as a consequence, carriages requiring plumbing work have been sent to Ipswich for attention.

(3) The question of training of apprentices in Maryborough workshops is reviewed each year, and again this year it is considered that the type and variety of work performed in the Maryborough workshops is not suitable for the training of apprentices. Applicants from the Maryborough district can, however, sit for the examination for selection for employment as apprentices in the Ipswich workshops. However, following the honourable member's very strong representations, the whole matter will be kept under review.

#### 6. COAL FOR SWANBANK POWER STATION

**Mr. Marginson,** pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Mines and Energy—

(1) How many tonnes of coal were transported each month from Central Queensland to Swanbank Power Station for August, September and October 1975?

(2) How many tonnes of coal were supplied to the Swanbank Power Station from the West Moreton coal-fields during each of these months?

(3) How many tonnes of coal were consumed at the Swanbank Power Station each month during those months and how many tonnes of coal were in stockpile at Swanbank on 31 August, 30 September, 31 October and 13 November?

*Answers:—*

(1) Coal from Central Queensland to Swanbank Power Station—August 1975, 78,300 tonnes; September 1975, 155,600 tonnes; October 1975, 53,600 tonnes.

(2) Coal from West Moreton to Swanbank Power Station—August 1975, 77,900 tonnes; September 1975, 188,400 tonnes; October 1975, 168,500 tonnes.

(3) (a) Coal consumed at Swanbank Power Station—August 1975, 169,200 tonnes; September 1975, 195,500 tonnes; October 1975, 168,700 tonnes. (b) Coal stockpile at Swanbank Power Station—August 1975, 137,000 tonnes; September 1975, 285,000 tonnes; October 1975, 344,000 tonnes; November 1975, to the 16th, 353,200 tonnes.

7. TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS ON BUNDAMBA-  
OXLEY SECTION OF CUNNINGHAM  
HIGHWAY

**Mr. Marginson**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Police—

(1) How many traffic accidents were recorded on the Cunningham Highway between Bundamba Creek Bridge, Bundamba, and the intersection of the highway with Blunder Road Oxley (a) during 1974 and (b) from 1 January 1975 to date?

(2) How many fatalities have occurred as a result of the accidents during those periods?

*Answers:—*

(1) (a) 1 January 1974 to 31 December 1974, 271 accidents; (b) 1 January 1975 to date, 212 accidents.

(2) 1 January 1974 to 31 December 1974, 8 fatalities; 1 January 1975 to date, 3 fatalities.

8. UPDATING OF LOCAL AUTHORITY  
BOUNDARIES

**Mr. Marginson**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads—

(1) Has he seen a statement by the grants commissioner, Mr. A. N. Walls, that most local government boundaries were created about the time of the Afghan wars last century, thereby implying that they are hopelessly out of date?

(2) Is much of the work by Mackay city being done in areas which come under the ambit of adjacent shire councils, particularly Pioneer Shire in North Mackay?

(3) What is he doing to update shire and city boundaries?

(4) Will he appoint a local government boundaries commission to examine the need for updating all local authority boundaries?

*Answers:—*

(1) Yes.

(2) I would say that part of the newspaper report regarding works of the Mackay City Council could well have been inaccurate. The Mackay City Council's case to the Grants Commission included a reference to work done in the city which benefited residents outside the city, and to certain work done outside the city by other authorities which benefited city residents.

(3 and 4) I am not in favour of a general review of local authority boundaries by a boundaries commission. The recommendations from such reviews in other States generally have not been accepted, and I do not feel disposed to support a costly exercise of this type in Queensland. I have indicated to local authorities, however, that, if they can come to agreement on proposed boundary alterations, I would be prepared to examine their proposals as expeditiously as possible.

9. DONATIONS TO A.L.P. FROM UNIVERSITY  
OF QUEENSLAND UNION

**Mr. Gygar**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities—

(1) Is he aware that the executive of the University of Queensland Union has issued notice that a special meeting of the union council will be held on 20 November to authorise the donation of some thousands of dollars of union funds to the A.L.P. for the coming election campaign or otherwise support the Labor Party?

(2) Is he aware that such a donation will be drawn from union fees compulsorily extracted from the students?

(3) Is he aware that such a donation will contravene the union constitution, which prohibits party-political activities by the union?

(4) Will he take action to prevent any possible unconstitutional misappropriation of the funds of this union?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) I have seen a copy of a circular memorandum of the University of Queensland Union concerning an extraordinary meeting of the union council on Thursday, 20 November, to consider five motions. One of these is a proposal to contribute \$2,000 to support a campaign to return the Labor Party to power on 13 December. It is not stated how this \$2,000 is to be raised—whether it is to be obtained from contributions voluntarily made by members of the union for the purpose or whether it is to be derived from grants made by the senate of the University of Queensland to the University of Queensland Union from fees collected by the University of Queensland from students, or from revenues resulting from the expenditure of such funds. When tuition and associated fees were abolished in Australian universities in 1973, it was a part of the intergovernmental arrangement that universities should compulsorily impose fees on students for the provision of student services. The University of Queensland has accordingly imposed fees which students are required to pay and sums are paid over by the senate to the University of Queensland Union for the provision of student services. Under section 30 of the University

Act, all fees and other moneys received by the senate are to be applied by the senate solely for the purposes of the university. In making payments to the University of Queensland Union, the senate has done so on the basis that they are to be applied for the purposes of the university and the senate has always understood that the union had received them on this basis. Whether the allocation of moneys for the purposes referred to above is illegal would depend first on the way in which they are to be collected, and if they are to be paid out of union funds the question of the lawfulness of the act would be a matter for the courts to decide, possibly in an action instituted by a member of the union concerned to prevent a use of union funds which he considers to be illegal. In this regard, it is noted that section 6 (3) of the union constitution provides—

“Each of the objects set out in Section 5 of this Constitution shall be interpreted as subject to the proviso that the Union shall remain independent of any religious or political organisation and shall not promote or assist any religious denomination or belief in preference or precedence to any other or engage in the practice of party politics.”

(4) If action is necessary, I will look into the possibility of taking such action.

10. ATTACKS ON SCHOOL-CHILDREN

**Mr. Frawley**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Police—

(1) What were the numbers of abductions or attempted abductions and assaults on school-children travelling to and from school for 1973-74, 1974-75 and from 1 July to the present time?

(2) What were the total numbers of abductions reported for all persons in 1973-74, 1974-75 and from 1 July to the present time?

(3) Do the statistics available to him reveal if attacks on boys are more prevalent than attacks on girls?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) Statistics of the kind sought are not readily available within the Police Department.

11. INCREASED DEMANDS ON HOSPITAL SERVICES UNDER MEDIBANK

**Mr. Muller**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Health—

Can he give an indication of either the number of patients or the percentage increase of people requiring medical service since the introduction of Medibank at (a) Royal Brisbane, (b) Princess Alexandra and (c) Ipswich General hospitals?

*Answer:—*

Statistics as requested are not readily available. I appreciate the reasons for the

honourable member's question but feel that it is too early to determine any marked trends following on the introduction of the hospital programme under the Medibank agreement.

12. STAMP DUTY ON BANKCARD TRANSACTIONS

**Mr. Dean**, pursuant to notice, asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

(1) Is Queensland the first State to consider a stamp duty on payments by the bank to individual firms under the Bankcard scheme?

(2) Has he had discussions with Treasury officers in other States on their studies on the matter?

(3) Does he agree with Mr. G. Whittaker, chairman of Bankcard, that the proposed stamp duty will find its way into business charges on the consumer?

(4) Will this duty result in increased inflation?

*Answers:—*

(1) Yes.

(2) No.

(3) The question of the treatment of the stamp duty charge will be a matter to be determined between the banks and their credit card clients. At this stage I would think it unlikely that the duty will find its way into business charges on consumers.

(4) This duty will not be more inflationary than any other form of State tax. The duty will be met by the banks themselves or by those of their clients who are prepared to meet the charge in return for the convenience of settling their accounts in this manner in the same way as the user of a cheque book is prepared to meet the duty on the cheques in return for the convenience which that method of payment offers to him.

13. BINGO ON LICENSED CLUB PREMISES

**Mr. Dean**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General—

(1) Has the Licensing Commission been permitting clubs to conduct bingo games on their premises in contravention of the Art Union Regulation Act?

(2) What has caused the commission to support this breach of the law?

(3) Is there any proposal for the commission to suspend bingo permits granted in contravention of the Act?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) The Licensing Commission at a specially convened meeting last week determined that an investigation be initiated into the conduct of bingo on licensed premises. As the investigation is not complete, I am unable to advise the honourable member further concerning the matters raised at this stage.

## 14. ERADICATION OF FLIES

**Mr. Dean**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Health—

(1) Is he aware that Victoria will launch a campaign against flies this summer, with the starting-up of a unit which will patrol fly-breeding places?

(2) Does the Government have any proposals to start up a unit in the Queensland Health Department for the purpose of eliminating the sheep blowfly, which causes an estimated \$50,000,000 worth of damage to Australia's sheep industry?

*Answers:—*

(1) Yes.

(2) The control of fly breeding as it relates to human health is the responsibility of local authorities with an over-all supervision by the State Health Department, and local authorities in the main carry out efficient control measures. The elimination of the sheep blowfly does not come within the responsibility of the State Health Department.

## 15. LAND FOR HOME-OWNERSHIP

**Mr. Lindsay**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Survey, Valuation, Urban and Regional Affairs—

(1) In view of the steadily increasing costs of land and home-ownership confronting young married couples in our society and bearing in mind the obvious long-term anti-social consequences of the present situation where the average Australian family is no longer able to afford to buy its own block of land, will he consider introducing, as a matter of urgency, legislation to the effect that land zoned as residential must be sold solely for the buyer to erect a home thereon, so that buying of residential land for the sole purpose of speculation will, as a result, become illegal?

(2) If he feels that such legislation is not yet necessary or practical, what are the reasons?

