

Queensland



Parliamentary Debates
[Hansard]

Legislative Assembly

TUESDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 1976

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

SUB JUDICE MATTERS

Mr. SPEAKER: I have to advise that I have received the following letter, dated 7 September 1976, from A. W. Bale & Son, Solicitors, of Brisbane:—

“Dear Sir,

“Re: Our client Paul Simpson McGuire

“We advise that on Friday, 3rd September, 1976, we caused to be issued on the instructions of our client a Supreme Court Writ No. 2130 of 1976 against Mr. Kevin Joseph Hooper M.L.A. for damages for defamation. The action was a result of a news interview which was published by Brisbane T.V. Limited (B.T.Q. 7) between 6.00 p.m. and 6.30 p.m. on Thursday, 2nd September, 1976 in relation to Queensland Groceries Limited.

“When being served on Friday, 3rd September, 1976 our Process Server, Mr. Peter McMahon, of Brisbane Process Servers has instructed us that Mr. K. J. Hooper indicated that he would take advantage of parliamentary privilege to make certain allegations against our client.

“We view this matter as a particularly serious one in view of the fact that a committal proceeding against our client is presently only part heard and also in view of the initiated proceedings for defamation and would request that some protection be afforded to our client.

“Yours faithfully,

“A. W. Bale & Son.”

That matter is sub judice.

I have also received the following memorandum, dated 7 September 1976, from the Minister for Justice and Attorney-General:—

“The Honourable the Speaker,
“Parliament House,
“Brisbane, Q. 4000.

“The National Trust of Queensland has taken out an originating Summons in the Supreme Court seeking a declaration that the Trust is empowered by the National Trust of Queensland Act 1963–1974 to take over the various companies now occupying the land known as Currumbin Bird Sanctuary and to conduct the various business activities upon the said land.

“The Summons has been served both on the Honourable the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads and on myself. On the Government’s legal advice, the Trust has no such power under the existing legislation, and it is proposed to argue the matter in the Court.

“I am advised that as the matter is now pending in the Court, it is not proper to make comments on the subject matter of dispute. Such comments, especially those emanating from a party to the dispute, could constitute contempt of Court (Halsbury’s Laws of England 3rd Edition page 8 paragraph 11).

“Moreover, in Parliamentary language, the matter is sub judice. In this regard, reference is made to May’s Parliamentary Practice 19th Edition at pages 333, 368 and 427. As the Crown is, in effect, a party to the proceedings which are pending, it is considered that it is not proper to make statements or answer questions on any issue raised by the proceedings.

“W. D. Lickiss

“Minister for Justice
and Attorney-General.”

PAPERS

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

Report of The Nominal Defendant (Queensland) for the year 1975-76.

The following papers were laid on the table:—

Proclamations under the Forestry Act 1959–1976.

Orders in Council under—

State and Regional Planning and Development, Public Works Organization and Environmental Control Act 1971–1974.

Racing and Betting Act 1954–1975.

The State Electricity Commission Acts, 1937 to 1965.

The Southern Electric Authority of Queensland Acts, 1952 to 1964.

The Northern Electric Authority of Queensland Acts, 1963 to 1964.

City of Brisbane Act 1924–1974.

Forestry Act 1959–1976.

Forestry Act 1959–1976 and the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1975.

Land Act 1962–1975.

Co-operative Housing Societies Act 1958–1974.

Regulations under—

The Electric Light and Power Acts, 1896 to 1967.

Local Government Act 1936–1976.

Reports—

Queensland National Fitness Council for Sport and Physical Recreation, for the year 1975-76.

Secretary, Queensland Law Society Incorporated, under the Legal Assistance Act 1965–1975.

PETITIONS

AMENDMENT OF LIQUOR ACT

Mr. FRAWLEY (Murrumba) presented two petitions from 120 electors of Queensland praying that the Parliament of Queensland will amend the Liquor Act so as to allow golf and bowls clubs to sell take-away bottled liquor to their members.

Petition read and received.

[A similar petition was presented by Mr. Byrne (626 signatories), and this petition was read and received.]

CO-OPERATIVE AND OTHER SOCIETIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL

INITIATION

Hon. W. D. LICKISS (Mt. Coot-tha—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General): I move—

“That the House will, at its present sitting, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider introducing a Bill to amend the Co-operative and Other Societies Act 1967–1974 in certain particulars and for another purpose.”

Motion agreed to.

DISTRICT COURTS' AND MAGISTRATES COURTS' JURISDICTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL

INITIATION

Hon. W. D. LICKISS (Mt. Coot-tha—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General): I move—

“That the House will, at its present sitting, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider introducing a Bill to amend the District Courts' and Magistrates Courts' Jurisdiction Act 1976 in certain particulars.”

Motion agreed to.

THE HONOURABLE JACK LAWRENCE KELLY ENABLING BILL

INITIATION

Hon. W. D. LICKISS (Mt. Coot-tha—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General): I seek leave to move the motion in an amended form.

(Leave granted.)

Mr. LICKISS: I move—

“That leave be given to introduce a Bill to authorise the Honourable Jack Lawrence Kelly, a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland, to accept take and perform the duties of the office of Judge Advocate General of the Army; and that so much of the Standing Orders relating to private Bills be suspended so as to enable the said Bill to be introduced and passed through all its stages as if it were a public Bill.”

Motion agreed to.

SUPREME COURT LIBRARY ACT AMENDMENT BILL

INITIATION

Hon. W. D. LICKISS (Mt. Coot-tha—Minister for Justice and Attorney-General): I move—

“That the House will, at its present sitting, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider introducing a Bill to amend the Supreme Court Library Act 1968–1973 in certain particulars.”

Motion agreed to.

QUESTIONS UPON NOTICE

I. MILK QUOTAS RECEIVED BY MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

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

In view of reports that members of the Liberal-Country Party Government in New South Wales received \$649,000 last financial year from milk quotas granted by their Government, will he list the names of any members or Ministers of this Parliament who were recipients of milk quotas and the amount each received from these quotas in each of the past three years?

Answer:—

The honourable member prefaced his question with the words, “In view of reports that members of the Liberal-Country Party Government in New South Wales received \$649,000 last financial year...” It has also been reported that a co-operative consisting of 20 dairy farmers, among whom was one Minister, received \$649,000. That represents about \$32,000 per dairy farmer.

I am informed by the secretary of the Brisbane Milk Board that a milk quota is held by the Honourable R. J. Hinze, Minister for Local Government and Main Roads. There are no records available to me to indicate his income from this source, nor would I disclose this information if there were.

I might add as a rider that Mr. Hinze was the owner of a milk quota for many years before coming to this House. He has made a big contribution to the dairy industry both at production and processing levels. He is held in very high regard by people in the dairy industry. He has also told me that the reason for his becoming so renowned for his flamboyant style of footwear is his ever-burning desire to make amends for the many years as a child when he could not afford boots and his feet were trodden on by cows. He has a burning desire to make up for that time.

2. COMMONWEALTH FUNDS FOR SEWERAGE WORKS

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

(1) Which Queensland local authorities will be adversely affected by the Commonwealth Liberal-National Country Party cut in funds for urgent sewerage works?

(2) How much did Queensland receive last year under this programme?

(3) What money will be made available this year?

(4) Which councils have already let contracts and committed themselves to expensive construction programmes in expectation of Commonwealth funds?

(5) How many men will face the sack and how many programmes will be cut back as a result of this Liberal-National Country Party rejection of the basic sewerage needs of Queenslanders?

Answers:—

(1) Local authorities significantly affected are Albert, Beaudesert, Brisbane, Bundaberg, Cairns, Gladstone, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Moreton, Redland and Townsville.

(2) Under the programme referred to as the national sewerage programme, Queensland received \$13,200,000 for works, and \$343,000 for sewerage support activities in 1975-76.

(3) Under the same programme, Queensland has been allocated \$1,000,000 this year for works. The amount for support activities has not yet been stated. However, additional funds were made available through normal Loan Council channels, and the over-all shortfall is to the order of \$3,000,000.

(4) Brisbane City Council is the only local authority in this category. Other local authorities have limited the size of contracts let to avoid the risk of over-commitment.

(5) I am unable to say that men "face the sack" because of the reduction in specific purpose grants from the Commonwealth for sewerage, or give precise information as to adjustments of sewerage programmes which may be necessitated thereby. More funds are urgently needed in Queensland for roads, for water supply and sewerage and other local government functions and I can assure the honourable member that I am making every endeavour to see that this State receives its fair share of funds from the Commonwealth so that we can press ahead with these functions and maintain employment.

3. LETTING OF HOUSING COMMISSION CONTRACTS, BUNDABERG

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

(1) Is he aware that the contractor who has the contract to build pensioner

units in Barolin Street, Bundaberg, has been rather tardy in getting on with the job?

(2) Because of this experience, will he make sure that, when future tenders for houses are being considered by the commission, local experienced contractors are given reasonable consideration, taking into account the operation of the commission in Bundaberg and the freight cost disability suffered by country contractors?

Answers:—

(1) Yes.

(2) Local contractors are advised when tenders are called, inviting them to tender. In 1975 and 1976 no local contractors tendered for either houses or pensioner units at Bundaberg. The commission cannot make them tender. If it were not for contractors other than local contractors prepared to tender in various towns throughout Queensland, the commission could not have met its programme. I fail to see where any builder local or otherwise has any freight advantage.

4. POLICE FOOT PATROLS

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

(1) In view of the commendatory reverision to foot patrols in the Brisbane City area, will he investigate the apparently prevalent practice of such patrols being undertaken by lone junior police officers?

(2) Notwithstanding the use of walkie-talkie radios, will he reduce the vulnerability of this procedure by ensuring that paired foot patrols become standard practice?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) No. There have been no reports of assaults on police officers performing foot patrol duty necessitating sick leave or hospitalisation. The police performing this duty have been achieving sound results in reducing cause for complaint in respect of street offences. The use of walkie-talkies by police performing foot patrols brings instant assistance where problems arise or are likely to arise. As the system is working satisfactorily in its present form, there appears to be no justification in altering it at this juncture.

5. STATE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, TOWNSVILLE

Mr. Ahern for **Mr. Aikens**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs—

As at the latest date for which figures are readily available, what area of land has been taken up by private industries in the State industrial estate at Townsville, how many people are employed there, what amount of capital has been invested and what is the approximate amount of wages and salaries paid there every week?

Answer:—

A total of 26.8 hectares on the Bohle Industrial Estate has been allocated to 15 applicants of whom 12 have already established manufacturing operations. Negotiations are proceeding for the lease of a further six hectares for a major industrial undertaking.

It is conservatively estimated some \$7,100,000 has been incurred by private industry in the establishment of factory buildings and installation of plant and equipment on the estate. Employment is currently being provided for no fewer than 220 persons, who are in receipt of wages and salaries of the order of \$40,000 per week.

The honourable member will no doubt be interested to know that the Department of Commercial and Industrial Development has expended an amount of \$736,990 on the acquisition and development of the Bohle Industrial Estate. Additionally, a State-owned factory building costing \$63,500 has been erected under the pioneer industry scheme. Approval has recently been granted for the extension of this building as well as the erection of a second Government-built factory at an estimated cost of \$160,000.

6. WIDENING OF HIGHWAY, RAILWAY ESTATE, TOWNSVILLE

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

Has finality been reached on the excellent proposal to continue the widened highway past Seventh Street, Railway Estate, through to the city, what amount of work will be involved with the Railway Department, such as overpasses, etc., and when will this section of the job be commenced?

Answer:—

Planning is proceeding for extensions north of Seventh Street with an overpass proposed over railway access to goods yards. Property acquisition is proceeding this financial year and work is planned to commence the following year subject to provision of adequate funds under new Commonwealth legislation.

7. PAINTING, "GERONIMO"

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

(1) Is he aware that a picture named "Geronimo" was awarded the valuable first prize by imported experts at the recent Townsville Pacific Festival and that the picture was painted by a teacher of "art" at the Townsville Technical College? If so, what is the "art" teacher's name and what salary is he paid by the Education Department?

(2) Is he aware that the picture contained a deliberately included obscenity which, when noticed, caused considerable consternation among decent people in Townsville, including mention in the local Press?

(3) Was this obscene picture purchased by the Festival Committee for presentation to the A.L.P.-controlled city council, which will hang it in the Civic Art Gallery when it is built?

(4) Is it proposed to allow the painter of this obscenity to remain in the employment of the Education Department and, if so, will he be allowed to let his coprological instincts run riot, as they did in the painting of "Geronimo", and will his students be confined to those approved or nominated by the A.L.P. branches in Townsville?

Answers:—

(1) A painting titled "Geronimo" was awarded first prize at the Townsville Pacific Festival. The judging was carried out by Mr. John Coburn, formerly head of the art school at the Sydney Technical College and one of Australia's most respected and talented artists. I might mention that he comes from my home town. I am assured that the painting was produced as a private venture outside the college premises and working hours. The painting was the work of Mr. D. W. Blackman, who is employed by the Department of Education as an instructor at the Townsville Technical College. Mr. Blackman's duties are to teach art subjects to post-secondary diploma students enrolled at the Townsville Technical College. His current salary is \$540.10 per fortnight.

(2) I am aware that the painting has been mentioned in the local newspapers and has provoked some debate. I personally have not seen the painting and, therefore, I am not in a position to make a judgment.

(3) I have no knowledge as to whether this painting was purchased, and if so, by whom.

(4) Mr. Blackman will remain in the employment of the Department of Education. He is employed to teach subjects within courses in art approved by the Director-General of Education. Students are enrolled in technical colleges to study and learn, and no account is taken of either their personal inclinations, or outside activities, nor is the enrolment of students confined to any particular section of the community at large.

8. HOUSING COMMISSION ACTIVITIES, BUNDABERG

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

(1) Further to his answer to my question on 1 September with reference to the construction of Housing Commission houses

in North Bundaberg, is the builder in financial difficulties and are wages owing to his employees?

(2) If so, what action is being taken to have the houses completed, as they are needed urgently?

(3) As this would be the third builder from another city in recent years who has been unable to carry out his contract, will he give more consideration to Bundaberg contractors for all future contracts from the Works and Housing Departments?

Answers:—

(1) Saturday's Press carried public notices indicating that the company may be in financial difficulties. On this particular house contract the commission has not received claims from subcontractors or employees.

(2) The honourable member will be aware that both the commission and the contractor have rights at law under the terms of the contract. The commission is keeping a close watch on this contract and if necessary will take every action to ensure the houses are completed for occupation as quickly as possible.

(3) Only one commission contractor has failed to complete a contract in Bundaberg in recent years. Every consideration must be given to all tenders submitted, whether from local contractors or not. When calling tenders, the commission writes to known contractors likely to be interested, inviting them to submit a tender. At times the commission has had to recall tenders because no tenders were received or because prices were unacceptable. Callings in 1975 and 1976 did not attract tenders from local contractors.

9. FORESTRY DEPARTMENT RETRENCHMENTS, YARRAMAN

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

(1) How many men have been retrenched from the Forestry Department at Yarraman?

(2) Is it true that the plantations are a disgrace, with lantana and other rubbish growing throughout as high as the forestry trees?

(3) How many men are now employed at Yarraman and, of these, how many are overseers or bosses?

Answers:—

(1) Twelve men were recently retrenched in the Yarraman Forestry District. One additional man recently left of his own accord and has not been replaced.

(2) No. The plantations generally are in a satisfactory condition. Lantana is a problem weed throughout much of moist coastal Queensland including some forestry plantations in the wetter parts of the Yarraman district.

Prolific growth of the weed has occurred over an increased area of these plantations in recent year following a series of favourable seasons, and this has necessitated a substantial programme of additional tending in this and other districts.

This programme has successfully contained the growth of the lantana within manageable limits and, apart from a few relatively small areas of generally low productivity, most plantations are now carrying only young seedling regrowth which will be controlled by further spray tending in the coming spring.

Regrowth of rainforest species is encouraged under established hoop pine plantations and these species are not normally removed in tending operations in older areas and assist in providing a more natural environment.

(3) Wages staff employed by the Department of Forestry in the Yarraman Forestry District total 218, including 28 overseers and one workshop supervisor.

10. KOLAN RIVER BRIDGE, YANDARAN

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

(1) When will work commence on the new high-level bridge over the Kolan River in the Yandaran area?

(2) When is it expected that the bridge will be completed?

Answers:—

(1) There has been no change to the construction programme of this bridge since my announcement at Bundaberg last March.

(2) Currently, bridge construction is planned to extend into the 1977-78 and 1978-79 financial years. Should additional Commonwealth funds be provided in coming years for roads in the rural arterial category, it should be possible to bring forward the completion date for bridge and approaches.

11. WORKERS' COMPENSATION PREMIUMS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

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

(1) Is he aware that charges under workers' compensation to small businesses in many cases have increased in 1976-77 by 500 per cent to 600 per cent above charges for 1975-76?

(2) Does he realise that this is yet another imposition placed on small businesses at a time when this section of our community requires every assistance and encouragement?

(3) As it is the policy of this Government to encourage private enterprise, which includes small businesses, will he, as a

matter of urgency, have this matter investigated and advise the members of this House what action can and will be taken to relieve these businesses of the excessive charges?

Answers:—

(1) Following a review of workers' compensation claims experience for the past three years, revised premium rates apply from 1 July 1976. The review was designed to adjust premiums for various classifications where this action was warranted, but the adjustments are not intended to result in any increase to total revenue. As a result of the review, 43 per cent of rates were reduced, 54 per cent were increased and 3 per cent were either unchanged or eliminated. A number of categories were grouped with related or like categories to achieve a broader base on which to stabilise future claims experience and premium rates. However, I am aware that in grouping categories some anomalies may have occurred. In particular, my attention has been drawn to substantially increased premiums applicable to pharmacies and at my instigation this matter is being investigated as a matter of urgency at the present time. As soon as this investigation is complete and I am in a position to do so, I will make a public announcement of the result.

(2) The variations to rates are not designed to increase revenues to the Workers' Compensation Fund.

(3) See answer to (1).

12. SCHOOL CROSSINGS

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

(1) Does he recall my many questions in the House to all Ministers in any way associated with the safety of children at school crossings?

(2) Does he realise that most of the answers given to these questions made reference to theoretical formulas that determine where pedestrian-controlled crossings should be installed?

(3) Is he aware that there have been at least eight children injured in some way at school crossings in the Wynnum area since I last asked questions on this matter?

(4) Has he ever had to speak to the parents of an injured child and expect them to believe that the safety of their children is being cared for under some theoretical formula?

(5) Will he again, as a matter of urgency, bring to the notice of the Lord Mayor the great need to have some immediate action on school crossings at both Manly West State School and Wondall Heights State School?

Mr. HINZE: I know that the honourable member for Wynnum must be becoming frustrated with the delays. Everybody in the House appreciates the terrific job that he is doing on behalf of his electorate.

Mr. Marginson: He will be beaten at the next election.

Mr. HINZE: That is wishful thinking on the part of the Labor Party. The honourable member for Wynnum is doing such a terrific job that there is no way in the world that the Labor Party could get him out even if it started now. I know that he has been trying to get these pedestrian crossings in order to ensure the safety of the children in his electorate. We are trying to help the honourable member, but we run into a brick wall when we get round to the City Hall. I am up against the A.L.P. crowd in the City Hall and I am encountering great difficulty. I now read my prepared answer.

Answers:—

(1) I recall previous questions on this subject.

(2) There are warrants for pedestrian crossings and pedestrian-actuated traffic signals laid down in the Queensland Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices. There are also particular warrants for pedestrian-actuated signals at school crossings, but marked crossings may be installed at any school irrespective of pedestrian or vehicular volumes where an undertaking is obtained that a patrol will supervise the crossing. Warrants for pedestrian-actuated signals are useful in setting priorities for the demands on the limited funds available.

(3) I am prepared to accept the figure stated by the honourable member.

(4) The continual road toll is certainly a matter of concern to all of us. The selection of traffic devices is given careful consideration for all situations and uniform application is designed to reduce this toll. The provision of school patrols is a part of the local community can perform in these preventative measures.

(5) Yes, I will bring this matter to the attention of the Lord Mayor, Alderman Frank Sleeman, again for any further action by his officers that may be seen to be necessary.

13. WORKERS' COMPENSATION PREMIUMS FOR PHARMACIES

Dr. Crawford, pursuant to notice, asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

(1) Is he aware of a new policy emanating from the S.G.I.O. with regard to compulsory workers' compensation insurance?

(2) In this context, has he been informed that pharmacies for 1976-77 are being assessed with butcher shops and the high risk retail outlets and that this

has resulted in individual pharmacies, whose managements have made no claim or minimal claims for years, being assessed at a rate of almost 500 per cent increase on the previous year?

(3) Will he ascertain why a free-enterprise service such as a pharmacy is so penalised?

Answers:—

(1) No.

(2) Pharmacies for 1976-77 have not been assessed in the same category as butcher shops as the latter are assessed as a separate category. I have indicated in my answer to a question earlier today that I am investigating the reason for the increase in premium rates for pharmacies and also that I expect to make known the result of this in the near future.

(3) See answer to (2).

14. S.G.I.O. BUILDING SOCIETY

Dr. Crawford, pursuant to notice, asked the Deputy Premier and Treasurer—

With regard to the S.G.I.O. Building Society now functioning in competition with free-enterprise societies after absorbing the Tasman Building Society and other societies—

(1) Is the structure of the S.G.I.O. Society still based on the \$45 million originally announced when the amalgamation occurred?

(2) Are trading details of cash flow yet available?

(3) As it would appear that the society has engaged in extensive advertising to attract business, are any figures available with regard to moneys so spent to date?

(4) What has been the fate of the employees of the previous building societies?

Answers:—

(1 to 3) I am not prepared to divulge the information sought. The S.G.I.O. Building Society is not a State Government instrumentality and release of information of the nature sought should be a matter for the discretion of the society's board. For the same reason, I would not disclose similar information about any other building society.

(4) As from the date of take-over of the five suspended building societies, that is, 12 May, the administrators of the societies continued to control their respective societies and acted as agents for the S.G.I.O. Building Society. I am advised that 97 persons were employed in such capacity by the administrators. The number of other persons employed by the administrators in their own capacity is not known.

The S.G.I.O. Building Society employs currently 50 persons previously employed by the administrators in their capacity as

agents for the S.G.I.O. Building Society. In addition, five further employees resigned and seven were offered positions with the S.G.I.O. Building Society but declined.

Staff are still employed by the administrators.

15. ALTERNATIVE UNION FOR TEACHERS

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

(1) Is he aware that many teachers have contacted me regarding the stand the Teachers' Union has taken on pot-smoking teachers and that they are concerned that this action will break down some of the high respect built up over 100 years of tradition?

(2) Is he aware that many teachers wish to have an alternative union which is not Left-wing and is not under the influence of Left-wing policies?

(3) Is he aware that several attempts have been made within the Labor Party to make pot and other drugs legal?

(4) Will he give an assurance that the strong stand taken by this Government on pot-smoking teachers will be retained and advise this House how another union could be set up as an alternative union for those teachers who do not support Left-wing Labor policies?

(5) Is there an existing alternative union that teachers could join?

Answers:—

(1) Yes, and as the responsible Minister I am most concerned that the loss of prestige by the teaching profession will affect the attitudes of both parents and pupils to schools.

(2) Many teachers have expressed such opinions to me. I appeal to them to become more active in the affairs of their union.

(3) Yes.

(4) I have repeatedly given that assurance, as has the Premier. I would much prefer having teachers whose views differ from those of the president and his followers work within the union for a return to sanity.

(5) No, though other unions could seek to change their rules to allow State school teachers to join.

16. TRAFFIC HAZARDS TO SCHOOL-CHILDREN, SOUTH STREET, TOOWOOMBA

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

(1) Is he aware of the extreme danger to school-children at the Harristown Primary School, the Harristown High School and Concordia College, created by heavy traffic in South Street, Toowoomba?

(2) As no proper provisions have been made for the school-children's safety in South Street and as there are many hundreds of school-children involved in close proximity to these three schools, will he take action to have this situation investigated with a view to having lights installed or providing some system of off-street pick-up parking?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) I will have this matter investigated and advise the honourable member of the result.

17. PRE-SCHOOL, RANGEVILLE

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

(1) Is he aware that a new pre-school is to be built adjoining an already existing kindergarten at Rangeville Primary School?

(2) Is he aware also that the building of this pre-school could, owing to its proximity to the kindergarten, curtail its operation so drastically that it may have to close?

(3) What is the Education Department's policy under these circumstances?

Answers:—

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes, but I would not agree that this siting will necessarily have an adverse effect upon the existing kindergarten. Pre-schools have been established in close proximity to kindergartens in other areas without major problems. Indeed, in two cases pre-schools and kindergartens actually share the same building—to the advantage of both.

(3) It is the earnest intention of my department to ensure that kindergartens retain their viability, and that both kindergartens and pre-schools operate in harmony, not in competition. I would cordially invite the Rangeville Kindergarten Association to discuss the matter further with either me or officers of my department.

18. CLOSURE OF ITHACA FIRE STATION

Mr. Ahern for **Mr. Young**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs—

(1) As he is fully aware of the situation regarding the proposed closure of the Ithaca Fire Station and the concern shown by a large number of my constituents, as a result of my representations over the past 18 months, what is the present position of negotiations?

(2) When will the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board reach a decision?

(3) Is the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board fully aware of the justified concern of the local residents in this matter?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board has made no decision to close the Ithaca Fire Station nor is it at present contemplating any such decision.

19. HEALTH HAZARD, CRAYONS

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

(1) Is he aware of a report in "The Courier-Mail" of 2 September concerning a health hazard in regard to crayons that were available at the recent Royal National Show and that are alleged to contain a quantity of lead exceeding the recommended level?

(2) Are these crayons actually a health hazard and, if so, what action can the Health Department take to ensure that parents are fully aware of the situation?

(3) As these particular crayons were distributed at the Royal National Show, is there any way in which they may be distributed through other sources in the community?

(4) Is there any likelihood that these crayons could turn up at child-care centres or kindergartens?

Answers:—

(1) Yes.

(2) The Government Analyst's report reveals that there is a certain amount of lead in each of the crayons. I am advised that if a child were to eat a whole packet of the crayons he would not consume sufficient lead to produce acute lead-poisoning. Continued use of such crayons could present a health hazard. Parents should dispose of any crayons obtained in this way by crushing them to powder and then flushing them in the toilet, or burning or burying them.

(3) Whilst all the crayons which were available for the Show were distributed in that way, the department is analysing other crayons on the market which have been made in Taiwan.

(4) Officers have checked 18 kindergartens or child-care centres and failed to find any crayons of the brand in question.

20. DRIVING LICENCE ISSUING CENTRE FOR DARRA

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

(1) With reference to my representations to him in July last for a drivers' licence issuing office to be established in Darra or an adjacent suburb for the convenience of persons requiring renewal of a licence, is my request still under consideration?

(2) When is it likely that a decision will be made with respect to my representations?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) The matter is currently the subject of consideration.

21. OPEN-CUT COAL-MINING, BUNDAMBA AND EBBW VALE

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

(1) With reference to my representations to him during the last few months on behalf of residents in the suburbs of Bundamba and Ebbw Vale regarding certain open-cut coal-mining operations near their homes, and particularly my letter to him of 13 August last, is the land in question freehold land owned by the mining company concerned?

(2) As I have recently received further written complaints from 48 residents in this area regarding the dust nuisance created by the workings, the excessive noise of explosions, etc., and the damage to their properties and to their general environment, will he indicate whether his departmental officers can assist these residents by reducing the dust and noise problems and eliminating completely damage to their properties?

Answers:—

(1) The land in question is freehold land owned by Rylance Collieries and Brickworks Pty. Ltd., which is the mining company concerned.

(2) I am aware of complaints from residents adjacent to this mining operation. Inspectors have kept the area under frequent surveillance and will continue to do so. With the co-operation of the company, dust and noise are being kept to reasonable levels. Inspectors have monitored blasting with the assistance of university equipment and personnel and displacements have been found to be within the acceptable Australian standards. If any claim of structural damage is proven, blasting will be prohibited. Upon completion of mining, the area is to be rehabilitated.

22. OVERSEAS TRIPS BY CABINET MINISTERS

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

(1) How many Cabinet Ministers of this State travelled overseas during the recess between April this year and the commencement of this session of Parliament?

(2) Who were they and what countries did they visit?

(3) What was the total number of persons involved in these overseas trips and what was the total cost?

(4) If the total cost is not yet available, will he provide this information when it is available?

Answer:—

(1 to 4) Seven Ministers travelled overseas at some time during the recent parliamentary recess.

In providing this information, I would point out that where my Ministers find it necessary to undertake overseas visits for the benefit of this State, I expect them to arrange their absence from Queensland at this particular time of the year when Parliament is not in session. Of course, I can appreciate that there are occasions of urgency when this arrangement cannot apply.

I do not propose to take up the time of this House in providing detailed itineraries, just as I do not propose to spend time giving details of the places and countries visited by the honourable member when he travelled overseas recently at public expense.

23. "THE HEARTBEAT CENTRE OF MILTON"

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

With reference to an organisation known as "The Heartbeat Centre of Milton", which advertises extensively on the radio as carrying out some apparently paramedical role in giving advice on health, is he aware if properly qualified professional persons are employed at this centre and, if so, is any breach of ethics involved?

Answer:—

The director of the centre and one of his assistants hold the qualification of Bachelor of Human Movement Studies awarded by the University of Queensland and associated diplomas which qualify them to assess physical fitness.

I am of the opinion that they have chosen a very unfortunate name for their centre.

I am advised that the Director of the National Heart Foundation has already had discussions with the director of the centre and he has given an assurance that they will work within guide-lines laid down by the foundation.

I am referring the matter to the Medical Board of Queensland to determine whether or not the Medical Act is being breached.

24. LEGALISATION OF PROSTITUTION

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

(1) Did he see reports in the Press of 31 August indicating that the Australian Labor Party in Western Australia has decided to legalise prostitution in that State should it ever be elected to Government?

(2) Will he give an assurance that his Government will not consider such action in this State, which would not only be in

conflict with an International Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others to which the Commonwealth Government adheres, but would lead to the degradation of womanhood?

Answers:—

(1) Yes, I saw the Press reports where the A.L.P. in Western Australia supported prostitution and, of course, this is also the policy of the A.L.P. in Queensland. It appears that the A.L.P. in Western Australia have not learned from the experience of their Federal colleagues. I firmly believe that among the several major reasons for the complete and utter rejection of the Whitlam Government by the people of Australia was its sickening adoption of all the humanist and secular philosophies which see prostitution, sexual perversion and the corruption of the innocent as quite acceptable methods of improving society and uplifting the mind of man.

(2) It has always been my Government's publicly stated policy that it wholeheartedly supports the principles of the United Nations International Convention for the Suppression of Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. We will continue this policy.

25. INTEREST ON HOUSING COMMISSION PURCHASE HOMES

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

(1) In view of his recent initiatives which give low-income and moderate-income tenants of the Housing Commission as much opportunity as possible to acquire their own homes, what interest will the Government be charging and how does this interest compare with the interest presently being charged by banks and other lending agencies?

(2) What savings in interest repayments on a maximum \$25,000 loan would accrue to tenants over a 30-year repayment period, compared with repayments on a similar bank loan?

(3) In view of the enormous interest shown in this Government initiative by many of my constituents, will he give consideration to the formation of a special section to handle inquiries from those interested, as I understand that many recent inquiries, because of the volume of such inquiries, have been handled unsatisfactorily?

Mr. LEE: I thank the honourable member for asking this question. My answer will certainly indicate how much this Government is doing for the people of Queensland.

Answers:—

(1) On 1973-74 agreement houses, 5½ per cent; on others, 7½ per cent.

Some examples of other lender rates are—Savings banks, 9.25 per cent up to \$12,500; 10.25 per cent over \$12,500. Building societies 11½ per cent.

(2) Exact savings over 30 years are conjecture, as commission interest is fixed for the life of the contract; other lenders' rates vary from time to time upwards, particularly since the Whitlam Government mismanaged the economy. However, as an example, interest and redemption payment over 30 years at 7½ per cent on \$25,000 is \$62,928. If repaid at a constant 11½ per cent the figure is \$90,847 with both loans on monthly rests. The difference is \$27,919. Against 10.25 per cent on monthly rests, the saving is \$17,721.

(3) A special inquiry section set up for the first period after my announcement was inundated for about 10 days, although few people had to wait for more than a few minutes. With a drop-off after the initial rush, volume is now handled comfortably. Main customer dissatisfaction is now among potential clients who seek to purchase a house over the counter, but find there is a waiting period because of demand, or from those who misinterpreted my statement that minimum deposit would be \$200. Some assumed it was the total deposit. Purchasers must still find cash for any amount over \$25,000, should the price be higher.

The main purpose of my decision was to make it easier for tenants of existing houses to buy them. They must have the capacity to service the loan, and I mention that \$25,000 over 30 years at 7½ per cent requires monthly repayments of about \$175. The home-ownership branch and sales section of the commission exist to deal with sales, and will be specially reinforced to cope with the current situation.

26. CORNELL UNIVERSITY GRADUATES ON TEACHER-TRAINING STAFFS; TRAINING IN RESUSCITATION

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

(1) With regard to the training of teachers for our Queensland schools, how many graduates of Cornell University (U.S.A.) are on the teacher-training staff of each of our colleges of advanced education?

(2) In view of the high incidence of drownings amongst young Queensland children, what training in modern resuscitation techniques is given to trainee teachers and trainee kindergarten pre-school teachers and by whom?

Answers:—

(1) As I pointed out in my reply to the honourable member on 1 September, it is an over-simplification to refer to

graduates of a particular university, since staff of tertiary education institutions typically hold degrees from more than one university. Details of the academic qualifications held by staff in colleges of advanced education are, moreover, publicly available in the handbooks published by the college authorities.

My understanding of the position is that only one academic staff member in a Queensland college of advanced education is a graduate exclusively of Cornell University. To my knowledge, the director and one other staff member at the Kelvin Grove College of Advanced Education also have post-graduate degrees, and one staff member of Capricornia Institute of Advanced Education has an undergraduate degree, from Cornell.

(2) While I am concerned as a citizen about every drowning of a young child, I remind the honourable member that it is rare indeed for such incidents to occur while children are in the charge of a teacher. Drownings of young children usually occur at times and under circumstances unconnected with schools and their teachers.

All students preparing to be physical education teachers are required to gain a life-saving award and a first-aid certificate as a compulsory part of their course. Attention is given to resuscitation techniques in each of these aspects of the courses. Those preparing to be pre-school or primary school teachers undertake an abbreviated first-aid course which includes resuscitation techniques. Qualified staff are employed for these purposes by each of the colleges involved in teacher education.

27. PURCHASE OF LAND NEAR BURKETOWN BY SOUTH AMERICANS

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

(1) Did a father and two sons from a South American country recently purchase land to the south of Burketown in North Queensland, as reported in the Press recently?

(2) If so, what are the names of the people concerned and what area of land have they purchased?

(3) What was the price paid for the land?

(4) Are the members of this family proposing to become naturalised citizens of this State and, if so, when?

(5) In view of recent proposals concerning the total abolition of death duties in spite of the enormity of an estate, will he give an assurance to the silent majority of Queenslanders that Queensland will not end up being totally owned by millionaires living in some remote "Banana Republic"?

Answer:—

(1 to 5) A transfer of Cargoon Pastoral Holding comprising 791.76 sq. km from Cargoon Pty. Limited to Tasa Pty. Limited has been lodged in the department. Tasa Pty. Limited is a company incorporated in New South Wales and its directors are Sebastiano Ferrera Maia, Antonio Tubajara Dalenogari and Vilmar Alues De Paula.

I am also aware that Mr. S. F. Maia is the principal of a company known as Taub Pty. Ltd., which proposes to acquire the shares in Lawn Hill Pty. Limited, the registered lessee company of Lawn Hill Pastoral Development Holding, comprising 6 925 sq. km.

It is not usual to disclose the transfer purchase price of leasehold land, although provision does exist in the Land Regulations for any person to obtain a copy of a transfer document.

I do not know whether Mr. Maia intends to become a naturalised citizen.

As already publicly stated by me, Lawn Hill is the subject of a new lease, conditions of which provide for the expenditure of \$1,000,000 within 10 years on fencing, water facilities and structural improvements.

The transaction also involves expired Turn Off Lagoons Pastoral Holding and a 30-year special lease for grazing purposes to be run in conjunction with Lawn Hill.

I again state and emphasise that Mr. Maia will hold an interest in a lease of the lands mentioned above but the State will retain ownership and statutory re-emption rights without the requirement of paying compensation for the land.

I welcome this major investment by a Brazilian cattle property and meatworks operator as an indication of his faith in the recovery of the beef export industry, particularly to America. His declared confidence in the prospects of cattle-breeding and fattening in this State, free from foot and mouth disease problems of his own country, will give a timely boost to the morale of the cattle industry.

28. ELECTRIC BLANKETS

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

(1) Has his department investigated newspaper reports attributed to the Australian Consumers' Association that 11 out of 28 double-bed blankets failed a basic electrical safety test and that two of the most expensive blankets tested were found to be potential fire risks?

(2) Are all brands of electric blankets sold in Queensland subjected to Government tests?

(3) Are any of the blankets mentioned by A.C.A. sold in Queensland and, if so, what action has been taken to protect the public?

Answer:—

(1 to 3) As none of these matters come within the ambit of my portfolio, the question should be directed to another Minister.

29. JULIA CREEK OIL-SHALE PROJECT

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

(1) Will the announced withdrawal of the French-controlled Aquitaine Group on 30 December 1975 adversely affect the promised development of the Julia Creek oil-shale project?

(2) What is the current progress and when will production begin?

Answers:—

(1) No; the other partners are continuing with their investigation.

(2) These feasibility studies are continuing. A decision to commence production depends on establishing the commercial viability of the project.

30. QUEENSLAND MUSEUM STORAGE

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

In view of continued reports of lack of space, which has resulted in valuable collections of the Queensland Museum being damaged or being stored in completely irretrievable fashion, what steps have been taken to provide proper storage furniture and space to protect the State's valuable collections?

Answer:—

Space for storage of museum reference collections has increased considerably this year through use of the old art gallery portion of the building by the board. Heavy-duty storage furniture has been provided for part of this space, while transfer of some staff and collections has already alleviated the cramped conditions in the main building.

However, only the early completion of the new museum in the cultural complex, with controlled atmosphere and adequate provision for museum and other departments' collections, will provide the long-term solution to the storage problems.

31. CALLIDE VALLEY IRRIGATION

Mr. Hartwig, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Water Resources—

(1) What is the anticipated finishing date of Stage 2 of the Callide Dam?

(2) When will the flood gates be placed on the dam and what is the estimated cost?

(3) What is the situation regarding metering of irrigation bores in the Callide Valley and will bores above the reticulated intake of Kroombit and Kariboe Creeks be metered?

Answers:—

(1) Because of the continuing inflation and limitations on likely fund availability in the 1976-77 financial year it will now not be possible to complete construction of the channel from Callide Dam across to Kariboe Creek before the second half of 1977. By 30 June 1977 the channel will be completed to beyond Kroombit Creek and some recharge could be undertaken in this waterway.

(2) Consequent upon advice of a reduction in water demand by the Callide Power Station and following the installation of the temporary crest-raising on Callide Dam, most of the water requirements for recharge are available without the need to install the crest gates on the dam. Accordingly installation of the gates has been deferred but will be regularly reconsidered in the light of available funds and needs for water from Callide Dam. As at 30 June 1976 the estimated cost of installing the gates was \$3,300,000.

(3) It had been intended to commence installation of the meters in the current financial year, but, as funds available for the project will not permit completion of channel by 30 June 1977, such installations will now be deferred. It is proposed that bores above the reticulated intakes into Kroombit and Kariboe Creeks be metered so that data on actual use in these areas are available. No charges will, however, be raised in respect of bores in those regions where there is no benefit from recharge work.

32. IMPORTS OF NEW ZEALAND BEEF

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

As the Queensland Beef Committee has evolved a minimum reserve price scheme which we trust will be endorsed by the Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industry and other States at a figure hopefully of not less than 30c per lb., what protection will our beef producers have against importation of New Zealand beef should the New Zealand product be marketed here at a price below our floor-price scheme?

Answer:—

I feel that the honourable member's concern about importation of beef from New Zealand is misplaced. It should be appreciated that New Zealand already operates a minimum price scheme for beef, and it is

highly unlikely that New Zealand would be able to land beef in Australia at prices competitive with Australian products.

Any question of the imposition of trade barriers against New Zealand meat would be a matter for the Commonwealth Government. However, I believe that such action would be highly unlikely and undesirable as it would contravene the New Zealand and Australia Free Trade Agreement.

If at any time in the future it did appear that New Zealand meat was a threat to the Australian industry I feel confident that, because of the close relationship which exists between Australia and New Zealand, negotiations could be carried out to arrive at a mutually satisfactory solution.

33. ROYAL COMMISSION INTO BEEF INDUSTRY

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

Will he request the Australian Agricultural Council for a royal commission to be instituted by the Commonwealth Minister for Primary Industry and to be set up as a save-and-rescue exercise for the beef industry, debt reconstruction and land usage?

Answer:—

I cannot agree with the honourable member's suggestion to press for the establishment of a Federal royal commission to look into various save-and-rescue exercises for the rural sector. In relation to the suggestion that all aspects of beef marketing be investigated, I would remind the honourable member of the considerable amount of constructive work which has been undertaken by my beef committee. I would point out also that the supply and demand for credit, and the administration of credit facilities, is a complex business which is being effectively managed by existing institutions. I would agree with the honourable member that there are some deficiencies in the area of rural finance. However, these can be looked at, under existing arrangements, at both State and Federal levels.

34. CAMP WAGONS BUILT AT TOWNSVILLE RAILWAY WORKSHOP

Mr. Ahern for **Dr. Scott-Young**, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Transport—

How many modern camp wagons for railway workers were constructed and completed in the Townsville Railway Workshop in each of the years 1972-73 to 1975-76?

Answer:—

1972-73	5
1973-74	6
1974-75	8
1975-76	13

In addition 13 older type camp wagons have been remodelled and upgraded.

35. BOYS TO ATTEND MOTHERCRAFT COURSE

Mrs. Kyburz, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities—

(1) Is he aware that a few enlightened parents and citizens' associations in high schools wish to allow male grade 8 pupils to avail themselves of the mothercraft course?

(2) Will his department consider allowing boys to attend this course if they so wish?

(3) Will he consider changing the name of the course to parentcraft, a name which signifies that boys, too, become parents.

Answers:—

(1) Officers of my department have no knowledge of any approach from parents and citizens' associations to have the mothercraft course available to male grade 8 students. In any case, the course is conducted at grade 9 level in State high schools.

(2) No objection would be made to any boy wishing to attend a course in mothercraft. This would be a matter for determination by the principal, the parent of the boy and the Maternal and Child Welfare Section of the Health Department, which section is responsible for the syllabus and implementation of the course.

(3) This would be a matter for discussion between the Health Department and my department.

36. GREYHOUNDS, ALBERT SHIRE

Mrs. Kyburz, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads—

(1) Is he aware that the Albert Shire Council is discriminating against dog owners by making special allowances for greyhound owners, in that residents are allowed two dogs as pets but greyhound owners are allowed to keep four greyhounds in land zoned as Residential A?

(2) What profit does the Albert Shire Council make from greyhound owners and greyhound tracks within its area?

Answers:—

(1) No. However, the honourable member may be referring to a by-law proposed to be made by the Albert Shire Council on the subject of animals and dogs, which limits to two the number of dogs that may be kept on any land, except in a licensed kennel. The draft by-law as submitted to the Director of Local Government for review, and as subsequently advertised by the council, did not include any provision that four dogs may be kept by greyhound owners.

I understand that the Greyhound Owners Association has made such a request to the council in an objection to the proposed by-law and the objection has yet to be considered by the council. In due course, the Albert Shire Council will be submitting the proposed by-law, the objections received and its representations thereon to me for consideration.

The proposed by-law has no force and effect until it is approved by the Governor in Council and published in the Queensland Government Gazette.

(2) Nil.

37. QUEENSLAND POLICE FORCE
DOCUMENTARY FILM

Mr. K. J. Hooper, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Police—

(1) Was the Government photographer commissioned to produce a documentary on the Queensland Police Force, using expensive Panavision film?

(2) If so, how much did this documentary cost?

(3) Was this documentary put out to tender?

(4) When is it proposed to exhibit the film?

Answers:—

(1) The Government cinematographer was commissioned to produce an education and information film on the Queensland Police Force to be shown at theatres.

(2) The film is in the process of production and costs are not available at this time.

(3) No.

(4) When the film is completed and edited.

38. QUEENSLAND PERMANENT BUILDING
SOCIETY

Mr. K. J. Hooper, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

(1) Has his attention been drawn to the qualification of the auditor's report of the Queensland Permanent Building Society for the year ended 30 June 1976 and, if so, what action has been taken?

(2) If not, will he assure the House that an investigation will be instituted?

Answers:—

(1) The audit of accounts of Queensland Permanent Building Society for the year ended 30 June 1976 has not, as yet, been completed and the appointed auditors will not be required to furnish to the Registrar of Building Societies their report and the accounts of the society audited by them until the expiration of seven days after furnishing that society with their report.

(2) Any qualified audit report of any registered society will be thoroughly examined and investigated by inspectors from the office of the Registrar of Building Societies.

39. UNITED SAVINGS PERMANENT BUILDING
SOCIETY

Mr. K. J. Hooper, pursuant to notice, asked the Minister for Works and Housing—

(1) With reference to my question of 11 September 1975 concerning the loss in the operations of United Savings Permanent Building Society in 1973-74 and his reply that the Office of the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs could not substantiate that a loss had in fact occurred, were not the auditors required under the Building Society Act to lodge with the Commissioner for Corporate Affairs a profit and loss account?

(2) Did the profit and loss account show total income of \$350,596 less expenses of \$239,885, interest paid to depositors \$11,083, dividends paid to investors \$241,283 and a nett loss of \$141,655?

(3) Who were the auditors for this society from 1 July 1974 to 16 January 1975, the date the society merged with another building society?

Answers:—

(1) Prior to the commencement of the Building Societies Act Amendment Act 1976, auditors of building societies were not required to furnish a profit and loss account of the society audited by them. It is only since this amendment that auditors have a statutory duty to furnish, attached to their audit report, a copy of the accounts examined by them.

(2) The United Savings Permanent Building Society furnished their annual statements of account for the year ended 30 June 1974 in the office of the Registrar of Building Societies on 4 November 1975. These accounts contain the amounts quoted by the honourable member except that the amount of \$141,655 was offset by a carried forward profit of \$867 from the previous financial year and a transfer against the society's assets revaluation reserve account for the remainder, leaving a balance in that account of \$218,187.

The honourable member will be aware that amendments to the Building Societies Act provided that it shall not be lawful for a society to use for any purpose an amount shown in an asset revaluation reserve account unless the amount has been actually realised through the sale or disposal of those assets. Prior to this amendment and based on opinions available to the Registrar of Building Societies, there appeared to be nothing in the Building Societies Act or indeed in general law which prevented or made improper or

questionable the payment of dividends or interest on shares or deposits other than from profits by a building society.

(3) Arthur Young and Company, chartered accountants, were auditors appointed by the society at the annual general meeting held on 28 March 1974 and in accordance with the rules of the society held office until the next annual general meeting. The next subsequent meeting of the society was held on 16 January 1975. In addition, the Registrar of Building Societies appointed members of a firm of chartered accountants to undertake a special audit of this society for the period in question.

At 12 noon,

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

ADDRESS IN REPLY

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE— THIRD AND FOURTH ALLOTTED DAYS

Debate resumed from 2 September (see p. 212) on Mr. Brown's motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply.

Mr. MULLER (Fassifern) (12 noon): I wish to renew my pledge of loyalty to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and to associate with it the residents of the electorate of Fassifern. I also wish to pay a tribute to Sir Colin Hannah and Lady Hannah, who have continued to carry out all of their duties in a most dignified and capable manner. Without doubt their efforts have been appreciated by the people of Queensland.

At this stage I also wish to congratulate sincerely the mover and seconder of the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. I am sure the mover will agree with me when I say that making one's first speech in Parliament is a great strain. I listened very attentively to the speech made by the mover and I was quite impressed. I feel quite certain that members of this Assembly will agree that he will be a most effective member. I congratulate him and trust that he will be successful in whatever activities he pursues in the future.

The seconder of the motion has been here a little longer than the mover but he, I imagine, will also agree that there is some emotionalism associated with the seconding of this motion. We return to the House after each recess not knowing quite what is ahead of us and there is also a strain on the seconder of this motion. I listened with attention to the comments made by both the mover and seconder and I found them to contain quite a lot of meat. I am quite certain that if we undertook to carry out the things recommended by them, they would be beyond doubt in the interests of the people of Queensland. I give my congratulations also to the seconder of the motion.

As one moves throughout this State, one becomes conscious of great unrest. One looks for the key to the problem and in doing so one must ascertain where the problem really lies. I have arrived at one clear-cut answer. There are only two issues that really worry us, the first being inflation and the second being industrial unrest. Those two problems, as I assess them, are intertwined; if we can overcome one, we will solve the other.

The overcoming of the industrial problem will require a very great amount of expertise. I feel that in these circumstances each member has an obligation to be ruthless, because without question we are dealing with radicals. These are people who obviously have not considered the difficulties that exist throughout the State. If they have considered them, they have assessed them wrongly. Until some influence can be brought to bear on these people, I am afraid that this State, and indeed the whole nation, is heading for a great deal of trouble.

As one reads newspapers and watches television, almost daily one finds that there are chaotic conditions right throughout the world. There is great industrial unrest. This, in my opinion, is brought about by the radical element that sooner or later will have to be disciplined and contained. It may be necessary to use some rather harsh methods, but if they are required I would support such an approach.

Everywhere there are people who feel that they have a right to encroach upon the freedom of others. As recently as three or four weeks ago we became aware that persons who were perhaps motivated by university ideals, but who were not necessarily students at the university, decided to parade in the streets like screaming hyenas and inflict their ideas on innocent people. We found that when the police reprimanded them, and I congratulate them for so doing, the first thing that happened was that certain members of the public suggested that we should have an inquiry into the Police Force. I think this is nonsense and is something that needs to be corrected. Somewhere, somehow we have to get the message across to the people of Queensland that we are dealing with a minority group who are not working in the interests of the people in this State and that their activities must be brought under control.

I mentioned earlier that we have this problem of inflation. As I said, a lot of this is due to industrial unrest caused by radicals. I have said in this House previously that the only true asset a nation possesses is the applied skill of its workforce. I have said that on several occasions and I feel obliged to say it again. But there are so many people today who are not applying themselves to their work, and as a result of this we find that the cost of goods has risen to an exorbitant level, with the result that we are non-competitive not only in the home-consumption market but in the export market.

You may wonder, Mr. Deputy Speaker, why I am pushing this issue in the debate on the Address in Reply, but I feel that it is the key to the problem. Everywhere we look we find that people are making special demands on Government. They desire increased amenities in the form of education facilities such as schools and universities, and assistance for transport in the form of better roads, railways and so on, all of which costs money. The key to this is our industries, which of course must be in a position to provide the finance which Governments need to make available the amenities for which people ask.

One day last week I listened with interest to a member of the Opposition who said that it was absolutely vital that we build up our public sector. We have to maintain a balance here and we must get our priorities in order. There is no possible hope of building up the private sector unless our industries are capable of providing the revenue required to do so. It is the old story of the chicken and the egg. After all, the public sector might create things in the community, but it does not create very much money which will flow back to the Commonwealth Treasury.

The only prospect of getting this flow-back is through our industries, and they have been in the doldrums for a number of years owing to the present inflationary trends and the lack of competitiveness of our workforce, which is preventing us from building up to a standard where we might again become competitive. This is where our difficulty lies. Many people mistake the eddy for the tide, and the sooner they get their thoughts straightened out and their priorities in order, the sooner this country can anticipate a return to prosperity.

When speaking about industrial unrest, I am very concerned about some of the reports I have received in the past week or so, one of which was from one of my constituents. He saw fit to appear at his place of work on the day of the Medibank strike.

Mr. Lindsay: That was the day Tom Burns had the day off.

Mr. MULLER: That could well be so. As a result of his appearance at work, this constituent of mine was informed on the following morning that he would not be permitted to work in his normal capacity. When I say "in his normal capacity", perhaps I should clarify that. He is the owner-operator of a fleet of trucks, and he had been transporting containerised meat from Dinmore to the wharves.

Initially, there was a refusal to unload his vehicle when he reached the wharves. However, someone realised the political implications of not unloading a container in which there was a perishable product, and after a great deal of argument and the making of threats—in fact, people foolishly began suggesting that they would take physical action

on the spot against the person concerned; that was the type of situation that developed—the people on the wharves finally said, "All right, we will unload your vehicle" and got rid of him.

A few days later they decided to undertake a similar type of exercise, but this time in reverse. They loaded his vehicle with the empty containers that he required and sent him to his destination. When he arrived there, there was a refusal to unload them. The situation was that the owner-driver of a vehicle carrying heavy steel containers was not permitted to unload them. That is the sort of humbug that one sees today.

An endeavour must be made to tidy up the existing industrial legislation. Last year, when the Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs introduced legislation in this Chamber, I thought that there might be some merit in it and that it might provide some means of curbing the activities of people who were not working in the interests of the community. I say here and now that I am disappointed and that the legislation then introduced is not worth a crumplet; in fact, it would not matter if it had never been printed.

We must go beyond this, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and the Federal Government also has a responsibility. Legislation of a uniform type must be introduced under which it is possible to control the activities of the irrational radicals who will, if given the opportunity, lead the country into difficulties. The sooner someone in the Federal Government grasps the nettle and does something about situations such as the one to which I referred earlier, the sooner it will be entitled to the approbation of the people generally. Unless someone does that, it will fail dismally. There is a minority of radicals in Australia today, and the sooner action is taken to contain them, the sooner positive results will be achieved.

Having spoken about the industrial problems, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I turn to several other matters. As a primary producer and a member of the Minister's primary industries committee, I am deeply concerned about some of the difficulties that exist throughout primary industries. Although some industries are reasonably buoyant economically, others are having a very difficult time, and I should like to refer specifically to some of the problems now existing in the beef industry.

All I wish to say at this stage—and I must keep my remarks brief—is that members of the Minister's committee are charged with the responsibility of finding a market outlet for an enormous surplus of a product when world markets for that product are depressed. That has been the assignment of members of the committee. We have had some difficulties, and I foreshadow that there will be more difficulties ahead. However, we are looking at these matters very seriously,

and I hope that, as a result of recent deliberations, we may be able to put forward a suggestion that will be of practical assistance in the near future.

I am firmly convinced that there is only one immediate way of providing any worthwhile assistance to primary producers—through devaluation of Australia's currency. I noticed in the Press this morning a report that a member of the former Federal Labor Government had referred to devaluation, but I have had that idea for quite some time. Let me say quite frankly to members of this Assembly that I think the stage has been reached where the unions have fooled us about and made mugs of us. That is sad but true. They are sabotaging the interests of the nation, and wages are now so high that industry cannot pay them and remain competitive.

There is only one solution in such circumstances. It would be psychologically unacceptable and impossible to reduce the amount of money paid to the work-force. Let us be fair and honest about it; none of us would want that sort of reduction. So let the amount of money paid remain as it is, but let us devalue it. One could talk for hours about the benefits that would be derived from such action. The whole thing should be analysed in detail to ascertain just how it would apply. It would be very beneficial to primary industry. It could be applied almost immediately if the Government desired to do so.

I am glad to see that the honourable member for Cook is in the Chamber. We have to take a long look at the Aboriginal problem. I could be charged with being a racist, but I am not that. However, I am concerned about the waste of money in this field. Not all Aborigines are unfortunate, but a number of them are. We seem to believe that the solution to the problem lies in acquiring large areas of land in an outback, isolated locality and saying to these people, "There you are. See how wonderful we have been. We want you to live on that land." It has been costing us a fortune. I believe in equity and equality. If the Aboriginal people had the opportunity to move freely throughout the civilised parts of the State, they could enjoy equal rights to education and to earning money. In that way they could live in a dignified manner, and would be much happier. The allocation of enormous sums of money to send those people out into the bush where they are expected to effectively fill a place in society is just not good enough. It does not work. We appear to have the foolish idea that if we put our hands in our pockets every so often and give them some money, then we have met our commitments. It does nothing for those people at all. It is like yesterday's breakfast—after it is consumed that is the end of it, and tomorrow is another day. We are not solving the problem that way. We have to do something positive for those

people. As a result of what is being done we are getting antagonism from many white people who are contributing to coloured persons in a way which they see as favouring them.

I had a report a fortnight ago from Eight Mile Plains. A taxi transports a nine-year-old Aboriginal boy about three-quarters of a mile to school while white children are walking to the same school. Naturally, at his age, the little fellow is delighted but the people who are providing the money for him to travel by taxi do not really appreciate it. It would not hurt that youngster to walk to school. It is a matter of discrimination. If white children were transported to school while black children walked, it would be discrimination and consequently wrong. They could all hike to school and they would all be happy. The kids would get together that way.

There are hundreds of instances where money is being wasted. The actions of the persons charged with the responsibility of administering the departments are having an adverse effect on many people and disturbing them. I cast no reflection whatever on the director of our own Department of Aboriginal and Islanders Advancement, Mr. Pat Killoran, because I am sure that he would share my views. However, someone in the Commonwealth Department of Aboriginal Affairs has seen fit to do these silly and foolish little things that antagonise people and prevent some communities from settling down. The situation should be corrected.

In conclusion, I express my concern at the attitude adopted by certain radical elements in the community every time a proposal to establish a new industry is brought forward; hundreds of persons with strange ideas, calling themselves conservationists, environmentalists and do-gooders—they could be described aptly as professional humbugs—find some reason for claiming that the industries should not even get off the ground.

I refer particularly to the proposal to mine uranium in Queensland. Some weeks ago I conducted a good deal of research into this subject and obtained from the Queensland Department of Mines a lot of worth-while information on it.

As honourable members know, those people living under the banner of conservation claim that they are concerned for the future of the nation and that there is the distinct possibility of the total destruction of the world if uranium is mined. This is utter nonsense.

It is immaterial whether Australia sells its uranium after it is mined; other countries that might desire to manufacture plutonium from uranium already have access to uranium. In Australia we have approximately 10 per cent of the world's known uranium deposits which can be mined economically and a further 9 per cent which can be mined effectively but a little less economically. That means that in the final analysis we in this

country have less than 20 per cent of the uranium that can be mined economically. So who on earth do we think we are to imagine that we can hold the world to ransom by refusing to mine our uranium?

These are the issues that concern me. If we are going to get our nation back on a sound economic footing we have to get into it and develop our industries. We need to give people in other parts of the world the opportunity to utilise our resources when they are required. I am quite certain if we do that our economy will rapidly escalate and from it will flow an improvement in our way of life and the provision of all amenities to the community. Everything will fall naturally into place. That is what concerns me.

Mr. DOUMANY (Kurilpa) (12.24 p.m.): I rise to support the motion moved by the honourable member for Clayfield, Mr. Brown, and in doing so reaffirm my loyalty and that of my constituents to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

It is most fitting during this Address-in-Reply debate to look back over the record of this Government since the opening of the previous Parliament, to examine the way in which the affairs of this State have been handled and to determine just how responsibly our Government has discharged its duty to the people of Queensland. I am certain that any reasonable person looking at the result of the 1975-76 Budget—which was balanced within several hundred thousand dollars—must concede that the State's affairs have been handled very properly and that there is no question of this Government's having breached its responsibility in any way. His Excellency the Governor in his Opening Speech gave us a promise of continuing sound management of this State along the lines that we have enjoyed for about 19 years. When we consider the progress achieved in Queensland in those 19 years, the enormous economic growth and the very large initiatives taken time after time (in areas that should have been looked at and acted upon much earlier, but were not), and see where Queensland and its economy are today, we can only be heartened by the fact that a National-Liberal Government remains in power in Queensland with a very clear majority, and hope that it will do so for a long time to come.

It is fitting that, in reaffirming our loyalty to Her Majesty and the Westminster system of parliamentary democracy that we are privileged to have in our federation, we should look at the very disturbing events of recent times. I refer particularly to 11 November 1975 when a most awesome decision had to be taken by our Governor-General—a decision that would not have been required if a reasonable Prime Minister had been in the saddle at the time.

Mr. Greenwood interjected.

Mr. DOUMANY: As the Minister for Survey and Valuation said, it was indeed a defiance of the parliamentary system—a defiance of democracy.

Mr. Greenwood: Whitlam was the first to try to get away with it since Wentworth, 300 years earlier.

Mr. DOUMANY: There was one thing about our erstwhile Prime Minister (Mr. Whitlam); he liked to do things in very large lumps. When we consider the hypocrisy of the man and his cronies, we realise that in 1970 he and the then Senator Murphy were quite prepared to deny Supply to force the Government off the Treasury benches. It was all right then, but he later showed his double standards. In a fever of desperation in the last three or four fateful weeks before 11 November, Labor attempted to pirate the private banking system—attempted to grasp the funds of those who were aligned largely against the irresponsible Government by Mr. Whitlam—and to use those funds to squeeze as much time as possible out of being in office.

If anyone whose memory is attuned to the more serious things in life ponders the enormity of that threat to our banking system, he will realise how frightening it was that a man who should have been a responsible Prime Minister was prepared to move in that direction.

Then, on 13 December, we had the overwhelming endorsement of the Liberal-National Country Party policy and responsibility and, above all, the endorsement of the Governor-General's decision on 11 November. And there can be no better judge than the people themselves. Yet, ever since that time, the rabble have come out onto the streets. Often they are paid to do so, of course, because it is pretty hard to get many of these people to do anything if there is not a buck in it. The rabble have been running round the streets making noises about democracy or what they regard as democracy. They have created disturbance to the peace in the community. They have brought instability into the community—right throughout the nation. Their actions culminated only a few weeks ago in the bailing up of the Prime Minister in an office at Monash University in Victoria. It was a most disgraceful episode in the history of this country.

Mr. Greenwood: They are revolutionaries, and they practise what they preach.

Mr. DOUMANY: Indeed; for instance, throwing bricks at people and wrecking the cars of other people.

The violence that has come to Australia is unquestionably the product of the wild, irresponsible statements that emanated from A.L.P. leaders in those dying stages of 1975.

Mr. Casey: Don't you think there was violence about 300 years ago when Wentworth was on the go?

Mr. Greenwood: That is right. He had his head chopped off for doing exactly what Whitlam tried to do.

Mr. DOUMANY: Right, and speaking of chopping heads off—today is not a time to take that sort of action, and the last thing we want is any return to that sort of approach in dealing with this type of situation.

We want a return to reasonableness, a return to sanity in the A.L.P. and, in the Federal Opposition ranks, a return to the true role of an Opposition, which is to debate, to criticise and to put up constructive alternatives in the Parliament. We need that in this country because democratic government depends very much on effective opposition and effective opposition does not mean having a lot of louts running round the streets wrecking people's property and endangering the lives of the leaders of the nation. That is the last thing that can be regarded as a remedy.

At this stage of our country's history, we have seen enough to know that there is a need for a new approach; there is a need for a reaffirmation of confidence in Australia and a reaffirmation of confidence in Queensland. I believe that, in the ranks of Government members in this House, there is that confidence. I do not think that there would be one member of the Government parties who is not excited about the future of this nation and of this State. There is not one member on this side of the House who would disagree with the belief that, provided Australians work hard and produce, provided they have regard for each other, and provided they are willing to live within the law, this nation still has a very glorious future and can still achieve growth and prosperity—the sort of words that are contained in the motion to which we are speaking in this Address-in-Reply debate. These things can still be achieved provided people assume the responsibilities that are theirs.

I speak here about all of us as individuals, families, groups, companies and firms. There is no future for selfish, self-centred, "get what you can at minimum cost" attitudes. There is no question that that attitude is at the very root of most of the economic troubles of today. It is all very well to talk about what someone earns or what an item costs in money. There must be real values. If a businessman decided to pay a man, for argument's sake, another \$20 a week and that man then gave work and production worth an additional \$50, that would be a sensible decision. There would be no point in halving the wages of a worker if he promptly decreased his productivity by 75 per cent. We have to be concerned with what comes out at the other end of the pipeline.

There is no question that inflation is a process of far too much money chasing too few goods and services. I know that is a hackneyed definition and one that has been used for years, but unfortunately it fits the

bill. Despite all efforts to control the money supply, which are now being continued by a very responsible Federal Treasurer, there has not been the growth in the output of goods and services, nor has there been an improvement in productivity. Production per unit of resource has to improve. Without improvement there will be endemic inflation and an endemic depressive influence on everything that takes place in the economy. And, worst of all, there will be a depressing effect on people's confidence to invest in the private sector.

It must always be borne in mind that the vast majority of people are still employed in the private sector and that that situation will remain. The private sector has to regain the feeling that this country is worth fighting for. There is no question that we, as individuals, have also to get back that feeling so that once more we put in the effort that is needed to obtain the desired results.

We must face up to our problems in industrial relations. As my colleague from Fassifern has just said, at present we have an alarming situation. In certain quarters—I do not say all—trade unions are becoming completely obsessed with the exercise of power for its own sake. Certain trade union leaders are taking it upon themselves to dictate to Governments what should be done. Union leaders are not elected by the people. It is Parliaments that are elected by the people and it is Parliaments that form Governments. We have seen the growth of monolithic, militant trade unions that seek to impose their powers on the community without regard to the general public interest.

There is at present in this State a fairly tragic situation in which the Queensland Teachers' Union, which is usually responsible and middle of the road and takes into account the effects of its action on those whom it serves, has permitted its executive to run wild. I am not saying that the rank and file of the Queensland Teachers' Union are running wild. I think a lot of them are most disturbed about the situation and do not know what to do about it. They have not practised power unionism and they do not know how to cope with Mr. Costello. But Mr. Costello and his little band in that executive will not allow this issue to go before the rank and file of the Queensland Teachers' Union. They will not have a ballot to let teachers decide what they want to do. They are imposing their decision on teachers.

They advance a spurious reason for doing so—their point about law, justice and equity. They know that many other people in the community suffer the same consequences in similar circumstances. If, for instance, a bank teller is found tickling the peter, he is punished for that and then he is not employed by the bank any more. Let us be blunt about it. It happens in many walks of life and this so-called double penalty

business, or whatever term is being given to it, is the greatest lot of nonsense I have heard. But what we do know—

Mr. Lowes: Which is the greater trust, your money or your children?

Mr. DOUMANY: This is indeed the question. Where do the interests of Mr Costello and his cronies lie? Do they lie with the children? I am sure they do not.

Mr. Gygar: They lie with the A.L.P.

Mr. DOUMANY: They probably do.

The executive's decision has a purely political motive. It is an attempt to make militant a union that has not been militant. It is an attempt to blood teachers in industrial action when they have never had to take it before. It is an attempt to put them in the smelly pond, in the hope they will not notice the smell in the future. It is the most insidious attempt at psychological conversion I have seen. I call on all responsible teachers in our community, who abhor what is going on, to publicly denounce the strike.

I think most of us will have read the letter in today's "Courier-Mail" that was sent by several teachers from a school at Theodore. They gave a most succinct and honest appraisal of the situation and condemned out of hand the executive of the Queensland Teachers' Union and its president, Mr. Costello. We would like to see hundreds of teachers take this action, express themselves and fight for what is right in this situation and not let this dreadful state of affairs be perpetuated in Queensland.

I would like to conclude by referring to something that is very near and dear to my heart, and that is self-help and vigour in the community itself. We face all sorts of problems, including untidiness, litter and vandalism and the fact that the aged and the destitute lack friends and succour and have to rely purely on Government agencies. There is one basic reason for these problems occurring in our community, and that is that communities have become very amorphous and very much segregated. The sort of community fabric we all enjoyed a generation or two ago has been eaten away. We need that community fabric restored. People need to be encouraged to help others.

We have people in voluntary organisations both charitable and sporting—and there are any number of them—who are trying to do that. But they need a lot of help. They need support from the members of his House, because it is in this House that much of the co-ordination of community effort and much of the impetus to it have to originate.

I know that many of my colleagues in this House are lending their support and I hope that each and every one of us will strive to bring back to our community the sort of self-help, vigour and concern for others that is urgently needed. If that is done, I am sure that Queensland will be

a better place to live in, particularly for our children, the aged and those who are disadvantaged. We will then see what true welfare means, not just welfare that supposedly can be bought with dollars. It cannot be bought with dollars alone; it must be bought with the concern of people and with people working together.

With that in mind, I urge that the Police Department, which is an integral part of the community, be brought closer and closer to the community by district postings and local postings. I do not see any hope of the police coping with the problems of modern society if they do not live in that society and know the people amongst whom they are working.

I again reaffirm my loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen and my support for the motion moved by the honourable member for Clayfield (Mr. Brown), and say that I look forward to the further progress, development and prosperity of this great State of Queensland during the life of this Parliament.

Mr. HALES (Ipswich West) (12.47 p.m.): At the outset, I pledge my loyalty and that of my constituents to the Queen, and to the Governor of Queensland, Sir Colin Hannah.

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to congratulate the honourable member for Clayfield (Mr. Ivan Brown) and the honourable member for Port Curtis (Mr. Bill Prest) on their election to this Assembly. I hope that they will be here for many years and that they will serve the people of Queensland loyally and well.

I made a special effort to sit through the whole of the speech of the Leader of the Opposition in this debate in the hope that he would make a good contribution to it. I hoped that he would put forward some new policies or make serious suggestions for the betterment of the State. Unfortunately, as usual, he did not.

During his speech, he criticised the Federal Government—and that seems to be about all the Labor Party is doing these days—and he criticised it particularly for reducing funding to homes for the aged. These are the words he used—

"The Federal Government, in its first Budget, has chopped real spending on hospitals. On 1 July, without warning or consultation, it varied the national formula of assistance to nursing homes for the aged conducted by charitable and religious organisations. They must now limit their operations by reducing patients or staff, or, in some cases, both, and they must restrict the degree of intensive care they can provide. That is Liberal Policy towards old people. It is a callous bureaucratic exercise against elderly Queenslanders when they most need the comfort and security of a sympathetic society."

The honourable gentleman did not say later in his speech that the situation had been corrected.

Mr. Marginson: What you have read out is true.

Mr. HALES: Between 1 July and when the Leader of the Opposition made his speech, the situation has been corrected. The honourable member for Wolston knows that, as most people in this State do. No doubt the Leader of the Opposition knows it, too, but he seems to want to create nervous tension in the old folk of this State.

The Federal Government took cognisance of the fact that the Hospital and Allied Services Committee, which was instituted, as one of its 49 commissions, by the Labor Party when it was in government, laid down hours that should be worked in private nursing homes. The Whitlam Government was furnished with that report in February 1975. It was not something new brought in by the Fraser-Anthony Government. The Health Department took cognisance of those hours, and that was unfortunate.

When the Federal Health Minister (Ralph Hunt) was informed that it was impossible for nursing homes to work under the hours stipulated in the H.A.S.A.C. Report, he quickly moved to change the situation and it was righted within days. Within the first fortnight in July the situation reverted almost to what had applied before the cuts. Since then the Federal Government, through the Health Department, has increased the contributions to nursing homes. In fact, at the present time, the funding of nursing homes is back to what it was in the quarter before they went into deficit financing. So it is obvious that the Liberal-National Country Party Federal Government does have a heart, and considers the needs of the people, contrary to what the A.L.P. is saying.

Nine months ago the nation went to the polls to elect a Federal Government, and the Fraser-Anthony Government was overwhelmingly returned. At that time the people of the nation were told categorically by all members of the Liberal and National Parties, more particularly by the present Prime Minister and many of his Cabinet Ministers, that Government spending would be reduced. The Lynch Budget follows that principle. All budgets are a series of debits and credits, and that is so with the Lynch Budget. I should like to read from page 2 of Budget Paper No. 1 where Mr. Lynch states—

“At the end of 1975, the private sector was employing no more people than it had been three years earlier . . .

“Unemployment had risen to a level unheard of in this country since the Depression of the 1930’s.

“Gross non-farm product in the December quarter, seasonally adjusted and at constant prices, was still almost 5 per cent below its peak level recorded two years earlier.

“The farm sector was in a state of collapse.

“The share of company profits in national income . . . remained depressed at around three-quarters of its long-run norm.

“Real business fixed investment fell in the December quarter to its lowest level for almost three years.

“The Consumer Price Index in the December quarter was 14.0 per cent above a year earlier.

“Above all, inflation showed no real prospect of a sustained move down.

“This was the economic legacy which we inherited.”

So said Mr. Lynch. I believe it will take years to rehabilitate the economy ruined by the Whitlam Government.

I might add here a few credits in the Federal Budget. I refer to the increase in child endowment payments and the increase to \$90,000 in the value of an estate which can pass from one spouse to the other before death duties are assessed.

An innovation is the putting aside by the Federal Government of funds to provide low-cost rental houses for persons living in depressed circumstances.

The July 1976 issue of the “ANZ Quarterly Survey”, under the heading “The Present Outlook in Australia”, said—

“The objectives of Australia’s economic policy for 1976-77 continue to centre on reducing the rate of inflation. This would constitute the largest single factor in bringing about:

- Expansion of consumer spending,
- Rise in employment,
- Greater production of goods and services,
- Better productivity and profitability, and
- Recovery of investment.

“Each of these—along with the control of inflation itself—will tend to reinforce the others, and together they will restore Australia’s prosperity and real standard of living.

“Early stages of recovery are evident in such indicators as stock rebuilding, increased quantity of factory production and rising imports, while the residential building industry is probably operating near capacity in most States.”

That final comment is borne out by the recent announcement of the Metropolitan Permanent Building Society that in August it lent a record sum of \$11,000,000 to borrowers.

Under the heading "Business Indicators" the journal had this to say—

"Recent movements in various economic indicators suggest that a cautious upturn in the Australian business cycle is emerging, following the lack of real growth between March 1974 and early 1976"—

the era of Whitlam domination of Australia—

"Because of the extent of the recession and the continuing major problem of inflation, the process of recovery is likely to be extended and undramatic. Real expenditure on gross domestic product, seasonally adjusted, declined 1 per cent from the September to December quarters 1975."

That article went on to say that the number of new dwellings approved rose by 13 per cent in the year to March 1976. This is a clear indication that the private building sector is getting back onto its feet.

Mr. Lynch's Budget policy seems to mirror words expressed by the Ministerial Council of the OECD. At this year's meeting of the council the following view was put forward—

"The steady economic growth needed to restore full employment and satisfy rising economic and social aspirations will not prove sustainable unless all Member countries make further progress towards eradicating inflation."

That advice was given to all Western nations by the OECD, which employs the best economic minds in the Western World.

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Row): Order! There is too much audible conversation on my left.

Mr. HALES: Mr. Lynch's policy seems to flow on from the principles advocated by most of the free-enterprise Western Governments.

The Federal Government has the necessary expertise to put our nation back on the road to prosperity and to reduce inflation. It is certainly on the right track.

An issue of great importance to Queensland is the proposal by certain Governments to change Queensland's border with Papua New Guinea. What stands out is the temerity or the gall of the New Guinea Government in asking for a change. I am amazed that such a situation has arisen. On the financial aspect alone, Australian taxpayers are committed to give to the New Guinea Government a total of \$930,000,000 over five years.

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

Mr. HALES: I was speaking of the Papua New Guinea Government's great gall and temerity in wanting the border between Australia and New Guinea changed, and I pointed out that the Australian taxpayer is financing Papua New Guinea to the tune of \$930,000,000 over five years.

This year the Australian taxpayer will contribute \$228,100,000 to Papua New Guinea's total Budget of \$425,000,000. That means Australian taxpayers will contribute more than 50 per cent of the total Papua New Guinea Budget. We should realise that this affects the Queensland taxpayer, the Australian taxpayer and, just as importantly, the Torres Strait Island taxpayer. No wonder the Torres Strait Islanders are irate. I know of no Government that in recent years has given away indiscriminately part of its territory to another nation. I believe that our national philosophy should be, "What we have we hold for all time." We would be the laughing-stock of the world if we bowed to pressures such as those from Papua New Guinea. Not one supportable shred of evidence or one valid reason has been advanced to support a border change.

The ultimate criterion in this issue is: do the islanders want the border changed? The answer is a categorical no. Any change made by the Federal Government will show only brutal disregard and callous indifference to the wishes of Torres Strait Islanders. The Torres Strait Islanders do not want a change and the Parliament of Queensland certainly does not want a change.

This morning the honourable member for Fassifern spoke about uranium-mining. I, like him, favour uranium-mining in Australia provided there is major Australian ownership. I understand that in Australia we have 25 per cent of the world's known uranium reserves. From what I can gather it can be mined very cheaply. I have been told that we can mine it at \$6.50 a tonne, whereas comparable reserves overseas would cost about \$45 a tonne to mine. It is obvious that, in Australia, we have cheap available reserves.

In the past few years the cost of Australia's petroleum imports has risen dramatically. In 1965-66 it was \$251,000,000, whereas recently it was \$805,000,000. A reliable estimate indicates that uranium could gain yearly for Australia \$1,000 million in export earnings. That sum equals the total received for our beef and wool exports which in 1974-75 stood at \$322,000,000 for beef and \$753,000,000 for wool.

Recently I received a report made by Sir Ernest Titterton, who is a nuclear physicist. He is also at the Research School of Physical Science at the Australian National University. He made available to me a couple of papers that he has written and addresses that he has delivered throughout the nation. Originally I intended to quote extensively from them, but I shall be brief in what I have to say. In speaking about environmentalists campaigning against uranium mining, he said—

"All over the world environmentalists are pursuing campaigns against modern developments—woodchip industries, roads, pipelines, towers on mountains, new harbours—and many others. But perhaps the

biggest effort of all, mounted on a global scale, has been against uranium and the nuclear power industry. Here in Australia the whole issue has been debated for nearly a year before the Fox Inquiry and the preliminary report from that body is not due before the end of August, with the final report due towards the end of the year. Meanwhile, Australia's huge and valuable uranium resources remain unexploited to the detriment of the economy.

"The anti-nuclear lobbies argue that uranium should be left in the ground, that nuclear power stations are dangerous, that plutonium cannot be controlled, that radioactive debris from the power stations cannot be stored safely and that transport of the industries' materials constitutes a hazard. None of these general views is correct and the public of California dealt a severe blow to the lobby when, in a referendum held last June, it overwhelmingly rejected them. California voted for continued nuclear power development by a majority of 2 to 1.

"The issue is probably the most technically complex that has ever come before the public. Newly awakened, by actions of the foreign oil-producing nations, to the dire and increasing needs for sources to power industrial economies and sustain standards of living, it is necessary to assess the role of nuclear energy".

He also said—

"Australia is fortunate enough to possess, through the accidents of nature and geography, some 25% of the world's known uranium resources. These resources should be developed rapidly, and since they exceed our likely needs by considerable factors, we should sell the excess commercially to others less fortunate so as to help them with the massive energy demands of the future. If we do not, we shall not only penalise our nation financially but, worse, will earn enormous criticism internationally for refusing to share vital resources with other nations of the world who need them".

I believe that our nation should be responsible and that we should mine uranium in this country. However, I believe that it should be a major Australian industry owned, in the main, by Australians.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER (Archerfield) (2.24 p.m.): So far the Address-in-Reply debate has contained nothing new. Each year we hear the same old tired speeches from National Party members and the same stereotype speeches from the Liberals. The Governor's Opening Speech contained nothing new of note. One could almost make next year's speech for him now. It contains the same old clichés year after year. The only items that are ever new are whatever new concessions are being granted to Thiess or that other hard-up mining company, Utah. My heart bleeds for those two companies; they are just battling companies.