*Answer:—*

(1 and 2) I share the concern of the honourable member in relation to the difficulties being experienced by young married couples and for that matter all families endeavouring to assemble their first home. Whilst I can follow the logic of the honourable member's suggestion in his attempt to help rectify the situation, I do not agree, from experience, that legislation as indicated would be practical or equitable or would in fact solve the problems. Speculation in land can be dealt with by ensuring that the supply of suitable serviced residential land exceeds demand and that to hold land for speculative purposes is uneconomical. Measures to ensure that land is within the reach of our people are by (a) framing the development specifications of residential

areas in such a way as to bring them within the capacity of the community to pay; (b) ensuring that adequate finance on such reasonable terms and conditions is available—(i) for development; (ii) for purchase. The real problem has arisen as a result of three years of the Whitlam A.L.P. Government mishandling of the general economy with inflation rising from 4½ per cent to 17 per cent per annum, with interest rates rising from 7.75 per cent to 11.5 per cent, with the consequential virtual cessation of residential development due to lack of confidence by the private sector and the inability of the public sector to fill the vacuum. In summation—the A.L.P.'s crippling inflation, shocking interest rates and loss of job security have created the problems mentioned by the honourable member and these problems will persist well into the future. Legislation which of necessity would be cumbersome and restrictive under the circumstances, in my opinion, is not a satisfactory solution. However a sensible approach to economic management and a restoration of confidence in the private sector by the election of the Fraser Liberal-National Country Party to Government on 13 December seems to offer the best real hope for a solution to the problems of the prospective home owner in both the short and the long term.

## 16. EVALUATION SYSTEM UNDER RADFORD SCHEME

**Mr. Lindsay**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities—

(1) Is he aware of the widely expressed discontent of many of the staff of our secondary schools, both State and non-State, with the nature, methods and results of the evaluation system at present in use?

(2) In particular, will he comment upon the frequently expressed view that the necessity for results to conform to a normal distribution curve has brought about the situation where mediocrity rather than excellence has been the result of the percentage distribution concept of the Radford scheme?

*Answers:—*

(1) From time to time, individual staff members of secondary schools have expressed discontent with the rating system used to report students' achievements on certificates. Invariably, when the reasons for this discontent are examined, it is found that they arise from misconception regarding the assigning of ratings to students. Such misconceptions are not widespread.

(2) There is no basis whatever for the statement upon which I am asked to make particular comment. When any well-constructed test of achievement in secondary school studies is administered to a significantly large

number of students, the results will invariably be distributed in a way such that the great bulk are clustered around the average mark, and fewer and fewer are found the further we move away from that average. It is to be expected that distributions of marks on tests approximate what is referred to as a "normal distribution curve". Rating scales are based on this "normal distribution". Because the marks assigned to groups taking different subjects can have widely different averages, it is important to have some standard scale to which all can be referred. One such scale is the 7 to 1 scale used in Queensland. It is quite false to state that this scale is a concept of the Radford Scheme. This form of reporting has been in use in Queensland since 1967. Similar rating systems are used throughout Australia. In fact, it is by far the most frequently used method of reporting the achievements of secondary school students. It is also quite false to state that such a system has brought about the situation where mediocrity rather than excellence has been the result of using this system. Quite the reverse. It is a system that clearly identifies and records achievement in a particular subject. Problems, however, may arise from the way ratings are interpreted and used. For this reason, the Board of Secondary School Studies has initiated an investigation into alternative methods of reporting students' achievements in order that any problems may be detected and resolved.

#### 17. U.S. QUOTA ON AUSTRALIAN BEEF

**Mr. Cory**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Primary Industries—

(1) Is he aware of the critical attitude of the beef industry to the reports that 20,000 tonnes of Australian beef at present on the water bound for the United States of America is to be refused entry on arrival because supposedly Australia has filled its quota for 1975?

(2) If so, how could this misunderstanding occur and who was to blame for it?

(3) Will the decision mean the withdrawal of affected exporters from the cattle market, which would lead to reduced competition and hence a drop in the price paid to producers for their fat stock?

*Answers:—*

(1) Yes. On Monday last, the United States Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Earl Butz, invoked Section 204 of the U.S. Agriculture Act in relation to the 20,000 tonnes of Australian meat currently in transit. This means that the meat will not be allowed to enter the U.S. market as part of the 1975 quota.

(2) Some confusion has existed since early this year between U.S. Government officials and Australian Meat Board

officers as to the status of a quantity of Australian meat landed in the United States of America late in 1974 but which did not clear U.S. Customs until early 1975. The matter of concern has been whether or not the meat formed part of the 1974 or 1975 quota. In terms of the U.S. Meat Import Law of 1964, official Customs statistics are used to determine the quantity of meat imported during any quota year. Therefore, the Americans clearly consider the meat landed in the U.S. late in 1974 to be part of the 1975 import quota. The Australian Meat Board, on the other hand, considers that the delay by U.S. authorities in clearing the meat through Customs should not jeopardise the interests of Australian meat exporters.

(3) The decision may result in a slight easing in saleyard prices for the balance of this year. However, it should be noted that cattle being slaughtered for the export market for the balance of the year will, in fact, supply part of the 1976 quota to the U.S. market. I hope that exporters and buyers will take that into account at saleyards this week. In relation to the 20,000 tonnes currently on the high seas, I believe the most important point is that it be allowed to enter the U.S. market distribution chain without delay. To this end, I believe that a reasonable compromise would be for an immediate preliminary opening of the 1976 U.S. quotas. I might mention that yesterday afternoon I was able to contact the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Doug Anthony) to discuss this matter with him. He assured me that everything was being done by the Australian Meat Board to get this into the 1975 quota. However, I made the suggestion that, if there is a problem, we should attempt to make a preliminary opening of the 1976 quota year and, if it is to be included in that quota, an adjustment can be made at the end of 1976. Mr. Anthony thanked me for the suggestion. It was rather refreshing to be able to talk to a responsible Commonwealth Minister, which at long last we have, who has the interests of beef producers at heart. It is now a fact of life, so members of the Opposition will have to live with it. We will have him for many years.

#### 18. CHANNEL TO DRAIN LAKE CURRUMUNDI

**Mr. K. J. Hooper**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Tourism and Marine Services—

(1) Is he aware that bulldozers have been used on several occasions to scoop out a channel to drain Lake Currumundi into the ocean?

(2) Was this at any time authorised by the Beach Protection Authority and, if not, on whose authority were the bulldozers used to dredge this channel?



(3) Is he aware that the dredging of this channel has caused a rush of water from the lake into the sea, which is a danger to users of the beach, particularly children?

(4) Will he have this matter thoroughly investigated with a view to stopping what appears to be unauthorised interference with a public beach?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 4) I am aware that bulldozers are periodically used to open a channel through the Currumundi Creek bar by direction of the Landsborough Shire Council. By a decision of the Supreme Court of Queensland on 21 August 1962 in the case of Landsborough Shire Council versus Caloundra Mooloolaba Development Corporation Pty. Ltd., the council is required to keep the Currumundi Creek bar open.

#### 19. POLLUTION FROM LAKE CURRUMUNDI ESTATE DEVELOPMENT

**Mr. K. J. Hooper**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Tourism and Marine Services—

(1) Has any investigation been carried out into the pollution which will be caused by drainage from the estate being built on the banks of Lake Currumundi, and what damage will it do to this marine environment?

(2) Was his department consulted by the local authority which approved the building of this estate so close to the lake's shore?

*Answer:—*

(1 and 2) The estate on the banks of Lake Currumundi is being developed under a development lease issued by the Land Administration Commission and I suggest that the honourable member refer the question to my colleague the Honourable Minister for Lands, Forestry, National Parks and Wildlife Service. I advise the honourable member to tell his informer mate Stan Tutt to get his facts straight. He is completely off the beam.

#### 20. COLLAPSE OF BULK-STORAGE SUGAR BIN, PROSERPINE

**Mr. K. J. Hooper**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs—

(1) Will he institute an inquiry into the collapse of the bulk-sugar storage bin at the Proserpine sugar mill?

(2) Will the inquiry examine the storage-bin plans and investigate whether these were strictly followed during construction?

(3) If he will not institute such an investigation, will he advise the House of the reasons for this collapse, which endangered the lives of workers at the mill?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) The collapse of the bulk-storage bin at Proserpine Mill does not come under the provisions of either Construction Safety or Inspection of Machinery Acts. The adequacy of any—

**Mr. K. J. Hooper:** Bad day at Black Rock!

**Mr. CAMPBELL:** I take it the honourable member doesn't wish to hear the answer, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order! I warned the honourable member before. This is his last warning. I shall deal with him under Standing Order 123A.

#### 21. LIBERAL-NATIONAL COUNTRY PARTY GOVERNMENT POLICIES

**Mr. Gibbs**, pursuant to notice, asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

(1) Owing to a statement made by a responsible person that, if the Fraser-Anthony coalition team is elected to Government on 13 December, it will reduce pensions or not give any rises, a statement that is concerning many pensioners, will he ascertain the correct facts from the Prime Minister (Mr. Fraser) and the Deputy Prime Minister (Mr. Anthony) and inform the House of the true situation regarding the security of the pensioners of Australia under a coalition non-socialist Government?

(2) What has been the effect of inflation on people on fixed incomes?

(3) Will he ask the Fraser-Anthony caretaker Government to make a national statement on the policy that will be implemented when it is elected to govern on 13 December?

*Answer:—*

(1 to 3) I doubt whether the person who made the statement that a Fraser-Anthony coalition Government would reduce pensions could be described as responsible, which is the term used by the honourable member in his question. The coalition will be announcing its policy in due course and I feel certain that there will be no such proposal and that such a step would not have been contemplated.

#### 22. TRANSFER OF MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION

**Mr. Yewdale**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads—

In view of the ever-pressing problem within his department regarding people failing to carry out the necessary transfer procedures relating to the change of ownership of motor vehicles, etc., will he make a clear and concise statement as to what is required by his department when a change of ownership occurs?