There is an occasional mention of a new dam or bridge over some minor creek out at Woop Woop or somewhere else, normally in an electorate held by a member of the National Party.

Of the speeches delivered last week by some of the National Party members, one epitomised the backwardness of the National Party. It was the speech made by my good friend the honourable member for Warrego. From what he said, it is quite obvious that many of the National Party politicians, particularly those who represent electorates in the Far West, represent only the wool and beef barons. They never show any consideration for the workers or small businessmen. It is quite obvious, too, that the National Party has been permeated by the League of Rights, which we all know is controlled by that dangerous rat-bag Eric Butler. The main aims of this dangerous league are anti-Catholic, anti-semitic and racist. There are no two ways about it. Most honourable members of the National Party know that what I am saying is true.

The National Party organisation in the Warrego electorate is probably one of the worst in this respect in that it is controlled entirely by the League of Rights. The worst area of the lot is the Morven area in which the honourable member for Warrego lives. There is in that area an organisation known as the Morven Electors Association, which, as everybody knows, is just a front for the League of Rights. There are no two ways about that at all.

Mr. McKechnie interjected.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Every time the honourable member for Carnarvon makes a speech in this House he, more than any other member, epitomises the backwardness of the League of Rights. I am waiting with bated breath to hear his contribution to this debate.

The West is, of course, in a serious condition at the moment. Anybody with any common sense—of course that excludes National Party members—realises that western towns such as Cunnamulla, Charleville, Mitchell, Blackall and Tambo are not viable as their economy is based on only one industry. At the moment there is an alarming drift to the eastern seaboard. There are no job opportunities in some of these towns and young people there have to drift to the cities. All the cockies there are interested in is using the town work-force as station fodder. They do nothing at all for the economy of their towns. It is well known that most wealthy cockies do not patronise local businesses; they obtain all their supplies from wealthy pastoral companies in Brisbane such as Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort, Dalgetys and so on. They do nothing whatever for their towns.

Mr. Frawley: You don't honestly believe that, do you?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I do honestly believe it, and the honourable member for Murrumba believes it, too. He is not as backward as some of his colleagues.

An Honourable Member: He is in the League of Rights.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: He is not a member of the League of Rights, but he is a member of the National Civic Council.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I rise to a point of order. I find the honourable member's remarks offensive. I am not a member of the National Civic Council and I would like that statement to be withdrawn.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Row): Order! Will the honourable member withdraw his statement?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Yes, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I withdraw it. But I will say this: he attended a dinner recently at Redcliffe that was organised by the National Civic Council. Let him deny that.

Mr. Frawley: I did not. I was in Cairns that week-end.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I return to the problems of the West. I think that the West has a great potential for tourism. Many city people like to see the West as it is. They like to see it in the raw. They like to see sheep and cattle on the hoof, emus, and even galahs like the honourable member for Murrumba. But, if tourism in the West is to be encouraged, there must be air-conditioned buses, good accommodation and good roads. At the moment the road between Wyandra and Cunnamulla is nothing but a glorified goat track. While I was in Cunnamulla some three or four weeks ago, I had occasion to meet the honourable member for Warrego socially. He is a pleasant fellow socially.

An Honourable Member interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I remind honourable members that the Chair will not tolerate persistent and incoherent interjections. If members wish to interject, they will do so in a proper manner.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I very much appreciate your protection, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

As I was saying, when I was in Cunnamulla I had occasion to meet the honourable member for Warrego socially. While he is quite a pleasant fellow, he has not a great deal between the ears. He said to me in front of witnesses, "What's the matter with the road between Wyandra and Cunnamulla? I have been on worse." So have I, but not worse roads leading to a major town. This National Party Government stands condemned for having such a substandard road from Wyandra to Cunnamulla.

I have heard an interesting story that when the present National Party Governor leaves office he will be replaced by Sir John Kerr. We all know that the Governor of this State would be the most highly paid opener of fetes and maker of sabre-rattling speeches at R.S.L. smokos in Australia. The quicker he goes, the better. As we all know, Kerr is soon to be replaced by Prince Charles as Governor-General. When this occurs, the blue-rinse set will have a ball. They will be delighted to see Charlie out here. They will throw their horsy daughters at him in the hope of getting a princess in the family. My views on the monarchy are well known. In fact, Prince Bernhard of Holland is the best advertisement at the moment for a republic.

I think it is a sad indictment of a nation of 13,000,000 people that they cannot find somebody suitable within this nation to serve as Governor-General. It is a disgrace.

One of the topics I would like to raise today is the problem of transport, particularly the raw deal that Acacia Ridge is receiving. Earlier this year, during the autumn session, I drew the attention of the House to the serious plight of Acacia Ridge residents regarding transport. I pointed out that the last bus into the area of an evening is at 6 o'clock; there is then no further bus until 6 o'clock the following morning. On week-ends the last bus into the area is at 1 p.m. on Saturday; there is then no further bus until Monday morning. On public holidays there is no public transport at all. During the recent Easter holiday break the last bus into the area was at 6 p.m. on Thursday night. There was no further bus service until the following Tuesday morning. This is a public scandal. I intend to give the Minister for Transport a nice serve in a few moments, and I am only sorry he is not in the Chamber.

Mr. Burns: He might come in.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I hope he does. Some of the housewives in Acacia Ridge—

Mr. Jensen interjected.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: That might apply to the Minister, but not to these ladies. People tell me he is a little behind.

The housewives of Acacia Ridge formed themselves into a transport action committee. They have done an excellent job. Each meeting of the committee has been very well attended. There were 82 at one meeting. The meetings were very well covered by the media—Press, TV and radio. I led a deputation of five ladies from this committee to see the Minister. I might add that one of the ladies was a personal friend of the Minister's. The Minister gave the ladies and me certain assurances. He also promised to write to me within a fortnight, but of course this was never done. The deputation went away with high hopes. The Minister was very courteous and he gave the ladies hope

that something would be done for the long-suffering residents of Acacia Ridge. Despite his assurances and despite his promise no letter was forthcoming within a fortnight.

As a matter of fact, I received a letter from him on 3 August, some two months later. I think what prompted him to write the letter was the fact that on the Saturday before I received the letter the ladies of Acacia Ridge decided to hold a protest march along Beaudesert Road at Acacia Ridge to the Sunnybank bus depot. They intended to protest against the inadequate service. I was at Parliament House on the Friday and the Minister did not have the guts to approach me himself. He sent one of his junior clerks down to see me. The junior clerk said, "The Minister's private secretary would like you to ring." When I rang she said, "Look, Mr. Hooper, don't go ahead with that protest march. The Minister is going to write to you. The investigation has been completed." I know that if I were to call the Minister a liar, Mr. Deputy Speaker, you, with righteous indignation, would call me to order and say that the word was unparliamentary. Let me say this: I think the Minister for Transport is suffering from a common complaint that afflicts all members of this Tory Cabinet, and that is political amnesia. They make a lot of errors. They make a lot of promises that they do not keep.

I would like to read a short extract from the letter the Minister sent to me dated 3 August 1976. It reads—

"As you are aware, and as I stressed at our meeting, because of the many complex factors which have to be considered in endeavouring to provide public transport to meet the individual, as well as the overall needs of the community, the problem of maintaining economic viability for any bus service is difficult of resolution."

I see the Minister for Local Government smiling in agreement. He is one of the brightest Ministers in the Cabinet. It is true that he would not have to be very bright to be brighter than some of the other Ministers. So it is quite obvious that the Minister is putting the profitability of the bus service above the needs of the 12,000 residents of Acacia Ridge. As I said, the Minister's letter dashed all hopes. The interests of the Sunnybank Bus Service are going to take precedence over the needs of the 12,000 residents of Acacia Ridge. At one point in his letter the Minister stated that it would cost \$400 per week to provide a service after 6 p.m. at night and at week-ends. That is only peanuts. The greatest peanut of all, the Premier, spends many times that sum in commuting between Brisbane and Kingaroy. The Government could give this amount as a subsidy to provide a service instead of wasting it on the Premier.

As I pointed out previously, transport becomes a very big problem in summer. People at Acacia Ridge cannot take their

children to the swimming pools at Sunnybank or Yeronga so the teenagers of Acacia Ridge are virtually prisoners in their own suburb.

As for the Sunnybank Bus Service vehicles, honourable members would have to see the buses to believe them. They are so dirty that a passenger has to open a window to see whether the sun is shining.

Another problem that has recently been drawn to my attention at Acacia Ridge is that lack of transport reduces job opportunities. Applicants for employment cannot venture too far afield. I am just waiting for some indifferent, unsympathetic clerk in the Commonwealth Employment Service to knock back a claim by a resident of Acacia Ridge who cannot take a job because of lack of transport. The Iron Butterfly—what is her name?—Senator Margaret Guilfoyle, will then hear from me long and loud in Canberra.

It would seem from the tenor of the Minister's letter that the Government proposes to place all transport ills at the door of the Metropolitan Transport Authority. I assure the Minister that the Government is not going to get off the hook that easily. What about the broken promises of the Fraser Government—and I think you would agree with me, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that they are legion—on urban public transport?

Mr. Greenwood interjected.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Fancy the new boy speaking!

Mr. Greenwood: You can't think of one.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I can think of many. I can think of its promises on Medibank, for example. That is one that has been broken, and the honourable gentleman knows it.

Mr. Greenwood: One thing we will do is restore some employment in this country.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: The Minister for Transport is very silent on the problems of urban public transport. At present, the main activity of the Metropolitan Transport Authority seems to be building car-parking facilities at railway stations in Liberal-held seats.

Mr. Powell: A good idea.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: It is not a good idea. Many of those members are only political oncers; after the next election some of them will be returning to political oblivion. The honourable member for Isis is in that category, also.

I am disgusted at the allocation of \$100,000 for a feasibility study of the Gold Coast railway. Surely the Government's priorities are all astray. It has decided to spend that \$100,000 only because of the representations of the Minister for Local Government. He was not very vocal about

10 years ago when the line was pulled up—and it was pulled up, of course, only to reward the big road hauliers and road transport operators who supported the Government financially. Let the Minister for Local Government deny that.

Mr. HINZE: I rise to a point of order. I wish to bring to the attention of the honourable member for Archerfield that he is astray, as always, when he suggests that 10 years ago I stood idly by and allowed the Gold Coast railway line to be torn up. I was not a member of this Assembly at the time, and I would ask that the honourable member withdraw and humbly apologise because his statement has affected me deeply and I cannot stand such treatment in this Chamber.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Row): Order! I ask the honourable member for Archerfield to accept the honourable gentleman's explanation.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I accept the Minister's denial.

Of course, a link between Inala, Acacia Ridge and Salisbury is of greater importance and also a better paying proposition.

Honourable Members interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! There is too much cross-firing in the Chamber.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: No money has been set aside for a feasibility study for that link, despite the promises made by the Minister for Transport. One has only to read "Hansard" to see that on two occasions on which I made speeches in this Chamber advocating the establishment of that rail link the Minister said that he agreed with me, that he thought I had made a good point, and promised to do something about it. Trying to debate with the Minister for Transport is like trying to pick up mercury with a fork.

As I said, no money has been set aside for a feasibility study on that link. But if a coal mine were established at Inala or Acacia Ridge, I guarantee that there would be a railway line out there in a fortnight.

I think even Redcliffe has priority over the Gold Coast railway line.

Mr. Frawley: That's the first sensible thing you have said.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I know that the honourable member for Murrumba would agree with that. I think he would also agree with me that the Inala-Acacia Ridge-Salisbury link should take precedence. That would be right, wouldn't it?

Mr. Frawley: Over Redcliffe?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Yes, over Redcliffe.

Mr. Frawley: No, over the Gold Coast. Redcliffe first, Inala second and the Gold Coast third.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Redcliffe second, and the Gold Coast last.

We are all aware, Mr. Deputy Speaker, of the smell over the closure of the Gold Coast railway line 10 years ago. Rails were torn up and the land sold very smartly so that the big transport companies would have no opposition. It appears quite obvious that Brisbane is to remain the Cinderella city in the field of public transport. With all the cuts in grants to the Brisbane City Council under the new Fraser federalism, Brisbane ratepayers are realising just what it is costing them to be the only ratepayers in Australia who are subsidising public transport.

Brisbane can expect very little from this cow-cocky Government. The Liberals are too gutless to stand up for Brisbane, as we will see when the Bill to take the Brisbane electricity network from the Brisbane City Council comes before Parliament. I will be very interested to see how the honourable member for Clayfield votes when the crunch comes. He was very vocal during the Clayfield by-election. Let him put his money where his mouth is when the Bill comes before the Assembly.

I should now like to deal with white-collar crime. The Premier lives in a fantasy world. He insists that there is no such thing as white-collar crime in Queensland. I should like to give the House an instance of people being downright robbed. I refer to Stewart Patton Swimming Pools, 599 Kessels Road, Mt. Gravatt. That firm has just gone "bust", leaving dozens of home owners with unfinished holes in the ground. It will cost them \$1,200 to \$2,000 each to complete their pools. Mr. Stewart Patton, of course, is like other white-collar crooks in Queensland, such as Alfred Grant and Noel Kratzmann who, although they go bankrupt, never go broke. Mr. Stewart Patton has come out financially O.K., as the building society crooks did. He still retains his mansion at 2 Meredith Drive, Surfers Paradise, and I understand the building in Kessels Road, Mt. Gravatt, remains in his possession. That gentleman, or con man, after leaving so many people in the lurch, now has the check to set himself up as a swimming pool consultant. He does not actually build the pools now, but charges about \$500 to draw up plans and line up subcontractors. Any person who deals with that con man has rocks in his head.

Stewart Patton Swimming Pools advertised as Queensland's largest swimming pool builder. I am reliably informed that that organisation was taking deposits almost up to the time it closed its doors. As "Mr. Justice" Greenwood would agree, it just shows the weakness of the company laws in Queensland.

Mr. Greenwood: Most of their contracts were for instalment payments. You paid as the work was done.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I do not believe the honourable member. I have heard him in this House try to defend the building society crooks and he made a very poor job of it.

It also advertised that it was a member of the Queensland Swimming Pools Association. That seemed to imply that that membership made it 100 per cent reliable. Queensland Swimming Pools Association has proved to be totally ineffective in its ability to protect pool purchasers. Some of the people concerned contacted the association when it became apparent that Stewart Patton Swimming Pools was in difficulty. They were in effect told that the association could not help them. I would say this to prospective pool buyers: a builder's membership is no guarantee of financial stability or possession of pool-building skill.

It is too late now for the Queensland Swimming Pools Association to advise the public, as Stewart Patton Swimming Pools is no longer a member of the association, as it indicated by public notice in "The Courier-Mail" of Saturday, 28 August. The association should have acted fast when the first complaints came in. It is an example of closing the stable door after the horse has bolted.

I advise honourable members to get hold of the standard contract of Queensland Swimming Pools Association, which was the one used by Patton. When it comes down to brass tacks, all the onus seems to be on the purchaser. It seems to me that the builder's only obligation is to collect his payment. If the Queensland Swimming Pools Association is genuine in its concern for the people who have been hurt by the Patton collapse, it will immediately have its contract redrafted. At present the contract provides for the retention by the pool purchaser of only \$90 to \$100. That's peanuts. As the present situation has proved, this is too small an amount to cover any default of the builder.

I also note that Stewart Patton Swimming Pools gave its contracts a further air of respectability by placing its banker's name at the top. It was the A.N.Z. Bank, Garden City branch. The A.N.Z. Bank is a respectable financial institution. I am sure it must be delighted to be associated with an enterprise such as Stewart Patton Swimming Pools.

All in all, the people left with unfinished pools by Patton have had a pretty raw deal. I call on the new Minister for Justice to show us his bona fides by putting the Fraud Squad and the Corporate Affairs Office on to this crook Stewart Patton, and drive him from the business community into Boggo road where he deserves to be. My only advice to prospective pool buyers is to check the builder out very carefully. Let them also check with the Corporate Affairs Office. Of course, that is pretty weak; there are not many teeth in the Corporate Affairs Office. Let them check the builder's bank and, above all, they should contact anyone who has had a pool built by him.

The next matter I raise concerns false advertising in the real estate industry. Honourable members will recall that this was one of my major complaints against the building societies. A case that has been referred to me concerns an advertisement inserted by Peter Kurts Pty. Ltd. in the "Home Units" sale column in "The Sunday Mail" of 8 February 1976. Peter Kurts is a personal friend of the Minister's. The advertisement was subsequently repeated. It reads as follows:—

"HOME UNITS

A rare opportunity
Gold Coast Unit
\$2000 deposit
\$28 weekly.

OCEAN VIEWS car accom. ALL BRICK 2 bedrooms. CARPETS, 2 street frontage, 50m Beach, Ocean side of highway. FURNISHED, full price \$21,990. To inspect phone SOLE AGENT Peter Kurts Pty. Ltd. Ask for KEV. WOODGATE . . ."

Or Russ Hinze!

Mr. Hinze: Peter Kurts told me he had to give you a unit to get you off his back. What did you do with it?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I gave it to you to pay off the amount claimed in the writ against you in the White Mercantile.

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

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: On being checked out by an investment broker, this rare opportunity—\$2,000 deposit and \$28 per week—revealed that the following investment outlay was involved:—

The unit purchaser does not reside in the unit but arranges for a lessee of the unit at \$42 a week, and this \$42 plus the purchaser's \$28 per week makes a total repayment to the Peter Kurts financing company of \$70 per week. The full price is \$21,990, less the deposit of \$2,000, leaving a balance of \$19,990. The finance terms offered by Peter Kurts Developments Pty. Ltd. over a period of 20 years would involve the repayment of \$280 per month, that is, \$70 per week for four weeks. A loan of \$20,000 through a building society, using the figures quoted for March, would involve monthly repayments of \$206 over a similar 20-year period.

It would be interesting to know just what interest rate is being charged to give a difference of \$74 per month in the repayment scale. The difference amounts to \$17,760 over the 20 years, which is not a bad return on an investment. But the plot thickens.

Mr. Goleby: Who wrote your speech?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Fancy the honourable member for Redlands interjecting! He used to sell land on the Gold Coast, and buyers used to have to wear diving suits to find out where their land was.

As I say, the plot thickens. Peter Kurts Developments Pty. Ltd. claim that the \$28 per week investment would be subject to a tax rebate as an investment.

Mr. Tenni: Don't read your speech.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I'm not reading it; I'm quoting from notes.

According to an investment broker, the \$42 rental would, in fact, be classified as income and therefore subject to tax. Peter Kurts did not advise the prospective buyers of these facts. The whole situation is downright misleading and should be stopped at once.

I notice that Peter Kurts is a member of the Real Estate Institute of Queensland. The Real Estate Journal of April 1976 urged members to use the letters "R.E.I.Q." in their advertisements. Having outlined the preceding facts, I think it is fitting to read this gem in that journal—

"The Institute has noticed that a number of Members are not availing themselves of the opportunity of including the letters R.E.I.Q. in their classified advertising.

"Members by failing to include R.E.I.Q. in their advertising are placing themselves at a distinct disadvantage. The general public recognises and accepts that a Member of the R.E.I.Q. offers a definite security and protection in their Real Estate transactions. Therefore those potential buyers who scan the property pages of the local papers place greater value on advertisements that include the letters R.E.I.Q."

It is passing strange that the complaints that I have outlined are brought to members of the Australian Labor Party. However, as a woman in my electorate said to me recently, "What's the use of going to the local Liberal member? He won't raise the matter, because these businessmen are usually members of the Liberal Party or at least strong financial supporters of the Liberals." I have proved that contention when dealing with the building society crooks. It's high time that the Government took some action.

Mr. Greenwood: You'd say anything.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Fancy the most junior Minister making that comment! He would say anything, too. He climbed over the backs of his mates and scabbed on people who have been in this House for five or 10 years. He has no ability. He couldn't even handle interjections when he was on his feet. For a man with his education and legal background, he is a flop and a failure.

These businessmen are usually members of the Liberal Party. As I said, the building society crooks were members of the Liberal Party and they were protected in this House. The Merediths, the O'Sheas and the Coulsens should be in Boggo Road, but because they were personal friends of Ministers they were protected. It is high time that the Government took action to protect the ordinary man

in the street from the white-collar and corporate crooks. The Premier—he is a great one—is always telling us of the virtues of the private-enterprise system, but he makes jolly sure that he does not tell us of the rackets that abound in that system. It is unfortunate today that, because of the service of a writ on me, I cannot give two or three white-collar criminals what they deserve. I promised you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that I would not raise the matter.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Row): Order! I do not think the honourable member should refer to it. The matter is sub judice.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I realise that.

It is quite obvious from an answer to a question—I will not mention names—that a crooked cop stole a file from police custody. I can see the former Minister for Police nodding in agreement. It is a damned tragedy that the Minister was removed. He was the best Minister for Police Queensland has had in the past 10 years. Although the police cannot detect the crooked cop who removed the file, recently 30 police, with the assistance of the Navy and the Air Force, raided a commune in North Queensland.

I shall now deal with the ever-increasing housing shortage. The Minister for Works and Housing has no grasp of his portfolio. That is quite obvious when one listens to him stuttering and stammering in answering questions. While on this, I must tell an amusing story. I know that the Minister for Local Government will agree with my version. Recently we attended the opening ceremony for the Nyanda rail overpass. The Minister for Works and Housing, in his usual stuttering way, was making a speech. He was trying to say a word starting with "p" and, to get over it, he said, "You know what I mean." The Minister for Local Government and Main Roads, who is quite a wit, said, "Yes, Presbyterians." That is right, isn't it?

Mr. Hinze: I would not confirm anything you say.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: That is fair enough.

The Minister for Works and Housing then compounded the felony. He was telling the gathering how closely the Local Government Department and the Railway Department worked. A noise was heard from immediately below the overpass, and he said, "There you are, ladies and gentlemen, there is a train going past." But, would you believe it, it was a gravel truck! That really brought the place down.

Mr. Lamont: Is that supposed to illustrate somebody else's incompetence or your own?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Basically, the honourable member's. I am glad that the great lover interjected. I said before to this great lover—this great musician—that his greatest tune is "Love in the Moonlight" in A Flat.

He is the House expert on matters of sex, but he does it so pleasantly and nicely that we forgive him.

The Minister for Works and Housing does not seem perturbed by the ever-increasing housing shortage. But daily the housing applications increase and people suffer hardship and deprivation because of the callous indifference of this Government and the Fraser Government. Some months ago the Minister loudly acclaimed in his stuttering, stammering way that the advent of the Fraser Government would solve all of the State's housing problems. He said the new Fraser federalism would do marvels for the country. What has it done?

Mr. Jensen: We were told all about the roads Queensland would get.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Nobody takes much notice of the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads. It is well known that he handles the truth rather carelessly.

The new Fraser federalism has really hit the housing industry in Queensland. The Minister for Works and Housing is strangely silent. Isn't he game to stand up for the people of Queensland against the tight-fisted Fraser Government? It is tight-fisted to the workers but certainly not to its wealthy business backers. The Tory Government is certainly a businessman's Government. It is not for the ordinary small businessman but for the large businessman—the likes of the people that the Minister for Survey and Valuation (he was not good enough to be Minister for Justice) and his colleagues at the Queensland Club look after. They are the real rulers of this State. The Tory Ministers are only the lackeys of big business in this State.

In contrast, what was the Minister's attitude some months ago? Remember what he was going to do when the Fraser Government won? Everybody in Queensland was to have a home. Of course, this has not eventuated. The position has got worse. I hope that the Minister will not insult the House by telling us that a renewed and crash housing construction programme would add to inflation when he knows, as well as I do, that this would not happen.

There is plenty of slack to be taken up in the building industry, sure, before it would affect the inflation rate. Building industry employment is at its lowest in 30 years. Brick and tile works, timber yards and hardware firms are crammed with stock. They are just waiting for money to be injected. But last December Mr. Fraser was loudly trumpeting the right of all young Australians to own their own home. I think most honourable members realise that this is just a pipe dream.

Mr. Hinze: Tell us what you think of Sir John Kerr.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: I have just told the Minister what I think of Sir John Kerr. He is probably the greatest cur we have ever had in Australia.

Mr. Hinze: Probably the greatest statesman Australia has ever seen.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: And the Minister is probably the greatest Minister we have had, too, so I pay him that compliment.

What has happened since 13 December? Home-building has slumped and interest rates have risen twice. Remember the disastrous Lynch bonds that the former Treasurer (Sir Gordon Chalk) denounced in this Chamber. In a report tabled in the House of Representatives only last year the Housing Industry Indicative Planning Council—that rolls nicely off the tongue—stated that Queensland alone would be 1,500 completions below a desirable level this financial year. I can hear the Minister cry—he does not cry; he bleats—“Where is the money to come from?” I can tell him—from the S.G.I.O.

I suggested to the previous Treasurer that I would much rather see the S.G.I.O. invest in housing than in high-rise office blocks and the construction of hotels and taverns and using the shareholders' money to buy 100,000 shares in dubious land companies such as Alfred Grant Holdings. I am told also on good authority that Comalco House at the corner of Ann and George Streets is owned by the S.G.I.O. and is only about 40 per cent occupied. I understand that in other office blocks in the city, such as Watkins Place at 288 Edward Street and Phoenix House, it is not unusual for prospective tenants to be offered 3, 6 or 12 months' rent free. It is a benevolent Government to the businessman. I feel it is a scandal that so much capital is tied up in these projects when the housing sector is crying out for funds.

In answer to a question I asked in the House, the previous Treasurer told me that the S.G.I.O. had 100,000 shares in Alfred Grant Holdings. In view of what has happened to that company, the money would have been better put into homes for the people of Queensland. Although the company has gone bankrupt, Alfred Grant is not broke. These are the things that are going on in Queensland with these white-collar crooks and nothing is done about them.

Mr. Lamont: What about the employees? Do you feel at all for the employees?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Of course. The Labor Party always feels for the battler. The honourable member knows that.

Mr. Lamont: You realise that if you fight employers you also fight their employees?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: That is ridiculous. The honourable member always indulges in hypothetical, academic arguments. He always talks from the top of his head. There is not much substance to him.

Mr. Alfred Grant is a very strong Liberal supporter and backer. It is high time that the S.G.I.O. got out of these highly speculative land deals and other fields of investment and did something constructive to assist young Queenslanders to realise their home-ownership dreams.

I conclude on this subject of housing by referring to the recently announced \$200 home-deposit scheme. I want the Minister to deny this at a later date, if he can. I understand that the money has been lent at 7½ per cent, while the State is obtaining it from the Commonwealth at 4½ per cent. That is a nice little rake-off for the Queensland Government. It was not widely reported that in most cases the rate of repayments would be in the vicinity of \$175 to \$180 a month. This, plus rates, insurance, etc., would make young couples' outlay each month very large. Despite the Minister's statement, I feel that very few young couples will take up this offer.

Finally, I note that the Metropolitan Trotting Club has made another application to be permitted to bet on the Brisbane gallops. I support the application wholeheartedly. I hope that the new Deputy Premier and Treasurer will be a lot more sympathetic to the Rocklea trots than his predecessor was.

I should like to recap briefly the situation regarding this club as I outlined it to the House in March last year. Prior to 1970, it was possible to place a bet on the Brisbane gallops at the Rocklea trots. At the instigation of the Queensland Turf Club, this was stopped. I understand that the idea was that more southside residents would travel to Doomben or Eagle Farm and that local T.A.B. receipts would rise. This has not occurred. When it did not occur, nothing was done about it. The previous Treasurer completely ignored Rocklea. In fact, I suggest that the reverse took place. Of course, no-one wants to lose face by admitting that a mistake was made.

The Rocklea trots provide a very pleasant outing for southside residents. There is plenty of parking. The course is within easy walking distance of the Rocklea Railway Station and it has very spacious, uncluttered grounds. As a matter of fact, there is a very picnic-like atmosphere at the course. I suggest to honourable members who have never been to the Rocklea trots to go there one Saturday afternoon. They will have a pleasant surprise.

Mr. Greenwood: Do you go there?

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: Yes, I go there. As a matter of fact, I am one of their honoured guests.

What members of the Queensland Turf Club cannot seem to get into their heads is

that people who live on the southside are not going to travel all the way across town to the other racecourses. That is just not on. The patrons of the Rocklea trots cannot understand why they have been singled out for discrimination.

This club, I might add, suffered a lot of damage during the 1974 floods. Some sections of the ground were 20 ft. under water. The committee is a good, hardworking body and it set to work and did a remarkable job of restoration. In fact, the restoration of the ground is a credit to the committee. I might add that a prominent member of the Liberal Party is on the committee and I give him full credit, too. I do not usually give praise to Tories but I give praise to Noel Wilson, who is a member of the Liberal Party executive. Noel Wilson and his committee did an excellent job of restoring the ground and I give them full credit for it. I say this only because Noel is a has-been and he will never become a politician.

As the southside suburbs grow, attendances at Rocklea will grow, for the reasons I outlined previously. These people have a right to bet on Brisbane gallops when they arrive at the course. The new Minister in charge of racing has a golden opportunity to prove that he pays more than lip-service to the often-quoted plank of the Liberal Party concerning freedom of choice for the individual. I have even heard the Minister for Survey and Planning—is it?—the most junior portfolio—

Mr. Greenwood: I cannot help it if the honourable member becomes confused.

Mr. K. J. HOOPER: An often-quoted plank of the Liberal Party is, "Freedom of choice for the individual." If the new Minister in charge of racing does, as I said, give more than lip-service to this plank of the Liberal Party, the patrons of Rocklea trots will be allowed the freedom to place bets on Brisbane gallops. His decision would also show whether he is to be his own man or a mouthpiece of the Queensland Turf Club.

Mr. LAMONT (South Brisbane) (3.2 p.m.): It is now approximately 18 months since the last State election and I feel that this is an appropriate occasion for members to give some account to Parliament and to our electorates of what has transpired and what efforts we have put into our work as parliamentarians in that time. I was elected in a difficult time and also in an electorate with major problems—urbanisation, industrialisation, population density, high-rise development, and a mixture of commerce, light industry, general industry and heavy residential zones, to name but a few. In addition, of course, my electorate is the major traffic corridor of access to all southside suburbs.

In my electorate there are many families in which both parents have to go to work in order to keep their heads above water. It has many single-parent families, too. It is also

an old area and consequently pensioners constitute one of its major groups. I have a particular concern for them. Before dealing with these various areas of concern, however, I should like to make some general comments about the times in which we live and in which we as legislators have to cope with the developing community. I think something ought to be said about our way of life.

Australians have to realise that it is time we were prepared to pull ourselves up, if necessary, by the seat of our pants. We should take a good look at ourselves. We must be determined to work harder to make the economy viable. We have to be determined to restore prosperity to our community. We had a Federal Labor Government that gave too much willy-nilly, without proper programming and planning, and so wasted a great deal. It was also a Government that unfortunately, by way of encouragement, induced sloth. It did not encourage thrift and initiative; nor did it reward hard work. Unfortunately we got away from the stage where workers were able to talk about a fair day's wage for a fair day's work. I believe that workers have a right to a fair day's wage for a fair day's work. I also believe that employers have the right to receive a fair day's work when they give a fair day's wage.

Australians have almost got to the stage where we cannot afford Australia. We have to get our priorities right; we have to decide what we want for the future. Is it "give me all now" or is it "let us work for the future"? We must accept economies. We have to establish priorities, not just from the Government point of view but from the points of view of individuals. I believe in the right to strike. I have always believed that a worker has the right to control the supply of his own labour, but strikers have to be responsible.

Mr. Houston: What strike have you ever supported?

Mr. LAMONT: I have supported many workers in their right to strike on a variety of principles, but we have to be responsible and we have to weigh the consequences of those strikes against the things that we are striking for. I think we should all realise that we win on some issues and lose on others. That is what life is all about; we cannot expect to win every time. I will come back to that theme again in respect of the current teachers' strike.

I believe that a Government is responsible not just for the direct economic effects of its policies but also for the confidence that it creates or the diffidence that it creates. I believe that restoration of confidence that hard work and initiative will be rewarded should be one of the first aims of any Government. Recently the Federal Treasurer (Mr. Lynch) said that we are overtaxed. I would certainly agree that Australians are overtaxed. Tax relief is one of the ways to stimulate initiative and to encourage people to work

harder, but they must be sure that they will be rewarded if they take these opportunities. I am glad that in his Federal Budget Mr. Lynch was able to introduce the first leg of tax indexation. He must now, of course, look to some other forms of bringing about greater fiscal justice.

Inflation has been one of the root causes of people being overtaxed. As lower and middle-income earners received wage increases, because of inflation they were swept into higher tax brackets, and so in the last three years lower and middle-income people have been taxed as higher-income people, and that is not justice. But that was in fact a direct product of inflation. We were told by some that all our inflation was imported. That is nonsense. Australia "exports" as much inflation as it imports, if we want to talk in those terms. I am more impressed by the recent report of the International Monetary Fund through the World Bank, which is not the tool of any political party in this country but an independent international economic authority.

It says that "most of Australia's inflation in the last three years was domestically produced." Inflation has eroded wages. It has eroded wage increases. I believe, therefore, that reducing inflation must be our first priority in setting this country back on the right road. We have to decide therefore whether we want a government which is popular and does popular things or whether we want a Government that is effective and does effective things.

From December 1972 to December 1975 inflation rose to over four times its original figure and that, I believe, it totally unacceptable.

Unemployment is as important a rogue as inflation. I do not believe that we should ever accept that inflation and unemployment are alternatives, and that Governments must opt for one or the other. I have said that I believe in the right to strike. I certainly believe, on the other hand, in the right to work, and here the problems arose during the past three years. From December 1972 until December 1975—the three years that the Federal Labor Government was in power—we had unemployment rising from 136,000 to a third of a million. I am not going to dwell on this—it does not help the person who is unemployed today—but let us at least be mindful of how we got into this drastic plight in the first place.

I do not believe that we are doing enough to solve the unemployment problem. I do not believe, however, that the Leader of the Opposition in Queensland was correct when he said this morning that unemployment was still rising. It is not rising. If we compare the unemployment figures at this time and those of 12 months ago and add into that the figures of those unemployed who were involved in the R.E.D. scheme (because people had to be unemployed to be under the R.E.D. scheme), we find there were 13,000 more people unemployed 12

months ago than there is today. So in fact the figure is dropping slightly, but I am not satisfied that it is dropping enough.

I also do not couple myself with those who talk about "dole bludgers", and letting them starve to find out what it is like to hunt for jobs. Several people come into my office at Stones Corner regularly, asking me to try some initiative to find jobs for them, and several of them have found temporary employment through the services I have been able to offer. I write dozens of letters a month in support of people in my area who are seeking jobs.

However, just as I believe that the Liberal and National parties in the past were too soft on tax loop-holes, I believe that the Labor Government was too soft on dole loop-holes, and I support some measures to tighten up to ensure that those who genuinely want jobs can get them and that we do not encourage people, particularly school-leavers, simply to opt to go on the dole as an alternative to working.

The Queensland State Government can make a major contribution to solving unemployment by taking initiatives in the area of pay-roll tax. Pay-roll tax cripples small businessmen in particular. It is a tax that increases as the pay-roll increases; the more people an employer employs, the more he pays out in pay-roll tax. Therefore, it comes down very simply to being a penalty on providing employment, and I do not believe we can tolerate that.

We have been told, Mr. Deputy Speaker, that the Federal Budget—Mr. Lynch's Budget—was a business budget. I believe it had to be a business budget. There are many small businesses in my electorate; in fact, it probably has more small businesses than 90 per cent of the other electorates in Queensland. Small business in Australia employs 40 per cent of the work-force, yet 3,000 small businesses went to the wall during the years of the Whitlam Labor Government in Canberra, many of them as a direct result of wrong and careless policies. I instance, for example, the 25 per cent tariff cut, which destroyed half the textile industry but did not guarantee a cheaper product for the consumers of Australia. Action of that type drove small businesses to the wall and led to much of the unemployment that I have just described.

Unemployment cannot be offset by using the Public Service as an avenue of employment to take up the slack. In the last year of the Federal Labor Government, Labor Ministers tried to do that. To try to take up the slack, 91,000 jobs were opened up in the Public Service. At the same time, as a direct result of Labor policy, jobs in the private sector declined by 146,000. The slack cannot be taken up in that way. Action of that type does not achieve anything. It is not productive; it is inflationary; and it only serves to give a false employment figure for public release.

I should like now, Mr. Deputy Speaker, to say something about wage restraint. I will give one example. Between 1973 and the present, the cost of employing a male process worker in the metal trades industry has risen by 40 per cent in this country. By comparison, in the United States of America, which is a major competitor in this field, the cost of employing a male process worker rose by only 15 per cent. In that industry there was a labour cost advantage after the Snedden Budget of 15 per cent; today there is a labour cost disadvantage after the Hayden Budget of 22 per cent. How can an employer in a major industry such as this—which is one of the leaders in the export trade—be expected to expand, or even to continue offering employment, without increasing prices, thereby contributing to inflation and putting himself out of the world market? The next step, of course, as employers find that they cannot compete on the world market, is for them to go to the wall, as many businesses have been forced to do, and to close their doors to people seeking employment.

Reasonable wage demands must be tempered by responsibility. Again it is a question of priorities. Employees must have a very clear idea of the direct consequences of their wage demands on costs, on inflation and on the availability of jobs, especially in those areas where there is disruptive industrial action.

While speaking on the subject of wage restraint and responsibility, I think it would be hypocritical of me not to state here and now, how I feel about parliamentary salaries and rises. I have always believed that it is wrong for members of Parliament to be able to set their own salaries. In Queensland, of course, we do not, although many people think we do. We do not get a rise every quarter, although newspapers try to give the impression that we do. Many people see headlines but do not read the story. They think that we get rise after rise after rise. If they read the story, they find that in fact it is the same rise which the newspapers write about quarterly whenever a Consumer Price Index is released.

Nevertheless, I do believe that we should set a lead of some kind. Other groups in the community are now showing a lead. The question remains: how is this to be done? I do not believe that we achieve anything by rejecting a pay rise in toto. I would not expect any person in my electorate to respect my judgment if I rejected a pay rise that was offered when everyone else in my line of employment accepted it. Moreover, Liberal Party members in the Federal Parliament rejected pay rises three times in the last two years. Did they get any credit for that from either the public or the Press? Of course not. It is only members of Parliament with independent means who can talk about rejecting pay rises.

But I do believe that we should revise our method of indexation. We should submit ourselves to the same wage-fixing process as exists throughout the community. Therefore, it is my recommendation that the salaries of members of Parliament be tied to those of an appropriate level of employees in the Public Service. That way no-one could complain. We should not be able to give ourselves rises, or even fix a formula which pegs our own rises. That could still give us an unfair advantage. Justice must be seen to be done, and I believe that if our salaries were tied to a fixed rank in the Public Service, and subject to the same wage determination and same justice as the rest of the work-force, it would demonstrate once and for all that we are treated no differently in this regard from anyone else.

Further on the subject of general wage restraint, I believe that it may well be time to entertain wage and price freezes. Whenever I talk on this subject with people in my electorate, I am told that we opposed this in a referendum in 1973. We did not. What we opposed was the principle of approving a constitutional change to give this kind of power to Canberra permanently. The word "permanently" was the most important part of that referendum. The slogan on our side of the House in that referendum was that giving the "permanent power to Canberra" was dangerous. We opposed the constitutional change, not necessarily the principle of a wage and price freeze. It was a permanent change brought about by a constitutional means that we opposed.