Answer:—

The transfer of a registered vehicle is the responsibility of the owner who transfers the vehicle. He must complete the following:—(a) The transfer on the back of the current registration certificate signed by both parties. (b) Stamp duty declaration, plus stamp duty at the rate of \$1 per \$100 of valuation. (c) Provide a certificate of roadworthiness. (d) Pay a transfer fee of \$3.00. Some owners complete all the necessary papers and leave the matter to the new owner or someone else to forward to the Main Roads Department. The owner should always satisfy himself that the transfer has reached the Main Roads Department. If the transfer is not completed, then the vehicle remains in the previous owner's name and he is responsible for registration charges. In some cases registered vehicles may change hands three or four times a week. It can therefore be appreciated that correct and immediate transfer action is vital for the owner and proper registration records. In cases where vehicles are scrapped, destroyed or no longer used, it is very important that the owner returns the plates immediately to the nearest police station or Main Roads Department office so that the registration can be cancelled. If the plates are destroyed or lost, then a statutory declaration must be completed to this effect by the registered owner. It should be clearly understood that the responsibility rests solely with the owner to complete the transfer or cancellation of the motor vehicle registration. If the owner relies on another party to forward the transfer or cancellation to the Main Roads Department, then the owner must always satisfy himself that the matter has been completed. If he does not take this precaution and if the transfer or cancellation has not been completed, the owner remains responsible for the registration charges. I hope this statement is clear and concise and will help owners of registered vehicles who are considering the transfer of their vehicles.

23. USE OF FLEXTIME IN STATE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Yewdale, pursuant to notice, asked the Premier—

(1) To what extent has flexitime been introduced into State Government departments?

(2) Which departments use this work scheme and to what extent has it been successful?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) The Public Service Board has been authorised to confer with the Public Service unions regarding the introduction of flexible working hours in certain State Government departments. The initial intention is for flexible working hours to be introduced for a trial period of six months in a

limited number of departments. To date, the Public Service Board has held a number of meetings with representatives of the Public Service unions regarding the arrangements for introducing the scheme. These matters are still in fact being discussed.

24. OPPORTUNITY CLASSES, WYNNUM CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL

Mr. Yewdale, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities—

(1) Why has it been decided to close the opportunity classes attached to Wynnum Central State School?

(2) Have any arrangements been made to have the children catered for in future education needs?

(3) Why has it been necessary to close classes at this time when the school year is so close to finishing?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) While the matter of the closure of the opportunity classes attached to the Wynnum Central State School is presently being canvassed, it has not yet been discussed with the honourable member for Wynnum nor has a firm decision been made to close the classes.

25. A.P.M. LANDHOLDINGS ON BRIBIE ISLAND

Mr. Lane, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Lands, Forestry, National Parks and Wildlife Service—

(1) How many hectares of land on Bribie Island are held by the A.P.M. company of Petrie (a) on lease and (b) by freehold?

(2) Of the total area held, approximately how many hectares are developed for forestry purposes?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) A.P.M. Forests Pty. Ltd. holds about 4,452 hectares on Bribie Island under leasehold tenure. An area of about 2,468 hectares of the leasehold land has been developed for timber production. The balance area comprises deep swamps not capable of being developed. Records of freehold land are not kept by my department. However, it is known that about 1,948 hectares freeholded in 1972 had been developed at that time by planting to timber production.

26. QUEENSLAND ART GALLERY COLLECTION

Mr. Lane, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities—

(1) In the present collection of the Queensland Art Gallery, what is the total number of works of arts described as (a) oil paintings, (b) watercolours and (c) prints and drawings?

(2) How many of these works of art are on loan from the gallery and, of these, how many are hung on display in public buildings where they can be enjoyed by the citizens of Queensland?

Answers:—

(1) As at 18 November 1975, the number of works in the Queensland Art Gallery was (a) oil paintings, 739; (b) watercolours, miniatures and pastels, 457; (c) prints and drawings, 1,086.

(2) As at 18 November 1975, the number of paintings out on loan from the Queensland Art Gallery totalled 129. Of the 129 works out on loan, 123 are in the following public buildings where they can be enjoyed by many Queenslanders and visitors—

(a) Agent General's Office, London	9
(b) Government House, Brisbane	17
(c) Parliament House, Brisbane	16
(d) Supreme Court, George Street	4
(e) Board of Advanced Education	6
(f) Board of Teacher Education	2
(g) Cane Growers' Council	2
(h) City Hall	9
(i) Department of Education	11
(j) Electricity Commission	6
(k) Department of Health	2
(l) Department of Industrial Development	3
(m) Department of Tourism and Marine Services	1
(n) Department of Lands	2
(o) Department of Local Government (Director's office)	3
(p) Newstead House	4
(q) State Library	1
(r) Premier's Department	5
(s) Public Service Board	3
(t) Queensland Agricultural College, Lawes	6
(u) State Transport Department	5
(v) Treasury Department	3
(w) Police Department (M.I.M. Building)	3

123

Six paintings are on loan to travelling exhibitions.

#### 27. WOOL-TOP PROCESSING PLANT FOR CHARLEVILLE

**Mr. Marginson** for **Mr. Houston**, pursuant to notice, asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

(1) Has he seen the report from the Charleville Chamber of Commerce urging that a wool-top processing plant be established in Charleville?

(2) Is he aware that such a plant has been established in Orange, New South Wales?

(3) Is it a fact that Charleville does not have a large employer of labour?

(4) Does he agree with the secretary that such a plant could become an economic anchor the whole year round in Charleville?

Answer:—

(1 to 4) The honourable member for Warrego and the Charleville Chamber of Commerce have exchanged correspondence on the subject of establishing a wool-top processing plant in Charleville. The Government is also well aware of the benefit accruing to an area from the establishment of such a facility. The Department of Commercial and Industrial Development has attempted to interest the principles of the Orange plant in the locating of an appropriate unit on several sites in provincial areas of Southern Queensland. The department is continuing in its efforts to promote the establishment of a wool-top plant in Queensland.

#### 28. FIRE SERVICES LEVY

**Mr. Houston**, pursuant to notice, asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

Has the inter-departmental committee looking at the future of the fire services levy reported to him and, if so, when does he envisage bringing proposals before this House relating to the levy?

Answer:—

The inter-departmental report on fire brigade levies is at present being examined by the relevant Minister and the attitude of the Government thereto will be made known at the appropriate time.

#### 29. CONTROL OF CANE TOADS ON BRIBIE ISLAND

**Mr. Jensen**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Lands, Forestry, National Parks and Wildlife Service—

(1) Has he received a deputation from Bribie Island residents concerning cane toads on the island?

(2) Has there been a plague of cane toads on Bribie Island in recent years?

(3) Does his department have any plans to help local residents control the plague?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) I have not received a deputation from the residents of Bribie Island concerning cane toads on the island. However, an approach was made to me by the honourable member for Landsborough on behalf of the Bribie Island Ratepayers and Citizens' Association which has been referred to my colleague the Minister for Primary Industries for his attention as the Minister responsible for this problem, as I am not the Minister for Cane Toads. The member for Bundaberg may desire to redirect his question to the Minister for Primary Industries.

30. CARAVAN GAS HAZARDS

**Mr. Hanson**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Mines and Energy—

(1) Is he aware that there is an increasing number of caravans being used by people as travelling homes and that the gas installations in many of the vans represent virtual fire-traps?

(2) As the paper board construction with pine board backings adjacent to stoves in the vans clearly evidences a distinct hazard and as there is always a strong possibility of carbon monoxide poisoning from inadequate and faulty refrigerators, what was the number of van deaths during the last two years in which his investigating officers have been involved because of faulty gas installations?

(3) As ventilation, quality of work, and construction materials should be of high standard, has consideration been given to a rewriting of the relevant regulations so that the good of the consumers can be best served?

*Answers:—*

(1) Yes. For this reason I instructed the Government Gas Engineer some two years ago to carry out an intensive campaign to achieve improvement. The honourable member may recall a Press statement I released on the matter earlier this year. Some matters of caravan safety are outside the control of my department and I arranged approaches to the Departments of Transport and Main Roads to assist with these. Substantial improvement has resulted.

(2) Six.

(3) Yes. This matter has been under discussion with Crown Law for some time and is now approaching finality. Amendments to the Gas Act are expected to result.

31. STILL BIRTHS FROM USE OF ANALGESICS

**Mr. Hanson**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Health—

(1) Is he aware of a two-year study carried out at the Women's Hospital, Crown Street, Sydney, and published in the British medical journal "The Lancet", wherein the findings of two Sydney doctors, Edith Collins and Gillian Turner, reveal that still births, complicated deliveries, long pregnancies, bleeding and anaemia are significantly increased in pregnant women who take pain-killers?

(2) As a study of 63 daily aspirin users revealed that, of women taking two to 12 pain-killer doses per day, four of them had still births compared with none among non-aspirin users and as the doctors have found that 6.6 per cent of Australian-born patients attending the Crown Street Antenatal Clinic used pain-killer preparations regularly, are there any figures available in this State regarding the incidence of

still births, complicated caesarean deliveries and other conditions, consequential to the use of pain-killer drugs?

*Answers:—*

(1) Yes.

(2) A survey of the use of pain-killers by expectant mothers is currently in progress at a clinic at the Royal Women's Hospital. I am looking forward with interest to the results of this survey.

32. LACK OF FACILITIES AT HARRIS FIELDS AND MABEL PARK SCHOOLS

**Mr. Hanson**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities—

(1) Does his department intend to supply transport to schools in other areas if children are refused enrolment at Harris Fields and Mabel Park Schools?

(2) Is it a fact that the toilet facilities at the two schools cannot cope and that the schools have to stagger breaks so that the facilities are not overtaxed at normal lunch times?

(3) If he does not agree with transporting children to other schools, what plans does he have to alleviate the problems at the two schools?

*Answers:—*

The honourable member for Port Curtis may be assured that his solicitude for the schools in the Woodridge area, though praiseworthy, is nevertheless unnecessary. The member for the area has kept me fully aware of the situation, as indeed have my own officers. In answer to the particular queries raised I would advise the honourable member that—

(1) It is not expected that any children will be refused admission to either school.

(2) I am aware that, owing to the rapid growth of Mabel Park and Harris Fields State Schools, toilet accommodation is at present heavily taxed, but the problem is being investigated.

(3) As stated above, I do not envisage the need to transport children to other schools in the area. The honourable member may be assured that suitable arrangements will be made to provide school facilities for children at these schools.

33. A.L.P. SOLICITING OF FUNDS FROM MOTORISTS

**Mr. Young**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Police—

(1) As I received a number of complaints from concerned motorists over the week-end after they were stopped and bullied and money was demanded from them at a number of intersections to aid the Commonwealth socialists, was his department aware of this?

(2) Did the A.L.P. or the Communist Party have a police permit to demand money in the street?

(3) Is it typical of the A.L.P., as we have seen in Brisbane over the last few days that it has been blatantly disregarding the law?

*Answers:—*

(1) I have no information which would indicate that complaints of the kind received by the honourable member have been reported to the Police Department.

(2) Permits under the Vagrants, Gaming, and Other Offences Act to collect subscriptions in streets are issued only to charitable organisations and consequently neither the Australian Labor Party nor the Communist Party would be eligible to receive such permits.

(3) No comment.

#### 34. INSPECTION OF BEACH VEHICLES

**Mr. Lane**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Transport—

In respect of the undertakings given by him recently that, for the convenience of the public, he would endeavour to arrange with the Minister for Industrial Affairs that inspectors of the Department of Machinery would be made available to carry out inspections of beach vehicles at remote places such as off-shore islands, what is the current position regarding the arrangement?

*Answer:—*

The Motor Vehicles Control Act 1975 has not yet been proclaimed but, as indicated in my second-reading speech, a departmental committee has been set up to consider and to make recommendations regarding regulations to be prescribed under this Act. The question of standards is a matter for regulation and when these have been determined, the question of inspection will be taken up with my colleague the Honourable F. A. Campbell, M.L.A., Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs. I might add that a representative of the Chief Inspector of Machinery is a member of the departmental committee.

#### QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

##### COMPENSATION FOR PERSONS INJURED IN INCIDENTS AT POLITICAL RALLIES

**Mr. LOWES:** I preface a question to the Minister for Community and Welfare Services and Minister for Sport by stating that on Wednesday last, 12 November, at an unlawful assembly in King George Square organised by the A.L.P. a member of the public was attacked in a cowardly manner by an A.L.P. supporter and as a result suffered bodily injury. Will the Minister inform the House whether persons injured

in such circumstances are entitled to receive welfare payments and assistance during any period of incapacity?

**Mr. HERBERT:** Unfortunately, the victims of Labor violence last Wednesday have no redress other than that which would be available for normal accidents. This is the first time in the history of Queensland that any political party has introduced direct physical violence against opponents or against innocent passers-by. I know of one such victim who happens to live in my electorate. His name is Mr. George Edser of 65 Berry Street, Sherwood. Mr. Edser was hospitalised with a broken jaw. I have spoken to Mr. Edser. I know the family. They have no political associations to my knowledge. As a matter of fact, they have very close associations with the scouting movement and that is how I know them. Mr. Edser was standing in King George Square. He went there in his lunch hour out of curiosity just to listen to the speeches. He was standing there, and the next thing he realised he was being revived by other members of the public. Independent observers told me that Mr. Edser was standing listening. He made no comment; he did not applaud; he did not heckle; he just listened. But a group of Labor supporters, some of them carrying Russian flags, decided to march from the square down to Parliament House and poor Mr. Edser committed the crime of standing in the path that they had chosen, so they king-hit him and broke his jaw.

A young lady nearby who made the very serious mistake of having a Liberal Party badge on her dress had the front of her dress torn out by the same group of people. We also have a list of cars which had either their windows broken or door panels kicked in because they had signs supporting the Liberal or National Party cause attached to them. So the people of Queensland now know that we face a party that is prepared to go to any lengths, even the use of physical violence against innocent passers-by.

##### EXPLOSION OF LETTER BOMB IN EXECUTIVE BUILDING

**Mr. KATFER:** I ask the Deputy Premier and Treasurer: In view of the tragic incident that occurred this morning in the Executive Building, and as action invariably follows rhetoric, will he call the Leader of the Opposition before the Bar of the House for his inflammatory language? This act is only the last step on a staircase of violence openly promulgated by the past Prime Minister in his address from the stairs of Parliament House. I ask this question in view of the fact that there have been numerous bashings, physical intimidation, eggs thrown at the Prime Minister—and now a letter bomb. The Leader of the Opposition should not be allowed to continue to promote this environment of violence.

**Sir GORDON CHALK:** This morning, following the ministerial statement that I made, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition expressed regret at this incident. I would hope that every honourable member feels as sincerely as I do about it. This morning my colleagues Mr. Hodges and Mr. Lee accompanied me to the 14th floor of the Executive Building, where we saw the nature of the damage done to the room and the hole blown through the table by this letter bomb. I am certain that, whatever the circumstances, this incident is a lesson to all of us and we must do everything in our power to prevent a recurrence of it in Australia. It is not a matter of calling the Leader of the Opposition to the Bar of the House. All I can say is that I am sure each one of us realises the seriousness of the situation, so let us all work together for the good of the country and the protection of its people.

#### EFFECT OF DECLARATION OF SURVEY CO-ORDINATION AREAS

**Mr. AKERS:** I ask the Minister for Survey, Valuation, Urban and Regional Affairs: What savings does the Minister expect to accrue from the recent declaration of survey co-ordination areas? What effect will this have on the general public in regard to development costs?

**Mr. LICKISS:** Under the Survey Co-ordination Act of 1952, where there is sufficient proliferation of permanent marks in a given area, the Governor in Council may declare a proclaimed survey area. There is then a proliferation of permanent survey marks in the area and these survey marks are interconnected accurately and tied to the geodetic grid. This enables a number of benefits to be derived. Firstly, for a survey being performed in the given area there is a ready made datum. In effecting survey work in an area it is always a problem to obtain an accurate datum. The proliferation of marks enables an accurate datum to be established. By connecting the permanent marks to the geodetic grid, we can then take out co-ordinated values for all corners of the surveyed allotments and not only place them accurately in relation to one another in terms of co-ordination in the area, but also relate them accurately in relation to the surface of Queensland where the geodetic grid gives major control. By co-ordinating and integrating surveys, we can obtain maximum accurate control for mapping, particularly in the application of photo-grammetric mapping, which is assuming more and more importance with the accuracy of instruments now available for photo-grammetric surveying. That is the main purpose. By bringing through on the co-ordinated permanent marks the Australian height datum (A.H.D.), we can work out for any point within the area the XYZ co-ordinates. That is of the utmost importance in transferring data to mapping and in establishing adequate control.

The other great advantage is that by having co-ordinate values for all corners in a proclaimed surveyed area, the re-establishment survey cost, which is often great, can be kept to a minimum. It also enables us now to use modern electronic distance-measuring equipment to connect to the major triangulation system. All in all, this whole process will provide for greater accuracy, and at the same time it will reduce the cost of surveys generally. Now that we have started, I am hopeful that we will co-ordinate progressively all the major cities and towns throughout Queensland and connect them to the geodetic grid. This will provide a means of less costly but far more accurate surveys. It will also lead to the formation of a land-data bank which, I hope, will be effected in the not too distant future.

#### POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING BY MR. J. HUNGERFORD, PETRIE ELECTORATE

**Mr. FRAWLEY:** I ask the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General: Is he aware that residents of Petrie are being approached by Mr. J. Hungerford, the endorsed Labor Party candidate for Petrie, who has been employed by the former A.L.P. Government as a welfare officer under the Australian Assistance Plan at a salary of \$11,000 a year, and that Mr. Hungerford has been telling aged and invalid pensioners that if the A.L.P. is not elected on 13 December, their pensions will be reduced? Is there any way in which this Government can prevent Mr. Hungerford from carrying out political campaigning whilst he is a paid servant of the Federal Government?

**Mr. KNOX:** I do not know the circumstances of Mr. Hungerford's employment or contract with the Federal Government. All I know is that the writs for the election have been announced, the date of nomination has been announced and the date of closure of nominations has been announced. Presumably Mr. Hungerford is acting correctly. If he is not no doubt that will be discovered and he may face disqualification.

**Mr. Marginson:** Not until the day of nomination.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr. KNOX:** The honourable member may be a stronger authority on this than other people in the House. He may be able to inform us what the position is. I do not know Mr. Hungerford's circumstances. The honourable member for Murrumba is asking the question because he does not know; he is seeking information—and properly so. If the honourable member for Wolston is in possession of the information, he might care to advise us.

#### DISALLOWANCE OF QUESTION

**Mr. PORTER:** I wish to direct a question without notice to you, Mr. Speaker. Further to the matter of A.B.C. misrepresentation of

this Parliament that I raised yesterday as a matter of privilege, can you now inform the House if you have given consideration to what might be done about this matter?

**Mr. SPEAKER:** The honourable member for Toowong knows the rules of the House. However, I would like to point out that I have had a look at the matter raised by him yesterday. There is no matter of privilege involved, but to put the record straight I indicate that I have written to the manager of the A.B.C. pointing out exactly what took place and the applicable parliamentary procedure. I am quite sure that once the facts are known any doubts in the minds of either party will be removed.

#### EXPLOSIVES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

##### THIRD READING

Bill, on motion of Dr. Edwards, read a third time.

#### MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST

##### POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT INSERTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

**Mr. MELLOY** (Nudgee) (12.2 p.m.): I wish to raise a matter which we on the Opposition benches regard as one of extreme public interest, particularly as it involves this Government. I refer to the shameful, immoral advertisement in this morning's "Courier-Mail" and "Australian" inserted by the Queensland Government at public expense. Mr. Speaker, I am holding up the advertisement I refer to. It is authorised as being inserted by the Queensland Government as a public service.

It may be a public service in the minds of the Government, but it is blatant political advertising inserted at the expense of the public of this State. It is a clear misuse of State money to aid the campaign of the Liberal-National Country Parties in the coming Federal elections. The advertisement was paid for by the taxpayers of Queensland without their consent and it amounts to nothing more than an emotional attack upon Mr. Whitlam and the Australian Labor Party.