However, I do not believe that we should support a selective freeze such as was sought recently by Mr. Fraser with respect to the Newcastle shipbuilders. Shipbuilding is a major industry which affects many people in my electorate. It is therefore an industry I am vitally concerned with. I believe that it is reasonable for the Prime Minister to say to shipbuilders, "I want to give you contracts in this country for building ships for Australia but I must have a guarantee that the work-force will put in the time free from strikes in that period." It is reasonable that unionists should accept that. But it is not reasonable to say to unionists, "I don't want you to accept any wage increase during that period even though other sectors of the community will be receiving wage rises." I think that is unjust.

While on the subject of shipbuilding I should like to repeat the statement I made last week about the Labor Government's policies on shipbuilding. While there is such an outcry about Mr. Fraser giving contracts overseas for two Australian ships to be built in Japan, we seem to have forgotten that no fewer than seven overseas contracts for shipbuilding were placed by the Labor Government during its three years in office. Seven in three years! I refer to "Australian Pioneer", "Australian Purpose", "Australian Prospector", Australian Progress",

"Australian Emblem", "Australian Venture" and the conversion of the "Tambo River". It was said that some of those were too big for our Australian dockyards. If so, my only answer is that if the Labor Government had been serious about creating jobs in the shipbuilding industry, it could have expanded the facilities. Our Government cannot be accused of changing policies except it is seeking a means by which, with a measure of co-operation from shipbuilders and workers in the industry, it may be able to reverse that unfortunate policy of the Labor Government.

While on the subject of strikes, I feel compelled to say something about the teachers' strike in Queensland today. I do not want to go into the question of teachers' smoking marijuana; at this particular time I do not want to talk about the morality, the double standard or even the point raised by the Opposition spokesman for education (Mr. Wright) that there is no appeal from the Public Service Board's decision. I have great sympathy with that point made by him.

I do want to talk, however, about the very principle of teachers going on strike. I believe that the teaching profession should be just that—a profession. No professional teacher can allow children to go untaught, whether it is over an industrial issue or any other issue. Teachers have a primary responsibility to their clients, the children. As I look at the Queensland Teachers Journal, the official organ of the Queensland Teachers' Union, I see that the first rule in its code of ethics is that a teacher's responsibility to each student shall take precedence over all other professional responsibilities. How in the name of Heaven can Mr. Costello today face the public, with that as part of his code of ethics, and say that it is anything more than a slip of paper?

It is time that teachers' organisations started talking about education, started talking about standards, started talking about values and started talking about teaching methods. In other words, it is about time they diluted this concentration on industrial matters and started putting greater emphasis on improving their profession—not their industrial status, but their professional status.

As an educationist was reported as saying so eloquently in this morning's paper, a professional is identified by his relationship with his client. Today there are many teachers who, on that test, could not be regarded as members of a profession.

I ask everyone gathered in this House today to contemplate the improbability of doctors in a hospital withholding medical services to patients in that hospital because a member of the A.M.A. or the G.P.s' association had been sacked from that hospital for having been found to be using marijuana. That would not happen, because doctors are members of a profession with professional standards.

If teachers want to be regarded as professionals—and they say that they do; when I was a teacher I wanted to be regarded as a professional—and if teachers want to be paid as professionals, they must behave as professionals. Most teachers do; but unfortunately Mr. Costello is bringing total discredit on the profession that he is supposed to serve and paid to serve. A professional association should be primarily concerned with education issues and with the students in the schools.

A large number of teachers do not want to belong to a teachers' union, particularly to one that behaves as this one has been behaving over the past two or three weeks. Furthermore most parents do not want a teachers' union operating in this way. The community has rights; children have rights and parents have rights just as the teachers have rights. If some teachers do not want to belong to the union—and I believe that is so—the Government should support those who are so motivated. If teachers want to form a professional association rather than a union we ought to amend our laws to enable them to do so.

While I am talking about professions, I turn to a very important profession in my electorate—that of nursing. In my electorate I have the Mater Hospital, the Princess Alexandra Hospital and a number of private hospitals, all of which employ nurses. As honourable members know, there are moves afoot to upgrade or, shall we say, improve the status of the nursing profession through education. A nursing education committee has been set up. I have been in very close contact with the Minister for Health (Dr. Edwards) on this; I have attended seminars on the question; I have read the papers from Matron Clarke's task force; I have spoken to the president of the Queensland Institute of Technology, Dr. Frazer, and I have canvassed the opinion of all nurses on my electoral roll by writing to all of them personally.

I am anxious that the nursing profession should be upgraded in this way. I applaud the initiatives that have been taken so far and I entirely support the measures taken to improve the status of the profession. I know that such an upgrading will mean that to some degree the training of nurses will go to the colleges of advanced education. In the first instance, nursing training will go into the Queensland Institute of Technology, and I have no doubt that when it does, the Queensland Institute of Technology will do the nursing profession proud. I have a great deal of respect for the courses offered at the Q.I.T. That is only the beginning. The next step will be that the other colleges of advanced education will be given a piece of the action.

I am a little concerned about that. I do not want to pre-empt the outcome of further talks in this area but, at the outset, I say that we must never allow the control of nurses' education to go beyond the control

of the nursing profession. Colleges of advanced education, educationists, and even the Education Department must never be allowed to get control of nurses' training and education. I applaud the upgrading of the profession by innovations to the education and training of nurses but, at all times, the responsibility must remain in the hands of the profession. I shall speak more about that matter when the Minister for Health announces the moves in this House.

I have much to say about education but I shall reserve most of my comments until the Budget is debated later in the session. As you know, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am involved in a Government enquiry at the moment into standards of education. Mr. Costello has tried to represent this throughout the State as an attack by parliamentarians on teachers. That is sheer nonsense. Many inquiries into standards of education are taking place in this country at the moment. The Australian College of Educational Research and the Australian College of Education are looking into standards. The union itself is looking into standards. Why then should the Queensland Government not look into standards and appoint a parliamentary committee to do so?

From a local point of view, I am concerned at the physical condition of schools in my electorate. Most are old and many have been neglected for years. Recently I toured the Brisbane State High School. I was astounded at the academic standard maintained and the sporting achievements attained when I saw that the pupils study in classrooms and with equipment that are often pure 19th Century. Money must be spent to upgrade facilities at these inner-city schools that have been sorely neglected in past years.

I pay tribute and give thanks to the Minister for Works and Housing, who recently toured the schools in my electorate and saw for himself the problems experienced there. I also pay tribute to the Minister for Education, who recently opened a new opportunity school in my electorate. It is magnificently equipped. Shortly he will be opening an entirely new modern school for the visually handicapped at Narbethong School, Buranda. I again pay tribute to the Minister for Works and Housing for the planned pre-school in the migrant area of Dutton Park. This area is heavily populated with new Australian families, many single-parent families and families in which, because of economic hardship, both parents have to go to work. A pre-school is needed desperately in such an area. Many children there start school speaking English with a great deal of difficulty. A pre-school is vital for such children who are about to attend a primary school, if they are to have the same advantages as other Australian children.

There was a move to postpone the building of that pre-school for two years. I am pleased that through my intervention the Minister for Works and Housing looked at the problems and advanced the building programme to

this year. We are hoping that it will be commenced before Christmas. A flow-on from that to the Dutton Park Primary School means that at long last infants at that school will have an equipped play area of their own, which they will share with the pre-school.

I have been very involved with the East Brisbane State School, where the major problem, apart from the age of the building and the lack of equipment is that since Logan Road was closed, heavy traffic going to Lytton Road must pass this school. It is bordered on another side by the 'Gabba Greyhound complex and Stanley Street, which is another busy street. With the noise levels in this area, teachers cannot teach effectively. I challenge the Minister for Education to visit that school and meet our Parliamentary Education Committee there so that he may hear the noise level and see how often we have to stop our discussions until trucks go by. We have experimented with the installation of acoustic tiling in the administrative block. It is a vast improvement. I hope that we will be able to install similar material in the classrooms, particularly on the Stanley Street side of the building. We have a new library being built there and other smaller improvements have been won.

There is a further problem of a similar nature at the Buranda State School. A variety of small improvements have been won recently, such as new seats and new taps, and approval has been given for a major extension to the sporting oval.

We must realise that schools like this in disadvantaged inner-city suburbs require special consideration in the allocation of funds. I compliment the principals of schools in my electorate on the close co-operation that I have received from them for the sake of improvements to the schools.

There are 16 schools in my electorate. Several of them are Christian schools—*independent schools*. I have been in close contact with Father O'Shea, who is the Co-ordinator of Catholic Education, to see what could be done to assist these schools, because they, too, suffer from being in disadvantaged socio-economic circumstances in an inner-city suburb. We are looking at the voucher system and the possibility of its being introduced. As recently as two weeks ago, I was able to address a Federal parliamentary committee in Canberra on this particular subject. We are hopeful of being able to relieve the independent schools' financial problems that have become so acute over the past three years.

With 16 schools and a major freeway and 12 major arterial roads in my electorate, it obviously has a considerable traffic problem. The closure of St. Benedicts' in Mowbray Terrace has meant that children from that area now have to cross Wellington Road. The Brisbane City Council has poles for three sets of traffic lights at the junction of Mowbray Terrace and Wellington Road. But it has refused to restore lights on top of them to

allow the children to get across the road in safety, despite the fact that the wires are still intact. We have the same problem at the Dutton Park School and parents themselves go onto the road with red flags to usher the children across. This is a constant worry to parents. Several traffic accidents have occurred there recently—I am sorry to say that one was fatal—because of this heavy density of children going to and from school in this highly urbanised area.

I have already alluded to the heavy new Australian population in my electorate. Recently I have had talks with the Director of Cultural Activities with a view to setting up in the future a centre for ethnic groups where these people can get together on a cultural basis. The Greek Club, the German Club and the Danish Club already have facilities for members to get together. However, I believe that there is a great need for a combined ethnic cultural centre in Woolloongabba. It would be a great boon to the community and, as well, would do much to integrate new Australians into our Australian society. I have had lengthy talks with the Director of Cultural Activities and we are hopeful that this will be a development in the near future.

I am also very keen to get together a youth orchestra in South Brisbane. There is far too little in which children can be involved after school hours. There are far too few parks in inner-city areas such as this and cultural facilities are sparse. I believe that a cultural organisation such as a youth orchestra would give a magnificent boost to the interest and activity of many children in the area. If Innisfail, with a population of 6,000, could get a youth orchestra started in a matter of months, surely South Brisbane, with some 26,000 people, should be able to achieve this goal.

There are many other things I should like to canvass. Unfortunately I do not have the time this afternoon. I should like to talk about the problems facing unit-holders that I have already discussed with the Minister for Justice. I should like to talk about the proposals under the new town plan. I hope that people in my electorate are not just trusting and hoping that, because our protests were successful and changes have been made to the old town plan, the new one will suit them. I hope they are going in to examine the changes. I should also like to talk about flood mitigation around Norman Creek, and the problems that may affect my electorate with the development of the Port of Brisbane. However, there is not time this afternoon to allude to all of these and I have gone into them in detail on a previous occasion.

I say in conclusion that the pre-1972 Liberal-Country Party Federal Government was possibly too concerned with economic expansion, and placed too little emphasis on factors affecting quality of life, such as health, welfare and education. When the Labor Party came in and attempted to correct that,

it over-corrected it. It was not professional in the way it went about its projects. It was not selective as to where it spent its money. It was profligate in spending in non-productive areas. A very simple example was the Australian Assistance Plan in Queensland from which not a single cent went into welfare projects in Brisbane. All the money went into administration and salaries for those involved in it. The people of Brisbane saw not a red cent of money to assist them in welfare projects.

I believe that in correcting Labor's lack of professionalism, lack of selection and profligate spending we must be careful not to revert to the other extreme. We must not go back to a concern for economic development only whilst turning a blind eye to welfare, health and education problems. I trust that the Government in Canberra at the moment is a responsible Government and I trust that the people of my electorate will recognise that to be responsible and effective it may have to be unpopular. I know that we Australians are going to have to act and behave more constructively and this is the way in which Governments are going to have to act if Australia is to become again the lucky country.

Mr. M. D. HOOPER (Townsville West) (3.36 p.m.): In the first place, I should like to join with the majority of previous speakers in conveying to the Governor, Sir Colin Hannah, expressions of loyalty on behalf of the citizens of Townsville West to Her Majesty the Queen.

I should also like to congratulate the new member for Clayfield (Mr. Ivan Brown) on his election to Parliament and on the manner in which he moved the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. At the same time I offer congratulations to the new member for Port Curtis (Mr. William Prest). He is following in the footsteps of a very great representative of Port Curtis and I know that the people in his electorate will expect much of him.

I confess that when I was first elected to this Assembly a little less than two years ago I thought, like so many before me, that the State would from that time onwards be a much better place because not only would I be representing my electorate but I would be having some say in the legislation brought down in the House. I thought at the time that I would also know exactly what all the legislation was about. Like so many predecessors of mine, I have received quite a few shocks in the last couple of years.

On the introduction of new legislation, we all have the opportunity to examine it in the party room. We have the right to criticise and to make suggestions. After Bills have been brought down in this Chamber we have a chance to debate them. Each member is able to say what he thinks of a Bill, particularly as it affects his own electorate. But some months later, when the regulations under the legislation are promulgated, new members find out, much to their

surprise, that they did not know exactly what the Bill was about after all. Obviously too much power is given to the Executive Council and the bureaucracy in the promulgation of regulations, and the changes made from time to time without reference to Parliament are sometimes quite out of this world.

I had been warned of these traditional procedures by some of the more senior members when I first entered the House. At the time I was quite intrigued when the Government Whip early in the life of the Parliament pushed so strongly for the establishment of a Committee of Subordinate Legislation. By the time it was formed in about November last year, I was quite convinced of its necessity; but its effectiveness somehow seems to have been stifled to the extent that the Public Service has found some reason to remove the legal adviser from its discussion group and people are now having a considerable amount of trouble in keeping up with the regulations that come before them. I hope that before long the committee will be able to function in the manner envisaged.

I think I speak for members on both sides of the House when I say that members are tired of having to apologise to constituents for legislation introduced from time to time that adversely affects them and their electors. In many cases legislation has quite the opposite effect from that for which members originally voted. I think one of the most glaring examples of this is to be found in the regulations of 1 August dealing with art unions. I am sure that all members have been inundated with complaints from parents and citizens' associations, charitable bodies and sporting organisations in their electorates about the detrimental, even killing, effect that these regulations will have on their fund-raising activities.

The responsible Minister at the time, the former Minister for Justice and Attorney-General, moved quickly to alter the regulations so that they would not prejudice the sponsors of these small art unions and made a comprehensive Press release to this effect. Unfortunately, the Press release was not covered in the media as fully as I think it should have been and quite a lot of mud still sticks to the face of the Government because of the insufficient explanation given to the electors. I have been speaking to the new Minister for Justice about this matter. We are still getting lots of complaints, particularly from the operators of these very small art unions who are confused over the issue and I have suggested to the Minister that perhaps he could make a statement, on the "before and after" principle, of what they paid 12 months ago and what they will pay this financial year. For instance, the statement could indicate that they are going to have to pay for only one permit a year and not run backwards and forwards every week for the issue of new permits. But I do think that, if a more comprehensive and detailed statement were made through the media, many of the p. and

c. organisations and charitable bodies would be more readily convinced that the legislation will not adversely affect them.

I should like to acquaint honourable members with the experience encountered quite recently by some National Party members who visited various regions of the State to inquire into some of the problems confronting small businesses. Of course, the coalition Government fully appreciates that more than 40 per cent of the work-force is traditionally employed by small businesses, and we are therefore dedicated to the support and expansion of free enterprise as a means of achieving full employment. However, our committee was surprised, indeed appalled, at the criticism levelled in some areas at the Government for legislation recently introduced in this House, some of which at the time was said to have been to assist small businesses but which had in fact backfired and struck at the viability of small businesses.

I want to refer briefly to some of this legislation. The first instance was when the then Treasurer (Sir Gordon Chalk) introduced the Budget. He said that the limit of exemption on pay-roll tax was to be lifted from something like \$20,000 to \$41,600, and that nobody would pay more pay-roll tax than he had in the previous year, or at least that is what the statement indicated. Members were not told that in many cases throughout Queensland where families operated different companies in different parts of the State and separate exemptions had been applied to them, the total pay-roll of those companies would thence forth be aggregated and they would pay much more pay-roll tax in the future.

As other members have said, pay-roll tax bears no relation whatsoever to productivity. I know of one Townsville family group which has diverse operations in several parts of North Queensland. They are operated separately purely for the benefit of those organisations and that is why they are kept as entirely different businesses. They are having to pay something like \$5,000 extra in pay-roll tax this year. They are not trying to dodge pay-roll tax, but they are having to pay an extra \$5,000 and this, of course, has meant the loss of one job. One employee has to go to pay for the extra \$5,000 pay-roll tax. That is only one example of what is occurring in relation to what should have been a concession to industry but which in many cases has not proved to be one.

A very glaring case which affected many North Queensland businesses was the increased licence fee on hotels and the two-gallon licences imposed in the last Budget. Until 30 June 1975 hotel licensees paid an annual fee of 6 per cent on the total value of beer, wine and spirits sold in the year and the two-gallon licensees paid a licence fee of 6 per cent on the retail sales of beer, wine and spirits in a year. That, of course, meant that the two-gallon licensee paid a higher licence fee for the same goods sold,

but, as the hotel licensee provided more amenities to the public, this was traditionally accepted by the two-gallon licensees. However, last year, the Parliament voted—I might add after some considerable discussion and dissent—in favour of increasing to 7 per cent the licence fee on liquor purchased by hotels, and, as we all know, the two-gallon licence fee was increased to 15 per cent on the retail value of goods sold.

There was tremendous and vociferous reaction from the two-gallon licensees, throughout North Queensland particularly—and there are 33 such merchants located north of Mackay—and they pointed out, in deputations arranged by various members of this Assembly to the Treasurer, that the two-gallon licensee could not survive with such a large disparity in the licence fees charged, as they would be paying something of the order of 75c more licence fee on, for example, a carton of lager than the hotel licensee. There has been complete chaos in the industry in North Queensland ever since. The largest two-gallon licensee has closed his doors and surrendered his licence. In his case, the Government will lose something over \$100,000 in licence fees. Other two-gallon licensees are threatening similar action, and the Government will lose thousands of dollars in revenue as a consequence.

On the other side of the fence, many of the 33 two-gallon licence holders in North Queensland will be forced out of business, and many employees—possibly up to 200—could lose their jobs.

We have pleaded with the new State Treasurer (Honourable W. E. Knox) to introduce legislation to reduce the licence fees on the two-gallon licensees. If some promise and some offer of retrospectivity could be made to these people in small businesses, I am sure they would be able to continue in future and keep the two-gallon licences operating in North Queensland. They are of great benefit to people in some of the remote areas.

Another item of legislation introduced in the past year has produced a further kick to the Government because of poor research undertaken by departmental heads before its implementation. It is a story I have told before, but I like telling it because I believe that a good story is always worth repeating, and if we keep knocking long enough and hard enough at some of the Government departments, I think we will achieve some success. I refer specifically to the Urban Passenger Service Proprietors Assistance Act introduced to take effect from 1 January this year. The Bill introduced in this Chamber provided that pensioners holding concession entitlement cards under the Social Services Act or the Repatriation Act would be entitled to travel at a 50 per cent concession fare on private urban buses. To offset the loss in revenue to bus proprietors, the State Government would pay a subsidy of 3 per cent on the gross takings paid by all

passengers. The figure of 3 per cent was supposed to make up for the 50 per cent concession to pensioners and also add a little bit of gravy to the businesses of the urban bus proprietors, who it was admitted at the time were having a tough go of things. God only knows how the 3 per cent of gross revenue was calculated. It must have been plucked out of the air by somebody, because experience has shown that they need a subsidy of at least 9 or 10 per cent to break even, let alone have a little bit of cream on the cake.

Bus proprietors are showing substantial losses under this legislation. That is bad enough in itself; but the bus owners have known this for months and, in spite of repeated applications to the State Transport Department in Brisbane, their pleas have been completely ignored. Bus owners in Townsville have no objection to the fare concession being offered to pensioners—it's a great idea—but they do object to socialist legislation which forces them to offer a Government service that they have to subsidise.

One urban transport operator has lost approximately \$3,500 in the first six months of operation, and I have had to take his case direct to the Premier. I hope that very soon some changes will be made on the percentage subsidy to the bus proprietors; otherwise there will be no bus services in the provincial cities for anyone to travel on, let alone pensioners at 50 per cent concession rates.

I have mentioned only a few items of legislation that were introduced by Ministers with the best of good will to assist the members of the community who put us here. We, as back-bench members, debated these Bills and finally helped to make them law. The Subordinate Legislation Committee must be given more research staff, or such research staff must be made available to back-bench members themselves, if we are to ensure that the regulations introduced subsequent to the passage of all Bills are in accord with the spirit of those Bills.

I do not accept the allegations made in some sections of the media that Ministers use the so-called "back door" method of introducing regulations contrary to the spirit of the Bill purely to avoid their debate in Parliament. Whilst we have the Westminster style of government because we believe it is better than any other, there is no reason why we should not try to improve on the system as we know it today. If the Committee of Subordinate Legislation is being hamstrung through lack of research staff, there is no reason why back-bench members themselves cannot become more involved with the introduction of regulations. Every Minister has his parliamentary committee, which discusses with him the contents of a Bill even before it comes before the joint Government parties. Surely each committee could quickly peruse the regulations before they receive Executive Council approval in

what now appears to be purely a process of rubber-stamping regulations laid down by the bureaucracy.

Ministers are far too busy in the day-to-day affairs of government decision-making, but back-benchers can be used to greater effect and they want to be used for this purpose. I know the answer I will get to this suggestion—that it will slow down the process of implementing the regulations. However, I am sure that most Government members would rather hasten slowly than see legislation introduced to benefit the community and to give support for small businesses only to finish up with egg on our faces.

I understand that in this session of Parliament the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads will try to have a noise abatement Bill passed. I fully support the Minister in the introduction of such a Bill, as it is one of the promises I made to the electors of Townsville West before the last election. As mayor of the city of Townsville I have no hesitation in saying that through the local health department more complaints have been made to the city council about noise in residential areas than any other type of complaint. I still get those complaints. At the moment when a complaint comes to the council about noise in an industrial undertaking outside normal working hours or about loud amplified music from a party in a residential area late at night, the council passes the buck on to the Police Department. Likewise, if the police get the complaint first, they pass the buck on to the council. Each hopes that the complainant will stop complaining by the time the noise has stopped. In the meantime we have many discontented citizens in the community who expect us, as legislators, to take the bit in our teeth and introduce a Bill which will define noise limits that can be permitted in certain areas at certain times of the day and night, and which will define whose responsibility it is to ensure that the legislation is carried out.

I believe that the mere introduction of this legislation in itself will be some deterrent to most offenders who now blatantly cause undue noise because they know that there is no legislation to control them. Here again I firmly believe that members have been reluctant in the past to pass such a Bill in this Parliament, or to approve it in the joint-party room, because of their doubts about the regulations that would be gazetted subsequent to the passage of the Bill. I know that the Minister is very sensitive to the wishes of members in this regard, and I am sure that he will see that the regulations under the Bill are rigidly controlled by himself and nobody else.

As I stated earlier, this Government acknowledges the importance of small business and the tremendous influence it has on employment in Queensland. We have done much to encourage decentralisation with the development of industrial estates in Brisbane

and provincial cities. Land is available at a reasonable rental, and in some cases the Department of Industrial Development has erected buildings for pioneer industries, allowing the owner of the new business to use his limited capital on plant, equipment and stock. However, I feel that we do lag behind Victoria in the incentives we offer to decentralised industry so that it can compete against its counterparts in the capital city. It is simply not good enough for the Government to say to a developer, "We will offer you industrial land at a cheap rental if you will establish a steel fabrication plant in Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville or Cairns", but after he has established himself to let him paddle his own canoe so that before he knows where he is he gets sunk by the big operators in Brisbane. The Government should also be saying, "Once you have established in a decentralised area, we will give you incentives to make sure that you remain viable and can afford to keep employees on in your factory because we have allowed you to compete against your counterpart in Brisbane."

I have previously referred to the fact that in the past year several million dollars of work in the steel fabrication industry in Townsville has been lost to Brisbane and Sydney contractors. The Brisbane contractor has a start on the northern businessman because he gets capital city prices for his steel, a difference of something like \$18 a tonne. The interstate contractor is able to dodge road tax on his freight because of section 92 of the Commonwealth Constitution. In Victoria, a manufacturing or processing industry declared by the Minister for State Development as an approved decentralised secondary industry established outside a radius of 80 kilometres from Melbourne receives each year (a) a 100 per cent rebate of pay-roll tax and (b) a 100 per cent rebate of land tax. In each case the taxes must be paid—they are not an exemption—but they are rebated in full if application is made before 30 November each year. Even the Victorian Railway Department comes to the party. Not only are freight concessions given on raw materials freighted ex Melbourne, but also concessions are given on the manufactured article from the decentralised area to Melbourne. These are definite incentives for developers to decentralise their operations and for people to relocate their families away from the huge capital city of Melbourne. I hope this Government will give more positive aid to small business in provincial areas when the Budget is presented later this month.

Mr. CASEY (Mackay) (3.55 p.m.): At the outset, on behalf of the electors of Mackay I reaffirm our loyalty to the system that we follow in the State of Queensland, the three-structure system of the Crown, the Parliament and the people, and I welcome to this Parliament Mr. Prest as the member for Port Curtis and Mr. Brown as the member for Clayfield.

I would join with many other parliamentarians who have expressed their regret at the passing from this Parliament of Sir Gordon Chalk. To the comments that have already been made concerning him I would add that, in my opinion, he was a great parliamentarian. On his appointment to the Ministry he did not forget that Parliament was all important. He always treated parliamentarians as parliamentarians. Unlike some other members who were appointed to the Ministry, he never forgot whence he came.

I have carefully studied His Excellency's Opening Speech for the specific purpose of ascertaining what this Government proposes to do during this session to help solve the problems confronting two of the State's greatest primary industries, namely, the beef industry and the dairying industry. Although I examined the Opening Speech very closely, I could find nothing that gave any indication at all of the Government's intentions in relation to the beef industry.

All of us are aware of the present parlous state of the beef industry. Yet, hard as I looked, I could find no reference to it. The main reference to primary industry matters in the Opening Speech were to fruit and vegetable research and the establishment of a new entomology laboratory for the study of insects. I would say only this: the majority of Queenslanders are not vegetarians but beef-eaters. The beef industry is important to the State not only because of the quantity of beef that we eat, which represents 20 per cent of our production, but also because we export 80 per cent of our output. Although the beef industry is in the worst position in living memory the Opening Speech makes no reference whatever to it.

It does, however, state that the Lands Department will call applications during the year for the development of cattle grazing lands in North Queensland covering an area of 377,800 hectares, or nearly 1,000,000 acres. Perhaps this will react to the detriment of the beef industry. I do not know what will happen to this land. Perhaps it is to be made available to those people who are ready to walk off their brigalow lands, having been put there in recent times under State and Commonwealth schemes.

What efforts has the State made to help solve the problems confronting the beef industry? Recently we have heard a good deal about the State Beef Industry Committee—a body with an impressive title. From Press statements that have been made, we gather the impression that it will come forward with magical solutions to problems facing the beef industry. But on examination we find that that committee will comprise the Minister for Primary Industries (that is fair enough, I suppose); six Government back-benchers in this Parliament, all of whom have vested interests in the beef industry; two officers of the Department of Primary Industries; three representatives of various branches of the United Graziers' Association; and one

representative of the Cattlemen's Union I shall explain later how he came to be a member of the committee. It so happens that he was a member of the U.G.A. when selected.

The committee has held numerous meetings and has issued many statements over the last 12 or 15 months. However, it is a committee that is not representative of the beef industry of Queensland. That is the major criticism that I level at it. Before we can solve the problems confronting the beef industry, we must consider it as an industry and we must look at all segments of it. But most importantly, all segments should be represented on the committee that has been set up.

Although the producers are represented on it, the processors are not. The retailers, the Meat Workers' Union and various other unions involved in meat trading in the State are not represented. Nor are the agents, who play a vital role. Although I have been critical of the agents at times, the industry is so structured that they are entitled to be represented on any such committee. Even the consumers could well be represented.

The Queensland Government has a responsibility to get all sections of the industry together but it has not done so. A tremendous change takes place from the time the beast leaves the producer's property until the beef finally gets between the teeth of an American truckie on a hamburger stand somewhere in America, which is our major export market.

Many people play a part in handling this product. Until beef hits the abattoir it is easily handled on the hoof while in transport or in the saleyards. But in the slaughter of cattle labour becomes heavily involved. The beef industry is very labour-intensive. A beast has to be killed and dressed and the meat has to be handled and delivered to the chiller. It has to be boned, sliced, packed and wrapped for the export or local trade. At all times beef is a highly perishable article after the beast is slaughtered. Many costs are incurred before meat becomes part of our great export trade. I instance the cost of packaging materials, freezing, storage, freight and shipping. These are all closely integrated fields in this industry which is vital to Queensland.

The only suggestion made by the Government committee concerns a stabilisation scheme which, I noted, was again shelved in Cabinet yesterday and is to be looked at later this week. I remember that a similar suggestion was made early in the 1960s. However, it was dropped quickly when the big prices were paid in the early 1970s and things were going well. The time to set up a stabilisation scheme is when high prices are being paid, not when prices are at their lowest.

As I have said on other occasions, this is a matter which the sugar industry should be looking into now rather than squandering

money on various other proposals that save the State Government and various other organisations considerable expense. It should be investigating a stabilisation scheme for the industry while prices are high.

In the early 1970s, when beef prices were high, the United Graziers' Association would not discuss this subject. It was not interested in a beef stabilisation scheme and would not listen to anybody who broached such a proposal. The graziers were not interested, either. It was too far under their big, broad-brimmed hats. Everything was going very well and they were making plenty of money. Even now the United Graziers Association has no right to speak on behalf of cattlemen in Queensland because more than 70 per cent of beef producers in Queensland are not members of that association. The Queensland Government does not recognise that principle. It carries its dislike of the one vote, one value system or the one vote, one voice system in the parliamentary sphere right into the primary-producing field. The principle of one vote, one vote could well be applied to the grazing industry. But the big, wealthy grazing combines, the backbone of the United Graziers Association, must have their say and they wish to ensure that they maintain their say.

Mr. Elliott: Do you feel that the Government, or the Minister in particular, has not taken any notice of the facts?

Mr. CASEY: I shall come to that at a later stage and touch on the Cattlemen's Union.

The United Graziers' Association is continuing its fight and is continuing its close liaison with this Government to ensure that it maintains control of this very wealthy industry. Despite the slump at this stage, it is still a wealthy industry so far as the State's earnings are concerned. On a comparison between it and the other primary industries in this State, and the statutory organisations that are set up by the legislation of this Parliament to support and strengthen those other primary industries, it is amazing to discover that beef and wool are the outstanding exceptions; they are the only two major industries in the State that have not their own statutory organisations and mandatory membership for those involved in them. That system applies in every other primary industry, such as sugar, grain, and even some of the smaller industries such as millet, which have their own small marketing boards. Growers or producers have statutory representation on all of these organisations.

I believe that the present stabilisation proposal, as it has been described in the Press to date, could be fraught with problems for Queensland. Because 80 per cent of our Queensland production is exported, it could well be that the Queensland consumer will be subsidising, for instance, the American consumer. I support the view that, in some respects, the graziers and the people involved on this committee are looking only at the

aspect of a minimum farm price at this stage. Certainly I believe that producers are entitled to a minimum price for their product, provided it is properly graded and classed, a matter on which I shall touch later.

Only one in five of the bullocks produced goes to the local market. The other four go to the export processor, who will buy those bullocks at the minimum price prevailing at that time. The processor will not process meat and lose money. His industry is governed by world market prices at any given time because of the situation that exists in the world marketing of beef. In actual fact, if the processor is forced to pay a price higher than he desires, in accordance with his marketing information, we could see some works in Queensland forced to close down or to cut back considerably in production. That would be very much to the detriment of other sections and aspects of the industry—at a time when we already have very high unemployment.

There is no question that world markets can be manipulated. Anybody wanting an example need do no more than look at what happened during 1972, 1973 and into 1974 when prices were very high and the way in which E.E.C. countries purchased tremendous tonnages of beef from Australia and other countries, which they then placed into storage. They have continued to use the buffer storage to manipulate world markets and prices. While they have been working on a guaranteed price, set up in their own structure, they have ensured that the beef producers of the world came back onto starvation prices. Their policy even had the effect of forcing prices down on the major American market.

It was not only the E.E.C. countries that were involved in this scheme. Look at Australia's trading with the United Kingdom in 1972-1973—the very year that the United Kingdom was becoming a member of the E.E.C. It virtually more than doubled its beef imports compared with those in any year it imported from Australia. This was done to use our beef as a swinging deal in order to gain extra impetus for its own beef industry and for other aspects of its own complex operations within the beef industry. Certainly this market can be manipulated.

I agree that many cattlemen in Queensland today are in a very desperate situation. This perhaps is not the first time they have been in this plight. If one talks to some of the old-timers, they will say, "This is not the first time it's happened and it will happen again in the beef industry. It happens because of the way we are structured." I particularly agree with that point of view. The industry is suffering, as it has during other downturns in the beef industry, from a lack of a strong and effective producers' organisation.

I believe that the lack of such a body has been detrimental to the industry. It has meant that it has been subject to pressure from whichever segment has held the whip

at a particular time. It may have been the agents or processors, and the producers have also been involved in this as you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, well know. You would know of occasions in your own electorate when graziers have held back bullocks in an attempt to manipulate the market to their advantage, without taking into consideration the fact that they were part of the industry as a whole. I think this is an over-all problem that still exists. It certainly exists in the examinations made by the Government's Beef Industry Committee because it is not a representative organisation. In fact, it is far from it.

When we talk of producers' organisations in the grazing industry, the United Graziers' Association and its various affiliated bodies stand condemned for their past lethargy in the beef industry. We see that the same situation has arisen in the wool industry, the other industry covered by the U.G.A. In the wool industry there have been periods of great boom and great bust. In fact, in the early 1970s the U.G.A. was the very organisation that encouraged a great number of graziers in Queensland to go out of sheep and into beef. In driving through this State one can see areas that were under sheep for almost a century and that have now turned to beef production. The U.G.A. recommended at that stage that graziers turn to beef production to cope with the downturn in the price of wool.

U.G.A. representation of cattlemen under such circumstances would be like sugar industry representation of wheatgrowers. In the early days of this State there was the strange system whereby sugar producers were represented by an organisation known as the Coffee and Sugar Planters' Association. All the early Acts of Parliament relating to sugar were known as coffee and sugar Acts. If one goes to the archives of this House, one will find that to be so. Fortunately a long time ago the sugar industry started to become established on a firm basis. The passing of the Sugar Acquisition Act 60 years ago was the real starting point and from that time this industry has not looked back. It is properly organised and controlled from producer level to marketing level and at all levels the producers have a say.

Let me now return to the United Graziers' Association and the way in which it has handled the beef and wool industries over the years, because it is important that we give some consideration to that. This National-Liberal Government has tied itself firmly to the U.G.A. ever since it came to office in 1957. It has acknowledged the existence of the Cattlemen's Union only to try to prevent political boat-rocking. The Cattlemen's Union was born out of sheer desperation in an endeavour to get some proper representation and a good hearing from Governments at some level on the real problems of the cattle industry.

I think this has been one of the problems of the industry and it is one that is still there today. There is too much political interference, in particular by the National Party, on behalf of the United Graziers' Association and other groups involved in the industry. There has been too much political interference from various organisations and little groups who want to ensure that their boat is not rocked, that nothing upsets the local branch, and that nobody brings up any real problems. They say, "We have to hang on. We can't be critical of our Government."

Mr. Powell: You don't know what you're talking about.

Mr. CASEY: If it is going to be "our Government", let it demonstrate some real and genuine concern for the people who are involved at all levels of the industry. Let us get all levels involved in this Beef Industry Committee that has been set up. I heard an interjection a while ago. Perhaps that member might disagree, but if he wants a good example of what happened he has only to look at what happened earlier this year in Rockhampton.

The Minister for Primary Industries went to Rockhampton and attended a meeting of over 600 cattlemen. They got together because things were desperate and they wanted to form their own organisation. The Central Coastal Graziers' Association was very cranky about what had been going on in the United Graziers' Association. They were getting ready to set up their own organisation because they could not get any proper support from this Government through other organisations. The Minister for Primary Industries attended that meeting. There was a lot of criticism of the Government, but he just sat through the meeting and did not say a word other than that he was there to listen to what they had to say and to carry it back to the Government.

The very next day that same Minister came back to Brisbane and launched a bitter tirade against the Central Coastal Graziers' Association and those members of it who were about to set up the Cattlemen's Union in Queensland. Why did he not do it when he was on the spot at the meeting? Surely his mind was not changed in one day? I believe he waited until such time as he came back and had further consultations with the United Graziers' Association, because I reiterate that there is a tremendous tie between that association and the Government, and the Government does not dare to give strong support to the Cattlemen's Union for fear of rocking the political boat. The Government is playing politics with the lives of the cattlemen of this State. This Government is acting purely as a puppet for the United Graziers' Association in this matter.

How was the Beef Industry Committee selected? It would be very interesting to find out why particular persons were asked to participate in the examination of the industry,

and I would say, for the want of a better reason being given by anyone, that the committee was formulated purely for political purposes.

Unfortunately, the Queensland Cattlemen's Union is years late in its formation. Its members have much ground to gain, but I believe they will gain it because they are trying to get over their first hurdle. The first hurdle they have to overcome is National Party interference in their industry. It is an industry organisation that they have to set up, not a political one. There are those within the Cattlemen's Union itself who are saying, "Let us not go a little bit too far because we might upset some fellows within our Government." I say to the members of the Cattlemen's Union, "Go as far as you desire in accordance with what you believe is in the best interests of your industry because that, after all, is what you are trying to do. You are trying to get the best deal possible for your industry, and remember, it is an industry organisation that you are setting up."

The first problem they run up against as an industry organisation—whether we call it the Cattlemen's Union or something else—is that the greatest need in Queensland is for a statutory organisation of cattlemen with mandatory membership of all cattle producers in the State. As such they should also have a properly representative structure, not just something that is going to be established in accordance with somebody's whim or desire or at somebody's direction.

Mr. Powell: Are you a compulsory unionism man?

Mr. CASEY: Yes, I am a compulsory unionism man. I have never denied it.

Mr. Jones: What about the cane-growers?

Mr. CASEY: I believe that any person in a community who is getting an advantage out of an organisation should subscribe to the organisation. Perhaps the honourable member for Isis does not really know what happens in his own electorate. Let him go out and ask every cane grower in his electorate whether they desire to be members of the Queensland Cane-growers' Council. Under legislation of this Parliament, they are mandatory members of their organisation. If the honourable member wants an example of compulsory unionism, I invite him to inquire at the first cane farm that he comes to in his electorate.

A statutory organisation with mandatory membership is essential for the grazing industry of this State. It will not come from the present Government, judging by the way it has been operating in support of the United Graziers' Association. It will not come from the Government, because the little man within the beef industry would have just as much say as the big man within the industry.

For three years the National Party in this State pulled the wool over the eyes of the graziers about the world situation for the marketing of beef. It blamed the Federal Labor Government. I would be the first to accept that the Federal Labor Government did some things that upset the rural industries. But the Federal Labor Government certainly cannot be blamed for the events that I mentioned earlier—the manipulation by the European Economic Community and Great Britain in 1972-73, and also in 1971-72, of world markets in that particular sphere. Labor was not even in power then. It was just coming to power when that had been negotiated and was coming into being. I cannot see that anyone in this Chamber could blame the Labor Government for the subsequent manipulation by the E.E.C. of the world market in beef. Pressure was even exerted on the American market to force a downturn in the price of beef there. Surely Government members cannot blame the Whitlam Government for that.