I challenge the Treasurer to say whether he was aware of the proposal to insert the advertisement before its publication this morning.

**Mr. Houston:** As it is a Government advertisement, the Treasurer must have known about it.

**Mr. MELLOY:** I am doubtful whether he was aware of it. I do not think he has been privy to a lot of the propaganda arrangements that have been made by the Premier recently.

I also challenge the Treasurer to state whether he or Cabinet authorised the Premier to insert this highly political advertisement. This is the second time in recent weeks that the Premier has acted in this

manner with complete disregard of political ethics and State finances to present his bigoted views to the Queensland public.

The last time that he carried out an exercise of this nature, it is estimated to have cost over \$20,000. I have no doubt that the cost of this exercise in political advertising will be similar. So in the space of one month something like \$40,000 has been stolen from the State's Consolidated Revenue to subsidise the electoral campaign of the Liberal Party and the National Party—at a time when they are calling for restraint in Government expenditure. This is a blatant example of excessive expenditure of public money on political advertising by a Government opposed to the views of the Australian Labor Party.

It indicates the desperation of the Premier and his henchmen and the level of their corruption in political matters. They will sink to any depths imaginable in their pursuit of power and their greed for government through illegitimate means and also in their effort to assist Malcolm Fraser to achieve his illegal entry into power in Canberra. These people—the Frasers, the Bjelke-Petersens and others—have no scruples or principles when it comes to political warfare.

**Mr. LICKISS:** I rise to a point of order. Under the Standing Orders, is it in order for the honourable member for Nudgee to refer to the Premier in such disparaging terms?

**Mr. Houston:** Yes it is. He is not here to—

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr. MELLOY:** The Minister is seeking to control his own speeches and to secure control at the same time by usurping your function.

The Premier is flying around this State in the Government aircraft—again at the expense of the public—trying to arouse the people in a fight against Gough Whitlam. In effect he is trying to divide the nation and inflame feelings more than they are inflamed already despite the call for restraint in riotous and unruly behaviour. He is speaking with a forked tongue. He wants restraint in political spending and at the same time he is tramping the country stirring up the people and trying to create ill feeling for the forthcoming Federal election. Not satisfied with that, he has now stooped to using the Queensland taxpayers' money for advertisements clearly designed to aid the Liberal Party and the National Party and attaching the State Government tag to them.

I believe that his actions are illegal and go far beyond the minority mandate he holds in this State. Today's advertisement is a disgrace and every Government member should be ashamed of it. We in Queensland have become accustomed to normal fair play in political election campaigns, but it has

gone by the board. The Premier is prepared to use every possible means at his disposal to create the impression that the Whitlam Government should not govern Australia. It is frightening that people cannot pay taxes without being fearful that they will be robbed of them from the State Treasury for electioneering by the Premier and his Liberal and National Party colleagues. Clearly in the present circumstances the public are so disgusted with the Liberal and National Parties that they are not responding to their appeals for finance. I know that they are not. I know that great play is made on the action of a poor pensioner who may give 10c to the Premier, who regards that as an indication that the people are supporting him financially and politically. But on 13 December we will find just how strong is the support for the Liberal and National Parties.

**Honourable Members** interjected.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order! I call the honourable members for Murrumbidgee and Belmont to order.

**Mr. MELLOY:** People are resentful that the Premier should resort to deceitful and dishonest methods in attempting to project his message. If the Premier believes that his views are correct, why does he not appear openly on television, where he could be questioned, instead of hiding away in a cowardly fashion behind illegal advertisements where he cannot be questioned and where no check can be made on the authenticity of his claims?

(Time expired.)

#### RECORD OF FORMER FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

**Hon. R. E. CAMM** (Whitsunday—Minister for Mines and Energy) (12.12 p.m.): Now that the decision has been made and the die has been cast, it is time for the people of this State and nation to get down to the basic issues of this election, an election that must surely rate as the most important in this nation's history.

During the forthcoming weeks there will be a deliberate attempt on the part of the former Prime Minister and his Labor cohorts to bamboozle the public by claims of democracy being raped and by trying to brainwash people into believing that his Government has been denied a fair go.

This theme of a fair go was the one which Whitlam used most effectively just 18 months ago and, unfortunately for Australia, enough people fell for it to put him back in Government. But I do not believe that the people of this country will fall for this three-card trick twice running.

If anyone deserves a fair go, it is the people and industries of this country that have suffered under the yoke of socialism for the past three years, to see their livelihoods

collapse around them as restrictive policies and Government intervention reduced them to bankruptcy.

It is the small businesses which have gone to the wall that are seeking a fair go—the primary producer, who has been slugged in every Budget with the removal of incentives and tax allowances; the people on fixed incomes, who have seen their life savings whittled away by an inflation never before experienced in this once-prosperous country; and, by no means least, the workers themselves who are facing massive unemployment and cannot even raise enough money to buy a home of their own. These are the people who have a right to ask for a fair go and, as the record proves, they will never get it under a socialist Government.

If the people of this country look at the real issues and not the phoney ones put forward by a demagogue Whitlam, they will realise that this former Labor Government has been the greatest disaster that we as a nation have suffered in our history. Take a look at this record and judge for yourself, Mr. Speaker, and I am sure you can come to only one conclusion—the complete incompetence of their Ministry, with the sacking of two Acting Prime Ministers, who, by their own leader's admission, lied to the Parliament and the public, the economic turmoil that has made Australia a third-rate power and a laughing-stock to the rest of the democratic world, roaring inflation and galloping unemployment and, probably worst of all, shattered business confidence. Is this the type of Government that the people of Australia want for the next three years, Mr. Speaker? Surely not! I know the people of Queensland will give their answer loud and clear on how they feel about the socialists and their Communist running mates ruling this country—just as they did a year ago in the State election.

The demoralising effect of the Labor Government in Canberra has, as I have said, spread right across the industrial community, but nowhere has it been more damaging, more destructive, than in our mining industry. As Minister for Mines and Energy in this State I have been proud to be associated with an industry that grew in importance and prestige until it became the foundation stone for our industrial development and the leading export earner for this nation. It took 15 years of foresight, determination and sheer hard work for it to achieve this status, to promote Australia as a nation which was a stable and attractive area for investment. But in the short space of just three years this image has been destroyed. We have been looked upon with the greatest suspicion and even animosity by the countries that were our trading partners and once our friends.

We have been classed as a Left-wing socialist country, the running dog of the Communists and one that is no longer a



friend and ally of the Western democracies. And if any of the members on the Opposition bench doubt this assertion, then let them go to the United States, Britain and other countries of the free world and ask for themselves. Let them speak to the people in commerce and industry who once looked on Australia as the most promising country in the world for mineral exploration and development.

Let them now ask what the people who were once our friends and allies think of this nation—a nation that, before the Labor Government came to power, was great, embracing the principles of individual freedom and liberty as a political concept, that embraced freedom of enterprise as an economic concept and, in so doing, achieved the greatest benefits for the greatest number of our citizens. Let them see and hear for themselves what our standing is in the free world, as I did to my embarrassment and shame.

Who ever thought that Australia would have to go crawling through back doors, dealing with shady financial characters to get finance in such an underhand way as we witnessed recently in the loans affair. Who ever thought that this once proud nation would have to go begging on the Middle East money market for finances, which, ironically, were going to be used to introduce more socialism and more Federal Government controls. The only comparison I can make is that of a dope addict borrowing money to buy some more heroin. For let us make no mistake, Mr. Speaker, the hell-bent attitude of the Labor Party to nationalise, and with it the systematic destruction of our free-enterprise system, will be one of the major issues at next month's election.

I am sure everyone in this House well remembers the early days of Labor misrule when the cry went out "Buy back the farm" and "Stop the multinationals ripping off the cream of our mineral wealth". They were expressions I heard in this House as well as in Canberra, for they were repeated parrot fashion by all the Whitlam lackeys. Well, the actions soon followed the words and before long there came the repressive measures that killed off the exploration for our oil and minerals and saw exploration companies that had been working in this country for decades packing their bags and leaving for other parts of the globe where they were more welcome. Not only that, but the mining industry lacked the flow of funds that is essential for its prosperity.

And so we saw the start of the decline of this great industry, a decline which has gone on for nearly three years. I do not profess to be an economist, Mr. Speaker, but surely any school-child could tell you that without expansion there are no possibilities for increased employment. Take a look at our coal industry, an industry that has come in for perhaps the greatest criticism of all from the Federal Labor Government.

Because here in Queensland the mining companies adopted the latest techniques in open-cut mining, we were blasted by the southern-dominated and Communist-led Miners' Union and accused of allowing our rich coal deposits to be mined by the multinationals and sold off at a cheap rate to Japan while still making a rich haul for the multinationals. We knew this was utter rubbish; the companies knew it was utter rubbish; so did the Japanese, who were paying top prices for our coal; and so even did the miners themselves. But the mud-slinging went on, and more and more people began to believe it.

To keep up this image of protecting Australian rights, the Labor Government refused to grant export permits for new mines, so we had the Hail Creek, Norwich Park and Nebo fields—to name the three largest—lying idle while negotiations went on and on to try to secure these new mines for Queensland and, with them, more jobs and more prosperity. These projects, which involved capital expenditure of hundreds of millions of dollars, had to be put in mothballs until the whim of the former Minerals and Energy Minister, Mr. Connor, would allow them to go ahead.

The Labor Government knew the importance of these projects to the economy of Queensland. It knew that they meant hundreds of jobs for miners on the fields, new towns, new port facilities and, with them, more jobs in ancillary industries and a boost to our economy. But it was frightened of the political repercussions if it started to go easy on Queensland mining companies and the multinationals. So it imposed a \$6 a tonne profit tax on companies mining our high-quality coking coal, and then said it would give the green light for these three major mining projects to get under way so we could meet the extra 20,000,000 tonnes a year required by Japan. But, like all the other decisions made by the Labor Government, it completely ignored the facts of the situation for political expediency. It decided the extra tax would remove the political backlash of the Left-wing unions for allowing these mines to get under way, and, at the same time, block up the holes of the sinking ship by getting some much-needed overseas currency.