Situations such as the ones to which I have referred existed for some years, but for three years the wool was pulled over the eyes of the graziers. It has been only in the last nine months, since the election of a Liberal-National Country Party Government in Canberra, that people within the beef industry have suddenly begun to discover these very real problems, and there are more complex problems within the beef industry today than those that they were told were the responsibility of the Labor Government. The inactivity of the Liberal and National Parties during this period caused part of the problem. After all, it needs only a small ripple in beef trading in the E.E.C. to produce a tidal wave in Australia. There are markets in Europe because there are large numbers of people there. In Australia, the home-consumption market is not a big one. In Queensland, for example, it is only 20 per cent, the other 80 per cent having to be exported.

While I am speaking of exports, I ask: who did upset trading through the back-door arrangement in Puerto Rico? Somebody must have got a cop out of it or a rake-off out of it. Australia this year will lose about 10,000 tonnes of beef on the American market because the quantity going through Puerto Rico is now being counted as part of the total American imports from Australia. Did the Meat Board know about it? Did the producers' representatives on the Meat Board know about it? These are very interesting questions, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I know you would like to be able to give the beef producers in your electorate the answer to them, and I would like to be able to give the beef producers of Queensland the answer to them. Who did these things?

Coming back to the local scene, I ask: who encouraged the graziers to go out of wool into beef in the 1970s? Again that was long before the Whitlam Government

came to power. I remember being out in the electorate of the honourable member for Warrego early in 1970—I think I might even have been on his property—seeing instances of men, and very good men, who had changed from wool to beef production. The honourable member is a very capable man in his own industry. We will not talk about his politics, Mr. Deputy Speaker; the honourable member for Archerfield spoke about that earlier in the debate. The honourable member for Warrego had been advised by various people to change to beef production, and many others in that area were given similar advice.

The Rural Reconstruction Board set up by the Queensland Government not only advised but instructed applicants from some areas that they should change from sheep to beef in the early 1970s. Indeed, the Rural Reconstruction Board financed much of the change-over by those people. Big debts have been incurred by many of them in the change-over. At the same time we have had the freeholding of land. Big debts have been incurred by many graziers in the West in freeholding their properties. With the downturn in the beef industry, they cannot meet their high interest payments. That is another reason why pressure is being brought on the Government to abolish death duties. It is coming from the big grazier—not the small grazier—in order to get himself out of some of his problems resulting from advice he has been given.

Let us look at another aspect of the beef trade, namely, the control of the retail trade. Unfortunately, we see another problem that exists today. The retail trade in the beef industry is being controlled by the big super-market chains. They are becoming major outlets and are manipulating the market. If we are going to have a beef stabilisation scheme, we have to insist that the super-market retail outlets play the game. As retailers they must be prepared to do their duty by the industry as a whole. We see big advertisements in any newspaper we pick up which draw attention to the colossal bargains in the meat halls of the supermarkets. Many of them are using their buying power on a State-wide basis to manipulate lower prices not for the benefit of the consumers or the benefit of the beef industry, but to attract more persons into their supermarkets to buy Rinso, jam and other manufactured products on their shelves. They are meeting high competition in the sale of those products from big buying groups that are able to match the prices of the supermarkets. Therefore the big supermarkets are using the beef retail trade to attract customers.

The July 1976 figures of the Australian Government Bureau of Census and Statistics indicate that over the last four or five years there has been a virtual 50 per cent expansion in beef production in Queensland because of the change-over from wool production to beef production and other reasons. When one closely examines those figures, and takes

into account the alterations in statistical areas, one notes that in the south-eastern and south-western divisions, including the Burnett-Wide Bay area, there has been an increase in production of something like 70 per cent. That is the area where the biggest change-over from wool to beef occurred. It is the area where we have seen many cattle improvement schemes initiated by Queen Street graziers who have been anxious to use their grazing properties as a taxation dodge. In the Fitzroy, Mackay and Central Western areas, where normally the biggest cattle numbers are carried, there has been an increase in production of something like 40 per cent. In the North-west and in the Far North there has been an increase of only 10 per cent.

Is it any wonder that the members of the Central Coast Graziers' Association and the North and Western Graziers' Association are flocking to the Cattlemen's Union? Is it any wonder that we have a lot of very frightened National Party leaders around the State who hope the situation is going to right itself? Is it any wonder they are worried when we see statements such as I saw recently coming from former members of the party, now prominent cattlemen in Queensland, to the effect that the cattle industry cannot afford to continue as a free-enterprise industry? Another even proposed outright the nationalisation of the beef industry in Queensland.

Before we go into a beef stabilisation scheme we must take urgent steps to fix up the industry. I have already mentioned the first one, namely, the setting up of a statutory organisation for beef producers with producer representation at all levels. I mean, of course, elected representation, not selected representation, which we see so often in the establishment by this State Government of statutory bodies.

The second step is the implementation of a carcass classification scheme with associated grading under a law of this Parliament. This will entail the classification of the carcass both at the chain in the processing plant and at the point of sale to the consumer, ensuring that the consumer is given the grade of meat that he pays for.

The third step is the creation of an organised marketing plan based not only on home consumption but on exports as well. This, of course, would be a very difficult and complex plan to embark upon, and it would be one requiring close co-operation between all States and the Commonwealth. As I have said, before it is possible to have a workable beef stabilisation scheme, we must take those three steps that I have outlined.

For the life of me I cannot see the logic in spending vast sums of money on the transport of cattle by special trains from Mt. Isa, Julia Creek, Cloncurry and Winton to Beaudesert, Murarrie and Cannon Hill. Instead of doing that we should take the three steps that I have outlined, thereby obtaining better

decentralisation of our beef industry. It is clear that containerisation is the quickest and cheapest method of moving meat either on rail or through the ports. I am, of course, a supporter of the ports. The Queensland Government must look closely at the carriage of meat in packs in containers.

Queenslanders have always been used to having on their table meat of high quality. The Government should ensure that they continue to enjoy a quality product and also that we develop a name for quality on our export markets. Our major competitor, New Zealand, has managed to do this, and we should follow suit.

Before I conclude I want to deal with coal. At the commencement of this session I asked the Premier a question about the coal levy. I asked what would happen now that the Federal Government levy was to be reduced by \$1.50 a tonne. I asked whether the saving would be retained by the companies or passed on to the buyers. Quite surprisingly, the Premier answered that he did not know but felt that the companies were entitled to it. He indicated that some of the coal-mining companies were not profitable and needed finance rather badly. The very next day, however, Utah announced that for three parts of the year it had made a profit of \$100,000,000 and that the profit would probably be higher over the full year.

Mr. Newbery: What percentage is that on capital?

Mr. CASEY: Don't get excited. The Minister and I would know that the Utah company is very well organised and operates smoothly. It is a very good operator. However, if it can make such a high profit, why cannot other mining companies make similar profits? Something is going wrong in our coal industry. Companies that need money should look at the way Utah operates. If they do that they might be able to improve their productivity, to employ a term that is used frequently by members of the Liberal and National Parties.

The point I want to highlight is that in January of this year the Premier said that now that we had a Federal Government of his own political colour he would try to have the \$6 per tonne export levy transferred to the Queensland Government. He felt that the State was entitled to it. The very next day the then Treasurer (Sir Gordon Chalk) announced that Queensland would hold out on any further deals regarding Norwich Park and other developments in the industry to ensure that it received at least the \$6 a tonne that the Federal Government was receiving. The day before I asked the Premier the question to which I referred, the Minister for Mines and Energy, who had just returned from Japan, indicated that the Japanese buyers would not get themselves involved in the operations in Queensland.

(Time expired.)

Mr. POWELL (Isis) (4.36 p.m.): I support the motion so capably moved by the newly elected honourable member for Clayfield and seconded by the honourable member for Mt. Isa.

I associate myself and the electors of Isis with the remarks made previously by other honourable members in tribute to Sir Gordon Chalk, who recently retired from this Assembly. His contribution to the State will be felt, no doubt, for many years to come. Treasurers who follow him will, I am sure, try to aspire to the heights he reached.

On behalf of the electors of Isis, I pledge my allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen and the system of government that we are privileged to enjoy in Queensland.

The Isis electorate, numerically, is growing rapidly. As a result, it is confronted with many problems inherent in such growth. The most important industry in the electorate is sugar—followed closely by tourism. When I mention those two industries, I must refer to a couple of problems that are rife in the Isis electorate. Everything appears to be going very well in the sugar industry. The price of the product is good, the export market is good and the industry could be said to be very prosperous.

But the sugar industry in Isis has a real problem—lack of water. Thanks to a wise Government, a dam is being built to conserve water. It is designed to serve the Bundaberg sugar-producing area. Unfortunately funds have dried up. Money appropriated by the State to be used on the dam has been whittled away quickly by inflation. The Queensland State Government is certainly not at fault, but its contribution to the dam has not produced as many works as we would like to see. I have made pleas on behalf of the cane farmers in the Isis area, and I know that on behalf of cane farmers in areas to the north and east of Bundaberg my colleague the Minister for Aboriginal and Islanders Advancement and Fisheries has made representations to have the dam finished as quickly as possible to overcome drought problems.

Honourable members may have read in the latest issue of "The Sunday Mail" a letter to the editor from a person living in the south-eastern part of the Bundaberg area. It criticised the scheme and the way in which water is to be conveyed from the dam to the farms. The Irrigation and Water Supply Commission would do well to take note of that letter and the person who wrote it. He presented the thoughts of a considerable number of growers in his area. The producers in the Isis area who dry-farm most of the time certainly need water. In the last few years we have had some very good seasons. We all hope that they will continue. We must face the fact that we will have droughts in future. It would be a strange situation if we had a dam full of water and no way of getting it to drought-stricken farmers.

Tourism would be the second most important industry in my electorate, especially in its southern part. In the Hervey Bay and Fraser Island areas of my electorate the tourism industry is of great importance. The organisation of this industry in that part of Queensland needs to be looked at very closely. We believe that it is one of the best areas in the State. Unfortunately we have not been able to get tourist operators and local authorities together to plan with one aim in view.

Much has been said about regional tourist associations. In some areas they may be extremely good, but I do not see how we could possibly lump together, under one regional tourist association, places such as Hervey Bay, Mundubbera, Eidsvold and Monto. Their tourist attractions have quite a diverse appeal. The Bundaberg District Development Board Ltd. was very wise in opting out of the areas to the south, which come into my electorate also, and in setting up its own regional tourist association. The people of Hervey Bay and Fraser Island would dearly love to have their own tourist association so that they could put forward their ideas and could sell their region in a concise and definite manner. However, at the moment, this is not happening and I hope that, with help from the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau, which has been forthcoming to date, in the near future this area will be able to co-ordinate its efforts. I have attended many meetings—and in fact have to attend a couple more this week—where an effort has been made to co-ordinate tourism in this particular area.

As Isis is a fast-growing electorate, another of its problems is housing. Honourable members would have noted the number of questions that I have asked in the House of the Minister for Works and Housing (Honourable N. E. Lee) on this matter. I record my appreciation and that of the many people in Isis for what Norm Lee has done. He has been able to acknowledge the logic in our arguments and, therefore, has been able to encourage the Queensland Housing Commission to place houses where they have not been allocated before.

Since my election to this place in December 1974, we have been able, through various means, to convince the Housing Commission to allocate a further 28 houses to Bundaberg, as well as pensioner accommodation. But this does not fulfil the need. There is still a need for extra houses in Bundaberg but, now that the Government has a representative in the area, the Housing Commission is being persuaded to look at our problems and do something about them. Of course, the commission had run out of land and we were able to convince it to purchase 22 allotments in the Bundaberg area so that it would have somewhere to build. I disagree entirely with the proposition that the Housing Commission should buy up large tracts of land, subdivide it and erect Housing Commission houses in small

colonies. Surely the attitude that the Housing Commission has taken in Bundaberg of buying selected allotments in various areas and erecting rental houses on them is preferable.

The Queensland Government has gone further than simply looking at the very short-term idea of rental housing; we have been able to adopt the very reasonable attitude of allowing people to buy their houses. To me, that is a step very much in the right direction. People are ever willing to castigate the Government but never willing to offer congratulations. Home-ownership is one of those ideals to which most people aspire and it is encouraging to see that the Queensland Government, through the Housing Commission, has been able to provide a new way of allowing people to buy homes on much easier terms.

It is difficult to get from one end of my electorate to the other and to make regular and frequent visits to other areas. Earlier in the debate mention was made of a study being made into transport between Brisbane and the Gold Coast. Each member could no doubt advise the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads on how to spend the \$100,000, which that transport study will cost, on the upgrading of roads in his electorate. I was disappointed to see that \$100,000 is to be spent in the south-east corner of the State at a time when other areas are sadly in need of an upgrading of roads.

On every available opportunity I have spoken about the roads leading to Hervey Bay, particularly the deplorable state of the road from Torbanlea. This is a major tourist road and most people who use it once, particularly tourists who go there only occasionally, declare that they will not use it again. It is totally unsuitable for the towing of caravans and it is deteriorating very quickly. It is now in the hands of two local authorities, whereas before March of this year it was in the hands of one. Each is throwing the ball into the other's court and the job is not being done—and it should be done for the benefit of Hervey Bay. I hope that the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads will look at this matter closely.

Since I last spoke in a debate of this nature, local authority elections have been held and there is a new local authority at Hervey Bay. Like most fledglings, it is having its problems but we are hopeful that the shire will grow and that the council members will co-operate and pull together so that the creation of this shire will be to the advantage of Hervey Bay. The council has the problem of obtaining enough money to carry out the works required to promote and improve the area. Tourism is one of its most important industries.

There has been talk about communications and transport. I would certainly like to see the much-mentioned and much-vaunted tourist coastal road established as soon as

possible. It would be of great advantage not only in its tourist potential but in the way it will join places along the coast from Rainbow Beach to Hervey Bay. It will present quite a number of engineering problems. From Hervey Bay the road could sweep north, taking in areas round Bundaberg and beyond. Instead of going along back roads and up hill and down dale, travellers should be able to travel along the coast on a major road. This would bring tourist resorts closer to the people of Brisbane and improve communications for those in places served by this major road.

The Government is continuing its policy of decentralisation, and the state of industry at Bundaberg is progressing in a very real fashion. It is progressing because small businessmen are willing to take the initiative and, with the encouragement that the Government gives to them, go onto industrial estates and decentralise industry. I do not know why industrial estates have been established at places close to Brisbane such as Narangba and Darra. I cannot see that that gives a great deal of help to decentralisation, but I do believe that the State Government is on the right track. The three industrial estates in my electorate are there for people to use, and they should acknowledge the assistance that is given to them. Of course, we in the country need that assistance to decentralise in a real and effective way.

During this debate Opposition members have spoken mainly about the Federal Budget. They have ignored State issues, probably because they find it difficult to say enough about them to fill in a speech. Of course, we on this side are trying to put forward positive suggestions, as we always do, and it will be noticed that during this debate we have spoken about State issues, and State issues alone. But one issue which affects us on a State and Federal basis and about which I would like to say a few words is Medibank. I am sick and tired of the lies, misstatements and half-truths which are being disseminated by members of the Labor Party, both State and Federal, about Medibank. Anybody in his right mind who suggests that we in Queensland have had a free hospital system for the past "X" number of years is just not right; we have always had to pay for it through taxes. We just have not known how much we have been paying. Money might have been channelled into hospitals in other ways, but nobody would accept that we have had a completely free hospital system in this State.

The Medibank system that was introduced by the Labor Government was totally unwanted by Queensland. A study of all the statements made when Medibank was introduced last year indicates that it was unwanted by Queensland, and, if everybody had backed the Premier we might not have been in the position we find ourselves in today. Labor Party spokesmen have been jumping up and down about Medibank and

spouting their clichés about the poor and the unemployed not receiving assistance. Of course, that is not right, and if they read the statements made about the Federal Government proposals for Medibank they will find that people below a certain level of income will not pay a single cent but will in fact receive free medical treatment, which the rest of the community will not receive. Previously they did not pay into a health scheme and did not receive treatment but now they will receive free medical care which will be paid for by those who pay higher taxes. So let us get away from these clichés which the Labor Party keeps bringing up about the Liberal-National Country Party Government in Canberra. We in the National and Liberal Parties in Queensland have demonstrated what we can do and we have demonstrated that we are a responsible Government.

Dr. Scott-Young: Don't you think it is our attempt to clear up the mess the Labor Party brought in?

Mr. POWELL: Definitely. We are trying to clear up the mess created by Labor, but we are forced to listen to Labor Party spokesmen like the member who preceded me in this debate. He does not call himself a Labor Party spokesman, although he really is. He stood up and rattled on for 40 minutes about the beef industry, a subject about which I suggest he knows very little. He said what a terrible thing it was that this Government had not done something about the problems of the beef industry immediately, when it took the Labor Government three years to create the problems. How can the Federal Government in nine months resurrect an industry that was wrecked by three years of Labor Government? We cannot. It is going to take time and work.

The Labor Party finds rather unpalatable some of the statements that have been made from this side of the House, such as, "We need to work and we need to get value for the money we are paying out." Honourable members who went to Korea during the recess told me about the amount of work done in the shipyards over there. Those fellows work very hard and that is why they are succeeding. When people come back to Australia and see the amount of work that is being done here for each dollar expended—

Mr. Goleby: They work a 60-minute hour.

Mr. POWELL: People find that there is a great deal less work done here than in Korea. As the honourable member for Redlands suggests, the people in Korea work a 60-minute hour. They work a lot harder than Australian workers and their ideas about work are to be commended to the Australian people. Of course, Australians used to work as hard as those people do. Dairy farmers still do. If they did not, they would not make a living. Other people on the land

have to or they do not make a living. It is only those who are able to sit back on social service payments—

Honourable Members interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. Gunn): Order! There is far too much cross-firing in the Chamber.

Mr. POWELL: Several members of the Labor Party have been saying what a sad thing it is that the Federal Government has cut back on social services. As I mentioned earlier, Fraser Island is in my electorate, and it is astounding how many of the hippies and layabouts who were there last year have left because they can no longer have their unemployment cheques sent to them while holidaying on the island.

Mr. Tenni: It is the same at Kuranda.

Mr. POWELL: It is the same throughout the country.

We will get this country back on its feet, Mr. Deputy Speaker, given time. We do not need to spend as much money on social services as before. We will be able to get away from all the waste that was taking place and all the double payments there were being made.

In supporting the motion, Mr. Deputy Speaker, I am particularly pleased to be part of a Government that has developed this State so well.

Mr. Jones interjected.

Mr. Frawley interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member for Cairns and the honourable member for Murrumba will have an opportunity to speak later.

Mr. POWELL: I sincerely hope that the Government will be given the opportunity to enable Queensland to continue to progress as it has done in the past—in a sensible way and on the basis of a philosophy of freedom through free enterprise. If the Government continues to follow that philosophy, I am sure the State will continue to prosper.

Mr. GLASSON (Gregory) (4.57 p.m.): I support the motion moved by the honourable member for Clayfield (Mr. Brown), who has taken the place of a very distinguished former member and who has much to live up to.

I take this opportunity to welcome the honourable member for Port Curtis (Mr. Prest), whose entry to this Chamber followed the very untimely death of the late Marty Hanson, for whom all honourable members had a tremendous regard and respect. The honourable member for Port Curtis, in his turn, has a great deal to live up to. It is worthy of note that Mr. Prest is an old boy of the Gregory electorate, if I might put it that way, and it is very pleasing to see that once again there are in this Chamber two members born and bred in that vast western

electorate, which, believe you me, Mr. Deputy Speaker, is very near to my heart, as are the people who live in it.

Not only do I support the motion; I also affirm my personal loyalty and that of the people of the electorate of Gregory to Her Majesty the Queen and to her representative in the Federal sphere (Sir John Kerr) and in this State (Sir Colin Hannah). The honourable member for Archerfield said that Sir John Kerr probably is one of the greatest curs. My estimation of Sir John Kerr is very different from that. I believe that he is one of the greatest among those who have held the high office of Governor-General. He is never deterred by the hooligan behaviour of the organised demonstrators who appear at virtually every function that he attends. In my opinion, he has proved his loyalty not only to Her Majesty the Queen but also to the people of Australia.

I make no apology to the people of Gregory for some of the statements that I will be making in this debate, because I wish to bring home to the House that in many instances a lifetime of work has been utterly destroyed. It disgusted me to hear the critical words of the honourable member for Archerfield about men who have been on the land all their lives and who now are faced with economic chaos. He referred to them as the wealthy cockies. According to the honourable member, they are not the workers, and I think that any honourable member who rises in his place in this Chamber and makes such an irresponsible statement should be prepared to take the consequences. No workers in Australia work harder than the man on the land, and his wife and children. No-one would envy them their task, let alone their bank balance. We are all acquainted with the economic crisis of the beef industry. The isolation factor, the cost structure they are faced with and their poor return on capital emphasise the complete chaos in that industry.

The honourable member for Mackay spoke about the recently formed Cattlemen's Union. I would be the last person to offer any criticism of anyone who was prepared to get off his backside to try to do something for the industry in which he is deeply involved. I am reminded of the old saying, "United we stand; divided we fall." If ever there was a time for a united voice in the industry, it is now.

This year the cattle industry is faced with the problem of presenting the greatest number of cattle ever produced for slaughter in Queensland. We have a State cattle population of nearly 11,000,000, and we have a slaughter rate of 2,100,000. The over-all increase in population of nearly 2,000,000 in the last fiscal year presents a very gloomy picture for cattle producers when we consider the availability of export markets. There seems little hope of any great increase in the American market in the next fiscal year. There has been some hope of increase in

the Japanese market, but nothing to compensate for the increase in the cattle numbers presented for slaughter. The E.E.C. offers some opportunity. Coupled with the drought situation in that part of the world, the numbers of cattle within the E.E.C. area have been drastically reduced. Although Russia has not been an economic market, at least it has been absorbing some of the over-supply. I am also conscious of the fact that the over-supply of cattle was in some way brought about by the economics that followed the slump in the wool industry. On many occasions people were forced into cattle against their will. Many small factors have added to the over-production of beef we are now faced with.

The cattle industry and the sheep industry are the only two industries in the Gregory electorate. Both are faced with ever-increasing costs. I read with horror an article on the front page of today's "Courier-Mail" which tipped that freight costs will rise. If they do rise to any marked degree in the coming Budget, it will be another nail in the coffin of some of the people in the pastoral industry in the West today. Freight rates affect every commodity used in or exported from the West. It was hard enough to carry the burden of the increase last year, although we realised that the losses could not be allowed to continue to rise at that alarming rate. The cost of living in Western Queensland imposes great difficulties not only on the normal resident but also on the local authorities, who are greatly depended upon to provide employment for those who have been forced to leave the land. The local authorities in the area are faced with the worst problem ever to confront them in trying to balance their budgets and strike rates that their rate-payers can afford to pay.

The honourable member for Archerfield has claimed that the man on the land—the cocky, as he calls him—does nothing for his local town. How far from the truth can he be! In some instances, as much as 80 or 90 per cent of revenue obtained by local authorities comes from the land. I believe it is the duty of all ratepayers to support their local towns and districts, because quite often the value of a district depends largely on the prestige of the towns within it. No ratepayer objects to paying his rates, provided he can afford them. However, rates are so high now that many landowners simply cannot afford to pay them and banks and brokers have said that they will not pay them. They have said that they will allow the rates to remain as a debt against the land. The serious plight of the 11 local authorities in the Gregory electorate must be brought home.

A country member is faced with many problems that do not arise in metropolitan electorates. I would suggest that some metropolitan members do not have even one local authority in their electorate. The obtaining of finance by local government to keep the population healthy and happy is no small task. I must praise the Treasurer and the

Minister for Local Government and Main Roads, together with their officers, for the loyal support they have given to the people of my electorate by undertaking projects and ensuring that jobs are available. Special schemes have been implemented in an attempt to take up the slack in the labour force. However, the slack has not been taken up, and I shudder to think what will happen at the conclusion of the present shearing season at a time when a large number of school-leavers will flood onto the labour market. The thought of what the unemployment figure will be then frightens me.

It is the responsibility of any Government to ensure that people who live in an area are able to find employment there. In my electorate, however, this cannot be done unless some drastic action is taken in the near future.

Since the election some 18 months ago, all Ministers except five have paid visits to the Gregory electorate and have acquainted themselves with the problems arising there. On behalf of everyone in my electorate I thank those Ministers.

The Minister for Health (Dr. Edwards) has embarked upon a very bold programme to provide improved health care to my constituents. No-one has made a greater impact than he on the area. He has done a great deal to set up the Rural Health Scheme, which must result in the provision of improved health services to the people who live in isolated areas. He has made great strides in improving the lot of those people who are remote from towns and medical care and attention.

The Minister for Transport, too, came under fire from the member for Archerfield.

Mr. Yewdale: You couldn't make a speech without Mr. Hooper.

Mr. GLASSON: The member for Archerfield misses no opportunity of trying to drive a bayonet in the back of the people who live in the West.

The Minister for Transport made a lengthy tour of my electorate and saw at first hand the working conditions of railway employees as well as the condition of railway stations and rolling-stock. He examined the whole set-up of the railways in my area.

With reference to the question asked by the honourable member for Townsville about the new camp wagons, I sincerely hope that by the end of the year the agreement covering the provision of the new camp wagon accommodation will be a reality and the old Bondwood dog boxes that scatter the western lines and provide accommodation for the men in these areas will be a thing of the past. Surely it is not unreasonable to request that to cope with the climatic conditions, these men be the first to be given the better-type air-conditioned accommodation with septic attached.

The Minister for Primary Industries (Mr. Sullivan) and the Minister for Lands, Forestry, National Parks and Wildlife Service (Mr. Tomkins) have made no fewer than three visits to my electorate. In a primary-producing electorate their portfolios, coupled with that of the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads, have a great deal to do with relieving the burden falling on the shoulders of people who live there, and indeed they have done everything possible to assist.

The cost of electric power is causing great concern in my area. When the Bill which is designed to rationalise the cost of power throughout Queensland comes before the House I shall be interested to hear what honourable members have to say. The unit cost in certain areas is so far out of line with that paid by the city dweller or his coastal counterpart, it is no less than two and a half times to three and a half times the unit cost in Brisbane. In the rural sector quarterly electricity bills for properties are reaching \$600. It is absolutely impossible for property owners to meet electricity costs based on the present unit charge. I am sure that when the Minister for Mines and Energy introduces the legislation to equalise electricity charges, anybody who is concerned about decentralisation of the State will support it.

I was very pleased to hear the honourable member for Isis clarify for the record the fact that the Medibank proposals are not breaking the Prime Minister's promise that the Federal Government would carry on with Medibank. It has been continued. The levy placed on people who can afford to pay should be imposed because Medibank has to be paid for by somebody. Only by disguising how the scheme is to be paid for has Labor been able to pull the wool over people's eyes. Medibank care for the deprived, the poor, the sick and the injured will still be free. Those who can afford to pay will be requested to pay. Those who want to opt out can afford to opt out. Unfortunately there has been a sickening period with repetition of abuse alleging that the Prime Minister and the Federal coalition Government have not honoured promises on Medibank.

I appreciate this opportunity to put these matters to the House as well as expressing my loyalty and that of my electors to Her Majesty the Queen and her representatives.

Mrs. KYBURZ (Salisbury) (5.14 p.m.): In opening my speech on the motion before the House I pledge equally my loyalty and that of all the people of Salisbury—of whom there are some 27,000—to Her Majesty the Queen, the Governor-General of Australia and the Governor of Queensland.

I sincerely congratulate the honourable members for Clayfield and Port Curtis. Although they belong to different parties I am sure that their roles in this House will be played to the best of their ability. When I look at the honourable member for Port

Curtis (Mr. Prest) I feel a little guilty because I campaigned quite actively against him. Indeed, I had quite a lot of fun in doing so. However, politics is a funny game. I am pleased to see him here now.

At the outset I should like to discuss personal freedoms. These are classed as civil liberties. Recently, demonstrations have come from all quarters—not only from students but particularly from activities outside the student body. People have a right to show what they feel about various Government actions but not necessarily in the form of demonstrations. Strikes do not show personal freedom; people are forced to strike. Recently some teachers picketed schools and tried to keep other teachers out of them. That is a method of denying the teachers who wish to work their personal freedom.

In the shipbuilding industry, we have had a huge blow-up of quarrels not only in Newcastle and Whyalla but also in Sydney. The shipbuilding industry is screaming for further subsidies when already it is being subsidised by the Federal Government to the tune of 30 per cent, or \$13,000 per worker.

People who are employed in the beef industry, or beef producers themselves, must be very jealous of this type of subsidy because they also are in need of a huge subsidy at the moment. I listened most carefully to the honourable member for Gregory when he said that city people do not often have any understanding of the problems of the people in the West. I should like to inform him that there are now more of us—particularly city members—who, having been here for some two years, realise that the problems in the West are vast and that we must not only keep people in the West but also keep them on a stable income and maintain their formerly happy existence on the land. Perhaps we must all fight for beef stabilisation, as it is important not only for the people in the country but also for those in the city. The same applies to the electricity rationalisation scheme. However, I dare not expand upon that at this time.

The Governor, in his Opening Speech, outlined many of the policies of the Government. Many of them are positive, particularly those emanating from the Works and Housing Ministry. I was particularly pleased to hear that the Queensland Housing Commission is now considering moving into the field of further architectural planning for its houses; in other words, it will have better designs for the future and also it will adopt a new range of home units and different concepts in town houses.

I hope sincerely that I will see something like this happen in my electorate. It is unfortunate that Woodridge and Kingston are blots on the Brisbane scene simply because huge tracts of land have been bought up by

the Housing Commission and literally hundreds of houses have been plonked on them. The houses are all the same. There is little variation in their design.

Not only do the estates not have adequate drainage but also there is no kerbing and channelling because, at that time, the commission was allowed to get away with not observing council by-laws. I am pleased to note that the situation has changed now. In fact, in lieu of proper drainage, a green pipe comes out of some of the Housing Commission houses in my electorate and discharges onto the footpath. This green pipe is quite a blight on the Woodridge and Kingston areas.

Let me mention some other policy aspects of Government planning for the future. The National Parks and Wildlife Service is planning to declare more major national parks, particularly in the Cape York region. This will please not only the majority of Queenslanders but also many southerners, because they have not had the opportunity to visit that part of our State.

The school dental therapists' training scheme is working very well. I have two school dental clinics in my electorate and they are coping, in one instance, in a school with an enrolment of 1,800 children and, in another instance, in a school with an enrolment of 1,400 children. I realise that their work will be a long and steady task because it will take them approximately 18 months to get through every one of those children. I am pleased to see that the school dental scheme will be helped along by mobile clinics.

In the realm of education, in the electorate of Salisbury there has been a great deal of kauffle, particularly from the Queensland Teachers' Union, over the schools in the Woodridge and Kingston areas. I do not say that there are no problems there; there are and they are vast. However, they have arisen from the vast population growth in the area. There are in fact 7,000 children going to school in Woodridge and Kingston and planning has been unable to keep up with that population growth. Woodridge has two schools with over 1,700 pupils and I believe that such schools are far too large. I think that 800 children might well be the optimum size for a primary school. However, the position at the high school at Woodridge, which now has 1,800 children, will be relieved by the building of a new school at Kingston.

Recently we have all read in the Press much discussion and debate on the Commonwealth Games and whether or not Brisbane should have them. The Brisbane City Council decided in their erudite wisdom to go ahead with seeking the games and—fortunately or unfortunately, depending upon one's own opinion—they were able to secure them. Of course, the fact is that Brisbane was the

only city in the running because Birmingham dropped out right at the end for reasons that are well known.

I think that this has been a most undemocratic decision by the Brisbane City Council. When it was announced that Brisbane had obtained the games, very many people opposed it for various reasons, and at least their opinions should have been sought. I thank the Premier for promising us loudly and clearly that he is not going to loosely hand over money to the Brisbane City Council for their grandstanding for the games. I feel that there are many areas of the State that deserve \$40,000,000 more than Brisbane and, for a city member, that is difficult to say. However, there are western and northern areas that need not only better roads and more development but a better environment for the people. As I said before, we need to keep those people there.

In the Press last week our Lord Mayor stated that unfortunately he would now have to do a costing of the Commonwealth Games. He was extremely sad that he would have to sit down and write out on paper for all the world to see what each particular section of the games is going to cost the Brisbane City Council. One really must laugh at that because if that had not been done two years ago I do not know how on earth the council secured the Commonwealth Games. In fact, the cost has vacillated between \$3,000,000 and \$30,000,000, and in the Press last week the Lord Mayor was reported as saying that they might even cost \$39,000,000. Everyone was supposed to weep tears of blood.

All I can say is that the ratepayers of Brisbane do not want to bear the brunt of the cost of the games. The State Government does not want to bear the brunt of the games because there are, as I have said, better things on which to spend money. I cannot see why the Federal Government should bear the cost of the games, either. I should like to say here and now that the business people, the ones who have been so vocal about gaining from the games, are the ones who should now poke their greasy heads out of the woodwork and publicly say what they are going to make out of the Commonwealth Games. I do not believe that they will be such a great shot in the arm for Brisbane and I do not believe that there will be a major modernisation of all transport facilities in Brisbane just because the Commonwealth Games will be held here in 1982. I think the people should have been asked. I know that in some council wards petitions were taken round and on one in particular there were 12,000 signatures of ratepayers who did not want the Commonwealth Games to be held in Brisbane. However, we did not hear very much about it publicly because, when those people tried to present their petition to the council, under its undemocratic system they were not allowed to do so, so those 12,000 people were disfranchised.

I think that the Olympic Games held in Montreal displayed the shameful sham of certain sections of the Press playing up the fact that we now need better sporting facilities. Why does it matter that our Olympic competitors did not win gold medals? I would like to say here and now that not only the Press has been guilty of sham but also certain sections of the public. They have forgotten that in the ethic of competitive sport one does not enter primarily to win; one enters for the sake of the sport. I have never in all my life been so disgusted and ashamed of Australians as I was of those who decried the fact that Australian competitors did not win. In fact, some of the commentators at the games said publicly, "Well, we haven't got very much to show you tonight because Australia isn't doing very well." Had they forgotten that it was an Olympic Games with countries from all over the world competing and that some Australians might just be so culturally minded as to want to find out what other countries were doing. But no, we were not able to see very much of the participants from other countries at all.

I do not deny that better sporting facilities are needed in Brisbane and that we do not have international-class facilities. I do say, however, that a firm costing has to be done here and now and that the Lord Mayor is just going to have to sit down and write out a little list before anyone can possibly consider funding such a scheme. Perhaps we could link that with the grandiose scheme for a waterfall at Kangaroo Point. In fact, somebody even suggested in a letter to the editor that we should throw that in with the Commonwealth Games because it will be second only to Niagara Falls among the sights of the world. Whoever wrote that letter obviously has not travelled further than Petrie Terrace because there are many waterfalls in the world which almost surpass Niagara Falls as a spectacle—waterfalls such as the Iguacu Falls. The trickle of water over Kangaroo Point is going to do nothing except make people laugh and realise what a "Hicksville" council we really have.

Of course, we cannot afford to repeat the extravagance we saw in the staging of the Olympic Games in Montreal. In view of the state of the economy we cannot afford to do so now and I do not see that we will be able to in 1982. I think that more public debate on this subject has to take place and that people who are in favour of it have to state why, and that means they have to state what they are going to make out of it. The people who are against it should also have to state their reasons. Of course, the people against it would be the ratepayers.

I know a lot of people on the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast are bitter about the amount of rates they pay because they feel that half their rates go towards the provision of facilities for the tourists who arrive from other parts of the State and shamble around and do not have to contribute to the cost of these facilities, and there is something to be

said for that argument, too. I feel that the 40 per cent increase in rates in Brisbane is quite enough for at least the next four or five years. People just cannot take any more increases in rates. I think it is totally inequitable that the city council with such a large budget should be able to decide where the funding from the State Government, which should be going into other electorates, is to be spent. I object to that and I hope that all country members will agree with me.

I now want to draw the attention of the House to section 347 of the Criminal Code. I intend to make a great deal of fuss about this section during this session, and if anybody is bored he can leave the Chamber now, because I am going to talk about rape. The definition of rape is quite clearly spelt out in the Criminal Code, and when one goes through the notes relating to the section one sees a list of the major cases relating to the law on rape. One of the leading cases on the element of consent to which I would like to draw the attention of the House is that of the *Queen v. Hinton*. With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I should like to read some parts of the note indicating how a judge should direct the jury in a trial on a charge of rape. It says—

“... the trial judge should direct the jury that they should carefully scrutinize the evidence in respect of the following questions: (1) Is the girl virtuous? (2) Did she scream or call for help? (3) Did her body or clothing show any mark or tear indicating resistance to force? Negative answers to these questions carry a strong presumption that her testimony is false or feigned.”

Well! Such enlightenment in 1976! Hasn't anyone ever heard that when one is very frightened one freezes? In fact, screaming is the last thing one would think of. It is obvious that if a woman wishes to charge a man with rape, she now has to personally bruise her body, cut her clothes, make sure that she screams loudly, even if after the act, so that somebody can say, “Yes, she did all those things. Therefore, she is not lying.” In the latest case in Queensland—*The Queen v. Hay and Lindsay*—one sees some enlightenment coming in, and the judge decided that the previous restrictions should not apply in every case.

I say here and now, Mr. Speaker, that women all over Queensland are very worried about certain sections of the Criminal Code in this State, simply because they have seen far too many rape cases and attempted rape cases in which inadequate penalties have been imposed. A few weeks ago a report appeared in the Press relating to a fellow who attacked a woman in a phone booth late at night and was only fined \$800. His plea was that he was too drunk to be able to do anything. Isn't that lovely? All a man has to do is fill himself up with alcohol when he intends raping someone and he will get off with a fine of \$800, whether he makes it or not.

I do not believe that being drunk is an excuse for anything. It certainly is not an excuse for attempting to hurt somebody, let alone for not being able to do it. The fellow concerned in that case terrorised the woman. He was not too drunk to be able to chase her around the block; he was not too drunk to be able to get her clothes off; but he was too drunk to perform the act of rape. My, my! Such enlightened times! What sentence did he receive? A fine of \$800! Some people pay that for a trailer to put behind a car.

It is time that this Legislature and the criminal courts realised that in fact women do not enjoy being raped. The salacious statements made about girls who have been raped show up the lack of education of certain males, particularly some members of the legal fraternity. Fortunately, there are none of them in the Chamber at the moment.

Mr. Moore: Of course there are; the House is full of them.

Mrs. KYBURZ: Yes, amateur ones—that's for sure!

It is time that consideration was given to changing the Criminal Code of Queensland, and women should be invited to make submissions on how it should be changed. One change that needs to be made very quickly is to disallow as evidence the previous sexual history of the victim. What I read to the House a short time ago makes it clear that such a change is necessary.

Other sections of the Criminal Code say that married women, by virtue of the fact that they have forced or invited intercourse at various times with their husbands, cannot be raped. My, my! The code also says that prostitutes cannot be raped. I say here and now that I believe it is possible for a woman, whether or not in the past she has decided that she wished to have intercourse with another man, to withhold her consent from any man, whether she is a prostitute, a married woman, or whatever. In my opinion, the law that allows a woman's past to be investigated is particularly unjust.

Mr. Frawley: A husband must have some conjugal rights.

Mrs. KYBURZ: The crime of rape should be freed from all the emotion surrounding it. In my opinion, the charge should be changed to one of assault. Perhaps there should be various degrees of assault according to the severity of the crime. I feel that there is no way out of that because there are so many people in the community who are prejudiced in their attitude.

What the honourable member for Murrumba just said does not hold water with me because I feel it is my right to withhold consent to the giving of conjugal rights, should I wish to, just as a husband may feel it is his right to force his conjugal rights.