But, Mr. Speaker, what was the immediate reaction of the mining companies that had been waiting for so long to get Canberra's approval to go ahead? Were they ecstatic about the end of the stubborn muddle-headedness of the Labor Government which had resulted in not one major mining operation in this State being planned or under way in the last three years!

(Time expired.)

#### NEW PORT AT LUCINDA POINT

**Mr. CASEY (Mackay) (12.22 p.m.):** Today I intend to fully expose what can only be classified as the greatest swindle and con trick ever pulled in Queensland. It involves

an estimated sum of \$45,000,000 and the perpetrator of this evil act is none other than this Queensland Government, and the people who are being swindled are 90 per cent of the cane growers in Queensland and the owners and shareholders of Queensland's sugar mills other than those owned by C.S.R. Limited.

Since March this year, by way of questions and speeches in this Parliament and from Press sources, I have been able to obtain certain information regarding proposals for the construction of a new port at Lucinda Point near the mouth of the Herbert River as the outlet port for the sugar produced in that district through C.S.R. Limited's two main sugar mills in Queensland—Victoria and Macknade.

For a number of years now, investigations have been going on to determine whether a port to accommodate bigger ships could be established on the site where the Sugar Board had previously established one of its bulk-sugar terminals in Queensland; but, because of the shallow depth of the berth and the approach channel, only small shipping—up to 7,500 tonnes—has been able to use the port. But the shipping has been of sufficient capacity to supply the feed-stock for some of the C.S.R.-owned refineries situated in the other states.

The Queensland Sugar Board has now set aside \$50,000,000 from last year's record profits to finance the construction of additional storage at Bundaberg and alterations to the wharf, gantry and conveyor system, as well as dredging work—estimated to cost \$5,000,000—and the construction of a third storage shed at Lucinda Point, along with the construction of a complete new port facility comprising an off-shore wharf and loading gantry 5.7 km out to sea with new approach channels, an approach structure and its attendant conveyor systems at an estimated cost of \$45,000,000.

I have no objection to the Bundaberg proposal, but the Lucinda Point deal is a different proposition. \$30,000,000 of this money is coming directly from the pockets of Queensland's cane growers and \$15,000,000 from the coffers of Queensland's sugar mills.

The port of Lucinda handles approximately 10 per cent of the sugar passing through Queensland's sugar ports. This means that the rest of Queensland's sugar-growing areas are providing 90 per cent of this \$45,000,000, despite the fact that many of them are still paying off through harbour dues their own port improvements.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order! I should like to draw the honourable member's attention to the ruling I gave about reading speeches.

**Mr. CASEY:** I am following the same pattern as the Minister who preceded me.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order! For the honourable member's information, that ruling does not apply to Ministers.

**Mr. Houston** interjected.

**Mr. SPEAKER:** Order! When I am speaking, I expect silence in the House. I warn the honourable member for Bulimba. I have given a ruling on the matter, and that still stands.

**Mr. CASEY:** I accept your ruling, Mr. Speaker.

In other words, bringing it down to cold, hard cash, the growers and millers of the Mackay district are paying \$14,000,000, the Burdekin and Bundaberg districts are each paying \$9,000,000, and Cairns and Mourilyan areas are each paying about \$4,500,000 towards building a new port for C.S.R. Limited at Lucinda Point.

Let us look at what has happened in the past regarding sugar port works. Bulk terminals have been financed and are owned by the Queensland Sugar Board. All other harbour facilities have been provided at the sugar ports of Cairns, Townsville, Mackay and Bundaberg by the respective harbour boards, and at Mourilyan and Lucinda by the Corporation of The Treasury, and their cost has been recouped by harbour dues and wharfage charges met by the growers and millers in the areas concerned.

The only sugar port facility in Queensland that has been previously completely replaced is the port of Mackay. We all know the story of the construction of Queensland's unique completely artificial harbour at Mackay during the 1930s in order to replace the antiquated system of loading sugar from lighters in the lee of Flat Top Island.

The growers and millers of the Mackay district continued to pay the lighterage charges of 94c per ton up to the early 1960s in order to pay for the new port. They received no hand-out from the Sugar Board, and the port of Mackay handles three times the output of the port of Lucinda.

Why should the growers and millers of the Mackay district now be expected to contribute \$14,000,000 to build a port at Lucinda Point for C.S.R. Limited? Why should those growers and millers whose output goes through the ports of Townsville, Cairns, Mourilyan and Bundaberg, where they are already meeting their own commitments and costs, be expected to provide millions of dollars for C.S.R. Limited?

Since I first raised this matter, I have received scorn and ridicule from three different Ministers. This is typical of the way in which this Government tries to cover up. I have been told that this deal was agreed to by the Queensland Cane Growers' Council and by the sugar industry.

I submit that the cane growers were presented with a case that was fait accompli and that the true facts were suppressed. The average cane grower and mill shareholder does not know the full facts. In fact, the main argument put forward to the cane growers in support of the Lucinda Point

proposal was that, if they did not give the money for the Lucinda Point project, they would only have to pay it out in tax to Whitlam.

Again I draw a parallel. Recently in Mackay the Minister for Primary Industries—at the request of the required number of persons under the Act—ordered the Mackay District Cane Growers' Executive to conduct a poll of all growers before he would allow that executive to levy almost \$2,000,000 from the growers of the Mackay district to build their own new building in their own city with their own money. Yet the same Minister has taken almost \$10,000,000 from the same growers to build a new port in someone else's district, and they are not even aware of it. If that isn't a swindle and con trick, I do not know what is.

No compulsory poll was held on this question. The growers were not given the case for or against, or the opportunity to discuss the matter at their mill suppliers' meetings. The mill shareholders were not asked at their annual meetings if they would rather invest their surplus profits in their own mills than give it to Lucinda Point for the benefit of C.S.R. In fact, most of these mills have previously used their profits more wisely to increase their crushing rates. The difficulties experienced during the present crushing in northern areas this season have shown that C.S.R. certainly has not been up to scratch in this matter.

The irony of the situation is that the Herbert River mills are amongst the few that are unaffected by this State Government's recent steep 40 per cent increase in rail freights, as Lucinda sugar is received into storage from the C.S.R. mills by its own locos.

Has the Sugar Board considered the freight saving that the construction of a sugar port at Bowen would be to the growers and millers of the Inkerman and Proserpine areas, who now pay the highest freight to a port of any Queensland mill? Certainly not. Yet, before bulk sugar, these mills used to export their bagged sugar through Bowen. The current production of these two mills is equivalent to that of Victoria and Macknade, in the Herbert River area.

At present, I may be as a voice crying in the wilderness, but I want the cane growers and mill shareholders of Queensland to know exactly what is going on. This vicious swindle of their money must not be allowed. They must start a move through their mill suppliers' meetings and at their shareholders' annual meetings to halt this con trick before it is too late.

This Government is no friend of the cane farmer, or of the mill shareholder. It is merely a puppet of C.S.R. Faced with the prospect of creating another great white elephant similar to Port Alma, the Corporation of The Treasury has frisked the money from the sugar industry through the Sugar Board to build the new port of Lucinda.

I believe that the industry cannot afford the luxury of this scheme for the benefit mainly of C.S.R. and that the time has been reached when consideration must be given to freighting Herbert River sugar by rail to Townsville, which is shorter than the distance Proserpine sugar is now carted to Mackay.

The \$45,000,000 of growers and millers' money held by the Sugar Board could be better used for the industry as a whole in other ways. I have already suggested a price-stabilisation scheme to soften the blow of the lower prices that must surely come, or even the provision of tippler-type rolling-stock, similar to that used in coal mines, in place of the present out-dated type of wagons. The leaders of the great sugar industry must forget their party politics and raise their voices to prevent the Queensland Government from putting this swindle into effect.

#### POLITICAL UNREST AND GROWING VIOLENCE

**Hon. R. J. HINZE** (South Coast—Minister for Local Government and Main Roads) (12.31 p.m.): Who would have thought that in the State of Queensland we would see a headline in the "Telegraph" dated 19 November in these terms, "Attempt to Kill Joh—Two injured by mail bomb blast." Who could have expected to see that in this wonderful State?

I draw the attention to the House and the public to the alarming emergence of violent election rally mania, political extremism and subversive elements since the abysmal Whitlam Government was deservedly thrown out of office a little over a week ago.

Suddenly, a new and frightening side of Australian politics has shown clearly the full meaning of the now infamous Whitlam comment, "Well might we say 'God save the Queen', because nothing can save the Governor-General". At every opportunity in the next few weeks, I will repeat that from every platform on which I stand, to make Mr. Whitlam remember that, in a fit of pique and temper, he came out in his true colours and said, "Well might we say 'God Save the Queen', because nothing can save the Governor-General".

Mr Whitlam's own incredible comments and behaviour since "D" (for deliverance) Day last week backed up by cowardly attacks on the Governor-General and our long-cherished Australian way of life by his ex—and axed—Ministers have shown us the shape of things to come.

The real election issue is clear-cut. We have a clear choice. We can go quickly into the Communist bloc alongside the People's Republic of China and the U.S.S.R., as the United Socialist States of Australia—the U.S.S.A.—with Mr. Whitlam as the president of a new socialist republic. I have no doubt that if Labor is returned with a majority in both Houses we will become part of this

Communist scene—the U.S.S.R. of the Pacific, if you like—and very quickly. Every honourable member opposite knows that to be true. I believe it would be only a matter of weeks. On the other hand, we can vote for retention of the Australian way of life, and for democracy, with the protection of the Senate and viceregal patronage, which the present crisis has shown to be crucial if Australian democracy is to survive.

In my political judgment, this will be an election in which the silent majority—the housewife, the farmer, the small businessman, the average Australian worker and the migrant who fled Communism and all that it stands for—will stand up and be counted and the Labor socialists will be counted out.

Over the past week in Brisbane, and in other places throughout Australia, the Labor anti-Communist illusion has been rudely shattered. We have seen steel-helmeted, weapon-wielding A.L.P. Communist activists taking to the streets, waving Communist hammer-and-sickle flags—even at our own front gates—spitting out insults and obscenities to bewildered bystanders, jostling shoppers (including women and children) without cause, attacking the headquarters of rival political parties and openly flaunting more Communist banners and flags at official A.L.P. mass rallies, marches and other functions.

**Mr. Frawley:** Tom Burns does it.

**Mr. HINZE:** Of course he does—and he carries them also.

Its time for flag-waving, all right; but let's make it the Australian flag, not the hammer and sickle of the U.S.S.R. or the ensign of the People's Republic of China.

**Mr. MELLOY:** I rise to a point of order. The Minister, in this Matters of Public Interest debate, is reading his speech. I do not think Mr. Speaker's ruling applies to debates of this nature.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt):** Order! I have heard the honourable member's point of order. The matter was drawn to Mr. Speaker's attention previously and he gave a ruling. I abide by it.

**Mr. HINZE:** This is the only time in my life I have ever read a speech. I have put in it everything to which I subscribe. It is the only speech I will ever read.

**Opposition Members** interjected.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr. HINZE:** It's the only one I have ever read.

**Mr. Houston:** You are incapable of making a speech without reading it.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order!

**Mr. HINZE:** I have never read a speech in my life. I don't have to. Frankly, the Deputy Leader of the Opposition gave me

an opportunity to get a drink of water, and it will give me a chance to get stuck into them again. It is time for flag-waving, all right, but let us make it the Australian flag.

**Mr. Houston** interjected.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! I call the honourable member for Bulimba to order.

**Mr. HINZE:** See how I stir them, Mr. Deputy Speaker, when I talk about waving the Australian flag? They just don't like it. Provided it is red or coloured the same as the flag from the People's Republic of China, they will wave it for sure.

Provided people are given the chance to make considered judgments based on facts, policies and performances without being snowballed by Labor's massive propaganda effort, its scare tactics, its standover methods and its blatant misrepresentations, the present political crisis could well go down in history as one of the best things to happen in this country.

Events of the past week have smoked the Communist cockroaches out of the A.L.P. woodwork and into the open. Now we have Hartley standing for the A.L.P. and Pennyweather, Pennyfarthing or Halfpenny supporting the A.L.P. They are all in it together, all linking arms—the Comms and the A.L.P.—and Opposition members try to give us the impression that the Comms are not their blood brothers. But everybody in Australia can see it. Events of the past week have smoked the Communist cockroaches out, and it stings honourable members opposite to hear me telling them about it.

Suddenly, with the push for a socialist Australia threatened, the Communists, who have controlled the unions and the A.L.P.—from behind the scenes—for years, are now heading the marches, waving their Commo flags and banners and speaking openly at official A.L.P. and union rallies. There can be no doubt now about precisely where the official and unofficial Labor sympathies lie and where the A.L.P.'s strength and control come from.

I believe that all law-abiding Queenslanders and other Australians will be appalled at the current trend to violent rally mania, which is foreign to Australia and has no place in Australian politics. Indeed, to my mind there is no place in Australian politics for the rabble-rousers of either the extreme Left or the extreme Right.

Over the past week we have seen Queensland workers harassed and intimidated by high-pressure A.L.P. propaganda and threatened with violence and recrimination if they didn't toe the line and take part in rallies and protests. Young friends of ours in the National Party and the Liberal Party have been told, "If you don't get down to the rally, watch out. You're going to cop it." It is intimidation of the lowest order! My

colleague the Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs (Honourable Fred Campbell) has already given this House a very clear picture of the Labor standover merchants who have threatened fellow unionists in Brisbane who felt disinclined to take part in the protests.

The honourable member for Bulimba can't take it, Mr. Deputy Speaker. He's leaving the Chamber. I invite him to take his mates with him.

Under pressure, because they feared the consequences of staying away, or staying at work, those employees attended the protests.

**Mr. HOUSTON:** I rise to a point of order. It is quite true that I did leave the Chamber.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! What is the honourable member's point of order?

**Mr. HOUSTON:** The point of order is that I did leave the Chamber, but I am sick and tired of hearing speeches written by "The Skull".

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! The honourable member for Bulimba will resume his seat.

**Mr. HINZE:** He took two minutes of my time, too.

Clearly the day of the jackboot, Big Brother and the all-powerful party is already here for some Australians. But it need not be here for all Australians—and that is what the election on 13 December is all about. Thankfully, a Governor-General with courage and plenty of guts (Sir John Kerr—a Labor appointee, it must be stressed) has given Australians another chance to show, through the ballot-box, that they don't want this trend to go any further.

The former Prime Minister (Mr. Whitlam) has been unmasked by the present crisis as the fledgling dictator many people have accused him of being. He has clearly shown himself as a man dedicated to socialising Australia in the fullest sense—a dedicated anti-royalist, bent on destroying the Senate and the Crown as an institution and safeguard, a man hell bent on making Australia a socialist republic, with himself as its first president. What happened when he found he couldn't get anywhere in Australia? He sent Scholes slinking off to the Queen. That is an indication of the man's lack of intestinal fortitude.

(Time expired.)

#### FEDERAL LABOR'S ATTEMPTED DOMINATION OF MEDIA AND ABORIGINAL AFFAIRS, PALM ISLAND

**Mr. M. D. HOOPER** (Townsville West) (12.40 p.m.): Along with thousands of other responsible members of the community I voice my concern at the manner in which the Whitlam A.L.P. Government, over the past three years, has tried to control all

sections of the media. No doubt its policy has been adopted solely with the intention of bolstering its socialistic programmes and brain-washing the people of Australia into believing that what it is telling them is in fact what they really expect a responsible Government should be doing for the majority of the community.

The Government appears to have infiltrated the editorial newsrooms of some of the major Australian newspapers. It owns its own radio station in Brisbane. It is also a very well-known fact that it has chosen A.B.C. television interviewers who are most sympathetic to its cause and who promote A.L.P. policies when conducting interviews on A.B.C. public relations programmes.

The latest insult to our intelligence was last Monday night's programme of "Monday Conference", a show which allowed Brian White to freely publicise a book he has written in which he criticises Queensland and the alleged differences between the morals and life-styles of Queenslanders and those of people in the other Australian States. Brian White is a well-known Left-wing journalist with some association with the socialist-controlled Department of the Media. On that television show he flourished a newspaper, charging Queensland with racial discrimination. To his credit, Senator Neville Bonner jumped to his feet and denied the statement. He told the audience that over 400,000 Queenslanders had voted for him at the last Senate election and that there was no racial discrimination in Queensland.

But let me revert to the newspaper article by Brian White, of which I have a copy in my hand. It was published in "The Straits Times", which is a Singapore newspaper. What must our Asian neighbours think of us when people who are alleged to be Australians go overseas and criticise the policies of the Queensland Government? What Brian White did not tell the audience was that many of the statements in the article were made by a person calling himself Bill Rosser, although he was born William Roser and has used many other fictitious names in various parts of Australia.

Early in 1974, as mayor of the city of Townsville, I received a telephone call from Senator Bryant's department in Canberra informing me that the Federal Government intended spending large sums of money on Palm Island and that it would like the Townsville City Council to handle the funds for these developments, provided that the council would provide the engineering and health department expertise to supervise the developments. On behalf of the council, I agreed to send an engineer and two health surveyors, and I accompanied them to Palm Island.

We were met on Palm Island by Senator Jim Keefe and several members of Senator Bryant's department, and also by Bill Rosser, the friend and ally of Senator Keefe on

Palm Island. I soon learned on the island that Bill Rosser, a known Communist, was living on the island, supported by a Federal Government grant, and every week was publishing a newspaper called "Smoke Signal", which was edited by Fred Clay, then chairman of the Aboriginal Council, who was dominated by Jim Keeffe.

Its circulation list included the N.A.C.C., the Race Relations Black Community Centres in Brisbane and Sydney, the Building Workers' Industrial Union, the Metal Workers' Union, the Storemen and Packers' Union and the chairman of the Senate Standing Committee on Aboriginal Environment in Canberra, Senator Jim Keeffe.

Let me read what Senator Jim Keeffe and Jim Rosser recommend to the Aborigines on Palm Island in the field of law and order—

"We want an immediate end to police brutality, murder and rape of black people. We believe we can end racist police oppression and brutality in our black community. There is a need to make policemen out of the 'pigs' that are presently acting as law enforcement agencies. The only way that this can be done is to give communities control of the police. Without this, the 'pigs' will continue to be used as tools of the Fascist system. When the government becomes a law breaker the people must become the law enforcer."

Their five-point programme on Aboriginal land rights reads—

"1. Full State rights to the Northern Territory under Aboriginal ownership and control with all titles to minerals, etc.

"2. Ownership of all other reserves and settlements throughout Australia with all titles to minerals and mining rights.

"3. The preservation of all sacred lands not included in points 1 & 2.

"4. Ownership of certain areas of certain cities with all titles to mineral and mining rights.

"5. As compensation, an initial payment of six billion dollars for all other land throughout Australia plus a percentage of the gross national income . . ."

All the issues of "Smoke Signal" advocated "Black Panther" power and ridiculed the Queensland Premier, the Minister and officers of the Department of Aboriginal and Islanders Advancement. Bill Rosser and Senator Jim Keeffe strongly advocated that the residents of Palm Island overthrow the administration of the State Government and express loyalty only to the socialist Government in Canberra. They made extravagant offers of what the Palm Island Aborigines would receive if they shook off their association with the Queensland Government and sought to make Palm Island a Commonwealth territory.

They were promised unlimited funds for all sorts of projects, including \$4,000,000 for a motel on Palm Island. I was taken around the island by Senator Keeffe's committee and shown the site for the \$4,000,000 motel, as well as preliminary plans prepared by a Townsville architect. Who could blame the honest but gullible people of Palm Island for believing these offers of Utopia? But what monstrous misrepresentations were made by Senator Keeffe to a people not used to the lies and deceit of Labor politicians.