It is "responsibility" that has to be taught in Queensland, and I believe that this will be the point of the human relationships course in schools—the responsibility of girls and women to protect themselves against pregnancy and to avoid circumstances or actions that may expose them to rape attack. I am very sorry that some girls still hitch-hike. Last week a girl hitch-hiker was raped. I feel that such a person does have to accept some responsibility for what happens. However, more and more we have to teach boys in the school setting that they are equally responsible in sexual matters. They must be taught that they are responsible not only for the creation and upbringing of children, but also for their own moral tone. There is no doubt that some young fellows feel that they can decide what is going to take place in a relationship, even when the girl feels that she has a responsibility to maintain her virtuousness—if there is such a term these days. It is a responsibility that should be included in the personal relationships course.

I commend the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities on his decision to go ahead with the human relationships course. He has not relented despite a continual battering from various women's groups. Some of those women's groups are groups of which I am extremely ashamed. I refer to both the Far Left and the Far Right. They are as silly as each other. The radical women portray a type of woman who is totally foreign to me, because I like to dress and make up, which they don't. On the other side of the coin are the women who obviously have led a very sheltered life. In fact, one has to feel very sorry for them, too.

I ask not only that this Legislature consider revising the Criminal Code but also that every honourable member invite the participation of women's groups in his electorate to determine the changes they would like to see. After all, it is mostly upon women that this atrocity is perpetrated. Therefore it is the women who should be speaking up. More public discussion should take place, but it should be unemotional public discussion.

I have much pleasure in once again congratulating the new members and affirming my loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen.

Mr. GYGAR (Stafford) (5.39 p.m.): It gives me great pride and pleasure to join with other honourable members in reaffirming my loyalty and that of the people of my electorate not only to the Crown but to the Westminster system and the established forms of democracy in this country. It is unfortunate that some honourable members have chosen to use this debate as an opportunity to attack the system, the Crown and the Governor-General. Their day will come; it will come at the polls. But more of them later. They should be placed last; that is where they belong.

Today I should like to speak mainly about taxation. It is a cancer that eats out our society. It is not a new problem, but an

old one. Archaeologists have discovered a plaintive wail dating back to 2300 B.C. on a Babylonian tablet. Some poor oppressed person had scratched the words, "If I toil, it is snatched away from me." Taxation, as is said, is like birth and death—there is nothing more certain.

A noted person named Colton once said—

"There is one passage in the Scriptures to which all potentates and politicians seem to have given their unanimous assent and approbation, and to have studied so thoroughly as to have it quite at their fingers' ends."

That Biblical quotation is—

"There went out a decree in the days of Claudius Caesar, that all the world should be taxed."

The world has been taxed ever since.

The problem arises when taxation starts to destroy our nation. Unfortunately, we are now in the position where taxation, particularly income tax, is starting to make vast inroads into Australian society and the stage has been reached when we can no longer look forward with confidence to a continuation for many years of the system of government and the system of society that we want. Already Australia has a taxation system which puts us amongst the highest taxed nations in the world.

There is enormous need for reform in the income tax field. I would hope that the men of vision in Canberra—if there be any men of vision in Canberra—will see this need and act upon it. Nothing is destroying this nation more than the present rates of marginal income tax. People wail from the rooftops about inflation, unemployment and all the rest of it and offer simple palliatives. We hear mad ideas from enraged academics. It has often been said that it is interesting to get among academics, particularly the economists, if merely for the reason that, if there are four present, four different points of view will be given. They do not know the solutions. This fiddling of figures and these "monetarists", "fiscals" and all the rest that they throw out on the unsuspecting public will not get our country back on the rails. What this country needs is the incentive to get back to work. Unfortunately, however, at the moment there exist mammoth disincentives. People who want to work, who want to produce, who want to create employment are turned away from doing so by our present disgusting system of taxation.

There is an old joke around about the trader named Jones who went out and painted on the side of his van "Whitlam and Jones", and when asked why he painted both names, he said, "Well, Whitlam gets more than 50 per cent of the profits; he might as well have his name on my van, too." In fact, the Government does get more than 50 per cent of the profits from a person who goes out and works. I am astounded that Opposition members have sat quietly and allowed this

situation to develop and persist. They are supposed to support the tradesman and the workers, who are the ones hit hardest by this inequitable and unjust system. They are taking home less than 50c in the dollar.

It is interesting to examine the rates of taxation. The breaking point is reached at 50c. Once a person knows that if he goes out to work and no matter how much he earns the Government is going to take more than half of it, he is deprived of any incentive whatever to go out and to create employment, to create wealth and to create prosperity.

It behoves us to look back at how this system came about. Back in 1971-72 a person earning in excess of \$10,000 per annum paid more than 50c in every dollar earned in excess of that \$10,000. In 1972-1974 the figure was \$12,000. Anyone who earned over \$12,000 a year paid more than 50c in the dollar. But then Mr. Whitlam and his crowd were well in command, and in 1974-75 anyone who earned over \$10,000 ended up paying more than half of every dollar over \$10,000 by way of income tax. The old socialist scheme was in again—tax people so that everyone earns the same. But the system just doesn't work that way. How many workers simply do not want to work overtime? They know that if they are offered overtime and accept it, they will put themselves into a higher income tax bracket and their work will be worth about 50c to 60c an hour. Who wants to work for that type of money? Who among the business community—once he has settled himself into a comfortable home, can look after his family and has no real major wants—is prepared to go out and work harder to earn extra money simply to give it to the Government? No-one would. There is no incentive to work.

Unless Parliaments and politicians seize the nettle and do something about it, they sentence this country to stagnation. It is useless to wail about inflation. We have to give people an incentive, a drive—something behind them so that they know that if they go out to work they will benefit. There are not too many crazy idealists in this community who will work themselves into the ground for nothing. It is unrealistic to expect it and it just will not happen. I have been saying this to Governments for quite a while and have received the most extraordinarily unsympathetic hearing from my colleagues in Canberra. Unfortunately, like Whitlam and his cronies, they do not seem to be able to see beyond the end of their nose in taxation matters. They simply say, "Look how much money we will lose."

Let me point out how much money would be lost. In 1971-72 the total assessment of tax from marginal rates over 50c in the dollar was \$283,700,000, which represented 7.9 per cent of income tax generated. That amount is not significant. Only 7.9 per cent of the earnings of this country came from the bracket of over 50c in the dollar. If in

that year the income tax rates have been pegged at 50c in the dollar, the loss to the Treasury would have been \$66,200,000, which is 1.75 per cent of the total income tax revenue or 0.76 per cent of the total revenue payable to the Commonwealth. The 0.76 per cent is seven-thousandths of the entire income of the Commonwealth.

What sort of effect would that have had on the Commonwealth Treasury if it had bypassed it? There would have been a minimal effect if it had bypassed that amount by abolishing income tax rates above 50c in the dollar. But I do not believe it would have lost that amount. People would have been given an incentive to work, and they would have earned more, and the Government would have taken 50c of each extra dollar earned. It would not have taken much to recoup the amount it had relinquished. It would have required an increase in productivity of \$122,000,000 throughout the whole of Australia to break even. I find it almost impossible to believe that that type of incentive would not have increased productivity by at least \$120,000,000.

The sad story goes on year by year, as can be seen from the following table—

Year	Gross Tax	Income Tax Receipts	Loss if reduced to not over 50c in dollar	Income Tax Revenue Lost	Gross Tax Revenue Lost
	\$ million	\$ million	\$ million	%	%
1972-73	9,278.2	4,089	34.0	0.83	0.36
1973-74	11,975.5	5,490	50.0	0.91	0.41
1974-75	15,264	7,714	77	0.99	0.50
1975-76	19,713	9,219	97	1.05	0.49
1976-77	21,764.3	11,307	120	1.06	0.55

The Commonwealth would be giving away peanuts yet it has its grasping, clutching little claws into the taxpayers' pockets so deeply that it cannot see the forest for the trees. It will not take its sticky fingers out of the taxpayers' pockets to give this country a go. I must attack Mr. Lynch because he is a hopeless fool if he cannot see it. If this country does not provide some incentive to people to work, he is to blame. It is useless for him to sit back in his ivory tower and hide behind unpractical academics who conceal themselves in the anonymity of the Federal Treasury and mutter mumbo-jumbo magic words which are designed to confuse us poor mortals. It is not good enough for this man Lynch and his Government to hide behind them.

We have sat back and seen in politics—on our side of the fence at least—conventions, meetings, delegations (the whole lot) throwing up resolution after resolution, suggestion after suggestion, year after year, to peg income tax at 50c in the dollar. What has happened? The Canberra bureaucrats have decided that they will not take the advice; that they will ignore their party members, and that they will ignore their party conferences.

Let us give them fair warning. If they want to ignore people who give them advice and if they want to ignore the people who put them there, they will reap the whirlwind and I, for one, will have no compunction whatever in doing over Mr. Lynch or any of his cronies who will not get out and do something. At the moment, the people of Australia must be gravely disappointed not only with Mr. Lynch but with the entire Federal Government from Mr. Fraser down if those in Canberra fail to realise the plain, simple fact that if they do not provide some incentive, this country will go onto the rocks.

They have come out with this simple palliative of indexation. They will index tax. What will that do? All it will do is to simply entrench the injustice that the people currently suffer. All that they will do is say, "Righto. What we have been doing so far is wrong. We have been beating you with a small stick. We will not beat you a bigger stick". Terrific! What wonderful, kind-hearted gentlemen they are—promising to keep beating us over the head with broomsticks and not to switch to clubs. If that is the sort of common sense that permeates these drones in Canberra, there must be something wrong with the lot of them.

The result of a reduction in income tax to a maximum of 50c in the dollar would give a boost not only to investment but also to workers, to businessmen—

Dr. Scott-Young interjected.

Mr. GYGAR: "To Dr. Scott-Young", as the honourable member says so plainly. Here is a man who is a common example of what will happen. What incentive is there for my honourable colleague or any other person in this House or elsewhere to go out and seek business opportunities or places where they can employ people or can develop the wealth of this country? The return is simply not worth the effort.

Let us be honest. If a person has sufficient brains and enough drive to get himself elected to this place, there is something wrong if he cannot think up a way in which he can form a business, to contribute to employment and to earn extra income. I will not do it, and I am certain that a lot of my fellow members in this House will not do it, either. There is just no point in working another 10 hours a week just to give a greater contribution to Mr. Lynch and his tax leeches in Canberra.

It is foolish for anybody in this country who reaches an income level of \$20,000 a year to work any harder. He is a fool if he does it and he is a traitor to his family, because the extra hours he must contribute (leaving his wife and children alone, and handing over the social benefits of speech, of recreation, and the rest of it) are simply not worth it. The sooner these people in Canberra realise it and do something about it, the better.

I must say that I have been gravely disappointed by the whole pack of them. I am disappointed to see not one whit or indication that they intend to attack this problem. It seems that we are irrevocably entrenched in the hands of bureaucrats. The Treasury will not blow the whistle and so the politicians will not start. I hope, for the sake of this country, that all politicians in this country are not cast in that mould. I hope I am not and, looking around the Chamber, I see many honourable members who are not. I hope that, when we reach the position where we can exercise this discretion, we will not be led by the nose by a lot of half-baked bureaucrats who do not themselves even understand what they are talking about. What we need running this country are men of vision; men of common sense; men who can attack the root of the problem and do something about it.

Government Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. GYGAR: Obviously the honourable member for Warrego agrees. No doubt, as a man of vision, he would.

There are two other sections in the Income Tax Assessment Act that need sorting out. Again I must express my disappointment that Mr. Lynch has apparently failed to take any advantage of the opportunities given to him as Treasurer to attack them. I refer to section 26AAA and section 26 (a) of the Income Tax Assessment Act. Section 26AAA was introduced by a gentleman named Crean shortly before he was "knifed". This section provides that if anyone buys something and sells it within 12 months at a profit, he becomes liable for tax on the profit. It is quite simply a capital gains tax. Not a word have we heard from our Federal colleagues about what they will do about it. It is one of those terribly embarrassing hangovers from the Whitlam era which they were not game enough to bring in themselves but which now that they have it they will not let go. That unfortunately seems to be the history of some of our Federal friends.

Section 26 (a) is even worse because it provides that any profit made on an item bought with intent to sell at a profit shall be taxable. More than anything else this section is driving small investors away from the stock market. It is driving them away from bond issues and from investments. It is drying up the capital pool of this country because if anybody buys shares and later, irrespective of how much later it is, sells them, it is quite within the power of the Taxation Commissioner to levy taxation on the profit.

Then, in one of the other amazing little laws that seem to overthrow all that I thought about British justice, the onus is placed on the taxpayer to prove that he did not buy with intent to sell at a profit. How on earth is any poor, simple man who goes out and buys shares on the Stock Exchange going to prove that he did not

have such an intent? Of course he cannot do that. We have unfortunately reached that stage in society when the most feared man on earth is not the secret policeman who calls in the middle of the night, as is the position in socialist countries. Perhaps it is the linchpin by which to judge capitalist societies that the most feared man in Australia at the moment is the tax man, because he has only to appear at the front door and faces turn white and people have heart attacks. There is no more vindictive organisation than the Taxation Department. People are not game to run foul of the taxman by risking the application of section 26 (a) to their investments. One breath from the tax man and they fade right out of the share market.

This has happened time and time again. One has only to speak to any share broker in this city to be told stories of little people who came in and started to invest and put money away for the future. They put away a few dollars a year, then a few hundred dollars, and maybe one day they put away \$1,000 in a year. And the bloodhounds up in Ann Street were set loose. Down came the taxation inspectors saying, "Prove to us you didn't buy to resell for profit." Stockbrokers and dealers will state quite clearly that as soon as this happens people say, "No way!" and get right out of the share market. They do not want to be involved in fighting the tax man—this happy little individual who can dredge back into a person's private life for seven years and say, "Where is the receipt you received six years ago?"

Mr. Moore interjected.

Mr. GYGAR: I inform the honourable member for Windsor that tax inspectors can require the production of receipts up to seven years back. I challenge him or anyone else to produce chemists' bills of six years ago. That is the sort of thing that people do not want and which they will not take. As long as section 26 (a) remains in the Income Tax Assessment Act, people will be driven away from the market-place. There is a positive disincentive to invest. By combining the two elements of disincentive to earn and disincentive to invest, we are setting this country on a trail of mediocrity, destruction and ruin if we do not have the courage to stand up here and demand that something be done to rectify the situation.

The time for words and baffle gab has passed. I issue fair warning to my Federal colleagues in Canberra that if I do not see some movement from them, they will see some movement from me. I and many other people joined the parties to which we on this side of the House belong because we thought they stood up for private enterprise. We thought they stood up for the right of a man to earn and seek reward—to earn money and profit by it not only for himself but for the whole nation. If those in Canberra will not do that, they can

expect no mercy from me and, I hope, none from those who sit on this side of the House with me.

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

Mr. GYGAR: The second subject I would like to cover in my address this evening concerns socialism—that rather corrupt and discredited ideology which honourable members opposite seem to take strange pride in being associated with, because socialism is A.L.P. policy though they try and hide it whenever an election comes around. Socialism, whether they like it or not, is Marxism. It all stems from a collection of diatribes launched by one Karl Marx last century which, for some seemingly inexplicable reason, seems to have gathered some academic credibility over the years. It seems to be legendary, and there is an old saying, "Legend is merely lies which have aged."

Mr. K. J. Hooper interjected.

Mr. GYGAR: Certainly not the honourable member for Archerfield, who unfortunately could not quite come up with an original thought if he was hard pressed for it. This has been demonstrated to the House time and time again. The honourable member has been forced to read from Trades Hall briefs because he cannot think up things to say for himself.

However, let us go on with an examination of this decrepit ideology that the A.L.P. seems to take such a perverse pride in espousing among the people. If we trace it back, it all goes back to the document called "The Communist Manifesto", which again they try to hide from the public from time to time, particularly around election time. A very interesting version of "The Communist Manifesto" was reprinted in 1947 under the editorship of Laski, a noted British Labour theoretician. In those days the British Labour Party let down the shield, because that was 1947 when Russia was still respectable and before the world had woken up to the atrocities that went on in the name of this wonderful socialism that the A.L.P. would impose on Queensland and on the rest of Australia. A Labour Party member wrote the foreword to this edition of "The Communist Manifesto" and it stated—

" . . . the Labour Party acknowledges its indebtedness to Marx and Engels as two of the men who have been the inspiration of the whole working-class movement."

This whole working-class movement rests on one very, very shaky premise. That premise is the class war. The A.L.P. and their socialist, Marxist, Communist—call them what you will—friends would insist that there is some sort of a class war in this nation—indeed, in the whole world—and on this they base their whole philosophy, the whole tangled web of deception that they want to foist on the people under the name of socialism. I think it behoves us all now—some 28 years later—to have a look again

at what they said in 1947 when the mask was down. It makes very interesting reading, because at that time they said—

“Abolition of private property in land has long been a demand of the Labour movement.”

That rings a bell somewhere because only recently the cold-hearted policies of the Whitlam Government in Australia attempted to deny Australians the right to own their own homes; that would make them little capitalists and would force them away from the deceptive class war that was to be imposed on us. The book continues—

“A heavy progressive income tax is being enforced by the present Labour Government . . .” (and how that rings true of the Whitlam regime) “. . . as a means of achieving social justice.”

Magnificent social justice it is that a man who works hard is considered some sort of a criminal! It continues—

“We have gone far towards abolition of the right of inheritance by our heavy death duties.”

Recently we found the A.L.P. caught in a cleft stick here, when this Government decided to abolish death duties. Were they game to stand up then and put forward this socialist ideology that death duties were a great thing because they abolished inherited wealth? This is just another rotten little premise they put up before the people. They would say to each and every man in this country, “You have no right to work and to put away money to buy property to give your children a start in life.” That again is some sort of a crime—something the honourable member for Archerfield and his friends would try to tell us should not be done. “You cannot own anything; you cannot earn anything for your children; you cannot progress in life.” Of course they do not want anybody to progress, because if they can sell people this stale old tale that they are being downtrodden by terrible employers—rotten capitalist bosses—they might get some credibility for the stupidity that they peddle.

Mr. Frawley: They want to turn the place into a welfare State.

Mr. GYGAR: They would, but, unfortunately for them, the reality then catches up with them when somebody has to pay the bill.

In this manifesto of the Labour Party, as it should be called now—they change their name every now and again; it used to be the Communist Party, but it got a rather bad odour about it when a few of its friends slaughtered 17,500,000 Ukrainians by starvation in the early 1930s—

Mr. Hartwig interjected.

Mr. GYGAR: Unfortunately, most of the best men end up that way.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: Old Pig-swill Hartwig!

Mr. Hartwig: I tell you what; you'd make a bit of good swill.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order!

Mr. GYGAR: They changed their name from “Communist Party” after 17,500,000 Ukrainians had paid with their lives for not believing in Communism.

Honourable Members interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order!

Mr. GYGAR: They changed it to socialism. But suddenly the people have woken up to socialism, too, and we do not have the A.L.P. going round any more boasting that they are socialists. Now it is the good old Labor movement! How the Hanlons and other true Labor men must be turning in their graves to see individuals such as those we see opposite us here parading under the banner of the Labor movement! The Labor men of the old days would not have spat on them; they were men of good judgment.

Mr. Jensen interjected.

Mr. GYGAR: The honourable member for Bundaberg is another of the good Labor men. I do not know how he can sleep straight at night when he sits with honourable members opposite. He has seen the light, of course, and told them that he is not going to put up with their stand-over tactics that socialism seems to find so attractive. Now they have stabbed the honourable member, who is one of the few honourable members on the Opposition benches in this Chamber. Unfortunately, with his coming demise and the death of Mr. Hanson, the last vestiges of the old-time Labor movement, which used to be concerned with the welfare of the working class, will have departed the scene. Instead we have the Lytton lout and his cohorts. What sort of a bunch they must be, Mr. Deputy Speaker, sitting over there espousing this sort of drivel. The only people they can convince to go along with it now are, unfortunately, the idealistic young people at the university who read this stuff, take it in and say, “That sounds nice.” They are led along the garden path until, under the leadership of such people as the former member for Everton, Mr. Jones, they start throwing stones, waving Red flags and all the rest of it.

Mr. Greenwood: What about burning the Australian flag?

Mr. GYGAR: Yes. That, of course, is another classic example of their loyalty to Australia.

Mr. Frawley: I have a photograph here of Senator Georges in the streets.

Mr. GYGAR: Senator Georges is an old-timer at that. I do not doubt that at all.

Honourable Members interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The Chamber will come to order.

Mr. GYGAR: This morning we saw the spectacle of the honourable member for Archerfield, well known for his loyalty to the Crown, again spewing forth in the House. He told us how he would like to throw out the Governor-General, kick out the Governor of Queensland, overturn the democracy of this State and turn it into some sort of a dictatorship. The honourable member realises, of course, that the only way he and his cronies can get power in this place is by having some sort of a dictatorship, because the people of Queensland have shown them time and again, and will show them again in the years to come—and I look forward to it with relish—that they won't have a bar of them. They are down to 11 now. They have not much further to go before they are wiped out.

An interesting article appeared recently in a newspaper. It stated that the A.L.P. had reached a very low level when all members of the Parliamentary Labor Party could be fitted into two cars. I look forward to the day when they will not even need a bicycle built for two. That would be a more suitable method of conveyance for these characters who have never dragged themselves out of the 19th Century into the reality of the 20th Century, a century in which the decrepit class-war rubbish has been revealed for the drivel that it is.

Let us just study a little more of this manifesto of the Labour Party. Honourable members opposite have endorsed it and said what a wonderful contribution it is, suggesting that it has been an inspiration to the whole working-class movement. It further states—

“The modern labourer, instead of rising with the progress of industry, sinks deeper and deeper below the conditions of existence of his own class.”

I suggest that if they went to a stop-work meeting and tried to put over that drivel today they would get run out of town. Yet still they believe it. Let them go to a factory and tell it to the workers (those poor downtrodden people who are getting deeper and deeper below the “conditions of existence”) as they hop into their Holdens and drive to the homes that they have been given an opportunity to purchase and own by Governments of our persuasion—something they would not have a bar of if they got into power. It really does amaze me how they can claim to be intelligent human beings when they follow this drivel. There is no other word for it. It states—

“The history of all hitherto existing society is the history of class struggles.”

I have been searching rather vainly for a class struggle in Australia, as there is no class in Australia. This country just does not have even the vestiges of a class system. It has a meritocracy, not an aristocracy. That is what those people cannot and will not appreciate,

and they will face the consequences of it. They have been so bound up in this imported, alien ideology that they cannot see it has no place in this century and has no place in this country. How can they possibly follow it on?

The honourable member for Archerfield is one of their ringleaders since his Red friends were chucked out in the last election, as they well deserved to be. He and his friends stand up here pretending to be honest men and believing that sort of stuff. Where is the class in the Australian society? There is a certain distinction between people; fortunately in this country it is not true that those who were born with money will always have it and those who were born with none will never have it. To a large extent, it is those who work who have it and those people who don't who haven't. There are exceptions. Some in our community, by virtue of physical or mental disabilities, will never be among the most prosperous. The great strength of our society in Australia today is that the man who will bend his back and work and earn will progress. The man who wants to put away for his family will allow his family to rise in society. From the party of the honourable members who tell us that we are in a class-ridden society where the worker is downtrodden we have seen engine-drivers become Prime Ministers. I find it hard to imagine how society can be treading down the engine-drivers when they can rise to be Prime Minister of Australia. I seek an explanation from honourable members opposite if they can enlighten me on that. For once the honourable member for Archerfield is silent.

The sooner all this phoney class war, Marxism and, with it, socialism is thrown into the rubbish bin of history where it belongs, the sooner this nation will start to make progress. There is a divergence of opinion in Australia about what our political ends should be, and that is right and proper. If we all believed the same thing life would be very uninteresting. There is room for divergence; there is room for differences of opinion. This used to be provided by men like the Hanlons and the Hansons of this world, and like the soon to become the late lamented Mr. Jensen. But it is not provided by this present socialist clique which is masquerading as the A.L.P., the party of the workers of Australia. I wonder if they will realise it. I doubt that they will. With Mr. Hanson gone and Mr. Jensen going, so will go the Labor Party. I must agree with Dr. Jim Cairns, a person I seldom agree with, when he said, “The sooner we change our name” (he was referring to the Labor Party) “to the Socialist Party of Australia the better.” When the Australian Labor Party does that it will no longer be able to fly its flag of convenience of Labor but will sail under its true colours—a nice, big red banner with “Socialist”, “Marxist” or “Communist”—call it what you will—incribed on it just as it is throughout the rest of the world.

Mr. GUNN (Somerset) (7.30 p.m.): I pledge the allegiance of the electors of Somerset to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and associate myself with the motion moved so ably by the new member for Clayfield, Mr. Brown, and seconded by the honourable member for Mt. Isa.

I congratulate the new member for Clayfield and also the new member for Port Curtis, Mr. Prest, and would remind them that, while we may differ politically, we are still Queenslanders and we work for the benefit of Queensland.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: I exonerate you from the League of Rights.

Mr. GUNN: I am very grateful to the honourable member for Archerfield, but I must point out to him that I would have to be very desperate before I would call on him for help and I do not feel that way at present.

The Somerset electorate takes in some of the most productive land in the State, although it is changing somewhat in character with the development of small 10-acre blocks in country areas. I think it is a pity that a lot of people are being enticed onto these small blocks of land.

Mr. Jensen: Tell us about the dam.

Mr. GUNN: I shall talk about that in a minute.

As I was saying, people are enticed onto these small blocks, on the misunderstanding that they will be able to make a living from them. This is the greatest fallacy of all times. Admittedly the living conditions that they will enjoy on those areas will be as good as those that can be found anywhere else, but if they expect to make a living they will be sadly disappointed. Within the next 10 years great changes will occur in the Somerset electorate with the construction of the Wivenhoe Dam together with the hydro-electric scheme.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: With a redistribution I'll get part of your electorate and you'll get part of mine.

Mr. GUNN: That will be a sorry day for the people of Somerset. If Inala comes into Somerset it will be quite easy to turn the people of Inala round to our way of thinking, but the honourable member for Archerfield has no hope of talking the very wise people of Somerset round to his way of thinking. I would not like his chances.

Mr. Casey: There aren't too many graziers in Inala.

Mr. GUNN: There might be quite a few. At the next election the honourable member for Archerfield will see how many he has got. I'm not a betting man, but I suggest that at the next election the honourable member will have a good deal of trouble holding his seat.

I marvel at the fact that land resumptions in the Somerset area have gone ahead with a minimum of trouble. I put this down to the fact that the Government is an understanding one and has good public relations. It is prepared to meet and talk with the local people.

Whilst it is true to say that thousands of acres of first-class land will be inundated by the waters of the dam, it is also correct to say that this will have very little impact on future production. The area lends itself to further production with a minimum of trouble. A good deal of undeveloped land is ripe for development. Queensland is in the wonderful position of having low population and an abundance of first-class agricultural land. I would suggest that my colleague the honourable member for Cunningham has in his electorate large areas of wheat lands that would lend themselves to the cultivation of vegetables and other agricultural products. Of course, the land would need proper fertilising. It could grow onions and potatoes—virtually anything.

Mr. Elliott: You could almost eat that soil.

Mr. GUNN: That is true; it is excellent.

Mr. Casey: You might have to eat it if prices get any lower.

Mr. GUNN: Prices are not so bad. The beef and dairying industries have both suffered badly, but wheat, sugar and vegetables grown under contract in my area are doing fairly well.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: What about cattle?

Mr. GUNN: The cattle situation is a little peculiar, but it is not new to the cattle industry. Like all primary production, cattle-rearing is a high-risk industry. I assure the honourable member that there is an explanation for the position in which the growers find themselves. When the industry becomes buoyant, it will not take long for producers to breed big cattle herds. There seems to be a tendency to blame the United Graziers' Association and other organisations, but that is not warranted.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: Do you think they are a scab union?

Mr. GUNN: Any union, or any union member, who is prepared to assist an industry, although it means the fragmentation of that industry, should have my support and that of the honourable member for Archerfield.

When we are considering the cattle industry, which relies mainly on exports, we should remember that political considerations play an important role. As the honourable member for Bundaberg has been to Japan, I think he realises that politics are involved.

Mr. Jensen: Mince was \$10 a lb. and steak \$16 a lb.

Mr. GUNN: Japan has thousands of small farmers with about four head of cattle apiece. They are a strong political lobby. They are akin to the cane farmers in the honourable member's electorate who keep him in trim. They treat their members in exactly the same way.

Mr. Casey: They vote for him.

Mr. GUNN: They did.

The cattle industry will return to normal. I congratulate the committee that has been working so hard to bring its findings down. We must have a minimum price scheme. Meat is still the cheapest commodity on the market. If a minimum price will assist the industry, I am sure that the consumers will do as much as they can.

The hydroelectric scheme in the Wivenhoe area is unique. Electricity is a commodity that cannot be stored in quantity and therein lies a major problem in my area. It is ironic that the hydroelectric scheme will use more electricity than it generates. That is not as silly as it may seem. Electricity is to be generated in peak hours, from about 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., and the pumping time will be about seven hours, followed by seven hours of electricity generation. The idea is to empty the reservoir to generate electricity when Brisbane requires heavy supplies of it.

Mr. Jensen: It is only cheap electricity for Brisbane.

Mr. GUNN: I do not think it is merely to generate cheap electricity. It will assist in peak hours and will take a heavy load from the Gladstone station.

I hope that for many years to come we will rely on coal for electricity generation in Australia. I have reservations about generating electricity from nuclear power. A world authority on electricity stated—

"It should be in assured supply."

The article continues—

"It should be reasonably cheap and easy to exploit."

We have coal that is relatively cheap in the Tarong area where the next powerhouse will probably go—up in my area. It is open cut and once the overburden of some 40 ft. is removed, there is pure coal which is absolutely ideal for power generation. It is in unlimited quantities.

The article continues—

"It should be capable of easy scaling up or down to allow for differing requirements and states of technological development in various countries.

"It should provide a substantial net energy yield after allowing for all the energy used to produce it.

"It should be safe in operation."

This is where I query uranium or nuclear power.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: Uranium must have some value, surely.

Mr. GUNN: Yes.

The article continues—

"It should have minimal environmental impact and a minimum of dangerous or undesirable by-products."

This is the dangerous part—the storage of the by-products of the use of uranium.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: Do you think it might affect cow's milk?

Mr. GUNN: Well, it could. It could affect everything. I will outline what it can do. If uranium or nuclear power did fail—and there have been 850 notifiable—

Mr. Jensen: You would know as much about that as the Melbourne wharfies who are going on strike. Don't talk about uranium if you don't know anything about it.

Mr. GUNN: I do happen to know a little about it. I am sorry if what I am saying is over the head of the honourable member for Bundaberg. If he likes to listen for a while he might learn something about it.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: I am listening, Mr. Gunn. I am very interested.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! The whole Chamber will listen.

Mr. GUNN: The article continues—

"Reactor safety devices must work perfectly every time."

For instance, if one error occurred, the human impact would be that it could cause—

"... up to 45,000 deaths and hundreds of thousands of injuries.

"Radiation releases in the nuclear power—"

Mr. Casey interjected.

Mr. GUNN: Well, if it occurred in an area. I am concerned that it could happen in an area in which there was a nuclear powerhouse.

Mr. Casey: You wouldn't expect it to kill 45,000 people.

Mr. GUNN: They do not have to sit around, but the point is—

Mr. K. J. Hooper: You are out of your depth, Mr. Gunn.

Mr. GUNN: I am not out of my depth.

Mr. Jensen: You got that from Victoria. That's where you got that rubbish from.

Mr. GUNN: It is not from Victoria.

The point is that where a reactor has blown up it has caused a terrific impact on the surrounding area. This is what concerns me. It can happen. It is all right to stick our heads into the sand and say that it cannot.

The article continues—

"The scope for energy saving is far greater than is generally realised and is much cheaper than meeting additional demand. In 1970, the U.S.A. had 6% of the world's population but expended 37% all the energy consumed. They used that energy so inefficiently that around half of it, 18% of the world's total, was absolutely wasted."

The point is that nuclear fuel is less efficient than the experts would have us believe. As we have so much coal in our area I hope that we will be using it as a source of power for many generations to come. One of our main problems today is that West Moreton fuel is getting too expensive. We are paying \$18 a tonne for coal at Swanbank. The honourable member for Wolston knows quite well that that is one of the causes of our trouble today. We are waiting to hook onto Gladstone in the hope of levelling out our costing.

There has been much conjecture about electricity. The Brisbane City Council has opposed the legislation we hope to bring down. The council considers that it will result in a rise in the price of electricity in the Brisbane area. It has been pointed out that it would rise by about 1 per cent a year for about 15 years. I do not think there could be any complaint about that, and we would have the advantages of being hooked onto this big system. I believe that the Brisbane City Council intimated that it wanted its own board and to run it itself. I suppose that it will miss the profits that it has been making out of it. It could amount to \$3,000,000 a year. That is how much it has made out of the people of Brisbane. It has been very reluctant to tell them that it has netted a \$3,000,000 profit. It bought the electricity in bulk from the commission.

Mr. Marginson: How much must the S.E.A. be making?

Mr. GUNN: The S.E.A. might not exist under this new legislation. I do not think there is any need for the honourable member for Wolston to worry about coal-mining in his area. We have no desire to put any coal-mines there out of operation. He must, however, face facts and in the Ipswich area it is now deep mining. The coal is hard to win and it is becoming even harder. Ipswich is also an area that has a history of danger. Mining there cannot be compared with the open-cut method.

Mr. Marginson: At Tarong, for example?

Mr. GUNN: The honourable member has hit the nail on the head because there is an abundance of coal there at a very shallow depth. Some seams are up to 80 ft of pure coal that would not require washing. I believe that at the time tenders were called the tender price was a little in excess of \$3 a tonne. There is a considerable difference between \$3 and the \$18 now being paid for

West Moreton coal for the Swanbank Power Station. There is also the fact that when there is industrial trouble it costs \$26 a tonne to bring coal from Blackwater. Probably the Government should have taken my advice in 1972 and built the powerhouse at Tarong. I think that would have prevented the situation that is causing quite a deal of distress to people who are forced to use electricity in Brisbane.

Mr. Byrne: They should have listened to you before.

Mr. GUNN: I was told at that time that I was politically immature. I had been in the House for only a few months. The point is that it has been proved that I was correct on that occasion. We are paying the piper today through the present price of electricity.

Mr. Casey: Did you try to convince the Minister for Mines?

Mr. GUNN: I did not try to convince any members of the Opposition. I regard the honourable member for Mackay as one of the Opposition members because it would be extremely hard to convince him of anything. When he has his feet firmly on the ground, the situation might be different.

I should now like to speak briefly of some of the problems in my area, particularly those concerned with education. The Department of Education has done an immense amount in Somerset but more high schools are needed in the area.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: But your population is dwindling.

Mr. GUNN: That is quite incorrect. When I first represented Somerset it had about 12,000 electors. It now has 16,000.

There is a need for 11th and 12th grades to be accommodated in high tops. Most children today need 11th and 12th grade education to obtain positions in the metropolitan area. It is, of course, unfortunate that most children have to leave country areas and come to the city to obtain positions. I should say that 80 per cent of young people in my area have to come here to obtain work. So far as I am aware, no party has put up a decent decentralisation proposition. If a businessman wants to start operations at Wacol he gets the same subsidy as one who wants to become established at Nanango. That is most unfortunate as it does not aid decentralisation. It seems that most industries want to stay near the sea-board; we see this all the way up the coast. This is no way to develop the inland country. I do not consider my electorate to be in the inland—it is in fact in close proximity to Brisbane—but there is a need for industry there.

Mr. Casey: What is the Government doing to foster decentralisation?

Mr. GUNN: It is doing its utmost but that, of course, is not enough. No party has put forward any decent decentralisation policy.

Mr. Casey interjected.

Mr. GUNN: The Government has done a lot more than the A.L.P. did.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: May I make a suggestion? Why don't you—

An Honourable Member: Throw him out!

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! I do not appreciate observations about throwing people out. I am in charge of the House and if anyone is to be thrown out, I will make the decision.

Mr. GUNN: Another area of concern is medical services in country areas. Unfortunately, it is extremely hard to get medical practitioners to go to country areas by virtue of the fact that most country practices are single practices and, being single practices, the doctors get no time off whatsoever. There is a lot of work to do in these areas, and generally the doctor who does come into the area has a hospital to look after, which takes up most of his time. He is appointed as superintendent with the right of private practice. We are finding it extremely hard to entice doctors into country areas, although in my electorate at the present time we are well served with a hospital system. We have hospitals at Laidley, Esk and Nanango.

It is unfortunately true that doctors cannot be enticed into country areas, and I actually blame Medibank for this. Since the advent of Medibank and free medicine, etc., there has been a rush on doctors' services, and I think we have reached the stage today when medical practitioners in country areas are overprescribing medicines. I do not think this has done the people any good. These days a doctor is thought to be no good unless he hands over a bottle of pills to everybody who comes to see him. I think we are producing a race of hypochondriacs. Wherever people have access to a doctor, one sees cars outside his surgery, and no-one can convince me that we have such an unhealthy race of people.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: It is good for the doctors, though.

Mr. GUNN: I do not see that it is really good for the doctors. It is good for their independence in a lot of cases. They make a certain amount of money, and when they find they are being heavily taxed they soon lose their keenness. Gone are the good old days when a doctor was available at all times of the day or night. In some areas it is extremely hard to find a doctor at night. I would say this city is one such area and Ipswich is another. The honourable member for Wolston would know this very well. In these areas one has a terrific job to get a doctor at night.

Mr. Marginson: I don't get sick, so I don't need one.

Mr. GUNN: If the honourable member does, I would advise him to have a bottle of pills on hand to treat himself because he is not going to get one in Ipswich, or he will find it very hard. Most of the surgeries are closed by 5 p.m.

Another topic about which we have heard a lot is the problem of small businesses. I think most of these problems are associated with banking. We find that traditional banking sources today are letting down a lot of small private-enterprise institutions. I would like to see established a type of rural bank that would assist these people, because in country areas in particular, and no doubt in other areas, we find such people have a tremendous problem in obtaining finance. Do not let us forget that 75 per cent of the people employed in Australia are employed by private enterprise, and I think 42 per cent are employed by small businesses. So it is of the utmost importance that we assist these small business people. A lot of people will say, "What is your interpretation of 'small-business'? Who do you claim would be a small businessman?" Well, I would say that anybody who has a business—perhaps a husband and wife—and employs up to 20 or so people would be classed as a small businessman. Such a person needs all the encouragement he can get and I hope that all members of this House will do everything they can to support him.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: You never mention the poor old worker.

Mr. GUNN: I do not think there is a harder worker in this country than the primary producer or the small businessman. I have many workers in my area.

Mr. K. J. Hooper interjected.

Mr. GUNN: I do not know what the honourable member's interpretation of "worker" is. They are all workers; there is no doubt about that.

Mr. K. J. Hooper interjected.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! The honourable member for Archerfield will now cease constant interjections.

Mr. GUNN: If the honourable member believes that he represents workers, I say that he represents riff-raff, not workers.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: I will use that in the next election campaign. That will win me a lot of votes.

Mr. GUNN: That is all right. I have 250 forestry workers in my electorate—

Mr. K. J. Hooper: And not one of them votes for you.

Mr. GUNN: They do; don't worry about that. If the honourable member looks at the voting figures for Yarraman, Blackbutt and Benarkin, he will find out how many vote for me.

I deplore the fact that honourable members opposite continue to refer to primary producers as "cockies". It has happened before. Peter Moore, the former member for Mourilyan, did that when he was in this Chamber, and I believe that was one of the reasons why he lost his seat at the last election. I remind the honourable member for Archerfield that he did it quite a few times earlier today. Honourable members opposite have the audacity and the hide at election-time to go out and tell people everything that the Government has done to them, then come back into this Chamber and refer to those people as "cockies".

I also deplore the fact that people on social services are referred to as "dole bludgers". That is another thing that should be stopped. I admit that there are some people on the dole who are cunning, but others are on the dole through necessity. To call primary producers "cockies"—

Mr. Casey: That is an expression which is almost as old as Australia.

Mr. GUNN: It is used to denigrate them. That is no excuse. I am sure that the honourable member for Mackay would not use that expression—I have certainly never heard him use it—because he comes from a cane-growing area.

Mr. Casey: I do not use slang in the Chamber.

Mr. GUNN: It is more than slang; it is used in a derogatory sense. It is hurtful to these people, who are good Queenslanders and good Australians.

I deplore the fact, too, that honourable members opposite have tried to denigrate the present Federal Government. That is another practice that should be stopped. They inherited one of the greatest political messes ever seen in this country, and they have tried very hard to correct a situation in which Australia had been brought to the brink of disaster. Both Mr. Fraser and Mr. Anthony have done their utmost in a short time, as have all the other members of the Federal Government, to try to correct the situation. I believed that it would take them two terms of Government to correct it.

Mr. Marginson: Two terms?

Mr. GUNN: Two terms, because it took only a couple of years to bring Australia into the mess. Although the present Federal Government has been on the Treasury benches only a short time, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel.

Mr. Marginson: It is a long tunnel.

Mr. GUNN: We would never have come out of it under the Whitlam Government. There was no hope of the country ever getting out of it. The Fraser-Anthony Government has already done a great deal, and I believe that the situation will be corrected, if not during this term of Government then early in the next term.

Before concluding, I shall refer briefly to the demonstrations that have taken place in this area. In my opinion, the greatest stimulus to the radical demonstrators is the television camera. If those people were left alone there would not be any demonstrations; but just let cameramen from one of the channels—Channel 9, Channel 2, Channel 0 or Channel 7—show up, and they will put on an act.

Mr. Lindsay: Are you aware that the next university demonstration is programmed for 30 September, and that my information, given to me by a student of the university—

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! I suggest that the honourable member for Somerset proceed with his speech.

Mr. GUNN: I usually would not listen to an interjection of such length, but the honourable member made a very interesting statement. I would say he was correct because in the past his forecasts have been right. It will be interesting to watch this. They have absolutely ignored authority. Of course, they are only a minority group. I have had my children go through university, and they tell me that they are only a very small vocal minority.

I believe that the State will go from strength to strength. We have merely scratched the surface as far as minerals are concerned. We have the greatest agricultural and pastoral State in the Commonwealth. I have visited every State, and I would not swap Queensland for two of the others. With the good government we have had since 1957, Queensland has gone from strength to strength. By the look of the ragged Opposition, despite what the Left-wing journalists say, I cannot see that they are going to increase their numbers. They say that sort of thing with tongue in cheek. The Leader of the Opposition is whistling in the cemetery when he says that he believes he will double his majority at the next election. We will continue to go from strength to strength because I believe there is nothing this State cannot achieve.

Mr. FRAWLEY (Murrumba) (8.2 p.m.): It gives me great pleasure once again to reaffirm my allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, and also the allegiance of all the constituents of Murrumba. I firmly believe that all the people in that electorate, regardless of their political affiliations, would completely dissociate themselves from some of the statements made today by the honourable member for Archerfield. I was absolutely shocked at his remarks. I brand him as a traitor to Queensland. If I had my way, he

would be up before a firing squad for some of the remarks he made about the Governor of Queensland.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! I really think the honourable member should moderate his language.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I congratulate Sir Colin Hannah and Lady Hannah on the part they have played as representatives of Her Majesty the Queen in this State.

I would be failing in my duty if I did not make special mention of Sir Gordon Chalk, the former Treasurer who has now retired. He left his mark on Queensland politics, and will always be remembered as a politician who had a firm grip on his portfolio.

I welcome the two new members, the honourable member for Clayfield (Mr. Brown) and the honourable member for Port Curtis (Mr. Prest). I am certain they will prove worthy representatives of their electorates.

I wish to say something about the Warana Committee. I have never heard anything so ridiculous as selecting two people from that stupid television show "No. 96" to be the King and Queen of Warana. They may just as well have picked the honourable member for Archerfield for the Queen and Nancy Peck from the Rape Referral Centre for the King. As a member of the Redcliffe Music and Arts Society, I am absolutely disgusted at the insult to cultural organisations in this State. It is a slight on all cultural groups to pick those people to lead the Warana carnival when there are plenty of capable Queenslanders who have done a lot for the arts and who are worthy of that distinction. I sincerely hope that the committee uses a bit of common sense next time it picks somebody.

Mr. Dean interjected.

Mr. FRAWLEY: The honourable member for Sandgate was on that committee. They must have all been half-full when they made that choice.

I am fed up with all the complaints that are being made about Australia's Olympic team and all the talk about the money that should be poured into sport. Many of the Olympic athletes did the best Australians have ever done. Many of them reached finals after doing their personal best. The whole truth is that many of them were not trained properly for their events. Some of them could not run twice in the one day, and that was their main trouble.

Mr. Casey: I understand you won medals when you were over there, as did the whole Australian team.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I don't want to talk about that. When the Australian veterans' team went over last year, we had 50 competitors and we won 50 medals. How could they beat that?

I do not believe that huge sums of money should be poured into sport, but sporting facilities for school-children should be improved. It is at school that children develop their sporting ability. The honourable member for Toowong has made a pretty sensible submission about assistance to sport, and I hope that this Government takes note of it.

While I am on sport—athletes on the north side of Brisbane, as far north as Nambour and as far west as Kilcoy, have been sadly neglected. The construction last year of the synthetic athletic track at Mt. Gravatt has resulted in a vast improvement in the performance of all athletes who use it. Athletes who live on the north side of Brisbane suffer a great disadvantage. Those in Redcliffe, for example, are required to make a return journey of 100 km to use the track and those who live in Caboolture have to make a return trip of 160 km.

Mr. Casey: What about the North? Athletes up there still have to run on sensitive plant and devil-devil.

Mr. FRAWLEY: Northern athletes would have to fly to Brisbane for an afternoon athletic competition at Mt. Gravatt. I am talking about athletes in fairly close proximity to Brisbane. Of course athletic tracks should be established further north; I will talk about that matter later on.

The large number of school athletes in Pine Rivers, Caboolture and Redcliffe demands the provision of a first-class synthetic track in the area. A site that comes to mind is Rothwell, in the western part of Redcliffe, where the Housing Commission own a few hundred acres of land, part of which is useless. A decent athletic track would occupy only 9 or 10 acres, so I suggest that the Government donate some of that Housing Commission land for the use of athletes. The Redcliffe City Council, the Pine Rivers Shire Council and the Caboolture Shire Council could make a joint effort to construct a synthetic athletic track there, making provision for soccer and hockey fields in the area bounded by the track. Of course, the Government would probably have to provide financial assistance. Such facilities would be of great benefit to athletes and sportsmen in the area.

Earlier in this debate some members of the Opposition accused Government members of not being game to criticise the present Federal Government. They accused us of criticising the Whitlam Labor Government and of failing to take the present Federal Government to task. Let me make it quite clear that I am prepared to give the Federal Government an opportunity to lift this country out of the economic rut into which it was put by the Whitlam Government, but if I am dissatisfied with the performance of this Federal Government I will not hesitate to voice my disapproval. I will give it just as good a serve as I gave the Federal Labor Government if I think it is not doing the right thing. As I say, I am prepared to give

it the opportunity of putting some of its policies into operation in an endeavour to improve the economy of our nation.

I thoroughly endorse the actions of the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities and the Public Service Board in refusing to reinstate the dismissed pot-smoking teachers. Teachers have a grave responsibility to their students. I believe most teachers realise this and act accordingly. Many students look up to their teachers and model their behaviour on that of their teachers. A parent has the right to believe that when he sends his son or daughter to school, he or she will not be exposed to any moral danger such as smoking marijuana.

Many people are unaware of the effects of marijuana. The results of tests conducted on marijuana smokers reveal that they have poor judgment and poor concentration, suffer from anxiety and depression, have suicidal tendencies, have a total loss of interest in their personal appearance and age prematurely.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: Does it have any effect on the biological urge?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I don't know about that.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr. W. D. Hewitt): Order! The honourable member for Archerfield is not in his usual place.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: I am acting Leader of the Opposition.

Mr. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The honourable member will cease interjecting in any case. That is his last warning.

Mr. FRAWLEY: If children smoke marijuana, their normal growth process is interrupted and they can reach adulthood without achieving full mental functioning. Sometimes I believe that is what is wrong with the member for Archerfield.

Recently in the United States of America tests were conducted on 60 athletes with comparable ability, of whom 20 were confirmed marijuana smokers and 40 had not smoked. Of those 40, a total of 20 took marijuana for the purpose of the tests. The results of the tests were amazing. All athletes were tested on the starting blocks and their reaction time between when the starter's gun was fired and when they left the blocks showed quite clearly that the 20 who did not smoke marijuana left the others for dead.

Mr. Hartwig: Their reflexes.

Mr. FRAWLEY: That's quite right; their reflexes were 100 per cent. In the field events, such as hammer throw, javelin throw and so on, the co-ordination of the marijuana smokers was totally out of focus; they could not co-ordinate properly. The smoking of marijuana has a detrimental effect on men and women athletes.

An Opposition Member interjected.

Mr. FRAWLEY: That could be so, but I do not know much about that. I do not drink any of it.

I spend a great deal of time with my students. Only yesterday I was with a group from one of the Redcliffe high schools. I asked them what they thought about these teachers being dismissed for smoking pot. Every student in that athletic training squad said that they should not be reinstated and that he would not want to be taught by pot-smoking teachers. It would be far better if the Queensland Teachers' Union were to concentrate on upholding moral standards in schools instead of encouraging pot-smoking teachers.

Mr. Costello, the President of the Queensland Teachers' Union, has seized this opportunity to engage in a political strike. He is trying to disrupt the Queensland education system. Many children have been neglected, but he is sure that his own children will not be neglected as they attend a private school and are in no danger of having their education interrupted by the strikes. Mr. Costello used a great deal of Teachers' Union money in supporting the Whitlam Government. He ran many costly advertisements in the Press and used a lot of the union's money to support Labor policy. If the A.L.P. was the Government of Queensland I venture to suggest that Costello would not say a word. In what he is trying to do he is merely a stooge of the A.L.P. He and a small group of radical teachers are trying to introduce startling changes in our education system.

A committee is presently examining the possibility of doing away with so-called sexism in schools. This is the brainchild of some of the "Ms" teachers in the union. A Ms is a woman who has failed either to get a man or, having got one, to hold him. I have not met one Ms who is a happily married woman. Each of them has a chip on her shoulder and seizes every opportunity to display her so-called liberation. The plain truth is that they are failures who are jealous of every woman who has fulfilled her destiny. That is their trouble.

A Government Member: They have missed out.

Mr. FRAWLEY: That is right; they have "Ms'd" out.

The way-out committee of the Teachers' Union intends to recommend that domestic science classes in schools be abolished and that all students, both male and female, be taught homecrafts. I think they want to turn our male youths into a bunch of fairies, without any manly traits.

Mr. Lindsay: How long did it take you to learn to wipe up?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I do it every night at home.

An Opposition Member interjected.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I do not mind giving my wife a bit of a hand in the home. Every good husband should do that.

The Australian Union of Students, which is another group of idiots, held a meeting at Wagga on Easter Saturday at which a motion was passed that school-teachers be allowed to have sexual intercourse with their students. It was not said whether it was to be before, during or after school. If that motion is carried we might even get sex periods in the school curriculums. The motion is expected to become official union policy and it was supported by Doug Fraser, a representative of the Queensland teachers. It is interesting to note that the Australian Union of Students is controlled by Bill Hartley. In other words, it is controlled by the Communist Party of Australia through Bill Hartley, who is a well-known Victorian Communist and who was the research officer for the Australian Union of Students. He stood for the 1975 Senate election, but did not even get off the ground.

Even the Queensland A.L.P. at its last conference in Cairns—and this cannot be denied—passed motions that if the A.L.P. became the Government it would legalise smoking of marijuana and homosexuality. The A.L.P. decided that it would legalise homosexual marriages and many other way-out things. I honestly believe that the A.L.P. in Queensland and other States is attempting to destroy the morals of young people. I believe it wants to destroy marriage—to do away with marriage—and have all children looked after by the State in big communes.

In regard to the teachers, I have a telegram that the honourable member for Albert was kind enough to hand to me.

An Honourable Member: How many letters?

Mr. FRAWLEY: I have several letters about the honourable member for Archerfield, but I will not read them tonight.

The telegram reads—

“Fully support Education Minister stand against hypocritical and disruptive minority stop Must condemn attitude of daily Press in biased attempt to influence public in sympathising with law-breakers.”

An Opposition Member: You sent it yourself.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I did not send it. It has the time it was sent and I was in the Chamber at that time, so the honourable member should not try to pull that one on me.

I am completely disgusted at some of the attacks on the Governor-General, which are inspired by the A.L.P. They are carried out by radical students and members of Communist unions but are fostered by the A.L.P. In public, the A.L.P. decries all of the attacks on the Governor-General, but secretly it encourages them. The word “democracy”,

when used by the A.L.P., has an entirely different meaning from what we understand. The Labor Party and the Communists believe that democracy will exist in Australia only when there is a socialist Government that can never be defeated. God help the electors of Queensland if ever again they elect an A.L.P. Government in this State! I do not believe that they will.

Mr. Lindsay: Where's Burns—pencilling for an S.P. bookie?

Mr. FRAWLEY: It's not Thursday night, so he's not at the 'Gabba.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: I think that you and the member for Merthyr are the same.

Mr. FRAWLEY: That is typical of some of the interjections of the honourable member for Archerfield, who is one of the greatest anarchists in this House.

Mr. Lindsay: He is sub judge.

Mr. FRAWLEY: He should be.

According to Labor, democracy means a situation where anybody who disagrees with it will be dealt with. If a man at a union meeting or any rally attempts to express his point of view, he is usually stood over by the bully boys from some of the unions. If the Labor Party ever gains power in this State, it will change the electoral boundaries so that it will never be defeated again.

Opposition members talk about the gerrymanders by this Government. The greatest gerrymander occurred in 1949 when the Labor Party won nine out of 10 western seats. The boundaries even went up railway lines and then spread out again. That is how Labor gerrymandered the electorates, and it used all of the A.W.U. organisers to get the votes. When this Government came to power in 1957, there was a decent redistribution, and democracy has reigned since that date. I am not accusing any Opposition members of being Communists, but they are certainly under the domination of Communists and Left-wingers. They preach democracy but they are perfectly willing to foment unnecessary strikes in industry. As a result of all of the strikes not only in this State but in the whole of Australia, thousands of man-hours are wasted. It is no wonder that ships are to be built overseas. We cannot be blamed for all of the strikes at the Newcastle dockyards, so can anybody blame the Federal Government for giving the contracts for ships to Japan where they can be obtained for half the price?

An honourable member spoke earlier today of my being in Korea. I was there, as was the honourable member for Bundaberg, and he will have to corroborate the statements that I am making. The Koreans certainly know how to work. They work 60 minutes in every hour and they work a six-day week. They never stop work. We went to the shipyards in Ulsan. We spoke to the management and were told that there had not

been a strike in this particular shipyard in four years. They are turning out ships as regularly as clockwork. All of the workers were happy and I spoke to many of them. I found the amenities to be first class. The workers in South Korea were not stood over by anybody. They took a pride in their country. It would do some of our disruptive union members some good to take a leaf out of the South Koreans' book and give this country a bit of production and put it back onto its feet again.

Mr. Jones: Ask some of the boys who were in Changi about Korean guards.

Mr. FRAWLEY: What a lot of rot. The honourable member has been out of the Chamber all day and then comes in and interjects from the wrong seat. He does not know what he is talking about.

The Communists are using the trade unions. There are many good, decent union members. I was a member of the Electrical Trades Union for 20 years.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: They threw you out.

Mr. FRAWLEY: They did not throw me out at all. I was a member when the E.T.U. was decent and was not controlled by the Left-wingers who control it now.

The Labor Party is tied body and soul to the Federal Conference of the A.L.P. and is dominated by the Communists. Bob Hawke owes his position as president of the A.C.T.U. to the Left-wingers. They got behind him and put him there. Trade-unionists should stop the exploitation of their unions by Communists. The moderate unionists should take control of the unions by attending union meetings. Control of the industrial movement means control of the entire labour force, which is a threat to the democratic government of this State.

The Labor Party could once be described as a working-class party but now there is a new class of Labor leaders who have very little union background. There is no doubt in my mind that many of the present leaders of the Labor Party have never been members of unions and have never experienced any union problems. The honourable member for Archerfield has, of course, as he was an organiser of the Miscellaneous Workers' Union. I am not going to tell tonight how he used to stand over women cleaners at the Treasury Building and take money out of their purses for union fees. The Labor Party has degenerated. It was once a great political party. Somebody—I think it was the honourable member for Stafford—mentioned the late Ned Hanlon. He was a man for whom I had an intense admiration because he typified the old-time Labor man who was in this Parliament for the good of the people.

Mr. Miller: A real man.

Mr. FRAWLEY: He was a good man and I give him full credit for some of the things he did. But now, of course, the Labor Party

has degenerated into a party of homosexuals and lesbians. It is a playground for all the way-outs, radicals and rat-bags from the universities. It is controlled by a pack of idiots.

Of course, the Communists in the Labor Party encourage this. They want all these clowns to get into the Labor Party and foment trouble. Look, for example, at the Building Workers' Industrial Union in this State controlled by Hughie Hamilton. He is the president of the Communist Party in Queensland and he is the secretary of the union. If anyone wants to know how Communists and Left-wingers control the Labor Party, he has only to remember the way in which Senator Georges recently let the cat out of the bag. At a caucus meeting in Canberra, when Labor members were deciding whether to retain Mr. Whitlam as leader after the last election, Senator Georges said he had been threatened with loss of his endorsement at the next election if he did not support Mr. Whitlam. Senator Georges rose to his position as a Senator with the help of the unions, the Communists and the Left-wingers, and the Queensland Executive of the A.L.P. Now it has been proved conclusively that he and other Queensland Labor politicians were completely subservient to the wishes of the Communists and Left-wingers.

People must be wondering why they wanted to retain Mr. Whitlam as leader. I just happen to have with me tonight a photograph of Senator Georges sitting down disrupting traffic in Queen Street on 25 July 1971. The fellow whose leg can be seen in the photograph is the former member for Everton who is not here now. He was defeated by a good man.

Mr. Miller: What is his name?

Mr. FRAWLEY: Gerry Jones. He was one who sat down in the street alongside Senator Georges.

Mr. Miller: Isn't he a candidate for Everton at the next election?

Mr. FRAWLEY: Yes, he is again a candidate for Everton. He tried to get a job with the R.S.L. Fancy a man like him, trying to get a job as secretary of an R.S.L. club! Where now is the honourable member for Cairns, who was screaming not long ago about returned soldiers? What about his Communist mate trying to get a job as secretary of the Gaythorne R.S.L.?

Labor members here are always silent when Left-wing dominated unions engage in unnecessary industrial action. They have a complete disregard for law and order and they are always afraid to enter into any conflict with the Trades and Labor Council. They rely more and more on the power of the streets. The organised violent demonstrations against Sir John Kerr are further proof of this attitude. These demonstrations are part of a campaign to break the nerve

of the Governor-General. They are not particularly concerned about whether he resigns or does not resign; their aim is to have any future Governor-General so terrified that he will not be game to exercise his democratic rights should the situation that has caused all the trouble occur again.

I propose now to make some comments about death duties. All over the world the abolition of death duties has been opposed. The Labor Party has always opposed their abolition. The Communist manifesto pledges to abolish the rights of inheritance of Australians.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: Get on to the T.A.B. You have not said anything about that yet.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I am not going to talk about the T.A.B.

Mr. Casey: This is the first speech you have made in which you have not spoken about the Redcliffe City Council. What's wrong?

Mr. FRAWLEY: There is no need to talk about the Redcliffe City Council now because it is under decent administration. Since the Redcliffe City Council came under new management there has been no need for anybody to complain about it.

In the few brief moments I have left, I want to deal with a railway for Redcliffe. Many references have been made to it in the Press. The honourable member for Archerfield today pleaded the case for a rail link for Inala. I am not against a rail link being provided to Inala as long as it comes after a rail link to Redcliffe. Such a rail link would help not only the people of Redcliffe but those of Deception Bay and other areas that have a very poor transport system at present. They depend on local buses which do a reasonable job, but they really want a fast, efficient transport service. I believe that if a rail link were provided to Redcliffe through the Narangba Industrial Estate, touching at Deception Bay and running into Redcliffe, it would carry very many commuters daily to Brisbane. Approximately 20,000 cars cross the Hornibrook Highway every day.

People coming from Redcliffe, Deception Bay and those places to work in Brisbane cross the bridge. I think there is a real need for a rail link to Redcliffe, but I think the Hornibrook Highway should be duplicated before any rail link is proposed for Redcliffe or anywhere else. I think the most important piece of work to be carried out in this State at this time is the duplication of the Hornibrook Highway.

There has been some comment in the Press in Redcliffe recently about a suggestion that the new highway be called the Houghton Highway in recognition of the work that the Speaker of this House has done for Redcliffe since he became the member in 1960. He was the chairman of the Redcliffe Town Council, and when Redcliffe became a city he was the first mayor of Redcliffe. He has

served the people of Redcliffe well since 1954 and I think that no greater tribute could be paid to him that to have the new highway called the Houghton Highway. I heartily endorse those sentiments.

Mr. Jensen: You said this last Friday.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I have never mentioned this before. It came up only recently in Redcliffe when someone proposed that the highway be called the Houghton Highway. Some Johnny-come-latelies who have lived in Redcliffe only 10 minutes and paid only one lot of rates got up and opposed it, and I say here and now that I am right behind calling that highway the Houghton Highway as a mark of respect for the Speaker of this House.

Mr. Jensen interjected.

Mr. FRAWLEY: In answer to the inane interjection of the honourable member for Bundaberg, I do not want any street or anything in my electorate named after me. People will remember me after I have gone from Murrumba not because of anything called after me but because I am not frightened to stand up and fight on any issue which I think is in the interests of the people I represent.

Mr. Jensen interjected.

Mr. FRAWLEY: There are plenty of dogs left in my electorate. I had to rise in my place and make a personal explanation about some of the things that were attributed to me when I was overseas. I certainly did not kick that dog.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: You did! You did!

Mr. FRAWLEY: I did not. I have a letter from the lady who owned the dog, and she also pointed out in "The Courier-Mail" that when that dog was kicked to death in Redcliffe I happened to be in Canada.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: You had hob-nailed boots on.

Mr. FRAWLEY: I am not silly enough to run in hobnailed boots.

I thank you for your indulgence, Mr. Deputy Speaker. I say that while this Government is the Government of Queensland, the people of this State will have nothing to fear. They can rely on the members of this Government to carry out their duties in an efficient manner and to see that everyone in this State has an opportunity to progress.

Mr. ELLIOTT (Cunningham) (8.27 p.m.): I take this opportunity to reaffirm my loyalty and that of the electors of Cunningham to Her Majesty the Queen through our Governor, Sir Colin Hannah. During the previous Address-in-Reply debate quite a lot of mention was made about what is called the hand-out mentality. I would like to get back to that subject briefly. I said previously that we must take a stand against the hand-out mentality, and at long last I believe we have

seen in the latest Federal Budget a constructive approach in that direction. I believe we have seen the last of the free-meal attitude on the part of—

Mr. K. J. Hooper: What about the farmers?

Mr. ELLIOTT: All sections of the community, not just the farmers. I would mention to the honourable member for Archerfield that city-based people are supported just as much as, if not more than, farmers. Look at industries such as shipbuilding, where subsidies of the order of \$13,000 per man per year are paid. Look at the subsidies paid to the motor vehicle industry. Every person who drives an Australian car is driving a subsidised product.

Mr. K. J. Hooper interjected.

Mr. ELLIOTT: We will not waste too much time with the honourable member for Archerfield.

I believe that it is most important to oppose this attitude and I am convinced that we as a Government must get right behind the Federal Government in relation to the latest Budget. At times we all find some of the principles espoused in the Budget a little unacceptable; but there are no such things as free meals any more. Unfortunately, the policies of the previous Government caused the situation which we now face. It was those policies which caused this nation to go downhill in the economic sense. Therefore, we must make certain that we do not continue on in that way, knocking the Federal Government, because it is an unproductive exercise. We must all support that Government.

I suppose I could claim truthfully that I was one of those who spoke reasonably constructively about the former Federal Labor Government, and I shall be the first to knock the present Federal Government if I believe that it is on the wrong track. Honourable members opposite will agree, I think, that there is no easy way of overcoming the problems facing Australia today. The only way out is to knuckle down and do something constructive, and we must all be prepared to work a little harder.

I should now like to reply to a few points made by the Leader of the Opposition, the honourable member for Lytton, in his speech earlier in this debate. I was interested to note that he stated that 220 men and 48 women were now out of work in Charleville. He did not mention that under the former Labor Government 233 men and 66 women were out of work in Charleville and that, in fact, unemployment there has declined. He also mentioned Toowoomba. The figures show that under the former Labor Government 1,552 people were out of work in that city and that 1,145 are out of work now. The honourable gentleman

did not mention the figure under Labor; he simply said that 1,145 people are out of work now. He very conveniently forgot—

Mr. Marginson: Where did you get those figures?

Mr. ELLIOTT: I got them from the same source as the honourable member for Lytton got his figures.

While I am dealing with the honourable member for Lytton, I think I should take up a couple of other matters on which he touched. He mentioned that prosecutions of "dole bludgers" by the present Federal Government—

Mr. Marginson: Do you think that they should starve?

Mr. ELLIOTT: No, I do not believe that they should starve. In every society there are those who are unable to help themselves, and we, as a nation and as a people, must be prepared to use some of our taxation pool to support them. However, I do not adhere to the concept that we should support people, particularly young people, who are not repared to do some work for their money. I believe that we should cut off their unemployment benefits.

To refute the argument used by the honourable member for Lytton in his speech in this debate—I think I can quote a very good example that demonstrates clearly that the policy of the present Federal Government is definitely doing some good. At the Bali H'ai store (which is attached to the caravan park at Cable Beach, Broome) two years ago 40 social service cheques a week were being cashed; now, under the present Federal Government, only about one a fortnight is being cashed. I submit that proves my point. The present Federal Government is saving your taxation money, Mr. Deputy Speaker, and the taxation money of the whole community by stopping it being spent on people who were having free holidays at Cable Beach and at other places along the coastline of Australia.

I do not criticise those who are genuinely unemployed. I paid quite a lot of tax last year, and I am quite prepared that some of it should be used to support those who need assistance; but there is no way in the world that I am prepared to sit back and see my money spent to support indolent young fellows who wish to take a free holiday on the coast. As far as I am concerned, that is just not on.

I wish to say something about the demonstrations that are occurring around the nation. It is my belief that the honourable member for Lytton will become known as Mr. Tom Rent-a-demonstrator Burns, because he seems to be able to orchestrate demonstrations. On some occasions he says, "Boys, it is politically unacceptable to have a demonstration this week." Suddenly the demonstrations are turned off. But when he feels they may have some political value we see the demonstrations being made again. I do not say that

this applies only to the honourable member for Lytton. It applies also to the Q.C.E. and some of the other Labor-oriented people in our society.

They see some value in demonstrations, but they are on the wrong track. It is the most counter-productive thing the Labor Party is doing. The sooner the nation realises we cannot afford the division that this type of activity causes, the better. We will go nowhere until we realise that we must get together as a nation, and again see some unity. It seems to me that we are only prepared to work as a nation during a war or at other times of crisis. The spiralling inflation rate over the past few years and the unemployment that has been generated are surely crises. I implore all Australians to join together in the united cause and work towards doing something constructive. I am talking about business people and all others.

Mr. Wright interjected.

Mr. ELLIOTT: It is a little better than some of the trash that comes out of the mouth of the honourable member for Rockhampton.

During my previous Address-in-Reply speech I mentioned the soil erosion problems on the Darling Downs. At that time I said that I believed the State Government had not spent enough money to support the assistance programmes and soil conservation generally. As a Government we must do more in this direction. It is not just a problem of the rural population; it is a matter which concerns all people, including the honourable member for Rockhampton. We all have a role to play in this. The greatest resource of any nation is its soil. If the soil is eroded and washed out to sea every time it rains, the nation will go down hill because its productivity from the land is eroded away. We all have a responsibility in this, so we should all work together towards a common goal.

I congratulate the Government for setting up advisory group committees on the soil conservation problem. For the first time on the Darling Downs we have advisory group committees to advise the Primary Industries Department on this problem. This was a very necessary step because previously we tended to bog down with academic thinking. A practical opinion brought in at the crucial moment can sometimes solve a problem. I congratulate both the department and the Government for having the foresight to set up those committees. I believe the venture will be very successful.

I also congratulate the Government for its decision on death duties. I have always believed death duty to be an iniquitous tax, robbing widows and orphans. We all must surely realise that, if incentives are taken away from people every time the Government legislates, people will be no longer be interested in doing anything for themselves.

I now make a few comments on the teachers' strike. All of us must take an interest in this problem. It is unfortunate that the matter has gone as far as it has. Like other groups in the community, such as police, judges, politicians and doctors, teachers have a moral responsibility to uphold certain standards. If they do not, how can we expect the young people of today to look up to any of those groups and to become responsible citizens? I therefore urge the Queensland Teachers' Union and all teachers to look seriously at the situation before they continue to use the children of our State as pawns in this game.

Finally, once again I reaffirm my loyalty and that of my electors to Her Majesty the Queen.

Mr. McKECHNIE (Carnarvon) (8.41 p.m.): I pledge my loyalty to Her Majesty the Queen and to the Governor, Sir Colin Hannah, and Lady Hannah. Naturally I associate my constituents with these remarks.

I was amazed to hear the honourable member for Archerfield say, "The quicker the Governor goes, the better." It is comments of that type that bring about anarchy. We have just seen what happened in Western Australia, where the Labor Party has stated that it wants to get rid of the office of Governor of that State. Admittedly the cost of retaining the Governor and all that goes with him is high, but to me there is no price too high to put on freedom. The Governor and, in the Commonwealth, the Governor-General are all that stand between bad Government, by either the Right or the Left, and anarchy.

Naturally, I congratulate the honourable member for Clayfield and the honourable member for Mt. Isa on the able manner in which they moved and seconded the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. I have not yet got to know the mover of the motion very well, but I am told that he is a man who will perform admirably. The Liberal Party chose wisely when it endorsed him for the Clayfield electorate. The seconder of the motion, the member for Mt. Isa, is well known to me; I share an office with him. The people of Mt. Isa should count their blessings for having as their representative a member who works as hard as he does on their behalf.

I can remember that 14 or 15 years ago the National Party was having difficulty in obtaining a candidate for Mt. Isa as it was said that even a rabbit could win it for the A.L.P. How the political climate has changed! Today we see a National Party member winning the Mt. Isa seat convincingly. As I say, 14 or 15 years ago such a situation was not considered even remotely possible. The way that the member for Mt. Isa is representing his electorate ensures that he will be its representative for a very long time to come.

Australia is going through a period of great frustration, having suffered from the three years of Labor mismanagement. Generally speaking, I support the efforts made by the Federal Government to bring about the nation's recovery. However, even the best of Governments make mistakes. One serious mistake made by the Fraser Government adversely affects my electorate. When such mistakes are made—whether by a Liberal or Labor Government—I will speak out. I refer particularly to the Tasmanian freight equalisation scheme. This scheme, as it relates to the apple industry, could wreck the whole Australian apple industry.

The Industries Assistance Commission Report which became available on 16 January this year made certain references to the apple industry in Australia. One statement was that the commission considered it may be unduly pessimistic, but that the fact remained that the diversion of large quantities of apples to mainland markets will depress prices there. That means that a flood of Tasmanian apples on the Australian market could well wreck the whole industry. A comment appears in the report to the effect that the cost of interstate shipments would prevent too many Tasmanian apples from coming onto the mainland market. It was also said that there was little scope for the domestic market to absorb apples diverted from export markets, and Tasmania is predominantly an exporting State.

Queensland growers were amazed and disturbed that steps were taken to implement the Tasmanian Freight Equalization Scheme without anyone from our local apple and pear industries or the Department of Primary Industries being consulted on its effects, or even advised that the scheme was being implemented. It is all very well to say that it was an election pledge of the Fraser Government, but it did not receive any publicity in Queensland. Probably the media were at fault in thinking that it was simply a Tasmanian equalisation scheme. The media did not know the background and did not consider it important enough to forewarn Queensland people about it. I do not blame the media because they cannot be expected to understand the implications until they are pointed out.

I am also concerned that at the recent apple and pear growers conference held at Broadbeach in early August, conference delegates from all mainland States first became aware of the apparent pending implementation of the scheme and expressed their concern and apprehension should it come into effect. It is to be noted that Mr. Reg Bain, the Apple and Pear Corporation chairman, attended the 1976 conference and did not mention this scheme in his address. We are told that corporation members represent all the growers of Australia but it seems that Mr. Bain did not feel it his duty to alert Queensland growers to the possibility of this scheme being implemented.

In the 1977 season all States are due to experience an on-crop year with all its attendant problems. Perhaps I should explain for the benefit of those who do not understand the apple industry, that next year there will be too many apples on the market in mainland Australia. That seems to happen every two years in the present situation of over-supply. In May 1975 864,000 bushels of apples were in store on the Granite Belt. In August, 412,000 bushels were still in store. Many apples that did not find their way into store were dumped.

It seems to me to be economic stupidity to put more apples onto an over-supplied Australian mainland market by providing a very generous subsidy. Assuming that there are about 400 apple growers in Tasmania, the present subsidy offered by the Commonwealth Government could amount to \$10,000 or \$15,000 per grower. The Government is committed to reducing uneconomic subsidies and it seems to me to be a case of its going the other way. Why it has done this needs some explanation.

People may not be aware of the extent of the subsidy so I shall quote the following figures. The freight rate from Tasmania to Brisbane is \$2 and from Tasmania to Sydney is \$1.48 and the subsidy is \$1.56. So there is a 12c profit to enable the Tasmania orchardists to subsidise further their transportation costs to and from ships going to Sydney. The position with Melbourne is worse. The current freight rate from Tasmania to Melbourne is 90c per case and the subsidy is \$1.11, which leaves 21c to further subsidise their getting the apples on and off the ships. I have already made representations to the Honourable Ian Sinclair on this matter. I hope that he can use his influence in the Government to see that some common sense prevails.

This subsidy to the apple industry may cost the Federal Government \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000. If the Government has that sort of money to play with, it should use it to subsidise the export of apples. Tasmania chose to be a State that planted apples suitable for the export market. The growers there have had their fingers burnt and I do not think that they should expect mainland apple growers to go broke in an endeavour to save them. The scheme will not save the Tasmanian growers. All it will do will be to break the whole industry. I hope that the Federal Government realises the situation and that it will take steps to counter it.

I should like to comment on the present teacher dispute. The problem today is that some teachers forget that they are professional people and that professionals have a standard to live up to. Somehow or other they seem to be trying to convince the Queensland people that teachers convicted and fined for smoking marijuana will suffer a double penalty through losing their jobs and that this double penalty is not applicable

to other professions. That is complete nonsense and I am sure that the people of Queensland will wake up to it.

If a lawyer breaks the law, he will be fined or gaoled—whichever penalty the court prescribes—and he will be dismissed from his profession. This happens in many professional organisations. If teachers want to be treated as professional people they must learn to act like professionals and to live up to their responsibilities.

I was at a sports day in Goondiwindi last week. The children gave the teachers three rousing cheers for the way in which they had helped them train for the sports day and helped them to get to the venue of the sports day. After the children had given the teachers three rousing cheers, I felt the need to point out to the teachers just how much trust the children placed in them and the need for them to live up to that trust.

The Minister for Education was scoffed at for suggesting that members of the teaching profession should have an acceptable form of dress. I agree with the Minister. I have seen one male teacher going to school wearing bangles and jeans. That might be suitable dress for the beach but it is not the sort of dress that would encourage pupils to look up to that teacher and respect him.

Mr. Frawley: Was it a male teacher?

Mr. McKECHNIE: Yes.

Mr. Frawley: He might have taught domestic science!

Mr. McKECHNIE: Perhaps!

I return to the state of the economy. I was pleased to hear the honourable member for Cunningham speak of the need to get away from hand-outs.

Also, people have to realise that if business is to survive it has to earn a profit. It is impossible to continue for ever and a day taxing business to the extent that it finds it difficult to carry on. Businessmen are not hurt half as much as their employees who are left unemployed. Most businessmen survive but their employees are thrown on the scrap heap. The sooner the Labor Party wakes up to itself and tries to safeguard the jobs of the people it supposedly represents instead of constantly business-bashing, the sooner there will be a return to some form of economic reality in Queensland and the rest of Australia.

People have to learn that when they demand that a Government do certain things they are in effect saying to the Government, "Won't you please tax us more?" It is only from the people that Governments get their money. I am amazed that some people do not seem to understand that. They seem to think that the Government can go on for ever and a day promising more services, more this and more that and that the Government gets its money from some magical

source. The money that goes to the Government comes out of the pockets of the taxpayers. The Australian public has to wake up to this fact and all political parties have a duty to try to get it over to the Australian people. If this is not done, Australia will end up like Sweden and some other countries in which the people are virtually taxed out of existence.

When elections come round, there is a battle between the major political parties to see which can promise the most. I am heartened to note that it is always the A.L.P. that promises more. At least some degree of restraint is shown by members of the Liberal and National parties in what they promise at election time. The A.L.P. says, "Why hasn't the Government done this and that?" It completely misinforms the people by not telling them that if A.L.P. policies were carried out the tax bill would rise, rise and rise. That is why the Liberal-National Country Party Government in Canberra was faced with a possible deficit of \$5,000 million. It was the result of complete neglect and the stupid promises of the former Whitlam Government.

Probably one of the greatest avenues of concern in the employment market at the moment is the lack of opportunities for young people to train as apprentices. I should like to pay a compliment to the Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs for his persistent battle to get a better deal for both apprentices and their employers in Queensland.

It seems to me that consecutive Federal Governments have placed too much emphasis on university education. Many people being trained by the universities have no hope of getting a job, yet we have a critical shortage of tradesmen. I hope that the Queensland and Federal Governments will work together to try to find ways and means of helping employers train more apprentices, because it has simply become uneconomic to employ apprentices in some trades. I am shocked at the feeling of utter dismay that some employers I meet have in that they want to train more tradesmen but they feel that the incentives to do so are not there. The inquiry set up by the Minister for Industrial Development, Labour Relations and Consumer Affairs to look into this whole problem should receive the support of every thinking employer and parent in Queensland, and I hope as many people as possible will make an effort to place their thoughts before that inquiry.

Probably one of the greatest disincentives to decentralisation is high freight rates, and I sincerely hope that an article which appeared in today's "Courier-Mail" suggesting that there might be an increase in freight rates in the next State Budget is false because some time ago I was given an assurance by the Premier that increases in freight rates will not be imposed upon the grain industry in this year's State Budget. I am sure the

Premier is an honourable man; I hold him in very high esteem and I am sure that Cabinet and he will make sure that his word is not broken.

The vast amount of industrial unrest is causing a great deal of concern in the community at the moment. Sooner or later Governments have to come to grips with this problem. I do not think it is fair that if some environmental group wants to have a law changed they have to come along and lobby parliamentarians to get what they want either through legislative change or some other lawful means yet the same principle does not apply to a change in wage rates. We have industrial courts which have been set up to work out what is a fair rate of pay for an employee to receive and an employer to pay. In a civilised society people should not go outside that court and strike for wages and conditions which union advocates cannot convince the courts that they should give.