Of course, after the 1974 Federal election Gough Whitlam soon decided that Mr. Bryant was a luxury that he could not afford. Accordingly, he gave him a golden handshake and transferred him to the post of Minister for garbage services in Canberra. But he could not get rid of Jim Keeffe. If Mr. Whitlam wins the December election, of course, he will get rid of Jim Keeffe, because he will abolish the Senate and Jim Keeffe will be gone. The Labor Party will not win the 13 December election, but, unfortunately for Queensland, we will probably still have Senator Keeffe representing this State because, unless the Labor Party wakes up to itself, he will retain the No. 1 position on the ballot paper. No wonder Gough Whitlam wants to abolish the Senate when he sees Jim Keeffe and Senator Georges in Canberra. That would make anyone want to go outside and vomit.

However, by mid-1974 the decent people of Palm Island realised at last how they had been misled by Senator Keeffe. They realised that the "pie in the sky" promises of the Whitlam Government were a pack of lies and deceit. For a start, they kicked Bill Rosser off the island. They petitioned the Queensland Government to dissolve the Jim Keeffe-dominated Aboriginal council consisting of Fred and Iris Clay and other malcontents. The upshot was that Mr. John Watson was elected chairman and only one member of the former council was re-elected.

The Palm Islanders are now a far happier people. They are rid of the socialists who tried to make them believe that they did not have to work to earn the comforts that the white man enjoys. They now take pride in keeping their community clean, and they are trying to make the settlement self-sufficient. A tremendous difference can be seen now that they are rid of Senator Keeffe.

I might also make another comment about this man who represents the Labor Party in Queensland and has the No. 1 position on the Senate ballot paper. At the Labor Party convention in Cairns last year he claimed as his greatest victory the acceptance of the legalisation of homosexual relationships and the decriminalisation of prostitution as major planks of the A.L.P. platform. Queenslanders expect better representation in the Senate, even from the A.L.P. I wonder how the socialist-controlled media will handle the promotion of Senator Keeffe in the Senate election campaign?

## A.L.P. INFILTRATION OF UNIVERSITIES

**Mr. GYGAR** (Stafford) (12.48 p.m.): I rise in this debate to draw the attention of honourable members and the people of Queensland to the disgraceful and disgusting attacks made by the A.L.P. on the institution of our universities, not just in the last few weeks but extending back over a period of years. The A.L.P. has been forced to try to worm its way into the universities in an attempt to deceive the young people who are there, and to try to get its stooges into intellectual positions in order to influence students.

It has been forced to do this for one, and only one, reason—it has deserted the working class and the working class is deserting it in droves. Unless it can get opportunist academics to fool youth, and unless it can convert its half-baked socialist ideology into some ideal that sounds good to the young people of this country, it has no chance of survival. I am sorry that my good friend the honourable member for Archerfield is not in the House. He is an example of the opportunists whom we have all seen appearing in the A.L.P. lately. The workers have left this discredited and disgusting party. They have left it for dead.

A.L.P. members in this House sit dispirited, just enough of them to make a cricket team. They stare down at their newspapers, ashamed to stand up for the ideology that they are sworn to uphold, ashamed of the oaths and the undertakings that they signed before taking their places in this Parliament. They are ashamed now to stand up and admit that they are socialists, because the people of Australia have seen what socialism does.

The workers of Australia have seen that socialism has destroyed the great Australian ethic, the desire of people to own their home, the desire to put money in the bank and feel secure because this Whitlam-caused inflation is tearing away at their savings and has destroyed their ability to own their own home. It is no wonder that the workers have turned their back on the Labor Party, because the Labor Party has turned its back on the workers. Where can the Labor Party go if the honest working man has seen through its disguise? There is only one place it can go, to those it can fool and those it can buy, and the opportunists are the ones it goes to.

**Mr. Doumany:** At whose expense?

**Mr. GYGAR:** At the taxpayers' expense, of course.

Let us go down the list and have a look at a few of the opportunists, starting with the great big fish, Gough Whitlam, a former Prime Minister of this country, the workers' pal and the leader of the so-called workers' party. Where does Whitlam come from? Let us just have a fast look at his background. He is the son of a Solicitor-General of Australia. I have been to Canberra and driven round the streets and seen the home from which Mr. Whitlam came. Never in my

wildest dreams would I imagine that I, the son of a worker, could ever hope to own a home like that from which the silvertail Whitlam came. It is the sort of home one sees on the front cover of "Better Homes and Gardens". This silvertailed son of a Solicitor-General, the opportunist who looked first at the Liberal Party and decided, quite rightly, that there was such a dearth of talent in the Labor Party that anybody with a brain could not help rising through it, joined the A.L.P. for the sole purpose of seizing power for his own ends—the classic opportunist.

**Mr. Marginson:** What do you call Malcolm Fraser?

**Mr. GYGAR:** I call Malcolm Fraser an honest, decent man, a man who will lead Australia out of the shadows into which the honourable member and his cronies have placed it. Malcolm Fraser is giving the people of Australia the sort of leadership that they are after, not the sort of cynical tactics we have seen from Whitlam and his half-baked cronies who are now crowing their last on the benches of the Opposition.

They have the opportunists; they think they have fooled the students; and there is only one other little group left, the Communists. How they have gone out after the Communists! They love them; they are embracing each other with open arms. On television every night we can see the Australian Labor Party anti-democratic opportunists standing up with the demagogues from the Communist Party. They try to deny this, but they have no chance. Only last week we saw the Communists marching in front of this House and the members of the A.L.P. going out to greet them. The honourable member for Wolston is now striding out of the House, again ashamed to stick up for his colleague the honourable member for Rockhampton, who strode out of this House and welcomed with open arms his pals the Communists when they laid siege to the Parliament of Queensland.

**Mr. Lamont:** Mr. Hanson is staying, however, because he agrees with you.

**Mr. GYGAR:** It is said that the honourable member for Port Curtis agrees with us; that he does not like Communists. I will believe it when he stands up in this House and tells the people of Queensland that he does not agree with the A.L.P. But, of course, the honourable member for Port Curtis remembers the last Labor man who stood up in this House and said he did not agree with the A.L.P. That was Vince Gair, and he was dragged out with about a dozen knives in his back about five minutes later. Unfortunately, I do not think the honourable member for Port Curtis is that sort of man.

**Mr. Lamont:** He is a member of the Australian Hotels Association, so he probably does not like Communists, but he is not game to say so to Mr. Burns.

**Mr. GYGAR:** Of course he is not! None of them are. The Communists are calling the tune around here lately.

But I want to refer back to this matter of the university. We have seen some interesting things happening at the university in the last few days, not the least of which was the initial entry into the lists of Dr. Denis Murphy, well-known opportunist, Labor stooge and so-called expert on everything that the A.B.C. wants him to talk about. He will jump up on any stage and talk about any subject. It does not matter whether he is right or wrong, just so long as he can push the socialist message.

We have seen how, with taxpayers' funds, he went up to the Australian Government Centre, illegally used the photocopying machines to turn out his socialist propaganda and, masquerading as a disinterested and concerned academic, sent out a letter asking for support for the Australian Labor Party. Who else is Dr. Denis Murphy going to support? He stood for Parliament twice, but the people of Queensland saw through him and tossed him aside. Now he is trying to push his crony Hungerford in Petrie to try to do what he, Denis Murphy, couldn't do himself.

**Mr. Frawley:** Hodges will do him like a dinner.

**Mr. GYGAR:** I agree. Anybody who has seen Mr. Hungerford in action couldn't but agree that the sitting member, Mr. Hodges, is streets ahead.

The other thing the A.L.P. is up to out at the university at the moment is what is commonly known in the vernacular as "tickling the till". All the old fights between the Australian Labor Party and the university "rads" are suddenly forgotten. I remind honourable members that the radicals out there have not been tossed out of the A.L.P. time after time because they are Communists, because they are Trotskyites or for any other reason like that. They have been tossed out of the A.L.P. for the cardinal sin of criticising the Q.C.E. It seems to be that if a person gets to be president of the University Labor Club, it is a matter of honour that he get tossed out of the A.L.P. within six months for criticising the Q.C.E. If that does not happen, he is not doing his job.

Anyway, they have forgotten all that sort of stuff now. They are back again, all very big pals, all together with the Communist Club, the Australian Labor Party Club, and everything else that wants to get into this amalgam of opportunists. They have decided to dip their sticky fingers into the student union funds. They are going to try to grab at least \$2,000 of the money compulsorily taken off the innocent majority of students who would not have a bar of the A.L.P. That is shown by their vote in the Federal electorate of Ryan, and by their astute

votes for the honourable member for Toowoong in this House. They are going to seize that money from the students and use it for their own purposes.

**Mr. Doumany:** Shame!

**Mr. GYGAR:** They won't get away with it.

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt):** Order! Members should not pass between the Chair and the person speaking.

**Mr. GYGAR:** As the honourable member for Kurilpa has said, it is a shameful sort of action, but one which won't succeed. I hereby serve public notice on the people at the university that if they want to proceed with this I will also proceed. I am a member of that union, and there is no way in the world I am going to fall for these rotten A.L.P. press-gang tactics to get their hands on union funds—unwilling members' funds—and devote them to the socialist cause.

All over the State unionists are rising up in anger at the way union executives are tearing away money and pouring it into the A.L.P. coffers. This is one union where they won't succeed. Once again they have shown their abysmal ignorance of the law and the constitution by attempting this course of action. The constitution of the University of Queensland Union is quite precise on this matter in section 6 (3), which the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities so clearly outlined in the House this morning.

(Time expired.)

#### ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF PREMIER

**Mr. FRAWLEY (Murrumba) (12.59 p.m.):** In the short time available to me I wish to speak about an occurrence this morning that I never thought would happen in the history of Australia. I am making a charge against the Leader of the Opposition because of his inflammatory talk to the waterside workers and other Communists last Wednesday, 12 November. His actions incited the attempt to assassinate the Premier. I am charging the Labor Party with being a party of assassins. They have incited this. It was Mr. Whitlam's talk in the streets of Canberra—

**Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt):** Order! Under the provisions of the Sessional Order previously agreed to by the House, the time allowed for the Matters of Public Interest debate has now expired.

The House adjourned at 1.1 p.m.