The big losers in industrial strikes are those who can least afford to suffer from them. I will name one case in point, and that is the person who cannot get a home in Queensland because of the shortage of homes. One of the main reasons for the shortage of homes in Queensland is high interest rates, and one reason for high interest rates is the economic turmoil caused by the vast shift of Australian money supplies from the private sector to the Government sector during the Whitlam days. It is not possible to improve the standard of living if people work only part of the time.

Australia is fast losing its good name as a reliable exporter and, like it or not—and many members of the A.L.P. do not like it—Australia is an exporting country and the wealth and real standard of living of the people of this country are dependent upon profitable export industries. How long the present standard of living can be maintained when exporting industries are suffering through high interest rates, very high tariff protection of secondary industries and, more importantly, industrial turmoil in those industries, I do not know.

I cut out of "The Australian" of 8 July 1976 an article in which there were some rather interesting figures. It said that the annual report of the Industries Assistance Commission for 1974-75 stated that the rural sector received a total of \$448,000,000 in assistance, subsidies and so on, while the manufacturing sector received only \$299,000,000. However, the writer of the article went on to say that manufacturing industry also received in excess of \$2,000 million a year in tariff protection. Adding that to the \$299,000,000 in direct subsidies gives a figure of \$2,299 million a year to manufacturing industry as against a lousy \$448,000,000 to the rural sector. In spite of that, time and time again members of the Opposition criticise the Federal Government for reintroducing the superphosphate bounty or taking other similar measures.

Years ago it was necessary to ensure that Australia had a reasonable manufacturing sector in its economy. Probably the main reason for that was to give this country some degree of protection if war broke out again and we were cut off from materials supplied by secondary industries overseas. However, the policy has been carried too far. Rural industries are becoming run down, and the cities have by far the greatest number of parliamentarians representing them in all Parliaments in Australia. Unfortunately, it is true that the strength lies where the votes are, and it disgusts me to hear members of the A.L.P. consistently accusing the Government of this State of having gerrymandered electoral boundaries. They have most of the seats around Brisbane now. Do they want all the power?

Mr. Marginson: Most of the people live in and around Brisbane.

Mr. McKECHNIE: I will take that interjection. The honourable member said that most of the people of this State live in and around Brisbane?

Mr. Marginson: Yes.

Mr. McKECHNIE: The honourable member wants to give those people more power, because power is relative to the number of members that a party has in Parliament. I am pleased that the honourable member for Wolston made that interjection, because I will enjoy telling people in my electorate how much the A.L.P. wants to take representation away from the bush and give more representation to people living in this city.

If ever we get a change of Government in this State—I am sure the people of Queensland have enough sense not to change to the honourable member's brand of politics—God help rural Queensland! That Government would have a redistribution as quick as lightning, under which it would concentrate all power in Brisbane, and it would look after those members representing this area. Country people would get nothing. The honourable member should be ashamed of himself. The standard of living in city areas is brought about by the woolly-headed thinking that there should be more and more parliamentarians representing Brisbane, and blow the bush. That is the A.L.P. attitude. Yet at election-time they say they have a feeling for people in the bush. If new electorates were created in Brisbane under an A.L.P. Government, I bet that Government would make certain that those new electorates remained under A.L.P. representation. It would channel massive Government funds into those seats. It upsets honourable members opposite to have it spelt out just how much they would take representation from people in my electorate.

I move on to another topic and make the plea that this Government in its Budget consider ways and means of spending Government money more wisely. A Priorities Review Commission has been set up to look at ways and means of making Government

spending more efficient. A thorough review should be made of all departments. Instead of bringing in professional people from outside we should allocate, say, half a dozen members to investigate during the parliamentary recess ways and means of reducing red tape in Government departments. It never ceases to amaze me how long it sometimes takes to get satisfaction from Government departments, irrespective of the Government in office. We must find a way to simplify the processes of government. Above all we must be very careful to make the people of Queensland understand that every time they ask the Government to do something they are asking it to tax them more. People are already too heavily taxed.

Mr. TENNI (Barron River) (9.14 p.m.): Mr. Deputy Speaker—

Opposition Members interjected.

Mr. TENNI: I will put it all over them. They won't know whether they are coming or going when I am finished with them.

It gives me great pleasure to speak to the motion for the adoption of the Address in Reply. First of all I congratulate the honourable member for Clayfield, who moved it. I do not know that honourable member very well but I have spoken to many people in his electorate who tell me that he is working excellently and doing a marvellous job. After listening to his maiden speech I do not doubt that those people told me the absolute truth. I congratulate him on the excellent manner in which he presented it. I am sure he will be able to show our friends in the cricket team in the right-hand corner the proper way to deliver a speech and how to do the right thing by their electors.

I also congratulate the seconder of the motion, the honourable member for Mt. Isa, whom I know very well. I had a lot to do with him in local government before becoming a member of Parliament. I knew his top-notch ability as the mayor of Mt. Isa. He has demonstrated that ability in here and is improving every day. The people of Mt. Isa respect him and congratulate him. I have worked in that area with him, and I know the type of reception he gets there. There is no way in the world that he will be defeated at the next election. No matter whom the Labor Party selects as its candidate, he is finished; he might as well not waste his money on his nomination fee. The member for Mt. Isa is here, and he will stay here. Opposition members can go out to Mt. Isa in one hit if they wish; they can take their bat and ball with them. But even that won't do the Labor Party any good. The member for Mt. Isa is there to stay. I extend to him my personal congratulations on the able manner in which he seconded the motion.

I pledge my support and loyalty to the Queen and to the Governor. I also congratulate the Governor-General. He has been the subject of severe criticism from

Opposition members, particularly our big friend the member for Archerfield. He has made terrible comments about the Governor-General; but of course conduct of that type is to be expected from him.

Mr. Frawley: He's carrying a brief for the Trades Hall.

Mr. TENNI: Is that what he is doing? He is quite nasty at times, but that, too, is to be expected. I certainly do not agree with him. The Governor-General is a great man of whom we should all be proud. I know that the Leader of the Opposition is very proud of him.

In speaking to this motion the Leader of the Opposition deliberately—I repeat "deliberately"—twisted a statement that I made in my maiden speech 18 months ago. That is normal for him, of course; he usually does that sort of thing. In my maiden speech I referred to Social Service payouts, and I repeat that my comments were twisted by the Leader of the Opposition. Perhaps he is at a loss and cannot do things correctly these days without having Jack Egerton to write his briefs for him. I suppose it is to be expected that he would twist things around.

I make it quite clear that in my maiden speech I said I did not believe anyone should be paid money for nothing. I believe that people who receive money must work for it, provided they are capable of working. I believe that a married woman or a deserted wife with children is entitled to money without working for it. However, the young layabouts on the beach front in my electorate—the hippies, as they are commonly known—should not be receiving any money merely to lie on the sands and sunbake. If they are to receive money they must work for it.

I will explain through you, Mr. Deputy Speaker, how I want this matter to be handled and how I have put it across to Federal Governments—both the former Labor Government and the present Federal Government. If a person doing a normal job is worth \$100 a week and his hand-out while on the dole is worth \$50 a week, he should be expected to work 2½ days to collect that \$50. I do not believe that the taxpayers' money should be wasted on hippies sunbaking on the beach or growing marijuana or smoking drugs. They must work for the money they receive. That is quite a simple statement, and surely to goodness the Leader of the Opposition can understand it, even without Jack Egerton helping him.

I had intended attacking the Leader of the Opposition, and in an attempt to do so I have read news items over the past 12 to 18 months as well as "Hansard" over the same period. I am unable to attack him, however, simply because there is nothing to attack him on. He has done absolutely nothing. He is only a parrot; he repeats things after someone else brings them forward.

Only yesterday he said that stronger penalties should be imposed on drug-users. I challenge him to come out now and criticise the school-teachers. He cannot do that, of course. The Trades and Labor Council is trying to get the Queensland Teachers' Union to join the Trades and Labor Council, and we know where the Leader of the Opposition stands with that mob. It is completely wrong. I challenge any member of the Opposition to declare himself on the school-teacher problem. I urge Opposition members not to speak with forked tongues.

The Labor Party held its conference in Cairns, part of which is my electorate. At that conference the Labor Party sanctioned homosexuality, prostitution and the legalisation of marijuana and other drugs. How in the heck can the Leader of the Opposition, after agreeing to that motion at the Cairns Conference, speak with another tongue in the press and say that he wants heavier penalties for drug users? Surely to goodness the people in his electorate will wake up to the fact that he was speaking with a forked tongue. He agreed with the motion at the Cairns Conference but suddenly he no longer agrees. Of course, he finds it hard to agree, because his friends in New South Wales and South Australia are trying to legalise marijuana and other drugs. He cannot come out blatantly against them or he will be in trouble with his friends from New South Wales and South Australia.

I do not wish to say very much about the honourable member for Archerfield. His remarks about the Governor-General, the Government and how it operates were disgusting. Perhaps it is better to forget about him.

I am concerned about the bankruptcy of small businesses. I was fortunate to be a member of the National Party's Small Business Committee. As I was in the hardware business two years ago in Cairns and Marceba I am aware of the problems. I know how that business and all small businesses are being affected. There are only small businesses in my electorate. A cane farmer is a small businessman who employs from one to 10 people. A sugar mill which employs 300 people is still a small business. The storekeeper, the butcher and the baker are all small businessmen, but overall small businesses employ three out of four workers. All small businesses are in great trouble. The Opposition members believe that they are nothing, that they can annihilate them. Indeed, Labor annihilated thousands of small companies in the three years that it was in power in Canberra. That is why there are so many unemployed people today.

As a National-Liberal Party Government we have to do something to help small businesses immediately. The number one thing that we can do is alter the Queensland pay-roll tax system. No-one can tell me that we cannot do it. We must do it. It is as simple as that. Just as we had to get rid of the terrible death duties, we have to get

rid of pay-roll tax. We must do it now. If we cannot do it in one fell swoop, we should reduce it by 50 per cent in the next Budget. I hope the Treasurer is listening to my speech or that he reads it. It is very important to reduce pay-roll tax by 50 per cent in this year's Budget and remove it completely in the following Budget. That will help to bring back small businesses and help those which are scratching to stay afloat.

I was hoping that the Federal Government's Budget would do something about company taxation. It has helped companies by granting certain exemptions, and under section 7 of the Constitution it has assisted private companies by granting relief in the distribution of dividends. The Federal Government, however, will have to look at company taxation, which has to be reduced. All A.L.P. members are socialists because when they nominate for the Labor Party they pledge themselves to socialise industry, exchange and commerce. Let there be no doubt about that. Labor members in the State and in the Federal House are socialists, because they sign this form and pledge themselves to that end. They are the ones who lifted company taxation—particularly private company taxation—up to its present terrible rate. The Liberal-National Country Party in Canberra will have to reduce it by 5 per cent a year for three years if it wants to keep in business the small businessman, who employs three out of four workers in this country. It is up to that Government to do something about it.

Unions have been spoken about here for ages. We have to do something about them. I will not dwell on this subject long, because it is as simple as this: I say to the people of this State and of this country, "Support your unions and support yourselves out of a job." It is the principle and the policy of the Communist and Left-wing union leaders to deliberately create unemployment for the people who pay their fees to the unions. They are the ones who are bringing in four weeks' annual leave instead of three, the 17½ per cent loading that did not exist before, eight days' accumulated sick pay, workers' compensation, long service leave—you name it and they have got the lot. If it costs \$130 a week in wages for a worker on the job today, it costs another \$80 a week for all of the extras. No small company and no big company can afford this. I say again, "Support your unions and support yourselves out of a job." It is as simple as that. The sooner workers wake up to it, the better.

I should like to make a statement concerning the roads in my area. Firstly, I congratulate the Minister for Local Government and Main Roads. It must be admitted that the electorate of Barron River has been represented by socialists in the past. Some of them are nice enough people. We have a nice one in the House—the poor old fellow from Bundaberg. He is too nice, but he is being got rid of at the next election.

Unfortunately, the roads in the Barron River electorate were in a shocking mess. Thanks to my strong representation and the support of the Minister for Main Roads they are coming good. We are getting good work done. The Rex Range road, which has never had bitumen on it, will be bituminised immediately following the Wet. At Mt. Carbine we will have probably the biggest wolfram mine in the free world when it is completed. We have a bitumen road right to Mt. Carbine.

Mr. Ahern: The bridge over the Barron River, too.

Mr. TENNI: Yes, tenders were called and are being considered. We will probably know within four or five weeks when work will commence. I thank the honourable member for bringing that to my attention.

Mr. Casey: I hope it doesn't take as long as the bridge over the Herbert River.

Mr. TENNI: I do not know about that one, but the bridge over the Barron River will start before Christmas. The Minister for Main Roads is a man of his word and when he says it will start, it will start. I will be making sure that I am following him up and he will be making sure that he is following the commissioner up. There is no doubt that it will start; have no fears about that.

Mr. Ahern interjected.

Mr. TENNI: I again thank the honourable member. He has reminded me that we have the approaches on both sides, which means that the people from the northern beaches, the Tableland and the Mossman area will not have to cross the railway line twice to get to Cairns. There will not be the bank-up of traffic at Stratford that the people have had to put up with in years gone by. All of this will be eliminated.

A new bridge will be constructed over Thomatis Creek. All of this has happened since I became the member for Barron River. It did not happen before. The former member for Barron River talked about it and it was in the Press all of the time. I spoke to the Minister and he knew nothing about it. The point is that a new bridge will be constructed over Thomatis Creek, and another one over Kamerunga with a high-level road right through. That will be \$7,000,000 worth over the next four years. This is the sort of expenditure required in an electorate that has been lost. Previous members have not done anything about it and at long last some good roads are being developed in the area.

I hope that, in his budget, the Minister will keep in mind the road from Kuranda to Mareeba—

Mr. Ahern: I went over it the other day and it is dreadful.

Mr. TENNI: I thank the honourable member. I remember his pointing that out to me a couple of weeks ago. It is a shocking road. It was built in the war years—I think in 1943.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: 1944, actually.

Mr. TENNI: How would the honourable member know? All he knows is how to abuse the Governor-General. I do not want to talk to him. He is not a fit person. He's a traitor to this country.

The Kuranda-Mareeba road was built in 1943. No soil-testing was carried out, but it has done a magnificent job during the intervening years. It needs to have work carried out on it now and I should like to see the Main Roads Department do perhaps three or four miles a year on bad sections. Over four or five years they would be joined and we would have a reasonable section of road.

I should also like to see the Kuranda Range Road widened in some of the narrow places where it is rather embarrassing if two large vehicles meet at a corner. If the Minister for Main Roads would look into this matter, I would much appreciate it.

Today in my home town of Mareeba, and in Cairns and the North generally, people are being victimised—call it what you like. Power is on and off as a result of strikes throughout the day. This situation is caused by some men at Collinsville who do not care about people or the inconvenience they put councils to in trying to keep sewerage moving and water flowing to people in hospitals. They do not care about anyone. They have deliberately called rolling strikes to embarrass the people of my electorate and other areas. The honourable member for Cairns should be on his feet screaming about it because the people of his area are similarly embarrassed. It is a shocking state of affairs.

These people at Collinsville are screaming for \$10 a day isolation allowance. Ten dollars a day, mind you! There are about 2,000 people in Collinsville. What about the people of Chillagoe? There are 60 there, and on that basis they should receive an isolation allowance of about \$100 a day. The stoppages are a shocking state of affairs and if I had my way I would sack the lot tomorrow. That is the only way to treat them and it is about time we went against the unions and did such things. If we have to put up with inconvenience, and the use of carbide, gas or kerosene lights for hours, let us do it for a month. Let these fellows go out and let them go without their pay.

Mr. Newbery: What are they getting a year now?

Mr. TENNI: Too damn much because they are not working for it. I am sick and tired of strikes. This morning we circled round for hours waiting for air-controllers to allow our planes to land. How much is this sort of thing costing T.A.A. and Ansett?

Why are we wasting money through the actions of Communist-controlled unions that are trying to bankrupt the country? It is about time we as a Government stood up and said what we thought was right and represented the people in the way in which they should be represented. I am sick and tired of unions, their dictatorship, their strikes and the embarrassment and inconvenience that they cause to the people of this country. In this, Opposition members in this House should be supporting me fully.

I should now like to congratulate both the Minister for Education and Cultural Activities and the Minister for Works and Housing. I am very pleased with the number of new schools, and the extensions and alterations to schools, provided in my electorate.

Mr. Wright: But you are not satisfied.

Mr. TENNI: I have a few more jobs to be done. The schools were dilapidated. They were overcrowded and in a shocking mess but I fought and fought to have them brought up to the standard required. I was successful in getting done most of the work that I wanted, so my personal thanks and congratulations go to both the Ministers whom I have mentioned.

I personally congratulate the Minister for Education on standing up to the Queensland Teachers' Union. I think he is a great person for doing it and if he ever lets go and alters his position he will have me to contend with. He is doing a good job now and he will not want to alter his mind. I know he will not. He is strong; he is not like Opposition members who are yelling out like a lot of alley cats.

The Minister for Tourism and Marine Services was in the Chamber a short while ago. I hope he is listening to me now. There is an urgent need for boat ramps in Barron River. I took the previous Minister holding this portfolio to the spots concerned and showed him what I wanted. He agreed with me and I know that his colleague who has taken over this portfolio will carry on the excellent work that the former Minister was doing in that portfolio. I sincerely trust that he will give me repairs to the boat ramp at Machans Beach. If he cares to give me the cement and gravel, I will get the boys there to do it for nothing. That is how keen they are to have the work done. I also want one at Yorkey's Knob and one at Taylor's Point. The work required at Port Douglas has now been done; the previous Minister fixed that up. Yorkey's Knob and Taylor's Point need new boat ramps and the boat ramp at Machans Beach needs to be repaired.

Mr. Wright: Was it you who dobed in those people at Cedar Bay?

Mr. TENNI: Don't waste your breath. Come up with a sensible question and I will give you a sensible answer. I cannot possibly answer a silly question sensibly.

The shipbuilding industry makes me laugh. Here we have the cattle industry completely down and out, yet it has not been subsidised at all. Cattlemen have been offered loans at 4 per cent, 8 per cent and 7 per cent, but never have they attracted subsidies, not even since the industry fell flat. But here we are giving a subsidy of \$13,000 per year per man to retain these fellows in the shipbuilding industry who are doing two hours' work a day. If we are subsidising them to that extent, why do we not subsidise the cattle industry, which is down and out? Why don't the Federal and State Governments consider this? If we consider the shipbuilding industry, let us consider the poor old grazier, the man on the land who gets a kick in the backside all the time. Honourable members opposite are just the blokes to do it. We heard the honourable member for Wolston say a while ago that if he had his way there would be no representation from the country at all; that it would all be from around Brisbane. He said that himself.

Mr. Marginson: Never.

Mr. TENNI: Near enough to it.

I would like the Premier to suggest to the Federal Government that, instead of subsidising the shipbuilding industry to the tune of \$13,000 per man per year, it should subsidise the cattle industry, which we have to keep. If we do not keep it, we will lose it for ever. We will end up like Italy, and honourable members know the problems the Italian Government had in getting people back onto the land. Italy had to pay people to get them to go back onto the land. Honourable members know the problems Italy faces now. The other day I was talking to an Italian who came out here to see what he could do with his money before the Communists took over in Italy. There we see socialism and Communism taking over, which is what the colleagues of this mob in Opposition here tried to bring about in the three years they held office in Canberra, but they did not quite make it.

I intended to speak for only 10 minutes, but Opposition members have stirred me up. They are annoying me. Another thing about which I am very concerned is the tobacco industry. I refer my remarks to the Treasurer, and I hope he is listening. The tobacco industry in my electorate is worth \$23,000,000 a year. It is an industry which every sort of organisation one can name is deliberately trying to force off the face of the earth. Now we cannot even advertise on TV and radio. We get all the so-called do-gooders, who tell us that smoking is bad for our heart. The next bloke says it is bad for our lungs and the next bloke says it is bad for our sinuses. None of them know a darned thing about it. Some time ago I lost an uncle who not only smoked all his life—and he died at the age of 86—but he chewed tobacco as well. If tobacco is so bad for a person's health, he should have been dead at 14.

I sincerely hope that the Treasurer does not introduce a State tax on tobacco and cigarettes. I believe that this is the only State which does not have such a tax, and if he introduces such a tax he will sound the death-knell for the tobacco industry in this State. I am sure he will not, because he has more brains than that, but if he does he will have me to deal with. There is no way in the world I will accept it. I will fight for the tobacco industry as long as I am the member for Barron River.

I am very concerned about the education system in this State. I intended to have quite a lot to say about it tonight, but I am informed that a parliamentary education committee has been set up to look at problems in this area and I sincerely hope it will come up with a sensible approach to education, because at the moment 90 per cent of the kids who leave school are drongoes. One cannot blame the kids and one cannot blame the teachers. It is the system which is no good. In my opinion 75 per cent of the Radford scheme needs to be thrown out the door. I want children to learn the three R's. They are the most important things that can be taught and children are not being taught them today.

I ask the House to give serious consideration to revising the education system. It is no good Ministers on the front bench laughing; it is a very serious matter.

Mr. Wright interjected.

Mr. TENNI: They think the honourable member for Rockhampton is a joke, and the honourable member for Wolston is becoming a joke. I reiterate that it is very important that the education system be reviewed and altered so that it does not produce too many highly qualified people. We do not need too many doctors, lawyers, and so on; there is not enough work for them. We want the average man who can drive a tractor, serve behind a counter, turn a key or work in a meat factory—the good, solid, sensible citizen. We do not want everyone to hold diplomas; we do not want everyone to be a rat-bag.

Having had six years in local government, I must mention another matter. I put up with the Grants Commission under the Federal Labor Government, and I know that councils spent about \$5,000 on preparing a case and filled in about 1,000 forms that had to be submitted. One then had to be sworn in before the Grants Commission and make a statement to the commissioner. There is now a sensible system of distribution under which 75 per cent more money than was available in the past is distributed through the State Government's Grants Commission. There is no more of that baloney, red tape and \$5,000 in costs. It is a straight-out grant, and councils can do what they want with it. There is no need to prepare a case.

Mr. Ahern: In the past, we've put up a case and got nothing.

Mr. TENNI: Many councils did that. Sometimes I wondered whether it depended on the way a person spoke to the grants commissioner, the way he put his case, the way he held his mouth when he went in, or what it was.

Mr. Ahern: Or political colour.

Mr. TENNI: I will admit that political colour had a lot to do with it. There is no need to worry about that now, even for a Labor council. There are not many of them left, of course; they are few and far between. Labor was nearly annihilated here in Brisbane. As I said, the present system is a great improvement.

Another matter about which I am concerned is the apprenticeship scheme. Thank goodness, the Honourable Fred Campbell is considering it. I have had quite a few problems in this area, but I spoke to the Minister today and I am happy with the results that he is achieving.

Mr. K. J. Hooper: When you were on the shire council at Mareeba you were known as "Vomit" because you were always going to bring it up.

Mr. SPEAKER: Order! I warn the honourable member for Archerfield that he will not be bringing up any more items in this Chamber if he does not behave himself.

Mr. TENNI: He has a lot to bring up, Mr. Speaker. He would probably choke.

Naturally, I am concerned about comments in the Press yesterday about an increase in rail freight rates. By hell, the Minister will have me to deal with if that happens! There is no way in the world we are going to accept another freight rate increase this year. If the Minister wants to do something, he should improve the system. He is doing a good job, and he should not spoil it by increasing freight rates.

A Government Member interjected.

Mr. TENNI: It is still a recommendation by the Minister for Transport to the Treasury, and I ask the Minister to recommend that freight rates remain as they are for this year. That is very important, because the cattle industry is on its knees and something must be done to help it. We must avoid doing anything that will hinder its recovery.

Mr. Casey: What do you think of Medibank?

Mr. TENNI: I think that Medibank is great as it stands at the moment.

I thank you, Mr. Speaker, for the opportunity of speaking in this debate. I have enjoyed every minute that I have been on my feet, and I look forward to speaking in the Address-in-Reply debate in 12 months' time.

Debate, on motion of Mr. Ahern, adjourned.

COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES

Mr. **AHERN** (Landsborough): I move—

“(1) That this House do appoint a Select Committee of Privileges;

“(2) That the Committee consist of Messrs. W. D. Hewitt, Houston, Porter, Powell, Warner and the Mover;

“(3) That four Members be a quorum at any meeting of the Committee;

“(4) That the Committee have and exercise such powers, duties and responsibilities as may, from time to time, generally or in any particular case, be determined by the House;

“(5) That, in the exercise of the aforesaid powers, duties and responsibilities, the Committee have authority and power to send for persons, papers and records unless otherwise determined by the House in any particular case save however that a Minister of the Crown or an officer of the Public Service shall not be obliged to provide information, oral or written, which has been—

(a) certified by a Crown Law Officer to be information which, if it were sought in a Court, would be a proper manner in respect of which to claim Crown privilege; or

(b) certified by the responsible Minister, with the approval of the Ministers of the Crown in Cabinet assembled, to be information such that its disclosure would be against the public interest;

“(6) That the Committee have leave to sit during any adjournment of the House notwithstanding that such adjournment exceeds seven days;

“(7) That the Committee may sit during the sitting of the House;

“(8) That the Committee, so far as is practicable and as it may do, function in a manner similar to that of a Committee of Privilege of the British House of Commons for the time being unless otherwise determined by the House in any particular case;

“(9) That the Committee, in addition to sitting from time to time on or in relation to matters of privilege, may meet from time to time to discuss privilege generally, including acts or omissions constituting instances of breach of privilege, whether in Queensland or elsewhere, and to inform itself with respect to privilege in such manner as it thinks fit; and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, may invite from and discuss with such persons or bodies as it thinks fit, submissions and views on or in relation to matters of privilege;

“(10) That the foregoing provisions of this Motion, so far as they may be inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.”

Mr. **PORTER** (Toowong): I second the motion.

Motion agreed to.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS ACT
AMENDMENT BILL

SECOND READING

Hon. **L. R. EDWARDS** (Ipswich—Minister for Health) (9.45 p.m.): I move—

“That the Bill be now read a second time.”

I previously outlined the major provisions of this Bill in my opening remarks and now that honourable members have had the opportunity to peruse them I am sure they will agree that the various amendments are both necessary and desirable.

During the introduction of the Bill the honourable member for Nudgee rose to speak about qualifications for registration as a physiotherapist. The new section for registration procedures provided in the Bill clearly determines the requirements for registration in Queensland.

Schedules are provided to the Act listing qualifications from within Australia and from overseas countries that are presently recognised for practise and registration in Queensland. I would point out that the overseas qualifications included in the schedules have been approved by the Australian Examining Council for Overseas Physiotherapists as suitable for practise in Australia. As part of the registration procedure it is a requirement for all applicants to satisfy the board that they are of good fame and character, have a sound knowledge of the English language, both written and oral, and are medically fit to practise physiotherapy.

Applicants for registration who possess qualifications listed in the Second Schedule to the Act are required to undertake a period of supervised practice prior to registration. I draw the attention of honourable members to the fact that this is supervised practice in a hospital in the Commonwealth approved by the Physiotherapists Board, and that a certificate is required from the hospital authority that this supervised practice has been completed satisfactorily.

Provision is also made for addition to or deletion from the schedules by Order in Council to maintain the schedules at the same standard as recommended by the Australian Examining Council for Overseas Physiotherapists for all Australian States.

This Bill will also give the Physiotherapists Board the capacity to deal with an overseas applicant of high repute who by virtue of post-graduate study or experience is regarded as expert in a particular field of physiotherapy at a level of competence which could be acceptable for physiotherapy practice in Queensland. Under present legislation persons in this category who would have been worthy additions to the ranks of physiotherapists in Queensland could not be registered.

Provision is also made in the Bill for the Physiotherapists Board to grant a certificate of conditional registration to a person if he requires to undertake a period of supervised practice in an approved State hospital. If the conditions in the certificate are not carried out to the board's satisfaction, the certificate may be cancelled, which in effect rejects that person's application for registration.

A similar provision to that in the Medical Act is also contained in the Bill to allow the board to grant temporary registration to overseas persons who come to Queensland to teach, for post-graduate study or for research purposes, and who may not be immediately registrable under the Act. Absence of such a provision in the past has prevented certain overseas physiotherapists participating in clinical research studies at the University of Queensland.

The procedures for registration now provided in this Bill will establish clear guidelines for the Physiotherapists Board, and will ensure that the high standard of the physiotherapy profession in this State is maintained.

In passing, I would like to pay tribute to the high standing of the University of Queensland School of Physiotherapy, which guarantees to Queensland graduates of the highest academic standard.

In my introductory speech I highlighted the other major provisions of the Bill, and I do not think it is necessary for me to dwell at length at this time on the many minor amendments that will improve administrative procedures.

The Physiotherapists Acts, 1964 to 1965, constituted the Physiotherapists Board of Queensland and established its powers and procedures. The Bill now before the House seeks only to improve the administrative practices of the board and to reinforce the present provisions of the Act.

I commend the Bill to the House.

Mr. BURNS (Lytton—Leader of the Opposition) (9.50 p.m.): The Opposition has no objection to the Bill as outlined by the Minister, as it will ensure that persons wishing to practise as physiotherapists in the State of Queensland are adequately qualified. We agree with the proposals put forward by the Minister to lay down acceptable qualifications for persons coming to Queensland from other States and overseas, so that people who come to this State to practise physiotherapy are assured that, provided they have the qualifications, they will be registered and that each person who desires to use the services of a physiotherapist in the State is able to buy a list of physiotherapists, and also subsequent lists, to ascertain whether he is being treated by a person who has adequate qualifications.

There are, however, a couple of questions that I would like to put to the Minister through you, Mr. Speaker. I have a copy of the 1965 amendment Act and I have

looked at the definition of "physiotherapy" in it. It will be seen that we have dropped out the section that provides—

"But does not include the internal use of any drug or medicine or the application. . . ."

and it goes on.

I can understand that a person acting as a physiotherapist would use machines or some sort of massage equipment and that that provision concerning massage, manipulation, remedial exercises, heat and cold, electricity, and so on, could be left out. But I wonder why we are now allowing physiotherapists to use drugs, as it appears to me we are, by taking that provision out of the definition. The old definition said that it does not include the internal use of any drug or medicine or the application of any medical or surgical appliance, and so on. The Minister might like to give an explanation of that deletion before we get to the Committee stage.

The Opposition's spokesman, Mr. Melloy, is sick today, and in his absence I am replying on behalf of the Opposition. For this purpose I obtained a copy of the submissions put forward by the Australian Physiotherapy Association to the national committee of inquiry into chiropractic and other operations. In those submissions there are two or three points that are important. One is the suggestion that today there is a shortage of physiotherapists in Australia and that the supply rate of physiotherapists is determined mainly by quota restrictions on the student intake in educational establishments. The further point is made that quota restrictions are determined by apparent manpower requirements in each State.

It seems to me that if there is a shortage we should safeguard against any lowering of standards. I have read the schedules at the back of the Bill. They do not appear to include the American-type colleges that on the receipt of \$50 will give the applicant a degree overnight. I would like the Minister to give us an assurance that, before the names of any other colleges are added to the schedules to the Bill, they would appear in regulations tabled in this House in the normal way and therefore be subject to scrutiny.

The other point made in the submission was that the Australian Physiotherapy Association was aware of the fact that in the past there has been a loss of physiotherapists from active practice. It was claimed that the wastage rate was reducing. People were going out of the industry, if I might call it that, but I am not too sure why that was so.

It struck me as passing strange that we seem to be one of the few States that have not taken advantage of the Commonwealth Government's offer on paramedical services. As I understand it, the Commonwealth is prepared to share on a dollar-for-dollar basis with participating States the cost of approved paramedical services, such as chiropody,

occupational therapy, physiotherapy and speech therapy, which are provided wholly or mainly for aged persons in their homes.

Page 57 of the Federal Budget, dealing with payments to the States, indicates that only Victoria, South Australia and Tasmania are accepting money from the Commonwealth for the provision of paramedical services in circumstances that qualify for assistance from the Commonwealth. Whether we are providing the service or are not getting the assistance, I do not know; that is why I am asking these questions.

I see that this year Victoria is receiving \$270,000, South Australia \$290,000 and Tasmania \$13,000. Since 1972-73 the figures show that more than \$1,000,000 has gone to those States in relation to paramedical services. Queensland has received nothing at a time when services in other States are expanding and when the association says there is a wastage of members who feel that in private practice they have difficulties in having patients referred to them from the medical profession. I do not know whether people are going out of the industry; I am only reading the suggestions or recommendations that have been put forward in the submissions to that inquiry.

This is the type of question I raise on behalf of the Opposition—

(1) Why were the drugs taken out of the old definition?

(2) Why are we not in the paramedical services area?

(3) Will the Minister assure us that should there be a shortage, or a potential shortage, of physiotherapists we will not reduce our standards and allow in people with university-type degrees that are bought by mail?

Dr. SCOTT-YOUNG (Townsville) (9.56 p.m.): Although I am not conversant with the details of this Bill, I must commend it to the House. I will not retrace my previous submissions other than to say that it is obvious the Minister knows what he is doing.

The Leader of the Opposition asked questions about the Bill—the Minister will no doubt elaborate on them—but I have one or two comments to make on matters raised by the Leader of the Opposition. It is interesting that, for many years, physiotherapy was a female-oriented profession. Some of the most attractive and intelligent women I have met did physiotherapy. Because certain professions were closed to them they did physiotherapy. They studied extremely well, did an intense course in anatomy and physiology and became the basis of what is now a profession. The founders of this profession established it on a very sound basis. In those days physiotherapy was mainly manipulative. Today physiotherapists use electrotherapy and various physical methods from which people can benefit. Further education is therefore required.

The Leader of the Opposition referred to the use of drugs. The Minister will be able to explain this matter more fully but, as a medical practitioner I point out that the proposal in the Bill is designed to prevent what we term "quackism". No-one should administer a drug unless he fully understands what he is doing and is legally qualified to do it.

Mr. Burns: You have taken the drugs out of the definition.

Dr. SCOTT-YOUNG: That is correct. They are being taken out so that these people will practise physiotherapy and not drug therapy.

Mr. Burns: In the old definition they were told that they could not use drugs.

Dr. SCOTT-YOUNG: The amendment is making it much more definite and I commend the Minister for it.

Standards have been raised mainly because we now have better transport and easier migration. People can fly from one country to another and they are likely to lob in this State from Canada, the United States, Mexico or elsewhere and say, "I am a physiotherapist." But unless they can produce definite evidence of training in an approved hospital or university they will not be allowed to practise. That is a safeguard. The Minister has co-operated very closely with the medical profession in association with a body established by the Whitlam Government for the approval of overseas qualifications in medicine and other professions. This practice will become accepted universally. Indeed, there must be a higher level of acceptance of qualifications than the State level. This is a Commonwealth matter. It is but correct that the Minister should approve it and that we should accept it.

I should point out that no reference is made in the legislation to the massaging that my colleague from Merthyr referred to. That is divorced completely from this Bill. The Bill is in no way associated with massage parlours; it is related to the professional people. It is on the higher scale, not the lower scale.

This legislation has nothing to do with chiropractic, which is an unscientific approach to the curing of ailments. It has been the subject of a considerable amount of lobbying and, as far as I can see as a trained medical practitioner, it has no scientific basis. I consider that later on it will be the subject of more lobbying and less consideration, I hope, by this Parliament.

The Leader of the Opposition mentioned the shortage of physiotherapists. As I said, there most probably is a shortage of them in this State. Many physiotherapists are females and so one of the chief failures in the maintaining of a sufficient number of physiotherapists is that these girls get married and leave their profession. It is nothing to do with the present conditions under which they work or the present conditions of their

awards. I consider that there is nothing that this Bill can do to increase the number of physiotherapists. It is aimed mainly at improving the standards and the conditions of work. The Minister must be commended on maintaining the standard and quality of the profession.

Hon. L. R. EDWARDS (Ipswich—Minister for Health) (10.2 p.m.), in reply: I thank both the Leader of the Opposition and the honourable member for Townsville for their comments. I appreciate the comment by the Leader of the Opposition that, in general, the Opposition agrees with the proposals.

I shall reply to a couple of the questions he asked. The definition is covered under clause 16 which inserts a new section 24B. It has been excluded from the definition clause and included in that new section. It is covered completely in that area. I appreciate the point that he raised.

He expressed concern that standards might be reduced. I assure him that no Orders in Council will be promulgated without their being tabled so that Parliament will have the opportunity to look at them. Certainly, action will be able to be taken in the proper way if it is considered that the standards are not adequate.

He raised the matter of the paramedical services in Queensland. These are provided in this State under the Community Health Programme. We claim on the Commonwealth Government through that programme.

Mr. Burns: You don't get it under the other programme?

Dr. EDWARDS: No, we are getting it through the Community Health Programme.

The honourable member for Townsville made his comments with his usual professional ability and his experience in this field. I always appreciate his support in these matters.

Motion (Dr. Edwards) agreed to.

COMMITTEE

(The Chairman of Committees, Mr. W. D. Hewitt, Chatsworth, in the chair)

Clauses 1 to 16, both inclusive, as read, agreed to.

Clause 17—Repeal of and new s.25; Prohibited practices—

Mr. BURNS (Lytton—Leader of the Opposition) (10.4 p.m.): The honourable member for Townsville raised the question of massage parlours. Section 25 of the old Act, which also is headed "Prohibited practices", reads—

"No person other than a physiotherapist shall take or use the name of or title of physiotherapist, physiotherapeutist, physical therapist or physical therapist or electrotherapist or masseur or masseuse, or hold himself out as being a physiotherapist . . ."

I notice that "masseur or masseuse" has been excluded from the new section 25. There is no reference to masseurs, or girls or men who are acting in that profession. The penalty in the section is \$200. In the light of the statements that were made this morning about this Government's so-called opposition to prostitution in this State and the way in which massage parlours are operating as prostitution palaces round the city, it is passing strange to see that this item is being dropped from the clause. I wonder why that is so. I realise that there is reference later to sports massage and facial massage in beauty parlours, but at least section 25 gives police officers or others enforcing the Act some opportunity to take to task and to bring before the court those who are acting against the law in those places that are operating rather freely in the city today.

Dr. SCOTT-YOUNG (Townsville) (10.6 p.m.): I think the Leader of the Opposition is a little confused with the Act. Massage parlours and prostitution are dealt with under the Criminal Code. I am very pleased to see that these references to massage have not been included in the Physiotherapists Act.

Mr. Burns: I think they have been rubbed out.

Dr. SCOTT-YOUNG: I am pleased to see they have been rubbed out when they are covered by the Criminal Code. They do not come under this Bill.

Hon. L. R. EDWARDS (Ipswich—Minister for Health) (10.7 p.m.): What the honourable member for Townsville has said is correct. This is a professional Act for the registration of physiotherapists, and for this reason massage parlours will be considered under another Act. I assure the Leader of the Opposition that there is no risk of people getting away with prostitution under the pretence of massage because this aspect of the Act has been altered. This Bill is for the purpose of registration of physiotherapists. The Act simply allows massage to be performed as part of the professional duties of a physiotherapist. For this reason we are also excluding from the Act those engaged in sports massage, chiropody and face and scalp massage for cosmetic purposes. I assure the honourable member that the Bill will not make it any easier for massage parlours to operate. We will also be taking other action as a Government to make sure that this is not expanded in any way.

Mr. BURNS (Lytton—Leader of the Opposition) (10.8 p.m.): I accept the Minister's explanation. However, these two words have been taken from this clause. Previously it was illegal for a man to call himself a masseur or a woman to call herself a masseuse, as these young ladies describe themselves in the signs they put up outside their premises. Now it will be completely legal for them to describe themselves

in those terms. I suggest that if the Government is going to move in this matter it should move quickly to ensure in the future that people who use those titles are qualified and that those who have used them for the purposes of prostitution are no longer allowed to do so.

Clause 17, as read, agreed to.

Clauses 18 to 21, both inclusive, as read, agreed to.

Bill reported, without amendment.

The House adjourned at 10.9 p.m.
